

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

In Focus



The Easter Triduum: Our passage into new life in Christ

The life, death, and resurrection of Jesus are at the heart of our faith. The Church's experience of these events is so rich that we recall them every time we gather. But for each of the three days leading up to Easter, the liturgy has a special character that brings to mind specific events of Jesus' life and death.

On Holy Thursday, the liturgy is called the Mass of the Lord's Supper. On this night we remember that Jesus gave himself to his followers in the Eucharist. We recall the beginnings of the priesthood, found in his words "Do this in remembrance of me." And we reenact his powerful example of service in washing the feet of his disciples.

The liturgy of Good Friday is unique; on this one day of the year the Church does not celebrate the Mass. The Gospel on this night is the story of Jesus' passion and death told by his disciple John. After a brief homily a plain wooden cross is brought into the church, and all are invited to come forward to venerate it. The Eucharist is distributed from a supply set aside during the Mass of the Lord's Supper the night before. The tabernacle stands open and empty as we remember the day that Jesus was not among the living.

The liturgy of Holy Saturday is called the Easter Vigil. The liturgy begins in a darkened church. A fire

is kindled, blessed, and used to light the paschal candle, which is carried in procession and hailed with the words "This is the Light of Christ." We hear story after story of God's saving action, from the creation of the world, through the exodus of the people of Israel from

slavery in Egypt, culminating in the proclamation of Jesus' resurrection. On this special night the catechumens are baptized into new life in the risen Christ.

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Members of the Parish Council invite you . . .

*to a reception for new parishioners on Saturday,
April 3, 7-9 p.m. in the parish center.*

Guests of honor at this reception are all who have registered at St. Patrick's since August 1992—as well as all who are new to St. Patrick's but haven't yet registered at the parish office.

"This is an open parish event," said Council president Carol Bosley. "We want to encourage all parishioners to come, to meet and extend a warm welcome to the newcomers in our community. Just let us know if you will be coming so we can plan accordingly!"

You can do that by calling the parish office, 367-2665.

Stories told in glass, part 2

Between the large windows in St. Patrick's church, telling stories about people of faith, are eight narrow windows that portray symbols of the great mysteries of faith.

The four windows nearer the back of the church depict images of Jesus' passion and death: the cross, the hammer and nails, the crown of thorns.

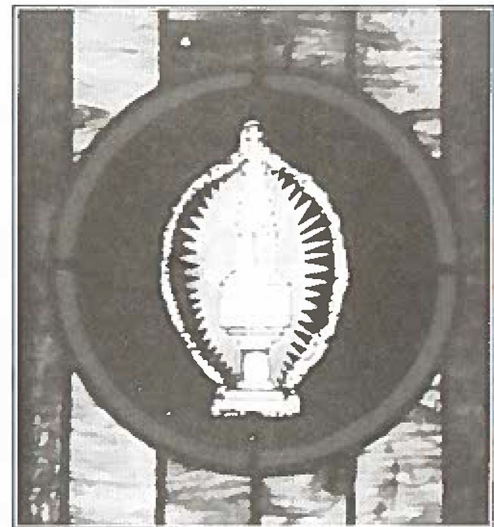
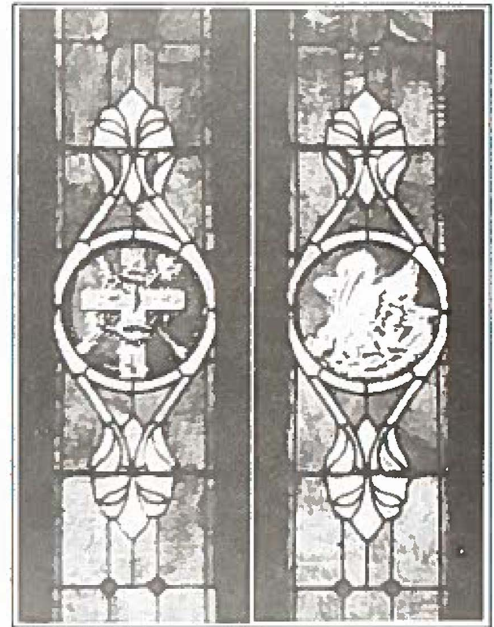
Those nearer the front of the church picture symbols of the Eucharist: wheat and grapes, host and chalice, monstrance, Paschal Lamb, pelican. The Paschal Lamb and the pelican reflect very ancient traditions of the Church.

Jesus is represented as the Paschal Lamb because the Church associates his sacrifice with the ritual sacrifice of animals in the temple. The prophet Isaiah says, "Though he was harshly treated, he submitted and opened not his mouth, like a lamb led to the slaughter." (53:7) In John's gospel, John the Baptist exclaims, "Look! There is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" (1:29)

The pelican has long been associated symbolically with the Eucharist. A book about animals written in the second century was the best of its kind until the Renaissance. In this book it is said that a mother pelican splits open her breast and feeds her chicks on her own flesh. Actually, she feeds her young on small fish that she carries in a pouch in her beak, but it is easy to see how this became a symbol of Jesus' gift of himself through his death on the cross and as food for the journey in the Eucharist.

In the vesting sacristy at the rear of the church are four narrow windows depicting symbols of the sacraments of initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist. Two of the windows portray a font and a shell from which water flows, recalling the sacrament of Baptism. The others show a dove and the loaves and fishes, reminding us of the other two sacraments of initiation, Confirmation and Eucharist.

The windows in our church have still other stories to tell, stories about people of faith who are named in the windows. These will be explored in an upcoming issue of *In Focus*. ■



Deadline for submission of information, articles, and news items for the next issue of *In Focus* is April 18.

Everyone can help with Re-Membering Church

Times like Lent tend to heighten awareness and appreciation of our faith and our opportunities to share it with members of our Christian family. For most of us that extended Christian family is our parish community, a place where we support one another, share our joys, lay out our problems, and journey with one another deeper into Christ.

Yet, in the midst of our joy in having a parish family, we all know of people—family, friends, work partners—whose stories are not marked by joy so much as by hurt and misunderstanding.

Lent is a time for healing the hurt. To work toward that goal, St. Patrick's has re-formed the Re-Membering Church team. Chaired by Barbara Wysocki, the team includes Judy Conover, Rita Lampe, Mary Lou Menches, Frank Modica, Fr. Tim Nolan, Nancy Rowley, and Leo Wood.

Team members have been meeting to develop ways for reaching out to those whom the Church has offended and driven away, to those

whose marriage situation needs to be resolved, and to those whose practice of Catholicism has grown cold and indifferent.

The Re-Membering Church team is currently inviting those who haven't celebrated the joy of Resurrection in a while to join us at Easter. Special invitations have been designed to announce our Easter liturgies and will soon be mailed. It is hoped that this first step will be well received so that dialogue can ensue and the process of healing can move forward during the Easter season.

If you know of someone to be invited, please leave that person's name, address, and telephone number at the parish office by Apr. 3.

Continue to pray that the Spirit will touch the hearts of those waiting to be asked and guide the work of the team. In a very real way the prayer is for ourselves, for each member of this parish family is charged with the responsibility to "re-member" Church. ■



Welcome to new parishioners Karen Chapman, Dave and Janice Hall, Kim and Roger Holland, Daniel and Elizabeth Maloney, Jennifer and Joseph Plunk, Greg and Kathy Plunk, Ron Plush, Kathleen and Mark Ritten.

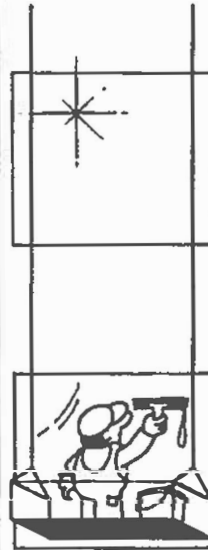
Farewell to parishioners who have moved: John Haworth, John Smith.

We welcome Gabriel Gene Zukosky Foote, recently baptized.

Congratulations to the following couples married at St. Patrick's: Jean Ellen Donovan and Joseph Michael Rasmussen, Janet Elizabeth Manley and Jerald Thomas Payouk.

Please pray for deceased parishioners Wayne M. Larsen and Sanford Harold Briggs.

Join up for spring clean-up



Who hasn't heard of spring cleaning? That time-honored celebration of spring that makes all things new: drawers and closets cleaned out, mattresses turned, ceilings and walls brushed clean,

lawns and flower beds raked out—ah, spring!

Our lenten journey, a kind of spring cleaning for the soul, will culminate in a joyful Easter celebration. But there's one more place that needs spring sprucing up, St. Patrick's church!

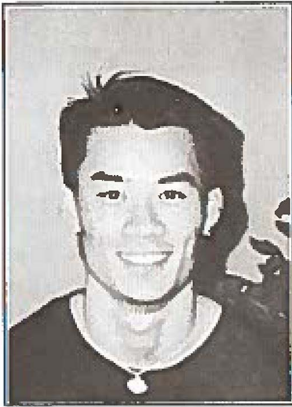
If you've never participated in Spring Clean-up at St. Patrick's, give it a try this year: Saturday, Apr. 3, 9-11:30 a.m.

The church is a large building, but many hands really do make light work. And the work is not difficult; if you can hold a dust cloth, swing a dust mop or a broom, or run a vacuum cleaner, you can help—and you are needed.

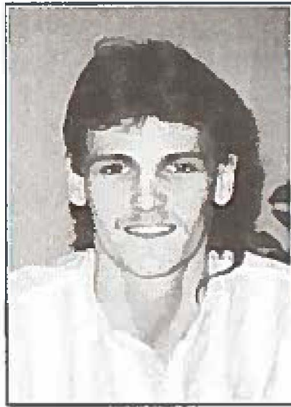
Glass walls need washing, corbels need wiping, altar and lectern and pews need polishing, cobwebs on the Rising Christ need cleaning out, St. Patrick needs a good soft cloth in and out of all those crevices, glass votive candle holders need washing ... a little something for everyone.

The Building and Grounds Committee, which has generously provided leadership and muscle in previous years, is unable to sponsor this year's Spring Clean-up. Members of the Liturgy Committee invite you to join them in sprucing up St. Patrick's for our Easter celebration.

And remember, nobody said you can't have a good time while you work! ■



Michael Byers



Daniel Chapman



Deborah Greco



Esther Lee



Mark Brockschmidt

Welcome the elect

Who are the "elect"? They are the men and women, chosen by God, who have responded to the call to faith through the sacramental life of Roman Catholicism.

Parishioners at the nine o'clock Mass on the First Sunday of Lent witnessed the ceremony in which the catechumens came forward with their sponsors to sign their names in the Book of the Elect and to receive a blessing from Fr. George Remm.

On Third, Fourth, and Fifth Sundays of Lent they came forward for the Scrutinies. Kneeling, parishioners and the elect together acknowledged the barriers of sin that impede our response to the reconciling and healing love of God and prayed for God's mercy and forgiveness.

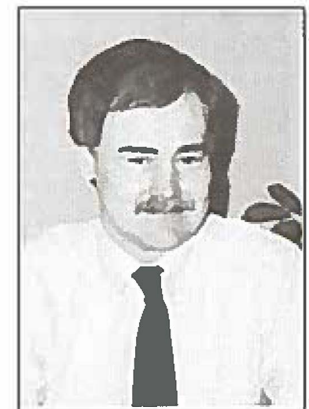
During these days of prayer and reflection as they prepare for full membership in the Church, pray for the elect. Give them a warm welcome wherever you chance upon them. Introduce yourself and help them to feel "at home" in their new faith community.



Jayne Kuntz



Tim Bowers



Phillip Musser



Jill Zehren



Stacie Smith



Sheila Scott

Parish Council News

At their March meeting Council members heard an enthusiastic presentation on teen liturgies by Fr. Tim Nolan. Participation by teenagers has been growing; teens are serving as lectors and ushers, and four seniors have been commissioned as eucharistic ministers for the teen liturgies. Father acknowledged the support of the Education Committee, especially in preparing teens for liturgical ministries at these Masses.

Fr. Remm announced that this year's co-chairs for the diocesan Annual Stewardship Appeal are Carole Rebeiz and Walter Splittstoesser and that Bill Subick has agreed to serve again as auditor. Our diocesan goal this year is \$61,725, an increase of only about \$1200 over last year.

In order to provide funds for debt retirement, our parish's overall ASA goal is targeted at \$70,000. Father added that parishioners' generosity in the year just completed has resulted in a rebate of \$7666, all of which will go to retirement of our parish debt. The ASA pledge drive in our parish will take place on May 1-2 and May 15-16.

Some additions to the Parish Wish List, items desired and needed but not budgeted for, were suggested: a fold-down layette table for the Ladies Room, movable coat racks, better outside lighting for the church, a new piano for the choir loft. Council members suggested that the list of items, with estimated prices added, should be published periodically so that parishioners who would like to donate any of them would have an idea of what is needed and its cost.

The ad hoc Election Committee announced a slate of six candidates for the Parish Council election on Apr. 17-18. It was decided that the informational brochure for the



election, normally made available to parishioners a week beforehand (Easter Sunday, this year) should be distributed a week earlier.

Plans are progressing for the Reception for New Parishioners on Apr. 3. Carol Bosley mentioned that there has already been a good response from the new parishioners invited. The evening has been planned as a welcoming, social event, with a slide presentation about the parish. It is hoped that many long-time parishioners will also come, helping to infuse the evening with the spirit of this parish.

Members reviewed a slightly modified draft of the parish budget for FY 1993-94. As revised, it stands at \$419,235, an increase of \$12,135 (2.9%) over the budget for this year. Members will vote on the budget at their April meeting.

Noting that our parish pictorial directory is now about six years old, Council members approved the idea of having a new one prepared and of working toward seeking a group to handle it.

To protect confidentiality and security of computerized parish information, the Council approved the purchase of a new computer that would be designated for data base and financial recording only. The present computer used for that purpose will be used by Mark Fisch and by volunteers as needed in their parish work.

Miriam Nirider announced happily that the Social Committee is now

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Parish youngsters at Holy Cross School are getting ready!

In spite of spring break, March is a busy time for students preparing for Easter, for First Eucharist (Apr. 17), and for Confirmation (Apr. 21).

Sixth-graders have also prepared for the Medieval Fair (Mar. 31, 7-9 p.m.). This annual tradition springs from their study of the Middle Ages. At the fair, students will present their projects reflecting this era and dance as the lords and their ladies danced in this long-ago time.

On Parents Day, Mar. 16, parents joined their children for lunch in the school cafeteria. Parents Day provides parents with an opportunity to greet teachers and the parents of other students, and to meet their children's classmates.

Children and parents alike were saddened by the recent death of Dr. Wayne Larsen, active member of St. Patrick's parish. He was a familiar figure at Holy Cross School, where he was often found in classrooms and library and organized the Tiger Cubs for the local Cub Scout Pack 9. Prayerful condolences to Wayne's wife, Ellen, and to their sons, Timmy and Michael. ■



Writers needed

If you can write regularly or once in a while for In Focus, please call Mary Lou Menches (344-1125 or 244-4701).

St. Catherine, a woman of her time and ours

In these modern times people sometimes question why the Catholic Church dwells on tradition and people who lived long ago. How can ancient customs and people be relevant to the world of today?

The lives and struggles of saints of long ago have helped to shape our present and our future. In a very real sense, we are products of our past.

One such shaper of the future was Catherine of Siena, who was born nearly 650 years ago, in 1347.

As a young child Catherine demonstrated a great love of God and placed little value in her family's wealth. She resisted her parents' pressure to marry and lead a comfortable life, becoming instead a tertiary sister of the Dominican order. As such she lived at home and spent much time in prayer.

Catherine soon began to nurse the sick, preferring the cancer patients and lepers that others avoided. She risked her own life to

care for those stricken with a plague, preparing them for death and even burying many with her own hands. She also visited the prisons to counsel prisoners condemned to death and to prepare them for their final ordeal.

Her reputation for holiness and wisdom spread throughout Italy and much of Europe. She was often called on to mediate disputes and to reconcile differences between rival families and political parties.

In 1375 Catherine sought to mediate the conflict between Florence and the papal government. At this time Pope Gregory XI resided in Avignon, France; Catherine was successful in encouraging him to return to Rome, although not in preventing a 40-year schism that followed soon after.

Catherine's greatness resided more in her personal faith and holiness than in her political influence. Yet, obedient to her call from the Lord, she wielded considerable influence over major events and leaders of her time and affected succeeding generations of believers. The Church honors her, and the work of Christ in her, on April 29.

In the 2000 years of Church history and tradition many per-

sons, the humble as well as the great in the eyes of their contemporaries, have set examples for us in Christian living, in following the call of the Lord. Whatever our vocation today, we can draw encouragement from those who have gone before us—and do our part in the advancement of the Kingdom for those who come after us. ■

Council news, continued

co-chaired by Linda Weber and Alta Tarter. Linda will "specialize" in events for teens and young children; Alta, in events for adults—and of course they will collaborate in those for which one might expect participation by a cross-section of the parish. Surveys are planned to provide the co-chairs with a sense of what kinds of events parishioners most enjoy.

The next Council meeting will be Thursday, Apr. 15. All parishioners are welcome to attend these open meetings. (Don't forget, they start now at 7 p.m. instead of 7:30 p.m.!) ■

Quick fixin's from the kitchen of... Rose Brown

Dump Cookies

1 box brownie mix
1 box chocolate cake mix
1 box yellow cake mix
3 eggs
3/4 c oil
3/4 c water

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Mix together all ingredients and drop by teaspoonful onto greased cookie sheet. Bake approximately 8 minutes.



What does a Parish Council do, anyway?

St. Patrick's Parish Council was established in the late sixties to serve as a consultative body for the pastor on matters of concern to the parish. The Council also oversees formulation of the parish budget and allocation of funds for maintenance, salaries, and programs.

Each Council member is appointed to serve as liaison with one of the standing committees of the Council. As a two-way link and sounding board for these committees, liaisons bring vital feedback to the Parish Council regarding committee concerns, activities, and ideas—one significant way of keeping in touch with parishioners' needs and views.

The executive committee of the Council (Council officers, parish trustees, and pastor) sets the agenda for the monthly meeting. Any parishioner who wishes to present an item for consideration by the Council may do so by contacting a member of this committee two weeks before the Council meeting, usually held on the third Thursday of the month.

Council meetings are open to all parishioners; members would be pleased to see in attendance more parishioners, in whose interests they serve.

Each year in April an election is held to fill vacancies created by completion of three-year terms by roughly one-third of the elected membership. This year's election is Apr. 17-18, with six candidates presented for election to fill three vacancies. Newly elected members will be seated on the Council at the May meeting, at which new Council officers are elected.

Council members merit the prayerful support of their co-parishioners. Agendas often include troublesome issues for consideration, difficult decisions to be made, that may affect the life of our faith community, set a new course for the parish, affect the ways we worship or work or play together. We can help them with our prayers, our encouragement, and our communication on matters of interest. ■

St. Patrick's InFocus

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 Fahey, Dorothy Maduzia, Donna Price, Carole Rebeiz.

Articles and information for this issue were contributed by Helen Barrymore, Carol Bosley, Rose Brown, Dorothy Maduzia, Mary Lou Menches, Carole Rebeiz, Leslie Risatti, Gary Riskowski, Cathy Salika, Barb Wysocki.

Triduum, continued from page 1

In each of these three days, part of the liturgy is a recalling, often a reenactment, of what Jesus did during the three days leading up to the first Easter. But we are not merely play-acting. We do not spend Holy Thursday pretending to be unaware that Jesus died the next day, and we do not spend Good Friday pretending to be unaware that he rose from the dead. The three days are a single celebration of a single action: salvation through the death and resurrection of Jesus.

Each day brings out different aspects of God's saving action—eucharist, service, death, rising, enlightenment, community—but it is only when we see these days together that we begin to see how much God has done for us.

It is said that the most important days of the year have the most ancient liturgies, and so it is: the liturgies of these three days are the most ancient of all. Christians have been baptizing catechumens at Easter for as long as there has been an annual celebration of Easter, early in the second century. The diary of Egeria, a woman who made a pilgrimage to Jerusalem in the fourth century, describes a liturgy of Good Friday that is very similar to ours of today.

This year the three days fall on April 8, 9, and 10. The main liturgy begins at 7:30 each evening. Although children may find the Easter Vigil too long, the Thursday and Friday liturgies are full of special elements that can speak to them about God's saving work. ■



Ladies of the parish feted by Knights





April 1993

SAINT PATRICK'S PARISH, URBANA

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

Because the In Focus calendar is prepared in advance of scheduled events and meetings, please check the weekly bulletin to confirm dates and times for specific listings.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 6:45pm Choir (9a Mass) 7:00pm BeFriender 7:30pm Personnel Comm	2 10:45am Champaign County Nursing Home, Mass 5:15pm Stations of the Cross 5:30pm Fish Fry	3 9:00am -11:30a Church spring cleaning 7:00pm -9p Reception for New Parishioners
4 9:00am , 11a, 6:30p Religious Ed 9:30am RCIA 1:00pm Lector Training 6:30pm Jr. High Youth Group Palm Sunday	5 7:00pm Education Comm 7:00pm Choir (10:30a Mass)	6 9:00am Funeral Schola 1:45pm Rosary, Champaign County Nursing Home 7:00pm Beginning Experience 7:00pm -8p Individual Reconciliation 7:30pm PC Exec Comm	7 9:00am Mom's Group 4:00pm -6p Individual Reconciliation 6:00pm Religious Ed: Urbana 6:30pm Religious Ed: St. Joe 7:00pm SVDP 7:00pm Pro Life 7:00pm Choir (10:30a Mass)	8 7:00am Morning Prayer 7:30pm Holy Thursday Mass and Exposition Holy Thursday	9 7:00am Morning Prayer 3:00pm Stations of the Cross 7:30pm Good Friday Service Good Friday	10 8:00am Morning Prayer 7:30pm Easter Vigil and Reception
11 Easter Sunday	12 Parish Office closed	13 1:45pm Rosary, Champaign County Nursing Home 7:00pm Financial Affairs Comm 7:00pm First Communion Prep	14 12:45pm MM Bandage Rolling 7:00pm SVDP 7:00pm Choir (10:30a) 7:00pm Memorial Prayer Suc. 7:15pm Bldg & Grnds	15 6:45pm Choir (9a Mass) 7:00pm Parish Council	16 10:30am Urbana Nursing Home, Mass 10:45am Champaign County Nursing Home, Mass	17
18 9:00am , 11a, 6:30p Religious Ed 5:30pm Teen Liturgy 6:30pm Jr. High Youth Group Council Elections	19	20 9:00am Funeral Schola 1:45pm Rosary, Champaign County Nursing Home 7:00pm Beginning Experience 7:00pm First Communion Prep	21 9:00am Mom's Group 6:00pm Religious Ed: Urbana 6:30pm Religious Ed: St. Joe 7:00pm SVDP 7:00pm Choir (10:30a Mass)	22 6:45pm Choir (9a Mass) 7:30pm Knights of Columbus	23 10:30am Americana NH, Mass 10:45am Champaign County Nursing Home, Mass	24
25 2:00pm , 4p First Communion	26 7:30pm Social Action Comm	27 1:45pm Rosary, Champaign County Nursing Home 7:00pm Homily Prep	28 12:45pm MM Bandage Rolling 7:00pm SVDP 7:00pm Communications Comm 7:00pm Choir (10:30a Mass)	29 6:45pm Choir (9a Mass) 7:30pm Annual Stewardship Appeal Workers Meeting	30 10:45am Champaign County Nursing Home, Mass	

