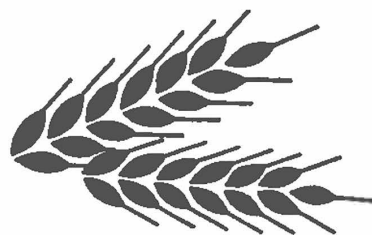


ST. PATRICK'S PARISH

In Focus



Parishioners urged to support Society's drive

Each year at this time parishioners have the opportunity to follow Christ's admonition to "feed my sheep" in a very real way by supporting the St. Vincent de Paul Society's drive to provide the makings of a Thanksgiving dinner for the needy of the C-U community.

For this project the Society is asking for a donation of \$10 to cover the cost of a food basket for a needy family. The Thanksgiving food basket will include a canned ham, soup, sweet potatoes, stuffing, eggs, vegetables, fruit, cranberries, Jello, bread rolls, butter, pumpkin pie, and sweets.

The Society's goal this year is to feed 175 needy local families. The names of recipients are provided by two North End residents who know the very needy, the Mental Health Center, Family

Services, and others who know of people in special need.

Please put your donation in an envelope clearly marked "Thanksgiving Dinners" and place it in the Sunday collection or drop it by the parish office during the week.

The Society also needs volunteers to make up 15 teams of two to deliver the food baskets Nov. 20, 21, and 22. (All deliveries will be made during daylight hours.) If you can help, please leave your name and telephone number with the parish secretary or any St. Vincent de Paul Society member, or call the president of the local group, Sophia Zeigler (328-2671).

Feeding Christ's loved ones is a great responsibility—and a great privilege. What a wonderful way to give thanks for all that we ourselves have received! ■

St. Patrick's 'into' recycling

St. Patrick's Parish is "into" recycling in a bigger way these days. For several years staff members have been using special containers to collect office waste for recycling, and parishioners who frequent the parish pop machine would find it hard to miss the container placed beside it for recycling aluminum cans. Even the glass bottles from Mass wine have been taken to the recycling center.

Now, however, parishioners are being asked to be discriminating in their disposal habits on parish property. On notice that

as a parish we now recycle aluminum, plastic, paper, glass, and cardboard, we are asked to use the special containers for these items, some of which are located in the coat room off the main hall.

When the remodeling of the parking lot has been completed, containers will be more visible and easier of access. For now, however, we may need to make that special extra effort to use the appropriate containers instead of putting everything into the dumpster simply because it's there.

Listening is powerful experience

Listening to the telling of a personal story can be a powerful experience for people of faith.

Listening to how other Christians live their faith as they journey to the Kingdom offers strength and support on our own faith journeys. And the willingness of the storyteller to tell his or her story is often as powerful to the listener as is the story itself.

Traditionally each fall, two St. Patrick's

parishioners come forward to tell their personal stories about sacrificial giving. In this era of television and radio talk shows, when it seems that no topic or detail of people's lives is left untold, one exception remains—most people still find it difficult to talk about stewardship, about the sacrificial giving of their treasure. Yet, on Sacrificial Giving Sunday, Nov. 18-19, Cheryl and Chuck Milewski will give

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New feature starts this month . . .

With this issue of *In Focus* a new feature is inaugurated: a question-and-answer column about elements of Catholic practice or Catholic teaching. Questions come from parishioners, the answer to this month's question was prepared by Fr. Gene Kane. If you'd like to submit a question, please send it to the Communications Committee, in care of the parish office.

Q: Is bowing as good as genuflecting?

A: The *genuflection* is meant for the entrance into the presence of God, as found in the Blessed Sacrament, the very special, focused PRESENCE of God.

The *bow* is also an act of reverence for Christ present, but it may be used for many other things as well, e.g., a cross, an altar, a person, a sign of peace.

Both are significant gestures, but as in any form of signifying, the good in using them is in what you put into them, the genuineness of your action. Just as shaking someone's hand may be an empty gesture or a very meaningful one signifying reconciliation, welcome, happiness at being with another.

For me, either gesture means "I acknowledge you, I adore you, I believe in you, present and always loving." I began to bow rather than genuflect when I had a strained back and the beginning of an arthritic condition. Now my genuflections are strained, awkward, "humpty-dumpty."

G. K.



in our parish library

Do what you have the power to do

by Helen Bruch Pearson

"We are called to do what we have the power to do," the author writes, "in whatever situation we find ourselves, and with whatever means we have at our disposal. To do what we have the power to do is all God asks of any of us."

In this study of six New Testament women who encountered Jesus and then did what they had the power to do, Helen Pearson weaves biblical scholarship, social concern, and the reflective heart into an understanding of what these women offer to us today.

You will have heard their stories before. The author explores each reflectively:

The woman who anointed Jesus: How does she reveal the power to do?

The bent-over woman: What does she say to us about the power of freedom?

The Canaanite woman who extended the Lord's table: What can we learn from her about the power of persistent faith?

The woman who broke the curse: Does the power of touch still bring healing?

The woman who had a near-death experience by stoning: How does her opportunity to begin again help us to understand the power of new beginning?

The woman who was a hauler of water came forward as a surprise witness: What challenges does she leave for us by virtue of the power of witnessing?

Individuals will find this book a resource for exploring spiritual formation, personal growth, and connectedness. Small groups will find the chapters arranged in a way that facilitates discussion, sharing of experiences, and growth through learning together. ■

November the month of all saints and all souls

Whenever we pray the Apostles' Creed, one of the earliest statements of faith of the Church, we proclaim our belief in the communion of the saints.

This article of faith states that all holy people of God, "saints," are part of the Kingdom of God whether they are on earth, in Purgatory, or in Heaven.

Some now behold God clearly, Three and One, in unalloyed and unending happiness. Others are being purified so that they too are enabled to share in that happiness, that glory. And still others walk or stumble here in the darkness of faith until all can be revealed in the light of Life.

On All Saints Day, and its successor, All Souls Day, we celebrate the great Communion of Saints, a happy feast for all God's people, living here or in the hereafter: the beloved Aunt Sally who showed us what it meant to love unselfishly and unstintingly; the next-door neighbor who went "gentle into that good night" after years of unsuspected and solitary suffering; the co-worker who struggles (sometimes unsuccessfully) to meet the day's demands and burdens with graceful equanimity and smiling patience.

We pray for them all, and for ourselves who walk with them in faith. We honor all for their part in furthering the Kingdom,

and for the glory they reveal of the God who created all and loves all and sustains all.

We pray too for those who need still to be loosed from their sins, from the bonds that hinder the free flight from faith to glory, those who have gone before us and those with whom we walk and talk today on our pilgrimage of faith.

We honor and remember most especially in our prayers the saints of St. Patrick's parish who have died during the past year: Barbara Brunette, Irene Lippert, Doris McCloud, Helen Cuppernell, Kathryn Hudnut, Ann Willis, Betty Arie, Ellen Goff, Joseph Handal, Bertha Brownfield, Gertrude Watts, Dorothy Webster, Florence Stork, Frances Lawhead, Emma Capitani, Janet Buck, Marie Savich, Clifford Day, Kevin Byrnes, Ruth Stafford, Cecilia O'Neill, Fr. Richard Powers, Elizabeth Mullen, Ruby Burgstrom, Marie Denise Valocchi.

At St. Patrick's, Masses for All Saints will be celebrated at 5:15 p.m. on Oct. 31 and at 7:00 a.m., 12:10 p.m., and 5:15 p.m. on Nov. 1. Masses for All Souls will be celebrated at 7:00 a.m. and at 12:10 p.m. on Nov. 2. Throughout the month of November, in the church and in the multipurpose room, the scroll listing those who have died in the last year serves to remind us that it is a "holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead" and to ask for their intercession in the trials we are enduring.



Welcome to new parishioners Lydia Cushman, Greg and Kathy Hatch, Sarah Hoag, Cathryn Jarrett, Suzanne and William Jean, Jim and Mary Maurer, Joseph and Huang Tran, Chris and David Whippo.

Farewell to these parishioners who have moved from C-U: Ed Griganti, Bill and Mary Creswell, Carol and Wayne Gomes, Amy and Paul Harten, Katherine and Roy Laccone, Steven Long, Tom Moran, Barb and Michael Wischnowski.

We welcome Kaitlyn Samantha Maurer, recently baptized, into our faith community.

Congratulations to these couples, married at St. Patrick's: Katherine Ann Cleary and Anthony Ricardo Coronado, Heather Ann McMullen and Shan Daniel Prendergast.

Please pray for deceased parishioners Ruth Stafford, Cecilia E. O'Neill, John H. Guzy, Ruby Dodd Burgstrom, Marie Denise Valocchi.



*Deadline for submission
of information, articles,
and news items
for the next issue
of In Focus
is November 12.*

St. Patrick's Parish Council News

Coordinating parish activities is no easy task, according to Leslie Risatti, parish secretary, but it becomes much easier when people who are planning to use meeting rooms, facilities, or equipment provide information in advance, the more specific the better: date, time, place, number of people expected, whether the kitchen or kitchen equipment is needed, etc. She asked that anyone with a key to the parish center notify her when the key is handed on to a successor so that she can keep accurate records of the distribution of keys.

The Trees of Christmas exhibit will be open a day longer than usual this year, opening with a "family night" on Friday, Dec. 1, for parishioners. If you're willing to lend a favorite tree ornament for the St. Patrick's "community tree," Guild president Virginia Alane promises that it will be returned to you in good time for your own family celebration of the holidays. Just identify it carefully and bring it to the parish office.

Our response to the diocesan Annual Stewardship Appeal adds up to \$80,188 pledged, with \$46,941 of that amount already paid. Pledges were received from 442 parishioners, for an average of \$181.42. A pledge of \$5000, another for \$3000, and several for \$1000 certainly boosted the average!

Work continues in Phase II of the feasibility study for a Catholic high school in the C-U area. Although Bishop Myers has spoken out in favor of such a school to give assurances to those who are willing to contribute, projected costs and ways of raising the funds needed must be presented and discussed before a decision can be made. At the present time parish assessments are not being considered as a means of funding the school.

While all indebtedness to the diocese and to individuals have been paid, we are reminded that the parish is still obligated to monthly payments for the Kannapel property, much as any homeowner with mortgage payments to make. But bit by bit, month by month, year after year, through generous giving and careful stewardship parishioners have paid off a very sizable debt, and without holding a fund-raising or pledge drive for that purpose.

The parish's Environmental Task Force has inventoried our waste material at the parish center and developed a plan for expanded recycling, especially for cardboard, which accounted for over 40% of the inventoried waste. Research continues, with a study of possible remodeling of the kitchen to include a dishwasher and encouraging parishioners to bring their own table service for use instead of disposables.

An image developed by participants in the Council retreat will be used regularly in the coming year as members reflect on what

the Council needs to do to make this image effective in parish life and whether it challenges members themselves to act in a new way. (The image is shown at the right.)

The Newcomers Event, a highlight of the Knights of Columbus parish pancake breakfast on Sunday, Oct. 29, features a free breakfast for newcomers and the opportunity for other parishioners to get acquainted with them. At a "table tent" registration forms and informational materials about the parish will be available. About 55 families new to the parish since last fall have been invited by mail to participate in this event following the 9:00 a.m. Mass, and announcements will be made to invite other newcomers to the parish who might have been missed. Council president Mary Long will greet them at the breakfast.

Mary Long announced Pat Joseph's resignation from the Parish Council due to an overcrowded work schedule. Following procedures set forth in the Council's by-laws, the Council looked first to the runners-up from the last election to complete the few months remaining in Pat's term; John Mudrick indicated a willingness to do so and was unanimously affirmed by vote. John will also serve as liaison with the Social Committee.

This year's Cellar-to-Garret Sale, the annual fund-raiser of St. Patrick's Guild, was the most successful ever, grossing more than \$9000. The Guild acknowledges the great outpouring of support from the parish community in helping to set up, staff, and take down as well as in providing the items for the sale itself. Proceeds from the sale are traditionally shared with the parish directly; in addition, the Guild uses funds during the year in numerous ways that benefit the parish. Recent gifts include the outdoor lighting around the church, reupholstering and repainting the chairs in the main hall, and (soon to come) recarpeting the multipurpose room.

The parish mission, on the theme of evangelization, will begin on the weekend of Feb. 17-18 and continue through Feb. 22.

This rather long report has touched on highlights of the September and October meetings of the Parish Council. To get the news in full and as it happens, however, you might plan to attend the meeting yourself. All parishioners are welcome to attend these open parish meetings. The next will begin at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 16. ■



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 Lee Brady, 344-3752; 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 Mary Lou Bloome, Carol Bosley, Judy Conover, Jean Costello, Norine Dawson, Franne Davis, Fr. Eugene Kane, Dorothy Maduzia, Lori McDonough, Carolyn McElrath, Mary Lou Menches, Terry Moreau, Carole Rebeiz, Leslie Risatti, Gary Riskowski, Cathy Salika, Carol Schrepfer, Connie Shaw, Barb Wysocki, Sophia Zeigler.

Help Wanted: Financial Affairs

The Financial Affairs Committee needs a volunteer recording secretary for its monthly meetings. Members meet on the second Tuesday of each month for about an hour, starting at 7 p.m. Duties include taking notes during the meeting and giving typed minutes to the committee chairperson for distribution to members.

Interested? Call Terry Moreau (384-1852) or Jean Daly (356-5645). You can be sure of an enthusiastic and grateful response!

What — me, teach?

Catechists began the new year of religious education with a great deal of enthusiasm. "The children are so eager to learn, it makes me feel wonderful about my faith," said one catechist after her first day of classes.

With over 60 people teaching now in the children's program, that kind of enthusiasm is infectious. "It is a privilege to spend my time teaching religion, and I learn a lot myself while preparing lessons for the children," said another catechist.

Also helping to generate enthusiasm among the teachers is the new religious education series adopted this year. As Ellen Amberg, coordinator of the children's program, notes, "We had used Silver Burdette for over ten years, and it was time to review our curriculum, especially with the publication of the new catechism." Over the summer a committee made up of Education staff, catechists, and parents reviewed various publications, finally choosing Sadlier's *Coming to Faith* series.

The Sadlier program was selected for several reasons: (1) it is well integrated with the new Catechism of the Church; (2) it offers numerous suggestions for creative activities to make the lessons "come alive" for students; (3) it provides excellent take-home materials that can engage the whole family in learning and sharing faith; (4) it promotes a wide variety of service activities to help students become more aware of the needs of our community and world; and (5) it provides a guide to help catechists in their own spiritual growth.

On Sept. 22 Kathleen Meersman, a consultant from Sadlier, conducted an orientation for our catechists to assist their use of the *Coming to Faith* series. Her overview of the series and helpful tips for lesson planning inspired, excited, and encouraged catechists.

The new series will help all of our enthusiastic parish catechists to do their very finest teaching as they help to pass on the gift of our faith to the young of our parish. ■



Holly Allain gathers her third-graders for their 11 o'clock class.



Pre-schoolers, with a little help from Nancy Brandt, get started on their project.



Eager second-graders vie for Martha Amaro's attention during their 11 o'clock class.

—Thank you, God, for everything—

The *In Focus* staff asked several "roving reporters" to talk with parishioners about thanksgiving. Thanksgiving, that is, with a small *t*. Given what is happening on the world and national and even local scene, for what do people of this time and place give thanks? In answers to that question we find wisdom, humor, acceptance, humility, and much gratefulness. As the Thanksgiving holiday approaches, you might ask yourself the same question and let your answers guide your conversations with God, who is always interested

Grandmas and food tie for first place with youngsters

A quick, non-scientific poll of 29 youngsters in 9 o'clock kindergarten, first-grade, and third-grade classes revealed the following in the "Most Thankful For" category.

Grandmas (Alison, Molly, Elizabeth) and food (Josh, Jordyn, Addam) tied for first place with 3 votes each. They were closely followed by grandpas (Jamie,

Andrew), moms and dads (Patricia, Anne), and Disney World (Megan, Mandy) in second place with 2 votes each.

The remaining categories each received one vote: family (Marla), sports (Alison), books (Alisa), ice cream (Alisa), television (Sam), earth and gravity (Morgan), my dog (Ryan), water (Maddy), life (Anna), butterflies (Emily), our bodies (Nico), birds (Adam), clouds (Christopher), stars (Shawna), air (Tim), flowers (Jennifer), furniture (Adrienne), sinks (Justin), and babysitters (Maria).

While it looks as though St. Patrick's may be seeing a new generation of young scientists, we believe that Justin's vote for "sinks" definitely won the contest for the "most interesting."

Senior parishioners thankful for life itself

Our roving reporter asked some senior members of the parish what they are most thankful for. Ruth gave the most amusing reply: "For being so ornery, I guess!" John

said, "Well, I'm alive," which was echoed by Mary, "I'm thankful for everything, for being alive," and by Harry, "For being here."

Sophia said, "I'm thankful for seventy-six years of good health." Clara added that she is "thankful for all God's blessings and the opportunities God has given me." Tom added a note of gratitude for Communion Services (in the absence of, but never substituting for, daily Mass) and those who lead them.

Norma is "thankful for my family and my faith." Joe thanked God for "my eleventh grandchild and my first great-grandchild, who were born recently."

Father Gene summed up the feelings of the group: "I'm thankful for my life, for the ups and the downs. I'm just blessed, and I know it!"

Shut-ins grateful for the human connection

"What are you especially thankful for today, or around Thanksgiving?" was the question put to nursing home residents and the homebound in mid-October. "Responses were quick in coming," one of our questioners wrote, "as if this were a question they had thought about and answered before. All answers were thoughtful, sincere, honest."

Alta Brown is thankful for a good family, Kate Lykins for the beautiful weather and a happy, healthy family. Mary Maxwell is grateful for the good care she receives at the nursing home, and Charles Paris is thankful that his health is as good as it is.

Nellie Sutton is "thankful for Joey," a pet bird she looks after at the nursing home. Irene Kane and Madeline McLendon shared delight in and gratitude for visitors—"and for dinner out tonight; I love dinner out!" Irene quickly added.

Joe Brady was emphatic: "After all that's happened in the last six months, just waking up and finding I'm still here!" is something to be thankful for. Loretta Faulkner, 80, is grateful just to be able to get up in the morning. For Emily Burgin, the answer came quickly: "For every-

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Quick fixin's from the kitchen of . . .

Franne Davis

Make-Ahead Turkey Tetrazzini

8 oz uncooked spaghetti
5 oz fresh mushrooms, sliced (2 c)
½ c margarine or butter
3 T flour
2 c chicken broth
¾ c half and half
1-3 T dry sherry (optional)
½ c chopped fresh parsley
¼ t nutmeg
1 t salt
dash pepper
3 c cubed cooked turkey
½ c grated Parmesan cheese

Cook spaghetti to desired doneness as directed on package. Drain; rinse with hot water.

In dutch oven saute mushrooms in margarine until tender. Stir in flour. Add



chicken broth; blend well. Cook, stirring constantly, until sauce thickens. Remove from heat; stir in half and half, sherry, ¼ c parsley, salt, nutmeg, and pepper. Add cooked spaghetti and turkey, stirring gently. Spoon mixture into ungreased 13" x 9" (3-qt) baking dish.

Cover; refrigerate overnight.

Heat oven to 350 degrees. Remove cover from pan; sprinkle Parmesan cheese over the top of the spaghetti mixture. Bake for 45-55 minutes, or until heated through. Garnish with remaining parsley. (If baked immediately instead of after overnight refrigeration, bake at 350 degrees for 30-40 minutes.)

Listening powerful experience

continued from page 1

their personal witness to the St. Patrick's community on sacrificial giving. For their willingness to share their story with us, and for the lessons it will teach us, we extend our gratitude.

Sacrificial giving is not giving from the shreds of what is left at the end of the month, but choosing to give from the top of all that God has given us. It is choosing conscious and deliberate giving as part of the journey. Each individual or family makes an unwavering decision about how to deal with all that God has given them.

Choosing to give a certain percentage, tithing, through the Sunday collection envelope is a powerful witness in itself. The frail and elderly gentleman, the distracted mother with two toddlers, the single young adult, all offer strong witness to other parishioners when they place their envelopes in the Sunday collection basket.

Sacrificial Giving Sunday is our opportunity to reflect and choose to give something back to God, to make a response to God for all that God has given to us. Our faith and the witnesses we hear and see are forceful reminders of this generous God and that, however we choose to share with others the gifts showered upon us,

Thank you, God, for everything

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thing, but especially for my husband of 63+ years!"

Dorothy Freehill is thankful "for the communion ladies for coming to see her every week." She added that she is also thankful for her good health (no colds, or flu) and for friends and family.

Helen Mischo expressed her gratitude for a warm, secure place to live and for people to help her.

Others said they were so very glad that they were able to get outdoors and do outside work or do useful things.

Some comments tugged at the heart: "At 81 years of age, I'm thankful just to know who I am and where I am." And this: "Right now, with all my problems, it's hard to be thankful." And: "Why should I be grateful that I have to be in a nursing home?"

— The Holy Cross School Newsline —

The Holy Cross fifth-/sixth-grade girls volleyball team placed third in the St. Mary's invitational volleyball tournament in Westville. The Holy Cross girls cross-country team placed fourth in the regional competition. Flannery Ellis and Jessica Petry will go on to compete in the state competition.

Sacramental preparation for First Reconciliation began with a meeting for parents Oct. 23d. First Reconciliation will be celebrated at Holy Cross on Saturday, Dec. 9.

Fourth-graders at Holy Cross School are working on different ways to present information about saints to the school. They will be coordinating the all-school Mass on All Saints Day.

Report cards will be sent home with students Nov. 3.

Grandparents Day is scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 21. Children have the opportunity to invite their grandparents or a "special friend" to have lunch with them in the school cafeteria. School will dismiss at 2:30 p.m. that day for the long Thanksgiving weekend.

Parents can look forward to receiving the next school packet on Nov. 30. For

parishioners who like to keep up on happenings at the school, a copy of the school packet is posted in the front hallway of the parish center.

Holy Cross School appreciates the support it receives from the St. Patrick's parish community. Of the 432 students enrolled, 78 are from 55 St. Patrick's families. As is typical of most Catholic schools, tuition does not cover the entire cost of running the school. When we volunteer our time, we are reducing the costs involved. Can you assist with the education of our children in any of the following ways?

- **Time/Talent:** Can you serve as a recess or lunchroom supervisor? (11:40 a.m. to 12:40 p.m., daily)

- **Treasure:** Can you help with the purchase of classroom Bibles at \$14 each? Needed: 200-400 Bibles!

Can you help purchase rewards for Sr. Kathleen to give to students? (\$1.50 per child for Thanksgiving and Christmas is suggested, but any amount is appreciated.)

If you can help with any of these requests, please call Sr. Kathleen (356-

A questioner summed up her unofficial survey this way: "Nothing spectacular, people were glad just to be alive, to be here, and to have friends and family. That was the main thing." Yes, to be alive, to have friends and family with whom to share life. Something indeed to be thankful for.

Family and friends top the list for teens

Junior high students, asked to state briefly what they are most thankful for, were brief. "Health," wrote Zach. "Airplanes," wrote Niloc; "Electronics," from Ted, "Electricity," from Greg (who also was thankful for food), "Technology," from Bob, and "My culture," from Nikki.

"Music," wrote Tony. "Ability in sports, music, art," elaborated Anthony. And this from Lyn: "That I get to play two

years of violin with Mrs. Hoffman."

Some are grateful for life—two anonymously, but they were joined by Nick and Mariana.

"God" and "God's love," were mentioned by Emily, Michael, Josh, and Mariana.

But far and away the most often cited by teens for which they are thankful is (parents, are you ready for this?) family. Yes, "Family," wrote Emily; "Family," echoed Lindsey, Lucas, Danielle, Erin, and Michael. Anne was very explicit: "My whole family, including aunts, uncles, grandparents, cousins, parents, friends." "Family and friends," noted Nick. "Family and all the things they do for me," wrote Elizabeth. "A loving and supportive family," observed Liz.

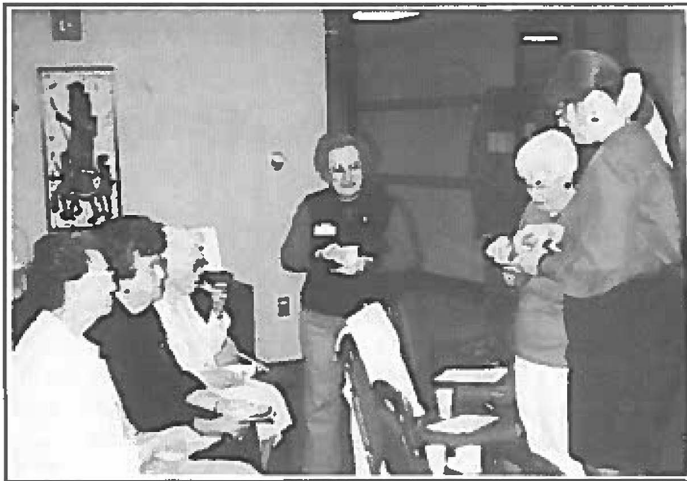
Yes, something very good is happening here!



Tuesday morning volunteers, with Fr. Remm, from the right: Mary Corcoran, Nancy Steerman, Jean Costello, Grace Conless, Loretta LaFave, Pat Minogue, Lu Pillar. Others now shown: JoAnne Arie, Mary Lou Bloome, Pat Doebel, Margaret Erlandson, Judy Yasunga, Mary Fonner.



Champaign County Nursing Home ministers, with Fr. Remm, from the left: front, Toni D'Urso, Florence Chevallier, Ida D'Urso, Mary Sleeter, Rose Norton; rear, Dorothy Maduzia, Teresa Zapp, Pat Donze, Norma Kroes, Gladys Reinhart. Others not shown: Ann Conlin, Mary Parish, Monica Piitten, Bob Leach, Kathy Leach, Joe Sleeter.



Participants take a welcome break for refreshments.

On Oct. 2 more than twenty caregivers gathered for a half-day retreat facilitated by Sr. Charlene Cesario. The retreat was offered for the third year to those who minister to the sick and disabled.

Over 197 years of caregiving experience were represented by the retreatants: parish volunteers to the Champaign County Nursing Home, ministers to Carle Foundation Hospital, ministers who visit area nursing homes, and ministers who make home visits.

Fr. George Remm shared a reflection that focused on how the forces of nature (earth, air, water, and fire) are a part of our everyday lives. Earth represents sensations—to be at home with ourselves and our surroundings. Air represents our thoughts—thought enables us to expand our horizons. Water (the water of Baptism) represents feeling—how we react to the world and to people. Fire (the Living Flame) represents intuition.

The morning included two opportunities for personal reflection and ended with group sharing. Participants agreed that although the giving of oneself can be emotionally draining, much is returned to them by those they visit.

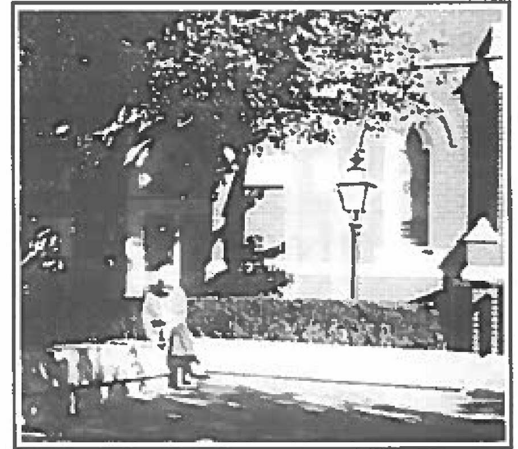
Nancy Steerman said that the retreat made her more aware of the individuals she serves. Jean Daly mentioned that she had been touched by many others during her ministry. Mary Corcoran likened this ministry to something she'd heard about Canadian geese: when they are migrating, the strongest goose takes the lead until it becomes tired and then falls back to another position while a stronger goose takes the lead, and the migration continues uninterrupted—as does the community's commitment to the sick and the disabled.

The closing prayer of the retreat concluded with these lines:

Caregivers receive caring on retreat



Carle Hospital ministers, with Fr. Remm, from left: Jean Daly, Sara Thomas, Sheila Lyons, Lu Pillar, Grace Bowen. Others not shown: Margaret Kearns, Connie Knake, Marguerite Maguire, Frank Modica, Ruth Plymire, Terri Ruedi, Gigi Simon, Marie Davis, Peter Tan.



Grace Bowen sought solitude for reflection.

We look to the heavens for a blessing,
to the spirit of openness:

fill us with the wideness of your mercy
that lovingly embraces all, we pray
EMPOWER US, HOLY SPIRIT!

If you too would like to participate in this compassionate ministry to the sick and shut-ins, call Sr. Charlene (367-2665) or one of the following coordinators:

* Loretta LaFave, 367-0985 (eucharistic ministry to the homebound and local nursing homes)

* Grace Bowen, 356-3491 (eucharistic ministry to patients at Carle Foundation Hospital)

* Mary Sleeter, 648-3785; Norma Kroes, 367-1596 (Mass or Rosary with residents of Champaign County Nursing Home)

Sr. Marianne Burkhard, OSB, professes final vows

During Mass at St. Mary Monastery, Nauvoo (Ill.), on Sept. 30, Sr. Marianne Burkhard professed her final vows as a Sister of the Order of St. Benedict.

This step was a logical one in Sr. Marianne's journey of faith. She grew up beside Lake Zurich, Switzerland, in the shadow of a Benedictine monastery. Coming to the U.S. with a Ph.D. in German literature, she taught German language and literature at the University of Illinois from 1968 to 1987. Her participation in the RCIA process at St. Patrick's culminated in her reception into the Church at Easter, 1985.

As a new Catholic, Marianne was already steeped in the traditions of the Church and familiar with the writings of the Fathers and Doctors of the Church. She found kinship of thought and spirituality in such diverse writers as Thomas Merton, Joan Chittister, Basil Pennington, Hildegard of Bingen, Julian of Norwich, Thomas Green.

She soon applied to the Benedictine



Sr. Marianne Burkhard, OSB

community in Nauvoo and was advised to spend time in waiting on the Lord and praying for discernment. Meanwhile she became a Benedictine Oblate, a lay affiliate of the Benedictine Order, and shared her gifts with her newly adopted parish community as lector, eucharistic minister, and member of the Liturgy Committee.

In 1987 Marianne entered the Nauvoo Benedictine community, was accepted as a novice in 1988, and professed her first vows in 1990. She served as religious education coordinator first at St. Anthony Parish in Spring Valley and then at St. Mary's Parish, De Pue.

In 1993 Sr. Marianne completed a licentiate in canon law at St. Paul's University, Ottawa (Canada), and has been serving as office manager, associate judge, and auditor for the Diocesan Marriage Tribunal, Peoria. She has given several presentations throughout the diocese, here at St. Patrick's last September, to help couples and individuals sort through information about invalid marriages, the annulment process, and related issues.

Sr. Marianne has traveled far from the shadow of that Benedictine Monastery beside Lake Zurich. On Sept. 30 she took yet another big step in her journey of faith, yet another new beginning.

From our sister parish in the Holy Land

Father Y. Abdel-Nour, pastor of our sister parish, Assumption Church in Beit Jala, sent greetings from the Holy Land. In his letter, which was dated Sept. 27, he remarked on having spent an entire month in the hospital "for a surgical intervention," adding "now, thank God, I am well."

He continues: "The situation in the Bethlehem area is pitiful and miserable; the workers are not allowed to enter Jerusalem to earn bread for their children. As you know, Bethlehem is very close to Jerusalem, and our community hasn't another way to live, so we pray that this situation will improve. But despite all the peace talks and negotiations, nothing has changed here.

"We remain united in Christ's love,"

Correspondence should be addressed as follows: Rev. Y. Abdel-Nour, P. O. Box 3, Beit Jala, via Israel.

Parish memorial service planned for Nov. 15

A parish memorial service will be held in St. Patrick's church on Wednesday, Nov. 15, beginning at 7:00 p.m. All parishioners and others in the local community are invited to attend.

The service will be one of remembrance and prayer for those who have passed into the next life.

St. Patrick's parishioner Vera Duncanson, who is a member of Covenant Hospital's pastoral care team, will speak

about remembering those we love, giving thanks for God's gifts, and reflecting on the resurrection.

The service, prepared by Sr. Charlene, Mary Maglione, Rosemary Mathy, and Connie Shaw, will include periods of meditation and thanksgiving.

Afterward participants will be invited to gather for refreshments and fellowship in the multipurpose room of the parish center.

Re-Membering Skills

If you have a family member or friend who is an inactive Catholic,

- be nonjudgmental, affirming, accepting, patient
- Let them see your own faith working in your life
- share some of your own doubts and struggles with them
- love them unconditionally
- don't push or force them into coming back
- don't argue about their reasons for not going to church
- don't place limits on Jesus' gift of salvation for all of us
- always provide an invitation, never a confrontation

Thanksgiving, the Wandering Holiday

The Thanksgiving Day that seems so commonplace today has ancient roots, but the official holiday is fairly recent. For many thousands of years people in many lands have held harvest festivals late in the fall after the bountiful crops were in. The American Thanksgiving Day probably grew out of the harvest-home celebrations of England.

The first Thanksgiving Day was celebrated in 1621 by the Calvinist settlers in Massachusetts, the Pilgrims. These Plymouth colonists, who were used to England's mild climate, arrived in the New World largely unprepared for harsh winters. The first winter killed nearly half of the members of the colony. But the spring thaw brought new hope, especially from a Pawtuxet Indian named Squanto (the first agricultural extension agent?), who showed them how to plant corn and other native crops. The resulting bountiful harvest prompted the decree of a three-day feast, and the rest is history.

Well...not quite. It actually took another 320 years before Congress finally ruled that the fourth Thursday of November would be observed as Thanksgiving Day and would be a legal federal holiday. That's slow even by Congress's standards!

The custom of a Thanksgiving Day spread from Plymouth to other New England colonies. In 1789, President George Washington issued a general proclamation naming November 26 a day of national thanksgiving. For many years after that, some states celebrated on one day, some on another; some didn't celebrate at all.

In 1863, in the midst of the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln proclaimed the fourth Thursday of November as the official Thanksgiving Day of the nation. Each year afterward, for 75 years, the President of the United States formally proclaimed that Thanksgiving Day should be celebrated on the last Thursday of November. But in 1939, President Roosevelt set it one week earlier to help business by lengthening the shopping period before Christmas. Congress finally settled the saga of the roving holiday in 1941 by setting the fourth Thursday in November as a national day of thanks.

Word search

Find these words in the square below, running up, down, across, or diagonally. Then look to see what word is spelled by the unused letters.

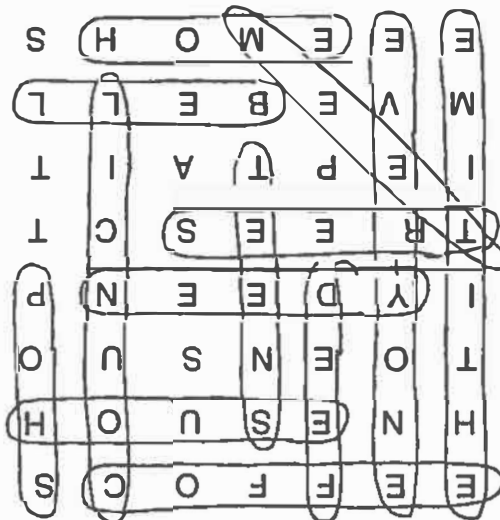
bell
coffee
council
everyone
feed
home
house

meet
needy
shop
teens
time
tithe
trees

E	E	F	F	O	C	S
H	N	E	S	U	O	H
T	O	E	N	S	U	O
I	Y	D	E	E	N	P
T	R	E	E	S	C	T
I	E	P	T	A	I	T
M	V	E	B	E	L	L
E	E	E	M	O	H	S

Here it is; how did you do? Have you figured out what the leftover letters spell?

Well, "St. Pat's," of course — without the apostrophe, that is!





November 1995

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.

Deadline for the next issue of In Focus is November 12.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 All Saints Day 7:00am Mass 7:00am Men's Bible Study 12:10pm Mass 5:15pm Mass 6:00pm Rel Ed, St. Joe 6:00pm Rel Ed, Urbana 6:30pm Over 21 Bible Study 7:00pm RCIA 7:00pm SVDP 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	2 All Souls Day 10:15am Mother's Group 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	3 9:00am Mixed Bible Study 10:45am Mass-Champaign Cty NH	4
5 9:00am & 11:00am Religious Ed 10:15am Children's Liturgy 5:30pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Bible Study 6:30pm Religious Ed, Jr & Sr High	6 7:00pm Education Com 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:15pm Finding God in Daily Work	7 7:00pm Mixed Bible Study 7:00pm Beginning Experience 7:00pm First Reconciliation Class 7:30pm Parish Council Exec Com	8 7:00am Men's Bible Study 5:15pm Children's Choir Rehearsal 6:00pm Rel Ed, St. Joe 6:00pm Rel Ed, Urbana 6:30pm Over 21 Bible Study 7:00pm RCIA 7:00pm SVDP 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Personnel Com	9 6:30pm Building & Grounds Com 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Baptism Prep	10 9:00am Mixed Bible Study 10:30am Mass-Care Center of Urbana 10:45am Mass-Champaign Cty NH	11
12 9:00am & 11:00am Religious Ed 10:15am Children's Liturgy 5:00pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Bible Study 6:30pm Religious Ed, Jr & Sr High	13 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:15pm Finding God in Daily Work	14 9:30am Funeral Schola 1:00pm Catholic Daughters of America Luncheon 7:00pm Mixed Bible Study 7:00pm Financial Affairs Com 7:00pm Pro-Life Com 7:00pm First Reconciliation Class	15 7:00am Men's Bible Study 5:15pm Children's Choir Rehearsal 6:00pm Rel Ed, St. Joe 6:00pm Rel Ed, Urbana 6:30pm Over 21 Bible Study 7:00pm RCIA 7:00pm SVDP 7:00pm Parish Memorial Service	16 10:15am Mother's Group 7:00pm Parish Council 7:30pm Pax Christi	17 9:00am Mixed Bible Study 10:30am Mass-Clark-Lindsey 10:45am Mass-Champaign Cty NH	18
19 8:30am - 11:30am Advent Sale 9:00am & 11:00am Religious Ed 10:15am Children's Liturgy 12:00pm Mass Hosted by Texas 5:00pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Bible Study 6:30pm Religious Ed, Jr & Sr High	20 7:00pm Centering Prayer	21 7:00pm Beginning Experience 7:00pm First Reconciliation Class	22 7:00pm SVDP 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	23 Thanksgiving Day 9:00am Mass & Breakfast	24 10:30am Mass-Americana NH Urbana 10:45am Mass-Champaign Cty NH	25
	Delivering Thanksgiving Baskets					
26 Feast of Christ the King 5:00pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Bible Study	27 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:00pm Liturgy Com	28 9:30am Funeral Schola 7:00pm Homily Prep 7:00pm Social Action Com 7:00pm First Reconciliation Class	29 7:00pm RCIA 7:00pm SVDP 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	30 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Communications Com		