

SOME NOTES FROM FR. JOE:

1) IDHHC: the Illinois Deaf and Hard of Hearing Commission protects the rights of deaf and hard of hearing citizens. If any government agency (state, county, city, village) refuses to provide you with sign-language interpreters for an appointment or will not accept a relay phone call, contact IDHHC immediately. 1-877-455-3323 v/tty, 217-557-4487 VP, www.idhhc.state.il.us

2) If a hospital or clinic refuses to provide a sign-language interpreter on request, contact EQUIP FOR EQUALITY immediately. (312) 341-0022 or (800) 537-2632 v, (800) 610-2779 tty, contactus@equipforequality.org

3) LONG TERM HEALTH CARE INSURANCE. More and more people are living longer and longer lives. However, a long life does not mean a healthy life. Recently, a government study revealed some amazing facts...

...Americans who turned 65 this year; 69% of them will require some long-term care during their lifetime;

...of those (above) who reach 80, 40% will suffer Alzheimer's Disease.

My parents bought long-term health care insurance many years ago. That insurance helped to pay for my mother's care (Alzheimer's) for a number of years. MEDICARE does NOT pay for nursing home care or Alzheimer's care.

If you have an insurance agent, discuss with that agent the possibility of buying long-term health care insurance. If you do not have someone you trust, contact: Suzette DeSalvo. Ms. DeSalvo is an honest insurance agent who is concerned about the needs of deaf and hearing persons. 773-774-1320tty/vp, Suzette@SuzetteDeSalvo.net

Trying to care for a loved one is extremely difficult, and often heart-breaking. In 2007, Americans paid almost \$6,000 of their own money for food, medicines, transportation of their loved ones who were sick or very feeble. Most older people do NOT want to become a burden on their children and grandchildren. So, it is good to plan NOW, and not wait till you become too sick or old to get insurance help.

4) PEPARING FOR CHRISTMAS, the NEW YEAR? One of the best ways to prepare is to receive God's forgiveness of our sins in Reconciliation (Confession). All of us are sinners. All of us, including me (Fr. Joe), even Fr. Mike. We ALL need God's forgiveness in our lives. As we get near Christmas, we have times to receive that forgiveness.

Sat, 12/13, Noon-2pm: Fr. Mike Depcik will be available in the chapel for anyone who wishes to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation(Confession).

Sun, 12/14, after 10:30am Mass: I (Fr. Joe) am available for Confessions; and 4pm, after the Christmas Party in DeKALB (Msgr. Nelson).

Sun, 12/21, after 10:30am Mass (Fr. Joe). 3-4 pm before the 4pm Mass, Fr. Mike is available at St. Julie Billiart. Also, in AURORA, 8:30AM, St. Joseph Church (Msgr. Nelson).

5) In 1531, Mary, the Mother of Jesus, appeared in Mexico to a man JUAN DIEGO, now ST. JUAN DIEGO! The Church honors Mary as OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE.

a) Thurs, 12/11, we will have a FREE bus from St. Francis Borgia to Maryville Academy in DesPlaines. There is a beautiful shrine to Our Lady of Guadalupe there. We will attend the 8pm Mass and pray with thousands of people. The Mass is inside and we will have seating for the deaf. You MUST sign-up so we know how many seats. Bus leaves at 5:30pm and leaves Maryville at 10:30pm.

b) Sat, 12/13, we will have our traditional Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass, 6pm, here at St. Francis Borgia. Bring some food to share (sign-up). FREE for all who attend.

6) THANKSGIVING DAY: thanks to ED SCHULTZ, BRIAN SWATEK, BOB SWATEK, LISA MASCIOLA, JIM SMITH, and the sign-language students from Glenbrook South High School (Ms. Rosemarie Carsello) for helping so many people enjoy a wonderful meal!