

SOME NOTES FROM FR. JOE:

1) MASS on MEMORIAL DAY: all Catholic cemeteries have Mass on Memorial Day, May 25th. (Eight cemeteries have sign-language interpreters.) Why attend Mass that day? To pray for...
...your loved ones who are buried in those cemeteries;
...the soldiers who died for our country who are buried there;
...friends and members of the deaf community.
Our prayers for them speed their way to heaven!

2) On Sunday, May 3rd, we completed a year of Religious education for our children. This was the first year we had a new Religious Education Director, MS MARGARET SWATEK, after 30 years of MS NANCY HUBER as our Director. Nancy did a tremendous job for many years (say a prayer for her this week, she is having surgery!). MAGGIE SWATEK came in and did a terrific job in her first year. I (and all of us) are very grateful to her!

We also are grateful for our CCD Catechists and Core Team Leaders for this year: Donna Roberts, Shirley Morley, Betty Mulvey, and Carmen Reyes were the Core Team leaders. Our Catechists were: Magdalena Mac, Ron & Janet Mroz and daughter Austin, Carmen Reyes, Jr., Sarah DeMoon, Rogelio & Bertha Ramos and daughter Maria Ramos, Lisa Masciola, Paula Crawford, Laura Vasquez, Jennifer Veselsky, and Bob Swatek.

3) HURTING OURSELVES...AGAIN! Many, many people have suffered a great deal. Why? Because they piled up huge debts on their credit cards. Some people have become bankrupt because of these debts. Finally, people were able to reduce or pay off what they owed.

Now, people are starting to make the same mistake AGAIN! Once again, they are beginning to buy things they WANT, but do not NEED. Once again, people are adding DEBT to their lives; debt that includes lots of interest!

The debt on credit card bills is destroying our lives, our health, our families. Pay off what you owe on your credit cards. Do NOT start adding more debt that you cannot pay off. Some people are even more foolish. They say, "Oh, I am going to casinos. I will make the money to pay off what I owe." This is a huge mistake! Learn to be satisfied with what you own. Stop spending. Start saving!

4) PROGRESS CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING serves DEAF and/or disabled people in SUBURBAN COOK COUNTY. The main office is in FOREST PARK. There is also an office on BLUE ISLAND. Contact CAROL NEMECEK or JENNIFER SCHEFFLER at progresscil@theramp.net, 708/209-1500 v, 708/209-1826 tty/VP, 708/209-1735 fax

5) In the past six months, several deaf people have contacted the Catholic Office of the Deaf. These people had to attend funerals for relatives out-of-state. We were able to find sign-language interpreters for the funerals, especially if the funerals were in Catholic churches. If you need an interpreter for the family wake/funeral, contact the Catholic Office of the Deaf to help. If this is a weekend emergency, you can always leave a message for me (Fr. Joe) at 773-625-5070v.

6) A.A. (Alcoholics Anonymous) meetings for DEAF people:
Every FRIDAY, 7:30pm, Sober Hands, 943 W. Washington, Chgo.
Every SAT., 8pm, Mustard Seed, 507 W. North, Chgo.

7) Want to reduce your monthly PHONE BILL? The CUB (Citizens Utility Board) is sponsoring a "Phone-Bill Clinic" on how to reduce your monthly phone bill. Tuesday, May 19th, 11:30am and 1pm. Morton Grove Library, 6140 Lincoln, Morton Grove. FREE. If you want a sign-language interpreter, contact them at: 1-800-669-5556, 1-312-263-4282.

8) Ms. Kate Geiser is a wise and skilled counselor. She works in the deaf community. Kate writes a good newsletter, "THRIVING". Recently, she wrote "10 Tips for Easing Money Worries." Go to: www.alliancecounseling.org