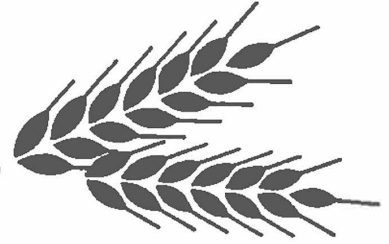


S T P A T R I C K ' S P A R I S H

In Focus



Catechetical Sunday kicks off new year of religious education

On Catechetical Sunday St. Patrick's will recognize and commission the more than 150 volunteers who have been recruited and are enthusiastically being trained by St. Patrick's religious education staff to help with religious education and family life ministry in the parish.

"Imagine God's Mercy" is this year's theme, set by the U.S. bishops for Catechetical Sunday, which will be observed at all Masses the weekend of Sept. 16-17. The readings for that Sunday vividly portray God's mercy: Moses successfully pleads for God's mercy upon his people; Paul speaks of the mercy he has personally received from God; Jesus in the Gospel offers three images to show God's generous mercy, climaxing with the story of the "Prodigal Son." The Bible tells the stories, but catechists and all parishioners are called upon to make the mercy of God real in the ways we interact with one another.

On Catechetical Sunday registration for all parish religious education programs, which begin Oct. 1, will take place after all weekend Masses.

Catechetical Sunday is also the culmination of recruitment and training of volunteers. On Saturday, Sept. 16, catechists and teachers of religion from all parishes in our area will attend the A.C.R.E. (Area Coordinators of Religious Education) RENEW Catechist Day at St. Patrick's.

The day begins with 8:00 a.m. Mass and continues until 2:00 p.m. A fee of \$10 per person (covered by the parish for St. Patrick's catechists) includes lunch. Registration forms are available at St. Patrick's parish office. All interested adults are invited to participate.

Carolyn McElrath, Director of Religious

Education at St. Patrick's, and other A.C.R.E. coordinators will coordinate the day's activities. The keynote speaker is Fr. George Remm, pastor of St. Patrick's, on the theme of God's mercy. Workshops will be offered by Jan Lipska, of the Newman Center in Topeka, Kansas, on creative classroom prayer; Ellen Amberg, Children's Program Coordinator, and Cindy Kelly, Junior High Coordinator, both of St. Patrick's, on classroom teaching methods; William Janicki, of the Diocesan Office of



Ellen Amberg conducts workshop session at A.C.R.E RENEW Catechist Day, 1994.

Religious Education, on catechesis for the twenty-first century; Diane Musumeci,

continued on page 4

Stewardship Sunday 1995

Time, Talent, Treasure, yes—but whose?

A couple of months ago *In Focus* applauded individuals and groups in our parish who give unstintingly of their time and talent and God-given skills in the building up of the Kingdom in this time and place. There weren't words enough or space enough in that issue to acknowledge all that parishioners do, in the parish and in the community, that helps to make life better for someone else, oils the machinery of daily operations, reveals in word and deed the tremendous love our God has for each and every one.

This fall marks the eighth anniversary of St. Patrick's setting out on a program of Sacrificial Giving, the tithing not only

of treasure but also of time and talent. We will probably hear testimonials to that tithing by way of encouragement, but we have very excellent models all around us, here and now, in this very time and place, to serve us well as motivators. If we seek evidence, we need only look about us.

At a Sunday Mass, someone has unlocked the church, turned on the air conditioning (thank you!) in summer or the heat in winter, set out chalice, wine, and bread for our eucharistic banquet, refilled votive candle holders, set out weekly bulletins, tidied the pews following an earlier Mass.

continued on page 5



in our parish library

Catholic Customs and Traditions

by Greg Dues

What is the root meaning of Eucharist? Why is Friday the 13th considered unlucky? What is the origin of the poinsettia as a Christmas symbol? Why have St. Christopher medals all but vanished from our dashboards?

These are but a few of the elements of Roman Catholic traditions and customs explored and explained in this book. Within the context of the Church year, the author provides an overview of the rich variety of traditions associated with Advent, Christmas, Lent, Holy Week, and Easter. He also treats the sacraments, popular devotions, and traditions not directly associated with the Church year, such as Halloween and Thanksgiving.

This book encourages readers to respect, enjoy, and practice traditions that are in keeping with our contemporary Catholic Church, liturgy, and spirituality. In the introduction, Dues explains that he has written this book for parish teams and catechists, catechumens and neophytes who want to understand Catholic customs better, parents who want to clarify their motives for preserving certain traditions, and for adults in special formation programs.

Greg Dues has served for several years as religious educator and pastoral minister in the Diocese of Saginaw (Mich.). He is the author of two other books, one on parish leadership and another on teaching religion. ■

Welcome to St. Patrick's from the staff of In Focus

During the summer months many individuals and families moved into our neighborhood and have registered at St. Patrick's. It's a pleasure to welcome you!

If you haven't registered yet (testing the waters, so to speak) and now feel more comfortable with the rest of us as we gather to worship together, we hope that you'll soon register to "make it official."

We hope too that you won't wait for a personal invitation to participate in the many programs and activities our parish offers. You will see them listed in the weekly bulletin, hear about them at Mass, read about them in issues of In Focus, or find out about them from friends or new acquaintances in Coffee Shop. All it takes

is a call to the parish office or a visit with someone after Mass or at Coffee Shop to get into the rhythm of life in St. Patrick's.

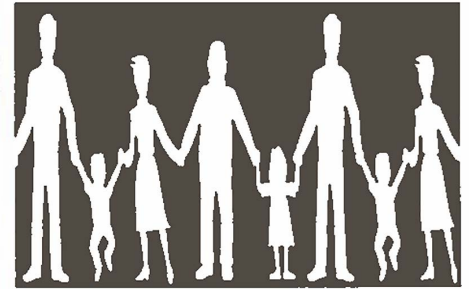
You'll find that our parish groups welcome the stimulation that newcomers bring, yet find recruiting difficult because it is hard to find out about the specific interests and talents of new parishioners. Often it may seem as if we "old hands" do everything, when in fact we'd be grateful for new viewpoints from new participants!

We trust that many members of the parish will make it their business to get acquainted with you soon. Meanwhile, we happily greet and welcome you to our parish community! ■

*There was a young man who said "God
Must think it exceedingly odd
If he finds that this tree
Continues to be
When there's no one about in the Quad."*

*Dear Sir, your astonishment's odd:
I am always about in the Quad,
And that's why the tree
Will continue to be,
Since observed by*

*Yours faithfully,
GOD*



Welcome to new parishioners Christi and Jeff Hegstad, Patricia Jones, Judith and Robert Wise.

Farewell to these parishioners who have moved from C-U: Eddie and Margaret Adamek, Pam and Rob Bell, Anthony Bentley, James and Patricia Bergan, Gail and Victor Henson, Jennifer Iverson, Gina and Tim Jones, Beverly and David Joyner, Sonia McCune, Marguerite Plesko, Michelle and Wayne VanLerberghe.

We welcome the following, baptized into our faith community: Dalton Samuel Kocher, Jason William Sroka, Ashley Brooke Sutton, Colin John Daly, Sarah Elizabeth Johnson, Emma Kristine Rolson, Clifford Leroy Day, Tyler Shawn Towns, Bryton Byers.

Congratulations to these couples, married at St. Patrick's: Regan E. Walters and Patrick Daniel Tankersley, Ann Marie Murphy and Peter J. Mandik, III, Catherine Lorraine Pierce and Pongracz Sennye, Virginia Faye Stevenson and Gregory Alan Mendoza.

Please pray for deceased parishioners Emma Capitani and Janet Diane Buck.



*Deadline for submission
of information, articles,
and news items
for the next issue
of In Focus
is September 10.*

Open meeting on marriage annulment process planned

On Friday, Sept. 8, at 7:00 p.m., St. Patrick's Re-Membering Church Team will host an open meeting to help couples and individuals sort through information about invalid marriages, the annulment process, and related issues.

Speaker for the evening will be Sr. Marianne Burkhard, OSB, a member of the Nauvoo Benedictines who serves on the Peoria Diocesan Tribunal as Associate Judge.

Sr. Marianne, a former parishioner of St. Patrick's, has developed a presentation especially for lay persons to assist them in understanding the process and procedures followed by the Diocese of Peoria regarding marriage cases and in identifying the necessary documents and witnesses relevant to a case.

Divorced Catholics who have remarried outside the Church are always welcome to seek advice from the Tribunal regarding the possibility of an annulment. However, Catholics also need to understand the rules governing annulments. "We are bound by certain rules and laws, and we cannot always do what people want us to do," said Sr. Marianne.

One reason many Catholics don't understand the process, she said, is that they don't know what an annulment really is. Contrary to popular belief, a church annulment does not declare that a marriage never existed, Sr. Marianne said. "It means that something was



Sr. Marianne Burkhard, OSB, is shown here speaking with a participant following her presentation on annulments and the annulment process last spring in Danville. (Catholic Post photo; used with permission)

standing in the way of making it fully valid according to Catholic doctrine. We are not denying that the people were married before the law."

An annulment has no effect on the legitimacy of children or on any civil legal matters arising from the marriage or subsequent divorce, she added.

Following her presentation, Sr. Marianne will respond to questions from the group at large and afterward will remain to meet privately with individuals or couples with questions about their own situations. She has agreed to be on hand also the following morning for private consultation.

Please mark your calendar now to reserve these important dates:

- Sept. 8 (Friday), 7 p.m., multipurpose room
- Sept. 9 (Saturday), from 9 a.m., conference room

Sr. Charlene Cesario, SSCM, pastoral associate at St. Patrick's, has also agreed to be on hand for consultation on both Friday evening and Saturday morning. Sr. Charlene has been trained as Notary Auditor and has had additional training in the annulment process as it pertains to the Diocese of Peoria. As our pastoral associate, of course, she is regularly available for consultation; to make an appointment, call her at the parish office (367-2665).

For additional information about this presentation, call Barb Wysocki (367-5014) or Sr. Charlene. ■

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: Mary Lou Menches, 344-1125 or 244-4701; Gary Riskowski, 344-4394; Cathy Salika, 367-7861; Katharine Schrader, 344-5995; Carol Schrepfer (384-2060); Peggy Whelan, 367-3668.

Associates: Yvonne Barger, Amy Fahey, Dorothy Maduzia, Lori and Tom McDonough, Marty Perry, Carole Rebeiz.

Articles and information for this issue were contributed by Clara Butler, Judy Conover, Sharon Monday-Dorsey, Mary Fonner, Tom Kacich, Mary Long, Dorothy Maduzia, Lori McDonough, Carolyn McElrath, Mary Lou Menches, Steve Peet, Carole Rebeiz, Leslie Risatti, Carol Schrepfer, Linda Weber, Peggy Whelan, Barbara Wysocki.

Fr. Vincent Bui to celebrate Mass at St. Patrick's

Ordained a priest June 10 for the Lansing (Mich.) diocese, Fr. Vincent Bui is returning to St. Patrick's to celebrate Mass with the Vietnamese community and other friends from the C-U area at 2 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 4 (Labor Day). The Mass will be followed by a potluck in the main hall of the parish center.

Fr. Bui, a member of St. Patrick's Parish while a student at the U of I, gave his time freely and generously to the Catholic Worker House, to the St. Vincent de Paul Society, to St. Patrick's Communications Committee, and in a number of ways to the large local population of Vietnamese.



Walking in the footsteps of Jesus

By Mary Fonner

I never expected to have a chance to visit the Holy Land. In fact, there was a time in my life when that journey did not seem important. Why rush off to Israel to see big churches built over the places where Jesus walked 2000 years ago, when Jesus is right here, in the tabernacle, waiting for my visit?

Having visited Israel last February, however, I feel blessed by the experience. It's easy to understand why Fr. Remm gave such an enthusiastic report of his trip in 1994, and why references to his pilgrimage continue to pop up in his homilies. A visit to the land where Jesus and Mary walked helps to give a clear sense of their humanity and to bring the gospel to life.

Our group of 28 pilgrims included priests, sisters, and other lay people. In eight days we saw most of the holy places in a country where distances are not great—unless travel is on foot, as it was for Jesus and his followers. We saw how far they trudged back and forth proclaiming the gospel, and how high their climb to the top of Mt. Tabor. A boatride on the Sea of Galilee gave us a feel for that large, beautiful lake, where sudden storms struck even seasoned fishermen with fear.

On the ascent to the site of the Visitation, I pictured young, pregnant Mary making this climb, and I looked out over the same beautiful hill country that she saw. On another mountain, the Mount of Olives, it is believed that two-thousand-year-old olive trees still bear their silent witness.

We felt the cold wind one day in Jerusalem, and the damp of the little cave in Bethlehem where Jesus was born. How much pain and weariness it cost Jesus to "pitch his tent among us"! Yet he loved his beautiful homeland, from the fertile

plains of Galilee, where bright red poppies grow along the roadside, to the stark desert of Judea, where he fasted for 40 days. Most of all, he loved the people. Our group celebrated Eucharist on the site of Dominus Fleuit ("the Lord wept").

Probably each pilgrim chooses (or is chosen by) a favorite place or experience that tugs at the spirit. For me, that experience was the Via Dolorosa, the Way of Sorrows. We walked the same narrow streets where Jesus carried his cross and paused to hear scripture read for each station. The passing people and traffic seemed only to make more urgent the question "What was it like for Jesus as he struggled along this way under the cross that day so long ago?"

The visit to the Holy Land was more than a tour, it was a pilgrimage. Each day, we celebrated liturgy at a different site and read the scripture appropriate to that site. In Jerusalem I felt a real sense of the centuries-old struggle over that beloved city where three world religions are so deeply rooted. In other places the Magnificat, written in 47 languages, the Lord's Prayer, in at least that many, and portraits of Mary from numerous countries made me realize that the holy places belong to the whole world.

If all this sounds very spiritual—well, it was. However, our adventures also included opportunities for shopping, a camel ride, a cable-car ride to Herod's cliff-top palace, and swimming in the Dead Sea. (Because of its high concentration of salt, the Dead Sea will not let the human body sink. One swimmer sat on the water with hands and feet in the air, bobbing around on the waves!)

At the end of each day we sat down to a



4- or 5-course dinner, which was graciously served. Rumor had it that, among those who still had the energy, group singing and visiting continued long into the night. Joyful laughter and good-natured banter were welcome "fringe benefits" of our travel experience. Among this group of people who began the trip as strangers, small acts of thoughtfulness and caring soon grew into friendships that have continued beyond the homecoming.

There is not space enough here to tell all that we saw and did. But if you are interested in hearing more, or in joining the pilgrimage that is coming up in Feb. 1996, watch the weekly bulletin for an announcement of time and place. You too might be renewed in spirit by walking in the footsteps of Jesus! But also come along to ask your questions. We'll be happy to share more about our adventure and answer your questions as best we can. ■

"Catechetical Sunday," from page 1

chair of St. Patrick's Religious Education Committee, on sacramental preparation programs for children and adults; parishioner Mark Schneider on "Teens Encounter Christ"; and Fr. Doug Hennessy, pastor, and Sr. Charles Allen, O.S.C., both from St. Paul's, Danville, on prayer styles of adults.

Further training for children's program catechists (teaching 1st through 6th grade) will take place on Wednesday evening, Sept. 20, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at St. Patrick's through an introduction to the new textbook series to be used this year. The evening will be facilitated by Kathy Mearnsman, regional representative from Wm. H. Sadlier, publisher of the series.

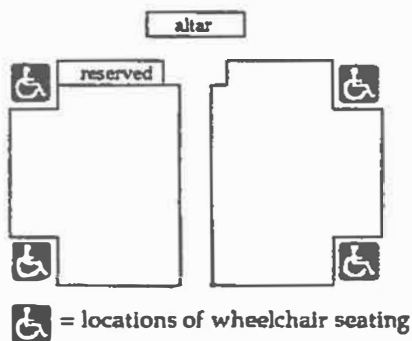
Teachers for pre-school through kindergarten classes will meet on Monday, Sept. 18, from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. in the parish center. Additional training sessions for catechists in the Junior High and High School programs will be conducted by Carolyn McElrath, Cindy Kelly, and Stan Yanchus (Senior High Coordinator at St. Patrick's). ■

Special seating reserved for parishioners with special needs

Those attending weekend liturgies who wish to receive Communion while seated in the pew will find the front pew on the west (tabernacle) side of the church reserved for them.

Wheelchairs can be accommodated at the four corners of the church, as indicated on the accompanying diagram.

Two wheelchairs are available for use. One is kept in the main hall of the parish center, the other at the top of the ramp inside the east entrance of the church.



The "Fall Festival" beckons!

Each fall St. Patrick's parishioners come together for a good old-fashioned parish picnic. We come, young and old, tall and short, "generously proportioned" and downright skinny, singles and couples and families, to have a good time together. We come to laugh and play and talk, to eat good food, to renew longstanding friendships, to make new friends.

For this year's parish picnic, dubbed the "Fall Festival," we will gather at Crystal Lake Pavilion on Sunday, Sept. 17, from 3 to 9 p.m.

The organizers of this popular event, St. Patrick's Social Committee, promise

"games, games, GAMES for EVERY-ONE"—cards, even Bingo! Even a volleyball tournament!—starting at 3 p.m.

And beginning at 5 p.m., fried chicken and potluck! Chicken and drinks, they say, will be provided, but you're asked to bring your own table service and a dish to share: A-H, pasta/rice; I-O, salad/fresh fruit; P-R, dessert; S-Z, vegetable.

AND DON'T FORGET TO MAKE RESERVATIONS so that there will be enough chicken for everyone. Call the parish office (367-2665) to leave your name and the number of people in your party. Y'all come, now! ■

In Focus needs computer volunteer

In late November the parishioner-volunteer who lays out the pages of *In Focus* expects to have her hands and time full with the arrival of an eagerly awaited infant. If you can relieve her of the paging responsibility for this newsletter for a couple of months, she and her husband will be very grateful. Any page-layout appli-

cation, such as PageMaker or QuarkXpress, can do the job handily.

Time commitment? About 3-5 hours Nov. 19-22 and again Dec. 17-20. If you can help, call Mary Lou Menches at 244-4701 (days) or 344-1125 (evenings). No, it isn't Mary Lou who's having the baby—it's Amy Fahey! ■

"Stewardship Sunday," from page 1

We see men and women stand at the door to welcome those who come to worship together, help people to find adequate seating, proclaim the Word of God in Scripture readings, set the table and assist in serving us the Bread of Life. Still others quietly attend the needs of the presider, assist us in the song-prayers through which we raise mind and heart to God, sound the organ or piano or trumpet or bells to enhance our worship experience.

With each Mass the cycle begins again—for five weekend Masses; just think of the number of people involved in the doing and the loving! And we have been recalling here only our time together to worship!

Other individuals clean the church every week—dust and vacuum and wash windows and set out the supplementary envelopes and an adequate supply of bread and wine for our services. Someone arranges flowers and tends them afterward. Several someones help to count the Sunday collections—our offerings of treasure in lieu of bread and wine for our meal.

Significant are the hours people give, sometimes just a few minutes at a time, that provide not only for our own needs but for the needs of so very many others. Who can count the hours of preparing and serving breakfast, making coffee, preparing hearty soups for the hungry, shopping for and carrying and shelving

groceries for them, preparing food parcels for the needy—and serving them when they come, planning and carrying out special ecumenical services that bond community Christians in their shared respect for life, caring for children while their parents pray or play, serving a meal to comfort the bereaved in their time of grief, offering the consolation of companionship and prayer with the bereaved?

Who can count the hours spent rehearsing new selections for our liturgies, learning new pieces to play during Mass, preparing lessons for weekly classes during which our faith heritage is passed on to the next generation?

Who would pull the weeds, plant the flowers, visit the sick and the shut-ins, teach us how to be saving and caring stewards of our facilities and our human resources—our Kingdom—if we don't?

If you can, will you?

In a few weeks we will be asked to make a commitment, a tithing, of our time and our talent. Each of us. It might be a gift of a few minutes a day or a week, at home or at the parish center or in the church, commitment to action or to prayer. Think about it, pray about it, ask for enlightenment and a willing spirit. Look about at what you see being done, ask what needs to be done, ask yourself what you know how to do that might help someone else—and be ready to say "Yes, I can. Yes, I will. Yes!" ■

Parish Council News



At the August Parish Council meeting Bill Plymire briefed members on the ministry of an ecumenical group called the Promise Keepers, whose Christ-centered ministry is dedicated to uniting men through vital relationships to become godly influences in their world. Over 38 local churches are represented in the membership of the area group.

Receipts from the mailing sent to parishioners as the third part of the diocesan Annual Stewardship Appeal topped off our parish's pledge drive at slightly more than \$80,000. Of this amount more than \$31,000 had been paid as of the end of June.

In a review of the annual report to the parish, Fr. Remm called attention to the

retirement of our debt to the diocese and to parishioners holding notes that helped finance the addition to the parish center.

Members also reviewed the parish's annual report to the diocese for FY 1994-95. This report is filled with interesting information. For instance, our parish is made up of 2592 Catholics in 964 families; 76 children were enrolled in Catholic grade school, 495 in public grade schools, 164 in public high schools. We celebrated 20 marriages, 73 baptisms, and 58 confirmations. We received 23 adults into the Church. And 21 parishioners were called home by the Lord. The parish received \$24,817.99 for The Catholic Education Foundation, and bequests totaled \$63,021.73.

The report also records the departure of staff members Mark Fisch and Fr. Tim Nolan, Jan Lipska's leaving, the appointment of new coordinators Ellen Amberg and Stan Yanchus, Steve Peet's appointment in August, and major parish events such as the Cellar-to-Garret Sale, the pancake breakfasts, the staff and Council retreats, the parish day of reflection, the St. Vincent de Paul Thanksgiving food baskets for the needy, the Trees of Christmas exhibit, and the catechist appreciation dinner. It presents a revealing picture of our parish family and its generosity to those in need.

Members observed that with the elimination of the parish debt at the end of our fiscal year in June, goal setting will be especially important in refocusing or redirecting parish resources from the standpoint of parish development.

Parish trustees attended the open meeting at St. Matthew's held by proponents of a local Catholic high school at which information was provided about the new Catholic high school established in Rapid City, S. Dak., in our sister diocese. The local group is setting up several committees with a view to moving ahead with Phase II of the proposal, to determine where such a high school might be located, how much it would cost, how it would be funded, etc.

Council members continued their discussion of the pros and cons of providing child care during parish services and activities. Someone has offered to provide child care on the premises, for which a fee would be assessed at a modest hourly rate per child. Questions and concerns about parish liability and the possible requirement for background checks of child care providers were raised but not resolved. Members agreed to give the proposed child care arrangement a try at an upcoming parish function and evaluate the experience afterward.

Standing committees will soon receive letters of invitation to the fall objectives workshop (Oct. 14), encouraging partici-

Have you brought in your "treasures" for the Cellar-to-Garret Sale?

Are you ready? Have you cleaned out your attic? Your garage? What about your closets? The Cellar-to-Garret Sale is drawing near, with its wonderful opportunity for sharing accumulated trophies and treasures and outgrown but not outworn clothing, favorite books, glassware, cooking utensils—and cookbooks that were going to bring you renown and fame with gourmet friends.

You know all too well what those trea-

sures are, and you can anticipate the pleasure they will bring to others. Off with them to the Cellar-to-Garret Sale! And don't forget to volunteer to help for an hour or two, before or during or after the sale, with the many tasks waiting for willing hands. The sale is just weeks away now—it opens Sept. 23. Call Irma Wait (367-6547) or Pat Donze (328-1005) to find out how you can help. ■

Quick Fixin's from the kitchen of . . .

Clara Butler

Cucumber Sandwiches

1 large tub spreadable cream cheese (regular or fat-free)
1 pkg Good Seasons Zesty Lite Italian Dressing
party-rye bread
cucumber slices
dill weed (not whole dill)



Combine cream cheese and dressing; mix well. Set aside for several hours for the flavors to mix. Spread the mixture on slices of party-rye bread; add a cucumber slice to each and top with dill weed.

continued on page 10

The Spirit breathes where it will . . . and the Church flourished in Korea

Christianity came to Korea in 1592 through Japanese soldiers, who baptized a small number of converts. Christian literature followed, smuggled in from the Jesuits in China, allowing the small Korean Church to learn more about their faith. When a Chinese priest entered Korea secretly almost 200 years later, he found 4000 Catholics—none of whom had ever before seen a priest.

The Church in Korea grew rapidly, but persecution was particularly common during the 18th and 19th centuries, when Korea was a country closed to outside influences. The young Church withstood wave after wave of fierce persecution, during which thousands of Koreans were martyred. The first native Korean priest, Andrew Kim Taegon, was the son of Ko-

rean converts martyred during the persecution of 1839.

Father Andrew and approximately 100 other Korean martyrs were officially canonized, by name, when Pope John Paul II visited Korea in 1984. Some of these martyrs were bishops and priests, but most were laypersons: 47 women and 45 men, including some children. We honor their memory, and their steadfastness in the service of God, on Sept. 20.

"The death of these martyrs became the leaven of the Church and led to today's splendid flowering of the Church in Korea. Even today their undying spirit sustains the Christians in the Church of silence in the north of this tragically divided land" (Pope John Paul II, speaking at the canonization). ■

Holy Cross School Newsline

School begins on Monday, Aug. 28, for students at Holy Cross School. Fee Day/Open House, Aug. 25, gave youngsters and their parents an opportunity to complete the necessary paperwork, sign up for volunteer projects, and meet home-room teachers.

Students and parents will find some new faces among the many familiar ones at Holy Cross School this year. Ann Kennedy, formerly of the Champaign Public School system, succeeds Sharon Jamison as school librarian.

Also new to the school this year is Sr. M. Kathleen Mitchell, CSJ, principal. Sr. Kathleen brings 16 years' experience as Catholic school principal in Texas and Georgia to her position here.

Fr. Greg Jozefiak, associate pastor, also arrived at Holy Cross this summer,

continued on page 10

To the people of St. Patrick's

A letter from our sister parish in Bethlehem

Dearest Father George F. Remm, and community,

On my return from ten days of holidays, I found your lovely letter dated June 30. I gratefully acknowledge receiving your generous donation: 1000 U.S. dollars.

Consequent to the terrorist incidents the government follows the policy of "collective punishment"; therefore, the Bethlehem area is suffering a lot from this measure. Thousands of workers are jobless; even sick people can't go to the hospitals of Jerusalem; the social and economic situation of our community is dramatic.

Providence, through the generosity of your Parish Council, is marvelous and admirable. Please do convey to each parishioner our deep feelings of gratitude. God bless St. Patrick's Parish! God bless America!

We are looking forward to receive you again in the Holy Land; your picture is always in front of us, and deep in our

hearts and prayers in the holy grotto of Bethlehem.

As you may guess, and as a consequence of the political situation, we are importuned by social cases and sick parishioners. George [B.], 50 years old and with 4 children, suffers from leukemia; Elias [N.] has 3 children at home with polio; Sami [H.], 60 years old and handicapped—I pay a day and night nurse to take care of him at home. Keep in mind that there is no health insurance for our people!

Dearest Father George, be sure that your donations are well used!



Myself among my parishioners, Palm Sunday 1995.

May the Divine Child of Bethlehem reward you and your benefactors, grant you and your dear ones health and prosperity.

Fraternally yours,
Fr. Y. Abdel-Nour

The old and the new: Music ministry at St. Patrick's

By Steve Peet

It really doesn't seem possible that I've been here for a full year already. I spent an exhilarating week at the National Pastoral Musicians Convention in Cincinnati during the last week of July. It really rejuvenated me for an exciting time of music making in the year ahead.

Here's what is currently in place in music ministry in the parish. (Please note that all of these groups are in desperate need of new members—consider joining us for music making, learning, and fun.)

The Adult Choir for the 10:30 Mass rehearses on Wednesday evenings, 7–8:30 p.m. This choir is open to students of high school age through those who can still climb the stairs to the choir loft. Our wide-ranging repertoire traverses music from the earliest beginnings of the Church through music hot off the presses. First rehearsal this fall will be Wednesday, Sept. 6.

The Adult Choir for the 9:00 Mass gets together on Thursdays, 7–8:30 p.m., same ages as above. This group specializes in Contemporary Sounds and will be adding lots of variety in World Music, Caribbean and Gospel music, with instruments to help us celebrate as we sing. First rehearsal will be Thursday, Sept. 7.

The Children's Choir meets weekly on Wednesdays, 5:15–6:00 p.m., and is open to youngsters in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades. They sing at one Mass one Sunday a month, occasionally at Children's Liturgy, and also at special occasions, like Christmas Eve and First Communion. This group really wore me out last year, and was it great! We're hoping to add more skill building to our sessions as well as an outing or two. I hope you'll join us!

The Junior High Handbell Choir rehearses on Sundays, 5–6:30 p.m. The group will be much more visible this year, pairing off to enrich many more Masses, as well as coming together for a specific Mass each month and for special occasions. We even have our first professional engagement lined up, and we are working on some local appearances and some festivals.

The Funeral Schola meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at 9:30 a.m. We also get together before each funeral liturgy to rehearse. The group has developed a wonderful sound, as well as an impressive repertoire. We would love to see more people get involved in this very special ministry!

Our program for cantors doesn't have a regular weekly rehearsal, but we certainly are in need of more volunteers for this vital ministry! Interested parties will meet with me for a couple of sessions (or more if necessary) to become as comfortable as possible with the duties involved. Please see me if interested—LET'S TALK!

Now for WHAT'S NEW! There has been talk of interest in forming two additional choirs for the parish: a Junior High Choir (singing group—grades 6, 7, 8), and an Adult Handbell Choir. Each group would need a minimum of 7 people to make it "a go."



Steve, with a few members of the Children's Choir.

If you're interested, please let me know at church, leave a note in my mailbox in the parish center, tell Fr. Remm, or call me at home (328-3559). If there is sufficient interest, we'll find a time to rehearse.

WE NEED GUITARISTS—I know you're out there somewhere! I am hoping to start a class for beginning guitarists (or a refresher class for people who just like to get together). My motives are selfish—I've decided that I need to know how to play, and I might as well get some others involved too! We need both class members and a teacher. Are you out there? Let me know, please!

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS (I know, everyone hates that word). Seriously, however, I need three volunteers at this time:

(1) A song leader for Children's Liturgy on the first three Sundays of the month. This person would need to be

present for each liturgy, work with Ellen Amberg and me to go over the music for each week (this will all be done in advance) and also go through the music with instrumentalists and choir members before each liturgy. It would be helpful, but not essential, for this person also to be an instrumentalist.

(2) An assistant for the Children's Choir. The assistant would work with me and the children every week, allowing me to split the group up and do some careful work with them. No special musical skills are needed, although it would be nice if the assistant could sing. We would get together about fifteen minutes before rehearsal to discuss what to do that day.

(3) A director for a Children's Choir of grades K–2. The director would work with the children, probably on Wednesdays, 5:30–6. The main focus would be fun songs (with maybe a little learning slipped in). The hope is that this group might sing 3 or 4 times a year. I would help select songs and help plan the rehearsals if the director desired.

The music department is also beginning to draw up a wish list. For instance, do you have any old (but playable) instruments at home, just sitting in their cases? You might consider donating them to St. Patrick's. If you have any, please let me know—I would love to look at them. We also would like to start building an elementary instrumentarium, enlarge our handbell set, and get an electronic keyboard/synthesizer for use in the office and the church. If any of these intrigue you, please see me!

Whew! That certainly is a lot, but I'm sure I haven't covered all the bases. Do you have a musical talent or interest that you would like to share but don't find it mentioned here? Let's get together on it, and see what we can do.

The music program of this parish is made up of PARISHIONERS, and I am your humble servant. Let's together make this program as strong as possible, all the while glorifying God, our creator and the giver of all our talents! ■

St. Patrick's addresses environmental justice concerns

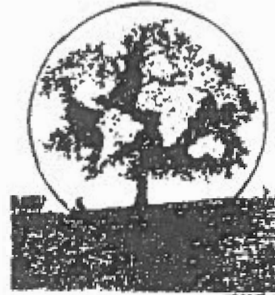
The environmental justice program at St. Patrick's moved into its second phase last spring when John Thompson, from Central States Education Center, conducted a two-part workshop on waste reduction. Representatives from six other churches in C-U also participated in the workshop to help prepare us to become part of the Model Community / Model Church program.

This waste reduction program allows participating organizations to set and implement voluntarily goals in waste prevention, reduction in use of toxic chemicals, recycling, and the use of recycled materials.

The environmental justice task force of

the parish's Social Action Committee has been taking inventory of waste at St. Patrick's by type and volume, as well as of our use of toxic chemicals and recycling practices. Bill Van Cleave, parish custodian, is also investigating a program to upgrade the energy efficiency of our lighting system. The task force hopes to present results of the inventory to the Parish Council and the parish at large this fall.

The third phase will focus on education at family and individual level. In preparation, Sharon Dorsey has been attending



summer workshops at St. Mary of the Woods College on "Hope and Healing for the Earth—An Action Plan" and "Teaching as if the Earth Really Matters."

The task force hopes to collaborate with Barbara Tipton, of the Great Lakes Chapter of ICCRE, in developing a program on

"Parenting the Ecological Child, or Living by Ecological Principles: Nurturing Wholeness in a Broken World." This program would be offered in Spring 1996.

To participate or for more information, call Sharon Dorsey (344-3016). ■

Thank you, Colette, and Godspeed!

On the first three Wednesdays of the month during the school year, St. Patrick's children who live in St. Joseph-Ogden participate in religious education classes operated by St. Patrick's parishioners but held in the St. Joseph Elementary School.

The parents and their children (pre-school through sixth grade) are happy not to have to commute to Urbana, especially in stormy or snowy weather. And the parish Education Committee together with Carolyn McElrath, religious education director, is pleased to provide the human resources, training, and materials for the religious education program implemented in this growing area in our parish.

Doing so requires the services of a volunteer to bring books and other materials to the teachers, supervise the site, and organize the activities and events that build a sense of community, such as the fall wiener roast, Christmas caroling, and end-of-year picnic.

After teaching catechism for two years, Colette McMullen volunteered in 1986 to facilitate the religious education program at the St. Joseph site.

As the program grew, Colette added participation in the national Make a Difference Day for third- through sixth-graders and Lenten Stations of the Cross fol-



lowed by a fish fry for fifth- and sixth-graders.

Now we say "Thank you, and Godspeed!" to Colette and her family. They have moved to their new home in Arthur, and her husband, Mike, has started in his new position as manager of the Horizon Home Center there. Colette continues to work for Eagle Foods, and their children (Heather,

Dawn, and Stacy) are enrolled in their new school.

Succeeding Colette as facilitators of the religious education program in St. Joseph are Linda Glazier and Linda Rohl. (Can't you just hear it now: "But Linda said I could!")

Linda Glazier, a parishioner since 1988, lives in Ogden and works in Marketing-Communications at the Health Alliance Medical Plan. She and her husband, Bob, have two daughters, Cassie (5) and Jessica (2).

Linda Rohl has been a parishioner since 1984 and works in the U of I Biology Department. Her husband, Charles, works for the Natural History Survey. Their son, Tommy, is in first grade. Linda has taught pre-school/kindergarten at the St. Joseph site for several years. ■

Dorothy Maduzia honored

Parishioner Dorothy Maduzia was honored by the Diocesan Commission of Education on June 8 for her "outstanding contribution to Catholic education."

For several years as a member of the Holy Cross Parish Education Commission Dorothy has represented St. Patrick's families with children enrolled at Holy Cross School. She now serves as president of the Education Commission, which oversees religious education and Holy Cross School. ■

Are you Catholic? Inactive? Alienated?

If you've parted company with the Catholic Church over

- new changes, old rules
- A marriage situation
- hurt feelings

or for any other reason
come talk with us at an open meeting
on Wednesday, Sept. 20, at 7 p.m.
at St. Patrick's parish center

—The Re-Membering Church Team

"Parish Council News," from page 6

pation in the process beforehand by formulating objectives for presentation and discussion during the workshop.

Plans for the upcoming Sacrificial Giving campaign were reviewed: Fr. Remm will preach on Sacrificial Giving of Time and Talent for the first phase, the weekend of Sept. 23-24, and committees will be invited to make available informational materials for those interested. The second phase, on Treasure, will take place Nov. 18-19.

This year's welcome of newcomers to the parish may be incorporated into other parish events. The first such might be at the Knights of Columbus pancake breakfast, Oct. 29. The proposal will be reviewed by the Knights at their next meeting.

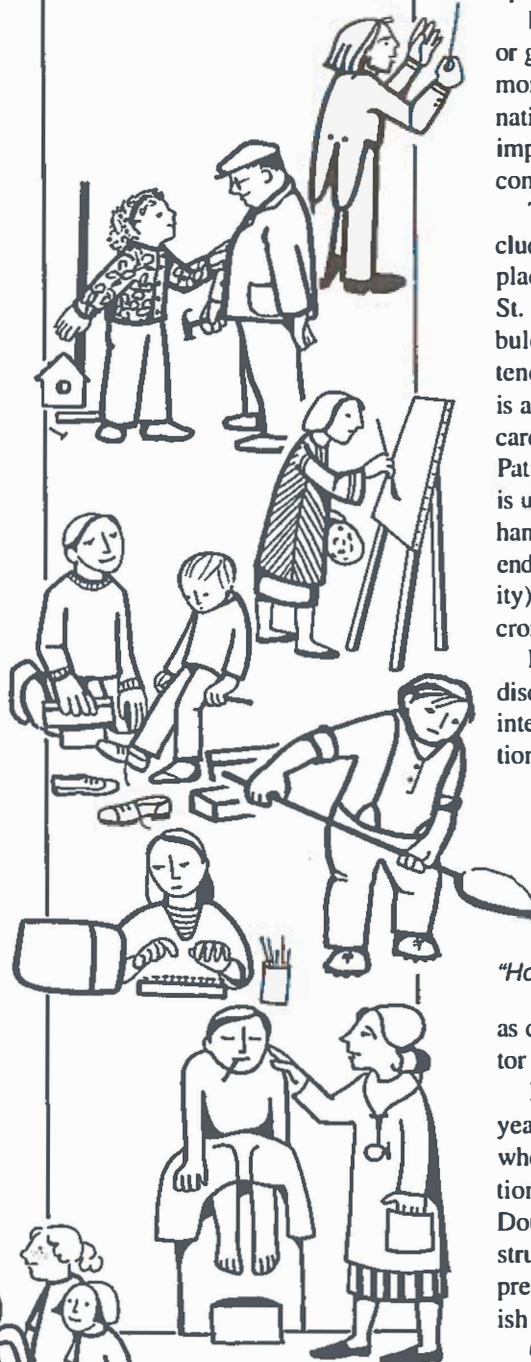
In the continuing attempt to increase Council visibility, photos were taken of the members and will be posted to increase recognition by parishioners. Also discussed were name tags to be worn by members greeting parishioners before/after weekend Masses or at other parish functions.

Maintenance of the parish buildings is a continuing responsibility. The current effort involves preventative maintenance and repairs to the parish center roof. Bids have been received, and a contract will be let to Cain Roofing for about \$32,000, once some of the details have been worked out. The objective is to complete this work before the onset of winter.

The parking lot surface has been sealed once again, a holding action taken to allow time for drafting plans for more extensive work next year. Such plans might involve removal of the strip of trees whose roots are now breaking up the surface of the lot, planting other trees, redesigning access and traffic flow, etc.

The next Council meeting will be held on Thursday, Sept. 21, beginning at 7 p.m. All parishioners are welcome to attend these open parish meetings. ■

**Direct the work
of our hands,
Lord,
direct the work
of our hands!**



What's on St. Patrick's Wish List?

St. Patrick's, just like any family, has a wish list—a list of items that are not a necessity for the parish but would be nice to have, useful in their own way, perhaps even advantageous to the operation of the parish, but not included in the parish's operating budget.

It is hoped that individual parishioners or groups may consider providing one or more of these items in the form of a donation or a bequest if they appreciate the importance of these items to the parish community.

The parish Wish List at present includes just one item: a new crozier to replace the one missing from the statue of St. Patrick that stands in the church vestibule. The crozier—a staff originally intended to represent a shepherd's crook—is a symbol of a bishop's responsibility to care for the flock entrusted to his care. Patrick was consecrated a bishop and so is usually shown with the crozier in one hand and a shamrock (according to legend, his way of explaining the Holy Trinity) in the other. Estimated cost of the crozier: \$350.

Fr. George Remm will be happy to discuss the purpose of the Wish List with interested parishioners or to answer questions about items that are added to it. ■

"Holy Cross," from page 7

as did Sr. Joan Kaucher, CSJ, new Director of Religious Education.

Doug Muir, who served as DRE for 4 years, has moved to New Lenox, (Ill.), where he will direct the religious education program for St. Jude Parish. During Doug's years at Holy Cross, he was instrumental in combining the sacramental preparation programs for school and parish into a single, coordinated program.

On Sunday, Oct. 22 (10:15 a.m.) Sr. Kathleen plans to visit with St. Patrick's families with children enrolled at Holy Cross School. Have your questions ready! ■

September 1995

St. Patrick's Parish

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.

Deadline for the next issue of In Focus is September 10.

1	2
10:45am Mass-Champaign Cty NH	

3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Labor Day- Parish Office Closed 9:00am Mass & Breakfast 2:00pm Fr. Vincent Bui - Mass and Potluck 7:00pm Centering Prayer	7:00pm Beginning Experience	5:15pm Children's Choir 7:00pm Pro-Life Com 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm SVDP 7:00pm Fall Regional RCIA Meeting	10:15am Mothers Group 7:00pm Choir 7:30pm Personnel Com	10:30am Mass-Care Center 10:45am Mass-Champaign Cty NH 7:00pm Marriage Annulment Process	9:00am Marriage Annulments, Individual Consultation
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
6:30pm Bible Study 7:30pm Marriage Prep Team Social	11:00am Rosary-Champaign Cty NH 7:00pm Centering Prayer	9:30am Funeral Schola 7:00pm Financial Affairs 7:30pm Parish Council Exec Com	5:15pm Children's Choir 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm SVDP	6:30pm Building & Grounds Com 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm Baptism Prep	10:30am Mass-Clark-Lindsey 10:45am Mass-Champaign Cty NH	9:00am ACRE Renew Day
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
 Catechetical Sunday  3:00pm Parish Picnic 6:30pm Bible Study	11:00am Rosary-Champaign Cty NH 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:00pm Pre-School-K Catechists' Meeting	7:00pm Beginning Experience	5:15pm Children's Choir 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm SVDP 7:00pm 1st-6th Grade Catechists' Meeting	10:15am Mothers Group 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm Parish Council	10:30am Mass-Americana NH Urbana 10:45am Mass-Champaign Cty NH	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
6:30pm Bible Study 7:00pm Parent Night for Religious Ed	9:00am Archives Com 11:00am Rosary-Champaign Cty NH 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:00pm Liturgy Com	9:30am Funeral Schola 7:00pm Social Action Com 7:00pm Homily Prep 7:00pm Senior High Religious Ed Parent Meeting	5:15pm Children's Choir 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm SVDP	7:00pm Choir 7:00pm Knights of Columbus 7:00pm Communications Com	10:45am Mass-Champaign Cty NH	

Cellar-to-Garret

