

ST PATRICK'S PARISH

# In Focus



## Let Us Give Thanks

Just as the new year is a time for making resolutions, Thanksgiving seems to be the time for counting our blessings. We parishioners at St. Patrick's have plenty to be thankful for: a warm and understanding pastor who has recovered from last winter's skiing accident, Father Paul Kinder's continued health and life-giving presence here, the friendly, welcoming atmosphere of our parish, the dry, sunny fall weather so necessary to local farmers and a joy for all of us.

To the skeptic, such a litany of blessings may sound like Pippa in Robert Browning's poem *Pippa Passes*: "God's in His Heaven and all's right with the world." One look at the evening news dispels that illusion. But the skeptics do have a point: saying thanks is only half of giving thanks. We need to share our blessings to make our thanksgiving complete.

As those who have participated in the first weeks of RENEW know, the Lord's call to greater spirituality is also a call to action, as an individual or as agreed upon by all the participants in a small group. The opportunities for action in the parish

and in the community at large are abundant.

For example, the St. Vincent de Paul Society will be preparing 250 food baskets for the local needy this Thanksgiving; they always welcome donations of money and/or time. Sophia Zeigler, president of the local SVDP, invites parishioners to sponsor a family basket of food (which includes a baking hen and other necessities) with a donation of \$10. Volunteers are also sought to prepare the food baskets, and of course help is needed to deliver them: 8-10 baskets each on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday of Thanksgiving week.

From Nov. 11 to Nov. 18, local supermarkets will have Food for Families boxes placed near exits for donations of canned goods and other nonperishable items for the poor of Champaign County. A way to involve children in the spirit of giving would be to encourage them to use some of their spending money to buy a can of their favorite soup and put it in the box at the supermarket.

A good way to thank Lucille and Oscar Kocher and their co-workers for their hard work on the Cellar-to-Garret Sale would be to volunteer to help the organizers of next year's sale.

Those interested in helping the elderly continue to live independently might contact Peggy Whelan, who is looking for volunteers to telephone them regularly, run errands for them, or give them a ride to an appointment.

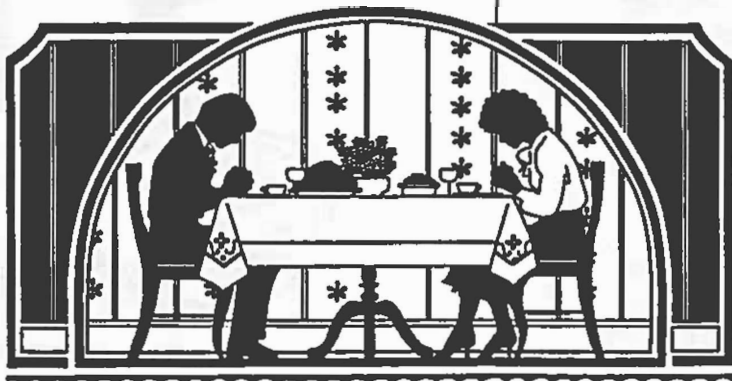
## A Saint Is One Who Loves God, Both Here and Now and Forever After

Wednesday and Thursday this week are very special days for all of us: the feast of All Saints on Nov. 1, and All Souls Day on Nov. 2.

On All Saints Day we pray: "In communion with the whole church, we celebrate this day consecrated to the memory of all who followed Christ in this life and received from him in death the crown of glory." Yes, all who followed Christ in this life—father, mother, brother, sister, son, daughter, neighbor, friend, co-worker. And, we trust, we too shall one day join them for we too attempt to follow Christ in this life.

On All Souls Day we rejoice in Christ's victory over sin and death, for in him we and those we love are also victorious: "When at last we die, your loving kindness calls us back to life with Christ, whose victory is our redemption. Our hearts are joyful, for we have seen your salvation!"

Because we trust and believe in Christ and strive to follow him, and because we believe in his loving mercy for those we love who have completed their journey of faith before us, we have good reason to celebrate!



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If painting or hammering nails turns you on, Gaye Dunn is our parish's contact person for workdays through the Home Maintenance project of Empty Tomb. Home Maintenance repairs and brings up to code the housing of the working poor in order to help them continue to live decently and affordably in their own homes.

If you have time to bake cookies about twice a year, or to visit with Champaign Nursing Home patients more frequently than that, Kay Stubing would love to hear from you. Kay takes cookies and company to the nursing home for praying the rosary on Tuesday; she and her helpers assist at the Mass there every Friday.

Eucharistic ministers to Carle Foundation Hospital and to the homebound are two separate, special ministries that have a lot in common. The communicant truly looks forward to receiving Communion and to visiting with a caring fellow parishioner. Volunteers bring Christ and fellowship to patients at Carle on Sunday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings. Mary Lydon, the contact person, reports that patients and their families are very grateful for these visits.

Loretta LaFave, who has about 10 volunteers visiting 48 home bound parishioners each week, says that it is a very rewarding ministry. The homebound and patients in the three nursing homes served eagerly await their visitors. Loretta would welcome new volunteers, whether they can serve each week or once a month. Anyone interested should come to the parish center on a Tuesday morning at 8:30 and come along to see what it's like.

Without too much trouble at all, we should be able to find a way to give thanks. Happy "Thanks-Giving" to all!



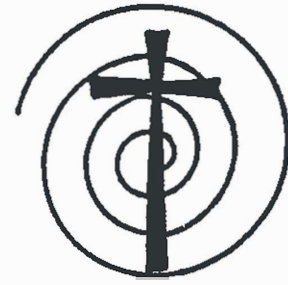
## Discovering Your Own Prayer Center

In conjunction with the spirit of RENEW, monthly sessions focusing on personal prayer will be offered to foster each individual's spiritual growth, as well as to nurture and deepen the sense of parish community.

The sessions are designed to help participants open their inner eyes; that is, to see, feel, and learn to live with the constant presence of God in their lives. Participants will discover how their insights, experiences, belief systems, and relationships connect and express the faith-filled persons that they are.

More specifically, these sessions will provide opportunities for personal reflection, assimilation, and integration of personal, lived prayer experiences. Participants will be guided through various styles of prayer, to deepen their lives in God. And, as seen in the logo, participants will thus better realize how to find Christ within and be aware of Him in their everyday experience.

Each session, designed to stand on its own, will be an hour and a half in



## Spirituality

length. They will be held in the parish center lounge from 7:30 to 9:00 in the evening on the fourth Thursday of every month in which the RENEW small groups do not meet, with exceptions when necessary because of holidays. Dates scheduled thus far are as follows:

November 30

December 9

January 25

February 22

The sessions will be facilitated by Sister Charlene Cesario, S.S. C.M. (Masters Degree in Pastoral Studies, with a concentration on spirituality, from Loyola University in Chicago, Illinois) and Jane McClellan (Certificate from the Internship in the Art of Spiritual Direction, Mercy Center, Burlingame, California).

## Buy a Treat, Help a Neighbor

The Urbana Knights of Columbus will hold its annual Tootsie Roll drive on the weekend of October 28.

KC members will be outside several Urbana grocery and department stores collecting money that will help provide services for the mentally handicapped in Champaign-Urbana and throughout Illinois.

In several of the past years, money from Tootsie Roll drives helped support the Illinois Special Olympics competition.

Funds also have been donated for special computer equipment at Urbana's Prairie School, for wheel-

chair repairs at the Developmental Services Center in Champaign, for the Catholic Worker House, and for wheel chair and bed equipment for individuals.

If you don't see any of the KCs at a store on Friday night or Saturday, look for them at church on Sunday.

The Tootsie Rolls make great treats for Halloween ghosts and goblins just two days later.



**RENEW: Offering a Sign  
of Hope to Our World**

## **Christian Churches Give Thanks . . . Together**

The fall RENEW program at St. Patrick's will conclude Wednesday, November 22, with an ecumenical Thanksgiving service at St. Patrick's church.

Members of at least one other local church congregation will participate and perhaps as many as four, according to Margaret Nadworny, a member of the RENEW Large Group Committee.

The Champaign-Urbana Christian Church has agreed to participate, and members of three other Christian congregations may also join to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday.

The 45-minute service will begin at 7:30 p.m. and will be followed by a social gathering, with cookies and hot cider, in the parish center.

Families and individuals are invited to attend the Thanksgiving eve



service. Everyone who attends is asked to bring at least one nonperishable food item that will be donated either to the St. Vincent de Paul Society or to Empty Tomb.

The service will include a procession with members of the participating congregations, readings, a slide show highlighting the blessings we share, and dedication of the donated food items.

The ecumenical service fits well into the RENEW program, Nadworny pointed out. "The RENEW activity that week urges us to reach out into the community, so we're reaching out at a time that is more of an American holiday than a Catholic holiday as such," she said. "We have a lot of things to be thankful for in our country and our community."

## **Cellar-to- Garret Sale Sets New Record**

### **Outgoing Chair Reports . . . and Retires**

St. Patrick's twenty-first annual Cellar-to-Garret Sale was an outstanding success! The final proceeds added up to a grand total of \$7,008.47. Thanks to everyone who in any way made this success possible.

The first Cellar-to-Garret Sale took place in 1968. I chaired the event that year, and I have chaired it for the last nine years—and for a few times in-

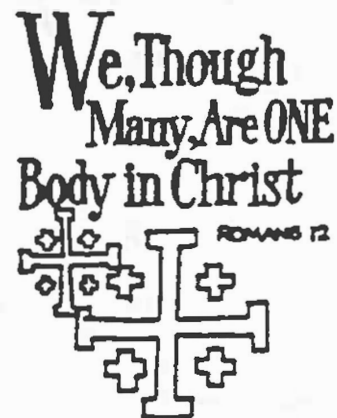
between. I've said many times that I would retire the year we raised \$5,000, or on our twentieth year. This is our twenty-first year, and we have raised \$5,000 or more for the past four years. So I think it is time for me to hang up my masking tape and marking pen. I do hope that someone will step forward to chair this worth while event next fall.

Thanks to those of you who have given your time, your prayers, and your support in many other ways through the years.

Special thanks to the members of St. Patrick's Guild, who have always been there when needed. Without you the sale could not have succeeded so extravagantly.

Good luck to the next chair!

*Lucille Kocher*



Please welcome new parishioners Robert and Linda Glazier, Bill and Does Gordon, Darrel and Mildred Griffith, Rodney Quinlan and Jane Kingston, Matthew and Tamara McElroy, Tony McMahon and Sue McGinty, Venicio and Mercidita Navarro, Jan and Paula Nettleship, Christopher and Jan Phillips, John Peter Smith.



Farewell to the following parishioners, who have moved from C-U: William and Debra Allen, Lance and Beverly Bare, Jeannette Benak, Joan Brennecke, Dotti David, Robert and Paula Hamm, Lori IZard, Tim and Hanna Kelley, Robert and Patricia Long, Clarence and Joanne Millsap, Robert and Lori O'Rourke, Elsa Padget, Michael and Patti Peters, Gladys Remolina, David and Nancy Riddle, Michael and Cathy Yurjec.



We welcome the following newly baptized into our faith community: Catalina Devis-Cantillo, Samuel Joseph Dueweke, Megan Kathleen McCarthy, Brooke Allyson McMahon, Christine Marie Milewski, Kathryn Millsap, Brendan Douglas Peters, Samuel Charles Ian Smith, Javier Miguel Sols, Kyle Anthony Stutes.



Congratulations to these couples, married at St. Patrick's: Douglas Wayne Sawyer and Melissa Ann Hamilton, Donald Ross and Kristiana Althaus.



Our condolences to the families and friends of the following deceased: Mary Margaret Beckenholdt, Mary Ellingsworth, Myrtie Kirby, Beulah Elam Spanglo, Robert O. Zoll.



# In Focus Helps Bond Large Family

Good communication is the key to maintaining good family relationships, and this is also true of the parish family. The parish family is far too large to sit around the supper table and chat, so other means of communication are needed.

The goal of In Focus is to help build a sense of community within the parish by serving as a hub of communication; according to the recent survey, it has been succeeding. "Reading In Focus always makes me feel more a part of the parish," replied one parishioner. A new parishioner stated that "it was very helpful in getting acquainted and feeling a sense of belonging or connectedness within the parish."

Results of the survey show that 71% of the people responding appreciated receiving In Focus every month, while 18% stated that every other month is sufficient, and 11% stated that every three months is often enough.

Almost everyone liked how In Focus looks and thought that the pictures and drawings make it more interesting.

The favorite topic of most family discussions is what the other family members are doing, and this is true of the parish family as well. The most popular topics were parish events, programs, parish council news, parishioner activities, and names of parishioners involved in important events. The least popular topics were those from outside the parish, such as national and world events.

About half the respondents were in favor of listing special intentions or prayer requests that parishioners may have. However, many others believed that it would be difficult for a monthly publication to do this on a timely basis.

A number of people offered suggestions for future articles. These ranged from a biographical sketch of Fr. Remm, and other ordained or religious in the parish, to explaining the purpose of the "balcony" in the parish center.

The Communications Committee is always glad to receive suggestions for articles and will consider all those given in the survey. If you have a topic that you would like to see presented in future issues of In Focus, please contact the parish office and leave a message for the Communications Committee.

Parish groups and organizations especially are encouraged to submit articles on their activities and needs so In Focus can share them with the rest of the parish.

The Communications Committee thanks all who took the time to complete the survey and who shared their thoughtful suggestions. These responses will help to shape future issues of In Focus. Thank you!



## November Saints (et aliter)

On Nov. 1 and 2 we celebrate the harvest homecoming of the Church. We celebrate the saints, all who have completed their journey of faith, who are home at last.

Nov. 3 is the feast of **Martin de Porres**, son of a white Spanish grandee father and a black Panamanian mother, who was canonized by Pope John XXIII in 1962 and named patron saint of American blacks.

On Nov. 4 we remember **Charles Borromeo**, archbishop, who established the first seminaries for educating those who were called to serve God's people as priests.

Nov. 11, **Veterans' Day**, is also the feast of **Martin**, bishop of Tours. He is praised in the U.S. bishops' pastoral letter *The Challenge of Peace: God's*

*Promise and Our Response* as an example of Christian nonviolence, together with Francis of Assisi, Mahatma Gandhi, Dorothy Day, and Martin Luther King. How do we work for peace?

On Nov. 13 we celebrate the feast of **Frances Xavier Cabrini**, the first canonized (1946) U.S. citizen. She is remembered for her compassionate work with and for Italian immigrants to New York and Chicago.

**Albert the Great**, teacher of Thomas Aquinas, is a Doctor of the Church and patron of scientists and philosophers. Nov. 15 is his feast day.

**Elizabeth of Hungary**, a contemporary of Francis of Assisi, was married at 14, widowed just a few years later, and died at 24—wife and mother and founder of a hospital for the poor, she is patroness of the Franciscan Third Order and of Catholic charities. We celebrate her feast on Nov. 17.

On Nov. 21, the feast of the **Presentation of Mary in the Temple**, the Church honors Mary for her total gift of self, which prepared her to become the mother of God.

Nov. 22 is the feast of the virgin and martyr **Cecilia**, patroness of music and musicians. (St. Patrick's has a beautiful window in her honor in the choir loft.)

Nov. 23 is **Thanksgiving Day**, a celebration of God's bounty.

On Nov. 26, the feast of **Christ the King**, we are reminded how different is the kingdom Jesus inaugurates from that hoped for by his disciples, then and now.

November closes with the feast of the apostle **Andrew**, Peter's brother. Tradition recalls his crucifixion on an X-shaped cross, which bears his name.



# Parish Council News: September and October

The Parish Council welcomed John Ralston as a member at the September meeting to complete the term of Gaye Dunn. Gaye's resignation, tendered because her class schedule did not permit attendance at Council meetings, was accepted with regret.

Council members also welcomed Judy Conover as recording secretary.

The ad hoc development committee presented the draft of a plan for parish development. Development was defined as "the total effort of the entire parish to analyze its philosophy, theology, mission, and activities, to crystallize its objectives, to project them into the future, to take necessary steps to realization, and continually to follow through to insure realization."

The committee also proposed (1) that the Revenue/Finance committee be incorporated into a new Development Committee, whose membership would include parish trustees, pastor,

and business operations assistant, and (2) that the latter position be expanded from 30 to 40 hours a week. One of the committee's primary responsibilities would be to monitor implementation of the development plan.

The stipend attached to the position of coordinator of children's programs was increased to make it commensurate with the increase in responsibility incurred by the addition of Wednesday classes.

The Social Committee was placed on the "inactive list" for lack of members to help carry out its responsibilities.

At its October meeting, the Council approved the proposal that the Worship and Prayer Committee be renamed the Liturgy Committee, with revisions to its charge from the Council.

A draft of proposed revisions to the Parish Council Constitution was accepted for submission to the parish in a referendum to take place in December.

New one-year parish objectives, set at the Council/Committee/Staff Workshop in September, were affirmed by the Council. Each objective was assigned to a specific committee or group for implementation: commu-

nity building, to Hospitality and Social committees; religious education, to Education; spiritual life, to the staff.

The Council affirmed the Building and Grounds Committee's authorization to make expenditures for repairs to the parish-owned rental property. A property manager from the parish will soon be selected to act on the parish's behalf with regard to the rental property.

Oscar Kocher has announced his intention to retire as custodian as of Jan. 1. A search committee will be formed and information posted about the position and procedures for application.

The Council's annual holiday gathering will be an Epiphany observance, to follow the evening Mass on Jan. 6.

The December Council meeting was moved to Dec. 14.



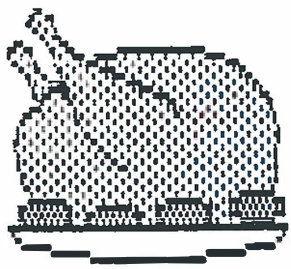
*St. Patrick's In Focus is published on the last weekend of each month in Urbana, Illinois. News items and information may be submitted for the next issue by the 15th day of the month. Written materials must include the name and phone number of the writer.*

*Please leave news items in the Communications Committee mail bin in the parish center, or call a committee member. All submissions are subject to review and/or editing by the committee; by-lines are generally omitted.*

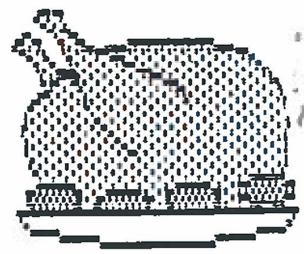
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*Associates: Harriet Davis, Donna Price, Carole Rebeiz, Alice Schrader, Amy Witsman.*





# November 1989



SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

			<b>1</b> ALL SAINTS DAY Masses at 7 am, noon and 5:15 pm 7 pm Communica- tions Com. mtg. 7 pm Choir 7 pm Pro-Life 7 pm SVDP 7 pm GROW 7 pm RCIA		<b>2</b> ALL SOULS 1 pm GROW 6:45 pm Folk choir 7 pm RENEW Large Group 7:30 pm Person- nel Com. mtg.	<b>3</b> 10:45 am Mass CCNH	<b>4</b> 9 am Ad Hoc Development Com. mtg. 4 pm Young and Restless: bowl- ing, pizza
<b>5</b> RENEW: Church 8-11 am Library open 9:11 a Children's classes 10:15 a Children's Liturgy 10:30 Young and Restless: brkfst	<b>6</b> 7:15 pm GROW	<b>7</b> VOTE! 7 pm Reconcil- iation class 7 pm SVDP 7 pm GROW 7:15 pm Bldg and Grnds Com. mtg	<b>8</b> 1 pm MM bandage rolling 5:45 p Children's class/U 6:45 p Children's class/St J 7 pm RCIA 7 pm Choir	<b>9</b> 1 pm GROW 6:45 pm Folk choir 7 pm Baptism preparation	<b>10</b> 10:30 am Mass, Royal Fontana 10:45 am Mass, CCNH	<b>11</b> 9 am LMLP 7 pm Young and Restless: pic- tionary 7:30 pm Liturgy Com. mtg. Veterans Day	
<b>12</b> RENEW: Neighbors 8 am Hospitality table 9:11 a Children's classes 10:15 a Children's Liturgy	<b>13</b> 7:15 pm GROW 7:30 pm Social Action Com. mtg.	<b>14</b> 7 pm Revenue/ Finance Com. mtg. 7 pm Reconcil- iation class	<b>15</b> 5:45 p Children's class/U 6:45 p Children's class/St J 7 pm RCIA 7 pm Choir 7 pm SVDP 7 pm GROW	<b>16</b> 1 pm GROW 6:45 pm Folk choir 7:30 pm Parish Council mtg.	<b>17</b> 10:30 am Mass Urbana NH 10:45 am Mass CCNH	<b>18</b> 4 pm Young and Restless: pre- Thanksgiving dinner	
<b>19</b> RENEW: Hope 8-11 am Library open 9:11 a Children's classes 10:15 a Children's Liturgy 4 pm Young and Restless: VCR	<b>20</b> THANKSGIVING 7 pm In Focus page layout 7:15 pm GROW	<b>21</b> BASKETS 7 pm Reconcil- iation class 7:30 pm KC 7:30 Ecumenical Thnksvgv Serv	<b>22</b> DELIVERED 1 pm MM bandage rolling 7 pm RCIA 7 pm Teacher training 7 pm SVDP 7 pm GROW	<b>23</b> THANKSGIVING 3 a Holiday Mass and Coffee Shop 1 pm GROW(?)	<b>24</b> 10:30 am Mass Amer/U 10:45 am Mass CCNH	<b>25</b>	
<b>26</b> Christ the King	<b>27</b> 7:15 pm GROW	<b>28</b> 7 pm Reconcil- iation class 7 pm Liturgy planning	<b>29</b> 7 pm RCIA 7 pm Teacher training 7 pm SVDP 7 pm GROW 7 pm Choir	<b>30</b> 1 pm GROW 6:45 pm Folk choir 7:30 pm Reflec- tion	Amer/C: Americana, Champaign Amer/U: Americana, Urbana CCNH: Champaign County Nursing Home MM: Medical Missions SVDP: St. Vincent de Paul		

St. Patrick's Parish, Urbana