

# in focus

708 West Main Street

Urbana, Illinois 61801

Vol. 5, No. 1

## Building Up The Body Of Christ

"Flowing from their rebirth in Christ, there is a genuine equality of dignity and action among all of Christ's faithful. Because of this equality they all contribute, each according to his or her own condition and office, to the building up of the Body of Christ." (Canon 208)

"All Christ's faithful, each according to his or her own condition, must make a wholehearted effort to lead a holy life, and to promote the growth of the Church and its continual sanctification." (Canon 210)

### Religious Education Programs Offer Something for Everyone: Learning, Community, Service

Religious education staff, coordinators, and volunteers have been readying for fall, anticipating continued growth in program offerings and enrollment. A basic goal of all programs is to provide for faith development in the context of an increasing awareness of community, leading to a generosity in service of others.

(continued on p. 2)

These brief sections from the Code of Canon (Church) Law are a succinct statement of our glory and our responsibility as the baptized community, the Church. They are a good statement of the meaning of Christian stewardship.

Through the waters of Baptism, our rebirth in Christ, the Father claimed us and called us, called us to holiness and to mission as the Body of Christ, the Church. For the Church is nothing more--and nothing less--than the people gathered by God to continue to do what Jesus did, in His name and in the power of His Spirit. As the canons remind us, we do this together, according to our own situations, with our own gifts, with our own needs.

The pages of this *in focus* briefly describe some of the ways in which you can contribute, by which you can grow here at St. Patrick's. Put simply, *we need you!* We need your energy and enthusiasm. We need your gifts to help, your weaknesses to draw on others' gifts. We need your moral support. We need your financial support for our parish life and mission.

Please take the time to reflect on these opportunities. Talk it over with the Lord in prayer. And make a commitment, a commitment to return some of the many gifts of time, talent, and treasure the Lord has given you with your sisters and brothers. Decide what will be the shape of your "wholehearted effort to lead a holy life and to promote the growth of the Church," how you will help build up the Body of Christ this year at St. Patrick's.

*Fr. Doug Hennessy*

Children's Program (continued from p. 1)

This year the themes for the children's program include "The Jesus Story," "Jesus Lives," "Our Church," and "Sacraments." These themes are developed through storytelling, activities, prayer, and song. Preschoolers through grade six meet on the first three Sundays of the month, at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. A children's liturgy, designed for the participation and understanding of children, is celebrated at 10:15 a.m. in the multipurpose room. Also available are preparation sessions for the sacraments of First Eucharist and Reconciliation. Sessions for parents assist them in preparing their children for the sacraments.

Junior High Program

The junior high program provides our youth with opportunities for learning, prayer, social activities, and service projects. This year the seventh and eighth grades will focus on Jesus and the Bible. The ninth grade will focus on Reverence for Life and Family. Classes meet on the first two Sundays of each month from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m., with speakers, filmstrips, and small-group discussions. The remaining Sundays provide social, service, and liturgical experiences. Retreats are also offered on special occasions during the year.

Senior High Program

The goals of the senior high program include communicating basic information about our Catholic faith tradition, familiarizing our youth with the Bible and its role in our daily lives, assisting our youth to mature in moral decision making, providing opportunities for faith reflection, and encouraging an attitude of loving service among our youth. To meet these goals, the senior high program provides educational, social, service, and liturgical experiences for our youth on Sundays from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. The focus of the tenth- and eleventh-grade program is scripture; that of the twelfth-grade program is commitment in the areas of vocations and careers, marriage and family life, and social concerns.

Adult Program

The adult religious education program fosters spiritual growth, maturity of faith, and community. Adults meet on the first three Sundays of each month at 9:00 and 10:15 a.m. to study and share responses to scriptural themes in the gospel of Luke and Acts. Participants will also study contemporary issues in the U.S. Catholic Bishops' pastoral letters on war and peace, on the economy, and on women.

Special Bible themes mark Advent and Lenten sessions: the prophetic literature and infancy narratives in Advent, and the psalms and passion narratives in Lent. At 11:30 a.m. on Sundays scripture training and support sessions will be offered for neighborhood Bible-sharing leaders. On Sundays (6:30-8:00 p.m.) and on the first and third Thursdays of each month (9:00-10:30 a.m.), other adult sessions will be held on Scripture and Ministry in Today's Church.

Other opportunities for Bible sharing and study are provided by St. Patrick's Champaign-Urbana Ecumenical Bible Group, facilitated by Lu Pillar and Barbara Murphy. For 12 weeks, from September 3 through November 19, one group will meet on Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m. to focus on "Moses, a Man Changed by God." From September 19 through November 7 (10 weeks), another will meet on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. to consider "Incidents in the Life of Christ." After Christmas, this group will offer a study of Romans.

An opportunity to deepen understanding of our Catholic faith is provided by "Basic Themes of Roman Catholicism," a series presented on Wednesdays, 7:30-9:30 p.m. The series begins on September 25, breaks for December, and resumes in January.

Throughout the year short sessions will be offered on spiritual growth and wholeness, Church history, contemporary issues viewed in the light of faith, and moral decision making in today's world. Retreat experiences, days of reflection, and topical book discussions will also be offered from time to time. (continued on p. 3)

Family Life Program (continued from p. 2)

The family life program seeks to nourish and support people in their family life situations and to provide opportunities for sharing, listening, and being heard.

A Young Adults group meets on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.; a Singles' Support Group meets on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m.; baptism preparation classes are offered on the third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.; a Parents' Dialogue Group meets on second and fourth Thursdays of the month at 9:00 a.m.; Divorced, Separated, and Widowed Group meets on second and fourth Mondays of the month at 7:00 p.m.; and the Over-50s Group meets for a potluck once a month.

## Express Your Joys In Singing

Did you know that musical prayer has such deep roots in our Christian traditions that making music is mentioned more than 2500 times in the scriptures? That's more than once per page in most modern translations. Many are the ways of "making a joyful noise unto the Lord," and St. Patrick's provides plenty of opportunities to do just that.

The folk choir, which provides musical leadership at the 9:00 a.m. Sunday Mass, invites anyone who enjoys singing or playing a musical instrument to join them for rehearsals on alternate Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.

The traditional choir, which leads the singing at the 10:30 a.m. Sunday Mass, welcomes anyone who enjoys singing and who appreciates the satisfaction of working toward excellence in a variety of choral music. No audition is required. This choir rehearses on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

The brass choir lends depth and richness to the prayer of music at 10:30 a.m. Sunday Masses. Membership is open to anyone who plays a brass instrument and is willing to give a few hours a month.

Cantors, leaders of song, help us share more comfortably our humble gift of singing as we raise our minds and hearts and voices to the Lord. Cantors, usually in short supply, are needed at every weekend liturgy.

Nursery service is provided in the Parish Center on Sunday mornings from 8:45 a.m. until noon, and for other occasions on request. A marriage preparation couple sponsor program is also offered. Other opportunities for growth in family life will become available during the course of the year.

St. Joseph-Ogden

Concurrent with our programs in Urbana, the programs for children and adults in the St. Joseph-Ogden area of our parish meet on Wednesdays from 6:45 to 8:00 p.m. at the grade school in St. Joseph.



If you'd like to participate in any aspect of the music program at St. Patrick's, look for Doug Salokar, Music Director, after any Sunday Mass or call him at the parish office (367-2665)--or simply come to a rehearsal. "Express your joys in singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord!" (Ephesians 5:19)

## Some Fine Committees Need Your Help

Each of us has been blessed with talents, skills, and abilities we may take for granted or consider ordinary. But no ability is insignificant in God's work, as members of the following Council committees can attest. Membership is open to all; whether you can sing or sew or spend time with a lonely shut-in, there is a real need for you and what only you can do--now, today.

### Building and Grounds

Can you swing a hammer? Wield a paint brush? Pull weeds? The Building and Grounds Committee is responsible for the maintenance, repair, and operation of all parish property and equipment. Members save us thousands of dollars annually in their service of the parish. This summer members repaired, scraped, and painted the decorative metalwork, gutters, and wood trim of the church, installed a ceiling fan in the choir loft, and contracted for resealing of the parking lot. Upcoming projects include repair of the church kneelers, revamping the fire-alarm system, and construction of a message center in the Parish Center.

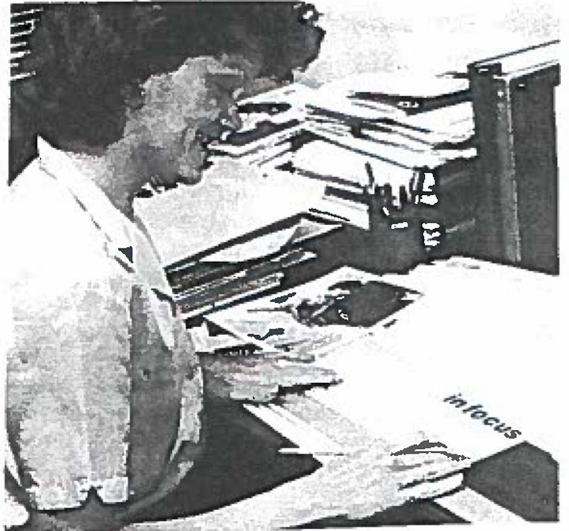
If you have an interest in caring for our parish "home" and can give your time and energy to its upkeep, call Chuck Shaw, chair (384-1191), or Morris Stoops, Council liaison (1/469-7437). New members, or parishioners willing to help with a specific project, are always welcome. The committee meets at 7:00 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month.

### Education

In its philosophy statement the Education Committee stresses the necessity of accepting individuals in their personal faith experience, challenging them with faith experiences of the Judeo-Christian tradition, and inviting them to respond to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Committee members discern religious-educational needs in our parish community, recommend and evaluate the effectiveness of St. Patrick's religious-education programs, and recommends resources needed to carry out program objectives.

If you have an interest or a concern to share, call Bill or Jane McClellan, co-chairs (352-1893), or Dave Riddle, Council liaison (384-8972). The committee meets at 7:00 p.m. on the first Monday of the month.



### Communications

Do you have a nose for news? Are you a "camera hound"? Can you write or copy edit, type or proofread? The Communications Committee gathers information from and about parish groups and individuals and relays it to the parish at large, primarily through *in focus* and bulletin-board displays in the church and the Parish Center.

If you have journalistic interests or artistic skills, enjoy gathering or disseminating information, or have ideas to share for improving communication, call Mare Payne, chair (344-7840), or Leon Mayer, Council liaison (344-2461). Meetings are scheduled to accommodate the *in focus* production schedule. (continued on p. 5)

Social Action (continued from p. 4)

Membership in the Social Action Committee is open to all who wish to serve the needs of others and to foster parishioners' awareness and response on issues related to social justice in light of the gospel. Members plan and implement social justice programs and suggest Christian responses to the needs of the poor, the oppressed, or the excluded.

They also help to form linkage with other community groups responding to developing areas of need or concern. This committee has explored the feasibility of parish involvement in the Bread for the World organization, support for the Sanctuary program embraced by St. Mary's and other local churches, and cooperation with the diocesan Social Action Commission in promoting the Campaign for Human Development.

Challenged? Interested? Call co-chairs Sharon Dorsey (356-0027) or Brendan McKiernan (384-5809), or Audrey Brown, Council liaison (384-0925). Meetings are usually held at 8:00 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of the month.

Worship and Prayer

Members of the Worship and Prayer Committee serve the parish by promoting and providing liturgical celebrations and personal prayer opportunities that express and nourish the faith of our community.

Individual members serve by training and scheduling Eucharistic ministers, lectors, servers, and ushers, and by creating an aesthetic visual and musical environment for all parish liturgies.

Some specific areas of study and activity have included the Seder Supper, the children's liturgy, wedding guidelines, and sacramental celebrations.

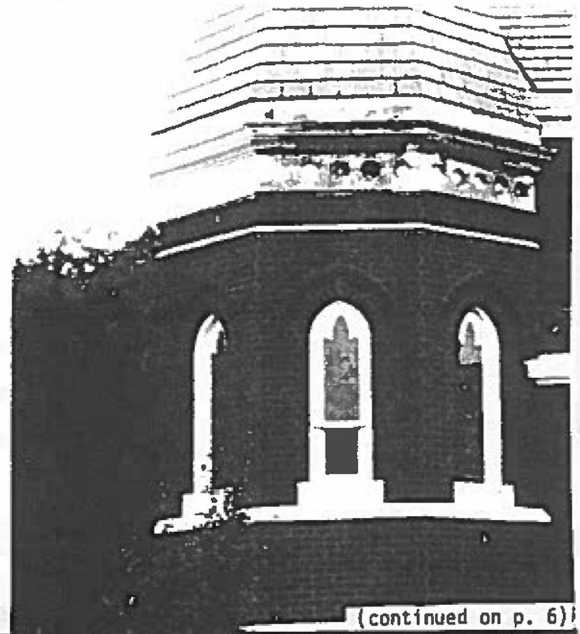
Through study, discussion, and prayer, as in all their work, members seek to deepen and enrich their understanding of the faith that finds expression in our liturgical celebrations. If you'd like to share in this work and in the personal growth in faith it nourishes, call Julie Peak, chair (344-9189), or Rita Weisiger, Council liaison (367-0001). Members meet at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday,

Revenue

"Stewardship" might be an appropriate other name for the Revenue Committee, which seeks as one of its main functions to increase parishioners' awareness of the need and opportunities for their support of St. Patrick's through regular financial contributions as well as through the gifts of time and talents.

This committee recommends to the Parish Council specific programs and activities for generating revenue, serves as coordinating liaison for all parish fund-raising activities and, in coordination with other Council committees and the Parish Financial Officer, administers established guidelines for fund-raising activities.

If you can help by developing information about such income producers as bequests, memorials, tax benefits for gifts or loans to the parish, or other "could-be" revenue projects, or if you have a talent for helping others see how to use their talents in the service of our parish family, call Shirley Splittstoesser, chair (367-3330), or Frank Nasca, Council liaison (384-8002). The committee meets at 7:00 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month.



(continued on p. 6)



Finance (continued from p. 5)

The Finance Committee advises and assists in planning and preparing the annual parish operating budget, analyzes actual expenditures in light of budgeted goals, and prepares financial reports for the Parish Council and the pastor.

This committee is also responsible for making specific recommendations to the Council and the pastor for improving parish business practices. The recent purchase of a personal computer and software, after members' extensive research and recommendation, now makes possible the computerization of parish records.

Have you interest or expertise in basic business affairs or budget management? (If you've managed a household, you have budget experience!) Call Paul Hughes, chair (356-6255), Anne Britsky, Council liaison (367-0854), or Bill Subick, Parish Financial Officer (344-0921). The committee meets on the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m.

## My Hero Is Jesus

"My hero is Jesus," said the man, eyes glistening with emotion, "but very few people I work with in my job really feel it makes any difference. I do!" These words were spoken by a member of St. Patrick's Parish to me at breakfast one morning. Those words didn't surprise me because I had heard him say similar things in a talk he had given on a men's retreat a few years earlier.

This is our faith; the faith of the community at St. Patrick's; the faith of the Catholic Church throughout the world; the faith that has come down to us from those original scarred men and women in the Upper Room, mourning His death, rejoicing in His Resurrection.

Our community gathers because we believe that Jesus's death and resurrection make a difference, even--or especially--today.

(continued on p. 7)

Social

The Social Committee is at the heart of those special functions we remember with a smile long afterward. Members have a vision of the parish family as playing together as well as praying and working together. They help us start the year with enthusiasm as they foster social interaction through planning, organizing, and carrying out such social events as the recent holiday coffee and parish picnic and the forthcoming Italian dinner.

Are you an organizer? A cookie baker? A planner? Do you like to wash dishes? (Some of us really do, you know!) Do you enjoy meeting and greeting newcomers? To offer your services, call Kate Utermohlen, chair (367-8206), or Sr. Rosemarie, Council liaison (367-2665). Meetings are held as needed to accommodate the planning of parish-wide social events.

*This committee is presently recruiting members with a certain sense of urgency; the chairperson will soon have a newborn infant to care for. She hopes for the formation of an enthusiastic team to share in the planning as well as the enjoyment of our good times together.*

Personnel

You don't read much about the work of the Personnel Committee, but it's an extremely active one nonetheless. This committee formulates, issues, updates, and monitors application of comprehensive personnel guidelines to all salaried employees of the parish. Members also periodically carry out comparative studies of duties, salary structure, and benefits to assure that compensation levels for our employees are competitive and fair.

After long months of research, analysis, and evaluative discussion by committee members, a handbook of current personnel policies and procedures at St. Patrick's is nearing completion.

Anyone interested in the work of this committee is encouraged to call Connie Shaw, chair (384-1191), or Lenore Nagele, Council liaison (384-1125). Members meet at 7:30 p.m. on the third Monday of the month.

(continued from p. 6)

The religious education and family life programs at St. Patrick's exist to help members of St. Patrick's of all ages comprehend more fully this belief in Christ and to help all of us understand what difference this belief makes in our lives today.

It is typical in our programs to hear children talking about their moms and dads, teens talking about school and dating, young adults talking about careers and commitment, couples talking about children and jobs and each other, adults of all ages talking about the issues of the day. We talk about life...our life...and what it means to live that life in Christ. We also talk about church history and scripture and theology.

In this community that gathers around the hero Jesus I have seen a great desire to share our faith and pass it on. We now have teams of people who share responsibility for teaching, nurturing and handing on the faith. More than 150 volunteers will give their time, talent, and faith this year to the religious education and family life programs. The programs are more than just classes...they are part of the living community of faith at St. Patrick's Parish.

In the joy and challenge of Christ,

*Gary M. Laumann*

Gary Laumann  
Director of Religious Education

## Coordinators Bring Commitment And Experience

Three new religious education coordinators joined the education program July 1, bringing commitment and experience to their positions. The new coordinators are Jan Lipska, children's program; Helene Kacich, senior high program; and Ruth Mytty, family life program. They join Carolyn McElrath, adult religious education program; Ken Kocher, junior high program; and Barbara Adams, religious education resources. All work under the supervision of Gary Laumann, Director of Religious Education at St. Patrick's.

Gary Laumann, who has been director for six years, designs and plans the overall religious education program. He trains coordinators and selects materials to meet the diverse needs of the parish community. Gary has a B.A. in psychology, with a minor in theology, both from St. Thomas College. He also has an M.A. in history education and hopes to complete his Ph.D. in educational psychology in counseling at the University of Illinois. (continued on p. 8)



(continued from p. 7)



*Jan Lipska* plans and implements the children's program. She has a B.A. in secondary education from Kearney College and has been involved in the children's program at St. Patrick's for the last two years.



*Ruth Mytty*, as a wife and as the mother of four children, brings experience to her position as coordinator of the family life program. She has developed and facilitated numerous family life programs at both parish and diocesan levels. Ruth is in her second year in the Lay Ministry Leadership Program, specializing in family life ministry.

*Helene Kacich* is in charge of developing the senior high youth ministry program. She has a B.A. in secondary education from Illinois State University. Helene has served as an officer of the Parish Council and on numerous committees in the parish and community. She has also been a volunteer for five years in the senior high youth ministry.



*Carolyn McElrath* enters her second year of planning and implementing the adult education program. She has a B.A. from Western Michigan University and an M.A. in anthropology from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Before becoming coordinator, Carolyn was a volunteer for two years in the adult education program. Recently she completed a three-year program and earned certification from the Diocese of Peoria as a religious education coordinator. She is currently working on an M.A. degree in religious education through Mundelein College.







*Ken Kocher* enters his second year as coordinator of junior high youth ministry. Ken is a home-grown youth minister who went through the programs himself as he was growing up in St. Patrick's. He attends Parkland College, majoring in secondary education. He is in his second year of the Lay Ministry Leadership Program, sponsored by the Diocese of Peoria, specializing in youth ministry.



*Barbara Adams* is in charge of organizing the parish library and coordinating materials for use by parish groups and organizations. She brings extensive experience at both parish and diocesan levels to her position.

## Highlights Of The Financial Report For FY 1984-85

There was good news in the parish's financial report, released last week. The last fiscal year (our fiscal year extends from July 1 through June 30) ended with a surplus of \$10,276 in the General Fund. With a total income of \$330,944 and total expenses of \$320,668, St. Patrick's Parish has moved decisively into the category of a \$300,000-a-year operation.

In addition to paying for normal operating and program expenses, the contributions, special gifts, and memorials enabled the parish to purchase furniture appropriately sized for primary-grade youngsters in our religious education program, install a copier to eliminate daily trips to local copy shops by a busy staff, buy a personal computer to streamline clerical operations and facilitate recordkeeping for this growing parish, reroof the portions of the original Parish Center used for classrooms and meeting rooms, and, with the help of \$93,000 in loans from parishioners, retire the commercial portion of our debt to the diocese for the new wing of the Parish Center.

The financial report is prepared annually by Bill Subick, St. Patrick's Parish Financial Officer. "One element of concern in this year's financial report," Bill said, "was the failure of weekly collections to meet budget projections." Parishioners contributed \$287,764, an amount 6 percent less than projected. The previous year's weekly offerings exceeded budget projections by \$2000. "The burden of debt retirement, together with parishioners' requests for new and expanded programs," he cautioned, "make this leveling off of weekly contributions something to watch closely in the present fiscal year."

*in focus* is a publication of St. Patrick's Parish, 708 West Main Street, Urbana, Ill. Editorial Board: Communications Committee Photographs: Ray Alane Typing: Ellen Abel

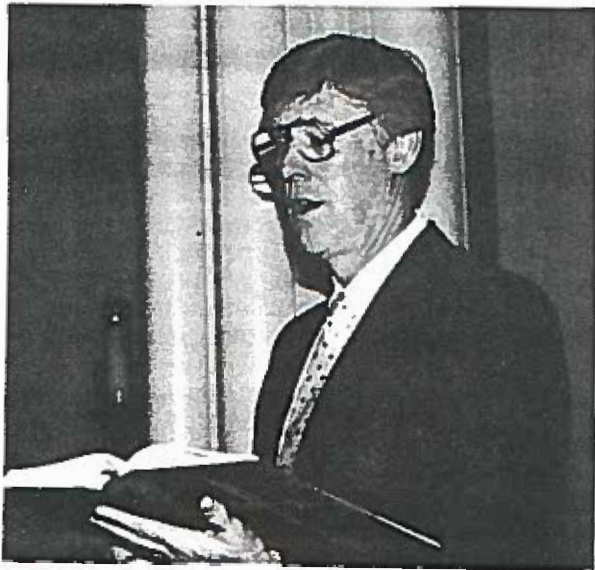
## Mark Your Calendars

- Sept. 22 Stewardship Sunday  
Registration for religious education classes
- Sept. 25 "Basic Themes of Roman Catholicism" series begins, 7:30-9:30 p.m., multipurpose room
- Sept. 26-28 Cellar-to-Garret Sale
- Sept. 28 "Basic Themes..." (repeat of Sept. 25 presentation), 9:30-11:30 a.m., multipurpose room
- Sept. 28-29 Fast-athon for high-schoolers
- Sept. 29 Catechetical Sunday  
Registration for religious education classes



- Oct. 2 Religious education program begins in St. Joseph-Ogden area of the parish, 6:45-8:00 p.m., St. Joseph Grade School
- Oct. 13 Afternoon of Reflection, Renewal ("Living the Spirit of Christ"), 1:30-5:00 p.m., Parish Center
- Oct. 18 Pre-Cana
- Oct. 20 Pre-Cana
- Oct. 29 Reconciliation preparation begins, for children and their parents
- Nov. 1 All Saints Day
- Nov. 2 All Souls Day
- Nov. 22-23 Craft Sale
- Nov. 23 Fr. John Walsh, M.M., on evangelization
- Nov. 28 Thanksgiving Day, 9:00 a.m. Mass followed by holiday coffee, Parish Center

*Watch the Sunday bulletin for more information as dates of these and other special events approach.*



## We Tell of God's Love By Our Deeds And Our Words—Together

We parishioners gather in groups and organizations to serve and to be served. We both seek and offer support and understanding. Collectively we strive "to grow more and more into a people who...tell of God's love by our deeds and our words" as we gather our resources to heal, to nourish, to protect, to share hope and joy.

(continued on p. 11)

(continued from p. 10)

The Young Adults of St. Patrick's Parish (loosely defined as between 18 and 35 years of age) meet each Tuesday evening for social, spiritual, and personal growth activities. Participants share in leadership and planning activities for this group.

The Divorced, Separated, and Widowed Support Group meets on second and fourth Mondays of each month. Its goal is to provide support for the divorced, separated, and widowed within a Roman Catholic framework, although participation is open to people of any religious affiliation. This self-help program assists participants in working through and accepting their own feelings as well as those of others in these life situations.

Members of the Singles' Support Group meet each Tuesday evening. Their goal is to help one another to grow spiritually. They have viewed videocassettes of Fr. Richard McBrien's Understanding Catholicism and are currently sharing their responses to ideas presented by R. Scott Peck in The Road Less Traveled.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society is a service-oriented group whose members respond to Jesus's call to feed the hungry, comfort the sick and shut-ins, and give shelter to the poor. Members are on call to provide help as needed to less fortunate members of our community as well as to those passing through who are in need of a meal, a night's lodging, a tank of gas, a bus ticket to the next town. Members meet weekly, on Wednesday evenings.

The Urbana Council 5752 of the Knights of Columbus offers fellowship and fraternity to its members, who are firmly committed to the support of St. Patrick's Parish and other charitable endeavors. The local Council raises money for the Special Olympics, provides special furnishings and equipment for the parish, and pays for costly repairs to parish buildings. Their Tuesday night Bingo generates most of the revenue that supports their projects.

Membership in the Over 50s Club is open to anyone over the age of fifty regardless of marital status. The group gathers monthly, usually on the last Sunday, to socialize with a potluck, dancing, games, sing-alongs, and good conversation. Occasionally members arrange for a bus and a day's outing.

The Parents' Dialogue Group provides a forum for parents to share ideas for more successful parenting, for imparting Christian values to children, and for mutual support. This group meets on second and fourth Thursday mornings, discussing such topics as the spirituality of parenthood and how to pray with children. Occasionally they take their children on field trips or invite a guest speaker to address them. Recently this group celebrated its first year by holding a picnic on parish grounds.

St. Patrick's Guild is a federation of women who serve the parish in a great many ways. They care for the parish altars, arrange for parish days of recollection, provide meals after funeral liturgies for the family and friends of the deceased, and cater wedding and anniversary receptions.

Through the Meals-on-Wheels program and the Medical Mission group, they serve the faith community both here and afar. Their popular annual fund raiser, the Cellar-to-Garret Sale, is a major source of revenue they share with the parish through the purchase of needed furnishings for parish buildings and flowers for seasonal church celebrations. They have also generously supported the work of the Worship and Prayer Committee with needed funds.

Members continue their ministry to residents of Champaign County Nursing Home, on Tuesdays bringing news, good cheer, and cookies and praying the rosary with them, and on Fridays celebrating Mass with them.

Without the organizational support in recent months normally provided by regular meetings, Guild members continue to tell of God's love by their deeds and their words.

## LMLP Begins Its Second Year

Twenty members of St. Patrick's Parish were among the 180 men and women who completed the first phase of the Lay Ministry Leadership Program, sponsored by the Diocese of Peoria. The program was offered in answer to the need for training to develop a sense of ministry and leadership skills for persons interested in lay ministry at the parish level.

Beginning last fall with a weekend retreat, which focused on lay spirituality, participants were invited to explore their own spirituality and their call to service in the Church. The retreat was followed by eight monthly sessions of a "core curriculum" designed to help participants further define and refine their roles as lay ministers.

The October session, facilitated by Sr. Sheila Welch and Fr. Doug Hennessy, surveyed historical and contemporary views of Church in conveying a sense of the mystery of Church. Participants also reviewed the type indicators suggested by responses on the Myers-Briggs personality profile and their helpfulness in understanding differences in how we like to look at things and go about making decisions.

The November session was on scripture. Facilitators Fr. Ron Palmer and Sr. Rachel Bergschneider presented an overview of biblical scholarship, discussing oral and written tradition, fundamentalist interpretation of scripture, and the historical Jesus, connecting life experiences with scriptural themes.

In January, facilitators Fr. Michael Schaab and Sr. Mary Ann Seiler presented a survey/discussion of Church doctrine and dogma and a discussion of models for adult learning.

Fr. Patrick Collins and Sr. Audrey Cleary presented the February session on liturgy and the sacraments, present encounters with the Risen Christ.

Moral decision making was the topic of the March session. Fr. Tom Murphy led the group in exploration of conscience and Christian moral principles.

The April session was facilitated by Fr. Ron Lievens, Sr. Norma Riplinger, and Dr. Ronald Boland, who explored the concepts of justice and peace for Christ's Church in the world and called participants to an experience of social injustice through role playing.

The year-long program came to a close in May with a day of evaluation and reflection. Participants from the entire diocese gathered in Peoria to assimilate and discuss--in some cases, dispute--the year's material, and to affirm one another in one's ministry.

Each participant has the option of continuing in a second year of the program, which is designed to develop skills and understandings directly related to specific areas of ministry: family life, liturgy, social action, youth, and Bible study. Many participants from St. Patrick's have indicated their intention to continue.



Catholics who want to update their knowledge of their faith, and non-Catholics who want to learn more about Catholicism are invited to "Basic Themes of Roman Catholicism." This series will be presented on Wednesdays, 7:30-9:30 p.m., in the Parish Center under the direction of Fr. Doug Hennessy. Presentations will be repeated on following Saturdays, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beginning September 25, the eight-week fall session informally addresses the Catholic faith. After a December break, the series resumes in January, increasing in detail. The final segment begins with Lent and is directed to non-Catholics who wish to join the Church. The program concludes with the formal Rite of Christian Initiation, a ritual that increases the solemn beauty of the Easter Vigil at St. Patrick's.

## Everything

You  
Always  
Wanted  
To  
Know  
About  
Catholicism

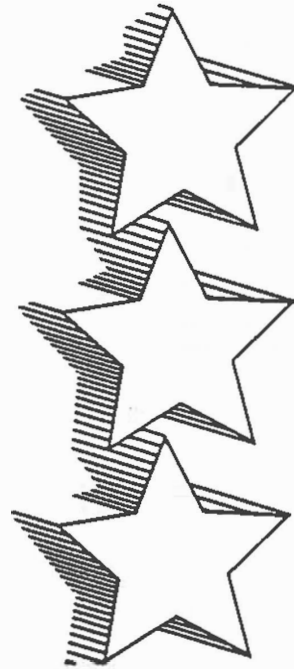
---

## Generous Hearts Generate Help

Our parish community has reason to be grateful to generous-hearted parishioners who have loaned to St. Patrick's \$93,000 at a lower rate of interest than the prevailing market rate. Their loans at 6½ percent enabled the parish to repay the part of our debt to the Diocese of Peoria that was to have been refinanced at 12½ percent. The 6 percent difference in interest rates applied to \$93,000 amounts to an annual saving of \$5580 for the parish.

This action from parishioner-lenders, by making it possible for St. Patrick's to repay a substantial sum to the Diocesan Loan Fund, has also helped the diocese in its efforts to help other growing parishes with loans at a lower-than-market rate of interest.

Of the original \$493,434 loan for construction of the new wing of our Parish Center, St. Patrick's has repaid \$124,434 in the last two years. Our indebtedness now stands at \$369,000, of which \$93,000 is owed to parishioners and \$276,000 to the diocese.



## Welcome, New Parishioners!

During the summer months 65 new members "signed on" at St. Patrick's, and it is a pleasure to welcome you. We hope you won't wait for personal invitations to participate in the many programs and activities described in this and other issues of *in focus* or listed in the weekly bulletin. All it takes is a call to the parish office or a visit with someone after Mass or at coffee shop to get into the rhythm of life in this active parish.

You will find that our parish groups welcome the stimulation that new members and new viewpoints bring, yet find recruiting difficult because it is hard to know about the specific interests and talents of newcomers. Too often it may seem as if we "old hands" do everything, when in fact we would be grateful for new participants.

We hope that many members of the parish make it their business to get acquainted with you soon. Meanwhile, we happily greet and welcome you to our parish community:



James and Barbara Bernardi  
 Delores Buck  
 Judy Brown  
 James and Mary Ann Bunyan  
 Joyce Cain  
 Max and Anne Calle  
 William and Linda Carr  
 Abel and Martha Cepeda-Diaz  
 Russell and Mary Cory  
 David and Sheila Cue  
 Anthony and Donna Dalmeier  
 Kenneth and Florence Fuch  
 Joseph Gering  
 Gary and Barbara Henigman  
 Ignatius and Francisca Indarudji  
 Ellen Janson  
 Larry and Cynthia Krittenbrink  
 Lynn and Kathleen Kruse  
 JoDee Kuhl  
 Linda Lauer  
 Tom Levis  
 David and Mary Marsh  
 John and Dorothy Monbille  
 John Murgach  
 March and Teresa Murray  
 Alan and Pamela Ochs  
 David and Linda Oliveira  
 Joseph and Denise Petolino  
 Ricky and Anne Pierce  
 Phillip and Laura Rear  
 Eric and Lisa Sands  
 Nick and Maxine Santora  
 Charles Smith  
 Michael and Crystal Vaught  
 Catherine Watson  
 Donald and Rebecca Wauthier  
 Clinton and Mary Wesolik  
 Thomas and Cathy Westhusing

*If you do not see your name here, sign in please!*

## Bringing Christ To Shut-ins

With the guidance and support of Sister Rosemarie, men and women of the parish minister to shut-ins by bringing Christ in the Eucharist and by sharing something of themselves with the homebound, the residents of area nursing homes, and the patients of Carle Hospital. More volunteers are needed for this compassionate ministry of the Mystical Body of Christ:

### Cellar-To-Garret Sale Set For September 26-28

Again this year, St. Patrick's Guild and the Revenue Committee present the Cellar-to-Garret Sale, a major fund-raising event for St. Patrick's, September 26-28 in the Parish Center. A pre-sale is planned for Thursday evening, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., with an admission fee of \$1.00 per person.

This week, Tuesday through Thursday, items will be sorted and marked in the Center. Guild members and other parishioners have always been generous with their time in getting this necessary work done. Lucille Kocher will supervise the setup, sorting, and marking, and David Riddle and Tom Delanty will share the general chairmanship for the Revenue Committee.

Don't wait to be asked to help. Bring your items and pitch in to lend a hand. It's a great cause in terms of our treasury. It also provides an excellent opportunity to find really good buys for families and households.

A sales force is needed for the pre-sale on Thursday evening as well as for all day Friday and Saturday. Volunteers are needed to complete a schedule of workers for the entire event, including clean-up.

The sale last year was a great success--let's repeat it this year!

1. Eucharistic ministry to the homebound and to residents of Royal Fontana, Urbana, and Americana nursing homes; on Tuesday mornings.  
Time: 9:00 a.m. to noon  
Call: Loretta LaFave (367-0985) for information
2. Eucharistic ministry to patients of Carle Hospital; on Sunday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings.  
Time: 8:45 to 10:00 a.m.  
Call: Ruth Plymire (1/469-7296, home; 333-3044, work) for information
3. Ministry to Champaign County Nursing Home. On Tuesdays, praying the rosary and sharing cookies with all residents.  
Time: 1:15 to 2:30 p.m.  
Call: Kay Stubing (367-5160) for information  
On Fridays, celebrating Mass with residents who wish to participate.  
Time: 10:00 to 11:45 a.m.  
Call: Kay Stubing (367-5160) for information

## What Contribution Can You Make?

In these pages we have described briefly some of the opportunities for growth at St. Patrick's, some of the ways you can help to "build up the Body of Christ." On the other side of this sheet you will find these ways summarized in lists for your review. Check the one(s) you think best fit your present life situation, your abilities and needs, and next Sunday place it in the collection basket as a gift to the Lord--a tangible sign of your commitment. If you prefer, you can drop it off at the parish office or call there (367-2665) to leave your name, phone number, and area of interest so someone can call you.

# My Contribution

I am interested in one or more ways of helping to "build up the Body of Christ" and have checked the appropriate box(es) below. Please have someone call me.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

I am already participating in some way in the life of the parish, sharing my gifts of time, talent, and enthusiasm as my present circumstances allow.

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

## WORSHIP

- |                                 |                                 |  |  |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Choir: | <input type="checkbox"/> Lector | <input type="checkbox"/> Eucharistic minister: | <input type="checkbox"/> Children's liturgy: |
| ___Folk                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Server | ___ Sunday Mass                                | ___ Musician                                 |
| ___Traditional                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Usher  | ___ Carle Hospital                             | ___ Eucharistic minister                     |
| ___Brass                        |                                 | ___ Shut-ins and<br>nursing homes              | ___ Lector                                   |
|                                 |                                 |  | ___ Assistant                                |

## SERVICE

- |                                       |  |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Committees:  | <input type="checkbox"/> Catholic Worker House       | <input type="checkbox"/> Champaign County Nursing Home |
| ___ Building and Grounds              | <input type="checkbox"/> St. Vincent de Paul Society | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Mission               |
| ___ Communications                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Nursery (Sundays):          | <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsors:                     |
| ___ Education                         | ___ 8:45-10:15 a.m.                                  | ___ Confirmation                                       |
| ___ Finance                           | ___ 10:15-11:45 a.m.                                 | ___ Adult catechumenate                                |
| ___ Personnel                         |  | ___ Pre-marital  |
| ___ Revenue                           |  |  |
| ___ Social                            |  |  |
| ___ Social Action (Peace and Justice) |  |  |
| ___ Worship and Prayer                |  |  |

## FAITH DEVELOPMENT

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Religious education catechist or facilitator: | <input type="checkbox"/> Basic Themes in Roman Catholicism | <input type="checkbox"/> Scripture study:            |
| ___ Children's   | <input type="checkbox"/> Adult discussion groups:          | ___ Sunday a.m.                                      |
| ___ Junior High  | ___ Bishops' pastoral letters                              | ___ Sunday p.m.                                      |
| ___ Senior High  | ___ Ministry in Today's Church                             | ___ Thursday a.m.                                    |
| ___ Family Life  | <input type="checkbox"/> Library                           | <input type="checkbox"/> C-U Ecumenical Bible Group: |
| ___ Adult  | <input type="checkbox"/> St. Joseph-Ogden programs         | ___ Moses  |
|  |  | ___ Life of Christ                                   |

## COMMUNITY

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Christ Renews His Parish                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Young Adults           | <input type="checkbox"/> St. Patrick's Guild     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced, Separated, Widowed Support Group | <input type="checkbox"/> Singles' Support Group | <input type="checkbox"/> Knights of Columbus     |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> Over 50s Club          | <input type="checkbox"/> Parents' Dialogue Group |