

# In Focus



St. Patrick's parishioners are invited to enjoy a night of free ice skating at the University of Illinois Ice Arena on Monday, March 14.

The Urbana Knights of Columbus has rented the ice rink from 6 to 8 p.m. The only cost to skaters will be a 50-cent per pair skate rental fee.

"We want this to be our St. Patrick's Day gift to the parish," said Dave Palmisano, Grand Knight of the Urbana KCs. "We want the whole parish to have fun -- families, couples, singles, kids -- even nuns and priests."

He said the KCs want to thank the parish for the support they have given the organization in the last few years.

"The parish has helped us -- our fish fries, Tootsie Roll sales, pancake breakfasts -- and our other activities, so we want to pay the parish back and have a lot of fun at the same time," Palmisano said. "We hope to see the whole parish out on the ice. It'll be a great time."



Again this year the Worship and Prayer committee invites parishioners to participate in the parish Seder. This ceremonial meal commemorates the deliverance of the Chosen People from slavery in Egypt and our deliverance, in the person of Jesus Christ, from the slavery of sin.

An ad hoc committee, co-chaired by Peter Shirron and Bob Veillette, will be formed to plan the Seder, traditionally held on Wednesday of Holy Week (March 30). Watch the weekly bulletin for information about this popular parish observance.



Rachel Palmisano, the oldest daughter of Dave and Margy Palmisano, won the Holy Cross spelling bee on February 8.

She finished first among all fourth- fifth-sixth-, seventh-, and eighth-graders at Holy Cross.

Rachel won the competition by correctly spelling the words "barbarism" and "venerable."

Rachel, an eighth-grader from St. Patrick's, now advances to the regional competition at Rantoul on March 5. If she continues to win, she will enter the national competition in Washington, D.C. this spring.

Good Luck, Rachel!



St. Patrick's church has not enjoyed a thorough spring house-cleaning for some time and this may be the spring for it -- if enough parishioners volunteer to help.

The Building and Grounds committee is forming a volunteer brigade to mop and wax floors (under pews and in back sacristies), wash windows, dust and wash pews, dust in high places, scrub steps to the basement, and whatever else there may be time, energy, and person-power to accomplish. Volunteers may call Ray Alane (384-5311) or the parish office (367-2665), or leave name and phone number in the committee's mail box in the parish center.

Church Spring House-Cleaning Day will be March 19 or 26 (date depends on availability of volunteers), from 9:00 a.m. until noon.

Can you help? Call now, don't delay!



St. Patrick's Social Action committee is sponsoring a Lenten Social Action Forum on five Wednesday evenings during Lent. This Forum is planned as a time to inform, educate, and call to action the members of our Christian faith community. Each Wednesday night session will begin with a prayer service followed by a presentation/discussion of the issue, ending with a time for fellowship.

The dates and topics for the Lenten Forum are:  
Feb. 24th: The Director of the East Central Illinois Refugee Mutual Assistance Center will present a slide show depicting the plight of Asian refugees in our world today. The Center has actively challenged and helped us in aiding Laotian refugee families to re-settle in Champaign-Urbana. Mar. 2nd: Sharon Monday-Dorsey, a member of our parish, will present "An Overview of the Texas Border and Immigration." Mar. 9th: Joe Ahearn will present information about the organization Bread for the World. Bread for the World is a Christian citizen's movement against hunger. Our parish is a B.F.W covenant church. Come learn what that involvement can mean. Mar. 16th: David Onstad and Ken Southwood, members of the local chapter of Amnesty International, will speak about the organization and the work it does to protect human rights throughout the world. Mar. 23rd: Dominick Casadonte will present a slide show and discussion of the Catholic Worker Movement and will present specific ways of supporting our local Catholic Worker House. St. Patrick's has been an ongoing source of support to the Catholic Worker House since Fr. Dorsey began it in 1978.

The Lenten Social Action Forum meets in the Multipurpose Room at 7:00 p.m. each Wednesday evening. We hope you will make the Forum a part of your Lenten preparation for Easter.



# Parish Council News



At their February meeting, Parish Council members reviewed and approved continuing programs for inclusion in the budget for the fiscal year 1988-89.

Among committee reports, Building and Grounds mentioned that the Health Department gave the parish kitchen high marks for overall cleanliness. Also noted, however, were areas calling for improvement: stove and hood must be more thoroughly cleaned after use, no home-canned foods may be stored there, and that absolutely no smoking is permitted in the kitchen.

Social Action agreed to provide matching funds (up to \$200.) for parishioner pledges in support of a committee member's participation in a task force to Guatemala to investigate conditions there. (See story this issue.) The committee is also planning an appreciation dinner for all parishioners who have participated in any activities directly or indirectly connected to social justice issues and concerns.

Communications recommended purchase of "desktop publishing" software for general use by staff, committees, and parish organizations in preparing documents, booklets, and brochures for use in parish activities and events.

Revenue will sponsor another financial-planning workshop. Worship and Prayer is planning the commissioning of ushers and servers. Personnel is reviewing duties of volunteer secretarial help.

Finance will try to find ways to apportion next year's lower projected income among approved programs, whose funding needs are expected to be greater next year. Some difficult decision-making may be called for if the dollar-stretching magic isn't successful.

In response to the Long-Range Planning report, an ad hoc committee is to be formed to examine available programs that foster ongoing adult conversion of life, both as a substitute for the Christ Renews His Parish program (inactive here for the last 3 years) and as a follow-up for parishioners who have been motivated by CRP and other activities to grow and develop spiritually.

Father Remm mentioned that parishioners nominated 9 men and women of St. Patrick's to be invited to the "I'm Waiting To Be Asked" vocational conference on March 20. Father also received notification of this spring's Annual Stewardship Appeal for the Diocese of Peoria. Our parish assessment for this campaign is about the same as last year's. He added that the job description for Pastoral Associate has been posted and given wide distribution, both in our diocese and elsewhere. He expects to interview applicants in late March and early April.

The Parish Council's election committee is seeking candidates from the parish for election to the Council. A minimum of 2 candidates for each of the pending 4 vacancies will be presented to the parish for the election, which is scheduled for April 16-17.



Welcome to new parishioners: Kristiana Althaus, Barbara Burch, Douglas and Laura D'Arcy, Jim and Gail Drallmeier, Peggy Grossman, Nguyen and Chieu Le, Ngoc Le, Huyen Le, and Donald Ross.



We welcome the newly-baptised into the Christian community:

Mallory Claire McMahon  
Muria Teresa Sols



Farewell to the following parishioners who recently moved from C-U: Stuart and Linda Dean, Matt and Lynda Dunham, Mark and Marianne Lippi, John and Dorothy Monbille, and Rose Sisco.

## In Memoriam

Our condolences to the family and friends of Isabei K. O'Hearn.

# Dr. Ruether To Speak

Dr. Rosemary Radford Ruether, noted feminist theologian and author of numerous works on social justice, Church history, and Christian theology, will speak at St. Patrick's Parish Center on Friday, April 15, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Her visit is sponsored jointly by the Education and Social Action committees of the Parish Council.

Dr. Ruether's presentation, "Easter Hope for the Church," will be based on her recently published book *Contemporary Roman Catholicism: Crises and Challenges* (Sheed & Ward, 1987). In preparation for her presentation, the adult religious-education sessions on March 6, 13, and 20 will focus on this book. Everyone is welcome to attend these sessions (Parish Center library, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.).

Copies of Dr. Ruether's book are available for purchase (\$5.95 each) from Carolyn McElrath. In addition, a few copies have been reserved for 3-day loan by arrangement with Genie Grady or Carolyn McElrath (367-2665).

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St. Patrick's In Focus is published on the last weekend of each month. News items and information may be submitted for the next issue by the 15th day of the month. Please leave your information in the Communication committee's mailbox at the parish center, or call a committee member: Jay Hoeflinger, 384-8947; Bette Murrell, 344-6692; Mary Lou Menches, 344-1125; or Mary Lydon, 352-1549. Written material should include names and phone numbers for verification.

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# Guatemalan Fact-Finding Trip

Parishioner Sharon Monday-Dorsey hopes to be one of the participants in a group which will conduct an investigation in Guatemala. Selected by the Chicago Religious Task Force, the group will evaluate living conditions in the country, and assess the possibility for Guatemalan refugees to return to their homeland. The fact-finding delegation will meet with church, government, labor, humanitarian, and peasant leaders.

On their return, the members of the group will relay their information to their home communities and to Guatemalans in exile. A follow-up trip will be planned for November.

The Dorseys themselves have pledged to pay up to \$600. of the \$1200. cost of the trip and are seeking pledges from local organizations and individuals. The Social Action committee will provide matching funds (up to \$200.) for pledges from St. Patrick's parishioners. Pledges may be turned in to the committee chair, Gary Laumann, or left in the committee's mail box at the Parish Center.



# March 1988

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b>		<b>2</b>		<b>3</b>
		6:30p Young Adults 7:00p 1st Comm. Prep 7:30p Holy Hour-Rosary	5:30p Open Mtg on Church Baptistry 7:00p Soc Action Forum 7:00p St Vincent DePaul	Tues Morn Homebound Ministers after 12:10 Mass	5:15p Stations of Cross	8:30a-NOON Mini-Retreat
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
RCIA Adult Bible Fel 9 & 11 Child's Ed 10:15a Child's Lit Eve. Adult Ed.	Spiritual Compan Grp 9:30a Scripture Study	Cole Hosp. Ministers after 12:10 Mass 6:30p Young Adults 7:00p 1st Comm. Prep 7:30p Holy Hour- Liturgy of Hours	7:00p Soc Action Forum 7:00p St Vincent DePaul	Champaign County Ministers after 12:10 Mass 7:00p Baptism Prep.	5:15p Stations of Cross	
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
RCIA Adult Bible Fel 9 & 11 Child's Ed 10:15a Child's Lit Child's St Pat Prty Eve. Adult Ed.	9:30p Scripture Study	6:30p Young Adults 7:00p 1st Comm. Prep 7:30p Holy Hour- Scripture & Prayer	7:00p Soc Action Forum 7:00p St Vincent DePaul	7:30p Parish Council	5:15p Stations of Cross	8:30a-NOON Mini-Retreat
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
RCIA Adult Bible Fel 9 & 11 Child's Ed 10:15a Child's Lit 2:30p "Waiting" Eve. Adult Ed.	9:30p Scripture Study	6:30p Young Adults 7:00p 1st Comm. Prep	7:00p Soc Action Forum 7:00p St Vincent DePaul		5:15p Stations of Cross	
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>		
10:15a Child's Lit	9:30p Scripture Study 7:30p Comm. Reconcil St. Matthew's	6:30p Young Adults 4-6p Indiv. Confessions 7:30p Comm. Reconcil St. Patrick's	4-6p Indiv. Confessions 7:30p Comm. Reconcil Holy Cross	7:30p Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper		