

ST PATRICK'S PARISH

In Focus



Good-by, John, and good luck!

John Pescitelli's first love is opera: his eyes light up when he talks about opera, and he has performed in opera at Krannert with great zest and a fine, full baritone voice. When he was accepted into the opera program, with a tuition waiver, at Temple University in Philadelphia, how could he refuse?

John will be leaving St. Patrick's at the end of July to pursue a second M.A. degree, this one in Opera Performance. Temple University has a highly professional and challenging program, considered by connoisseurs to be just one step below professional opera. Since the major opera companies in the U.S. hold their auditions in New York City, less than two hours from Philadelphia, John will have new opportunities as well as new challenges.

The support and encouragement John has received at St. Patrick's has given him the opportunity to grow,



bolstered his self-confidence, and prepared him for this step. It gives John pleasure to hear our congregation singing loud and strong and with faith, a sure sign of community-building through song.



About a year ago John developed a Funeral Schola, whose volunteer members can be available for weekday mid-morning Mass. The Schola has made a big difference in the quality of music in our parish funeral liturgies and gives evidence of the parish's support for those in need. "It's the most surprising thing that worked," according to John.

John has thoroughly enjoyed working with all three choirs. He thinks the congregation probably underestimates the time that choir members spend each week at practice and at Mass.

A parting thought from John: "The gift of song is paramount to good worship." We wish him all the best as he goes out to share his own gift of song with a wider audience.

"Is there anyone sick among you?"

One of the most significant ways Jesus revealed to us the love of God for all of us humans was his warm and caring treatment of the sick. The Gospels relate many instances in which Jesus gave new strength and health to sick persons of almost every category. He also tried to correct the common opinion of the time that illness is a punishment for sin, and to comfort persons who suffered not only illness but the scorn of others who accepted this unfortunate belief.

The Anointing of the Sick, formerly referred to as "Extreme Unction," is one of the seven sacraments of the Church, the channels of grace in which Christ's redemptive love meets human needs at important turning points in life. It is an outward sign in which human good will is invited to receive God's strength and assistance to meet a special need.

The letter of James answers the question "Is there anyone sick among you?" by continuing: "He should ask for the presbyters of the church. They in turn are to pray over him, anointing him with oil in the Name of the Lord. This prayer uttered in faith will reclaim the one who is ill, and the Lord will restore him to health. If he has committed



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any sins, forgiveness will be his."

The sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick has experienced a checkered history. In early centuries, it was considered a sacrament of healing. In late medieval times it came to be thought of as a sacrament for the very ill or the dying. The Council of Trent, in the mid-sixteenth century, lessened that concept and dwelt upon the more positive aspects of the sacrament. The Second Vatican Council continued to clarify the healing power of the sacrament for both body (hopefully) and soul and gave it its present name.

This sacrament is a sacrament of faith: the faith of the Church which looks back to the death and resurrection of Jesus and looks ahead to the future kingdom pledged in the sacraments. It provides the grace of the Holy Spirit, heightens trust in God, strengthens us against temptation and anxiety, and may even restore physical health.

The priest anoints the sick person's forehead while praying: "Through this holy anointing may the Lord, in his love and mercy, help you with the grace of the Holy Spirit." The person responds, "Amen." Then he anoints the palms of the person's hands, praying: "May the Lord, who frees you from sin, save you and raise you up." Again the response: "Amen."

There are additional concluding prayers, which vary with the circumstances. One of the more beautiful ones: "Father in heaven, through this holy anointing grant [name] comfort in his/her suffering. When he/she is afraid, give him/her courage, when afflicted, give him/her patience, when dejected, afford him/her hope, and when alone, assure him/her of the support of your holy people."



A Graduating Senior Reflects on Religious Education at St. Patrick's

By Lisa Subick

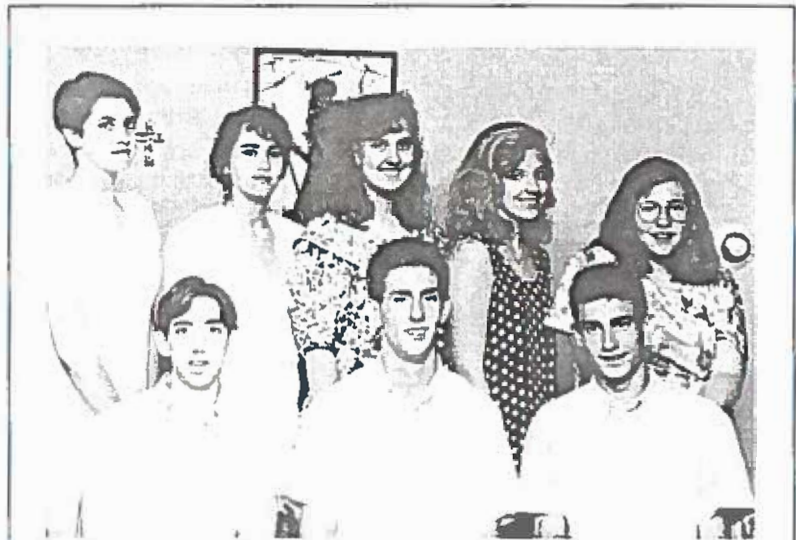
Looking at us, the 1991 graduating seniors from St. Patrick's, you see a group of young men and women who don't seem to have much in common. We have different groups of friends, different interests, and different goals in life. But for an hour and a half each week, we came together as a "family."

We shared laughs, secrets, tears, anger, sorrow, and pain, whether we talked to each other outside of class or not. We've had some of the best and worst times of our lives at the youth group classes. From the Peoria Youth Rallies to the Halloween parties to the ever-popular lock-ins, we learned and grew with each other.

If you asked anyone in the group whether they enjoyed going to class, they would say, "Yeah, it's pretty fun, and there's free food!" But in addition to the free food, there were the teachers. All the teachers we encountered over the

years were extremely caring people. They took the time to make us feel like we belonged to a group. We were not just students being taught about the Church; we were active members of a group discussion that addressed our personal feelings as well as Church teachings.

I feel that through the St. Patrick's religious education program I learned not only about the Church's beliefs and traditions but about myself and how I fit into the Catholic religion. I'm sure that all the seniors feel the same as I do and would like to extend a thank you to all of the people who contributed their time, effort, and love to us over the years. Farewell, and God bless you all!



St. Patrick's graduating seniors attended a breakfast following 9:00 a.m. Mass on June 2. From the left, front: Aaron Lancaster, Mitch Langendorf, Matt Wolfersberger; rear: Bridget O'Connor, Patricia Haessly, Lisa Subick, Carrie Risatti, Charlotte Everette. Not pictured: Alison Abell, Jennifer Mabry.

Priests Hold Open House

St. Patrick's parishioners welcomed Fr. Dwight Campbell and toured the new priests' residence on an eventful day, June 9.

Several parishioners contributed to the day's success. Barbara Peckham, Cecelia Weir, and Ruth Mytty helped redecorate the priests' residence. Members of the Knights of Columbus and the Building and Grounds Committee also contributed to the remodeling effort, as did many other parishioners.

On June 9, Mary Sleeter coordinated the reception for Fr. Campbell at the parish center, Mort Weir produced the video of the priests' residence, and Nancy Steerman hosted the bus ride (financed by St. Patrick's Guild) from the parish center to the house, where Fr. Remm greeted visitors at the door. Barb Peckham, Sr. Charlene Cesario, Pat Doebel, Barb Wysocki, Carol Bosley, and Joan Gerhart escorted visitors through the residence, from top to bottom.

The house, at 205 W. California, Urbana, is just down the street from Leal School. Although about 70 years old, the house is in excellent condition. It was completely remodeled two years ago after a small fire.

The previous owner replaced all of the wiring, the windows, woodwork, floor coverings, drapes, kitchen, and bath. The house also has a new roof, furnace, and air conditioning, and a 2 1/2 car garage (just in case one of the priests acquires half of a car).

Most of the furnishings are "used," but all are in beautiful condition. They were purchased, mainly by Barb Peckham, in Chicago, Danville, Peoria, Springfield, Champaign-Urbana, Nashville, Franklin (Tenn.), and Paducah (Ky.).



Welcome home, Fr. Campbell!

Parish money, together with donations from individuals and parish groups, was used to furnish the home. And, of course, parishioners can still contribute to the residence fund.



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 mid-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: Tom McDonough, 367-3171; 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: Harriet Davis, Amy Fahey, Donna Price, Carole Rebeiz.

Articles and information for this issue were contributed by Florence Chevalier, Tom Kacich, Fr. Paul Kinder, Loretta LaFave, Mary Lou Menches, Carole Rebeiz, Nancy Steerman, Lisa Subick.

St. Patrick's Guild Installs New Officers

"When I reminisce about the past year," said Nancy Steerman, "I see it as a very busy and fruitful time. We've had time for fun together, we've prayed together and worked very hard together. We've learned from each other and celebrated together.

"And now," added the outgoing Guild president, "it's time for change. New officers have been elected, and it's time for them to be installed."

St. Patrick's Guild will hold a luncheon in the parish center on Monday, July 15, at 1:00 p.m. Meat and beverages will be provided; members (excepting the new officers) are asked to bring a salad or dessert to share. "Everyone welcome!" said Nancy.

The luncheon will be followed by a wrap-up meeting and installation of new officers: Virginia Alane, president; Bernie Fitzgerald, vice-president; Mary Ann Luedtke, secretary; Toni Zwettler, treasurer.



In Focus will not be published next month.

Deadline for submission of information, articles, and news items for the September issue of In Focus: August 11.

"Take this cup and drink from it"

For the first six centuries of Christian eucharistic life communion in both kinds, the eucharistic bread and the cup, was considered both normal and desirable.

Sharing in the cup in these earliest Christian generations was a simple, direct, and natural response to the directive "take and drink." Typically, the deacon ministering the cup handed it to the standing communicant, who drank directly from it and returned it to the deacon. The deacon handed it to the next communicant, and so on.

During this early period there were some dissenters to the Church's communion practice. But the dissenters were not objecting to communion from the cup. What they desired was to change the contents of the cup. Some made the case for water; others preferred milk. The Church insisted on wine.

Why? A too simple explanation is that the eucharist of the Lord's supper was celebrated with wine. That explanation begs the question. Wine—not water nor milk—was on the table when Jesus and his disciples gathered on the night before he died because of what wine signified humanly and religiously.

In every century, in every culture, wine has signified solemnity, celebration, the marking of a special occasion even for those who are regularly at table together as family or friends. Wine is also a bond among pilgrims and strangers seeking to become community even for a short time.

In the ordinary celebrations of Jesus' day wine was also a religious symbol, an expression of faith and hope in God. A special ritual drinking from the cup at a gathering of believers was the focus of intense remembering. With the cup the people proclaimed their past and present and future in God, as this had been revealed to them by

the great prophets and teachers of Israel.

Jesus, too, gave his disciples the cup to drink as the way of remembering the past, present, and future in him. Then he told them, "Do this for remembering until I come."

Gradually abandoned over a span of many centuries as one result of an overwhelming sense of human sinfulness, the eucharistic cup was restored to the laity in a single sentence by Vatican II. Both the human and religious meanings of the cup known to Jesus and learned from him remain cogent for us today.

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Parish Council News

At their June meeting Parish



Council members welcomed Fr. Campbell as an honorary member.

Fr. Remm observed that St. Patrick's is about \$6300 short of our parish goal of \$68,000 for this year's diocesan Annual Stewardship Appeal, with 472 pledges received and actual payments of \$28,574 already made.

Council members received their liaison appointments for the coming year: Dave Murrell, Building and Grounds; Tom McDonough, Communications; Chuck Shaw, Education; Harry Ruedi, Financial Affairs; Mary Lydon, Liturgy; Jeff Nelson, Social; Gabriella Roussos, Social Action; Angie Prendergast, Personnel.

Social Committee? Yes, Jeff Nelson, liaison to the committee, has plans for "reincorporating" it.

With enthusiasm and verve. He'll be happy to hear from anyone interested in sharing this adventure, you can be sure!

The Post-RENEW group has planned an open parish meeting on June 26 for parishioners to share their ideas on what shape and form our parish renewal might take following "completion" of the RENEW process next fall. (By the time you read this notice, of course, the meeting will be history. But if you missed this opportunity to share your own ideas, chair Mary Ann Luedtke will be pleased to hear from you.)

The Parish Council retreat, Aug. 16-17, will include sessions focusing on the parish mission statement with the guidance of Sr. Agnes Cunningham, SSCM.

The ad hoc Committee on Volunteers, co-chaired by Cecelia Weir and Barb Wysocki, announced plans to meet next September with a view to submitting their first report to Council in December.

Members allocated an additional \$2000 for completion of furnishing and refurbishing of the priests' residence. They also approved allocations of year-end surplus income, half to defray the parish debt and half distributed to funds established last year: automobile, heating and air conditioning, office equipment, organ repair, roof repair.

Following recent precedent, members agreed to tithes the surplus, with 10% given to Dr. Susan Nagele to support her new mission work. (Susan expects to return briefly to St. Patrick's this summer and has accepted Fr. Remm's invitation to speak to parishioners on a Sunday in July.)

Cecelia Weir, retiring as parish trustee after having served for 4 years in this position, was warmly thanked by Fr. Remm and by the Parish Council for her generous and multi-talented gift of service to the parish.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday, Aug. 15. All parishioners are welcome to attend these open meetings.

Help Wanted!

With gratitude for his leadership, personal involvement in parish social action issues and activities, and enabling interest in individuals, the Social Action Committee accepted Gary Laumann's resignation as committee chair and member. And invites other parishioners with an interest in social-justice issues to participate in the work of this committee. Interested? Call Rodger Adams (328-3980) or Gabriella Roussos (328-5090).

The Liturgy Committee has put out a call for an experienced minister of communion to serve on the committee as Coordinator of eucharistic ministers, succeeding Jill Blanck, whose 2-year term expires in August. And with Mark Chiu's departure in December, a server coordinator will be needed. Call Cathy Salika (367-7861), committee chair, to volunteer or for information.

Jeff Nelson, newly elected member of the Parish Council and appointed liaison to the Social Committee, wants to rebuild this committee to coordinate the parish-wide social events that build a sense of community at St. Patrick's, with its diverse membership. If you have a special affinity for giving others pleasure, or if you find pleasure in a specific kind of parish activity that you'd like to see offered, call Jeff (344-3749).

Building and Grounds Committee members are stretched thin these days to cover all the needs for maintenance of our parish facilities and grounds. If you can help with lawn and garden care, for instance, our lawns can use some edging, mulched areas need weeding, trees and bushes need pruning and trimming back. If your own yard doesn't take all your spare time and energy, give a call to committee chair Ray Alane (384-5311). He may even suggest other projects waiting for willing volunteers!

Summer vacations make it

difficult for remaining St. Vincent DePaul Society members to deal with the increasing number of people calling or coming by the parish center for assistance. If you can help, even on a temporary basis, call Sophia Zeigler (328-2671).

There's plenty to do, in this parish family of ours!



Pray the Lord of the Harvest..."

Young people today want to pursue careers that will make a difference, that will have a real impact on the world. As high school and college graduates explore possible careers, pray that more and more young people will choose to follow the Lord's call wherever it takes them—as priest, religious, deacon, lay person—to make that difference.



An Opportunity for Ecumenism

Church Women United is a national ecumenical movement of Christian women. It brings together women of all ages and faiths and of diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds.

In Champaign-Urbana women from approximately 30 churches meet several times a year in an effort to strengthen community relationships within an ecumenical environment.

Women from St. Patrick's have been active in the local unit of CWU for many years. "We'd like to invite other women of our parish to join us for our celebrations and programs," said Loretta LaFave. Loretta has been St. Patrick's parish representative to CWU for 7 years. Parishioner Lula Fitzpatrick is now taking on that responsibility.

Please call Loretta LaFave or Lula Fitzpatrick for more information about the movement and its program or to have your name included in the membership file so you will receive notice of upcoming events.



Congratulations to Lisa Subick, Mitch Langendorf, and Carrie Risatti, recipients of the second annual Fr. Charles H. Martell Memorial Scholarship, awarded by the Knights of Columbus.

Please welcome new parishioners Robert Althoff, Edward Briganti, Eva and Geza Erdos, Caroline and David Foshee, Robin Maher, John Maier, Margaret Norton, Margaret and William Riley, and Mary Welling.

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Farewell to the following parishioners who have moved from C-U: Eric and Janice Neumann, Cyndy and Keith Pigg, Charles and Sharon Purcell, Dwayne and Elizabeth Templet, Dave Thoman.

+ + +

We welcome the following newly baptized into our faith community: Daniel Robert Kopolnek, Bernadette Listiarini Kusumo, Matthew Joseph McCann, Jonathan Duane Gibbs, Jr., Elizabeth Anne and Timothy Brendan Eustice, Brooklyn LeAnn Clevenger.

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Congratulations to newlyweds Louis Joseph Wozniak and Laura Jean Polus, Richard Wayne McQueen and Amy Jean Irick, William Richard Simmering and Carla Jean Sturdyvin, Craig Alvin Bookter and Tracy Lynn Runck.

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Please pray for Edna Mary Morran, John Daniel Lynch, and Ethel G. Pierce, recently deceased.

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Quick Fixin's from the Kitchen of . . . Florence Chevalier

Chocolate-Peanut Butter-Oatmeal No-Bake Cookies

2 c sugar
1/2 c oleo
1/2 c milk
1/2 c peanut butter
3 c oatmeal
3 T cocoa

Melt oleo, add sugar and milk, and bring to a boil. Boil for one full minute, then remove from heat and immediately add peanut butter,



oatmeal, and cocoa. Mix well; drop by spoonful onto waxed paper. Makes 3 dozen cookies.

Simple fixin's for a hot summer day!

Have a safe and pleasant Independence Day!





July 1991



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 7:15p GROW	2 2p CCNH, Rosary 6:45p Beginning Experience	3 7p SVDP	4  9a Mass and Breakfast OFFICE CLOSED	5 10:45a CCNH, Mass and Anointing	6
7 8-11a Library	8 7:15p GROW	9 2p CCNH, Rosary 7p Parish Council Exec Comm mtg	10 1p MM Bandage Rolling 7p SVDP 7:15p Building and Grounds	11 7p Baptism Prep	12 10:30a Fontana NH, Mass 10:45a CCNH, Mass	13
14 8a Hospitality Table	15 1p Guild Luncheon 7p Cursillo 7:15p GROW 7:30p Social Action	16 2p CCNH, Rosary	17 7p SVDP 7p Hospitality Comm mtg	18	19 10:30a Urbana NH, Mass 10:45a CCNH, Mass	20
21 8:15a-1:30p Blood Drive 8-11a Library	22 7:15p GROW	23 2p CCNH, Rosary 6:45p Beginning Experience 7p Homily Prep	24 1p MM Bandage Rolling 7p SVDP	25 7:30p KC	26 10:30a Amer/U NH, Mass 10:45a CCNH, Mass	27
28 11a "Marketplace Prophets", NBC, channel 17, Catholic social teaching	29 7:15p GROW	30 2p CCNH, Rosary	31 7p SVDP 7p Communications Comm mtg	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 TNI: Twenties 'n' Thirties		

ST. PATRICK'S PARISH, URBANA

