



## **SOME NOTES FROM FR. JOE:**

- 1) CHICAGO...the center of DEAF/Hard of Hearing Action! What do I mean?
  - a) 10/29-11/2,2008: ALDAcon (hard of hearing national conference) will be in Chicago.
  - b) 2009: National Deaf Latino Conference will be held in the Chicago area.
  - c) July 9-15, 2011: ICDA (International Catholic Deaf Association) Conference will be here.
  - d) Aug. 31-Sept. 5, 2011: Deaf Senior Citizens Convention will be in downtown Chicago! BRIAN SWATEK, RICHARD KUSH, TOM BLEERS, and I have started to discuss where to hold the ICDA Conference. It will be exciting, because the Conference to be "International". We want deaf people from Europe, Asia, Africa, and South America to attend.
  
- 2) SOUTHSIDERS! FR. MIKE DEPCIK will celebrate the 4pm Mass at St. Julie next Sunday, 4/20. Plan to attend and enjoy the social after Mass. 7399 W. 159<sup>th</sup>, Tinley Park. ALSO... if you live in the south suburbs of Cook County, Progress Center for Independent Living (CIL) has an office at 12940 S. Western, Blue Island. 708-389-8250tty, 388-5011v, 388-5016fax. This CIL can assist people who are deaf and/or disabled with problems or questions about your rights, services, interpreters, etc.
  
- 3) HIPPA is a law for the entire USA. HIPPA means Hospital Information Patient Privacy Act. HIPPA means that the hospital must protect your privacy when you are a patient there. However, HIPPA also means that hospitals will NOT give out information about you, even to a Catholic priest or parish! So, if you are in a hospital and want a priest, deacon to visit you, you must contact us YOURSELVES, or ask a friend or family member to do so. Even in a Catholic hospital, the hospital will not contact us UNLESS you tell the hospital to call a priest!
  
- 4) The second reading at Mass today is from the 1<sup>st</sup> Letter (Epistle) of St. Peter (2:20-25). This is a very powerful reading for us TODAY, 2008! "If you suffer for doing good, AND YOU ARE PATIENT, that pleases God. Christ gave you an example to follow. Do as He(Jesus) did! Be patient when you suffer. Why? Because Jesus Christ suffered for you. People said bad things to Jesus. Jesus did not say bad things to them. People made Jesus suffer. Jesus did not threaten those people. Jesus Christ carried OUR sins in His body on the cross. Why? Because Jesus wanted us to stop sinning, and instead do what is right. YOU are healed from your sins. Why? Because of Christ's wounds(suffering)."
  
- 5) THANK YOU! So many of are SO kind to ask about my parents, and my brother (Fr. Tom). My parents are okay. Mom has Alzheimer's Disease and does not know any of her children or grandchildren. However, she still recognizes my dad, so this is helpful. My brother, Fr. Tom, is recovering from very difficult heart surgery. He is very grateful for all of your prayers.  
A thought: I have had a lot of experience with Alzheimer's in my family and also working with other families. I am very happy to sit down with anyone (or even a whole family) to talk about the disease and what happens in a family when someone we love has Alzheimer's Disease. Please don't be afraid to ask me. I am very willing to discuss the disease and things to do to help the person and the family cope with the difficult days.
  
- 6) AFTERNOON SUN: the sun in the late afternoon (west) is directly in the eyes of drivers. Slow down. Kids are running between cars to go to baseball, the park, etc. Slow down, drivers!!!!
  
- 7) Harper College Deaf Program proudly hosts 4th Annual Co-ed Volleyball Tournament for High School & College Teams. Saturday, April 19, 2008, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. At Harper College, Building M Gym, Palatine. Admission for fans: Adults, \$5; Students with ID, \$3; Children 12 and under, free (\*\*must be accompanied by an adult\*\*).