

St. Patrick Parish IN FOCUS

www.stpaturbana.org

June 2025

Come, Holy Spirit!

The Holy Spirit has been alive and active throughout human history. We see the Spirit in the breath of God that spoke over the chaos and brought order to the world, making it a place where all creatures, including us, could live and flourish. We see the Spirit in the breath that God breathed into Adam and Eve, giving them not just life, but also souls. We see the Spirit in the fire that attracted Moses to becoming the leader of God's people. We see the Spirit in the songs of David, that soothed the troubled heart of King Saul. We see the Spirit in the words of the prophets who called God's people back to justice and fidelity.

When Jesus entered human history, the Spirit helped us to recognize him. The beginning of John's gospel says that Jesus was the Word. The Spirit was the breath on which the Word was spoken. The Spirit hovered over the waters at Jesus' baptism. The Spirit was in the cloud at Jesus' transfiguration. The Spirit softened hearts to feel the attraction of Jesus' words and helped his fol-

lowers to understand what he said.

After the resurrection of Jesus, the Spirit enabled the disciples to continue his work. That first night, Jesus breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them." He told them to wait for the coming of the Holy Spirit. At Pentecost, the Spirit filled the disciples with the fire to spread the word of Jesus without

fear, and he gave their listeners the willingness to listen and the breath of faith.

And that was just the beginning. All the things that the Spirit has done in the past he continues to do down to our day. The Spirit continues to attract people to Jesus, to soften hearts, and make us good listeners. The Spirit

continues to help us to know Jesus better, to understand his teachings, and to recognize the great gifts that we have in him. The Spirit continues to offer guidance, to speak in our hearts what we need to hear, and to live out our faith with integrity. And when we are troubled or afraid, the Spirit gives us comfort and courage.

Come, Holy Spirit!

Holy Spirit, I come before you seeking courage. Strengthen my heart and mind so that I can face the fears and challenges that lie before me.



Can you grow a row for the food pantry?

Summer is here and many of us are looking forward to the delights of fresh summer produce.

Nothing beats the taste of home-grown tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, salad



greens, carrots, scallions, herbs.... Sadly, our St. Vincent de Paul food pantry was not able to keep up its garden space at Meadowbrook Park this season, so we can't grow these things for our guests as we have done in the past. But you may be able to help!

We are hoping all the good gardeners and pantry friends at St. Patrick's will consider planting a little extra in their home gardens this season with the pantry in mind. Whether it is that last plant you didn't think you could squeeze in or those last few seeds in the bag, whatever extra you can bring to harvest you can then donate to the pantry. Our guests love the fresh produce, and it is such a healthy choice for them.

Can you fit in an extra row or even just an extra plant or two? Even if you can't deliberately plant extra, remember us when your family groans as you serve them yet another meal of zucchini or green beans, or whatever your garden produces too much of. Bring it to us. We and our guests thank you!

Meet our neophytes

At the Easter Vigil, our OCIA candidates undertook the sacraments needed to become members of the Catholic Church. We call these new Catholics “neophytes.” Here are their stories.

August Niehaus

My name is August Niehaus. I am 19 years old. I am currently studying music education and have aspirations to be a high school band



director. I am very excited to join the Catholic Church ever since I discovered it last year.

I felt a calling to pursue the sacraments as soon as I witnessed the beauty of confession, adoration, the members of the church, and the dedication in the Catholic Church and its teachings.

Catherine Hales

My name is Cathy Hales. I presently live in Newman, Illinois. I am a grandma and a great grandma.



I am also a weaver, quilter, and a dabbler in all things fiber arts. I have

always been a woman of faith and a regular church attendee. I have been a Protestant for all of my 74 years.

I was invited to come to St. Patrick Church with a friend. I had never attended a Catholic church prior. I was amazed by what I experienced! The first thing I noticed was that people were quietly praying upon entering the church. And that everything that was done during the service was approached with such reverence, I knew that I wanted more of what I experienced on that first visit. I continued to visit and made the decision to join the Catholic Church.

I started to attend in the spring, and by the time my OCIA classes began in September, the “friend” that first invited me had become my fiancé. His name is John Clark and he has been a Catholic since birth. He was given permission to attend OCIA with me. Because his catechism classes were quite a few years ago, this has been a learning experience for him as well. It has been a wonderful journey we have shared. He is not just a kind man, he is devoted to Christ and the Catholic Church.

I am so excited to have my first communion at the Easter Vigil. For me, this has been an exciting time of learning and devotion. It is my new beginning, and a journey in my walk with Christ. I said to someone who congratulated me on joining the church, that the first time I attended St. Patrick I felt like I was home. And I still feel that this is where I belong and that I was led by God to join. I have been so pleased with the support from other parishioners, Collin Reymann my OCIA coordinator, Ellen Abell my sponsor, John my fiancé, and Father Co. I feel welcome here.

I plan to use my skills for the glory of God. In May of this year, I will be married in St. Patrick and will move to St. Joseph with my husband John.

William Sapp

My name is William Sapp and I am 36 years old. I have moved quite a bit in my life, but I have spent the majority of my time in various parts of Champaign County. I grew up non-denominational but decided

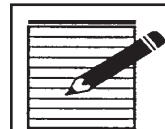


to join a Baptist church in my early twenties. I have been married to my wife Betsy for ten years and we have two children together: our son Tobias, and our daughter Lyradee.

I began investigating the Catholic Church because of my own curiosity, and I finally came to the decision that I wanted to find a place that my family and I could attend Mass. After looking into different options in the area, we decided that St. Patrick's would be the best option for our schedule since we could only attend weekday Mass at the time. We immediately felt welcome and have enjoyed coming ever since.

I decided very quickly that I wanted to join OCIA. Between independent studies, speaking with Catholics that I know, and discussions with Father Anthony, it was made clear to me that I should pursue the sacraments in order to experience fullness of faith. The material provided in the OCIA program was excellent in explaining the sacraments and how vital they are to the Church.

Brock Wilsey also joined the Church at the Easter Vigil. Please welcome Brock, August, Cathy, and William into our St. Patrick family and pray for them as they continue on their spiritual journeys!



Deadline for submission of articles and news items for the next issue of *In Focus* (May) is **Sunday, June 8.**

Ed Clancy honored at “Night of Knights” dinner

The St. Patrick’s Knights of Columbus Council 5752 is honored that member Ed Clancy was selected to be one of eight Knights from the diocese recognized for outstanding service at the Peoria chapter’s annual “Night of Knights” dinner in April. A committee of Knights evaluated numerous nominations submitted by councils within the diocese and selected individuals based on their service to their local council, church, family, and community.

A member of St. Patrick parish since 1946 – more than 78 years! – Ed Clancy has served in ways almost too numerous to count, but we’ll try!

Ed joined Knights of Columbus Council 5752 in 1994. In the years since, he has at various times held the offices of Recorder, Deputy Grand Knight, and Grand Knight, and has now been the Financial Secretary since 2013. In addition to his many important duties, he prepares the agenda for monthly council meetings, makes sure enough Knights have volunteered to work the many K. of C. events held in the parish, stays in touch with Knights who are sick, and handles the large amount of email the council receives. He helps at every K. of C. event in whatever

way he can.

As a St. Patrick’s parishioner, Ed has in the past been an usher at Sunday Mass and served on the St. Patrick’s coffee shop committee. Prior to the 2015 church renovation, he served on the committee for strategic planning. As vice president and later president of Berns, Clancy & Associ-



Ed Clancy (middle) with brother Knights Chris Sturdyvin, Peter Buckley, Scott Shannon, and Steve Beckett.

ates (BCA), Ed was responsible for donating land surveys, topographic site surveys, and engineering service to the 1981 Parish Center project and the 2015 church and parking lot renovation.

In the wider community, Ed has been a member of the Champaign County and several other Chambers of Commerce, as well as holding several positions in the American Business Club (AMBUCS). Ed served on

the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation Land Surveyor Board for eight years, and taught land surveying for 29 years at Parkland College and for three years at the University of Illinois. Through BCA, Ed has donated surveying services to various organizations including Habitat for Humanity, the

Crisis Nursery, the Urbana High School Alumni Association’s “all weather” running track, and St. Mary Cemetery.

Ed was awarded the 1990 Small Business of the Year Award from the Champaign Chamber of Commerce and the U.S. Small Business Administration. In 1998, he received the Illinois Professional Land Surveyors Association’s Carter Jenkins Distinguished Service Award, and was named Surveyor of the

Year in 2008. The Champaign-Urbana Schools Foundation gave him the Local Business Community Impact Award in 2015 because of the impact he has made on the Champaign-Urbana school community through his commitment to philanthropy, service, and volunteerism.

Congratulations, Ed! Your parish, brother Knights, and community are all grateful for your service!

From a Kid’s Perspective: First Communion by Lena Wright

First Communion is such an incredible feeling. Getting closer to God gets you closer to heaven. Also the bread tastes better knowing you get to be with Jesus in that moment. If you get to drink the blood, you’ll get the full experience. It gets better the more you have it. I love getting the bread every mass, and I think you will too if you’re new to it. I pray for all of you that got First Communion on May 3rd. A lot of the time with First Communion is time well spent. Many people get stronger in faith. For me it was a very special moment in time where it felt like time stopped and it was just me and God. It felt so special and almost magical, though it’s different for everyone; this was just my experience. I got my First Communion about four years ago and it was at St. Matthew Catholic Church.

La Primera Comunión es una sensación increíble. Acercarte a Dios te acerca al cielo. Además, el pan sabe mejor sabiendo que estás con Jesús en ese momento. Si bebes la sangre, vivirás la experiencia completa. Cuanto más lo bebes, mejor. Me encanta recibir el pan en cada misa, y creo que a ti también te encantará si eres nuevo en esto. Rezo por todos los que hicieron la Primera Comunión el 3 de mayo. Muchas veces, la Primera Comunión es un tiempo bien invertido. Mucha gente se fortalece en la fe. Para mí fue un momento muy especial en el que sentí que el tiempo se detenía y solo estábamos Dios y yo. Fue tan especial y casi mágico, aunque es diferente para cada persona; esta fue solo mi experiencia.

Honoring our Blessed Mother with music

Catholics have honored our Blessed Mother in the month of May since around the thirteenth century. May is a month of renewal when spring is at its peak, and the month is always a part of the Easter season between Easter and Pentecost. In addition, several Marian miracles have occurred in May, and the Feast of the Miracle of Fatima is May 13. Honoring her in May was particularly popular among the Jesuits in Rome in the 1700s, and they, along with several Popes, spread the celebrations. A part of honoring Mary is the May Crowning held in many churches, and another part of our devotion is to sing songs dedicated to her.

One of the most well-known and beloved songs devoted to Mary is Franz Schubert's Ave Maria, composed in 1825. It is the "Hail Mary" sung in Latin, with repeated passages, but the basic text in Latin and English are printed side-by-side below:

*Ave Maria,
Gratia plena,
Dominus tecum.
Benedicta tu in mulieribus,
et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus.*

*Sancta Maria,
Mater Dei,
Ora pro nobis peccatoribus,
nunc et in hora mortis nostrae.*

*Hail Mary,
Full of grace,
The Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou among women,
And blessed is the fruit of thy womb,
Jesus.*

*Holy Mary,
Mother of God,
Pray for us sinners,
Now and at the hour of our death.*

At St. Patrick's Church, the Ave Maria was sung by the cantors at all the Sunday Masses for Mother's Day, May 11. In addition, many brides choose this song during their prayer to Mary, and many families choose it for funerals.

Our hymnals have a section devoted to songs for Mary, and some of the traditional favorites include "Immaculate Mary," "Hail, Holy Queen," "Salve Regina," and "O, Sanctissima." Visitors to Lourdes can hear "Immaculate Mary" playing from shops and lobbies, a seeming theme song for the shrine. In addition to her role as the Mother of Jesus, many hymns emphasize her position as Queen of Heaven. In addition to traditional hymns, a more contemporary rendition of the Hail Mary is Carey Landry's "Hail Mary, Gentle Woman," a popular American hymn that emphasizes Mary's gentle nature.

Another type of music in honor of Mary is a Magnificat, with lyrics in the words of Mary responding to the angel Gabriel at the Annunciation. The most famous Magnificat was composed by Johann Sebastian Bach in 1723 in Latin. The beginning words in Latin translate to "My soul magnifies the Lord," words taken from the Gospel of Luke. Magnificats are usually longer works that do not fit into the celebration of Masses, but they are beautiful concert works.

The month of May is special for Mary and all Catholics, but music devoted to Mary is beautiful and appropriate for celebrating our Blessed Mother any time of the year.

Baptisms at St. Patrick's



We rejoice with the families of several youngsters who were recently baptized into our faith community. We welcome them and celebrate with them their new identity as children of God!

Baptism is the first of the seven sacraments, the sacrament by which they become adopted sons and daughters of God – and new members of our faith community.

Welcome, Joshua Francisco Mateo, son of Andres Francisco Juan and Eulalia Francisco Mateo. Joshua was baptized by Deacon Cliff Maduzia at St. Patrick's on April 8.

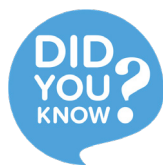
Welcome to our faith community, Sophia Athena Mlynar, daughter of Nathaniel and Amber (Orantes) Mlynar. Sophia was baptized by Deacon Cliff Maduzia at St. Patrick's on April 12.

Welcome, Val Mezilu Ugwuoke, son of Valentine Tochukwu Ugwuoke and Emmanuel Ugwuoke. Val was baptized by Deacon Cliff Maduzia at St. Patrick's on April 20.

And welcome to our faith community, Finnian James Long and Maeve Ella Long, son and daughter of Adam Yemma Long and Emily Henigman. Finnian and Maeve were baptized by Deacon Cliff Maduzia at St. Patrick's April 27.

Let us celebrate with Sophia, Joshua, Val, Finnian, and Maeve, and support them and their parents with our prayers of thanksgiving and acts of kindness.

Baptism Preparation class is offered at St. Patrick at 7:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month or by appointment. Parents, godparents, and all are welcome.



The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops prepared a novena to help us pray for Pope Francis. See www.usccb.org/resources/novena-pope-francis-ENG.pdf

Holy Spirit, I need your guidance now more than ever. Show me the way when I am lost, and reveal to me the path I must follow. Let your wisdom illuminate my heart and mind, and may your guidance be a steady hand in my life. Thank you for always being my guide.

Graduates honored and scholarships awarded

Graduating high school seniors were honored at the 4 p.m. Mass on Saturday, May 10. Those graduates in attendance were:

Enrique Beuschlein Enrique is graduating from Champaign Central High School this May and will attend Saint Louis University in the fall where he will study physical therapy.

Jesse Kaap Jesse will be graduating from our Faith and Reason Homeschool Co-op and in the fall will attend Southern Illinois University at Carbondale where he will study video production.

Madelyn Logsdon Maddie is graduating from Mahomet-Seymour High School and will attend Parkland College where she will play softball while also starting the Parkland Pathways program into the University of Illinois where she plans to study chemical and biomolecular engineering.

Michael McCoy Michael will graduate from the High School of St. Thomas More. In the fall, he will attend the University of Illinois and study biology.

Charlie Schmitz Charlie will graduate from St. Joseph Ogden High School and in the fall will attend the University of Illinois where he will study industrial engineering.

Recipients of scholarships were also announced.

Vincent O. Greene Scholarships

Due to Mr. Vincent O. Greene's generosity, 26 scholarships were awarded this year, totaling over \$137,000!

Alyssa Acton (Franklin U.)
Marissa Altaner (U. of Illinois)
Ana Andres-Mateo (Parkland)
Miriam Arend (U. of Illinois)
Aidan Beckett (U. of Illinois)
Vigo Etshitshi (Carthage College)
Elizabeth Ezeji-Chigbu (DACC)
Lillian Eziefule (DACC)
Lukas Grosse Perdekamp (Minnesota)
Jesse Kaap (Southern Illinois)
Madelyn Logsdon (Parkland Pathways)

Dawson Magrini (Currently Parkland)
Michael McCoy (U. of Illinois)
Jack McMillan (Parkland)
Lukas Grosse Perdekamp (Minnesota)
Jesse Kaap (Southern Illinois)
Madelyn Logsdon (Parkland Pathways)
Dawson Magrini (Currently Parkland)
Michael McCoy (U. of Illinois)
Jack McMillan (Parkland)
Jack McMillan (Parkland)
Christiana Pembele (U. of Illinois)

Katherine McMillan (Parkland)
Jemima Nzeza (Illinois Chicago)
Stella Obasi (DACC)
Helena Pembele (U. of Illinois)
Hadley Peters (Olivet Nazarene)
Ian Peters (U. of Illinois)
Anna Polonus (Iowa State)
Charlie Schmitz (U. of Illinois)
Grace Schmitz (U. of Illinois)
Johanna Schmitz (U. of Illinois)
Patrick Sweeney (U. of Illinois)

Jerry McArthur Scholarship

Charlie Schmitz

Deacon David Zola Scholarships

Jesse Kaap
Madelyn Logsdon

Fr. Charles Martell Scholarships

Madelyn Logsdon

Congratulations to our talented youth!



Graduating seniors Michael McCoy, Madelyn Logsdon, Enrique Beuschlein, Jesse Kaap, and Charlie Schmitz



Some of the recipients of the Vincent O. Greene scholarships.



Q: I love our monstrance — I think it's very beautiful! There seem to be small figures in

it, and I'm wondering what those represent. Are they angels?

A: Yes, some of them depict angels, but there are others too. Immediately above the Host is one of Mary holding the child Jesus. Those on either side of them are angels.

The figures on the left side of the Host are of St. Peter, holding the keys of heaven, with an angel on his left. On the right side of the Host stands St. Paul, holding a book in one hand and a sword in the other; an angel stands beside him.

On the base of the monstrance are depictions representing the four Evangelists: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. The winged man symbolizes Matthew, whose Gospel focuses on Christ's human genealogy and the Incarnation. The lion symbolizes Mark for his Gospel's bold proclamation of Christ as king, starting with the voice of one crying out in the wilderness. The bull or calf symbolizes Luke, who emphasizes Christ as both sacrifice and priest, as seen in the opening of his Gospel with Zechariah sacrificing a bull. The eagle symbolizes John, who focuses on Christ as God in the Book of Revelation.



Saint Barnabas the apostle

When Barnabas arrived in Antioch and saw the grace of God, he rejoiced and exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord in firmness of heart, for he was a good man and full of the Holy Spirit and faith. And a great multitude was added to the Lord. (Acts 11:23–24)

Saint Barnabas, originally named Joses, or Joseph, was born on the Greek-speaking island of Cyprus in 4 b.c. to wealthy Jewish parents. The apostles nicknamed him Barnabas, meaning “son of encouragement,” because he was known to support and encourage others.

Little is known about his early life, but during Jesus' public ministry, Joseph/Barnabas became Jesus' fervent follower and may have been one of the seventy-two disciples whom Jesus sent out on a mission to spread his ministry. Barnabas was not one of the original twelve Apostles chosen by Jesus but is still called an “apostle” in the broader sense, referring to those sent to preach the gospel.

The Church leaders in Jerusalem sent Barnabas to Antioch in ancient Syria, now modern-day Turkey, to preach Christianity and convert both Jews and Gentiles. This proved to be an immense task, so Barnabas traveled to Tarsus to seek Paul's help. The two of them returned to Antioch together and preached there for a whole year. It was there in Antioch that the believers were first called “Christians.”

Despite Paul's conversion, some of the twelve apostles were hesitant to trust him because he had persecuted early Christians. Barnabas vouched for Paul, and eventually Paul was accepted as a leader of the young Church.

Barnabas died a martyr around a.d. 61 or 62, either by stoning or by being burned to death. Barnabas's cousin or nephew, John Mark, who had traveled at times with Barnabas and Paul, is said to have retrieved Barnabas's remains and buried them.

According to historical accounts of the Church of Cyprus, more than four hundred years after his death Barnabas appeared in a dream to Anthemios, the Archbishop of Cyprus, and revealed the location of his burial. Some sources say that Anthemios went to that location and found Barnabas's body, incorrupt, holding a manuscript of the Gospel of Matthew. Later, the Romans built a church on this site. The church has since succumbed to time, but excavations of the site did find two tombs there, one of which is believed to be that of Barnabas.

Barnabas exemplifies Christian mentorship. He encouraged Paul and believed in him despite others' skepticism. During their time in Antioch, Barnabas gave Paul opportunities to minister and spread the word of God, and eventually Paul became more prominent in the Church than Barnabas, a testament to Barnabas's mentorship.

We can learn by Barnabas's example. His actions invite us to be a source of encouragement to others in their journey through life and in the Catholic faith. Barnabas guided Paul from a fledgling follower to a great promulgator of the faith. He reminds us that we all have a Christian responsibility to mentor, support, and encourage others in the hope that they will become the next generation of leaders to continue to spread the gospel and model the qualities of a Christian life.

In addition to his example as a great mentor, Barnabas inspires us to persevere with faith despite hardship. While he was evangelizing, Barnabas was undeterred in the face of rejection, violence, and eventually martyrdom.

St. Barnabas is the patron saint of Cyprus. We celebrate his feast day on June 11.



Parish Council News

At their April meeting Council members discussed reviving a St. Patrick's booth at Urbana's Farmers' Market, which is open from May through October. Mary Long provided information about the parish's previous experience in sponsoring a booth there. Its purpose was to introduce the Church and St. Patrick's Church to newcomers in the local community.



One or two parishioners staffed the booth to greet and answer questions from people who approached. The booth also displayed parish bulletins, flyers, ministry booklets, prayer cards, cards with parish Mass times – and a bowl of candy. For some time Linda Weber served as parish organizer for this ministry. The St. Patrick's booth was phased out with the onset of the Covid pandemic.

Council members had questions (How to deal with agitators? Might they be asked to pray with someone?) and established an ad-hoc subcommittee to gather additional information, develop a list of frequently asked questions, and consider the most effective time(s) to open a booth. Cost for a six-foot table and tent is \$35; applications are taken through July 15.

The Time and Talent ministry guide needs updating. Diane will arrange a subcommittee meeting with Kathryn, Barb, and Morene.

Viewed through the lens of the corporal works of mercy, are there gaps in the services offered through our parish ministries? Are there other services or needs one might address if needed resources were available? A survey asking this question will be sent to ministry groups for their response.

All nominations for Council membership will be accepted, per the unanimous vote of Council members. Current membership stands at eight. If you are interested in joining the Council, or have questions about it, you can contact the current Council president, Kathryn Guy (wmelephant@gmail.com).

You might give your answers to these questions some consideration: Are you 16 years of age or older? Are you a registered member of St. Patrick's parish? Can you commit to participating in the Council's monthly meetings (currently following the 10:00 Mass on second Sundays)? Would you become actively engaged in matters brought before the Council for discussion, in subcommittees as needed, and in activities sponsored by the Council? What does your heart say? You have only to listen; God speaks to you there.

Crowning the Queen of Heaven

*Bring flowers of the fairest, bring flowers of the rarest,
From garden and woodland and hillside and vale.
Our full hearts are swelling, our glad voices telling
The praise of the loveliest Rose of the vale.
O Mary! We crown thee with blossoms today,
Queen of the Angels, Queen of the May!*
—From the hymn “Bring Flowers of the Rarest”

In the merry month of May, Catholics celebrate a tradition of crowning statues of Mary with flowers. The crowning can take place at any time in the month, but usually it occurs around May 1 or on Mother's Day. We chose to celebrate this tradition on the weekend of Mother's Day in recognition of Mary as Queen and Mother. There was a crowning at each of the three weekend Masses.

At the 10 a.m. Sunday Mass, the familiar strains of Schubert's Ave Maria prepared worshipers gathered at St.



Patrick's for crowning the statue of Mary. After the prelude, the organ struck up a hymn to Mary and the procession began. Two children, Sean Golish and Chiamaka Ugwu, both First Communicants this spring, processed down the aisle, one holding a pot of flowers and the other carrying a crown of flowers. Upon reaching Mary's statue, Sean placed the potted flowers at her feet. He then stood at the base of the sanctuary steps while Chiamaka mounted them with the crown of pink

see **Crowning** on page 8

Help Needed!

In Focus has been going strong for 43 years now, and we can do this because of the many people who pitch in. We have three special needs right now:

LAYOUT Two or three times a year, scheduled in advance, you'd receive files of edited text, photos, and graphics. You'd have three days to do the layout and create a pdf using whatever publishing software you're already familiar with.

WRITERS Every couple of months, you'd receive a topic, knowledgeable contact people, and Web resources. You'd have about 10 days to write 400-600 words on a topic.

PHOTO EDITOR Photos give vibrancy to *In Focus*, but it takes time to select them each month. You'd read the draft of *In Focus* and select photos to help tell the story of our parish life.

Can you help? Contact Cathy Salika at csalika@illinois.edu.

Crowning from page 7

roses in her hands. With a little assistance, Chiamaka stepped up a small ladder hidden behind Mary, then gently rested the flower crown atop Mary's head. Once it was safely nestled, she carefully descended.

Two other children who had just received their first communion this spring, Bridget Dalhaus and Ethan Chew, did the crowning at Sunday morning's 8:00 Mass, while graduating high school seniors Maddie Logsdon and Jesse Kaap did the honors at the vigil Mass on Saturday.

The simple act of giving Mary a crown of flowers is one of many ways we can reflect on the life of Christ through his Mother during May. In her crowning, we are reminded of Christ the King, seated in heaven at the right hand of God (Romans 8:34).

Reflecting on Mary's queenship does not have to be relegated to processions and crowns. Every day during the Easter Season we can pray the Regina Caeli (Queen of Heaven) when the clock strikes noon. The Regina Caeli focuses on Christ's resurrection and the joy that we have in him. To reflect on more of Jesus' life, ministry, death, and resurrection, we may pray through the mysteries of the Rosary. By asking for Mary's intercession, and reflecting on her role in bringing salvation into the world, we honor Jesus by honoring his Mother.

Our Lady of May, Queen of Heaven, pray for us!

Vocation Prayer

Father, I have seen your son, Jesus, as a loving companion, constant teacher, consoler of the bereaved, healer of spirit, friend of the poor.... For love of him, I would be like him. Teach me how to be like him as I go about my duties today. And make clear to me how best I may serve him and others in the way of life to which you call me.



St. Patrick's Parish In Focus

is published on the last weekend of the month in Urbana, Illinois. News items and information may be submitted by the first weekend of the month for an upcoming issue. Materials must include the name and telephone number of the person submitting them.

Please send news items to info-cusstpats@gmail.com. You may also send them to any Communications Committee member (listed below). All submissions are subject to review and/or editing by the committee and staff. Bylines are generally omitted.

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Quick fixin's from the kitchen of . . . Margaret Stewart

Banana Split Ice Cream Pie

- 2 bananas, peeled and sliced
- 1 9-in chocolate cookie crumb crust
- 1 qt strawberry ice cream, softened
- 1 20-oz can crushed pineapple, drained
- 1 c heavy whipping cream
- 1/4 c chopped walnuts
- 1/4 c maraschino cherries (optional)



Arrange sliced bananas evenly over bottom of pie crust. Spread softened ice cream in an even layer over bananas. Spread crushed pineapple over ice cream. In a medium bowl whip heavy cream into soft peaks and spread it over pineapple. Sprinkle chopped walnuts over whipped cream. Freeze pie for 3 hours, or until slightly firm. Garnish with cherries before serving. Store in freezer.