

ST PATRICK'S PARISH

In Focus



New Council

Members Elected

A record 516 ballots were cast in the St. Patrick's Parish Council election on April 22-23. This number represents a 16 percent increase in voter response over the 1988 election.

Three parishioners were elected to the Council: Mary E. Luckey Lydon, Dave Murrell, and Angie Prendergast. They join continuing members Joe DiPietro, Gaye Dunn, Bob Haessly, Arden Howey, Pat Justice, Tom Kacich, and Barb Wysocki, appointed trustees Bill Subick and Cecelia Weir, and Fr. George Remm, pastor.

The election committee consisted of Dave Riddle (chair), Joe DiPietro, Gaye Dunn, Ruth Mytty, and Paula Strong. Special thanks to Joe DiPietro, who assumed the chair just a few weeks before the election, to the Communications Committee for preparing the ballots, and to Lenore Nagele, who assisted the election committee in counting ballots.

The newly elected Council members will be officially seated at the May 18 Parish Council meeting.

We Come To Your Table

"With hearts so full of joy" they came, the children who were to receive Holy Communion for the first time. After weeks of instruction and study and prayer, as a group and with their parents, our children approached the table of the Lord and were fed with the Food that Christ himself provided.

"In your body we find life," they sang; "one with you and one another, we come to your table." As a parish community we rejoice that we and they, these young children, are made one with the Lord and one with one another.

We pray that they may often draw near to the Lord's table for the nourishment that gives Life. We give thanks for the hours of preparation their teachers gave so selflessly and generously. We honor their parents for their prayerful guidance. And finally, we congratulate the children, one and all:

Melissa Althaus, Ana Batista, Pauline Bellaver, Christopher Blair, Alayna Bonse, Alaina Brown;



Kristin Cantrell, Cassie Conner, Melissa Cremeens, Erin Cross, Pedro DeRose, Joseph DiPietro, Jennifer and Michelle Edwards;

Amy Faulkner, Matthew Fejes, Kristopher Gnagey, Katherine Gordon, Kendra Gray, Kimberly Heater, Eric Horodenski, Robert Howard;

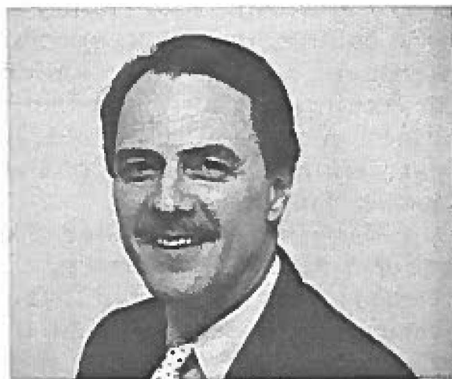
Sara Ingram, Karl and Quinn Joyce, Martin Kane, Kevin Keck, Jason Kimball, Adam Long, Cathern Miller, Dana Mingee, Kirstin McCartney, Nicholas McLemore;

Tung Nguyen, Megan Pavot, Elizabeth Pigg, John Rinkenberg, Jr., Laurie Ruggieri, Regina Sabbia, Alisia Sigrist, Anna Skorupa, Katherine Sutton;

Nora Timoney, Nicholas Trotter, Nicole West, Michael and Sarah Whitman, Adam Zawadowski.



Mary E. Luckey Lydon



Dave Murrell



Angie Prendergast



On June 10 one hundred women will depart from four locations in the U.S., converging in Austin, Texas, to form a convoy whose destination is Central America. On June 17, in 30-40 vehicles, the convoy will set out on a journey through Mexico, Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Nicaragua, distributing material aid from U.S. citizens to women's community projects.

The purpose of the trip is to build bridges of understanding and support between U.S. and

Central American women seeking economic and social justice in their own communities. Churches in Champaign-Urbana have been asked to respond to the requests of women in Guatemala, a country of over 100,000 orphans and 30,000 widows.

The women's self-help projects in Guatemala have requested:

1. office supplies: paper, envelopes, pencils, pens, staplers with staples
2. school supplies: notebooks and paper, crayons, pencils, pens, scissors
3. typewriters: manual or electric (not computerized)
4. children's underwear, socks, T-shirts (other forms of clothing not requested)
5. financial support for supplies to be purchased in

Guatemala: fabric and thread for weaving cooperatives, industrial-weight sewing machines, corn and beans, medicines

Parishioners may bring these items to Coffee Shop on Sunday, May 13, to be given to the Women's Convoy when it passes through C-U in early June.

St. Patrick's Social Action Committee and the Women's Convoy Coordinating Committee in C-U seek a woman to represent C-U in the Women's Convoy. If you can participate in this action from June 10 to July 10, please leave a note for Social Action in the committee's mail bin or call Sharon Monday-Dorsey (344-3016). Ability to speak Spanish is helpful but not necessary. Some financial assistance is available.

May Saints (et aliter)

On May 1 we remember St. Joseph the Worker. Although the Bible says little about the husband of Mary, his willingness to follow God's will and to support Mary and Jesus has placed him in a special light in Christian tradition. In our time he stands in holy contrast to those who shirk family responsibilities. As a carpenter by trade, he also is patron of all who work with their hands.



May 3 is the feast of the apostles Philip and James. (Did you ever notice the number of apostles whose feasts are celebrated in Eastertime?) In 1983 the U.S. bishops approved their pastoral letter "The Challenge of Peace" for dissemination to all of us--and to the world.

May 4 is Ascension Thursday, the day we rejoice in Jesus' "going home" to the Father. May 5, First Friday, is also "World Day of Prayer."

On May 14 we celebrate Pentecost, the "Birthday of the Church," commemorating the Spirit's coming upon the disciples and imbuing them with courage to carry the Good News to all the world. And Mother's Day, calling us to a special awareness and appreciation of the loving, caring, nurturing reflection of our Creator. And (lest we forget) the feast of the apostle Matthias.

On May 15 we remember St. Isadore, patron of farmers.

Memorial Day, dedicated to the memory of those who died in defense of our country, this year falls on May 29.



On May 31 we observe the feast of the Visitation: Mary, pregnant with her son, Jesus, travels to visit her cousin, Elizabeth, who is pregnant (in her advanced years) with her first child, John. As the month begins with the Holy Family, so it ends with them: on May 1 we celebrate the labor needed to provide for one's family, and on May 31 we affirm and celebrate the intimate personal support required to sustain a family.

Ministering To The Homeless

The Search for Shelter, a national program developed by the American Institute of Architects, the American Institute of Architecture Students, and the Neighborhood reinvestment Corporation, is presenting a series that addresses the issues of homelessness and affordable housing.

In the first session, parishioner Sharon Monday-Dorsey presented the work of the St. Jude Catholic Worker House and traced the roots of the Catholic Worker movement from its founding by Dorothy Day as a student at the University of Illinois to its national and local efforts in ministering to the homeless today.

The second session featured a lecture by Marty Klieber, a Chicago architect formerly of Champaign and past member of St. Patrick's Parish. His presentation raised questions beyond that of shelter to the issue of accessibility of affordable housing for large numbers of Americans today.

In a public forum held at the University's School of Architecture, the third session presented five panelists (parishioner Dave Murrell, Rev. Steve Schumacher, Nancy Kyrouac, John Lee Johnson, Doug Dobmeyer), who sought to raise awareness of the crisis in housing. Discussion of the responsibility of government and response by individuals in facing this crisis soon made clear that shelters are an emergency response only, that the real challenge in combating homelessness in America is to provide dignified, affordable housing to all economic sectors of our society.

The final session will take place next fall. At a day-long workshop participants will be teamed with practicing



Hail Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with you!
Blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your
womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our
death.
Amen.

architects and architecture students, with each team asked to brainstorm a solution to the problem of creating a new, viable shelter to replace the current St. Jude Catholic Worker House in Urbana. All interested in participating should call Albert L. Wege, president of the campus AIAS, at 332-2465.

A side note: Champaign County Human Services will hold a forum on affordable housing on May 11 at the Champaign Public Library, 12:00-2:00 p.m. For information, call Gary Laumann, 352-5179.

"We Will Miss Him" A Letter In Memory Of Fr. Martell

My name is Jennifer Smith, and I am 8 years old. Father Martell married my mom, Carol Douglas, and my dad, Jerry Smith, in June 1972. He also baptized my brother Douglas Andrew, we call him Andy, in August 1976. I was the first girl baptized when Our Lady of the Lake, in Mahomet, became a parish.

We used to see Father Martell at the nursing home. We would take him candy and visit for a while. The last time we visited him we told him I would be making my First Communion in April. He told me to always kneel to say my prayers and that my First Communion day would be the holiest day of my life. He asked Andy if he was an altar boy, because you can't be any closer to God than serving at his table. Before our visit ended, we all prayed and Father Martell blessed us all.

I went to his funeral with my mom. We will miss him.

Jennifer Smith

Thank you, Jennifer, for sharing your memories of Father Martell with us. The members of the Communications Committee would like to publish a special In Focus issue devoted to the memory of Father Martell, who was pastor of St. Patrick's for so many years. If you have something special to share with us about him, please send it to the Communications Committee, in care of St. Patrick's Church, or drop it off at the parish office.



From Small Beginnings

A 20-year-old student, dismayed by the dire poverty of families in the area surrounding his university, gathered a group of students to seek out and visit the poor in their homes, taking them bread and clothing, friendship and concern.

Their numbers grew, and so did the sphere of their activity. That student was Frederick Ozanam, his university the Sorbonne, in Paris, France; the year, 1833. The group took as their patron a French priest who altered the world's response to social problems, St. Vincent de Paul.



Today the Society of St. Vincent de Paul numbers over 750,000 men and women, young and old, of every race and color, whose sole objective is to help the poor. A worldwide organization now, members meet in parish and district groups in order to help in a personal way those in need.

The Society supports and operates rehabilitation workshops for the handicapped, free dining services, furniture and clothing stores, and children's camps. It also organizes its own overseas aid, known as "twinning."

In Urbana, the St. Vincent de Paul Society operates out of St. Patrick's, providing food and clothing and shelter to people

in need just as those first students did, over a hundred years ago. And a few years ago our local group "twinning" with the group at St. Patrick's in Jamaica, W.I.A. That very poor parish suffered greatly from Hurricane Gilbert. They wrote:

"Hurricane Gilbert will long be remembered for years to come. Our soup kitchen roof got damaged, the priests' roof leaked badly, and a new roof is needed. However, the church was not damaged at all, just a little water blew in. The people we assist suffered from Gilbert's wrath. There are scores of people coming into the churchyard seeking food. There is no electricity. We are eating mostly canned food. Our soup kitchen didn't have water; when we eventually did, it was rusty. Gilbert has been given many nicknames, including ROOFUS because many roofs were torn off."

The work of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul is the Gospel message in action:

I was hungry
I was thirsty
I was a stranger
I was naked
I was sick
I was in prison
and you cared.

Today, April 30, is International St. Vincent de Paul Day. Frederick Ozanam would be proud. And grateful.



People Touching People

Parish Council News



At their April meeting the Parish Council approved a plan for retiring the parish debt for the new wing of the parish center. The plan calls for applying funds collected through the diocesan Annual Stewardship Appeal that exceed the parish assessment, and half of excess revenues over expenses in the operating fund at the end of the fiscal year for this purpose. (The remaining half of excess parish revenue will be allocated annually by the Council to fund special projects.)

The operating budget for FY 1989-90 was approved, based on total revenue of \$359,700.

Members received a draft for a revision of the Parish Council bylaws and approved guidelines for bulletin inserts, which are to be disseminated to all parish groups.

Helene Kacich has been offered the position of coordinator for the Renew program. Although the program will "take off" in the fall, Helene will be busy this spring and summer laying the foundation for it.

At their next meeting, the new Council members will be seated and officers elected for the coming year. All parishioners are invited to join in welcoming and congratulating the new members and expressing their appreciation for service to departing members at the May 18 meeting.

"Getting To Know You"

Each summer students from other countries come to the University of Illinois to study English in the Intensive English Institute. They really want to learn more than just English, however; they want to find out what life is like in this part of the world while they develop and sharpen their communication skills.

Over the years several parish families have "adopted" students for a few weeks during the summer. They invite them to take part in family outings, grocery shop, cheer the family's Little Leaguers or the parish softball team, watch favorite TV programs, join them for dinner, help put the young children down for the night, and the like.

The students live on campus during their stay at the University so housing is not needed, but overnight or weekend visits are encouraged.

About 75 students are expected from the following universities in Japan: Aichi Gakuen, Jul. 1-21; Senshu University, Jul. 28-Aug. 24; Konan University, Jul. 23-Sept. 2.

If you'd like to share your way of life with a student, and learn a little about the student's way of life at home, call Waunita Kinoshita (367-4282, evenings). Parishioner Pat Mokros (384-7959) can tell you about her family's experiences in sharing and what fun it can be.

"Getting to know you, getting to know all about you . . ."

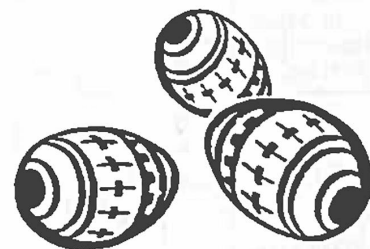


Of Easter Eggs And Children

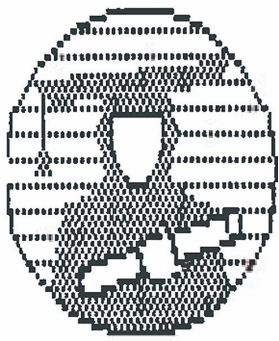
Holy Saturday afternoon saw a mixture of kids, eggs, games, prizes and a reptile as part of the 1989 Easter egg hunt at St. Patrick's. Approximately 45 children, ages three to eight, participated in bunny hop races, a version of "musical eggs" and, of course, the Easter egg hunt. Two young ladies, helping to hide the eggs outside, surprised a snake when they thought the spot it occupied would make a good hiding place. The snake was rescued, minor adjustments made, and the Easter egg hunt began.

The children were divided into two groups, with the older ones searching for eggs outside, and the younger ones searching in the parish center. "We have some smart kids these days," Rose Vabic commented. "It didn't take them long to find all the eggs!"

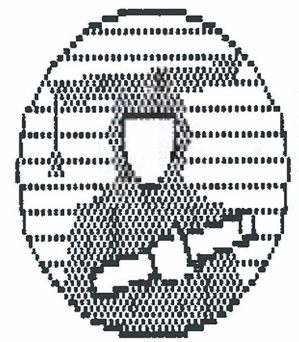
Treats of cupcakes and punch topped off the afternoon. With the assistance of some parents, Debby Heater and Rose Vabic saw another successful Easter egg hunt draw to a close.



St. Patrick's In Focus is published on the last weekend of each month in Urbana, Illinois. News items and information may be submitted for the next issue by the 15th day of the month. Please leave your items in the Communications Committee mail bin in the parish center, or call Mary Lou Menches, 344-1125/244-4701. Written material should include the name and phone number of the writer.



MAY



1989

SUN**MON****TUE****WED****THU****FRI****SAT**

	1	2	3	4	5	6
	7:00p GROW 7:00p Education Com.mtg. 7:30p Worship & Prayer Com.mtg.	1:30p Rosary at CCNH	7pm Choir 7pm GROW 7pm SVOP 7pm Communicat. Com.mtg.	1:00p GROW 6:30p Folk Choir	10:45a Mass at CCNH	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Final: Annual Stewardship Appeal 9:00a Child.class. 9:00a Little Rock 10:15a Child.Lit. 11:00a Child.Class 11:00a Little Rock 6:00p High School	7pm GROW	1:30p Rosary at CCNH 7:00p Revenue 7:00p Cursillo 7:30p Parish Council mtg 7:30p Welcome & Hospitality mtg	10am Adult Study 1:00p Bandage Rolling 7pm GROW, SVOP 7pm Choir 7pm Pro-Life 7pm Building & Grounds mtg	1:00p GROW 6:30p Folk Choir 7:00p Pre- Baptismal Personnel meeting 7:30p Finance meeting	10:45a Mass at CCNH	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
PENTECOST! 9:00a Child.class 9:00a Little Rock 10:15a Child.Lit. 11:00a Child.class 6:00p High School 7:00p Ecumenical Festival on	7:00p GROW 7:30p Social Action Com. meeting Psalms at McKinley Presbyt	1:30p Rosary at CCNH	7pm GROW 7pm SVOP	1:00p GROW 7:30p Parish Council mtg	10:30a Mass at Americana Nursing Home 10:45a Mass at CCNH	7:30p Cursillo
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
9:00a Child.class 9:00a Little Rock 10:15a Child.Lit. 11:00a Child.class 11:00a Little Rock 6:00p High School	7pm GROW 7pm Communicat. IN FOCUS	1:30p Rosary at CCNH 7:00p Liturgy Planning	1:00p Bandage Rolling 6:30p Education Appreciation Dinner 7:00p GROW 7:30p Inquiry	1:00p GROW 7:30p K.of C.	10:30a Mass at Americana Nursing Home 10:45a Mass at CCNH	
28	29	30	31			
	Memorial Day! 9:00am Mass at Mt.Hope Cemetery and gathering at Parish Center 7:00p GROW	1:30p Rosary at CCNH	7:30p GROW			

St. Patrick's Parish, Urbana