

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

In Focus



A Farewell Note from Fr. Dwight Campbell

"You're going to be moving," said Bishop Myers.

"Oh?" I responded.

"Yes, you'll be chaplain at Schlarman High School and pastor at St. Lawrence Parish, Penfield."

This was the substance of my telephone conversation with Bishop John Myers a few weeks ago. I had mixed feelings: after having been here at St. Pat's for a year, and just getting to know the folks and settling in, I'd be moving on.

I'd told the bishop several months ago that I would like to teach religion at the high school level someday. But I didn't expect "someday" to come so soon. With the chaplain at Schlarman having gone on sabbatical and the pastor of St. Lawrence moving to St. Mary's in Canton, Illinois (in Fulton County, where I once worked as an assistant state's attorney—small world!), the bishop needed someone to fill these positions and thought I could manage both.

I am both honored and humbled to be given this dual assignment, which I'm sure will keep me quite busy. But I will be doing God's work, and I am excited at the prospect. At the same time, I will leave St. Pat's with fond memories. Fr. Remm has been the pastor Bishop Myers

described to me last year at this time: a kind, dedicated priest and a true gentleman, always willing to assist and/or give advice whenever I

needed it. And I'll always remem-



ber the warm welcome given to me here by parishioners—it made my first assignment as a priest a good experience, and rather difficult to leave after but one year.

I will keep all of you in my prayers, and I ask for your prayers and spiritual support as I move on. I'd like to think that I'm not leaving St. Pat's but simply moving "up the road a piece." I'll be back to visit, hopefully soon and often.

You Can Be "King for a Day"!

You don't have to be a father to be treated like a King on Father's Day. The women of the parish invite all the men of the parish—single, married, with or without children—to be treated royally AND served a wonderful, homemade breakfast on June 21 in the parish center main hall.

If you are a dad and want to share your Father's Day morning with your children, they are invited to join you for breakfast. (If they're too young to feed themselves, you're on your own, guys!)

Please call the parish office (367-2665) to make your reservation for the 8:30 or the 10:00 "seating." Be sure to indicate the number of men and the number of children included in your reservation.

There is no charge for the breakfast, but of course women young and "old" are needed to help with cooking, serving, and clearing tables. If you can make this short-term commitment (which should be fun for everyone), please call Helene Kacich (344-6760) or leave your name at the parish office.

There will not be Coffee Shop that morning. All the men who have served the parish so graciously and good-humoredly during Coffee Shop are special invitees. Call with your reservations today! (Well, Monday will do, but CALL SOON!)

Deacon Bill: A New Role for Bill McClellan

William McClellan was ordained a deacon of the Roman Catholic Church on Saturday, May 9, 1992.

But don't think his journey to the diaconate took just a day or a week or a month or two!

The process taken by Bill and his wife Jane (members of St. Patrick's Parish since 1982) goes back to 1987, when Bill was invited to take part in a discernment for those who had expressed an interest in becoming a deacon.

Then, in January 1989, a class of more than 30 men from the Diocese of Peoria, with their wives, started on the path that ended in ordination on May 9.

But Bill McClellan's interest in helping to do God's work on earth—at least in Champaign-Urbana—started about ten years ago when he began volunteering at the St. Jude's Catholic Worker House. There he remains an active participant, taking part in formal prayer meetings each Tuesday night.

"My function there is to help bring prayer and spiritual development to the Worker House's volunteers as well as to the guests," he said. "Otherwise it would be just another shelter."

Bill said he was attracted to St. Patrick's after he witnessed several members of the former parish Young Adults group at work at the Worker House.

"I didn't really have a high opinion of youth at the time," he said. "I found that they were really inspiring to me, and helpful to me as well as to the guests there."

"I remember thinking that not all young men and women are cynical. It was a real eye-opener for me."

In addition to his work at the shelter, Bill has served on a Christ

Renews His Parish team, has been a member of Cursillo for about ten years, served on the parish's Education Committee, has been active in the

RCIA and Re-Membering Church processes, served a three-year term on the Parish Council (one of those as president), and continues to serve as eucharistic minister and lector at St. Patrick's liturgies.

He has also worked with an interdenominational group that has provided prison ministry, offering weekend retreats to inmates at minimum-security prisons in Illinois.

Since starting in the diaconate program more than three years



ago, Bill and Jane spent one weekend a month in Peoria. There they and (at that time) 32 other couples were instructed in a variety of subjects, went through psychological testing, met in small groups, and worshiped together.

They also were required to go on a Marriage Encounter weekend and to make a Cursillo.

The subjects in which they were instructed included the diaconate as a vocation, Church history, human development, introduction to Scripture, Christology (the study of Christ), Vatican II, sacramental theology, an overview of the sacraments, moral theology, pastoral theology, hospital ministry, genealogy, homiletics, and much, much more.

Of the 32 couples that began, 30 completed the process, said Bill.

Bill has chosen a mission of social justice for his work at St. Patrick's, as did Deacon Rodger

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Quick Fixin's from the Kitchen of...

Lenore Nagele

Midwestern German Potato Salad

4 medium potatoes
salt
black pepper
1/4 t onion, finely diced
4 T mayonnaise
3 T sour cream
1 T salad oil
2 T cider vinegar
1/2 t prepared mustard
1 T parsley, finely chopped
1/4 t celery seed

Pare potatoes, cut into half-inch cubes, and cook in boiling water until just tender. Drain and dry



well by shaking potatoes in the pan over the heat for a few minutes. While potatoes are still hot, sprinkle them with salt, pepper, and onions. Toss lightly and set aside to cool.

Combine remaining ingredients in a bowl, blend well, and fold into potatoes gently but thoroughly. Adjust seasonings to taste. Serve chilled, sprinkled with additional parsley. Makes 3-4 servings.

Deacon Bill, continued

Adams, who will be leaving the parish this summer to move to California.

"I view my role as a servant," said Bill. "It comes out of the readings of the Acts of the Apostles."

As a deacon, Bill has many of the powers of a priest. He cannot preside at the celebration of Mass or hear confessions, but he can assist the presider at Mass, assist at funerals and wake services, officiate at weddings, and baptize.

Still, even as Bill McClellan is a deacon—or a servant—at St. Patrick's, he has a role in the secular world as music librarian at the University of Illinois.

He has been at the University since 1965, when he moved from a similar position at the University of Colorado.

Bill was born in Massachusetts on Jan. 7, 1934, received his undergraduate degree at Colorado College in Colorado Springs (it was there that he met Jane; they were married during his junior year), and a master's in library science from the University of Michigan.

The McClellans have four daughters: Jennifer, who lives in Austin (Tex.); Anne, in Colorado Springs; Margaret, in Denver; and Amy, in Chicago.

Prayer for Pentecost

Grant, we pray you, almighty God,
that your Church may always be
that holy people
gathered together by the unity
of the Father, the Son,
and the Holy Spirit,
so that it may manifest
to all the world
the mystery of your unity
and holiness
and itself come to the perfection
of your love.

We ask this through Christ,
our Lord.

A Prayer for Our First Communicants

Good and gracious God, you have invited these children to your table for the first time that you may carry toward completion their sharing in the life of your family, the Church:

Sheryl Arie, Megan Blair, Balint Bognar, Zsolt Bognar, Georgina Marie Bonse, Anna Marie S. Brown, Robert Brown, Charles Anthony Crowley, Theodore Robert Dilla, Reinal Dorsey, Mark Douglas, Michael Downes, Mary Louise Erlandson, ...

Help them always to live in friendship and communion with Jesus as living members of his mystical body:

Laura Kathleen Fahey, Megan Fredericks, Natalie Handal, Katie Hartke, Jamie Henkelman, Jon Howard, Jesse Johnston, Alex Joyce, Darlena Keller, Gregory Kingery, Michael Kinkaid, Celia Montes Kolence, Melissa Long, ...

With a father's watchful care and a mother's tender love, protect, O God, these children you have called to be nourished with the bread of life:

Katherine Marlin, Gabriel Mathy, Ruth Miller, Emily Millsap, Maciej Misztal, Matthew Modica, Nathan Modica, Yen Nguyen, Theresia Ika Nurastiarni, Joanna Pelafas, Deanna Perrone, Kathleen Phillips, Diane Plewa, ...



Through the saving power of these mysteries preserve them from evil and make them generous witnesses of the love of Christ:

Jason Rehfeldt, Megan Reinhart, Ross Richards, Todd Schiff, Karen Shafer, Jonathan Shoda, Anna Betty Smorolaksmi, Nicholas Tazik, Amy Weber, Lauren Marie Westhusing, Tyler Zindars, ...

May these children grow in their knowledge of Christ and their living experience of his love:

Katherine Duncanson, Flannery Ellis, Robert Grove, Michael Larsen, Douglas Main, Brooke Mayer, Nga Nguyen, Jennifer Olivera, Gina Sanchez, Ellen Stohr, Raymond Timpone, John Tucker, ...

May these first communicants always serve you with loving hearts and joyful spirits:

Patrick Howey, Katie Tevebaugh, ...

We ask this through Christ,
our Lord.

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.

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Parishioners Win Roles in "Music Man"

Jim Mayer to Star

Five members of St. Patrick's Parish are part of a large cast preparing to thrill their audience with "76 Trombones" and other familiar songs when "The Music Man" comes to the rescue of the Virginia Theater June 4-7. The musical is the first production of the Champaign-Urbana Theater Company, a non-profit drama group recently formed to restore the 1921 building to its former importance.

Jim Mayer, cantor at 7:30 a.m. Mass every other Sunday for the last nine years and singer at many other parish events, has the lead role. He plays Harold Hill, a con man who reforms when he falls in love with Marian, the librarian.

Singing in the Girls' Chorus is Alisa Modica, five, who was baptized during the Easter Vigil service this year. Her mother and sister planned to audition, and Alisa, who had sung in public before at Urbana Free Library parties, insisted, "I want to do it too." Her mother says, "She sang loud and on key, and everyone clapped for her, but when we left—we had been there for three hours and I hadn't been called on—we had no idea she would be chosen!"

Gina Sabbia is also in the Girls' Chorus. Eleven years old, she has acted in several Urbana Park District plays and appeared in the UI School of Music Spring Musical in May.

Nicholas Shoda, a six-year-old kindergartner at Thomas Paine School, likes to sing. Put on the spot at the audition when asked to sing a song he did not know ("Gary, Indiana"), he learned it in a few minutes and won a part.

Sue Laesch, mother of four, homemaker, lector, base community member, and former religious-



Jim and Anna Clare Mayer

education teacher, is cast as one of the singing Pickalittle Ladies. Sue is enthusiastic about the folks in this show: "They're giving their best, and they work together well."

Leading man Jim Mayer is a vocational counselor at Piatt County Mental Health Center. Music has been his avocation since his college days. He and his wife, Pat, met at St. Patrick's and sing together in the 9:00 choir. They have one daughter, Anna Clare, and expect another child in late November. Jim has had voice training with Bill Miller, who coaches several parishioners.

Jim has acted and sung in several productions of the Monticello Community Theater. Asked how he prepared for the role of Harold Hill, he said, "I love that show; script, music, and lyrics are so well written, and all by the same person! When I heard that singers were needed, I studied the score from the library, and a video, and practiced every song.

"At the audition I was asked to sing parts of four songs. The rhythmic talk in the song "Trouble" was the hardest, but I had practiced it."

The new Champaign-Urbana Theater Company is made up partly of members of the Villa Grove community drama group. They believe that C-U can support

a theater that presents live productions, different in style from other houses. "After all," says Leonard Doyle, a board member, "this is the town where the Marx Brothers played the Orpheum when they were still known as The Nightingales, and Sarah Bernhardt is said to have made her last public appearance at the Illinois Theater" [on Springfield Avenue, now the site of Old Main Square] in Urbana."

All profits from "The Music Man" will go toward financing future productions and some thoughtful modernization of the Virginia Theater, where Spike Jones and Guy Lombardo once played. Tickets may still be available at the box office (1600 patrons can be accommodated handily at each performance), and every seat affords a good view of the stage.

The cast has been rehearsing three evenings a week for the five performances scheduled. "Those performances will be exciting for all of us from St. Pat's, knowing that there will be a sizable contingent from the parish in the audience," Jim said.

The audience is sure to be excited too, Jim. To all of you we offer the traditional show-biz salute: "Break a leg!"



Deadline for submission of information, articles, and news items for the next issue of In Focus: June 13.

Jesus Changed a Common Man

He was among the most common of all men, yet with God's help he became the first leader of an institution that was destined to change the entire world.

He was married, fished the Sea of Galilee to support his family, and had a warm, impetuous personality.

He probably had many of the same day-to-day concerns that most of us have today.

Then one day Jesus asked him to abandon his former way of life to become a "fisher of men."

The man, of course, was Peter. We know little about Peter before Jesus entered his life, but he led a very dynamic life afterward.

His original name was Simon, but Jesus called him Kephas, an Aramaic word meaning "rock," of which the Greek equivalent becomes "Peter" in English. In reply to Simon's ringing assertion "You are the Christ, the son of the living God," Jesus declared, "You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church."

Peter denied Jesus repeatedly before Christ's death, yet the resurrected Jesus asked Peter repeatedly if he loved him. After each affirmation, Jesus commissioned Peter to feed and tend his sheep, leader among his followers.

This Peter did boldly and faithfully, as can be seen in the Acts of the Apostles. As leader he made many major decisions, such as admission of the Gentiles into fellowship with the community of believers. He addressed the crowds at that first Pentecost, performed miracles in Christ's name, was reprimanded by civic and synagogue leaders, and was imprisoned (escaping with the help of an angel).

Tradition tells us that Peter traveled widely, for example to Samaria and Antioch, converting many. Eventually he went to Rome, where he was crucified.

In the summer of 64 A.D. a terrible fire devastated Rome. Rumor quickly spread that Nero had started the fire; to divert

suspicion from himself, Nero accused Christ's followers of responsibility for the fire. Many, Peter among them, were seized and cruelly put to death. According to tradition, Peter insisted on being crucified head down, stating that he was unworthy to die in the same manner as his Lord, Jesus.

Most of us lead "common lives." Called by Jesus to follow him, even as Peter was called, our lives can be changed. If we respond as faithfully as Peter did, we too can help to change the world.

Fr. Timothy Nolan to Serve at St. Patrick's

Fr. Timothy Nolan, one of twelve new priests ordained May 23 by Bishop Myers for the Diocese of Peoria, has received his first assignment, assistant pastor at St. Patrick's. He is expected to take up his new duties on Wednesday, June 10, although Fr. Remm has invited him to visit earlier to "get the lay of the land," so to speak.



According to The Catholic Post, Fr. Nolan was born Nov. 6, 1956, in Wenona, Ill., son of William and Marilyn Nolan. "A graduate of Wenona High School, he earned a bachelor's degree in special education and a master's degree in education and guidance counseling from Eastern Illinois University.

"He completed studies for the priesthood at Holy Apostles Seminary, Cromwell, Conn., from which he holds master's degrees in theology/dogma and divinity."

Please welcome new Peter and Suzette Atkins, Joan Briggs, Mary Cherven, Grace Conlee, Bethany Herblet, Janet Manley, Michele Martin, Cherie and John Penning, Amy and Richard Spaulding, Cathy and Jay Stevens, William Tapella, Alta and Bruce Tarter, Gary Whitmer.



Farewell to the following parishioners who have moved from C-U: Greg Birt, Andrea and William Cavanaugh, Margaret and William Riley, Phil Slezak.



We welcome the following newly baptized into our faith community: Alejandro Gonzalez, Shannon Gabrielle Duncan, Lydia Marie McDonald, Tayler Alexis Stipes, Colleen Elizabeth Peters,

Rachel Marie Stuckemeyer, Shane Thomas Conerty, George Constantine Rogers, William John Penning.



Congratulations to newlyweds Mary Ann Yockey and Thaddeus Basel Bales, Johanna Katherine Denzin and Richard Mark Bradley, Theresa Dep Huu Le and Phoi Charles Diep, Cathy Lynn Aikins and Jay David Stevens, Elizabeth Parducho and Ronaldo Garcia Maghirang, Mary Therese Nolan and David George Rosen, Susan De Anne Medrow and John Gerard Peters.



Please pray for Jadwiga Gorecki, a recently deceased member of our parish.

Bishop Myers to Confirm 30 on June 6

"It is the responsibility of the people of God to prepare the baptized for confirmation. It is the responsibility of the pastors to see that all the baptized come to the fullness of Christian initiation and are carefully prepared for confirmation. ...

"The whole people of God, represented by the families and friends of the candidates and by members of the local community, will be invited to take part in the celebration and will express its faith in the fruits of the Holy Spirit. ...

"Ordinarily the sacrament is administered by the bishop so that there will be a more evident relationship to the first pouring forth of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. After the apostles were filled with the Holy Spirit, they themselves gave the Spirit to the faithful through the laying on of their hands. Thus the reception of the Spirit through the ministry of the bishop shows the close bond that joins the confirmed to the Church and the mandate to be witnesses of Christ. ...

"The sacrament of confirmation is conferred through the anointing with chrism on the forehead, which is done by the laying on of the hand, and through these words: Be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit.

"Ordinarily confirmation takes place within Mass in order to express more clearly the fundamental connection of this sacrament with the entirety of Christian initiation, which reaches its culmination in the communion of the body and blood of Christ."

—From the introduction to the Rite of Confirmation, revised 1973

As God's people, we pray that

"our Father will pour out the Holy Spirit to strengthen his sons and daughters with his gifts and anoint them to be more like Christ":

We pray for Brandon Jeremy Lipska, David Robert Weber, Kristoffer Nelson Atwood, Lesley Elena Lundeen, Todd Michael Bullard, Marc Andrew Nasca, Stacey Anne McArthur, Jason Andrew McArthur, Jason Thomas Daly, Briggs Kenyatta Joyce, Linda Marie Wolfe, Erica Nichol Morrow, David Jon Paulsen, Mark Matthew Hammond, Christopher Thomas Boaz, Jennifer Louise Wolfersberger, Riley Emiel Splittstoesser, Christopher Thomas Weisiger.

We pray also for Kelly Patrice Schrepfer, Amy Michelle Haessly, Amy Marie Hauersperger, Teresa Catherine Howey, Daniel Clifford O'Rourke, Cari Ann Anderson, Angela Marshall Lopez, Susan Mary Thomas, Rachel Elizabeth Palmisano, Jennifer Lorraine

Palmisano, Chad Matthew Pincham, Adam Jeffery Joseph.

Send your Holy Spirit upon them to be their Helper and Guide. Give them the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of right judgment and courage, the spirit of knowledge and reverence. Fill them with the spirit of wonder and awe in your presence.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord.



God Is in the Nursery!

"Who is God?" a mother asked her almost-three-year-old.

No response. She probed, "Who is Jesus?"

The child looked at her with that are-you-nuts-Mom look that only a preschooler can give and responded, "God is God."

"Where is God?" (She pursued this idea further.)

After a brief pause, he answered, "God is in the nursery!"

This bit of theology was shared at a gathering of mothers several years ago. During the discussion that followed, some ideas surfaced that even today might help parents and their young children in worshiping together.

1. Bring your child to church sometime when it is not in use. Walk around and talk about the candles, the altar, the windows, etc. You might together light a votive candle or say a prayer or bless each other with holy water as you leave.

2. When you come to Mass, sit near the front or along the center aisle so your child can see what is happening.

3. Make a prayer book with and for your child to take to church. It might include magazine pictures of animals, nature, and people—all part of creation. A picture of your child's baptism would be a great addition.

4. Encourage participation as much as possible. Teach your child the Lord's Prayer, and encourage him or her to join in the Sign of Peace and the communion procession.

5. The Sunday readings are listed in the weekly church bulletin.

Preview them with your child and explain them in a way that your child

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Nursery, continued

will be able to understand. You might suggest a word for your child to listen for when the readings are proclaimed at church as a way of providing a focus for attention during this time.

6. If your child starts to cry or needs to move around for a while, use the vestibule at the main entrance of the church. And return to your seats later on, if and when doing so seems practical, as a help for both you and your child in participating more fully in our community's worship.

7. Very young children might like to bring along a favorite stuffed animal or book, much quieter and less distracting to others than rattles and keys.

8. Help your child to see that the Mass is important to you—YOU are your child's primary religious educator!

A reminder: A nursery for the under-four-year-old population is available on most Sundays of the school year, sometimes during the summer as well, during the 9:00 Sunday Mass. Check the weekly bulletin or call the parish office (367-2665) for information. As one youngster observed, God lives in the nursery too!

Parish Council News

At their April and May meetings the Council members agreed to a proposal from the Development Committee that the parish explore the possibility of establishing a foundation in support of religious education, for use as tuition payments to Catholic schools and as support for our parish's own religious education program. Initial feedback from the Diocese of Peoria was encouraging, but it was suggested that the proposal be more along the lines of an endowment fund than a foundation.

The latest report on the Annual Stewardship Appeal indicated that about \$59,000 had been pledged so far toward the parish goal of \$68,000. It appears that the number of pledges so far has decreased, as has the average amount pledged, in comparison with previous years. A recent mailing to parishioners not yet heard from may bring the parish closer to that goal.

The interim choir director, Mark Fisch, has signed a contract with the parish to serve as music director. Because Mark is not an organist, the duties and salary for this position have been split: Mark's responsibilities include



choir direction and administrative and staff duties, and the organist to be hired will serve as organist for weekend parish liturgies and accompanist during choir rehearsals.

The four stained-glass windows removed from the church are being releaded to provide greater strength and durability.

Virginia Alane, acting on behalf of St. Patrick's Guild, presented a check for \$5000 to help with the cost for restoration of the church windows and another for \$500 to help defray the expense of upgrading the parish kitchen to meet Public Health standards.

Coleen Golema has indicated that she will be leaving her position as business operations assistant for the parish. She plans to

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Come, Holy Spirit

Pour out your Spirit, O God,
upon all peoples.
Inspire your sons and daughters
to prophesy your gracious love
for all creation.

Fill the young with visions
of justice and peace.
Let the old dream dreams
of healing for your
wounded world.

*Come, Holy Spirit,
renew the whole creation!*

Pour out your Spirit, O God,

upon the leaders of the world.
Move them with compassion for
the poor and the suffering.
Awaken in them a vision
of a new heaven
and a new earth.

*Come, Holy Spirit,
renew the whole creation!*

Pour out your Spirit, O God,
upon your Church
in every place.

In a world broken by
unshared bread,
you call us to offer
the body of Christ.

Where blood is spilled
between neighbors
and nations,
you invite us to share
the blood of Christ.
In a world where hope
is fragile,
you wash us with water
for the healing of nations
and the saving of our souls.
Help us, O God, to be
your Church,
in spirit and in truth.

*Come, Holy Spirit,
renew the whole creation!*

move from the area in September. The Personnel Committee's assistance will be sought in filling this position.

The annual "passing the baton" from outgoing Council members to incoming members took place at the May meeting, marked by the celebration of Eucharist, appreciation and thanks extended to outgoing members, and the seating and warm welcoming of members who were elected in April.

The slate of nominations to Council office was accepted and each elected "by acclamation," there being no nominations from the floor: president, Carol Bosley; vice-president, Bill Plymire; secretary, Fran Cousin. New members and officers will be commissioned on May 31 at the 10:30 Mass.

Council-committee liaison appointments for the year were announced: Harry Ruedi, Building and Grounds; Tom McDonough, Communications; Chuck Shaw, Education; Al Mytty, Financial Affairs; Jeannie Donovan, Social Action; Joe Pavia, Liturgy; Jeff Nelson, Social; Bill Plymire, Personnel.

Fr. Campbell gave the Council a brief description of his new duties, which he will be taking up in Danville and Penfield on June 10. A farewell reception for Fr. Campbell is planned for June 7, 7-8:30 p.m.

The fall council/committee/staff workshop is scheduled for Oct. 2-3; the agenda: to set five-year goals for the parish.

The Parish Council will meet next on Thursday, June 18. All parishioners are welcome to attend these open parish meetings.



Dr. Susan Nagele Writes ...

Greetings from hot and sunny Southern Sudan. I hope that for most of you the worst of winter is over and "spring has sprung." For us it has been very hot, and we are waiting for the rains to come.

Liz and I drove our new Toyota 4WD Hardtop Landcruiser up from Kenya, arriving without difficulty on March 2. The next two weeks were the hottest of my entire life. The shower (we have a barrel on the roof) was so hot at midday that I could barely stand under it. The candle on our dining room table drooped over from the heat, and I wake up thirsty in the night.

We had some rain around St. Patrick's Day, but when the moon came out the rain stopped. People say it won't return until the moon goes away again! I had a ninth-grade algebra teacher who used to say that horses sweat, men perspire, but women merely glow. I wouldn't be surprised if all of you could see a glow in the sky from all the sweating we're doing!

This has been a very difficult last two weeks. The Khartoum troops are engaged in their biggest offensive against the South since this war began in 1983. Every night we turn on the BBC to find out which town has fallen back into Khartoum's control. We helped to return 170 schoolgirls to their homes from a diocesan boarding school in a village an hour from here. If they have to run, it's better for them to be with their families.

We also packed up all the medicines we had in town and sent them to different parishes or brought them here to our home. If this town is taken too, people will no longer be able to come here for treatment, and the government troops would take them all anyway.

We all have made evacuation plans to be prepared, although things look secure at the moment.

Most people are moving out to the villages, where nobody will be able to find them. Normal life is completely disrupted. The rains will come very soon and people should be planting, not running.

We were in the process of organizing rehabilitation of a health program for 6000 minors who have been poorly cared for. However, the cornerstone of the project were 4 Comboni Sisters who were to come to organize the living situation, and now their superior has postponed their arrival due to the fighting.

There are a lot of wounded soldiers in the hospital and it's hard for civilians to get treatment, so we take care of some of them here at our home. We are not able to do a lot, but there are always sick people. More importantly, our presence provides solidarity and hope because people know that they are not alone and will not be forgotten.

So this Holy Week and Easter season is especially poignant for us. Despite the suffering and death that continues, we keep praying for peace, talking about peace, and hoping that our faithfulness to the Gospel message will bring new life from all this destruction.

Thanks to all of you who have been so faithful in writing. Except for those who have been in similar situations, there is no way you can know how much those letters have meant to me. I receive a lot of mail and haven't been able to keep up with personal replies as I would like. But after hearing about the war, perhaps you will understand.

Another big problem is that Khartoum has prevented the U.N. from flying anywhere in the South since the end of February. Occasionally we can send mail with a food relief truck. Tomorrow there is an "unauthorized" flight coming in, and that is how this letter is going out. I hope it reaches you soon and finds you all well and celebrating the joy of this Easter season.

June 1992

SAINT PATRICK'S PARISH, URBANA

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 7:00p Education Comm 7:15p GROW 7:30p Liturgy Comm	2 9:00a Funeral Schola 1:45p Rosary, Champaign County Nursing Home 6:45p Beginning Experience 7:00p Confirmation Prep 7:30p Development Comm	3 7:00p SVDP 7:00p Choir 7:00p Pro-Life Comm 7:00p Spiritual Journey	4 6:45p Folk Choir	5 10:45a Champaign County Nursing Home, Mass 5:15p Holy Hour 7:00p Practice for Confirmation	6 5:30p Supper for Bishop Myers 7:30p Confirmation
7 8:00a Library 9:00a Server's Appreciation Mass, donuts afterward 7:00p Farewell Reception for Fr. Dwight Campbell	8 7:15p GROW 7:30p Re-Membering Church	9 1:45p Rosary, Champaign County Nursing Home 7:00p Financial Affairs Comm 7:30p Parish Council Exec Comm	10 12:45p MM Bandage Rolling 7:00p SVDP 7:00p Choir 7:15p Buildg & Grnds	11 6:45p Folk Choir 7:00p Baptism Prep	12 10:45a Champaign County Nursing Home, Mass	13
14 Sr. Rosemarie Tomlianovich will be honored at all Masses-50th Anniversary of Religious Profession 8a Hospitality Table	15 7:00p Cursillo Steering 7:15p GROW 7:30p Social Action Comm	16 9:00a Funeral Schola 1:45p Rosary, Champaign County Nursing Home 7:00p Beginning Experience	17 7:00p SVDP 7:00p Choir	18 6:45p Folk Choir 7:30p Parish Council	19 10:30a Urbana NH, Mass 10:45a Champaign County Nursing Home, Mass	20 Sr. Rosemarie Tomlianovich will be honored at all Masses-50th Anniversary of Religious Profession
21 8:00a Library 8:30a and 10a Father's day brunch-all men of the parish Diocesan Eucharistic Congress, Peoria	22 7:15p GROW	23 1:45p Rosary, Champaign County Nursing Home 7:00p Homily Prep	24 12:45p MM Bandage Rolling 7:00p SVDP 7:00p Choir 7:00p Communication Comm	25 6:45p Folk Choir 7:30p Knights of Columbus	26 10:45a Champaign County Nursing Home, Mass	27
28 3:00p Farewell to Rodger and Barb Adams	29 7:15p GROW	30 1:45p Rosary, Champaign County Nursing Home			Parish Council Retreat	

MM=Medical Missions SVDP=St. Vincent de Paul

