

**sjbes' Newsletter**

2014-15

November 27, 2015

Dear Friends of Holly and **sjbes'** Mission,

I plan and God commands. My six week road trip which had been planned to start on June 23rd and to return home somewhere in August never transpired. On my first day, a big buck jumped onto the "Mary-mo-bile" approximately 50 miles into the journey. That velvet horned steed definitely put a ca-bash to my summer plans. Instead of making decisions to what route to travel, I now had to make decisions on seeking the mechanics, the parts and the funds for repairing **sjbes'** 1992 Chev Beauville Van in hope of putting her back together again. Not knowing what to do first as I stood stranded in a small town in southeast Utah, I did what any other crazy-catholic-person would do, I called her holy padre - Fr. Pat Valdez – to ask for his blessings in seeking a safe sanctuary at St. Andrew Avelino Seminary in Denver for I had no other place to go which would afford me the opportunity to be near the Holy Eucharist. With his blessings, I flew to Denver where two Theatine seminarians picked me up at DIA and drove me to the seminary in Glendale where I spent about 9 days in prayer and reflection. "Oh! I will forever bless My Lord, Our God, for His goodness and mercy."

By the grace of God and a renewed spirit, I came back to the Four Corners to begin putting the "Mary-mo-bile" back together again :-). Yet if it were not for one of **sjbes'** loyal advisors, Danny Hall, and to an amazing mechanic, Steve Francisco and to my benevolent friend, Anne McGinley, who provided a room for **sjbes' Mission**, all of my efforts would not have borne fruit. Humbled by all the love and charity given, she is back on the road again. Yahoo!

For the second time this year, **sjbes'** organized a fundraising event for the Montelores Catholic Community which we started back in the first week of August and ended in the second week of September. The event was staging a rummage sale and resource fair during the four days of this Labor Day Weekend. Thanks to the prayers and selfless sacrifices of sixty- some volunteers, the event raised approximately \$14,500. This money will be used in the planning of an Ecumenical and Catechesis Center that will hopefully be built here in the Southwest under the spiritual direction of Fr. Pat Valdez, C.R.

During the last week in August, I was fortunate to have been able to fly to California for 4 days for my granddaughter, Brooklyn Grace's, Holy Baptism and for spending time with my growing family in Marina del Rey. God is good! This sweet break from the fundraiser made it a bit more tolerable to come back for the final stage of this labor intensive event.

With the fundraising project at an end, I again started substitute teaching, preschool thru 12th grades, for the 2015-16 school year just as I have done over these past six years; and for preparing **sjbes'** 2015 October Project ...**Abandoning Control of What's Expected so as to Live by Unconditional Faith, Hope and Love in What's Unknown...** which was to take place on October 23<sup>rd</sup> through October 26<sup>th</sup> down at Our Lady of Victory's Desert Solitaire in Cross Canyon at Montezuma Creek in San Juan County, Utah for personal reflection, study, playing, and praying while exploring, biking, hiking, eating and sharing fireside chats under the starry night skies. This was **sjbes'** 8<sup>th</sup> annual October Project in hope that the love and sacrifice invested will someday manifest **sjbes'** vision of Our Lady of Victory's Holy Gardens.

This past April, **sjbes'** met with some of her volunteer advisors in Denver to discuss the idea of disbanding her status as a 501 C non-profit organization and simply designating the organization to be only a non-denominational mission of charity. I stated that this would not affect any donations, gifts of

kind which would be granted to her in the future as still being a tax deduction by her grantors. The consensus of **sjbes'** advisors was to wait one year before taking any action for dissolving the 501 C status while further study and contemplation on the subject should be continued.

Working with the very severe emotional disabled students, giving seminars on "best practices", study of perma cultures and alternative living, being a support resource for those in need, a sponsor for an RCIA catechumen and my on-going writing project "The Born Again Virgin", there has not been a dull moment in my ministry as **sjbes'** director. I am hoping all these past endeavors will bring forth results for prospering **sjbes'** in 2015-16.

A growing fondness for St. Cajetan's Theatine community has blossomed with me throughout this year which started with **sjbes'** being a support resource for Fr. Pat and his seminarians on retreat this past January at Trout Lake and snow recreation with my son, Luke Brown, in Telluride. It had been a privilege to witness in San Luis, Colorado, thirteen Theatine seminarians enter the novitiate on St. Cajetan's feast day on August 15<sup>th</sup> and in Cortez, Colorado at St. Margaret Mary Alacoque Church on the Feast of the Exultation of the Holy Cross on September 14<sup>th</sup>, Deacon Francisco's ordination into the Holy Priesthood. I have been truly blessed by this community of friends, and I give thanks to Our God for special favors received.

A new project for this year will be working with the Archdiocese of Denver and other Denver organizations who serve the poorest of the poor living on the streets. I will begin attending meetings in Denver starting in December with the hopes of locating support resources that could be utilized by these growing numbers of homeless people.

While writing this summary, I found myself asking God, "Is this really what I am to be doing?" and "What is the lesson (understanding) in all this?" So to you my readers these are the answers as best as I can understand them as a complex, rational person living in the unknown world of Our God (For if you haven't already learned by now, Our God is not rational). With unwavering hope, I am to continue working on manifesting the vision of **sjbes' Mission – School, Support and Sanctuary**, and not resign even in old age. I am to unconditionally trust in Our Triune God as I continually grow in holy faith with the expectation that the "Kingdom of God is at hand." These answers definitely resound around this year's theme ...**Abandoning Control of What's Expected so as to Live by Unconditional Faith, Hope and Love in What's Unknown...** or in other words, "Here I am Lord, Your Will be done, not mine, but Yours".

So stay tuned and please keep me in your prayers as I keep you in mine.

Through the Grace of God and by His Holy Spirit, I extend to you and to all your loved ones, the full blessings of Divine and Holy Love from the Sacred and Immaculate Hearts of Jesus and Mary.



Forever,  
Your Friend in Christ.

Holly

**sjbes'**

# St. John Bosco's Educational Society

Non-Profit Organization for Human Development  
 Infant Child Adolescent & Adult



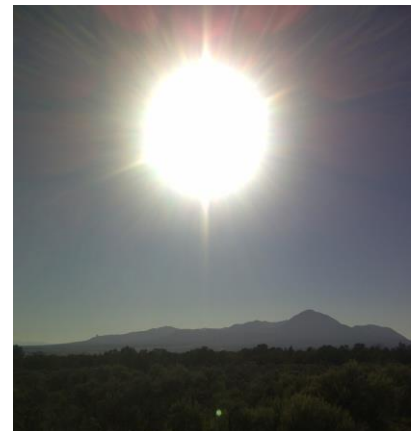
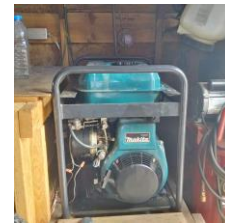
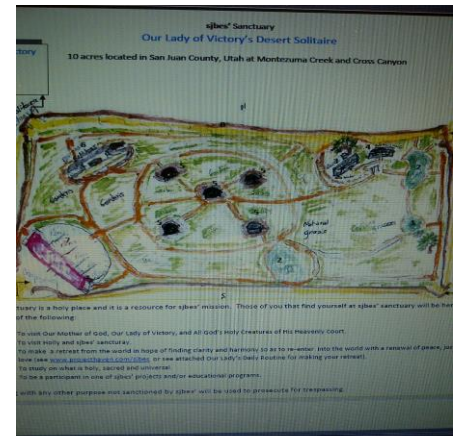
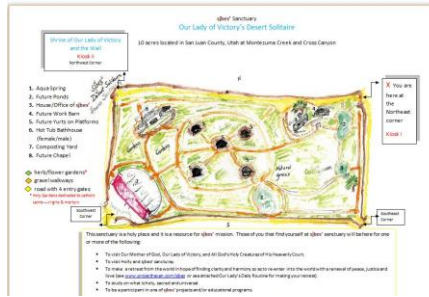
Community School(s)



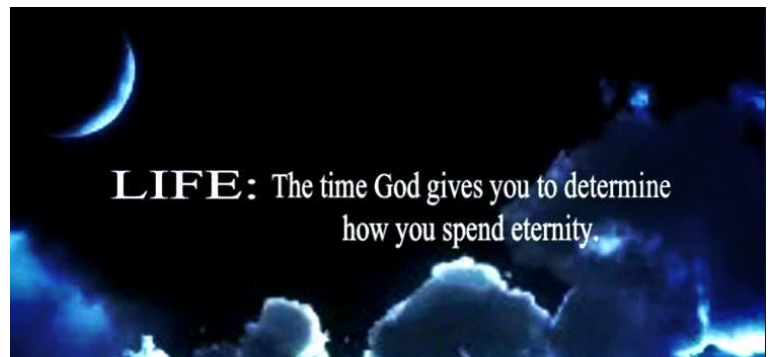
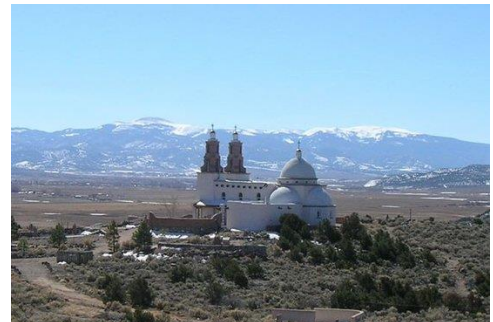
Southwest Support Programs



Our Lady of Victory's Desert Solitaire







\* A Special thanks to the Dolores Public Library in all their support for sjbes' Mission