

SATURDAY, JULY 29: CATHOLIC DEAF PICNIC, St. Francis Borgia Deaf Center. NOON-Dusk: food, drink; indoors/outdoors. FREE admission. Mass, 4pm, same as Sunday Mass. Everyone is welcome.

CATHOLIC DEAF YOUNG ADULTS RETREAT, Milwaukee, WI, AUG. 11-13. INFO: klusmanc@archmil.org (Great experience for young deaf adults.)

HELP CHILDREN WHO SUFFERED SEXUAL ABUSE! Each year at St. Francis Borgia Deaf Center, we collect school supplies for children. These children ALL were victims of sexual abuse, some of them as young as 3 years old! Yes, 3 years old!

Get a new backpack and fill it with school supplies (list is available at St. Francis Borgia and on our website). Bring it ANY SUNDAY in AUGUST (or at St. Julie Billiart on AUGUST 13th). You are truly doing GOD'S WORK.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Tues, July 18: HAWTHORNE COMMITTEE Meeting.

Sun, July 23: Mass, 10:30am. Coffee & rolls.

Mass, 4pm, St. Mary of Vernon. Refreshments.

Thurs, July 27, 9am-3pm: Senior Citizen Social.

Sat, July 29: PICNIC (see above).

Sun, July 30: Mass, 10:30am. Coffee & rolls.

Sun, Aug 6: Mass, 10:30am. Coffee & rolls.

Sun, Aug 13: Mass, 10:30am. POLISH LUNCHEON.

4pm: St. Julie Billiart.

PRAY FOR... Lori Patyk, Elaine Wixted, Sylvia Kolinek, Genevieve Balsitis, Marilyn Johnson, Anthony Ariano, Bob Healy, Penny Hendee, Susan Postl & Charlotte Seegert, Evelyn Rzasa, Donna Taylor, Leandra Williams, Theresa Stanis, Majka family, Caroline Goraj, James Mulcrone, William Costello, Bob Ryan, Mark & Diane Kubey, Danny Rivera, Lee Husted, Mary Jane Ryan, Schelag Foler, John Hoberg, Drucilla Ronchen, Kevin Ronchen, Arlene Redmond, Dolores Amato, Clarence Whitt, Elena Sabbia, Peggy Crotty, Joan Christian, Genevieve Uhren, Nicole Arendt, Fr. Michael Hayduk. CHERYL KITCHEN (59) who died June 6; sister of DAN NATALIE.

READ YOUR BIBLE:

7/16: Isaiah 55:10-11/ psalm 65/ Romans 8:18-23/ Matthew 13:1-23

7/17: Exodus 1:8-14,22/ Matthew 10:34-11:1

7/18: St. Camillus (1614; was addicted to gambling) Exodus 2:1-15/Matt. 11:20-24

7/19: Exodus 3:1-12/ Matthew 11:25-27

7/20: St. Apollinaris (1st century martyr) Exodus 3:13-20/Matthew 11:28-30

7/21: St. Lawrence of Brindisi (1619) Exodus 11:10-12:14/Matthew 12:1-8

7/22: St. Mary Magdalene. Exodus 12: 37-42/John 20:1-2,11-18

7/23: Wisdom 12:13-19/Psalm 86/Romans 8:26-27/ Matthew 13:24-43

JUNE 24-JULY 3, 2018: visit the Vatican; meet POPE FRANCIS; tour Florence, Siena, etc with Fr. Joe. For more info, contact: scorbytravel@gmail.com

WED, 7/20, 10am-3pm: ADA Celebration, Thompson Center, 100 W. Randolph. FREE. Interpreters present all day. Dhs.adacelebration@illinois.gov

Many Chicago Public Schools provide free lunch this summer for children up to age 18. INFO: www.cps.edu/About_CPS/Departments/Pages/Summermeals.aspx

SOME NOTES FROM FR. JOE:

I began as the Director of the Catholic Office of the Deaf in August 1977. I never dreamed I would be here 40 years later! The first people who made me welcome were STELLA NEJA, PHIL & ALICE VELLA, JOHN & FLORENCE RAHN, FIDEL & IRIS MARTINEZ, CASEY & ALICE FRONCZEK, FRANK & EVELYN RZASA, RICHARD & KATHY KUSH, RON SLISZ, JAN GOLDMAN, JOHN & LORAYNE KOBUS, the NICOLOSIS & LENTINES, the GRECOS & FRANCO, MARIE YANZITO, the MANZELLAS, the RACIS, the KANES, JACK CROTTY & MARY JO SCANLAN, many others. I will always be grateful for their help. Throughout the years, there are many people who have helped me to do this work and to be a good priest. I cannot list (or remember) all their names. However, there are some I need to specifically thank:

DEACONS CASEY FRONCZEK & RALPH HINCH. These two men have given a tremendous gift of their time and talents to our community. NANCY HUBER & MARGARET SWATEK who have served our families so faithfully as our Religious Education Directors. All our CATECHISTS, AIDES, HELPERS, & INTERPRETERS in our Religious Education Program. All our USHERS, but specifically BRIAN SWATEK & TOM SISK. I always knew I could depend on them. BRIAN SWATEK has given so much time and hard work for our deaf Catholic community! (The entire SWATEK FAMILY has been a gift to us!) JOE & MARYANN KULA who started our Masses at St. Julie Billiart. DEACON JOHN GLENN (wife CLAUDIA) for our continuing Masses at St. Mary of Vernon. JOHN & VALENTINA FOLERZYSNKI for their connections with the Polish deaf community. PATRICIA SLISZ has been amazingly generous in all the time and effort she has given to us with her talents. CARMEN REYES for working hard over MANY YEARS to bring in the Spanish community (also thanks to HERMINIO & VIVIAN CARDONA, FIDEL & IRIS MARTINEZ). JIMMY SMITH our “tech” guy! He was great when we had “emergencies”. VIRGINIA HINCH and the CHOIR. All those who served on the HAWTHORNE COMMITTEE during the years. So far, we have raised over \$325,000 to keep the Catholic Office of the Deaf open. Also, our MFP graduates have helped our community a lot. The CCE officers and members have contributed a great deal to make our community strong! I am proud of SDC (Swoboda Deaf Center) that it is finally serving our deaf community. Our SENIOR CITIZENS has been always a great group that continues to this day.

For these 40 years, I have depended on so many sign-language interpreters. In the Chicago area we have very skilled and very generous interpreters who are often very supportive of so many deaf people and their families.

Deacon Casey Fronczek keeps a list of all those who have died. There are so many people who I think about, especially ITALO DE ARCANGELIS, KATHY KUSH, ED SCHULTZ, NANCY HUBER, FIDEL MARTINEZ, the SCHARLES, FR. JIM EGAN & FR. DAVID WALSH who gave me good advice when I began. MITCH & LAUREL RACI, LYNN SWODOBA, the VELLAS, RENELDA GUTH, SR. ALVERNA HOLLIS, and so many inspiring deaf people. RABBI DOUGLAS GOLDHAMER has always been a wise person about ministering in the deaf community. SR. PATRICIA FRANCIS, OP, has been a wonderful support!

The first secretary of the Catholic Office of the Deaf was SHIRLEY STEFANSKI WEHKING. She helped me so much. She still helps! I have been unbelievably blessed by COLLEEN CURRY who has been our Office Manager for twenty years. Colleen does so much for ALL OF US! NANCY HUBER taught me how to work with families. MARGARET SWATEK continues to be a good leader! PHYLLIS WINTER & ARLENE REDMOND at HOLY TRINITY DEAF SCHOOL always welcomed me and allowed me to see what a really good school for deaf children is like.

I hope and pray you will support FR. ROBERTO as much as you loved and supported me for all these years. With love, Fr. Joe