

Church of The Holy Cross

8311 W. 93rd St.
Overland Park, Kansas 66212
Church Office: (913) 381-2755 FAX: (913) 381-2766
E-Mail: churchoffice@holycrossopks.org
Website: www.holycrossopks.org

Pastor: Rev. Robert Conroy
Associate Pastor for Hispanic Ministry:
Rev. David Garavito
Rectory: 341-5618

PARISH STAFF

Pastoral Associate: Robert Bacic
Director Liturgy & Music: Rick Worms, 816-835-7441
Parish Manager: Mark Engen
Administrative Assistant: Pam Seger
Receptionists: Barb Williams
Lina Byrum

Religious Education Staff: 461-0726

Director - Pre.-Gr. 6: Julie Dresser
Session Coordinator: Carol Morris
Program Assistants: Michelle Rieger
Karla Melgar
Confirmation Coordinator: Sandy Schluter

Youth Ministries: 205-0825

Director: Sandy Schluter

Coordinator & Catechist for Hispanic Adult Formation:

Sr. Maria Orozco, S.C.L., 381-2755

La información en español
se encuentra en la página 4.

Holy Cross Catholic School 8101 W. 95th St. 66212 School Office: 381-7408

E-Mail: gradeschool@hccsmail.com

Principal: Mary Jo Gates

Secretaries: Anita Lemmon

Martha Beisser

Early Education Center: 381-7151

E-Mail: preschool@hccsmail.com

Director: Penny Miller

Assistant Director: Stefanie Bridges

Advocates for Annulments:

Debbie Williams, 642-3708

Rebeca Richmond, 671-8722

Parish Center Manager

Allison Carney, 244-5970

MASSES:

Saturday 7:30 a.m., 5:00 p.m. (Sunday Mass)
Sunday 7:30, 9:00, 11:00 a.m., and 2:00 p.m. (Spanish)
Nursery - 9:00, 11:00 a.m., and 2:00 p.m. Masses
Weekdays Mon., Wed., Fri. 9:00 a.m.
Tues. & Thurs. 6:30 a.m.
Tues. 6:00 p.m. (Spanish)
Tues. & Thurs. (School days only): 8:15 a.m. in the school

RECONCILIATIONS:

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK:

BAPTISMS:

MARRIAGES:

Saturday, 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. and Wednesday, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Semi-annually, Fall & Spring, and by appointment

4th Sunday each month

(Parent classes 3rd Tuesday each month. Call the office to register.)

Six months notice required. Call the office for information.

PREGNANT? NEED HELP? All calls confidential. Gabriel Project, 913-602-0306



FROM FR. ROBERT:

Brothers and Sisters,

Last Sunday we celebrated our annual Parish Festival, and I was very happy that so many of you attended. I am grateful to Carol Reardon, her committee, and all those who donated their time and energy to make this day such a joyful experience. The weather was perfect - clear, sunny, and not too hot! Again, a big thanks to everyone who helped us make this celebration so beautiful. May God bless all of you.

Pope Benedict XVI will finish his pastoral visit to Scotland and England on Sun., Sept.19, concluding four days of Masses, prayer, meetings, and touring. This special trip to the United Kingdom, while initiated by the government and Catholic bishops' conference, was more of a spiritual pilgrimage for the Pope due to his theological kinship to (now Blessed) John Henry Newman. While Pope John Paul II participated in numerous beatifications (the step before canonization) ceremonies at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome during his lengthy pontificate, Pope Benedict XVI has preferred to move such services to the home dioceses of those to be beatified and allow the local ordinaries to preside. The centerpiece of his recent trip to Great Britain, the Beatification of John Henry Newman, therefore, reveals his particular love for this tremendous man of God.

Cardinal Newman lived in the 19th century and is known as one of the greatest preachers of the past 200 years. He was an Anglican priest affiliated with Oxford University as a curate, administrator and professor. His scholarly aptitude and deep spiritual life led him on an interior pilgrimage to the early fonts of Christianity: the Church Fathers. He had a number of companions on this journey and together they began what came to be known as the "Oxford Movement" --a 19th century "return to the sources" that encouraged renewal within the Anglican Church. Newman's desire for reform did not stop with liturgy, ritual, or theology and he was received into the Catholic Church in 1845.

Over the course of his long life he published many interesting works that touch on a variety of themes, such as patrology, sermons, catechetical material, and prayer. As the founding Rector of the University of Dublin he wrote about the essential elements of a liberal arts education in "The Idea of University." In response to some spirited criticisms, he penned a stirring defense of the Catholic faith, the priesthood, and his own life in the "Apologia Pro Vita Sua." Finally, he expounds on the question of faith in his well-read "Essay in Aid of a Grammar of Assent" -which he claimed took him about 20 years to write. *(continued on next column)*

READINGS & FAITH SHARING QUESTIONS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time:
Amos 6:1a, 4-7; Timothy 6:11-16; Luke 16:19-31.

Questions for Adults: Lazarus had faith in God, while the rich man did not. Lazarus' life was full of suffering, while the rich man's life was not. How could this be?

For Children: Do you know someone who is poor or in need? Is there anything you can do to help?

PERPETUAL ADORATION: Please seriously consider filling only remaining Open Hours: Sun. 9am; Mon. 2am, 3am; Wed. 3pm; Sat. 5pm, 11 pm. Call 381-2755.

STEWARDSHIP: Have you ever thought about how many hours you spend doing things for yourself versus how many you spend doing things for others?

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE:

	September 12, 2010 Fiscal YTD	
Needed	\$28,800	\$316,800
Collected	20,810	270,468
Over/(Under)	(7990)	(46,332)
Special Donations	570	

Do You Know Someone Thinking About Becoming Catholic? Invite them to call Robert Bacic this week for more info about the adult initiation process at Holy Cross. The Inquiry Series begins soon, so there is not much time left to register. He can be reached by phone or email at 381-2755 or rbacic@holycrossopks.org. Contacting him puts the person under no obligation.

(continued from previous column)

John Henry Newman was received into the Catholic Church on Oct.19, 1845. He spent several years studying for the priesthood in Rome and was ordained there in 1847. He was greatly influenced by the example of St. Philip Neri, who lived in the 16th century and founded the Oratorians. Newman returned to England and began the first Oratory in Birmingham, where he would reside for the remainder of his life.

Newman was internationally known as a defender of the faith, and in 1879 Pope Leo XIII made him a cardinal. He was well-respected by Protestants and Catholic alike. His writings and example influenced both Vatican I and II, and have had an impact on succeeding generations of scholars, clergy, and laity.

Pope Benedict XVI seems to be holding up Cardinal Newman as a special witness for our age. By personally presiding at the beatification in England, the Pope is sending a spiritual message to all Christians emphasizing the life and writings of this great priest. I wholeheartedly encourage you to take up his works - privately, in book clubs, families, etc. May Bl. John Henry Newman intercede for us the grace of deepening the faith by reasoned study and humble prayer.

FR. MARK's new email is frmarkkck2010@gmail.com

The mass schedule for English masses is:

4:00pm Saturday & 8:00am Sunday at Blessed Sacrament

5:30pm Saturday & 9:30am Sunday at Christ the King

11:00am Sunday at Our Lady and St. Rose

There is a rotating schedule of presiders so the best thing to do if you would like to visit is call Lucy at Blessed Sacrament (913)321-1958 to find out who has which mass when!

St.Catherine's Circle Meeting: Sept.20, 11am meeting at Whole Foods Grocery Store, Cafeteria. Guests welcome. Questions call kathy 634-8369.

SUNSHINE CLUB Social 4-6pm Wed., Sept.29, at Macaroni Grill, 91st & Metcalf. Call Arlene for reservations or questions, 913-888-7215.

Religious Education

Parent Meeting for Tues. Aft. Rel. Ed. Classes will be held this Tues., Sept. 21st, from 7:00-8:15 p.m. in Pflumm Hall located at the School building on 95th St. Take the first driveway past the school building around to the back. Park and enter the glass doors. Pflumm Hall is on your right. See the Elementary Faith Formation link on the parish website for directions and more information. At least one adult from each family needs to attend to learn our new location and parking and other safety procedures. Children begin Afternoon Classes from 4:30-5:45 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 5th.

Tuesday 6:45-8:15 p.m. Family Program begins on Tues., Sept. 28th, at Pflumm Hall, located in the back of Holy Cross School on 95th Street. Families who completed an enrollment form with payment for this evening program need to attend! Questions? Call Julie Dresser at 913-461-0726.

Confirmation classes for the 2010-2011 school year will begin Oct.17. If you were enrolled last year, please contact Sandy to re-enroll and turn in completed registration form. Registration forms deadline was August 30 and registration for new students is closed. Due to our late start this year, we are not able to add students once classes begin. Contact Sandy with questions.

Youth Ministry

Sandy Schluter, 205-0825, sschluter@holycrossopks.org

Contact during our construction... For questions regarding Middle and High School Rel. Ed or Youth Ministry, Sandy can be reached quickly & easily by email at sschluter@holycrossopks.org or call 205-0825. Your call will be returned asap if you leave message.

High School Youth Group will begin in Sept. We have exciting events planned. For more info, call, email, or contact Sandy on Facebook at Sandra K Schluter account specifically for communication about HS & MS events.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN CORNER

"Our Family, Our Future"

UPDATE:

Total Pledged: \$2,084,592

Total Received: \$1,423,538

Servant Saturday to begin again! Our first Servant Saturday event will be Fri. evening Sept.24. Send email to sschluter@holycrossopks.org by Sept.15 if you're interested in being part of annual Light the Night Walk to fight Leukemia & Lymphoma. We will assist by directing walkers on path, providing bottled water, and picking up trash. If you want service hours for school, this is a great opportunity. This event is for middle & high school students. We also need parent chaperones & drivers.

With the start of youth group, our need for snacks and drinks returns. We will be meeting at Holy Cross School until our renovations are complete, and we will not have storage for our snacks at this time. We are requesting your assistance with gift cards to HyVee or Walmart so that we can purchase snacks as we go along. It's a small gesture that means so much for our students to see how nurturing our parish is to the youth.

PROJECT UPLIFT...an outreach to those homeless in KC. We need adults and teens the first Monday of each month—contact Sandy if interested. We meet at Holy Cross at 4:30pm and return between 9pm & 9:30pm. Eat dinner before you come, bring bottled water, & dress appropriately for the weather. If you sign up, be sure to keep your commitment. People in need are counting on you.

Please Pray for Those Asking for Prayers: Kevin Haeusser, Mason Kempf, Theresa Maggio, Rhonda Martin, Eric Monello, Reuben Olea, Cathy Reynolds, Lu Sheehan, Ginny Shepard, Amber Weaver, & Marcia Werp.

REST IN PEACE:

Prayers are requested for **Mary Ann Lewkowski**, mother of Mike Lewkowski; and **Carl M. Scavuzzo**, father of Carl Scavuzzo.

Mass Intentions For The Week



Monday	9:00 a.m.	Eunice Addington
Tuesday	6:30 a.m.	Stella Seamands
	8:15 a.m.	Berta Geiger (at school)
	6:00 p.m.	Duon Nguyen (Spanish)
Wednesday	9:00 a.m.	Spec. Int. - Lita del Carmen
Thursday	6:30 a.m.	Tom Lee
	8:15 a.m.	Wilma Leikam (at school)
Friday	9:00 a.m.	Mary Pasqualino
Saturday	7:30 a.m.	Martin & Cecilia Burke
	5:00 p.m.	Marlene Golub
Sunday	7:30 a.m.	Mike Marion
	9:00 a.m.	Spec. Int. - Wally Foote
	11:00 a.m.	Lewis Flynn
	2:00 p.m.	People of the Parish (Spanish)

BIBLE STUDY GROUP IS FORMING: A 7-session study on the Book of Psalms (Part 2) will begin on Oct.7, 7pm in Room 112 at the school. There is a \$15 fee for materials. You don't have to have participated in Part 1 to sign up. Please register in advance by contacting the Church Office by Phone or email. There will not be a Morning Bible Study this fall.

On first Saturday of every month, Ascension (127th & Grant, between Switzer & Antioch) has a **rosary at 8am, followed by Mass around 8:30am.** Then there is a **group of individuals that go over to Planned Parenthood and start praying at 9:30.** If you are unable to join them for Mass, feel free to come to Planned Parenthood at 9:30 to pray with them.

Please join us to pray the **ROSARY FOR LIFE** every Friday at 8:30am in the church before Mass.

Please join us in praying the rosary on Thurs., Sept.23, 6:30pm in church. We meet once a month to pray rosary and read latest message given to Anne, a lay apostle from Ireland, who receives these messages from Jesus through interior locutions. To learn more about these messages check out the website www.directionforourtimes.com or call Colette Morrissey at 341-9682.

Come to the **Annual Charismatic Retreat**, directed by Fr. Dennis Wait, at **Sanctuary of Hope**, 2601 Ridge Ave., KC, KS, Sat., Sept.25, 8:30 through the evening and Sept. 26, beginning at 9am and ending with noon Mass. For more info call 913-649-2026.

Sion Dance Team Camp: Girls in 4th-8th grade are invited to a fall dance team camp hosted by Notre Dame de Sion High School at 106th & Wornall Rd. The camp practices are Sept.25 & 26 with performance at the home volleyball game on Mon., Sept.27. For more info, call the school, 816-942-3282 or email Sharon Radovich at sradovich@ndsion.edu.

**When Mourning Dawns:
Living Your Way
Through the Seasons of Your Grief**

*A 4-Week Series
facilitated by Robert Bacic*
Saturdays, 3:00 to 4:30 p.m.
October 2, 9, 16 & 30
in the Upstairs Conference Room
(Limit 12)

You can expect a safe and supportive environment in which to learn, share and pray. There is no fee, but you do need to register. Contact the Church Office. by October 2nd.

**An Invitation to draw closer to our Lord
from *Christ Renews His Parish***

God is always calling us to know Him and Love Him more deeply and *Christ Renews His Parish* helps us to do just that.

You may have been reluctant to commit to a Renewal Weekend. For many this reluctance was simply because you didn't know what the retreat was all about. There really is nothing Mysterious about the weekend, but there are some events that are more spiritually and emotionally powerful because they are unexpected.

The *Christ Renews His Parish* weekend is unlike any other retreats you may have attended. The Renewal Weekend, the talks, the liturgies, etc., are all planned by the parishioners. You will hear talks from fellow parishioners telling how they found the Lord in their lives through their experiences. These are very personal conversations, but no one needs to share anything they are not comfortable with. Hearing about the spiritual life of others will give you an opportunity to know parishioners as true Members of the One Body of Christ. You will form a bond with these parishioners because you know them personally.

If you have questions, please feel free to ask any of us who have been through the Renewal Weekend. We know first hand what an amazing gift God has in store for everyone and we want to share that experience with you. Everyone who has attended a Renewal Weekend is praying that you will hear God's voice calling you to join us.

**September 25-26 - Men's Weekend
October 9-10 - Women's Weekend**

School News

Once again we will be selling Entertainment Books at the school You may purchase them in the school office Sept.15-18. Proceeds go to our PTO.

The faculty at Holy Cross School is participating in the School of Faith faculty faith formation program this year. The program is designed to assist us in our own continued faith development and therefore enable us to grow in our ability to hand on the truth, beauty and goodness of the Catholic faith to the children. The teachers will be taking time each month to meet as a faith community to learn and pray together.

Upcoming Events::

- Sept.20th Parent Rosary 8:10 in the School Chapel
- Sept.22nd PTO Moms Night Out
- Sept.20-24th Iowa Test of Basic Skill Grades 3-8
- Sept.24-25th Trash Bag Pick Up

Our office hours are 8:00am-4:00pm on school days. You may purchase SCRIP certificates and Trash Bags during our office hours.



“Encuentro”

ANUNCIOS

MISAS EN ESPAÑOL:
todos los domingos a las
2:00 p.m. y los martes
a las 6:00 p.m.

MISAS EN INGLÉS:
 sábados 5:00 p.m.
 y domingos 7:30 a.m.,
 9:00 a.m. y 11:00 a.m.
 Los invitamos a participar
 en cualquiera de estas
 liturgias.

RECONCILIACIÓN:
 sábados, 3:30 a 4:30pm;
 martes, 5:30 p.m., antes
 de la Misa en español; y
 miércoles, 5:30-6:30pm.

MATRIMONIO: Llame a
 la parroquia 6 meses antes
 de la fecha en que desea
 casarse para tener una
 entrevista con un sacerdote.

BAUTISMO: Segundo
 sábado 11 a.m., y tercer
 domingo de cada mes
 después de la Misa de las
 2:00 p.m. Padres y
 padrinos deben asistir a una
 clase de preparación. Favor
 de anotarse con anticipa-
 ción, llamando a la oficina
 de la iglesia, 381-2755.

SERVICIOS EN
ESPAÑOL: Para hablar
 en español, llamen a la
 oficina de la iglesia,
381-2755: lunes,
 miércoles y jueves 2-5
 pm.; martes 2-7pm.
 Pueden llamar también
 a los Sacerdotes, al
 341-5618 y dejarles un
 mensaje.

DEL PADRE ROBERTO:

Hermanos y Hermanas,

El pasado domingo, 12 de Septiembre, celebramos nuestro Festival de la Parroquia y me alegró mucho ver que la gran cantidad de ustedes que vinieron. Le estoy agradecido a Carol Reardon, su comité y todos aquéllos que donaron su tiempo y energía para hacer de este día una experiencia tan alegre. Tuvimos un tiempo perfecto – claro, soleado y ¡no muy caliente! Dios los bendiga a todos.

El Papa Benedicto XVI, terminará su visita a Escocia e Inglaterra, el domingo, 19 de Septiembre – concluyendo 4 días de Misas, oraciones, reuniones y paseos. Este viaje especial al Inglaterra, aunque fuera iniciado por el gobierno y la conferencia de obispos Católicos, fue como una peregrinación espiritual para el Papa, debido a su afinidad espiritual con John Henry Newman (ya Bendecido). Mientras que el Papa Juan Pablo II, participara en numerosas beatificaciones (el pase antes de la canonización) ceremonias en la Basílica de San Pedro, en Roma, durante su largo pontificado, el Papa Benedicto XVI ha preferido mover estos servicios a las diócesis originales de aquéllos a ser beatificado, permitiendo así a los ordinarios locales presidir las ceremonias. El centro de su viaje reciente a la Gran Bretaña, la Beatificación de John Henry Newman, revela su amor particular por este tremendo hombre de Dios.

El Cardenal Newman, vivió en el siglo 19 y es conocido como uno de los grandes predicadores de los últimos 200 años. Él fue un sacerdote Anglicano, afiliado con la Universidad de Oxford como curador, administrador y profesor. Su aptitud escolar y profunda vida espiritual, lo llevaron a una peregrinación interior a las primeras fuentes del Cristianismo: los Padres de la Iglesia. Él tuvo un número de compañeros en este viaje y juntos empezaron lo que es conocido como “el Movimiento Oxford” – un “retorno a las raíces” del siglo 19, que alentó una renovación dentro de la Iglesia Anglicana. El deseo de Newman, no paró con la liturgia, ritual o teología. Él fue recibido dentro de la Iglesia Católica en el año 1845.

Sobre el curso de su larga vida, publicó muchos trabajos interesantes que tocaron diferentes temas, como patología, sermones, material catequista y las oraciones. Como el Rector fundador de la Universidad de Dublin, escribió sobre los elementos esenciales de la educación liberal de artes en “La Idea de una Universidad.” Respondiendo algunas críticas fogosas, él redactó una movida defensa de la fe Católica, el sacerdocio y su propia vida, en la “Apología Pro Vita Sua.” Finalmente, explica la pregunta de la fe en su bien popular “Essay in Aid of a Grammar of Assent” – la cuál él reclamó le tomara escribirlo cerca de 20 años.

John Henry Newman, fue recibido dentro de la Iglesia Católica el 9 de Octubre, 1845. Pasó varios años en Roma, estudiando para sacerdote y fue ordenado allí, en 1847. Fue grandemente influenciado por el ejemplo de San Philip Neri, quién vivió en el siglo 16, fundando los Oratorios. Newman, volvió a Inglaterra y empezó el primer Oratorio en Birmingham, donde él viviera por el resto de su vida.

Newman, fue conocido internacionalmente como un defensor de la fe, haciéndolo Cardenal, el Papa Leo 13, en el año 1879. Él fue bien respetado igualmente por los Protestantes y Católicos. Sus escritos y ejemplos, influenciaron los Vaticano I y II, al igual que han impactado generaciones sucesoras de escolares, clérigos y laicos.

El Papa Benedicto XVI, parece agarrarse del Cardenal Newman, como un testigo especial para nuestra época. Presidiendo personalmente la beatificación en Inglaterra, el Papa está mandando un mensaje espiritual a todos los Cristianos, enfatizando la vida y escrituras de este gran sacerdote. Yo los animo de todo corazón a leer sus trabajos – privadamente, el clubs de libros, familias, etc. Que el Santo John Henry Newman, interceda por nosotros la gracia de profundizar la fe, estudiando razonablemente y orando humildemente.

Para más información vea el revés de esta página.

Continuación de la página anterior.

LECTURAS Y PREGUNTAS PARA COMPARTIR LA FE EL PRÓXIMO DOMINGO - Septiembre 26, 2010 - 26° Domingo Ordinario: Amós 6:4-7; 1 Timoteo 6:11-16; Lucas 16:19-31

Preguntas de Adultos semanales para Compartir la Fe: Lázaro tuvo fe en Dios, pero el rico no la tuvo. La vida de Lázaro fue llena de sufrimientos, mientras que la vida del rico no lo fue. ¿Cómo pudo ser así?

Preguntas para los Niños: ¿Conocen de alguien quién sea pobre o con necesidades? ¿Pueden ustedes hacer algo para ayudarlos?

INTENCIONES PARA LAS MISAS: Martes, 9/21, 6:00 p.m.: Doan Nguyen

Domingo, 9/26, 2:00 p.m.: Personas de la Iglesia

RICA: Clases para adultos que les falten recibir los siguientes sacramentos: Bautizo, Primera Comunión y Confirmación, **empezarán el 22 de Sept., a las 7pm., en la Escuela Holy Cross.** Inscríbanse llamando a la oficina de la iglesia, 381-2755, horas de español.

EDUCACIÓN RELIGIOSA:

Las clases de Ed. Religiosa serán celebradas en la Escuela Holy Cross, en la calle 95, y empezarán este año más tarde, debido a la renovación del sótano de la iglesia. Clases de la tarde empezarán el martes, 5 de Oct., 4:20-5:45pm. Tendremos una reunión de Orientación para estos Padres, el martes, 21 de Sept., 7:00-8:15pm., en el salón Pflumm de la Escuela. Familias Creciendo Juntas en la Fe: empezarán las clases el martes, 28 de Sept., 6:45-8:15pm. Todas las familias que pagaron su matrícula deberán de venir. Preguntas: Julie, 461-0726.

Attention All Catholic Parents of 5th, 6th, 7th, & 8th grade students! As you begin the process of planning for your child's secondary education, we invite you to attend a **Johnson County Catholic High School Fair** to be held 7-8:30pm at area elementary schools. Please select the most convenient one for you! Tues., Sept.21, Holy Trinity; Thurs., Sept.23, Holy Spirit; Mon., Sept. 27, St.Michael the Archangel; Tues., Sept.28, Nativity; Mon., Oct.4, Good Shepherd; Wed., Oct.6, St.Joseph. The info sessions will be in a casual "Open House" setting. Representatives from Bishop Miege H.S., St.James Academy, & St.Thomas Aquinas H.S. will be available to answer general questions about each school. The purpose of these fairs is to provide a brief introduction of the excellent secondary Catholic education these schools offer. And while investigating your options, please be aware that all three schools are inclusive and serve students of all abilities regardless of income. The four years of high school are important ones in which to learn and grow in one's faith, discover God's plan and stay close to Jesus through the sacraments. Come join us to get a glimpse of each high school. - a good first step in the planning process!

St. Maximilian Kolbe's militia of the Immaculata invites all young adults aged 18 and up to a Day of Prayer on Sun., Sept.26, at St.Peters Catholic Church 6415 Holmes Rd, KC, MO. The Day of Prayer from 11am-6pm includes Mass, Confessions, and talks given by Fr.Matthew Benjamin, Sr.Mary Clare Eichman, OSF, and St.Catherine Marie Morse, CJD. The \$5 fee includes lunch. Late registration at the door is \$7. Register online at www.miyouth.org. For additional info contact Sr.Mary Clare, 816-529-6715.

The Archdiocesan Pro-Life Office and the Sacred Heart Respect Life-Committee are hosting "**An Evening of Prayer with the Sisters of Life**" on Tues., Sept.28, 7-8:30pm at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, 5501 Monticello Rd. (at Johnson Dr.) in Shawnee 66226. The Sister of Life will present "**Transforming the Culture through Prayer**" followed by the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Benediction. Meet the Sisters at reception afterwards in meeting rooms. The Sisters of Life is a contemplative/active religious community of women founded in 1991 by John Cardinal O'Connor for the protection and enhancement of the sacredness of every human life. Conforming their lives to Christ, the Sisters take vows of poverty, chastity and obedience and a fourth vow to protect and enhance the sacredness of human life. For more info about their order, go to www.sistersoflife.org. The presentation is suitable for all ages and children are most welcome; however since the cry room will be unavailable that evening, free babysitting will be available.

The **University of Saint Mary** will hold an **Information Session** at its Overland Park Campus, 11413 Pflumm Rd., 6pm on Tues., Sept.28. Faculty and staff will be available to answer your questions about our accelerated undergraduate degree-completion and graduate programs in business, education, psychology, and nursing. You can RSVP by calling 913-345-8288 or visit www.stmary.edu.

SON FALL DANCE Sat., Oct.2, 7-11pm at Church of Nativity Parish Hall, 119th/Mission Rd, Leawood 66209. \$10 members; \$15 guests. Light appetizers, casual attire. Info: kathy13621@hotmail.com or kathy 913-645-2046.

Week 25 of WHAT'S NEW FOR CHRIS: We at Holy Cross are following development of a child in womb from conception to birth over 9 months from Feast of the Annunciation to Christmas. God said, "Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you." **We named this tiny new human being Chris. Chris's heart started beating 18 days after conception.** Amniotic fluid cushions Chris throughout pregnancy. Umbilical cord forms like lifeline for baby in "space" of womb. **By Week 5** Chris was 10,000 times larger than original fertilized egg, developing rapidly. **By Week 6** Chris's brain began to control movement of muscles & organs. **By Week 7** Chris began to move, arms bending & flexing, fingers developing, swimming & doing back flips. **By Week 8** Chris was a little under inch long. Everything present would be found in a fully developed adult. **By Week 9** Chris's fingerprints were evident. Chris could feel pain. Chris wriggled and played with fingers, toes, nose, ears! **By Week 10** the most critical part of Chris's development was complete & Chris entered a period of rapid growth. Chris was squinting & swallowing, over an inch long, moving quickly. **By Week 11** Chris was almost 2 inches long & could stand on daddy's little finger nail. Finger nails & hair were starting to grow. Placenta was providing nutrition. **By Week 12** Chris slept, awakened, & exercised muscles energetically, opening & closing mouth while "breathing" amniotic fluid to help develop respiratory system. **By Week 13** Chris had all 20 teeth buds, was almost 3 inches long, & weighed 1 oz.. Vocal cords began to form, & Chris will use them for first cry after birth! **By Week 14** my taste buds were working! I drank sweet tasting amniotic fluid. My skin was very transparent & was very sensitive to pain except for my back and the top of my head. **By Week 15** I had unique fingerprints, fingernails & toenails growing, adult's taste buds, eyebrows & hair on my head sprouting. **By Week 16** I was getting a little baby fat and my heart was pumping as much as 6 gallons a day. I weighed almost 6 oz., & was about 3" long. **By Week 17** I have REM (rapid eye movements) in dreams I don't remember. My vocal cords have formed but make no sound because no air in here. I breathe "underwater," inhaling & exhaling amniotic fluid. **By Week 18** I hear mother's heartbeat and know her voice. My umbilical cord transports 300 quarts of fluid/day and completes round-trip of fluids every 30 seconds. I suck my thumb. **By Week 19** I may cover eyes if bright light on mother's abdomen. I may cover ears if very loud noise. I hear my mom's soothing lullaby. My private parts are clearly visible now. **By Week 20** my hair was growing on head, my heart pumping 6 gallons of blood every day. After 20 weeks now, I will be born in 20 more weeks. I'm over 6" tall and weigh over 10 oz. Mom can distinguish our heartbeats. **By Week 21** my tongue was fully formed & I practiced a raspberry! I hear noises from outside. I have fingernails & fingerprints. I was 10" long if I could stand up straight. **By Week 22** I liked to suck my thumb & listen to Mom read to me. My brain was growing really fast & I weighed nearly a pound.

(continued on next column)

(continued from previous column) **By Week 23** My eyes were formed, but the iris didn't have color. I was over 1lb. & 1ft.long. **By Week 24** I'm bulking up with muscle, bone mass, and organ development. My lungs developed so well, I'm officially viable, I could live outside the womb. Each parent contributed 15,000 genes that determined not only what the baby looks like but how it interprets tastes, athletic abilities, allergies, health, and much more. **HERE IN WEEK 25 Thousands and thousands of brain cells are growing in my head every day! Soon I will have billions of brain cells. I can make a fist and grasp things. My spine is beginning to form to protect my spinal cord. I'm covered by a white cheesy substance that protects my skin. Don't worry, it will come off right after birth. Mom can tell if her baby gets the hiccups.**

Next week will again bring something new for Chris.

Retreat for Individuals with Special Needs, Sept.25-26:

This retreat is a two day, one night experience for individuals with developmental disabilities from 9th grade up to 20 years old. The purpose of this retreat is for participants to have an opportunity to learn about and grow in their faith of Jesus Christ while taking part in highly interactive indoor and outdoor activities. The retreat starts on Saturday beginning at 8:30am and runs through to Sunday ending at 2pm. The retreat will conclude with Mass celebrated by Archbishop Joseph Naumann along with Fr. Gary Pennings. Parents will be required to stay overnight with their child at Prairie Star Ranch and enjoy other activities during the day as their child participates in the retreat. The cost of this two day event is \$140 for parent (non-participant) and youth. For more info check out website at www.archkck.org or RSVP with Mary Rukavina at 913-647-0373.

LIFE CHAIN is Sun., Oct.3, 1:30-2:30pm in front of Holy Cross School. Life Chain is an annual 1-hour nationwide **peaceful, prayerful** demonstration supporting the dignity of life. Locally over 100 churches, statewide nearly 1000 churches are participating. A choice of pre-printed signs will be available on-site. Please bring the entire family and join us as we stand up for life. It is requested that babies and young children be secured in strollers, etc. For more info call Becky Dixon, 961-5538, or simply show up as the group from our church assembles at 1:30pm that day in front of Holy Cross School.

A Practical Path to Prayer: Draw closer to the present, active and loving God in your life by learning about and practicing time tested prayer traditions. Fr. Vern Heinsz, S.J., will walk you through one day in the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola, helping you to discover the wisdom and guidance that can lead those who hunger to deepen their relationship with God. Sat., Oct.9, 9am-1pm, lunch included, at the Finucane Ctr. On Rockhurst Univ. campus. Cost is \$4-, scholarships available. Registration is required, email info@ignatiancenterkc.org or call 816-523-5115 x 212.