ST. PATRICK'S PARISH

In Focus

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord

n a brilliantly sunny Sunday afternoon in April St. Patrick's church was filled by youngsters with their families and friends for a great event—the unforgettable occasion of their First Holy Communion.

There was much bustling as each family signed in, picked up materials prepared for them, signed cards, and found their places in the church. Banners graced with figures made by the children added to the festive appearance of the church, already filled with the fragrance of Easter flowers. Choir members warmed up, last-minute questions found answers, and then, finally, the event all had been preparing for over several weeks began.

Forty-four youngsters welcomed Jesus in Holy Communion that day, joined for the first time in eucharistic oneness with their parents, their brothers and sisters, their families and friends, their parish family, and the family of all Catholics. Their parents offered these prayers for them; we unite ours with theirs:

That your First Communion begins a life-long friendship with Jesus, we pray: David Abundis, Blake Benso, Sonny Benso, Nicholis Bialeschki, Mitchell Blair, Madeline Blair;

That the Eucharist brings you closer to God, the Holy Spirit and Jesus Christ, we pray: Charles Booth, Zachary Cocagne, Janet Czys, Laura Czys, Timothy David, David Dawson;

That you will continue to find nourishment in this sacrament as you grow with the Church, we pray: Nicole Denhart, Matthew Depew, Cameron Dial, Maria Dorsey, Alyssa Durant, Carly Eifert, Shawn Everette;



That throughout your life you will feel a sense of belonging to the Catholic community, wherever you go, we pray: Emily Floess, Laura Golaszewski, Jennifer Guan, John Hogan, Rosemary Keane, Christopher Krassa;

That your family and friends will be an example of God's love for you, we pray: Rachel Krein, Kelsey Lee, Danielle Lepar, Molly Marrone, Allison McLemore, Jason Miklasz, Andrew Miller:

That you will look to the Lord for guidance and peace and know that Jesus is always with you, we pray: Hung Nguyen, Quynh Nhu Nguyen, Martha Ortiz, Mercedes Panepinto, Stephen Patterson, Sara Pritschet;

That you will open your hearts to others and help strengthen and encourage those in need, we pray: Kelly Jo Redmon, Collin Reinhart, Bradley Schnizlein, Bridget Soltau, Hanna Sons, Sarah Wahl; That you will grow in God's love each day and stay close to Jesus always, we pray: Sara Burch, Rachel Faught, Merla Hubler, Matthew Maduzia (parishioners who received this sacrament for the first time as part of the class at Holy Cross School).

May the Lord bless and keep you; may he turn his face to you and give you peace!

(more photos inside)



Root beer floats, fresh strawberries over vanilla ice cream, cones with toppings...Sounds delicious, doesn't it? Well, it undoubtedly is! St. Patrick's Social Committee invites everyone in the parish to the Annual Ice Cream Social on Sunday, June 9, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on the parish grounds.

What a way to kick off your summer fun! There's a little something for everyone: games for the kids, music for the adults, and of course enough ice cream for all.

Reserve the date on your calendars and remember to check the weekly bulletin for further information. The committee hopes to see you there!

Moving through grief to healing

rief is a natural response to the loss of a loved one. Grief is also a response to circumstances beyond our control, such as the loss of irreplaceable items due to tornado or flood, the loss of intimacy when a close friend moves to take a job or go to school elsewhere, or a change in lifestyle due to the loss of a job (whether voluntary or involuntary).

For those who grieve, the following "Mourning Rights" (reprinted from Catholic Cemeteries of Phoenix newsletter):

These twelve freedoms are guidelines to help you in your grief. Use the ideas that make sense to you. Post them on your refrigerator, and read them often as you move toward your healing.

- 1. You have the freedom to realize your grief is unique.
- 2. You have the freedom to talk about your grief.
- 3. You have the freedom to expect to feel a multitude of emotions.
- 4. You have the freedom to allow for numbness.
- 5. You have the freedom to be tolerant of your physical and emotional limits.
- You have the freedom to experience grief attacks or memory embraces.
- 7. You have the freedom to develop a support system.
- 8. You have the freedom to make use of ritual.
- 9. You have the freedom to embrace your spirituality.
- 10. You have the freedom to allow a search for meaning.
- 11. You have the freedom to treasure your memories.
- 12. You have the freedom to move toward your grief and heal.

This marks the beginning of a series of articles directed to those who have suffered personal loss.

At St. Patrick's we are fortunate to have an active ministry to the bereaved. If you would like more information, please call Sr. Charlene Cesario at the parish office (367-2665).

Blessed are those who mourn . . .

In his sermon on the mount Jesus acknowledged the suffering of those who grieve and mourn: "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted." His words hold out hope even today to all who have suffered the loss of loved ones.

On a Saturday in May, 17 widows and widowers came to St. Patrick's to participate in a retreat designed exclusively for them: Life After Loss. From LaSalle, Champaign, Danville, and Urbana they came; from St. Matthew's, Holy Cross, and St. Patrick's, and more. Men and women with one thing in common, the loss of a spouse.

Guided by Sr. Charlene Cesario, assisted by Mary Maglione and Jean Daly, they prayed together and in quiet, alone; they reflected on the video "Invincible Summer: Returning to Life after Someone You Love Has Died"; they journaled and sang; they spoke with full hearts and shared something of their memories, their pain, their joy. They listened with open hearts to the thoughts and feelings and experiences shared by others. They prayed for discernment, to know God's call, God's touch, God's will. They prayed for one another.

And through it all, the process of healing, comfort, and hope.









Parish Council News

At their May meeting, Council members reviewed the process initiated with this year's ASA drive and pronounced it quite successful. A total of \$75,412 was pledged, with \$32,763 of this amount paid; 412 pledge cards were received.

Allocation of end-of-year funds was suggested by the Development Committee: for Susan Nagele, \$6000 (a tithe of year-end funds); for our sister church in the Holy Land, \$1000; for ministry to Hispanics, \$1000; for new software for Business Operations and Education, \$3000; for a new stage for the main hall, \$6000; for remodeling of the kitchen (to a designated fund), \$40,000.

The Hispanic ministry will get underway promptly with Mass celebrated in Spanish one Sunday afternoon monthly, with the possibility of moving to a weekly schedule with Mass celebrated by one of four priests who will be learning phonetic Spanish for this purpose.

Work on the parking lot has been delayed. The City of Urbana is willing to let us pave the alley but wants to suggest how it should be done. Research is underway to determine how to make a request to the City for financial assistance. The work is already out on bid.

A new Financial Administration Manual developed by the Diocese of Peoria for reference and use by parishes includes many practices and procedures already implemented by St. Patrick's.

Bids for the new stage for the main hall are starting to come in; all should be in hand for the next Council meeting.

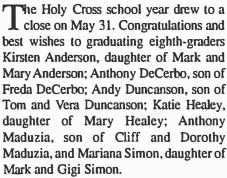
At this point in the meeting outgoing members Mary Long, Richard Keane, and John Mudrick commented on their service to the parish through membership on the Parish Council.

Mary Long invited the newly elected parishioners (Peter Bloome, Pat Holden, and Frank Modica) to be seated on the Council. All then adjourned to a prayer service in the church, followed by a social in the parish center.

When the new Council convened, a slate of nominees for Council office was presented; with no other nominations from the floor, the candidates for office were unanimously elected: Dick Justice, president; Jean Daly, vice-president; Peter Bloome, secretary. Judy Conover agreed once again to continue her service to the Council as recording secretary. New members and officers will be commissioned at the 10:30 Mass on June 2.

Council members approved reallocating \$1400 from Steve Peet's music budget, at his request, for purchase of a new synthesizer, with the remaining \$1000 needed for it to come from a donation pledged by a parishioner for this purpose.

Holy Cross School Newsline



Holy Cross students from St. Patrick's who received special honors this spring include:

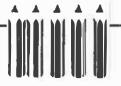
- Anthony DeCerbo, who went on to the Regional Science Fair at Parkland College on Mar. 30
- Brooke Mayer, who attended a workshop at ISU entitled "Expanding Your Horizons in Science and Mathematics" on Mar. 12
- Therese Lawrence and Nicole Weisiger, whose literary works will be published by the Champaign Public Library in the Friends of the Library Writer's Magazine

On May 2 fifty seventh- and eighthgraders volunteered their time to clean tornado debris out of 100 acres of farm fields in southeast Urbana.

Volunteer Appreciation Presentation followed the all-school Mass for the Feast of the Ascension, May 16. Fr. Mullen, pastor of Holy Cross Parish, states in his annual letter to parents: "One of the prime reasons that Catholic schools offer the highest quality education is parental involvement in the educational process at almost every level." The faculty and staff always look forward to expressing their appreciation to volunteers on this special day.

As always, many outings are planned by individual classes during the last month of school. Some of this year's: Both kindergarten classes and their seventh-grade helpers were treated to an outing to Skateland. The first-grade classes went to Miller Park Zoo, Bloomington, while second-grade classes went to Scoville Zoo in Decatur. Both fourth and sixth grades went to Rockome Gardens.

Faculty and staff, who have worked hard to make this a wonderful year, deserve special thanks.



During summer months school windows will be replaced, making the building inaccessible from June 1 through mid-August. But it's sure to be open by Friday, Aug. 23, for Fee Day/Open House! And school begins again on Monday, Aug. 26.

In the words of Sr. Kathleen, Holy Cross School Principal, "Have a restful, rejuvenating summer!"

Help Wanted!

The Building and Grounds Committee needs someone to help with administrative and secretarial duties for the committee. The group meets monthly (next meeting: 6:30 p.m., June 13, parish center library, room #6) to assess maintenance requirements of parish grounds and facilities, to plan upcoming projects, and to seek assistance in the completion of these projects. If you can help, or need more information to know how you can help, please call Stephen Marsh (384-3164), committee chair.



in our parish library

Proclaim Praise:Daily Prayer for Parish and Home

People of the church have, from the beginning, marked the morning and the evening with prayer. Song and psalms and scripture have been part of this time. *Proclaim Praise* is designed to help those who would continue this tradition. It offers a way to pray with and as the Church. It is a simple way to let the psalms become ours again, and so let them teach us to pray.

The book presents a short form of the Church's Morning Prayer, Evening Prayer, and Night Prayer. It also includes psalms for Midday Prayer and blessings at table for those who find mealtime the best time to gather for prayer.

Although it is intended especially for use by the various groups that meet in parishes, individuals or members of a household praying together, or other small groups, will also find it an agreeable and simple vehicle for prayer.

If you have found *Liturgy of the Hours* confusing, this book is for you! It may also serve as an easy introduction to *Liturgy of the Hours* by acquainting you with the form of this prayer: an introductory verse, a hymn appropriate to morning or evening, a psalm, silence and a prayer that concludes the psalm, a reading from scripture, the canticle from the gospels, prayers of intercession, the Lord's Prayer, and a concluding verse.

Information in the introduction and discreet notes throughout guide without distracting. Suggestions for using *Proclaim Peace* in a small group are marked by simplicity. Beautifully designed, easy to ready and to hold, this small book delights as it helps to raise the mind and heart to God. The psalms appear here in the recent new translation by ICEL, which seeks to be faithful to the original text by speaking in direct and strong language.



Welcome to new parishioners Robert and Tammy Benza, Peter Goeser, Katherine and Robert Harrington, Gerald Lepar, Kai Nielsen, Robert Waller.

Farewell to these parishioners, who have moved from C-U: Heather and Rob Jurkacek, Brian and Jeanette Pritschet.

We welcome the following recently baptized into our faith community: Conner Matthew Gremer, Desiree Alena Panepinto Hagler, Cindy Kim Tran (Mary) Huong.

Congratulations to the following couples married at St. Patrick's: Lisa Jo Lyon and Scott Lawrence Weisbrod, Shelly Sechrist and Todd Cler.

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 (mmenches@uiuc.edu); Gary Riskowski, 344-4394 (glr@sugar.age.uiuc.edu); Cathy Salika, 367-7861 (c-salika@uiuc.edu); Katharine Schrader, 344-5995; Carol Schrepfer, 384-2060 (cschrepf@students.uiuc.edu); Peggy Whelan, 367-3668 (m-whelan@uxl.cso.uiuc.edu).

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Articles and information for this issue were contributed by Carol Bosley, Mary Lee Brady, Rose Brown, Sr. Charlene Cesario, Judy Conover, Dorothy Maduzia, Lori McDonough, Carolyn McElrath, Mary Lou Menches, Fr. George Remon, Leslie Risatti, Carol Schrepfer, Linda Weber, Peggy Whelan.



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

Quick fixin's from the kitchen of . . .

Rose Brown

Wafer Cookie Dessert

1 pkg Lorna Doone cookies, crushed

1 stick butter or margarine

2 3-3/4 oz pkgs instant vanilla pudding

2 c milk

1 qt butter pecan ice cream, softened

1 medium container Cool Whip

2 or more Heath Bars, crushed



Mix crushed cookies with melted butter or margarine. Line a 9×13 inch pan with the mixture. Place the pan in the freezer while making the pudding.

Combine pudding and milk; mix well. Add ice cream; pour over cookie mixture lining the pan. Spread Cool Whip over all and sprinkle with crushed Heath Bars. Refrigerate.

From RLCC: Sharing the Good News

The third annual Pentecost Unity Ser-vice, sponsored by RLCC (Religious Leaders for Community Care), will take place at 6 p.m. on Sunday, June 2, at Wesley United Methodist Church. Reverends Roland Brown and Ann Burger (St. Luke C.M.E. and First Presbyterian Church of Urbana, respectively) will share the pulpit. The interdenominational and interracial service will include choral and instrumental music from diverse traditions.

After-school tutoring programs are in the planning stage. RLCC, the Urban League, and C-U school districts are building on tutoring programs now offered by Canaan, First Presbyterian of Urbana, First United Methodist of Champaign, and various community groups to organize after-school programs at several local schools by fall. For information call Rev. Don Mason (367-8357).

Help Wanted!

Tew and former eucharistic ministers, lectors, cantors, and servers are needed for these ministries at Mass, especially during the coming summer 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 Christian 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, 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.

Pentecost 1996

Breath,
Guide us your Church, so sore bereft
and torn by pain's anxiety,
and fear, mistrust, disunity.
Most Blessed Breath of God's own Life,

oly Blessed Spirit ... Wisdom's Love ... and

Bring us to that place of peace where Wisdom's Grace grants sure surcease of bitterness and strife.

Welcoming One,
We seek your Cana banquet time
of Eucharistic love and sweet Inclusive Wine
Where rich Abundance fills even barren wombs
with Eucharist's glad Ecstasy,
and Joy replaces fearful talk of doom.
All may have seats at this Most Sacred Feast,
where poor become rich,
the hungry filled,
and last no more, your much beloved least.

Wisdom One,
Shelter us sure
in the shadow of your winged embrace.
Create in us whole hearts renewed
to seek your radiant WisdomFace.

Light most Blessed, shine with grace, in our heart's most sacred place.
Fill your Faithful through and through,
That we may Thy Church renew
... May we Thy Church renew. Amen.

—Christine Schenk csj 4/9/96 Used with permission

Here's your chance to visit a Greek Orthodox Church

The Church of the Three Hierarchs, at 402 Devonshire Drive, Champaign, is one of three houses of worship you can tour on Sunday, June 23, at 4 p.m. The Council of Congregations are sponsoring this visit in the 6th Annual Church Walk. The relaxed event is an opportunity to share faith and strengthen ecumenical relationships.

Other churches planning to welcome the Church Walk are New Covenant Fellowship (124 W. White, Champaign, 2 p.m.) and Westminster Presbyterian Church (1700 Crescent Drive, Champaign, 3 p.m.).

St. Patrick's parishioners (including teens) and their guests may join the Church Walk for any or all of the tours. Meet the group in the parking lots of the respective churches at the times indicated.

Diocesan Internet coming soon!

In future issues of In Focus readers will see a new column called Diocesan Internet. Diocesan Internet will acquaint parishioners with some of the programs that our ASA dollars support. For example, \$125,000 from this year's ASA drive has been designated for the Cabrini Home for Unwed Mothers. Many who have contributed to ASA may know very little about Cabrini Home.

Another \$100,000 is designated for the King's House of Retreats. How is the King's House of Retreats used in our diocese? And did you know that \$48,000 is designated for TEC/Cursillo Administrative Expense? While those familiar with TEC/Cursillo are pleased to hear that the diocese supports these programs, other parishioners may be interested in learning more about the programs their ASA contributions support.

Stay tuned to future issues of In Focus for Diocesan Internet!

Great food, lousy weather, at Confirmation retreat

"The food was great, the retreat was really good, but the weather was

terrible," summed up one Confirmation candidate's response to the Confirmation retreat held at Camp Greisham on the weekend of April 27-28.

The Confirmation candidates spent their first session reflecting on family members and friends who had been important to them in their journeys of faith and closed with a prayer service thanking God for the gift of those people in their lives. The second session invited the candidates to reflect on their relationship with Jesus and on the qualities of Jesus that they most admired.

Early Sunday morning, having been awakened by clanging silverware on pots and pans, the candidates spent time reflecting on and choosing a Confirmation name, followed by a session on the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

The retreat concluded with a Mass celebrated by Fr. Remm at which the candidates were called forward by their Confirmation names and presented with the Cross of Christ.

Confirmation will take place at 7 p.m. on Saturday, June 8. Congratulations to all our candidates!



Making that difficult choice, a confirmation name. Which saint stood for qualities and principles you would like to have as your own, whose life you especially admire, whose special help and protection you wish to invoke by the taking of his or her name?

Parish Wish List

The basic concept of the parish wish list is to present to parishioners a list of items that, although not included in the parish budget, might be acquired through earmarked donations. Such items in the past have included the patio and benches at the east side of the church, the mobile coat racks used for large gatherings in the multipurpose room (e.g., Children's Liturgy), the new piano for the choir loft, a large video projector, organ renovation, and microfilming of historical records.

These were considered not absolutely necessary but beneficial, nice to have, even advantageous to the operation of the parish, enriching the spiritual or enhancing the communal aspect of parish life, or just bringing a higher level of efficiency to regular parish operations.

The following items were proposed for the wish list by the parish music director, Steve Peet, to enrich and enhance our liturgical services:

- * handbells varying in cost from \$178 to \$229:
- * a storage case for the handbells costing \$120:
- * cleaning and polishing for the handbells costing \$750;
- various musical instruments ranging in cost from \$70 to \$500.

It is not necessary to contribute the total amount for any given instrument; all donations of any amount are gratefully accepted.

Fr. Remm will be happy to discuss the purpose of the wish list with interested parishioners or to answer questions about individual items on it. However, you may also contact Steve directly for more specific information about any of them.

Pro-Life Committee announces the phone tree

St. Patrick's Pro-Life Committee has organized a phone tree to establish more effective communication with our federal legislators when life issues are the subject of proposed legislation under discussion.

The idea of the phone tree comes from the National Council of Catholic Bishops and works as follows:

- * The diocese is notified of a life-issue piece of legislation coming up for a vote and contacts the individual parish representative. The parish representative contacts our federal representatives to inform them of his or her position.
- * The parish representative calls each team captain, who then calls each of five team members. The team captain also contacts our federal representatives to inform them of his or her position.
- * Each team member contacts our federal representatives to inform them of his or her position.
- * At each level of the phone tree individuals are also asked to call at least one or two additional people, requesting that they contact our federal representatives to inform them of their position.

The process is very simple; it can really make an impact on our federal representatives in House and Senate. It is an easy way to have your voice heard. Just three phone calls for each piece of legislation. If you are interested in participating in the phone tree, call Lu Pillar (344-4909). She will be happy to sign you up!

Evangelization simply stated

Do you remember how our mission priest, Fr. Bob Weakley, challenged us to evangelize? "Just suppose" he said, "that in the time it takes an elevator to go from the first to the second floor, you had to tell someone why your faith is important to you. What would you say?"

Think about it. Share it with someone.



ASA 1996 Give yourself a gold star!

In his April letter regarding the 1996 Annual Stewardship Appeal, Bishop John J. Myers said, "God is gracious and generous, offering abundant life through the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. As people of God, we are called by him to reflect his graciousness and goodness."

During the Annual Stewardship Appeal weekend in May, the praiseworthy generosity of the people of St. Patrick's Parish reflected God's graciousness and goodness. Congratulations to all who contributed to that generosity! As of May 21, 491 pledges were made, totaling \$84,101. Of that amount, \$35,847 has already been paid.

Fr. Remm commends the people of St. Patrick's for their gracious generosity! All donations surpassing the diocesan goal for our parish, \$69,767, will be returned as a rebate to the parish and credited as extraordinary income. (Extraordinary income is not used in computing the diocesan goal for the parish, so it will have no influence on the goal set for St. Patrick's next year.) Any rebated funds will be used to augment the parish's important Centennial Fund.

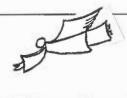
The people of St. Patrick's are to be congratulated also for assisting the parish in moving the ASA from a two-weekend process to a one-weekend process. The "new way of doing ASA business" was deemed a success and will be used again in coming years. A very special thanks to all ASA volunteers for assisting in this success!

A Time of Grace

First Holy Communion 1996



Family and friends fill the church





The choir assembles



Some last minute help



So much to do



We're ready



Then let's begin





June 1996

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 June 16.

2 Trinity Sunday 10:30am Parish Council Commissioning	7:00pm Education Com 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:00pm Pro-Life	7:00pm Beginning Experience	6:45am Men's Bible Study 7:00pm SVDP	6 10:15am Moms Group	7 10:45am Mass- Champaign Cty NH	8 7:00pm Confirmation
Q Corpus Christi 6:00pm -8:00pm Ice Cream Social	10 7:00pm Centering Prayer	9:00am Funeral Schola 7:00pm Financial Affairs Com 7:30pm Parish Council Exec Com	6:45am Men's Bible Study 7:00pm SVDP 7:30pm Appreciation for Liturgical Ministers	6:30pm Building & Grounds Com 7:00pm Baptism Prep 7:00pm Re- Membering Church	14 10:30am Mass- Urbana NH 10:45am Mass- Champaign Cty NH	15
Father's Day	17 7:00pm Centering Prayer	18 7:00pm Beginning Experience	19 6:45am Men's Bible Study 7:00pm SVDP 7:00pm Guild	20 10:15am Moms Group 6:30pm Pax Christi 7:00pm Parish Council	21 10:30am Mass- Clark-Lindsey 10:45am Mass- Champaign Cty NH	22
23	9:30am Archives Com 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:00pm Liturgy Com	25 7:00pm Homily Prep	26 6:45am Men's Bible Study 7:00pm SVDP	27 7:00pm Knights of Columbus	28 10:45am Mass- Champaign Cty NH 10:30pm Mass- Americana NH	29
30						