

ST. PATRICK'S PARISH

In Focus



Another Britsky work of art part of St. Patrick's

A painting that St. Patrick's parishioner Nick Britsky created as a present for a Champaign doctor has come back to Urbana as a gift from the late doctor's estate.

The painting, created in 1958 for the late Dr. Jack Brodsky—as a gift from his wife, Lois—now hangs in the parish center lounge.

It was given to the church by the estate of the Brodskys, both of whom died earlier this year. The Brodskys were not parishioners of St. Patrick's, but the gift was arranged by parishioner Barbara Peckham, who organized the Brodskys' estate sale.

Lois Brodsky took an art class for adults, taught by Nick Britsky, and became a great admirer of his work.

"She liked my stuff," said Britsky, "and she asked me to do something as a birthday present. She gave me free license. I don't know why she did that, but we had just returned from a year in Italy and so the painting is a foreign port scene with the shoreline of a fishing village and the classical architecture in the background."

"The kids needed shoes. I suppose that's why I did it for her," he joked.

Nick and his family had spent a year in Italy in 1956, thanks to a Fulbright grant.

"We had a marvelous time," Britsky said. "I was based in Rome. I had an affiliation with the University of Rome, but I traveled all over the place, attending lectures, visiting studios and museums, photographing churches. It was a wonderful experience. We camped all over. It was the happiest year I had with the family."

St. Patrick's to begin participating in Hispanic ministry

The headline in *USA Today* states that the newest hub for Hispanics is the Midwest: "Illinois now ranks fifth in the nation behind California, Texas, Florida, and New York with a population of Hispanics numbering around one million people."

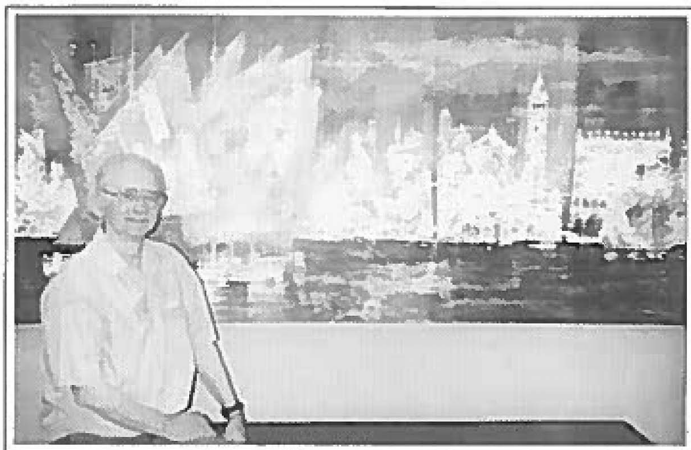
What does this information have to do with Champaign-Urbana? What does it have to do with St. Patrick's?

Our own community is a direct beneficiary of this movement of Hispanics. Many Hispanics, legally in the U.S., are working in area businesses; some of them attend school here; still others enrich our cultural backgrounds through sharing a heri-

tage and faith tradition that are distinctly Catholic.

These people are not receiving food stamps or other forms of welfare assistance, yet a number of them are experiencing an array of difficulties ranging from housing discrimination and denied access to social and medical facilities to a lack of information regarding job opportunities. For many, overcoming the language barrier is of paramount importance to their continued existence here, both in being understood and in being able to understand the ways of life in the U.S.

Our community is fortunate to have, on



Nick Britsky displays his painting that is now hanging in the Parish Center.

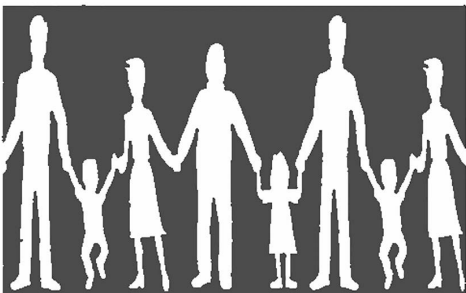
If the painting had a name, Britsky has forgotten it in the nearly 40 intervening years. "They liked it," he said. "That was important. They had a taste for that kind of thing."

Fr. George Remm said he was happy to give the work a new home in the parish.

"Not only do we have original Nick Britsky art in the church—"The Rising Christ" crucifix over the altar and the art over the tabernacle and in the baptistry—but now we have a couple of pieces in the parish center," Fr. Remm said. "It's quite a gift to our parish."

the U of I campus, an organization called "El Centro por los Trabajadores." Begun in 1994, this organization, under the leadership of Hugh Phillips, seeks to address the concerns and issues that face Hispanics in our community. Volunteers provide assistance with English language instruction, help individuals and families get located in our area, and provide guidance through the maze of legal and governmental procedures. Tutoring sessions are held each Saturday at St. John the Divine Episcopal Church on Wright St., which has become the hub for this ministry and outreach.

(Continued on page 4)



Welcome to new parishioners: Johanna and Richard Bradley, Rosemary Charters, John and Mary Dill, Declan and Elaine Fleming, Patricia Fowler, Gayle Gleichman and Roger Williams, Heidi and Rick Hardig, Maryann Hausmann, Cari Klecka, David Lawrence, Regina Lowry, Shannon Mahalko, Rosa Aguilar and Charlie Morris, Funke and Patrick Omo-Osagie, Elizabeth Palmateer, Monica and Roger Stratton, Joseph and Kristen Thomas.

Farewell to these parishioners, who have moved from C-U: Jeannette and Tim Arnold, Patricia Bisgrove, Fran Cousin, Michael and Patsy Edwards, Janet House, Joe and Pam Rank, Deb and John Rumsey.

We welcome the following recently baptized into our faith community: Therese Margaret Fernandez, Lily Marie Najm, Taylor Nicole Reiter, Timothy Glenn McCarthy, Sydney Elise Klecka, Ian Alexander Niccum, Elijah Douglas Emert, Leah Rose Emert.

Congratulations to the following couples married at St. Patrick's: Stacey Lee Peterson and Jesse R. Cisneros, Sara Ann Foster and Matthew Douglas Wolfersberger, Thuyen Tang and Che-Yuan Wang and to parishioners Julie Ann Dalpiaz and Mark Andrew Herman, who were recently married at St. John's Catholic Chapel in Champaign.

Please pray for parishioner Julius Reinhart, deceased.



The next issue of *In Focus*, August/September, will be published the last weekend of August. Deadline for submission of information, articles, and news items for that issue is **August 11**.

Parish teen performs in *Godspell*

Reading *The Catholic Post* can lead to great opportunities—so says Scott Shannon of St. Patrick's. Scott spotted an announcement in the *Post* last March regarding a musical to be produced at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows in Belleville (Illinois). Having visited the shrine twice with the parish Youth Group, Scott decided that he would submit the required audition materials for Youth Sing and Praise.

Scott was one of 95 talented high-school vocalists from across the country who rehearsed, prayed, danced, and sang together for a week in preparation for a performance

of the Broadway musical *Godspell* on Saturday, June 22, in the outdoor amphitheatre.

Scott Shannon is a recent graduate of St. Joseph-Ogden High School. He has been a parish altar server for many years and is currently singing with the 9:00 choir.



Scott Shannon

In Focus needs computer volunteer

In mid-August, when the next issue of the parish newsletter, *In Focus*, starts taking shape, the Communications Committee will need help from someone who knows how to lay out the pages on computer. Can you help, even on a one-time basis? Any page-layout application, such as PageMaker or QuarkXpress, does the job handily. Time commitment? About 3-5 hours. If you can volunteer, call Mary Lou Menches (244-4701 days, 344-1125 evenings).

In the last few years several parishioners have volunteered their page-layout expertise. The committee is grateful for all the help received, either for an extended time (Donna Price did it for several years) or on a one-time basis to help out in a pinch.

Larry Gilbert, who although not a member of our parish and not Catholic frequently worships with us, carried the responsibility for several months despite working at several jobs so that he sometimes stayed up most of the night to page *In Focus*. Volunteer Amy Fahey carried the ball for a year or more, almost right up to the time she expected to have her hands and time full with the arrival of an eagerly awaited infant. Last month, Pat Mayer stepped in at the very last minute to help with the June issue—and delivered it with time to spare (although she had to work it in and around choir practice, a holiday weekend, and a birthday celebration!).

The committee is grateful to each and every volunteer who has made publication of the newsletter possible. But it's time to

ask for your generous support again. If you enjoy reading *In Focus* and find that it helps you know more about St. Patrick's and the people who are the Church here, if you can use page-layout software and spare a few hours to page the newsletter, please call to volunteer. If you can't commit to putting in the time each month but can do it occasionally, please call anyway; it may be possible to set up a roster of page-layout artists with rotating responsibility so the task remains a pleasant and creative one.

If you can't reach Mary Lou, leave your name and a message at the parish office (367-2665). We'll keep our collective fingers crossed, meanwhile!

In Focus

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

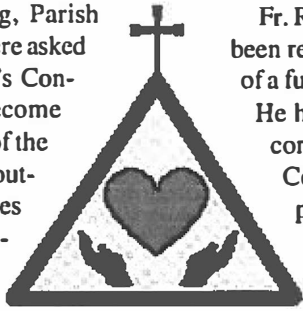
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Associates: Yvonne Barger, Amy Fahey, Larry Gilbert, Dorothy Maduzia, Lori and Tom McDonough, Marty Perry, Carole Rebeiz, Thomas Schrepfer, Jr.

Articles and information for this issue were contributed by: Mike Andrejasic, Judy Conover, Fr. Gene Kane, Dorothy Maduzia, Lori McDonough, Carolyn McElraith, Mary Lou Menches, Lu Pillar, Leslie Risatti, Carol Schrepfer, Peggy Shannon, Barb Wysocki.

St. Patrick's Parish Council News

At their June meeting, Parish Council members were asked to study the Council's Constitution and By-Laws to become well acquainted with the role of the Council and their duties as outlined there. One of those duties is to serve as liaison with Council committees, and members received their committee appointments for the year.



Fr. Remm noted that a proposal has been received advocating the creation of a full-time Youth Director position. He has responded in writing to the core group, and the Education Committee will consider the proposal at its next meeting, in August. (The proposal itself has not yet been put to the Council.)

Fr. Remm remarked on parishioners' generosity in the diocesan Annual Stewardship Appeal: 506 pledge cards were returned with pledges totalling \$86,591, and payments against that total amounted to \$36,582.

Council members approved acceptance of the low bid for repaving the parking lot (\$57,800). Additional expense for fencing, electrical work, tree removal, etc., would be held to about \$8200 with labor volunteered by parishioners. Members also agreed to accept the low bid (approximately \$5000) for paving the parking area adjacent to the church off Busey. Because Carle employees use this parking area during the week, Carle's assistance will be sought.

The City of Urbana's across-the-board policy not to pave any alley in the city means that the parish would have to take on the expense of paving the alley north of the parking lot; Council members decided not to include this in the overall project.

Parish Council elects officers, Justice president

At their May meeting, after celebrating the generous dedication of outgoing members and the commitment of newly elected members to serve their parish, the new Council gathered to elect its officers.

The ad hoc election committee presented its slate of candidates, and the Council, with no nominations from the floor, elected the committee's nominees "by acclamation."

Elected to office for 1995-96 were Dick Justice, president; Jean Daly, vice-president; and Peter Bloome, secretary.

As president, Dick Justice will preside at Council meetings, is responsible for setting the agenda, and represents (at the pastor's behest) the Parish Council and/or the parish.

As vice-president, Jean Daly will assist

The Hispanic ministry is a project of the entire vicariate, with many parishes willing to help. [See article in this issue on St. Patrick's participation in this ministry.] Fr. Remm expects this to be a very important area for outreach in our community. He himself, for instance, is already receiving a number of wedding requests from Hispanics.

Just before the August meeting Council members will be taking a quick tour of parish facilities, including the church basement, and the church "attic" (the area above the nave and sanctuary). And a week or so later (Aug. 23-24) they will travel to LaSalette for their annual retreat.

Committees will be asked once again to provide an update on their committee objectives for review at the August Council meeting. The annual fall workshop on setting parish objectives has been scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 11.

Sr. Charlene and Lenore Nagele, parish coordinator for evangelization, will attend

the president in performing the duties of that office and assume those duties in the absence of the president, serve as Council liaison with the Personnel Committee, and oversee the functioning of all standing and ad hoc committees of the Council.

As secretary, Peter Bloome will keep a record of all Council proceedings, publish the meeting agenda and minutes of Council meetings, keep the attendance record of Council meetings, maintain a membership roster of the Council and its committees, attend to all Council correspondence, and provide a copy of Council minutes to the parish archives.

Each officer also serves on the executive committee of the Parish Council, which is made up of the elected officers, the two parish trustees, and the pastor.

Committee liaisons appointed

Parish Council members have received their committee liaison appointments for the year:

Building and Grounds: Bill Nelson
Communications: Cathy Salika
Education: Miriam Nirider, Allen Booth
Financial Affairs: Pat Holden
Liturgy: Frank Modica
Social: Alta Tarter
Social Action: Peter Bloome
Personnel: Jean Daly

As liaison, the Council member's primary responsibility is to serve as communicator between the two groups, reporting to the committee about relevant Council matters and to the Council about relevant committee matters.

The Council member who serves as liaison with a standing committee is an active, voting member of that committee and is expected to attend committee meetings and to participate actively in the work of the committee.

the evangelization workshop in Washington D.C. in July.

Council members approved purchase of a new stage for the main hall, priced at between \$3000 and \$4000 and financed from unused funds in the Building and Grounds budget.

Allocation of unused funds anticipated at the end of the fiscal year (June 30) included amounts for our Sister Church in the Holy Land, ministry to Hispanics, repaving the parking lot and area on the west side of the church, the roof replacement fund, purchase of software for maintaining the parish database, financial information, etc., a tithe to support the work of Dr. Susan Nagele in Sudan, and the kitchen remodeling fund. Amounts will be determined by the accrued unused income at the end of the fiscal year after new income has been tallied and all expenses have been met.

Bob Haessly, who has served the parish and the pastor for three years as parish trustee, will be retiring from this post in the next few weeks. Dick Justice, on behalf of the Council, thanked Bob for his generous service.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will start at 7 p.m. on Thursday, August 15.

"Whose job is it?"

Building and Grounds Committee seeks assistance

The church, parish hall, and priests' residences at St. Patrick's are sound buildings and fine facilities. Similar to the home you live in, they require regular maintenance and upkeep. Routine maintenance is done on a daily basis by a full-time employee, Bill VanCleave, parish custodian and caretaker. He is supported by the Building and Grounds Committee, whose volunteers lend their time and talents to the management of parish facilities. Committee members assemble once a month (on second Thursdays) to discuss the physical condition of St. Patrick's and to plan future improvements.

This committee is asking for help. The chair, Steve Marsh, has appealed to the Parish Council and to the Communications Committee for support in their efforts to encourage more parishioners to volunteer help. When asked what kind of assistance they are most urgently in need of, Steve replied: "We need more committee members to help us with the business of the committee and more volunteers to work on committee projects."

He added, "We need administrative help, secretarial help, book-keeping help. We need help in developing specifications for bidders, in searching out firms qualified to do work on contract, in

analyzing bids submitted. We need someone to take minutes during our meetings and notes during our tours of parish facilities to determine what kind of maintenance is called for. We need a reporter to write articles for In Focus to tell parishioners what we're doing — so they can see how they can help!"

The Building and Grounds Committee (1) makes recommendations to the pastor on prioritizing and scheduling regular maintenance; (2) researches major repairs, improvements, and upgrades, and advises the Parish Council about the impact of these on the parish operating budget; (3) oversees the bidding and supervision of contract work; and (4) completes improvements of limited scope on a volunteer basis.

The committee brings a rich and diverse talent pool to bear on the various projects undertaken. Many members are skilled in the building trades and bring their professional expertise as carpenters, landscapers, architects, engineers, electricians, plumbers, accountants, metal workers, and painters. Others bring their no less valuable time and insights.

Major past projects include installing Nick Britsky's art pieces
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Catholics challenged to aid spiritual needs of Hispanics

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Phillips recently challenged local Roman Catholic churches to respond to the spiritual needs of Hispanics. He asked for support, both financial and physical, to expand this ministry. In meetings with area pastors, Mr. Phillips explained the needs of these people and shared his vision for a spiritual center for them. Through Fr. Remm, St. Patrick's has responded in at least two significant ways: (1) Through the year-end distribution of unused funds, the Parish Council is allocating \$1000 to support the continuation and expansion of the work already underway in C-U. (2) Fr. Remm has offered St. Patrick's church as a place of worship

for the Hispanic community once a month, beginning this summer.

The first Mass in Spanish at St. Patrick's is scheduled for Sunday, June 30, with Fr. Ed Adelmann as presider. He and Hugh Phillips will draw on the talents of the Hispanic community as liturgical ministers and secure the necessary materials (Lectionary, Sacramentary, books of sacramental rites, etc.) in Spanish for these liturgical celebrations. The pastors of area parishes or their assistants will preside at these Masses, on a rotating basis, beginning in the fall. (Yes, they—and Fr. Remm—will be learning Spanish!)

This program is still in its infancy; the

possibilities for growth and development are limited only by one's imagination and (perhaps) resources. For instance, Hugh Phillips has indicated a need for tutors during the summer, when the university students who, at other times provide a reasonably steady supply of volunteers, are not available. If you would like to help with this social-action ministry, call Mr. Phillips (328-6420) to volunteer. Tutoring sessions are held on Saturday mornings between 10 a.m. and noon. The tutor need not know Spanish. (What a great opportunity for high-school students!)

For more information, talk with Fr. Remm.

Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel celebrated this month

The Mt. Carmel mountain range in northwestern Israel extends 13 miles to the south coast of the Bay of Haifa. The promontory of Mt. Carmel juts into the Mediterranean and can be seen for miles by ships approaching the port of Haifa. The Hebrew name, *karmel* means "orchard," or "woodland," and Mt. Carmel was noted in antiquity for magnificent forests, which were believed to be special blessings from God.

In the Old Testament, the prophet Elijah

was reported to live on Mt. Carmel. It was chosen by Elijah as the site for a contest with the prophets of Baal, in which Yahweh was the victor (I Kings 18). Tradition suggests that after the time of Christ men chose Mt. Carmel as the place where they would follow Elijah's example of holiness and solitariness, continuing the monastic way of life of Elijah and others of the Old Testament. A church and Carmelite monastery still stand on the headland of Mt. Carmel.

These early Christian hermits consecrated themselves in a special way to Mary. They became known as "Brothers of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel" and celebrated a Mass and Office in her honor. In 1726 this celebration was extended to the universal Church under the title Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, a feast that is observed on July 16.

For centuries the Carmelites have seen themselves as specially related to Mary.

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Quick fixin's from the kitchen of . . .

Judy Conover

SPINACH SALAD

1 lb fresh spinach, torn
1 6-oz can bean sprouts, drained
1 8-oz can sliced water chestnuts
8 slices bacon, fried and crumbled
4 hard-boiled eggs, sliced

Prepare as described and place in salad bowl. Just before serving, toss with dressing: 1 c salad oil; 3/4 c sugar; 1/4 c vinegar; 1/2 t salt; 1/3 c catsup; 2 T Worcestershire sauce
1 medium onion, minced Dressing will keep, tightly covered, in refrigerator for up to two weeks.



Evangelization 1996

A story of evangelization in our times

A woman recently spent time at a monastery hoping to discern God's will in her life's work.

Her car broke down one afternoon, and she trudged through the monastery's anteroom to the bathroom and filled a two-liter bottle with water. The second trip brought a gentle question from the porter, and a bell summoned another brother.

She waited outside, worrying about the imposition, as a monk walked up wearing overalls and a wide smile. Waving away her apology, he checked this and that as he chatted, checked under the hood as he joked, and tinkered as they both laughed. When she thanked him, adding that there must have been something else he'd rather be doing, he looked surprised and said, "But not I, no!"

As she drove away, she mused on his surprise. He really enjoyed looking into her overheating car. Maybe it was his vocation.

Two nights later her car had a flat tire. A passing patrol car called roadside assistance

for her, and within minutes a truck pulled up and a beaming young man jumped down. She shrugged, waved her arms, and apologized because it was late, cool, and drizzling. He laughed and maneuvered equipment in place, whistling all the while. She watched for a moment and then bent down to ask, "Do you like this?"

"Oh, yeah! I love it!" He drove away, whistling. Maybe it was his vocation, she thought.

Since then she has thought many times of the monk and the mechanic, two people who turned everyday work into holy encounters for her because of their pleasure. She believes that their pleasure made it holy for them, too.

God's work may well bring wrenches and bruised knuckles, yet it is also meant to bring a smile to life—a sign of joy in God's presence, in God's service, in God's shared love. For the one who serves and for the one who is served.

Help Wanted!

New and former eucharistic ministers, lectors, cantors, and servers are needed for these ministries at Mass, especially during the coming months. Training, and a link-up with someone experienced in your ministry of choice, will be provided.

Do you receive Holy Communion from the same eucharistic ministers, hear the same lectors reading, week after week? Want a little variety? Well, give it a try yourself! You are sure to discover, as others have before you, the meaning and value for Chris-

tian community to be found in these ministries.

If you have experience, little retraining will be required. If you've already been commissioned, re-commissioning is not needed. For lectors, call Susan Laesch (359-2752); for eucharistic ministry, call Janice Parker (344-7108); for cantors and choirs, call Steve Peet (328-3559); for altar servers, call Sandi Burke (469-2757). Or leave your name at the parish office (367-2665) and someone will call you.

New officers chosen for St. Patrick's Guild

In April members of St. Patrick's Guild elected officers for the coming year. Those chosen from the ranks of membership to keep the organization moving ahead with plans and projects for future months are Debra Heater, president; Mary Ann Luedtke, secretary; and Rose Brown, treasurer. The term of office for each is one year, although each may hold the same office for two more years in succession at the pleasure of the members.

Outgoing president, Virginia Alane, has been a "mover and shaker" for the Guild. When asked how she feels now that the responsibilities of office have been lifted from her capable shoulders, she said: "Oh, I enjoyed what I did while I was doing it, but I'm glad to have time to take better care of myself now."

The Guild has been an active parish organization for so many years now that parishioners may tend to take it for granted that some projects of the Guild will just automatically take place every year as in the past. But one of the concerns of current members is that the average age of the group continues to climb because many younger women today are combining employment outside the home with caring for their families and may have little time or energy left for participating in organizations and their projects.

Among the many Guild activities are providing meals after funeral liturgies for the family and friends of the deceased; visiting and celebrating Mass with residents of Champaign County Nursing Home weekly; holding the parish's most successful fundraiser, the Cellar-to-Garret Sale; and presenting the exhibit "Trees of Christmas and Holiday Traditions around the World."

God has created me to do Him some definite service. He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another. I have my mission—I never may know it in this life, but I shall be told in the next. Somehow I am necessary for His purposes. ... I have a part in this great work; I am a link in a chain, a bond of connexion between persons. He has not created me for naught.

Cardinal John Henry Newman

St. Patrick's Class of '96 ready to move on

Not all came, not all who came were photographed, but proud parishioners honored them at Mass and wished them well as they start on the next "phase" of their lives, graduates all.

Peter Amberg will study urban and regional planning at the U of I, while he continues his interest in music. Joe Brenner, with plans to study at Parkland, is interested in history. David Cimino is enrolled in the Universal Technical Institute in Chicago, where he plans to pursue interest in autos and auto repair.

Emily Delanty will focus on education and Spanish at the U of I. Sarah Dial will begin work on an Associate in Fine Arts degree at Parkland. Kelly Gnagey expects to study child psychology at the U of I while continuing her interest in swimming.

Sean Gordon, headed for Knox or Miami of Ohio, is interested in history and psychology. Hope Michelson will work for a bit and then enroll at Georgetown in architectural restoration. Peter Misztal is taking up engineering at the University of Georgia.

Matt Modica is enrolled at the U of I in LAS and film studies; Adam Pijanowski and Bill Rank, in music education.

Meghan Richards is off to Indiana University to study psychology. Amy Sampolesi is taking up studies in social work at Illinois State University. Scott Shannon, after working for a while, hopes to take classes at Parkland.

Samantha Sutton is enrolled in electrical engineering at the U of I, where she hopes to continue her interest in music and volleyball. Amy Weber will be pursuing film and art studies at Parkland. Mary Youakim will be starting pre-med studies at the U of I in Chicago.

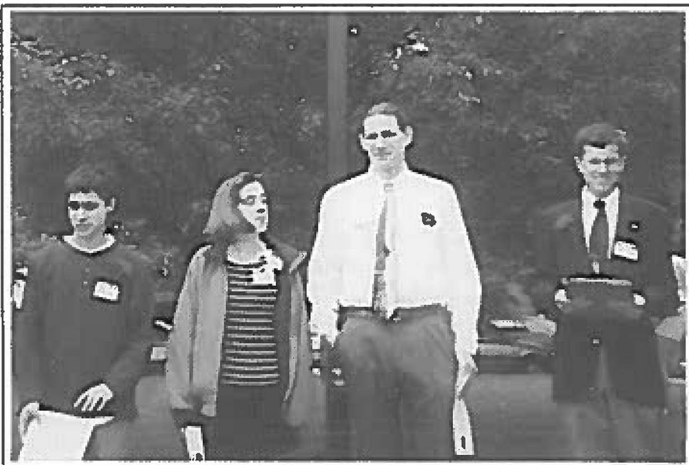
Parents "launch" their no-longer-children with parental pride, love, and some trepidation as these young men and women move on to adulthood. And we who have watched them grow up, prayed with them, worshipped with them, celebrated with them, we too watch with pride, love, and hope as they start to make their way in life. With their parents we keep them in our prayers, these faith companions in our journey through life to the Kingdom.



St. Patrick's 1996 graduates include (from left): Peter Amberg, Emily Delanty . . .



. . . Hope Michelson, Mary Youakim, Joe Brenner, Amy Sampolesi, Peter Misztal . . .



. . . Matt Modica, Samantha Sutton, Adam Pijanowski, Scott Shannon . . .



. . . Sarah Dial, Kelly Gnagey, Sean Gordon and Amy Weber.



in our parish library

Celebrating the Single Life

By Susan Annette Muto

The 1980 U.S. Census Bureau Report indicated that between 1970 and 1980 the number of persons living alone grew from 10.9 million to 17.8 million, with most of the growth among divorced or never-married persons. Ten years later that number (17.8 million) had more than doubled again. Despite such statistics, singles are often denied a distinct identity. Many single women are filed in the category of "unclaimed treasures," those waiting-for-the-right-man-to-come-along. Men and women continue to hear maybe-God-will-still-call-you-to-the-convent/seminary. Finally, single persons have to face the cultural stigma of being a "dried-up bachelor" or an "old maid/spinster/recluse."

Dr. Susan Muto, herself single, has written a book that tells how to have a seriously committed, spiritually grounded single life. It includes such topics as solitude vs. loneliness; silence, service, and caring for others; resisting the workaholic phenomenon; single parenting; singles and the Church; the essentials of single spiritual living.

She writes: "God has some plan in mind for our lives when God does not give us a marriage partner or make us feel comfortable with conventual or institutional living in a congregational or diocesan setting. Given the grace of this vocation to the single life, our question becomes: How can we as single persons grow more gracious, joyful, open, receptive, and relaxed about our lives, avoiding all closed or defensive postures? How can we witness here and now to the fullness of peace and joy toward which God is drawing each of us in the age to come?" *Celebrating the Single Life* is her answer to these questions.

Dr. Muto is Director of the Institute of Formative Spirituality and managing editor of its two journals, *Studies in Formative Spirituality* and *ENVOY*. This book tells in part her own story as a single laywoman living her vocation in the world and attempts to respond to the formation questions of single people.

Grieving a time for dialogue with God

Each person experiences differently the presence of God in his or her life. At times of deep anguish questions often rise to the surface, questions that have no fast or easy answers. These questions can carry great emotion and energy, and can strongly affect behavior.

If you question God's caring and love, especially at a time of grief, you are very normal. It is a sign of your relationship with God that you can enter into honest dialogue. Even anger is a sign of caring—we don't become angry with people who mean nothing to us!

Don't hide your feelings or your questions from God. Open an honest conversation. If you feel like it, read slowly through Luke's Gospel and as you read, allow the dialogue to continue. You may not hear God's voice thundering through the ceiling. You may even feel loneliness and isolation, as Jesus did before his death. Such feelings are normal. But if you keep open the lines of communication, eventually you will become aware of the comforting presence of our God of Love.

From *Journey*, Spring 1995. Used with permission.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel, pray for us!

(Continued from page 4)

Their great saints and theologians have promoted devotion to her, among them St. Teresa of Avila, St. John of the Cross, and St. Therese of the Child Jesus.

There is a popular tradition that Mary

appeared to Carmelite St. Simon Stock and gave him a scapular, telling him to promote devotion to it. The scapular is a modified version of Mary's own garment; it symbolizes her special protection and calls wearers to consecrate themselves to her.



Q. What is the significance of the different colors of the vestments worn at different times of the year or on special occasions?

A. First of all, understand that vestments have a developmental history. In the beginning, the priest (presbyter) wore the ordinary clothing worn by Our Lord and others living in the first century. But as Christian congregations grew, as over the centuries places of worship became churches and were dedicated with appropriate Christian symbols, so too a new vestiture was called for to designate liturgical roles. Much of this development, over the centuries, derived also from monastic life and the climate of varying locales.

When a funeral Mass was celebrated, it was an expression of grief; black was chosen. For feasts of Our Lord's passion, or during seasons of penance, the color chosen was purple or black. Great joyous days, like Easter or Christmas, called for white or even gold. And for the remembrance of martyrs, red. Pentecost was a latecomer in the selection of red. Green, symbolizing growth, indicates the long effort we make to live out the following of Christ.

Today "basic white" may be worn anytime, as at funerals, when the liturgy celebrates our whole new life in God.

Questions about elements of Catholic practice or Catholic teaching may be sent to the Communications Committee in care of the parish office.

Pass this notice on . . .

. . . to friends and family members who are currently not affiliated with a parish or not actively practicing their Catholic faith;

St. Patrick's Re-Membering Church Team will host an open meeting on July 10 and again on August 14 at 7 p.m. in the parish center. People interested in returning to the Catholic Church or who want to find out what the Church has been saying or doing since they last participated on a regular basis are welcome to come by.

Why not accompany them? You could be just the support and encouragement they're looking for!

Fr. Remm, Liturgy Committee say 'Thank you!'

If you didn't make it to the celebration in honor of liturgical ministers—lectors, eucharistic ministers, cantors, choirs, liturgical artists, ushers, sacristan helpers, committee members—you missed out on warm and sincere words of appreciation from Fr. Remm, an inspiring and joyful Evening Prayer, tasty refreshments, and a grand mingling of folks. But don't lose heart; your offering of self in service to others in your liturgical role has not been overlooked, and your reward will surpass anything you could possibly imagine! And maybe next year . . .



Stand up for life, sign up for Respect Life Phone Tree

The National Committee for a Human Life Amendment (NCHLA) and the National Conference of Catholic Bishops (NCCB) co-sponsored the national signup for Project Life phone trees in January 1995.

The diocesan Pro-Life Committee recently implemented the phone tree program to enhance pro-life action in response to legislative alerts initiated by the NCHLA or the NCCB. Because life is threatened in our culture, alerts may be necessary when legislation touches the human person, according to our nation's bishops: "We believe every proposal, policy, or political platform should be measured by how it touches the human person; whether it enhances or diminishes human life, human dignity, and human rights; and how it advances the common good." (*A Call to Political Responsibility*, 1995)

Phone trees are being set up not only here and in other parishes in the Diocese of Peoria but in parishes across the nation.

Currently, watch for action on HR 183, the Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act. Since President Clinton's veto of this legislation on Apr. 10, U.S. cardinals and bishops have urged Catholics and all people of good will to press their Washington representatives to override this "shameful veto."

To participate in our parish's Project Life Phone Tree, call the parish office (367-2665) or Lu Pillar (344-4909).

"We are all called to a common commitment to ensure that political life serves the common good and the human person."



Members needed for Committee

(Continued from page 4)

in the church over the tabernacle and in the baptistry, and the Marian Shrine where a pre-Vatican II confessional once stood; building the small seating area on the east side of the church in memory of Fr. Paul Kinder; designing, fabricating, and installing the lighted sign at the front of the church; designing and building the auxiliary parking lot to the north of the parish center; obtaining bids and overseeing the repairs to the church roof, the parish center roof, and the exterior painting of the church; selecting and installing new lighting around the church and parish center; repainting and re-covering the chairs we use each Sunday at coffee shop; and designing, fabricating, and constructing a new railing in the choir loft.

The committee is currently working on completing the design and bidding improvements to the parish parking lot that will facilitate traffic flow and safer drop-off and pick-up of students enrolled in religious education. The plan also provides for relocating the garbage dumpsters to create a more pleasing entry to what has become, in effect, the "front" door of the parish center for many parishioners. Construction should begin this summer.

A future project the committee is currently looking into is the remodeling of the parish center kitchen to facilitate and enhance the many parish functions we enjoy every year.

While the major projects are exciting, ongoing maintenance is the "bread and butter" of the Building and Grounds Committee's agenda. New members are always needed and people from all trades and talents, skilled and unskilled, are welcome. If you are interested, please contact Steve Marsh (384-3164) or simply come to the next meeting, 6:30 p.m. July 11.



July 1996

St. Patrick's Parish

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 7:00pm Education Com 7:00pm Centering Prayer	2 7:00pm Beginning Experience 7:30pm Open Meeting on Religious Ed Proposal	3 7:00pm SVDP	4 Independence Day Parish Office is Closed 9:00am Mass & Potluck Breakfast	5 10:45am Mass-Champaign Cty NH	6
7	8 7:00pm Centering Prayer	9 9:00am Funeral Schola Rehearsal 7:00pm Financial Affairs Com	10 7:00pm Re-Membering Church 7:00pm SVDP	11 6:30pm Building & Grounds Com 7:00pm Baptism Preparation	12 10:30am Mass-Care Center 10:45am Mass-Champaign Cty NH	13
14	15 7:00pm Centering Prayer	16 7:00pm Beginning Experience	17 7:00pm SVDP	18 10:15am Moms Group 7:00pm Communications Com	19 10:45am Mass-Champaign Cty NH 10:30pm Mass-Clark-Lindsey	20
21	22 9:30am Archives Com 7:00pm Centering Prayer	23 7:00pm Homily Prep	24 7:00pm SVDP	25 7:00pm Knights of Columbus	26 10:45am Mass-Champaign Cty NH 10:30pm Mass-American NH	27
28	29 7:00pm Liturgy Com 7:00pm Centering Prayer	30	31 7:00pm SVDP	<p>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.</p> <p>Deadline for the next issue of In Focus is August 11.</p>		
		Staff Retreat				