

ST. PATRICK'S PARISH

In Focus



The gift you have received, give as a gift

Perhaps not many of us had the opportunity to see and hear Mother Theresa of Calcutta in person during her recent visit to the Diocese of Peoria, but we will all soon be able to see parts of the Mass she celebrated with the Church in Peoria and hear her speak.

During the diocesan Annual Stewardship Appeal weekend (May 4-5), the film that will be shown in the churches of the diocese includes portions of that Mass and Mother Theresa's comments to the assembly.

Following the showing of this film, ASA pledge cards will be distributed and parishioners will be asked to fill out their cards *before leaving the church* after Mass. There will be no pledge cards distributed at the parish center.

This is a "new way of doing ASA business." A few churches in the diocese initiated this method last year and found it a more efficient way to conduct the drive. One of the *overriding* reasons St. Patrick's chose to make this change is the expected savings in postage costs for the parish. By distributing ASA pledge cards at all the Masses, more parishioners will be filling out the cards, leaving substantially fewer pledge cards to be mailed.

The Diocese of Peoria has asked St. Patrick's Parish for \$69,767 for 1996, an increase of only \$1384 over last year. The Parish Council has set an overall parish goal of \$74,000 (again, an increase of only \$1000 over last year) to assist with funding of parish operations.

Because of parishioners' generous response to the Annual Stewardship Appeal, our diocese is able to assist in the funding of important programs that serve the entire diocese; i.e., pastoral care (22%), vocational development (21%), religious education for children, youth, and adults (14%), social concerns (12%),



diocesan administration (10%), replacement of diocesan and national collections (10%), cathedral (4%), ASA (4%), and assessments (3%).

Your assistance is requested in this first attempt at "a new way of doing ASA business" at St. Patrick's this year. When you are given a pledge card at Mass, please complete it and hand it in before leaving the church. Be sure to hand in a *signed* card even if you are not making a pledge. If your preference each year is to attach a check to the pledge card, remember to bring your checkbook with you! Any pledge cards not completed that weekend will be mailed out the following day.

St. Patrick's commitment to the Annual Stewardship Appeal has been demonstrated repeatedly every year. Your generosity allows the sharing of our treasure to support the many good programs crucial to the work of the local Church that is the Diocese of Peoria, of which St. Patrick's is a part and from which our parish benefits.

L I F E A F T E R L O S S

"Life after Loss" is a one day retreat experience consisting of video presentations, individual journaling, and small-group sharing sessions led by facilitators who have experienced the loss of a spouse. It is designed to offer those who are widowed the opportunity to experience healing, comfort, and hope.

This retreat is recommended for widows and widowers who would like to resolve the grief they are living with after the death of a spouse and are ready to start the healing process. It is intended to help them find peace and joy once again in their lives.

The video *Invisible Summer: Returning to Life after Someone You Love Has Died* leads viewers through the seasons of grief using the theme of the seasons of the year, offering

both help and hope throughout. The seasons are followed by a brief time of reflection so that participants can sort out their feelings

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Finding God in Daily Work

Last fall the Finding God in Daily Work program met for 8 sessions from Sept. 11 through Nov. 13, plus a weekend retreat at the Benincasa Renewal Center, Riverton (Ill.). The program was facilitated by Sister Charlene Cesario, SSCM, with assistance from parishioner Kathleen Dyson.

Sessions included short instructions on Christian spirituality, prayer based on Scripture, small- and large-group interaction, and work project reports by participants, who learned to see, hear, and respond to God more readily in their workplaces.

As a part of the program evaluation, participants responded to several questions; a sampling of their answers follows.

1. *What led you to participate in "Finding God in Daily Work"?*

"A desire to be centered in my work life—to have a sense of balance and perspective between my personal/family and professional lives."

"I was seeking a link between my spiritual life and work ... a continuity. The workshop offered the opportunity to explore the possibility of being aware of God at all times."

"My work situation was a good deal less than ideal ... I'd tried the 'self-help' books and was finally ready to 'try God.'"

"I felt a great need to improve my spiritual life. No longer a care-giver for an elderly parent and with children off launching their own careers, I had perhaps become preoccupied with my work and needed to evaluate priorities and think about my future."

2. *What aspects of the program are the most meaningful for you?*

"The community and how each person shared. So many insights were provided by the group both directly and indirectly. The increase in prayer time, or at least prayerful reflection."

"Four things stand out: (1) making time to analyze my work situation carefully, (2) integrating prayer into all phases of the process, (3) introduction to new forms of prayer and renewing my prayer life, (4) sharing life stories with

others, especially during the retreat at Benincasa!"

"The open discussions and feedback were most helpful. The retreat was a most rewarding and refreshing spiritual experience."



"The retreat was inspirational for re-connecting with the role my spiritual life could have in all facets of my daily life—it provided an opportunity to reassess my values, my strengths, and future priorities."

3. *How have things been going for you since you acquired a renewed sense of seeing as God sees in your day-to-day activities?*

"More relaxed and balanced. It's much easier to say 'no, thanks' instead of 'of course, I'll do it.' Have a renewed sense of joy and peace."

"Work has become more meaningful. I am more aware of problems and disappointments co-workers face in the workplace. I feel a renewed sense of loyalty to my organization and co-workers."

"I no longer feel alone and (relatively) hopeless about my situation. I feel much more inner calm and seem more able to let other people's problems be their problems, not mine."

"I still need to make great strides, but even the small steps I've taken have helped me be more appreciative of others."

4. *Do you feel a part of bringing forth Kingdom values in your workplace and in yourself?*

"Yes. I was fortunate in having a good work environment, but there is always room for more sharing and appreciation of the work of others."

"Absolutely yes! Even though I was committed to helping establish the

Reign of God in the "here and now," the program showed me how to make practical changes in my attitude and behaviors to act on that commitment."

"Yes, but it will be important to keep reading passages from the Bible and praying to sustain my focus on the greater values."

"I believe that I am on the threshold of working for the Kingdom and will be guided and directed by God to do God's will. I am not sure what God has in mind for me, but I will endeavor to do what is required of me in all phases of my life."

The Finding God in Daily Work program was a graced experience that enriched the lives of the presenting team as well as the lives of the participants. The program will be offered again this fall in a series of classes beginning Sept. 23 and ending Dec. 9 (no class Sept. 28 and Nov. 4). There will be a total of 10 Monday sessions, 7-9 p.m., plus a weekend retreat at Benincasa (Riverton, Ill.) Nov. 1-3.

The program will be presented by Sr. Charlene Cesario, SSCM, assisted by Joyce Baird. Applications are due by May 17, and interviews will be held May 20-June 7. Watch the parish bulletin for more details or ask Sr. Charlene (367-2665) for more information.



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

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., May 9, parish center) 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.

New and former eucharistic ministers, lectors, and servers are needed for these ministries at Mass, especially during the coming summer months. Training, and a link-up with someone experi-

enced 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 altar servers, call Sandi Burke (469-2757). Or leave your name at the parish office (367-2665) and someone will call you.

Pray the Lord of the harvest . . .

How can *we* help nurture vocations, increase awareness of God's call to service?

Family life can help to build values integral to a strong vocation, whether to priesthood, religious life, a dedicated single life, diaconate, or marriage. Teaching children to value commitment, service, and prayer will help them make strong vocation decisions as adults and live out those vocations with success and fulfillment.

Example, invitation, and appreciation are all important elements in furthering awareness of a call to God's service. And prayer; Jesus alluded to the value of prayer for vocations when he said,

"Pray, therefore, the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest (Mt 9:38)."

*Lord of the harvest,
your Word finds a home in our hearts,
calls us into community,
and invites us to generous service
of the human family.
Bless with courage and spirit
your priestly people,
called to full participation
in the one Body of Christ.
May many choose to respond
to your call
in public service
offered in Jesus' name.*

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@ux1.cso.uiuc.edu).

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 Grace Conlee, Judy Conover, Jean Daly, Lucille and Oscar Kocher, Dorothy Maduzia, Lori McDonough, Mary Lou Menches, Carolyn Mullally, Lenore Nagele, George and Peggy Pennacchi, Carole Rebeiz, Fr. George Remm, Leslie Risatti, Cathy Salika, Carol Schrepfer, Sophia Zeigler.

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and thoughts. Then they join with a facilitator to share their stories and feelings, listening to and supporting one another. Thus, the wounds of loss and grief begin to heal.

This retreat is not recommended for those widowed for less than four months because their loss is still too fresh in minds and hearts.

The retreat will take place at St. Patrick's in the parish center on Saturday, May 18, beginning at 9:00 a.m. and closing with the celebration of Eucharist at 5:00 p.m. Dinner will follow the Mass. A donation of \$15 is requested to cover the cost of lunch and dinner.

Reservations may be made by calling Sr. Charlene Cesario (367-2665, days) or Jean Daly (356-5645, evenings). Mary Maglione (359-1048), coordinator of the retreat, will be available for questions after May 14. The deadline for reservations is May 3; however, it is possible that a late reservation may be accommodated.



Welcome to new parishioners Bon and Ha Bui, Dan and Stephanie Harpst, Bill Heffernan, Chuong and Ly Nguyen, Patrick and Linda Patterson, Domingo and Juana Porrón, Matthew and Melinda Reiter, Paula Rea Sturdyvin.

We welcome the following recently baptized into our faith community: Erin Marie Fleming, Nathan Joseph Fleming, Erika Marie Penrose, Kirsten Avery Schael, Arielle Walker.

Congratulations to the following couples married at St. Patrick's: Sue Youakim and Michael Poor, Iris Denhart and James Ducey.



in our parish library

"Called to Be Church," a process developed by Fr. Arthur Baranowski to renew Catholic life through small basic Christian communities, includes several components that are both inspiring and eminently practical.

Creating Small Faith Communities: A Plan for Restructuring the Parish and Renewing Catholic Life describes a pastor's vision of Church and his parish's journey to renewal through the faith and love discovered in the small group experience. He includes the nuts and bolts of how to do what he did as well as actual testimonies from a variety of parishioners about how participation in the small faith communities touched their lives and called them to be Church. Reflection questions throughout are meant to encourage sharing with a few others and to help a small group put theory into practice.

Praying Alone and Together: An 11-Session Prayer Module for Small Faith Communities is a creative resource for a small group to help members recognize God communicating to them through their experience, begin to talk about God in a personal way, voice a prayer response in a group setting. Facilitator notes (in a separate section) are easy to follow; group members may even rotate facilitators for various sessions.

Pastoring the "Pastors": Resources for Training and Supporting Pastoral Facilitators for Small Faith Communities includes six training sessions with support material to help pastoral facilitators learn how to bring out the best in people and to help them relate to one another, to keep the vision of Church before the members. It also includes materials for overnight retreats and other resources.

Fr. Baranowski tells how he brought the Church into the homes in his parish, "where the people do not just go to church, but are Church." Since that time he has implemented this plan at various parishes in the Archdiocese of Detroit and now travels the country giving workshops on how to renew Catholic life through base communities.

Many St. Patrick's parishioners are or have been members of base communities and will attest to the validity of the experiences described in these materials. During the RENEW process here many others got a taste of what small faith communities can do to enlarge one's vision of Church.

Today several small bible study groups in the parish gather to reflect on and discuss themes in Scripture and the relationship of these themes to their lives as members of families, parish, Church, local and world communities.

Whether you're starting at "ground zero" or have already some experience of faith communities, you will find much of value in these small books.

RLCC shares the good news

The first issue of "The Good News Paper," published bimonthly by RLCC (Religious Leaders for Community Care), hit the streets in March. Its goal: "To share the good news about God's reconciling works." So what is the good news for today?

In February, the good news was the second RLCC retreat, its theme racial reconciliation among Christians in C-U. Fr. George Remm was one of 28 participants from 12 congregations. The group sang, studied the Lord's Prayer, ate, talked, and prayed together. Honest

sharing touched on issues from theology to how best to address one another given different customs. Dreams of what a reconciled church would look like suggested workshops for future months.

April's good news was the U of I Black Chorus Concert at 8 p.m. on Saturday, Apr. 13, in Krannert's Great Hall. Tickets, \$7.

In June, the good news will include a Pentecost Unity Service on Sunday, June 2.

The next issue of "The Good News Paper" is expected in May.

You too can enjoy a "Polish Banana Split"!

In response to many requests, here is the recipe for Sophia Zeigler's popular Banana Split Cake, which was introduced at the last K of C Lenten fish fry.

Crust

2 cups graham cracker crumbs

1 stick melted oleo

2 T sugar

Mix together and press into 13 x 9 x 2 inch pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 10 minutes. Cool.

Filling

1 stick oleo (room temperature)

2 c confectioners sugar

2 eggs

1 t vanilla

Beat all ingredients in a bowl for 20 minutes until thick and creamy. Pour filling over crust. Cut 4-6 bananas and lay over the filling.

Topping

1 #2 can crushed pineapple (well drained)

whipped cream

chopped walnuts

chopped cherries

Place crushed pineapple over bananas. Top with whipped cream. Garnish with nuts and cherries. Refrigerate overnight before serving.



God of Pentecost, open our hearts to receive the diverse gifts of the Spirit. Help us use these gifts to speak the good news to the needs of this world. Amen.

Parish Council News

At their April meeting Council members heard a presentation by Joseph Youakim about the non-denominational program *Beginning Experience*, which seeks to help people deal with loss through death, separation, or divorce. The group meets on first and third Tuesdays, with a team of 8-12 persons. Each meeting consists of introductions of those in attendance, an oral or video presentation on an appropriate topic, silent reflection, and small-group discussion. Occasionally the discussion time is used for interaction with one or more participants who express a need to talk about a specific problem. Participants tend to drop out or move on when their needs have been met.

The Development Committee reviewed plans for this year's ASA drive and for the workers meeting (May 2). The members have asked the Building and Grounds Committee to prioritize the projects for maintenance and repair funds before decisions are made about allocation of surplus funds at the end of this fiscal year (June 30). Among projects mentioned were repairs to the roof over the nursery, coverings for the windows in the main hall, remodeling of the kitchen, and replacement of the stage in the main hall.

Fr. Remm mentioned the concern expressed at a recent regional meeting of priests and others about the need for ministry to the 2000 or more Hispanics in the C-U area. Presbyterian, Methodist, and Episcopalian churches have been giving them support—tutoring, providing office space, helping them deal with political issues, job advice, etc. Some consideration is being given to have 4-5 priests volunteer to learn to use Spanish for the Mass and rotate responsibility for celebrating a Sunday Mass in Spanish for them.

Because of the availability of space in the parish center on Sunday afternoons and the proximity of St. Patrick's to cam-

pus, it seems possible for some kind of outreach to be located here. This would be a positive approach to evangelization, a major thrust for the parish in the coming year(s).

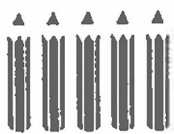
Council members unanimously approved the parish's operating budget (about \$449,800) for the next fiscal year.

Members also gave the go-ahead for a suggested action plan to help make the parish center a more lively place for parishioners after weekend Masses. The plan entails having the office open (staffed by volunteers) on Saturday evening and Sunday morning for registration of new parishioners, sign-up for special events and activities requiring reservations, and the like. With input from the parish secretary about procedures and from parish organizations, it is hoped that a pilot program may be in place this summer.

Fr. Remm, Barbara Wysocki, Bob Haessly, Mary Long, and John Mudrick will serve as the nominating committee whose charge is to present a slate of candidates for election to Council office at the May Council meeting.

The annual Council retreat was scheduled for Aug. 23-24, at LaSalette. The next welcome to new parishioners will be planned in conjunction with the parish picnic in September.

The next Council meeting will begin at 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 16. All parishioners are welcome at these open parish meetings.



Holy Cross School **newsline**

Students at Holy Cross School donated over \$300 to be used for the Sisters of St. Joseph Spanish book drive. The collection was taken up at the St. Joseph Day Mass, Mar. 19.

Congratulations to the Holy Cross Scholastic Bowl team (combined seventh- and eighth-graders). The team took second place in the regional tournament in Mahomet, Mar. 20.

The school's annual spring concert was Monday, Apr. 22. Students in grades 5-8 performed selections learned this semester in their general music classes, songs from both classical and popular American music traditions on the program's theme, "Mainly American."

Honor Roll was announced for the third quarter and included the following St. Patrick's parishioners: Anthony De Cerbo, Mariana Simon, Michelle Feltes, Theresa Lawrence, Lori Randolph, Jacob Thompson, Nathan Bohn, Katie Duncanson, Flannery Ellis, Michael Larsen, Doug Main, Brooke Mayer, Nga Nguyen, John Tucker, Georgina Bonse, Stephanie Coverstone, Mija Hubler, Felicia Milewski, and Rebecca Schrepfer.

Four Holy Cross students who are also St. Patrick's parishioners received their First Holy Communion at Holy Cross on Saturday, Apr. 20. Congratulations to Sarah Burch, Merla Hubler, Rachel Faught, and Matthew Maduzia.

From our sister parish in the Holy Land

I am glad to have the opportunity of the Easter Season to extend our sincere wishes of joy, health, and prosperity to all our friends and benefactors of St. Patrick's community.

After the Suicide Terrorist attacks, the Israeli government took several measures to assure the security of their people: closure of Jerusalem, and isolation of the villages and cities of the former Occupied Territories. Consequently the economical and social situation here is pitiful and miserable. The workers can't earn food and bread for their families. The help of benefactors and of our brothers and sisters in faith abroad is more and more necessary to support "the Living Stones" around the holy shrines in the Holy Land.

May the Risen Lord bless your families, protect your country, and fill your hearts with his heavenly joys.

Sincerely yours,
Fr. Abdel-Nour

Fr. Abdel-Nour's address is P.O. Box 3, Beit Jala, Israel.

Saint Brendan



In Brendan we have one of the most colorful figures in the annals

of the saints. He early became the Christian Sinbad the Sailor: his travels and exploits equaled his Asian counterpart and earned him the title of St. Brendan the Navigator.

It is certain that he founded many important monasteries, the most famous that of Clonfert, which became one of Ireland's great monastic schools. To his contemporaries he was a spiritual father and monastic founder with 3,000 monks looking to him as their leader.

His real claim to fame was his *Navigatio Brendani*, the fantastic tale of his voyages and adventures in search of the legendary Isle of the Blessed, somewhere in the western ocean. In spite of some incredible stories about mermaids and other sightings, scholars see some historic basis for the legends. Doubts about whether or not Brendan and his crew could have sailed the seas for seven years in a curragh or coracle—a round hide boat, like a glorified canoe—were put to rest by author Tim Severin in 1976. He built a boat to Brendan's specifications and sailed it from Ireland to America.

Parish joins Church Women United in sponsoring May Fellowship Day

On Friday, May 3, Church Women United around the globe will celebrate the annual May Fellowship Day. The local ecumenical celebration is being held at Grace Lutheran Church ELCA, 313 South Prospect, Champaign, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. (9:30 a.m., registration and continental breakfast). The worship service, which begins at 10 a.m., includes the Fellowship of the Least Coin. Child care is provided. Everyone is welcome!

Inspired by the story of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37), the theme of

this year's celebration is "Loving Our Neighbor in a Broken World." Consonant with this theme is the Fellowship of the Least Coin, an innovative, prayerful extension of the widow's mite, providing support for projects worldwide.

Assisting the host church in this celebration are Bethel A.M.E., Champaign; First Baptist Church, Urbana; First United Methodist Church, Urbana; and St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Urbana.

Virtue may be its own reward, but . . .

Thank you to Cliff, Dorothy, Anthony, Joseph, and Matthew Maduzia for coordinating and hosting the reception for the RCIA neophytes after the Easter Vigil. They have a knack for making any task look easy!

It was a joy and an inspiration, at this special time of year, to witness how well they worked with others and as a family to put on this reception. Thanks again for a job well done! Thanks also to all who were able to say yes to Cliff when he called for help.

There's just one more thing: you, the people of St. Patrick's Church, are part of the reason these nine people joined the Catholic Church this year. Your example, your openness, living your Faith is the best kind of evangelization there is, and you probably wouldn't even have called it that!

RCIA Staff



Q. In one of the windows on the west side of the church there is a picture of what looks like a bird. Why is it there, what does it mean?

A. That bird is not a dove, as you might expect; it's a pelican. The pelican is a water bird that is found in many of the warmer parts of the world. But it is also a symbol of Jesus in the Eucharist.

In the days when travel was difficult, information about the animals in faraway lands was hard to come by. There were no pelicans in the eastern Mediterranean, where most of the early Christians lived, so what they knew about the birds was a mix of myth and rumor with a few facts mixed in.

A mother pelican catches small fish for her chicks and carries them in a pouch next to her beak. When she gets to the nest, she squeezes the pouch to get the fish out. But the early

Christians heard a different story. They heard that the mother splits open her breast and feeds her chicks on her own flesh. (Because some of the fish are a deep red color, it is easy to see how this story got started.)

Maybe the early Christians were mistaken about pelicans, but they were right about Jesus. In the Eucharist, Jesus feeds us with his body and blood to help us become like him. So when you see the pelican, remember that Jesus loves us and gives us everything we need.

C.S.



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

*Come, Holy Spirit, come!
And from your celestial home
Shed a ray of light divine!*

*Come, Father of the poor!
Come, source of all our store!
Come, within our bosoms shine!*

*You, of comforters the best;
You, the soul's most welcome guest;
Sweet refreshment here below;*

*In our labor, rest most sweet;
Grateful coolness in the heat;
Solace in the midst of woe.*

*O most blessed Light divine,
Shine within these hearts of yours,
And our inmost being fill!*

A Joyful Reception into Our Faith

Everyone present at the Easter Vigil was struck by the joy on the faces of the candidates as they were received into the Church, and by the joy on Father Remm's face as he received them. Our new Catholics (neophytes) and everyone associated with the RCIA process appreciated the lovely reception afterward, organized by the Maduzia family.

Our neophytes share with readers a little about their faith journeys:

Raised in the Episcopal church, *Robert Waller* has visited many Catholic churches in his life. "After attending St. Patrick's several times ... I sensed a warm Christian atmosphere and a spiritual uplifting that ... after many hours of soul searching ... made me want to become a member of the Church." Robert admires the Church's sound spiritual beliefs and the kindness and compassion for the less fortunate of this world. He works for Caradco and has a son, 17, and a daughter, 23.



Robert Waller

Kelly Benak, a Ph.D. candidate in Materials Science and Engineering at the U of I, is engaged to Dean Goedde, a member of our parish. Kelly shares her reasons for studying our faith: "My fiance is Catholic. I decided that religion is something we should share as a couple. I also knew I needed to learn the faith for our future children's sake. I am a baptized Christian but have not been in-

involved with a church for probably ten years." Her career goal is to become a college professor.



Kelly Benak

A native of Washington, D.C., *Kai Nielsen* went to college in Bloomington (Ill.). He is a carpenter and has two children, Josh, 13, and Kate, 9. He is engaged to parishioner Mary Healey. Kai inquired into our faith because of the sense of community in Christ he experienced here at St. Patrick's.

Quick fixin's from the kitchen of ...

George and Peggy Pennacchi



Tofu and Veggie Lasagna

- 2 T olive oil
- 1-3 cloves garlic
- 1 large onion
- 1 large eggplant
- 6 oz mushrooms
- 1-2 bunches broccoli
- 1 green pepper
- 2 carrots
- 1 jar pasta sauce
- parsley, basil, thyme, and marjoram
- 16 oz firm tofu
- 2 T "nutri-yeast"
- 2 T lemon juice
- 9 long lasagna noodles

Mince garlic and chop all vegetables. Slightly sautee garlic in olive oil in a large saucepan. Add onion and carrots, cook slightly, then add the rest of the vegetables. Add a little water if mixture

dries out. Add pasta sauce and spices. Set aside.

Mash tofu into a small bowl and mix in nutri-yeast and lemon juice. Set aside.

Cook lasagna noodles approximately 10 minutes and lay out on foil until cool enough to touch.

In a 9 x 13 inch baking pan, spread a little sauce on the bottom. Layer 3 noodles. Crumble the tofu mixture as the next layer. Layer 3 more noodles. Cover generously with sauce. Layer the last 3 noodles, and cover with most of the rest of the sauce. (Keep some extra sauce to serve at the table.)

Bake at 350 degrees for an hour or so. (You might want to cover with foil for the first half hour to prevent the top from drying out.) Let cool a bit, then serve.

If you want more protein, consider browning some ground turkey and crumbling it into the tomato sauce.



Kai Nielsen

We have two local natives in this year's group: Rachel Wortis Beda of Urbana and Julie Vercellotti of Champaign.

Rachel Wortis Beda was born and lived in Urbana until she left to attend college at Harvard. After graduation, Rachel spent a year teaching English in the People's Republic of China, then returned to Urbana to work on her Ph.D. in Physics, which she plans to complete in 1997.

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Parish Wish List

"Items not a necessity but nice to have, useful, perhaps even advantageous to the operation of the parish, but not included in the parish's operating budget"—these are the criteria that must be met for an item to be considered eligible for inclusion on the Parish Wish List. The following items proposed by the parish music director, Steve Peet, met these criteria so well that the Council adopted all of them for the wish list:

- Ensonique Electric Keyboard/Synthesizer, for use in parish liturgies and

other functions requiring a portable keyboard (\$2400)

- Four bells to complete the parish's three-octave handbell set: C-4 (\$229), C-sharp-4 (\$229), D-sharp-4 (\$197), F-sharp-4 (\$178)

- Storage case for the handbells (\$120)
- Cleaning and machine polishing of the entire handbell set (\$750)

- Instruments to complete an Elementary Orff Instrumentarium for use with the Children's Choir, in liturgies, and in religious education classes for musical

enrichment: bass xylophone (\$500), alto xylophone (\$280), alto metallophone (\$270), soprano xylophone (\$220), soprano metallophone (\$200), 2 alto glockenspiels (\$160, total), 2 soprano glockenspiels (\$140, total), 12-inch floor timpani (\$100), package of rhythm instruments (\$90), storage cart (\$200)

Fr. George Remm will be happy to discuss the purpose of the wish list with interested parishioners or to answer questions about individual items on it—although, in this case, you may want to ask Steve about them!

A Joyful Reception

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Rachel Beda

Rachel thinks that "the most important factor involved in my first coming to St. Patrick's was my boyfriend at the time, now my husband, Johann Beda. I could see that the Catholic faith was very important to him and he was and is very important to me, so I came to learn."

Our second C-U native, *Julie Vercellotti*, was born and raised in Champaign. She attended the University of Kentucky in Lexington where she met her husband, Doug. They moved to Chicago, where Doug received his M.B.A. at Lewis U. Doug works in Financial Operations at Specchio Enterprises. Julie, a C.P.A. at Geo. S. Olive & Co., is finishing her M.S. in Taxation. The Vercellottis have a dog, Bixby.



Julie Vercellotti

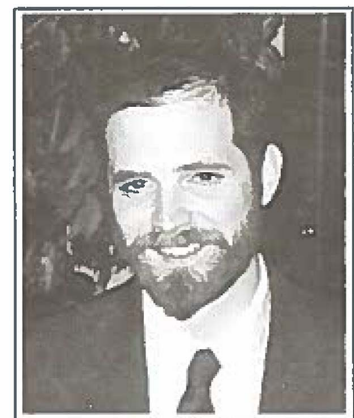
By experiencing Doug's family values and his faith, Julie was drawn to our church. She feels that such Catholic teachings as the sacramentality of marriage send a good message to children. Raising her future children in one faith is important to her. She likes the community feeling she experiences at St. Patrick's and the members' involvement in their church.

When *Roger Stratton* says he has had lots of exposure to the Catholic Church, he's not kidding: he married a Catholic, Monica, whose parents are very active in the Church. And he was Music Director for one year at a Catholic church in Cincinnati. "When we moved to Urbana and went to St. Patrick's, I was struck by

the 'honesty' of the liturgy," that is, the congregation is very involved, along with the priest, liturgical ministers, Music Director, and choir, in the service at St. Patrick's.

Roger was born and raised as a member of the Society of Friends in Richmond (Ind.). He taught high school music in Massachusetts before the stint in Cincinnati, and then he and his wife moved here so she could attend graduate school. Roger is the organist at First Presbyterian church in Urbana.

We often think of RCIA as a process limited to those who wish to convert to the Catholic faith. But it also can serve as a refresher course for baptized Catholics



Roger Stratton

continued on page 9

A Joyful Reception continued from page 8

who, for many reasons, have been away from the Church. This year, at the Easter Vigil, two of our candidates were welcomed home to the Catholic Church.

The first, *Ken Rhoades*, actually found St. Patrick's on the Internet. Ken does Information Technology Operations for Collegiate Cap and Gown in Champaign. Parishioners may reach him by e-mail anytime (success@prairienet.org). "I am married to Cathy and owned by two cats (Button's and Sinbad) and a dog (Angel)."

Michigan native *Sarah Hoag* "was baptized in the Catholic Church but was never educated as a Catholic. Recent events in my life have given me more time to become reacquainted with my faith." A librarian at the Agriculture Library at the U of I, Sarah has her MS in Library and Information Science from the UI and her B.A. in International Relations from Lake Forest College.

The feelings of the whole group have been beautifully summarized by *Peter Goeser*. Pete, who has his B.S in Agricul-

ture/Horticulture, is a research assistant at the U of I studying wildlife radiotelemetry. He tells us: "The constancy and the beauty of the liturgy and the sacraments are profound and precious to me, and equally so are the friends, acquaintances, and strangers who have touched me during the past several years."

Please let our neophytes know how precious they are to you by greeting and welcoming them and by praying for them as they continue on that faith journey that we all share.



Ken Rhoades



Sarah Hoag



Peter Goeser

Where do they find them?

The following excerpt from the weekly bulletin of their "winter parish" was sent to Fr. Remm by Oscar and Lucille Kocher. He thought readers of *In Focus* would enjoy it.

The perfect pastor preaches exactly ten minutes. He condemns sin roundly but never hurts anyone's feelings. He works from dawn 'til midnight and is also the parish janitor.

The perfect pastor earns \$40 per week, wears good clothes, drives a good car, buys good books, and donates \$30 a week to the parish. He is 29 years old with 40 years of experience. He is, above all else, handsome.

He has a burning desire to work with teenagers and spends most of his time with senior citizens. He smiles all the time with a straight face because he has a sense of humor that keeps him seriously dedicated to his parish. He makes 15 calls a day on his people and is always in his office when needed.

The perfect pastor never misses a meeting of any parish organization, and he is always evangelizing the unchurched.

The perfect pastor is always in the next parish over!

If your pastor does not measure up, simply send this letter to six other parishes that are tired of their pastor too. Then bundle up your pastor and send him to the church at the top of the list. In one week you will receive 1643 pastors—one of them should be perfect.

Have faith in this letter. One parish broke the chain and got its old pastor back in less than three months!


Why God never received a Ph.D.

1. He had only one major publication.
2. It was in Hebrew.
3. It had no references.
4. It wasn't published in a refereed journal.
5. Some even doubt he wrote it by himself.
6. It may be true that he created the world, but what has he done since then?
7. His cooperative efforts have been quite limited.
8. The scientific community has had a hard time replicating his results.
9. He never applied to the ethics board for permission to use human subjects.
10. When one experiment went awry he tried to cover it by drowning his subjects (Noah).
11. When subjects didn't behave as predicted, he deleted them from the sample.
12. He rarely came to class, just told students to read the book.
13. Some say he and his son teach the class.
14. He expelled his first two students for learning.
15. Although there were only 10 requirements, most of his students failed his tests.
16. His office hours were infrequent and usually held on a mountain top.



May 1996

St. Patrick's Parish

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 5:15pm Children's Choir 6:00pm Religious Ed, Urbana 6:30pm Religious Ed, St. Joe 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm SVDP	2 10:15am Moms Group 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm ASA Workers Mtg	3 10:45am Mass-Champaign Cty NH	4 Annual Stewardship Appeal
5 Annual Stewardship Appeal 9:00am & 11:00am Religious Ed. 10:15am Children's Liturgy 5:30pm Bell Choir 6:30pm Jr & Sr High Religious Ed	6 7:00pm Education Com 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:00pm Pro-Life Com	7 6:45pm Beginning Experience 7:30pm Parish Council Exec Com	8 5:15pm Children's Choir 6:00pm Religious Ed, Urbana 6:30pm Religious Ed, St. Joe 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm SVDP	9 6:30pm Building & Grounds Com 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	10 10:30am Mass-Care Center 10:45am Mass-Champaign Cty NH	11 9:00am -4:00pm Environmental Workshop
12 Mother's Day 9:00am & 11:00am Religious Ed 10:15am Children's Liturgy 5:30pm Bell Choir	13 7:00pm Centering Prayer	14 9:30am Funeral Schola 7:00pm Financial Affairs Com	15 5:15pm Mass 5:15pm Ascension Mass 7:00pm SVDP	16 Ascension Thursday 7:00am Mass 10:15am Moms Group 12:10pm Mass 5:15pm Mass 7:00pm Parish Council 7:30pm Pax Christi	17 10:30am Mass-Clark-Lindsey 10:45am Mass-Champaign Cty NH	18 9:00am Widows & Widowers Retreat
19 12:00pm Teen Liturgy 1:00pm Religious Ed Family Picnic 6:30pm Jr & Sr High Year End Party	20 9:30am Archives Com 7:00pm Centering Prayer	21 6:45pm Beginning Experience	22 7:00pm SVDP 7:00pm Graduation at Holy Cross	23 7:00pm Knights of Columbus 7:00pm Communications Com	24 10:30am Mass-Americana NH Urbana 10:45am Mass-Champaign Cty NH	25
26 Pentecost Sunday	27 Parish Office Closed Memorial Day  9:00am Mass & Breakfast 7:00pm Centering Prayer	28 9:30am Funeral Schola 7:00pm Homily Prep	29 7:00pm SVDP 7:00pm Memorial Prayer Service	30	31 10:45am Mass-Champaign Cty NH	

In Focus Survey

Change *In Focus* a little? A lot? Not at all? Let us know what you like least, best, etc., about St. Patrick's parish newsletter. Please respond; your input is important to us!

Rate the following from 0 (not at all interesting) to 3 (definitely interesting). The last 3 spaces in each section are provided so that you can fill in your ideas. Feel free to suggest any subject.

REGULAR FEATURES

- Names of parishioners baptized, married, moved into or out of the parish, died
- Saints and special people and/or events of the month
- Monthly calendar of scheduled parish meetings, classes, activities
- Parish Council News
- Quick Fixin's from the kitchen of . . .
- In Our Parish Library (book review)
- Holy Cross School Newslines
- Parish Wish List
- Q & A

TOPICS REGULARLY COVERED

- Parish events and programs (before the fact)
- Parish events and programs (after the fact)
- Parishioners engaged in activities of interest to our parish community
- Spirituality and faith development (e.g., prayer, seasonal observances, spiritual reading suggestions)
- Parish committee(s) activities/purpose
- Peace and social justice issues and activities both in and outside the parish

YOUR COMMENTS, SUGGESTIONS, QUESTIONS

Return the completed survey by dropping it in the designated box in the church vestibule or the parish center lobby. Thank you for your help in planning our parish newsletter!

