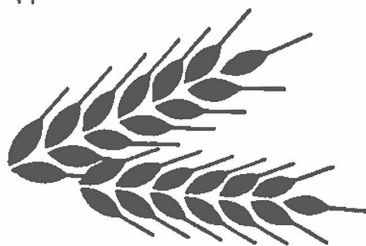


# In Focus



## What are your hopes for the future?

The new year often brings with it a desire to set a new course, to set new goals, and so we formulate resolutions. "I resolve to get my act in order," we say. "I'm going to lose weight, make more time for my family and friends, try harder to be on time for work, for Mass, for appointments." Good resolutions designed to make life better somehow.

At Evening Prayer during Advent, participants were invited to reflect on their hopes for the future and to share those hopes in small groups. Many of those participating were newly named catechumens, some of

whom were accompanied by friends or family. Afterward they were invited to write their hopes and desires for the future so they could be shared with you here. This is what they wrote:

I hope I can be independent enough not to let the harsh words of others get to me.

I hope I can find more of the time I need for prayer.

I hope I can make a difference in at least one person's life.

I hope I can find strength to make it through all the troubled times I've been having lately.

I hope to experience the sacrament of marriage to a wonderful man, to live long with him and our children.

I hope to joyously come into this Spirit-filled Church.

I hope that the Lord will provide me, and all of us, a sense of direction and purpose. This direction could be spiritual, moral, professional, or academic.

I hope that the Lord will guide our way. For me, there is no worse feeling than one of being lost.

I hope that my family and I can live a daily life that is filled with the

*Continued page 6*



*How beautiful upon the mountains  
are the feet of the messenger  
who announces peace,  
who brings good news,  
who announces salvation,  
who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."  
Listen! Your sentinels  
lift up their voices,  
together they sing for joy;  
for in plain sight they see  
the return of the Lord to Zion.  
Break forth together into singing,  
you ruins of Jerusalem;  
for the Lord has comforted his people,  
he has redeemed Jerusalem.  
—Isaiah, 52:7-9*



## in our parish library

### **Saint of the Day**

*Edited by Leonard Foley, OFM*

What makes a saint a saint? According to the author, Fr. Foley, "A loving God offers us friendship, and the result of that gracious act is our holiness. God gives us divine life and love, and it therefore becomes natural for us to live supernatural lives."

He adds, "It is true that we must work at being holy—keeping the commandments, being on the alert for others' need, disciplining ourselves. But even this effort is God's

gift. The more we realize that, the more we will use the gift."

The saints whose lives are described in this book are special signs of God's activity. Their surrender to God's love was so generous that the Church holds them up for our inspiration. They remind us that the Church is holy, is called to show the holiness of God by living the life of Christ.

Their lives were conditioned by the culture and history of their own day; their expression of holiness may be quite different from what it would be today. But the essence is the

same—they received God's gift with joy, and they call to us to do likewise. "Do you not know that you are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person; for the temple of God, which you are, is holy" (1 Cor. 3:16-17).

This book is a revised and updated edition that contains more than 200 entries. Each includes a short account of the life of the saint, a reflective comment showing the relevance of the saint's example to our times, and an appropriate quotation from Scripture, the works of the saint, or comments from other spiritual writers. A readable and user-friendly companion. ■

### **Quick fixin's from the kitchen of ... Jeannie Rasmussen**

#### **Cheesy Onion Spread**

- 3 c grated Swiss cheese
- 1 c chopped red onion
- 1 c mayonnaise
- 1/4 t lemon pepper
- 1/8 t salt

Combine all ingredients. Refrigerate overnight. Serve with party rye bread or crackers.



### **Holiday fixin's from the kitchen of ... Ann Britsky**

#### **Turkey (or Chicken) Wedges**

- 1 c biscuit mix
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1 1/2 t cooking oil
- 2 c chopped turkey or chicken
- 2 medium peppers, red or green, cut into strips
- 3 medium tomatoes, halved and sliced
- 1 medium onion, red or yellow, chopped
- 1 1/2 c shredded Swiss cheese
- 1/2 c light mayonnaise

- 1/2 c light sour cream
- 1 t chopped parsley
- dash of pepper

Mix together biscuit mix, beaten egg, and cooking oil until blended; knead a few times until smooth. Roll into a 12-inch circle and place in a greased pizza pan.

Combine the chopped meat, peppers, tomatoes, and onion. In a separate bowl, combine the cheese, mayonnaise, sour cream, parsley, and pepper. Top the rolled dough with half of the meat-vegetable mixture, followed by half of the cheese mixture. Repeat layers.

Bake at 350 degrees for 25 minutes, or until golden. An excellent way to use some of that leftover turkey! ■

## Why Epiphany?

Epiphany is a festival celebrated by most Christians on or around Jan. 6. In Catholic and many Protestant churches Epiphany commemorates the adoration of the infant Jesus by the magi, or wise ones, from the East. In Eastern churches, Epiphany commemorates the baptism of Jesus; it is on this feast that baptismal water is blessed in Eastern churches.

The word "epiphany" is derived from a Greek word that means "to show oneself." It refers specifically to the appearance of an invisible divine being in visible form. In the manifestation of divinity in the humanity of Jesus to the magi, God moves beyond human barriers of race, ethnicity, nationalism to demonstrate that the divine plan for salvation encompasses all of humankind. In this we too rejoice! ■

## Speak, Lord, your servant listens

Lord,  
in the middle of the night  
you called to Samuel,  
Samuel, who was sound asleep.

Again and again you called to him.  
He did not know you,  
for you had not shown yourself  
to him before.

"Samuel," you called, "Samuel!"  
And Samuel, at long last, answered:

"Speak, Lord, your servant listens."

Thus began a lifelong friendship,  
you and Samuel, Samuel and you,  
together.

Lord,  
you call to each of us  
in the slumber of unawareness.  
"Rise from sleep," you say,  
"Come and follow me," you say.

Where do you lead, Lord?  
Where do you stay?  
Speak, Lord, your servant listens.

"Come and see," you say.  
"Come and see!"

Here we are, Lord; we come.  
Speak, Lord, we listen,  
deep in our hearts we listen.  
We hear your voice  
in the words of Scripture,  
in the still, small whisper  
of your Spirit when we pray.  
We hear your voice  
in the words and doings  
of your friends  
(ours too, because they're yours).

Be with us, Lord,  
today and all our tomorrows,  
friends forever.  
Speak, Lord, we listen  
and follow. ■



## "Hinc illae lacrimae" "Hence these tears"

Frank Nasca set an example of caring concern, warmth, dedication, and love in his dying as in his living. In his enthusiasm for life and his pleasure in the happiness of family, students, university colleagues, and friends, he gave witness to Christ's love for us all. In his dedication to *In Focus* he had few equals; his love for his parish will be remembered in the name he suggested for this parish newsletter.

We miss Frank; hence these tears. We cherish his memory and admire the example he set in his time with us; hence these tears even as we rejoice—for surely he has attained the Kingdom. ■

# Parish Council News

At the December Council meeting members welcomed Sharon Monday-Dorsey, who gave a presentation on the St. Jude Catholic Worker House and its activities.

Although some work is still to be done on the parish pictorial directory, the photo sessions have been completed; 473 families will appear in the directory.

About \$122,000 has been pledged so far for St. Patrick's Catholic Education Foundation, with \$68,550 of that amount already paid. Another \$4000 has been contributed through envelopes provided for that purpose.

As of Nov. 30, the parish needs only about \$2700 to meet our goal (\$61,725) for the diocesan Annual Stewardship Appeal. Our parish's goal included an additional \$8200, not all of which was pledged last May.

During the Sacrificial Giving weekend 191 pledge cards and 174 "time and talent" cards were turned in. A mailing has been sent out to households not yet heard from.

At the meeting held on establishing a Catholic high school in the area, facilitated by Msgr. Campbell, it was pointed out that the start-up cost would be \$15-\$20 million, a figure that does not include ongoing operating expenses. The diocese requires that 70% of the cost be in hand before such a project could be started.

A building at Chanute might be less expensively converted to the proposed use, if parents would be willing to send their children outside the actual C-U area. The proposed school would have to be open to all who want to come, also, not only to local Catholic youths.

It was noted that such a school would have to be reasonably well equipped, with science labs, computer labs, etc., and that the operating cost would be quite high. Other Catholic schools in the area find op-



erating costs high, and administrators are having difficulty meeting those expenses as it is, without having to compete for funding with yet another Catholic school.

The next step: a feasibility study.

The Social Committee, with a low response to two activities planned for December (Lunch with Santa and Christmas caroling), will combine forces with the Knights of Columbus to help with the annual Ladies Knight Out dinner.

Council members agreed to affirm without changes the committee objectives received indicating ways each committee proposes to work toward fulfillment of parish goals.

Salary ranges for staff and stipend ranges with a "step plan" for religious education coordinators met with Council approval.

A new computer and printer will be obtained to replace the oldest ones in use (in the parish office), funded from the budgeted allocation for office equipment.

Research into a potential replacement for the parish copier will begin, although the need is not immediate.

Committees and other parish groups are encouraged to try to avoid meeting during Lent insofar as this is possible. The Council itself will postpone what business it can and meet only to take care of pressing matters.

No decision has been made yet on undertaking the expense involved in accessing the Catholic Telecommunications Network of America. More research into available programming and possible alternatives to CTNA will be done.

Don Keefer was announced as the new chair of the Social Action Committee.

The Building and Grounds Committee has obtained the bronze plaque acknowledging the Guild's donation for improving the outside lighting at the church. Committee members are looking into the cost for similar improvements at the parish center.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be Jan. 20. All parishioners are invited to attend these open parish meetings. Requests for topics to be discussed or action taken should be given to the Executive Committee of the Council at least two weeks in advance (members are listed on the front of the weekly bulletin). ■

## Parish Wish List



A list of items not a necessity but nice to have, useful, perhaps even advantageous to the operation of the parish, but not included in the parish's operating budget:

- Two mobile coat racks to be used for participants in Children's Liturgy, for large receptions in the multipurpose room, etc. (\$450 each)

- Park benches and hardy perennials for a sitting area outside the parish center (\$300)

- Large video projector (\$2000-\$4000)

- Organ renovation (\$8000)

- Scanner (\$2000), optical-disk storage (\$1500), and imaging software (\$500) to preserve materials related to the history of the parish, preventing loss through fire or other catastrophe

Fr. George Remm will be happy to discuss the purpose of the wish list with interested parishioners or to answer questions about individual items on it. ■

## A Thanksgiving "Thank you!"



Speaking for the St. Vincent de Paul members, president Sophia Zeigler thanks all who contributed funds and time for the sharing of

the earth's bounty with others in need in this area. Donations for Thanksgiving dinners totaled \$3150, making possible the preparation of 150 food baskets with a bit left over to help stranded travelers, the homeless, and others who seek aid from our parish.

Sophia shares this excerpt from a letter of thanks from the Mental Health Center (Champaign):

"Many of our clients are on fixed incomes and by the time they pay their basic bills (rent, electricity, telephone, medicine), they have very little left for food. Many of them would have been unable to afford the Thanksgiving dinner you provided with all the trimmings. Through your efforts, 50 of our most serious and persistently mentally ill, elderly, and victims of crime received Thanksgiving baskets.

We heard from many, who were excited after receiving the food baskets. They called their case managers to tell us about them. They especially liked the canned ham. Many of them do not cook extensively, and all they had to do was warm it up.

We also want to express our gratitude to all who assisted in delivering the baskets. Your smiling faces and thoughtful words meant a great deal to our clients."

Sophia concludes, "A big thank you to all!"

The St. Vincent de Paul Society's annual report will be published in the next issue of *In Focus*. ■

## January 18-25 the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity



In his famous "I have a dream" speech, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., called our nation to unity beyond the barriers of race, class, and religion. Each year during the national celebration of his birth we hear excerpts from that challenge delivered before the Lincoln Memorial in 1963. We are moved once again by the spirit of unity to which his vision calls us.

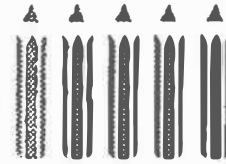
Each year the Church invites us, in concert with the World Council of Churches, to pray for unity, to review our commitment to Christian unity and mission.

Once called the Church Unity Octave, the week of prayer was first observed in 1908 by a community of Episcopalian Franciscans in Graymoor, New York. (In a splendid example of the efficacy of prayer, this little community of friars and sisters were received into the Roman Catholic Church in 1909.)

The week of prayer for unity was chosen so that it would end with the feast of the Conversion of St. Paul. That moment on the road to Damascus changed the course of history, converting Saul to Paul. We too are called to meet Christ in the blinding light of truth and are challenged to share the experience of conversion.

As we join the world at prayer for unity, we might also be mindful of our catechumens, engaged in identifying their own conversion journeys. ■

## What's the news from Holy Cross School?



This month's theme at Holy Cross School was "I will hold the CHRIST LIGHT for you." The children demonstrated that each time we serve those who need us, we are making that "Jesus light" shine brighter. Some of the service projects included collection and distribution of art supplies to Matthew House by the kindergarten classes and donations of much-needed items (soap, shampoo, bus tokens) to the Catholic Worker House by second-graders.

The sixth-graders held their annual Greek Festival. Sponsored by Colleen Madix, social studies teacher, the children concluded their studies of Ancient Greece with a celebration luncheon featuring authentic Greek foods provided by parents.

The Student Council election results were announced. Those elected from St. Patrick's are Jacob Thompson and Hayley Ellis. Christy Laesch is alternate for 7H.

Beginning in August 1994, students in grades k-7 will wear school uniforms. The Holy Cross Commission on Youth Education made its recommendation that the school adopt a school uniform. The decision to accept this recommendation was made by Marilyn Joseph, school administrator, after consultation with Fr. Mullen, pastor of Holy Cross Parish. Selection of the uniform's design will be done by a committee made up of two parents, two commission members, two teachers, two students, and Marilyn Joseph.

Looking ahead: Spring Break for Holy Cross School is Mar. 7-11. First Eucharist is set for Saturday, Apr. 16, at 10 a.m. And the school's graduation ceremony is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, May 25, at 7 p.m. ■

## Hopes, continued from page 1

Lord. I hope that all of our priorities can move outward from this center.

I hope that I can use my energy and talents as the Lord would have me, to help others as I may.

I hope to always keep on hoping and never to allow the despair of the world prevent me from feeling and sharing the joy of the Lord's blessings.

I hope for fulfillment of the sacraments of Communion, Confirmation, and Reconciliation.

I hope to find a partner of the opposite sex to challenge me, with faith and in a loving relationship.

I hope that I may learn to control my jealousy of friends and to stop putting myself down a lot.

I hope to involve myself more without losing tolerance.

I hope to learn the rosary and to pray every day with it. It would be a good tool to get a closer relationship with God.

I hope and pray that God will send us a baby to adopt.

I hope to finish my novel and send it to a publisher.

I hope to plant seeds that will eventually lead my best friend to the Catholic Church.

I hope for a stronger prayer life and to learn more about the saints and various devotions.

I hope and pray for the commitment and discipline to pray the rosary every day.

I hope to be brought into full communion with the Church. I also pray that I will continue to experience God's grace in my life and continue to give Him glory and praise.

I hope to learn to tolerate people and their actions better. To know that people do the things they do for a reason.

I hope to learn to accept human error with grace, both for myself and those around me.

I hope for world peace. ■

## In Focus gains a subscriber!

A parishioner put two stamps on an envelope and sent a copy of *In Focus* to a friend who lives in New Jersey. Back came ten dollars' worth of 52-cent stamps with this request: "Please send every issue of *In Focus*. I love St. Patrick's!"

Another parishioner sends out seven copies of each issue to friends and acquaintances who live out of town. ■

## In appreciation

Gayle Daly wishes to express appreciation to the priests, parishioners, and members of St. Patrick's Guild on the death of Muriel Griffy for their assistance and prayers. Special thanks to members of the Guild and others who provided the meal following the funeral. ■

## 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: Yvonne Barger, 344-2168; Mary Lou Menches, 344-1125 or 244-4701; Bridget Peters, 337-7663; Jeannie Rasmussen, 328-7929; Gary Riskowski, 344-4394; Katharine Schrader, 344-5995; Peggy Whelan, 367-3668.

Associates: Amy Fahey, Dorothy Maduzia, Donna Price, Carole Rebeiz.

Articles and information for this issue were contributed by Dorothy Maduzia, Mary Lou Menches, Lenore Nagele, Leslie Risatti, Gary Riskowski, Peggy Whelan, Sophia Zeigler.



Welcome to new parishioners Daniel and Kathryn Chamberlain, Sandy and Stephen Cheek, Thomas Ehardt, Kathleen and Robert LaBranche, Damon MacKae, Mark Millsap, Ann Murphy, Dale and Sandy Roth, Mary Rupp, Bernard and Florence Stork, Christine and Daniel Thompson, Lynn Trevarthen.

+ + +

Farewell to parishioners who have moved from C-U: John Bensko, Karen and Richard Hanlin, Doug and Jackie Lown, Bill and Carol Subick.

+ + +

We welcome the following recently baptized into our faith community: Claire Elizabeth Drone-Silvers, Erin Claire Dobbs, Tanner Franklin Williams, Christopher John Pascal Mathy, Cora Caitlin Freidhof, McKenzie Page Cheek, Lindsey Rae Yanchus, Daniel Ryan Yanchus.

+ + +

Congratulations to couples married at St. Patrick's: Jason John Leiker and Julie Ann Gast, Randall P. Wright and Deborah Ann Heisserer.

+ + +

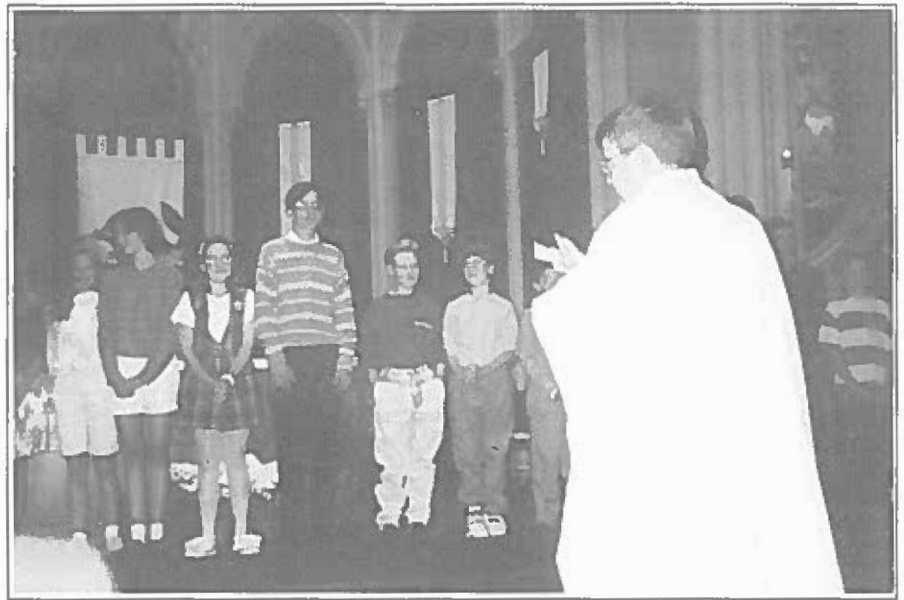
Please pray for deceased parishioners Carolyn Sue Birt, Frank Nasca, Tony Handal.

+ + +

**Deadline for  
submission of  
information,  
articles, and  
news items for  
the next issue of In  
Focus is January 16.**



# The Year That Was





# January 1994

## ST. 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.

1  
New Year's Day

2 Feast of the Epiphany	3 7:00pm Education Comm	4 6:30pm Homily Prep 7:00pm Beginning Experience 7:30pm Development Comm	5 6:00pm RE 6:30pm RE-St. Joe 7:00pm Over 21 7:00pm Pro-Life Comm 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm SVDP	6 6:45pm Choir 7:00pm Befriender	7 10:45am Mass, CCNH	8
9 9:00am RE 9:00am RCIA 11:00am RE 6:30pm RE	10 7:00pm Liturgy Comm	11 6:30pm Education Appreciation 7:00pm Financial Affairs Comm 7:30pm Executive Parish Council	12 9:30am Mom's Group 1:00pm MM Bandage Rolling 6:00pm RE 6:30pm RE-St. Joe 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm SVDP 7:00pm Building & Grounds	13 6:45pm Choir 7:00pm Baptism Prep	14 10:30am Mass, Fontana 10:45am Mass, CCNH 6:30pm Liturgy Appreciation	15
16 9:00am RE 9:00am RCIA 11:00am RE 5:30pm Teen Liturgy 6:30pm RE	17	18 7:00pm Beginning Experience	19 9:00am Guild 6:00pm RE 6:30pm RE-St. Joe 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm SVDP	20 6:45pm Choir 7:00pm Parish Council	21 10:30am Mass, Urbana NH 10:45am Mass, CCNH	22 6:30pm Pro-Life Vigil
23 9:00am RE 9:00am RCIA 11:00am RE 6:30pm RE	24 7:00pm Prayer Group 7:30pm Social Action Comm	25 7:00pm Homily Prep	26 9:30am Mom's Group 1:00pm MM Bandage Rolling 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm SVDP 7:00pm Communications Comm	27 6:45pm Choir 7:30pm Knights of Columbus	28 10:30am Mass, Americana NH 10:45am Mass, CCNH	29
30 8:00am Blood Drive	31	<p><b>Deadline for submission of information, articles, and news items for the next issue of In Focus is January 18.</b></p>				