

S T P A T R I C K ' S P A R I S H

# In Focus



## Parish Servers Honored Training Session Offered for New Servers

Did you notice that the servers at Mass on the weekend of June 6-7 were adults? They were members of the Serra Club of Champaign-Urbana, come to free our young servers to attend the 9:00 liturgy.

Numbering 35 in all, our dedicated, devoted, faithful young servers were recognized at 9:00 Mass, receiving a solemn blessing and the pastor's thanks on behalf of the parish as well as himself. A continental breakfast and recognition ceremony followed in the multipurpose room.

Joe Giblin, president of the Serra Club, was on hand to present certificates of appreciation to all the servers. Many servers were accompanied by their parents (spelled c-

h-a-u-f-f-e-u-r-s), who received grateful recognition as well. Peggy Shannon, server coordinator for the Liturgy Committee, expressed her special appreciation of parents who provide transportation for their youngsters to both regular and extraordinary liturgies and prayer services, sometimes at considerable inconvenience.

Peggy also expressed the hope that many other grade- and high-school students will offer their service at the altar. A training session for new servers is scheduled for Sunday, July 12, at 1:15 p.m. All parishioners in fifth through twelfth grade are invited.

If you or your children have questions, please call Peggy Shannon, 469-2658.

## Re-Membering Church: An Open Door

Frank Modica describes his family's experience with Re-Membering Church this way: "It wasn't a perfect program, but we didn't need a perfect program; we needed an open door."

That door was opened for the Modicas by a parishioner of St. Patrick's who told them about the program; by Rodger Adams and the rest of the Re-Membering Church team; by Jan Lipska, who helped the Modica children settle into catechism and First Communion classes; and by Fr. Remm, who was welcoming and helpful, and who suggested that the children be baptized at the Easter Vigil.

Frank, a special education teacher at Prairie School, Urbana, and Jan, who works at the Urbana Free Library, are "cradle Catholics." Jan's parents didn't attend church often, and Jan stopped going to church while she was in high school. Frank's parents didn't attend church regularly until Frank was confirmed; then they became much more active in the Church. Both of his parents are now lectors, and his father was recently commissioned a eucharistic minister.

The Modicas had attended a Christian Evangelical church in town for some time. When they went to Mass in Chicago with Frank's parents, however, the children asked questions about Eucharist and why they could not



*Serra Club president Joe Giblin, left, presented certificates of appreciation to parish servers. Shown with Fr. Remm are only some of those present. From the left, Kristin Cantrell, Melissa Althausser, Gina Sabbia, Hayli Dorsey, Christy Laesch, Michael Sabbia; back, Scott Shannon with Fr. Remm.*

continued page 6

# *Amen!* *... So Be It!*

"Amen" is an everyday word in our lives of prayer. It sums up all that we have prayed and helps us to turn it over to God. Our "amen" to someone else's prayer signifies our acceptance of it and makes it our own. Our "amen" also indicates to the other person our support and affirmation of that prayer and what has been prayed on our behalf.

There is one "amen" that holds a special place. We call it the "Great Amen." It occurs at Mass at the end of the Eucharistic Prayer and immediately before the Lord's Prayer. The "Great Amen" is so very important that the Church asks that, whenever possible, it be sung instead of recited.

Its importance flows from the Eucharistic Prayer itself. The Eucharistic Prayer (the word "eucharist" means "thanksgiving") begins with a dialogue between presider and assembly: "Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God." "It is right to give him thanks and praise."

It continues with various prayers of presider and assembly, including the "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts" and the consecration. Through it all we remember God's gifts to us and we give thanks.

We remember how other people, living and dead, have enriched our lives and helped us to grow in faith.

We remember the example of the saints.

We remember God's action in our own lives and the pouring out of the Spirit on us.

We remember that Jesus came

among us to teach us how to love one another and how to offer ourselves to God.

We remember how Jesus gave of himself for us in his death and resurrection, and how he continues to give of himself in bread and wine.

All this we remember with gratitude and thanks to God. Even though much of this prayer of thanksgiving is spoken on our behalf by the presider, it comes from all of us and shows us to be people of faith, aware of God's work among us.

To this prayer of thanksgiving we respond with the GREAT AMEN, the joyful singing of many amens in acknowledgment of and gratitude for the incomparable goodness of God.



## *Henri Nouwen Reflects on Celebrating Children*

If anything has affected me deeply since I have been living in Pamplona Alta, it has been the children. I have realized that since my eighteenth year I have not been around children. The seminary, the university, and all the teaching positions that followed were the worlds of young adults, worlds in which children and old people hardly entered. Yet here I am surrounded by boys and girls running up to me, giving me kisses, climbing up to my shoulders, throwing balls at me, and constantly asking for some sign of interest in their lives.

The children always challenge me

to live in the present. They want me to be with them here and now, and they find it hard to understand that I might have other things to do or to think about. After all my experiences with psychotherapy, I suddenly have discovered the great healing power of children. Every time Pablito, Johnny, and Maria run up to welcome me, pick up my suitcase, and bring me to my "roof-room," I marvel at their ability to be fully present to me. Their uninhibited expression of affection and their willingness to receive it pull me directly into the moment and invite me to celebrate life where it is found. Whereas in the past coming home meant time to study, to write letters, and to prepare for classes, it now first of all means time to play.

In the beginning I had to get used to finding a little boy under my bed, a little girl in my closet, and a teenager under my table, but now I am disappointed when I find my friends asleep at night. I did not know what to expect when I came to Pamplona Alta. I wondered how the poverty, the lack of good food and good housing would affect me; I was afraid of becoming depressed by the misery I would see. But God showed me something else first: affectionate, open, and playful children who are telling me about love and life in ways no book was ever able to do. I now realize that only when I can enter with the children into their joy will I be able to enter also with them into their poverty and pain. God obviously wants me to walk into the world of suffering with a little child on each hand.

—From *¡Gracias!* by Henri J. M. Nouwen.  
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## *From Barbara and Rodger Adams: Words of Parting and Promise*

As Father Remm announced in his "reflections" and In Focus reported in the Feb. 1992 issue, Barbara and I are leaving Urbana after 22 years. We'd like to tell you all what our plans are at this time.

Two years ago, during a retreat weekend at Nauvoo, we decided that I'd retire at the earliest possible date and that we'd move west to be nearer our two children and some of our dearest friends. Though we are not rich by today's standards, we are financially able to move and pursue new activities.

So I will take retirement now (without waiting or worrying about the state's offering early-retirement enhancements to the university's retirement system), and both of us will spend next year in school. I will attend the academic-year sabbatical program at the School of Applied Theology (a member of the Graduate Theological Union at Berkeley) in Oakland, Calif. Barbara will take four quarters of Clinical Pastoral Education at the University of California Medical Center in San Francisco.

After next year we do not have a plan, except to stay west and use our new education. I may pursue a master's degree through SAT and GTU, or I may look for an opportunity in Church ministry immediately.

In my more-than-15 years as a permanent deacon, I have come to want to devote more of my time to ministry, and I see this as a good way to do so. Barbara is ready to find a position in which her faith and counselling skills can be combined. We are also anxious to be closer to our children and our grandchild.

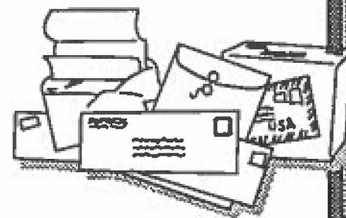
We will miss many of you very much. I am especially disappointed to be leaving just as Bill McClellan becomes a deacon, and there are several other deacons in C-U. The parish council is a group that truly

works for the parish, and I am aware that I leave as the one with the longest memory of past councils and council actions.

We have also heard that the character and spirit of St. Pat's may be very hard to find, or even replace, elsewhere. On the other hand, we take with us our experience of faith in this community to share with our new community of faith. For the next year we will affiliate with St. John of God, the Newman parish for the UC Medical Center, which is near our apartment. One of our goals is to be urban citizens and use our feet or public transport as much as possible. We rented with this as a primary goal.

Leslie, the parish secretary, will have our address, and we will welcome anyone who comes our way. (Though we will probably have only sleeping bags for guests next year!)

We leave you with the promise of prayer and ask only that you pray for us in our new adventures.



*Rodger & Barbara Adams*

# Parish Council News



At their June meeting, Council members decided on allocations to be made from end-of-year surplus income, which is estimated to be \$7000-\$10,000. At the end of the current fiscal year (June 30), 10% of the surplus will be sent to parishioner Dr. Susan Nagele, a Maryknoll lay missionary working in Africa.

Half of what remains will be applied to the parish debt, and the other half will be distributed among special funds (accounts) set up to provide for auto replacement, heating and air conditioning, office equipment, organ repair, and roof repair.

Members voiced concern that this year's surplus is one of the smallest in recent years; the surplus last year was \$30,000 and the year before that, \$60,000. Fr. Remm pointed out, however, that the parish has taken on new obligations in the last year, including the budget for an assistant pastor.

Council members urged that efforts be redoubled to increase

revenue this fall, especially through the Sacrificial Giving program.

The Council extended its congratulations and thanks to Jan Lipska for her work as parish coordinator for children's and senior-high religious education programs and for her selection as Outstanding Religious Education Coordinator of the Year by the Diocese of Peoria.

The ad hoc Development Committee reported that a diocesan foundation form will be adapted to provide for a St. Patrick's Catholic Education Endowment Fund, which would fund parish religious education and assist with tuition payments for young parishioners enrolled in Holy Cross School.

Preparation of a parish "case statement" (somewhat like an annual report) is also underway, the committee reported, with publication planned for this fall.

Parish census forms have been sent to about 400 registered parish

families or individuals who have not yet responded to the call to update parish records.

Council members finalized plans for their annual retreat, June 26-27, at the Benincasa Dominican Renewal Center, Riverton.

This meeting was the first for new assistant pastor Fr. Tim Nolan, the last for Deacon Rodger Adams. Rodger, who will be leaving the parish in July, has participated in Council meetings—first as an elected member, then (after his ordination as permanent deacon) as an honorary member—since 1975.

Parish Council members will not meet in July; their next meeting will be Aug. 19. All parishioners are welcome to attend these open parish meetings.



*There will not be an August issue of In Focus.*

*Deadline for submission of information, articles, and news items for the September issue is August 16.*



## Quick Fixin's from the Kitchen of... Lori McDonough

### BEST-EVER CHICKEN & RICE

- 2/3 c uncooked regular rice
- 1 can (2.8 oz) Durkee French Fried Onions
- 1/2 t Italian seasoning
- 1 3/4 c prepared chicken bouillon
- 4 boneless chicken breasts, rolled up
- 1/3 c Italian salad dressing
- 1 bag (16 oz) frozen California Blend Vegetables

Combine rice, 1/2 can onions, and Italian seasoning in a 9 x 13 inch baking dish. Pour bouillon over the mixture, arrange chicken on top, and pour salad dressing over all.

Bake, covered, at 400 degrees for 30 minutes. Remove from oven, place frozen vegetables around the chicken, covering the rice, and return to the oven. Continue



baking, uncovered, 20-25 minutes or until cooked.

Top with the remaining onions and return to the oven for 1-3 minutes, or until onions are golden. Serves 4.



## THE QUIET EYE

### A WAY OF LOOKING AT PICTURES

By Sylvia Shaw Judson

This small book of pictures is (be forewarned) not in the least spectacular, but it is one that you may wish to return to again and again to carry in your heart through a lifetime. Anne Morrow Lindbergh said of it, "When one enters this beautiful book from the cluttered streets of everyday life, one is fed by the artist's eye, the poet's voice, and the insight of the mystics. One has been in touch

with the eternal verities and one leaves with a quiet heart."

Sylvia Judson, a distinguished sculptor who died in 1978, was a Quaker who believed that "the Reformation left many people indifferent and illiterate in matters to do with art." And though her book sets out to redress the balance, its very simplicity gives it a larger purpose that will appeal to anyone with eyes. For it encour-

ages in the viewer a realization of one's deepest bonds to the created world.

The 33 pictures she selected cover a wide spectrum of subjects and styles, from the seventh century to the modern day. They include works by artists ranging from Durer and Brueghel to Rousseau and Klee, pottery and sculpture from ancient Greece, Oriental scrolls and wall paintings. They are accompanied by quotations from Plato and Shakespeare to Wordsworth and Walt Whitman.

In making her choice her intention was, in her own words, "to communicate a sense of affirmation, of wonder, of trust."

Enjoy.

The names of newcomers to our parish and of parishioners who have moved on to other places will be included in the September In Focus. Until then, a hearty welcome to all new parishioners, and God's blessing on all who have left St. Patrick's!

Congratulations to newlyweds Kathleen Marie Mottus and Christopher Irving Cobitz.



We welcome the following newly baptized members of our faith community: Anastasia Lynnea Peters, Jacob Louis Hopkins, Todd Wayne Bean, Joseph Abraham Lampe, Gretchen Anne Booth, Branden James Jones, Carsen Jo Welch.



Please pray for Iris Solau-Giberga, recently deceased.



*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:** Amy Fahy, Dorothy Maduzia, Donna Price, Carole Rebeiz.

Articles and information for this issue were contributed by Barbara and Rodger Adams, Helen Barrymore, Tom Kacich, Lori McDonough, Mary Lou Menches, Carole Rebeiz, Leslie Risatti, Cathy Salika.

## Re-Membering

*continued from page 1*

receive it. The family was ready to come back to the Church, and, as Frank put it, "glad to know that we didn't have to jump through hoops coming back."

The three Modica children, baptized during the Easter Vigil while Frank's father took photographs and his mother proudly watched, are Nathan, 11, going into sixth grade at Urbana Middle School; Gina, 7, going into second grade; and Lisa, 5, starting kindergarten at Thomas Paine this fall. Matthew, 13, entering University High this fall as a freshman, was baptized as an infant. He and Nathan received their First Communion with their class on the Sunday after Easter. Frank's father and sister traveled from Chicago for the event.

The Modicas were part of a group of seven who came to the first session of Re-Membering Church in January. However, they never seemed really to coalesce. According to team member Barb Wysocki, "They were coming from different places; some were curious and intellectually interested, and some were not ready to share their problems with the Church." Team leader Rodger Adams describes the hesitant ones as still in the process of returning, but perhaps with complications (such as marriage problems) that need to be settled.

The team quickly adapted the process to meet people where they were and to deal with the needs they perceived. For example, some individuals may benefit from one-on-one sessions instead of larger group discussions, team member Bill McClellan observed, whereas others who come may not really have left the Church but may be seeking something akin to a "base community."

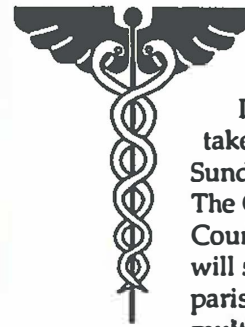
The Re-Membering Church process is similar to that of RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults), with scripture reading, faith sharing, and a "refresher" on Church teachings—but with a perspective and a focus that is

different from that of RCIA. Re-Membering Church envisions a conclusion to the process in which the returning Catholic celebrates the sacrament of reconciliation at the beginning of Lent but embarks on the Lenten season as on a pilgrimage and is welcomed back to the faith community through Eucharist on Holy Thursday.

According to team member Harry Ruedi, every parishioner probably knows of four or five people who no longer attend church. Harry believes that these people need to be invited back, that they are waiting for the invitation, and he urges that we be more aggressive in asking, "What have we [the Church] done to offend or hurt you?"

Judy Conover, another member of the team, confides that opening that door for return through the Re-Membering Church process is close to her heart. Wouldn't you like to open that door for a friend or relative who may just be waiting for that invitation? Imagine your reward when they say, as Frank Modica did, "We're glad to be home!"

## St. Patrick's Hosts Blood Drive July 19



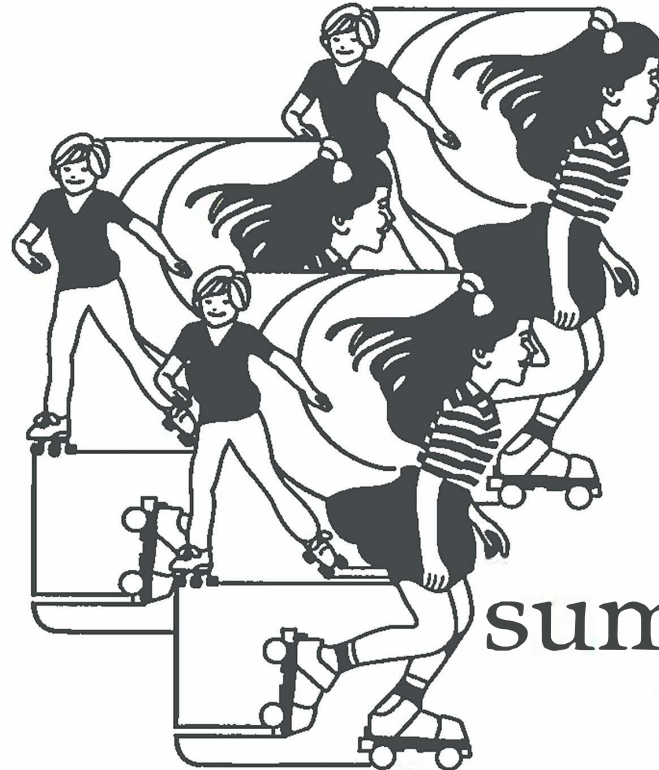
The next blood drive at St.

Patrick's will take place on Sunday, July 19. The Champaign County Blood Bank will set up in the parish center multipurpose room

from 8:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. to take these life-giving donations.

If you have previously donated blood or have been planning to do so, please mark this date on your calendar. Your participation in the blood-donor program will make a real difference to those whose very lives depend on it!

Call Tom or Lori McDonough (367-3171), or the parish office (367-2665), if you can help.



# summer fun!



# July 1992

## SAINT PATRICK'S PARISH, URBANA

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 7:00p SVDP	2	3 10:45a Champaign County Nursing Home, Mass	4 <i>8a Fourth of July holiday Mass and breakfast following</i>
5 8:00a Library	6 7:00p Education Comm 7:15p GROW	7 9:00a Funeral Schola 1:45p Rosary, Champaign County Nursing Home 6:45p Beginning Experience	8 12:45p MM Bandage Rolling 7:00p SVDP 7:15p Building and Grounds	9 7:00p Baptism Prep	10 10:30a Fontana NH, Mass 10:45a Champaign County Nursing Home, Mass	11
12 8:00a Hospitality Table	13 7:15p GROW	14 1:45p Rosary, Champaign County Nursing Home	15 7:00p SVDP	16	17 10:30a Urbana NH, Mass 10:45a Champaign County Nursing Home, Mass	18
19 8:00a Library	20 7:00p Cursillo Steering 7:15p GROW	21 9:00a Funeral Schola 1:45p Rosary, Champaign County Nursing Home 7:00p Beginning Experience	22 12:45p MM Bandage Rolling 7:00p SVDP	23	24 10:30a Americana NH, Mass 10:45a Champaign County Nursing Home, Mass	25
26	27 7:15p GROW	28 1:45p Rosary, Champaign County Nursing Home 7:00p Homily Prep	29 7:00p SVDP 7:00p Communications Comm	30	31 10:45a Champaign County Nursing Home, Mass	

MM=Medical Missions SVDP=St. Vincent de Paul

