

In Focus



Parish Observes National Migration Week 1990

The year 1990 is the tenth year that Epiphany week has been designated National Migration Week by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops. Once again, all Catholics across the nation are called to celebrate their cultural diversity, their own immigration experience or that of their ancestors, and the American national tradition of extending a welcome to the latest arrivals in our country.

The special focus of this tenth anniversary year is "Youth in Migration." We recall the frightened children clinging to the hands of their parents as they flee through the night to cross a border. We ponder the uncertainties and hopes of immigrant youth who come with their families to join their relatives in a strange new world. We contemplate the feelings of displacement of the children of migrant workers who must travel from place to place to find work that will put a bit of food on the family's table.



St. Patrick's parish will celebrate National Migration Week at a prayer service and international potluck dinner on Tuesday, Jan. 9, at 6:00 p.m. in the multipurpose room of the parish center. Please join in this special celebration of our immigrant heritage. Call Bernie Laumann (328-2708) with your reservation.

Celebrating Christmas in Bethlehem Today

Christ was born on a snowy December night in a stable made of wood. At least, that is how most Americans visualize the first Christmas. But the Handal family, members of St. Patrick's parish, can give us a more accurate perception of what that first Christmas may have been like.

The Handal family are well acquainted with Bethlehem. According to Joseph Handal, family baptismal records in their Bethlehem parish, the Church of the Nativity, date back five hundred years.

Bethlehem does get 1-2 inches of snow, he says, usually in January or February. But the December weather is mild compared to ours: 35-45 degrees, windy and rainy.

Christ may have been born in a stable, but it would not have been made of wood. Then, as now, farm animals and beasts of burden were shel-

tered in caves. Wood was scarce and too precious to be used to make a shelter for animals.

According to Salim Handal, the tradition of the cave as the place of Christ's birth goes back to the time of the apostles. It is one site in the Holy Land that was never buried or lost and then rediscovered.

Modern Bethlehem has 32,000 inhabitants, two-thirds of whom are Christian: 4500 Latin Catholics (named after the Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem, founded during the Crusades), 6000 Greek Orthodox, 4000 Assyrian Orthodox and Catholics, and about 900 other Christians. Most Moslems have been resettled in Bethlehem because their villages were taken over by the Israelis. (Occupation by the Israelis has been a fact of life for the citizens of Bethlehem since the Arab-Israeli war in 1967. For

Continued next page

Below are pictured several members of the Youakim and Handal families at the wedding of Joseph Youakim and Nawal Handal. The photo was taken in front of St. Catherine's Chapel, which houses the Church of the Nativity, the families' parish church. With the wedding couple are Joseph and Helen Handal and Fouad and Jan Handal, all now members of St. Patrick's Parish.



the third consecutive year, Christmas celebrations have been cancelled in protest of that occupation.)

Religious ceremonies in Bethlehem begin 9 days before Christmas with daily Mass. On Christmas Eve the marketplace is filled with booths and tables offering homemade Christmas sweets. Residents of Bethlehem find some reason to shop downtown or in Manger Square on this day

The Patriarch of Jerusalem comes to Bethlehem in the late afternoon of Christmas Eve. The Catholics of Bethlehem meet him at Rachel's Tomb and accompany him to Manger Square. (Rachel, a forerunner of Mary, died in Bethlehem while giving birth to Benjamin. Through giving birth to Jesus, Mary gave eternal life.)

The entrance of the Patriarch symbolizes the entrance of the Holy Family. Because the Bethlehemites are embarrassed about the reception their town gave Joseph and Mary, they take particular joy in welcoming the Patriarch.

Salim Handal has a theory about the reception Bethlehem gave Joseph and Mary. Because of the Jewish laws, he says, anyone who welcomed Mary, a stranger about to give birth, would have brought ritual impurity to their home and would have been obliged to have the house purified after the family had left. (Salim, as Secretary of Catho-

lic Action in Bethlehem, was Master of Ceremony for Christmas celebrations there.)

After welcoming ceremonies in Manger Square, the Patriarch enters the Greek Orthodox Basilica of St. Helen, which was built over the Nativity cave. There are four frames to this doorway, each one smaller than the other. Tradition says that Persian conquerors of Palestine brought their horses into this holy shrine and that the Crusaders built the third frame to prevent this. Worshipers must bend low to enter; just so must we humble ourselves to enter the Kingdom of God.

The Patriarch passes through the Basilica into the adjoining Catholic Chapel of St. Catherine. At 10:30 p.m. prayer services begin with the rosary, followed by readings from the Old Testament. At 11:45 p.m. ambassadors from all over the world, symbolizing the Magi, are seated according to a protocol. At midnight, the Patriarch chants the Gloria and the bells are rung in the chapel, giving the signal for bells to be rung all over Bethlehem and the world.

After the Pontifical Mass the Patriarch takes the statue of the infant Jesus down to the cave, or grotto, placing it in the manger for a special prayer service. The Patriarch, bringing the statue back up to the chapel, brings Christ to the world. To us.

Parish Council News

At their December meeting Council members welcomed Kevin Kingery as a new member to fill out the unexpired term of former member Gaye Dunn.

Tom Kacich, Council president, reported that the revised Constitution, submitted to a parish vote on Dec. 2-3, was approved by 94 of 97 voters.

In a further consideration of the proposal that the parish property at the corner of Clark and Coler be made available as the new location of the St. Jude Catholic Worker House, parishioners' letters and petitions submitted to the Council were discussed. An ad hoc committee was appointed to plan an open parish meeting on this matter.

With Oscar Kocher's resignation effective Jan. 1, the search committee was happy to report that Dick Valentine has agreed to fill the position of custodian, at least through June 1990. Dick has filled in for Oscar more than once during his winter jaunts to the warmer climes of Texas, so he should have a good idea of what lies ahead!

A proposal that the parish support the cost of refurbishing one room of the new Empty Tomb quarters was referred to the Social Action Committee for a recommendation.

In other news, Education is planning an appreciation dinner for catechists (Jan. 30), Liturgy is planning an evening of prayer and reflection for all liturgical ministers (Jan. 31), and staff continues to consider applications for the position of Business Operations Assistant.

Generous parishioners continue to support parish programs and other needs. As of the end of November, total income exceeded projected (budgeted) income by about 8%.



Pro-Life Committee Co-Sponsors Prayer Vigil Jan. 22

Jan. 22, 1990, marks the 17th anniversary of the landmark Roe v. Wade decision of the U.S. Supreme Court legalizing abortion. Because of this decision 1.5 million unborn humans are killed annually in this country alone.

St. Patrick's Pro-Life Committee, together with Right to Life of Champaign County, will sponsor the annual Community Ecumenical Memorial Prayer Vigil on Monday, Jan. 22, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Patrick's church.

Rev. Robert Barry, O.P., visiting Assistant Professor of Religious Studies at

the University of Illinois, will address the participants. Fr. Barry holds a Ph.D. in moral theology from the Catholic University of America and has authored two books and more than sixty articles and reviews. He has appeared on "Nightline," "Face the Nation," and "Firing Line."

Fr. Barry will present a historical perspective on the subject of life. Vigil readings and songs will invite people to view life with the eyes of faith. Refreshments and fellowship will follow in the parish center.



Nancy Steerman
"knights" Oscar,
wearing a helmet of
"gold" specially
made for the event
by Barbara Peckham.
The ceremony took
place before the
assembly gathered at
coffee shop in
Oscar's honor on
Dec. 17.

Oscar Kocher Retires (Can You Believe It?)

Oscar Kocher is someone you should know. He is a native of Central Illinois, growing up in Olney. He has been a member of St. Patrick's for 40 years and has served the parish as custodian and building superintendent since his retirement from the University of Illinois Operations and Maintenance Division.

Oscar has kept our buildings operating smoothly and efficiently. From leaky roofs and faulty air conditioning to changing light bulbs, he has taken care of it.

Following 7 years of faithful service, Oscar will retire on Dec. 31. When asked what he would miss the most about the job, he responded without hesitation: "Good fellowship. St. Pat's has good people, a great staff with terrific personnel." He was just as quick with his reply to what he liked least: "Shoveling snow!"

He remembers, with a bit of humor, an incident a few years ago that nearly left him prematurely at the "pearly gates." Sr. Rosemarie, former pastoral associate at St. Patrick's, asked him to check her car's muffler. While under the car, Oscar told Sister to start the engine while he looked for the leak. Believing Oscar had finished, she put the car in gear and began to back out--with Oscar still under the car. Oscar recalls, "I grabbed onto the frame and shoved myself out as fast as I could.

It's a good thing she wasn't a hot-rodder or I'd have been a goner!" He added, "When I jumped up alongside her, she saw me and just about died!"

Although most of his days in the service of the parish were not quite as exciting as that one, they were certainly treasured. When questioned about the rewards of the job, Oscar replied: "I like St. Pat's. I do this because of my deep interest in the Church. (I enjoy) giving to the parish."

In January, Oscar and his wife, Lucille, will make their annual migration to the Rio Grande Valley in Texas--and "not a moment too soon" in Oscar's opinion, referring no doubt to the arrival of this winter's arctic deep freeze. Oscar is looking forward to "true" retirement and the opportunity to spend extended visits with their children and grandchildren "without having to worry about rushing back to set up for a wedding reception." Their youngest daughter will be having a baby in May, and soon afterward they plan to travel to Alaska, returning in August.

Oscar's contribution to St. Patrick's will be sorely missed. He has provided an invaluable service, well beyond duties listed in the job description. We extend to Oscar a highly deserved thanks and wish both Oscar and Lucille a fulfilling and happy retirement. We look forward to hearing their travel stories when they return next fall.

Volunteers Sought for Meals-on-Wheels Feb. 19-23

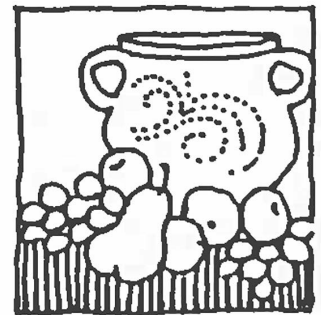
St. Patrick's will participate in the Meals-on-Wheels program Feb. 19-23 (Monday-Friday). Three teams are needed--that is, 6 people and 3 cars--for the three routes in Champaign and Urbana. Service is for noon hours.

Meals-on-Wheels volunteers provide a real service to the community. They enable many people to remain in their own homes for the meals delivered to them, they provide an outside contact for shut-ins, and they relieve loneliness. Only a few hours of time for one week can make all this possible!

Men and women of all ages may participate: students, homemakers, employers, retirees. The rewards are that good feeling now, and later the Lord's invitation, "Come."

Coordinator Florence Chevalier (367-5548) will be happy to answer questions from would-be volunteers. Explicit instructions from Meals-on-Wheels headquarters are provided several days before the week of the assignment.

The next parish commitment to this program is for Jul. 30-Aug. 3; mark your calendars for a different kind of summertime pleasure!



"Thank You, Dear Friends"

Terry Ruedi and family wish to extend love and gratitude to the ladies of St. Patrick's, who prepared, brought, and served a wonderful luncheon after the funeral of Terry's mother, Florence Murgach.

Tim and Hanne Send Greetings from India

Love is the first commandment--you shall love God with your whole heart, soul, mind, and strength. Love is also the second commandment--love your neighbor as yourself. Obviously God put a lot of emphasis on love.

Love is a verb and not just a feeling--it requires action. We love God by worshiping him and giving him thanks and praise. We love our neighbors by helping them.

If we love our parents or children, we would certainly feed them if they were starving or shelter them if they were homeless. God demands that we love all people just as much as that. This means that we love people we don't know, people we don't care to know, and even people who drive out of turn at four-way stop signs.

God has gifted all of us with time, talents, and resources for helping others. How we invest these gifts determines what fruit we produce for God.

One family from St. Patrick's has decided to invest their gifts for God by helping the people of India. Dr. Timothy Kelley, Hannelore Grisko-Kelley, and their daughter, Anna, left our parish this fall for India, where Tim works with the International Center for Research in the Semiarid Tropics (ICRISAT), which strives to improve food production in those regions.

Tim and Hanne were married at St. Patrick's, and Anna was baptized here. Tim served as eucharistic minister, Hanne as cantor and lector.

They wrote an open letter in November, sending their greetings and describing their new life in India.

There are a number of Catholics where they live whose faith is said to have been brought to this area by the apostle Thomas in the first century.

Church attendees, they note, leave their shoes outside and sit on the floor. Men are seated on one side of the church and women on the other. This has led to some embarrassing moments as Anna, of course, loves to run from one side to the other!

We can't all go to other countries to help the less fortunate, but we can pray for those who do and possibly share some of our material resources with the many missions that operate in the poorer areas of the world.

Tim and Hanne would be happy to hear from their friends here. Their address is:

Dr. Timothy G. Kelley & Hannelore Grisko-Kelley
Plot No. 74, Road No. 9
Jubilee Hills
Hydera-bad 500 034
A.B.
INDIA

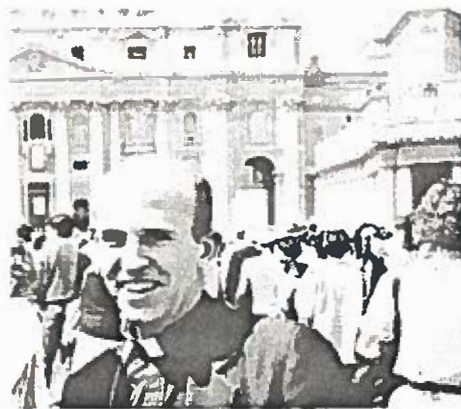


Tim and Hannelore with daughter Anna

Fr. Doug Hennessy Chairs Lecture Series

Fr. Doug Hennessy, former pastor of St. Patrick's, and in his fourth year on the formation staff of the Pontifical North American College in Rome, has branched out into yet another area. Upon his return to Rome last fall, Fr. Hennessy completed arrangements for a lecture series in celebration of the bicentennial of the establishment of Baltimore as the first diocese of the U.S. (Nov. 6, 1789).

Fr. Hennessy chairs the series of presentations, intended to explore the experience of the Church in the U.S., the influence of our faith on our nation's history, and the impact of our national heritage on the Catholic faith throughout the world.



Fr. Doug Hennessy in St. Peter's Square, Rome.

The lecture series, given at the College in Rome from Nov. 1989 through May 1990, includes presentations by Walter J. Burghardt, S.J.; U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia; Gerald Fogarty, S.J.; William J. Byron, S.J.; Sr. Mary Milligan, R.S.H.M.; and Lawrence Pezzullo.

Congratulations to Fr. Doug Hennessy for stepping in and bringing to completion arrangements for this celebration of Church in America.

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

Please leave news items in the Communications Committee mail bin in the parish center, or call a committee mem-

ber. All submissions are subject to review and/or editing by the committee. By-lines are generally omitted.

Editorial board: Bob Haessly, 344-7123; Mary Lou Menches, 344-1125 or 244-4701; Bridget Peters, 337-7663; Gary Riskowski, 344-4394; Katharine Schrader, 344-5995; Merdy Smith, 367-6159; Peggy Whelan, 367-3668.

Associates: Peggy Darragh, Harriet

Davis, Donna Price, Carole Rebeiz, Alice Schrader, Amy Witsman.

Articles and information for the January issue were contributed by Rodger Adams, Mike Andrejasich, Helen Barrymore, Florence Chevalier, Peggy Darragh, Bernie Laumann, Jan Lipska, Mary Lou Menches, Lu Pillar, Carole Rebeiz, Gary Riskowski, and Sophia Zeigler.

Holy Events for January

Jesus is made visible in three January feasts of the Christmas season. Jan. 1, the feast of Mary, Mother of God (a feast formerly called the Circumcision of Jesus), reminds us of Mary's presentation of her son to the Jewish priest. Despite present uncertainty about observing New Year's Day as a feast of Mary, this is an ancient celebration of the Octave Day of Christmas and the oldest feast of Mary in the Church calendar.



On Jan. 6-7 we celebrate Jesus' presentation to the Gentile world at the visit of the magi. On Jan. 8 we celebrate the Baptism of Jesus, traditionally the close of the Christmas season.

Whatever we label them, all our feasts celebrate the incarnation of Jesus, the Son of God. Imagine Mary's surprise and joy at the curious, searching visitors bearing exotic gifts from the East on that first Epiphany. And who is more joyful at a child's baptism than the mother?



In the week between the Octave of Christmas and the Epiphany, we com-

Genie Grady Has Found Her "Mountain"

Most of us have dreamed about another place we would like to live or about the "ideal" job. Genie Grady, Business Operations Assistant at St. Patrick's, is working to make her dream come true. It is one she has nurtured since youth but put on the back burner while marriage, four children, a job, and volunteer work kept her very busy.

Now Genie is turning her creative energy to a long-cherished endeavor: to own and operate her own restaurant. While working at St. Patrick's she began full-time course work in food-service management at Parkland College in Fall 1988.

Juggling both work and school presented no problem for Genie until the final semester, when she is required to work on location at a local restaurant in addition to attending four classes at school. Since this schedule does not allow time for her job at the parish, she has submitted her resignation, effective Jan. 12.

The next step for Genie? Alaska! The only way to make a dream come true is to take that extra step. Why Alaska? "Because it's there," she explains, smiling. "For the same reason that people climb mountains." Genie hopes to work for a restaurant there to gain experience and to develop her own business venture. (She also dreams of a position on a cruise ship in the Pacific Northwest, describing that adventure as "too delightful for words.")



She wants to pinpoint that secret ingredient that makes a restaurant succeed. As the second eldest of eight children, whose mother gave her free reign in the kitchen and relied on her help, she feels she has had a good head start.

Buoyant with enthusiasm and anticipation as she enters this new chapter of her life, Genie will be leaving the parish and the community that has been home to her for most of her life. Her children are now grown and living away from home, so she will pioneer her new career alone.

Central to her philosophy is the belief that she can take anything bad and turn it to good. She's taken to heart the wisdom of Romans 4:28, "All things work together for good to them that love God."

She takes with her many prayers for her success.

memorate two American saints, Elizabeth Ann Seton and John Neumann. Martin Luther King, Jr., was born on Jan. 15; we might well pray for ethnic peace on this civic holiday.

Jan. 19 begins the annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, which ends on Jan. 25, the Conversion of St. Paul. Jan. 26 is the feast of Timothy and Titus, two men commissioned by Paul to carry on his role of leadership in the Church. We are invited to prayer and reconciliation as a people called to be

"one in the Lord" yet divided by human concerns over authority and power. This is a time of prayer for humble acceptance of God's grace and gift of love to all who heed his call, and for a new unity of faith and authority among those who call themselves Christian. (A quick question: Which medieval painter first portrayed Paul being knocked from his horse [by a bolt of lightning?]? Acts 9 clearly states that Paul's companions took him by the hand and led him to Damascus.)

Children Welcome God's Forgiveness

In two groups, one on Dec. 5 and the other on Dec. 12, thirty children from St. Patrick's celebrated the sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time.

The children and their parents had spent the previous four weeks examining the process of reconciling and the places in their lives they were in need of forgiveness. Role playing helped both adults and youngsters prepare for their individual participation in this sacrament.

"Two things about this year's program stand out for me," said Jan Lipska, Children's Program Coordinator. "One was the shared prayer at the end of each class session when parents had rejoined their children, and the other was that brothers and sisters also came on the evening of First Reconciliation to share in this experience with them."

Fr. Ed Adelman joined Fr. George Remm and Fr. Paul Kinder at both services, where he was available to parents, brothers, and sisters for Reconciliation.

It is always moving to witness visible signs of the joy this sacrament can bring. Apprehension in the faces of some youngsters as they waited in line with Mom or Dad to see the priest was



Luke Dorsey and his mother, Sandy Dorsey Marrone, greet Father Remm after the First Reconciliation service, Dec. 12.

in marked contrast to the joyful bounce in their step as they come out of the Reconciliation room.

Many parents, who were to take their children in to the waiting priest, found themselves led by the hand and introduced to the priest by their children--a real reversal that demonstrated the youngsters' level of trust and comfort with this sacrament.

Each service closed with prayers written by the parents for their children. They prayed that their children may know God as trusting, forgiving, and

loving; that the sacrament of Reconciliation may become an important part of their lives; and that they may experience God's peace, joy, and strength in their daily lives.

Afterward, all retired to the parish center for a reception, which was provided by parents of last year's class.

Jan Lipska, who coordinated the program, gave special thanks to Irene Bullard, Colleen Kelly, Diane Musumeci, and Mary Tierney for their dedication, love, and faith in preparing the children for this sacrament. Our own thanks as well to Jan herself and to all who, in both large and small ways, helped to make this event a memorable one for all who shared in it.

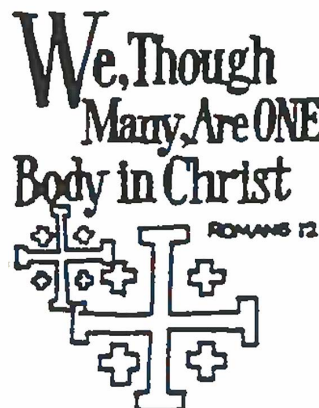
The following children celebrated First Reconciliation:

Melissa Althaus, Ana Batista, Johanna Burke, Kristin Cantrell, Erin Cross, Kendra Gray, Robbi Howard, Kevin Keck, Jason Kimball, Karen Kincaid, Kristin McCartney, Dana Mingee, Billy Nicol, Phuong Nguyen, Megan Pavot, Alisia Sigrist.

Also Ticiania Batista, Michael Campo, Megan Cousert, Pierre Darrigues, Luke Dorsey, Hayley Ellis, Daniel Kingery, Jonah Lawhead, David Leming, Melissa Pierson, Tal Prendergast, Aaron Shreeves, Amanda Wingfield, George Weisiger.

Please welcome new parishioners John Bensko, Jean Buckley, Gregory and Teresa Cler, Phil and Julie Crome, Thomas and Jean Korder, Fredric and Michele Johnson Lease, Dennis and Donna O'Brien, Matthew and Judy Ruckert.

Farewell to the following parishioners, who have moved from C-U: Robert and Rachel Diehl, Hamish and Marion Fraser, Thomas and Jenean Henkelman, Don and Polly Lovasz, Michael and Margaret Shannon, John and Sigrid Wonsil, Xutian and Ku Wu.



We welcome Tristan Brooks Ashlock, newly baptized, into our faith community.

Congratulations to these couples, married at St. Patrick's: George Edward Morris, Sr., and Mary Lillian James; Mark Allen Stadtherr and Joan Frances Brennecke.

Our condolences to the families and friends of Catherine Scheurich and Raymond Kunza, deceased.



150 Thanksgiving Dinners Donated

"So Many People Helped!"

Parishioners responded generously to an invitation from the St. Vincent de Paul Society to sponsor a Thanksgiving meal for a needy family. From a \$250 gift down to \$.50 from a child (thank you, Tim), 130 parishioners responded with checks or cash, keeping the SVDP treasurer busy.

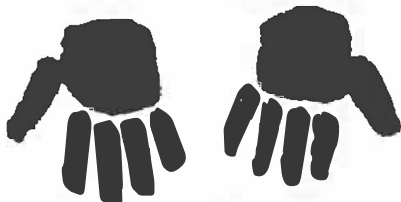
The Society also received donations from the Catholic Daughters of America, the ecumenical Thanksgiving service, the Thanksgiving Day Mass. The total amount received, \$2,368.50, provided the makings of 150 family dinners. (Some parishioners even offered to increase their donations if more was needed to provide holiday fare for the hungry.) "Thank you, one and all," says Sophia Zeigler, speaking for the Society and the hungry families.

But generosity did not stop there. For six weeks the parish office was kept busy taking names for food deliveries. Charles Gerron, Jeannie Donovan, Kay Gingerich, and Gary Laumann supplied names of the very needy.

Volunteer food deliverers included Chuck and Mary Miller, Paul Ziegler, Kay Gingerich and husband, Jim and Connie Keen, Kathy Denight, Carole Rebeiz, Gaye Dunn, Dave Thoman, Jeanne Donovan, and Sue Downes.

David Zola volunteered his class to fill the food bags, two Boy Scout leaders from Holy Cross, Earl Bialeschki and Paul Anderson, volunteered four boys, Tommy Marlowe, Jimmy Layland, Eric Bialeschki, and William Anderson, whose after-dark deliveries helped them earn their community service badges.

The Saturday before Thanksgiving,



*I was hungry and
you gave me something to eat,
I was thirsty and
you gave me something to drink,
I was a stranger and
you invited me in,
I needed clothes and
you clothed me,
I was sick and
you looked after me,
I was in prison and
you came to visit me.*
MATTHEW 25: 35-36



Sophia Zeigler and Paul Ziegler picked up 150 dozen eggs.

On Sunday, after the 7:30 Mass, parishioners helped carry food packages over to the parish hall from the church basement.

On Sunday afternoon, Fr. Remm walked into the kitchen and found Roy Meyer and Bernadette and Paul Hughes baking 1,500 cookies. (He sampled and pronounced them delicious--and came back for more!) Kay Gingerich arrived with 150 dozen fresh-

baked rolls. She and Sophia started to count 150 of this and that, and the tables were covered with canned and boxed food. Kay went to the store to get a few missing items and 150 plastic bags for the cookies.

At 5:30 p.m. David Zola and Cheryl Black came in with their kids to fill the food bags: Cari Anderson, Chris Boaz, James Bryant, Todd Bullard, Amy Cooper, Chad Fincham, Chris Fischer, Amy Haessly, Amy Huersperger, Teresa Howey, Cord Justice, Neil Maloney, Stacey McArthur, Jenny Palmisano, David Paulsen, Kelly Schrepfer, Jeremy Shreeves, Tracy Sonka, Riley Splittstoesser, Chris Weisiger, and Jennifer Wolfersberger helped. (Parents, you can be proud of your children!)

On Monday at 7:30 a.m. Paul Ziegler, Roy Meyer, and Sophia Zeigler met at the store to pick up frozen hens, etc. Paul waited for the delivery truck's arrival while Roy and Sophia, their cars filled with cartons, drove back to the parish center. Paul arrived later with the baking hens.

When volunteers came to pick up the food packages they were to deliver, they added the butter, eggs, and hens to the bags.

As you see, it took a good many parishioners to put food on the tables this past Thanksgiving Day. "We thank each and every one of you!" exclaimed Sophia Zeigler, speaking for the Society; "God bless you!" And "I hope we haven't forgotten anyone who helped!"

Thanks to the St. Vincent de Paul Society, which provides the impetus and the call for love that shares.



Welcome to Our New Catechumens, Accepted Dec. 10!



**Janette Camden (left)
and Tammy Finney**



**Cindy Cyhlkowski (left)
and Denise Arie**



**Patsy Edwards (left)
and Mary Ann See**



**Marion Benfield
and Angie Flannigan**



**Ron Gibson (left)
and Lia McMahon**



**Robert Glazier (left)
and John Bryant**



NORTH AMERICAN COLLEGE

ROME

POSTAL ADDRESS
00120 VATICAN CITY (EUROPE)

December 20, 1989

Dear Friends at St. Pat's:

This may become a tradition. I realized it was exactly one year ago today that I last wrote. That is not a very good record for letter writing. Who knows? What begins as procrastination will perhaps become a tradition. I wonder how many times that has happened in the history of the Church?

It has been a busy Fall here at the College. We are short one staff person so the load of individual sessions with students has increased. In addition, we are in the midst of a College observance of the bicentennial of the American hierarchy. It is comprised of a lecture series and an exhibit, both of which took a good bit of time to get in place. Earlier this month we had our second speaker, Justice Scalia of the Supreme Court. He and his wife are lovely people. His talk was, however, a bit disappointing. I think he was somewhat constrained by the conventions of the court. In January we look forward to a talk by Fr. Gerald Fogarty, a Jesuit Church historian, on the relations between the Vatican and the U.S. hierarchy. Since he is both a good historian and would make a good writer for People magazine, and it is a fairly juicy history, I expect it to be both very informative and very enjoyable.

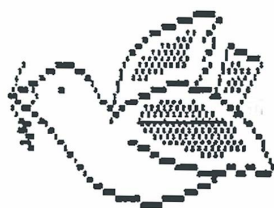
Last week I had the pleasure of a visit from Dr. Susan Nagele and a Maryknoll colleague from Tanzania. It was wonderful to hear more about her work in Tanzania, the work and the struggles of Maryknoll around the world and to reminisce about St. Patrick's. She was headed for Urbana and has probably preceeded this letter and brought my greetings to everyone at the parish. The parish can be justly proud of her.

Another fascinating visitor, not to the College, but to Rome, was Mikhail Gorbachev. It was reminiscent of Kennedy's visit to Rome when I was a student. Gorbachev does seem to have charisma. The Russian embassy where he stayed is not far from the College. We got brief glimpses of him twice as he was driving by. Most remarkable was his visit to the Pope. It seemed as if both sides were pleased with the visit.

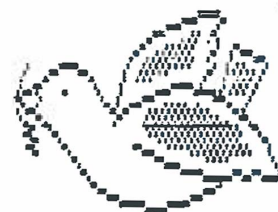
The College will undergo a major transition during this holiday season. The rector for the past five and half years, Msgr. Lawrence Purcell, is returning to his home diocese of San Diego for an assignment. Msgr. Ed O'Brien, who has been the rector of the New York archdiocesan seminary (St. Joseph's, Dunwoodie) will be our new rector. It should be very interesting to see the shift from a California to a New York style of leadership. I am not sure what that means. Next Christmas I may be able to be more specific.

I hope and pray all persons, programs and things continue to flourish at St. Patrick's. It remains my model parish. Again this Christmas you will have a very special place in my heart and my prayer. Have a joyous Christmas, a new year rich in God's grace and peace!

*In Christ's love,
Fr. Doug*



January 1990



SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31 9:00 p - 1:00 a New Year's Eve Dance	1 MARY, MOTHER OF GOD Holyday Mass: 9:00 am OFFICE CLOSED NEW YEAR'S DAY	2 1:30 p CCNH, Rosary/cookies 7:00 p Homily preparation	3 5:45 p Childrens class/U 6:45 p Childrens class/St J 7 p SVDP 7 p GROW 7 p Pro-Life 7 p Choir	4 1:00 p GROW 6:45 p Folk Choir 7:00 p Communi- cations Com mtg	5 10:45 a CCNH, Mass 6:00 p Parish Council Epiphany celebration	6 9:00 a Ad Hoc Development Com. mtg.
7 8-11 a Library 9,11 a Children's classes 9:30 a RCIA 10:15 a Childrens Liturgy 10:30 a Y&R: brk OHO Pancakes	8 10:30 a Birth 7:15 p GROW 7:30 p Liturgy Com. mtg. 7:30 p Education Com. mtg. 7:30 p Birth	9 1:30 p CCNH Rosary/cookies 6 p Migration week potluck 7 p Financial Af- fairs Com. mtg. 7:30 p RENEW Liturgy Com mtg 7:30 p PC Exec Committee mtg.	10 1 p MM Bndg Rolling 5:45 p Childrens class/U 6:45 p Childrens class/St J 7 p RCIA 7 p Choir 7 p SVDP 7 p GROW	11 1:00 p GROW 6:45 p Folk Choir 7:00 p Baptism preparation 7:15 p Bldg and Grnds Com. mtg.	12 10:45 a CCNH, Mass	13 7:00 p Y&R: Board games
14 8 a Hospitality table 9,11 a Children's classes 9:30 a RCIA 10:15 a Childrens Liturgy	15 7:15 p GROW	16 1:30 p CCNH, Rosary/cookies 7:30 p RENEW Facilitator mtg.	17 5:45 p Childrens class/U 6:45 p Childrens class/St J 7 p RCIA 7 p Choir 7 p SVDP 7 p GROW	18 1:00 p GROW 6:45 p Folk choir 7:30 p Parish Council mtg. 7:30 p Social Action Com mtg	19 10:30 a Urbana NH, Mass 10:45 a CCNH, Mass 7:30 p Y&R: Illini Ice Hockey	20 9:30 a RENEW parish team mtg
21 8-11 a Library open 9,11 a Children's classes 9:30 a RCIA 10:15 a Childrens Liturgy 4 p Y&R mtg.	22 10:30 a Birth 7:15 p GROW 7:30 p Pro-life Vigil 7:30 p Birth	23 1:30 p CCNH, Rosary/cookies 7:00 p Homily preparation	24 1 p MM Bndg Rolling 5:45 p Children's class/U 6:45 p Children's class/St J 7 p RCIA 7 p Choir 7 p SVDP 7 p GROW	25 1:00 p GROW 6:45 p Folk Choir 7:30 p Knights of Columbus	26 10:30 a Amer/U, Mass 10:45 a CCNH, Mass 6:30 p Knights of Columbus, Men's Night	27 RENEW Sign-Up Weekend, Season II 4:00 p Y&R: Volleyball
28 RENEW Sign-Up Weekend, Season II 9:30 a RCIA	29 7:15 p GROW	30 1:30 p CCNH, Rosary/cookies 6:30 p Education Com. Apprecia- tion Dinner	31 7:00 p RCIA 7:00 p SVDP 7:00 p GROW 7:30 p Liturgical Min., reflection	Amer/C: Americana, Champaign Amer/U: Americana, Urbana CCNH: Champaign County Nursing Home MM: Medical Missions SVDP: St. Vincent de Paul KC: Knights of Columbus Y & R: The Young and the Restless		

ST. PATRICK'S PARISH, URBANA