ST PATRICK'S PARISH

In Focus

Confirmation Signals Christian Growth for 24

"Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit!"

With these words Bishop John J. Myers confirmed 16 high school juniors and seniors and 8 adults on May 12, a stormy Saturday evening whose sound effects served to underscore the special significance of the ceremony.

Prior to receiving the sacrament of Confirmation, Youth Group members had been growing in faith and understanding through participation in St. Patrick's high-school program, which provides a balance of catechesis, social and service activities, and opportunities for spiritual growth.

Confirmation candidates underwent a six-week proximate preparation for Confirmation, guided by teachers Mark Gerhart, Emily Peters, and Susan Zola. During this period both parents and sponsors shared with candidates the ways in which they themselves celebrate their love for the parish.

On May 12 Bishop Myers met with the candidates for a half-hour of examining, questioning, and teaching before braving the thunderstorm to join the procession forming inside the church.

Fr. George Remm and Fr. Paul Kinder concelebrated Mass with the bishop and visiting clergy, assisted by Deacon Rodger Adams. (Servers, it is said, dealt skillfully with the bishop's mitre and crozier, with incense entrusted to the youngest.)

Continued next page

"Honor Thy Father . . . "

Everyone likes to be appreciated.

This year we set aside June 17 as Fathers Day, a special day to show our fathers how much we appreciate them.

Much of what our fathers do or have done for us may not easily be noticed. Fathers who go off to work may be engaged in a kind of work that is hard to explain to their children. At home they may be up to their elbows in axel grease trying to repair the family car, running the lawn mower or painting the fence, trying to fix the leaking kitchen faucet, or puzzling over some of their children's homework.

Many of us will honor our fathers by a card, a gift, or a telephone call. A heartfelt thank you for all their sacrifices may be the most welcomed gift of all. We might also use this opportunity to thank God for this special person in our lives.

For fathers it is also a good time to reflect on the role of father. When one considers the strong influence that fathers have on their children throughout their lives, it becomes evident that this is an awesome responsibility.

A father is closely watched by his children. They notice what their father laughs about, what he considers important, how he reacts to events, how he treats other people. Children carefully ponder these reactions and use them to determine how they themselves should behave.

Scripture tells fathers to "train your children in the way they should go, and when they are old they will not depart from it." Children grow fast and the time for training them is short, so that time must be used well.

Christian fathers have the additional responsibility of leading their families in following our heavenly Father. The best example for that role is Jesus' earthly father, Joseph. We know little about Joseph other than that he was a just man and that he diligently followed God's will, but this is really all we need to know.

Continued next page

Lord, give us your Spirit.

The Spirit cries out in us: Abba, Father.

He intercedes for us with unspeakable groanings.

He is the anointing, the seal and surety of eternal life.

He is the fount of eternal water

which has its source in the heart

and rises up to eternal life, whispering:

Come! Come home to the Father!

Karl Rahner

Confirmation, continued

Scarlet vestments, full-voiced singing led by the choir, and a trumpet accompaniment by Thomas Tait combined to convey something of the fire and energy of the Holy Spirit.

Praying that candidates receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit, the gifts of wisdom, understanding, knowledge, counsel, piety, fortitude, and fear of the Lord, Bishop Myers anointed each candidate, accompanied by personal and parish sponsors.

Parents read the Prayers of the Faithful they had written for the occasion and sang a closing Song of Blessing for the newly confirmed.

After Mass, freshmen and sophomores hosted a reception in the parish center for the newly confirmed and their parents, sponsors, and friends.

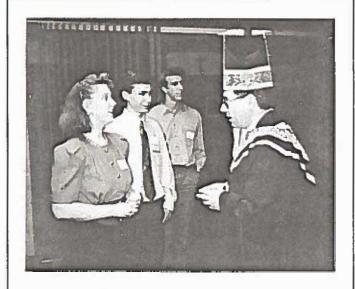
Congratulations to the following confirmed:

High-schoolers: Alison Abell, Emily Black, Charlotte Everette, Caryn Guzy, Patricia Haessly, Trinita Kennedy, Aaron Lancaster, Mitch Langendorf, Jennifer Mabry, Amy Miller, Michael Morfey, Carrie Risatti, Michael Spangler, Lisa Subick, Matthew Wolfersberger, Robert Thomas.

Adults: Esperanza
Barcelona, Christopher Collenberger,
Judith Conover,
Carlos Diaz, Tammara Drook, Christopher Roemmele,
Ardsley Yanchus,
Harold Yanchus.

The following members of St.
Patrick's parish community served as parish sponsors for

the confirmed: Barbara and Rodger Adams, Anne and Nick Britsky, Mary Fonner, Helene and Tom Kacich, Heather McMullen, Harry and Theresa Ruedi.



After the service, Bishop John J. Myers congratulated several of the young people he had just confirmed. Shown here with Bishop Myers are (from the left) Lisa Subick, Matt Wolfersberger, Robert Thomas.

Fathers, continued

Joseph abandoned everything important to him, his homeland and his work, to take his family to safety first in Egypt, then to Nazareth. He even suffered the agony of searching for his lost son when Jesus stayed at the temple after a pilgrimage. It was God's will that Joseph work to provide for the needs of Jesus and Mary, and Joseph did this obediently and diligently.

Fathers are also called to provide for their loved ones and to set an example by obeying God's will, even when doing so goes counter to their own desires.

On Fathers Day fathers might well reflect on all the gifts they have received from their families. A father's life might be dull indeed were it not for the lively distractions his children provide! Children, and grandchildren, also provide the perfect excuse (if one is needed) for a father to play.

Fathers, on this special day let your families see how much you appreciate them, and remember to thank our heavenly Father for the joys they bring you!

Parishioner Completes Navy ROTC at U of I

In 1919, ROTC (Reserve Officers Training Corps) began operation at the University of Illinois, with all ablebodied males required to take at least basic military training. Today there is no such requirement and we hear little about ROTC, although uniformed personnel abound on the U of I campus.

Parishioner Robert B. Brown, son of Rose and Thomas Brown, has recently completed his Naval ROTC here. This spring he was graduated from the University of Illinois with a B.S. in mathematics and computer science, and on May 14 he was commissioned an ensign in the U.S. Navy.

After four months of additional military schooling at Newport, R.I., Robert expects to be stationed in Charleston, S.C., serving as Damage Control Assistant on a destroyer.

"I want to thank members of my parish for always being supportive

and understanding when my Navy ROTC study and training kept me from coming to St. Patrick's," Robert wrote. "Although I leave St. Patrick's behind, I will always cherish the faith this parish has fostered in me."

OU yourselves shall be named priests of the LORD.



Prayer for Vocations

Lord of the harvest, your Word finds a home in our hearts, calls us into community, and invites us to generous service of the human family.

Bless with courage and spirit your priestly people, called to full participation in the one Body of Christ.

May many choose to respond in public service to your call offered in Jesus' name.

Joseph L. Cardinal Bernardin Archbishop of Chicago

Five from St. Patrick's Complete Two-Year Leadership Program

Even to the casual observer, the proliferation of lay participation in Catholic parishes across the country is quite obvious. At St. Patrick's, parishioners offer their time and skills in our religious education programs, in ministry to the sick and elderly, as lectors, eucharistic ministers, or musicians at Mass, and in service on the Parish Council and its standing committees.

Did you know that the Diocese of Peoria provides a training program to develop lay leadership potential for parishes? This two-year training program is called the Lay Ministry Leadership Program (LMLP).

The first (core) year of LMLP is designed to deepen the participant's spiritual life, to develop theological, scriptural, and liturgical foundations for ministry, and to foster and nurture communication skills needed for effective ministry.

The second year is one of specialized training in a chosen area: Family Life, Religious Education, Social Justice, Liturgy, or Evangelization. Training for each area of specialization is provided by the corresponding diocesan office.

In 1988-89, participants (including 16 from our parish) from the Champaign-Urbana-Danville area met at St. Patrick's for core-year sessions. Presenters from throughout the diocese provided input on these topics: Lay Ministry, Church, Scripture, Liturgy, Doctrine, Morality, and Justice.

Between these day-long monthly sessions participants gathered in small discuss and integrate the material into their daily lives and their ministry. And in the spring, rather intentionally coinciding with Lent, LMLP participants from the entire diocese gathered for a retreat.

In 1989-90, five St. Patrick's parishioners returned for the second year of the program, with Family Life and Religious Education as their chosen areas of specialization.

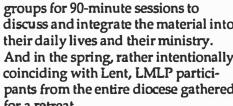
On May 19 these five parishioners, joined by a former member of the parish, took part in a Recognition Ceremony in Peoria marking the close of the third "class" or "cycle" in the Lay Ministry Leadership Program.

Ellen Noonan chose specialization in Family Life, a program designed to develop spirituality within the family circle, relate family life to Church and society, and minister to the problems and needs of parish families.

Chris and Denise Friedhof, Mary Long, and Christine Pierson chose specialization in Religious Education (The Catechist as Minister). The program placed emphasis on the process of teaching, designing creative learning experiences, and understanding the impact of culture on faith development.

Former parishioner Marianne Burkhard, OSB, completed specialization in Religious Education (Administrative Coordinator of Religious Education). Sr. Marianne has served for the past academic year in Spring Valley, Illinois, associated with the Benedictine Religious Education Center.

> Congratulations, graduates! We thank. you for those hours of study, discussion, reflection, and integration. We look forward to the blossoming of your newly developed and honed skills in the Church, here at St. Patrick's and in the Diocese of Peoria. We salute you!



The Church's **Greatest Need**

The Church needs her perennial Pentecost. She needs fire in her heart, words on her lips, prophecy in her outlook. She needs to be the temple of the Holy Spirit.

In the empty silence of the modern the Church needs to feel rising from the depths of her inmost personality a weeping, a poem, a prayer, a hymnthe praying voice of the Spirit, who prays in us and for us "with sighs too deep for words."

She needs to listen in silence and in an attitude of total availability to the voice of the Spirit who teaches "every truth."

The Church needs to feel flowing through all her human faculties a wave of love, that love which is called forth and poured into our hearts "by the Holy Spirit who has been given to us."

This is what the Church needs; she needs the Holy Spirit! The Holy Spirit in us, in each of us, and in all of us together, in us who are the Church.

So let all of us ever say to the Spirit, "Come."

Pope Paul VI



Among those who participated in the LMLP Recognition Ceremony on May 19 were (from the left) Ellen Noonan, Chris Pierson, and Mary Long. Not pictured: Chris and Denise Freidhof and Sr. Marianne Burkhard, OSB.



Focus on ... In Focus!

Frank Nasca, one of the first members of the Communications Committee, succeeded Ruth Bowman as chair when cancer limited her involvement. He recalls for us those early days of the committee and the "birthing" of In Focus.

In Focus was the idea of the late Ruth Bowman, Helen Barrymore, Karen Suever Kimmey, Mary Lou Menches, Carolyn McElrath, and I. We came together to continue and expand on the work begun by Helen Barrymore, who had single-handedly collected information for and written a monthly newsletter about parish events and parishioners.

We initially planned to follow the newspaper format of the untitled parish publications produced by Pat Fonner Mayer and Karen Suever Kimmey. From various suggestions and sketches submitted to the parish, parishioners themselves selected the name for our publication, and In Focus came to be.

With more motivation than experience, our indomitable band of erstwhile journalists set out to produce four newspapers per year. And with minimal equipment and long hours of layout, four editions were indeed published and mailed to registered parishioners.

Responding to a call for all parish groups to cut expenditures, the committee reduced the size of In Focus to fit into the bulletin, thereby eliminating the expense of mailing, articles were typed instead of typeset, and issues were photocopied instead of printed.

In December 1987 In Focus entered the computer age, becoming a product of desktop publishing. It is typed and paged on a personal computer and printed out in its three-column format on a laser printer.

The primary goal of the Communications Committee and of In Focus. however, has remained unchanged from those earliest days: to communicate with parishioners about St. Patrick's parish and its people.

This narrative of the development and evolution of *In Focus* is only part of the story. In Focus will always bring back fond recollections of the first staff.

Ruth Bowman, coordinator of volunteers at St. Patrick's and founding chair of the committee, was one in a million. It was largely through her efforts that the committee came together, largely her vision that brought about the significant change in the committee's name-and focusfrom Publicity to Communications. I am sure that from her vantage point she is still guiding her friends and colleagues. She is sorely missed.

Ever the perfectionist, Helen Barrymore served to help us keep sight of our goal of communicating with the parish community in a meaningful fashion and would not settle for anything less than our best.

Karen Suever Kimmey served as our conduit from the religious education staff. Her patient volunteering of insights and schedules helped us produce In Focus in a timely fashion.

Mary Lou Menches, by profession kept us on task. Her talent and skills yielded many incisive, well-focused, easily readable, and informative pieces for In Focus. Mary Lou is the member of the original group who has persevered in her commitment to this

publication.

Carolyn McElrath, at the time employed at the university, wrote many of the articles on liturgy and directions in Catholic thought and theology. Her skill in synthesizing the complicated into understandable text causes her to stand out in my memory.

The Communications Committee was sometimes called on to assist in other matters. One such project was to research, negotiate, and arrange for production of St. Patrick's weekly bulletin by one of the agencies offering this service. For several years now Diocesan Publications has produced, at no cost to the parish, the weekly bulletin that was formerly typed by the parish secretary and "printed" at a local copy shop.

Another such project was the parish copier, an invaluable tool today for staff and volunteers. It was only a few short years ago that every copy of every document for staff or volunteer group was made at a local copy shop, with valuable staff time used for delivery and pickup. The Communications Committee carefully researched, time and again, the advantages offered by an astonishing variety of copiers and listed the pros and cons of having one on the premises, until at last the parish acquired one.

As I think back upon this group, a picture immediately comes into focus -a picture of ordinary yet special people who did much for one another and for our parish. They served as mentors and as caring critics for one another while accomplishing their self-appointed tasks, sometimes under considerable stress. In Focus has changed and the volunteer staff has changed, but the goal of improving communication in our parish community remains.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful. And kindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And you will renew the face of the

Did You Know . . . ? RENEW (Not So Trivial) Trivia

Did you know that

...the 12 RENEW Take Home pamphlets, distributed after each Sunday Mass, were entirely written and produced by St. Patrick's own parishioners?

...you can get back issues of the Take Home pamphlets by calling Helene Kacich at 344-6760?

...eucharistic ministers took the Take Home pamphlets to local nursing home residents and to shut-ins as they made their rounds?

..."computer whiz" Peggy Soeldner produced the RENEW cards that were in the pews, the RENEW prayer cards, and the RENEW inserts in the bulletin?

...Ken Kunkel and the Prayer Network Committee wrote the St. Patrick's RENEW prayer?

...Beth McDonald and Cathy Howey made the RENEW banners and vestments?

...St. Patrick's Music Director, John Pescitelli, selected both of the RENEW songs?

...Pat and Paul Doebel, along with their son Jim, selected the two RE-NEW trees (located between the church and the parish center) and removed the dead tree that the larger RENEW tree replaces?

...46 parishioners traveled by bus to Bloomington on Apr. 1 to see the Original American Passion Play? ...Pat Doebel went to the Passion Play despite breaking her pelvic bone that

very morning?

...Tom Kacich designed and made the RENEW sign gracing the east front lawn of the church?

...nearly 1500 RENEW buttons were distributed?

...55 parishioners participated in a half-day of Recollection on the theme "A Journey through the Desert" and were given cactus plants as a reminder of their own journeys?

...Jim Mayer and Denise Friedhof presented the first RENEW Sign-Up Sunday invitation, "God Calls Us," followed in January by Bill and Jane McClellan's, "Our Response to God's Call"? ...the Sunday Prayers of the Faithful were written by members of the RENEW Liturgy Committee?
...congregations that participated in the ecumenical Thanksgiving service, a RENEW Large Group activity organized by Margaret Nadworny, have requested that an ecumenical service be held again this year?
...one RENEW small group finished the second season with a complete turkey dinner and another with a Seder Supper?

...the first RENEW theme, "God Loves Us," was highlighted by Fr. George Remm's exquisite invitation "Won't You Be My Neighbor?" rendered in a fine imitation of television's Mister Rogers?

...322 people participated in the 28 RENEW small groups that met weekly, that 207 were female and 115 were male?

...RENEW will be back for its third season in the fall?

Y'all Come and Be Appreciated!

All parishioners are invited to a RENEW appreciation night on Tuesday, June 19, from 7:30 p.m. to about 9 p.m. at the parish center.

Skip your dessert after dinner that night—there'll be ice cream for everyone!

The second of five RENEW seasons at St. Patrick's has been completed, and it's time to thank all of those who participated in the various committees and groups.

Babysitting will be provided. Please call the parish office (367-2665) to say how many children you will be bringing, and their ages.

Also please let the parish secretary know how many adults will be coming so there's sure to be plenty of ice cream for everyone!

Archives Committee Preserves Parish History

St. Patrick's Archives Committee was organized late in 1989. Members meet regularly to look over and classify materials relating to the history of our parish, from 1901 to the present time.

To inform parishioners about the project and to enlist their help, the group seeks to publicize the need for information and materials whose value lies in their applicability in preserving the history of St. Patrick's.

Archives committee member Florence Chevalier has a special interest in weekly bulletins. Her collection, complete from 1981 to the present, has many gaps for the years 1968-80. If you have any back issues for these years, please call Florence (367-5548).

Knights Hold Second Annual Golf Classic

All adults of St.
Patrick's parish are invited to the second annual Urbana
Knights of Columbus
Open.



The KC Open will begin at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 23, at Mattis Park (Devonshire Dr., Champaign) with hamburgers, cheeseburgers, bratwurst, salad, and cold drinks.

At 7:00 p.m. be ready to move to the nearby Par 3 Golf Course for nine holes of golf—maybe the worst you'll ever see, but at least it'll be on a full stomach!

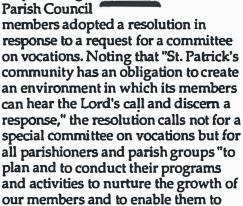
This golf classic will have prizes totaling an astonishing \$10.85! Prizes will be awarded for best drive, worst drive, lowest score, highest score--and to the person who cheats the least.

The price, \$6 per person, includes everything. You are invited to join the KCs for a "knight" of laughs. Make your reservations with any KC member, or call Tom Kacich (344-6760).

Parish Council News

At their
May meeting
Parish Counci

midst."



Looking for more feedback to add to the 30 or so responses to the Social Activities Survey, the Council will place surveys in the church vestibule over a period of several weeks.

attend to the presence of Christ in our

The Education Committee accepted the space utilization proposal and presented a plan for upgrading furnishings and materials (tables, tape decks, curtains, area carpets, etc.) over 3 years. Council members tabled until June a motion to draw \$2500 from this fiscal year's expected surplus to bring rooms up to par for fall classes.

With "old business" concluded, outgoing Council members Joe DiPietro and Tom Kacich were warmly thanked for their service to the parish during their 3 years on the Council. Both remarked on the speed with which those years had passed, how much they had learned about the nuts and bolts of parish operations, and the tough issues the Council—and the parish—faced in that time.

The nominating committee proposed its slate of candidates for Council office, which was adopted by acclamation: Barb Wysocki, president; Arden Howey, vice-president; Angie Prendergast, secretary. Judy Conover will continue to serve as recording secretary, a position that carries no membership privileges but is of considerable aid to the Council.

Parishioners' generous responses to the diocesan Annual Stewardship Appeal had, by the date of the Council meeting, reached \$61,800 (only about \$3200 short of our parish goal). Pledges and donations, received from 441 of approximately 1050 parish families, ranged from \$2 to \$5000.

The next Council meeting will be held on Thursday, June 21. All parishioners are welcome at these open meetings.

What to Do to Have a Good Time?

Response to the Social Committee survey on the parish's social wants, and parishioners' willingness to help provide them, was both good and bad.

The good news is the enthusiasm demonstrated by those who did fill out the one-page form. Many indicated that they'd participate in or help organize several events.

The bad news is that only a tiny percentage of St. Patrick's parishioners returned the survey.

But the rest of you aren't getting off that easily! The Social Committee sponsors are going to be persistent. You'll continue to find the Social Committee surveys in the church vestibule. And we pray, beg, plead, implore, beseech, entreat you to fill one of them out and drop it in the mail or leave it at the parish office.

The committee needs to get a good reading from you on the activities you'd like to see undertaken: Seder meals, camping trips, teen dances, Mardi Gras, Christmas caroling, parish picnic, Easter egg hunt, Hallowe'en parties—and anything else that sounds like a good reason to get together or a good way to get to know one another better.

If you have questions or suggestions, call Angie Prendergast or drop her a note in the parish message center in the lobby just across from the parish office.

Come, Spirit of God

Come down upon us, Spirit of God, spirit of wisdom and peace and joy; come as a great wind blowing; sweep our minds with a storm of light. Be in us as bright fire burning; forge our wills to shining swords in the flame. Purify our hearts in the crucible of the fire of love. Change our tepid nature into the warm humanity of Christ, as he changed water into wine. Be in us a stream of life, as wine in the living vine.

Caryll Houselander



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

Articles and information for the June issue were contributed by Helen Barrymore, Robert Brown, Helene Kacich, Tom Kacich, Mary Lou Menches, Frank Nasca, Bridget Peters, Carole Rebeiz, Gary Riskowski, Peggy Whelan. [Carole Rebeiz writes regularly for In Focusour apology for failing to acknowledge her contributions to the April and May issues. --Ed.]



June 1990



| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|--|---|--|---|--|---|-----|
| Amer/C: Americana, Champaign Amer/U: Americana, Urbana CCNH: Champaign County Nursing Home KC: Knights of Columbus MM: Medical Missions SVDP: St. Vincent de Paul TNT: Twenties 'n' Thirties | | | | | 10:45a CCNH, Mass 7-10p Pre-Cana | 2 |
| 3 2-5p Pre-Cana 10a TNT-Original Pancake House 8kist. | 7p Education Com 7:15p GROW 7:30p Liturgy Com | 5 | 6:30-9p Carle Health-Fast 7p SVDP | p GROW ty Church Today Discussion Gry DIOCESAN SUMMER INST- PEORIA | 8 10:30a CLV, Mass 10:45a CCNH, Mass DIOCESAN SUMMER INST- PEORIA | 3 |
| 8a Hospitality Table 4p TNT - VCR Night & Strawberry Festival | 11 10:30a Freedom 7:15p GROW | 1:30p Rosary, CCNH 7p Pro-Life 7p Financial Affairs Comm 7:30p Parish Council Exec | 13 Ip MM Bandage Rolling 7p SVDP 7:15p Building & Grounds Com | 14 ip GROW 7p Baptism Prep | 15 10:30a Urbana NH, Mass 10:45a CCNH, Mass | 16 |
| 17 4p Holy Hour & Benediction for Corpus Christi | 18 10:30a Freedom 7:15p GROW | 130p Rosary, CCNH 7:30p RENEW Appreciation | 20 7p SVDP 7:30p Social Action Com | 21 ip GROW 7:30p Parish Council Mtg | 22 10:30a Amer/U, Mass 10:45a CCNH, Mass | 23 |
| 24 4p TNT - Potluck Picnic | 25 10:30a Freedom 7:15p GROW | 26 1:30p Rosarg, CCNH 7p Homily Prep | 27 9:30a Archives 1p MM Bandage Rolling 7p SVOP | 28 ip GROW 7:30p K of C | 29 10:30a Amer/C, Mass 10:45a CCNH, Mass | 30 |