

ST. PATRICK'S PARISH

In Focus



Parish's annual Fall Festival Sept. 14

St. Patrick's will get fall off to a good start with the annual parish picnic at Hessel Park Pavilion (Champaign) on Sept. 14.

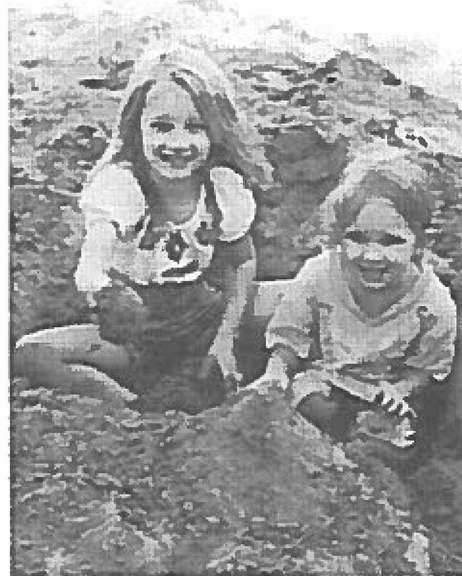
Fried chicken and drinks will be provided; you are asked to bring only a dish to share and your own table service—and yourself, of course, with your family and friends.

So there is sure to be enough chicken for all who come, please call the parish office (367-2665) for reservations.

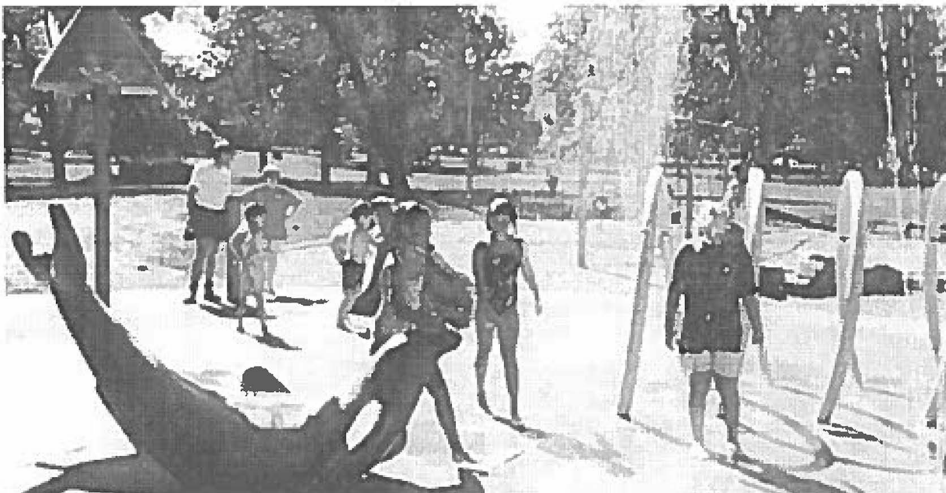
Lunch at 1 p.m. will be followed by games at 2 p.m. for children and for adults: tennis, volleyball, softball, bingo. And, of course, youngsters will want to try out all the playground equipment at Hessel Park!

If you're new in the parish, you'll find this a good opportunity to get acquainted with parish staff, families, long-time parishioners, and other newcomers like yourself. If you've been around for a while but don't

know many others, this may be the chance you've been waiting for. Come along and see who we are, young and old, all of us who are St. Patrick's faith community in Urbana!



Some scenes from last year's parish picnic



Stewardship Sunday 1997

Time, talent—yes, but whose?

Every weekly bulletin and every issue of *In Focus* reveals the gifts of individuals and groups of individuals in our parish who give unstintingly of their time and talent and God-given skills in the building up of the Kingdom in this time and place. There wouldn't be words or space enough in either place to acknowledge all that parishioners do, both in the parish and in the local community, that helps to make life better for someone else, oils the machinery of daily operations at St. Patrick's, reveals in word and deed the tremendous love our God has for each and every person.

This fall marks the tenth anniversary of St. Patrick's setting out on a program of Sacrificial Giving, the tithing not only of treasure but also of time and talent. We will probably hear testimonials to that tithing by way of encouragement, but we have very excellent models, in this very time and place, to serve us well as motivators. We need only look about us.

On Sunday morning, someone has come quite early to unlock the church, set out chalice, wine, and bread for our eucharistic banquet, refilled votive candle holders, set out weekly bulletins, tidied the pews following an earlier Mass.

Men and women stand at the door to welcome all who come, and help people find adequate seating. Others proclaim the Word of God in Scripture readings, "set the table" and assist in serving us the Bread of Life. Still others quietly attend the needs of the presider, assist us in the song-prayers through which

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we raise mind and heart to God, sound the organ or piano or trumpet or handbells to enhance our worship experience.

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

Other individuals clean the church



Welcome to new parishioners Holly Birt, Gretchen and Pedro Colon-Alvarez, Laura Dopheide, Valeria Early, Stephanie French, Michael Hodits, Brenda and Nix Manzano, Patricia Merkin, Kelvin Mischo, Elizabeth Parrino, Dorothy Reis, Torben Rothgeb, Lucille Ryan, Ginger and Tony Schutz, Marilyn Warburton, Lynda Zumbahlen.

Farewell to parishioners who have moved from C-U: Zabrina Atkins, Elizabeth Connell, Phyllis and Stephen Dial, Brian and Mary Dilger, Linda Grum, Gerald Lepar, Bill and Jane McClellan, Martha Straud Merry, Shannon Mihalko, Don and Rosa Morris-Aguilar, John Murray, Valerie Prescott, Gabriel Sunu, Lynn Trevarthen, Tap and Mai Truong, John Wavering, Ken and Mary Welle.

We welcome the following recently baptized into our faith community: Sara Diane Nagele, Monica Lynn Nagele, Miguel Lucio, Jorge Luis Orozco, Laura Catherine Pennacchi, Sara Isabella Pennacchi, George James Pennacchi, Alyssa Catherine Pennacchi, Nikolas Zelman Atwood, Emily Jane Oldham, Osaetin Tobi Omo Osagie, Celeste Tomasa Jimenez.

Congratulations to these couples, married at St. Patrick's: Edward John Poletti and Joan Marie Apperson, James Kevin Krakora and Cristy Lynne Travis, Anthony Charles Schmitz and Michele Jane Pazdirek, Shane Garrin Kolata and Janet Mary Joyce, Bruce Russell Rummenie and Tamara Beth Bajema.

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

The hours that people give are significant collectively, although sometimes given just a few minutes at a time, providing not only for our own needs but for the needs of a great many others.

Who can count the hours of preparing and serving breakfast, making coffee, preparing hearty soups for the hungry, shopping for and carrying and shelving groceries for them, preparing food parcels for the needy (and serving them when they come), planning and carrying out special ecumenical services that bond community Christians in their shared respect for life, caring for children while their parents pray or play, serving a meal to comfort the bereaved in their time of grief, offering the consolation of companionship and prayer with the bereaved?

Who can count the hours spent rehearsing new selections for our liturgies, learning new pieces to play during Mass, preparing lessons for weekly classes during which our faith heritage is passed on to the next generation, designing and stitching banners that grace our church and help to carry out the theme of the service?

Who can count the hours answering the telephone at the parish office, preparing mailings, stuffing inserts into envelopes or weekly bulletins, making posters advertising parish events, taking photographs and writing about parish activities and events for the parish newsletter, baking and telephoning and organizing for the good times we share?

Fr. Remm once remarked how glad he was to know that our sick are called on regularly by members of the parish, both to visit a bit and to carry the Eucharist to them. If that weren't the case, he added, these people would not be visited—he simply would be unable to get to them himself, with all the other matters and people requiring his attention and time.

Who would pull the weeds, plant the flowers, visit the sick and the shut-ins, listen to the stories of angry or diffident Catholics who long to “come home again,” share our faith with those called by God to the Church, teach us to be saving and caring stewards of our facilities and our human resources, sew new vestments and altar linens and provide the “stitch in time” that saves nine if we don't?

If you can, will you?

In just a few weeks we will be asked to make a commitment, a tithing, of our time and our talent. Each of us. It might be the gift of a few minutes a day or a week, at home or at St. Patrick's or in the local community, a commitment to action or to prayer. Think about it, pray about it, ask for enlightenment and a willing spirit.

Spend some time trying to identify your personal talents and abilities; these are, after all, God-given and wonderful and meant to be shared. Thank God for them and think how best to share them!

Look about at what you see being done, ask what needs to be done, ask yourself what you know how to do that might help someone else—and be ready to say “Yes, I can. Yes, I will. Yes!”

ST. PATRICK'S PARISH **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.

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Articles and information for this issue were contributed by Judy Conover, Nancy Costa, Jean Daly, Dorothy Maduzia, Lori McDonough, Mary Lou Menches, Elise Pratt, Fr. George Remm, Leslie Risatti, Bill VanCleave, Linda Weber, Peggy Whelan, Teresa Zapp, Sophia Zeigler. This issue was paged by Andy Hunt.

Bereavement

*Good Friday and
Easter Sunday*

Good Friday
doesn't always come on Good Friday.
Sometimes it comes with
a phone call on a Sunday night,
"There's been an accident!"
Sometimes it comes
while visiting a parent
in a nursing home as we see
mom or dad having to make
their painful way of the cross.
Sometimes it comes
in a doctor's office
or in the boss's office
just when we thought
we had job security.
Good Friday
doesn't always come on Good Friday.
So Lord, give me the courage
that you had on your way of the cross,
to keep walking,
to keep getting up after each fall,
to make it beyond the hurt,
beyond the bitterness and nails,
beyond death on our cross.
Lord, help me to know there's
always an Easter Sunday,
even if it doesn't
always come on Easter Sunday.

—Andrew Costello

*If it sounds easy,
it probably is*

The Building and Grounds Committee is in great need of additional members. No special skills required, just faithful attendance and participation in monthly meetings. For information call Bill VanCleave at the parish office (367-2665).

The next committee meeting is on Thursday, Sept. 4, in the Conference Room. No reservation needed.

To all new parishioners, welcome!

With great pride in the St. Patrick's parish community, and on behalf of the Parish Council, I welcome all of you who have joined us in the past several months. I sincerely hope that you feel the warmth and caring of your new parish and the true Christianity of its people, who come from many different ethnic backgrounds and cultures.

This parish community you have chosen is very special; we are ready to walk with you on your journey of faith, to share the friendship so abundant here at our many social activities, to listen as you express your needs and wants, and to become aware of your special gifts and talents.

Our celebration of the Eucharist brings us close to one another and our God as we reach for fulfillment of our spiritual needs. There are many opportunities for prayer and study available and ministries associated with the weekly liturgy. Any of these would certainly welcome you as a participant or a volunteer.

At Mass on September 27-28, our annual Time and Talent Weekend, you will be asked to reflect on how you might share some of your gifts with others. Please take advantage of this opportunity, talk with the people who represent the various activities and ministries. It is people like yourselves whose sharing of time and talents has helped St. Patrick's become a parish of community love and service.

Your willingness to be an active participant at St. Patrick's will be appreciated in many ways and by many people, but I am confident that you will also find it a rewarding experience, and one that enriches your parish life.

May you be blessed in faith, the love of our Lord, and the love of his people.

Jean Daly

President, Parish Council

*Sinai Temple needs child care for
high holy days*

Each Christmas and Easter, Sinai Temple volunteers serve patients' trays at Covenant Medical Center so that Christian aides can have the day off. Sinai people also staff the office of Lutheran Social Services so that children in foster care can have supervised visits with their families. Twice a year Christians have the opportunity to repay this kindness.

St. Patrick's shares membership with Sinai Temple in the Council of Congregations. Parishioners are

asked to live out an active interfaith relationship by volunteering child care at the Temple during services on two high holy days: *Rosh Hashanah*, Thursday morning, Oct. 2, and *Yom Kippur*, Saturday morning and/or afternoon, Oct. 11.

It will not be necessary to give an entire morning or afternoon. For specific "shifts" and more information about children's ages, call Ms. Terry Gitler of Sinai Temple, 352-1260.



in our parish library

I Am Your Brother Joseph: Cardinal Bernardin of Chicago

By Tim Unsworth

By way of introduction to this anecdotal biography, let these words from the author's preface give you the flavor and the intent of his book:

"This book does not pretend to be a definitive biography of Cardinal Joseph Bernardin. Clearly, such a history needs to be done. He deserves something akin to John Tracy Ellis's monumental life of Cardinal James Gibbons of Baltimore. Chances are, a church historian will attempt the task.

"[This book] is an anecdotal biography of the best-known and best-loved bishop in America. It is an informal portrait, not a formal canvas. It is hardly an objective treatment. I considered him one of the most pastorally sensitive and politically shrewd people I have ever known. He was a humble man at a level within the church where one generally finds only inflated ego. But he had a healthy ego that always reminded him of who and what he was.

"Bernardin understood the difference between leadership and authority. He was a shepherd who would and could lead without building fences. After fourteen years of observing him, it is almost impossible to be objective about him. I feel about him as Elisha did about the prophet Elijah: 'Please,' Elisha prayed, 'let me inherit a double share of your spirit' (2 Kings 2:9).

"It is my hope that readers of this book will get a double share of the spirit of the man whose motto was 'As Those Who Serve.'"

Here's one of the anecdotes, not very deep but revealing nonetheless:

"Cardinal Bernardin liked to visit schools. Such visits were largely connected with celebrations of one kind or another. He could relax. One day, accompanied by Dr. Elaine Schuster, superintendent of schools, he entered a primary school classroom and squeezed himself into one of the

tiny desks. When introduced as a cardinal, one student said: 'I thought cardinals were birds.'

"Bernardin, ever the teacher, patiently explained that there were other species of cardinals. The more he attempted to explain, the deeper he got into their debt.

"'Do you pray all day?' one asked. 'What does a cardinal do?' His need to be accurate only sank him deeper. Finally, he turned to Schuster and said: 'I think I should have just said I was a bird.'"

And just one more:

"Bernardin moved from the episcopal mansion to the seminary and a small suite. He understood a strenuous diet, losing fifty pounds and, unlike many other dieters, keeping it off for the remainder of his life. During a dinner visit I asked him how he kept his weight off, in spite of a genuine passion for good food. 'Will power,' he answered. I could have killed him."

Tim Unsworth, an award-winning journalist and friend of the late Cardinal, is a columnist for the *National Catholic Reporter* and author of other books that include *The Last Priests in America*, which won a first-place Catholic Book Award.



Stewardship is for children too

At this time of year St. Patrick's focuses on stewardship—how we use our time, our talents, and our treasure for the benefit of our parish community. Parents, this year as you consider your own involvement in parish stewardship, why not take a few minutes to discuss this topic with your children?

Explain your understanding of

From Nancy Costa *An evangelization minute*

Every life has a story. We believe that every Christian has a *faith* story. Whether we are "cradle Catholics" or came into the Church as adults, there is a moment in each of our lives when we made a conscious commitment to a living faith and discipleship.

Of course, we're all familiar with the spectacular experiences of St. Paul, St. Francis, and St. Patrick. We also know the wonderful effects of quiet faith and service as witnessed by contemporaries such as Mother Teresa and Cardinal Bernardin.

Are you wondering what this has to do with you? The simple truth is, we don't have to live a heroic life in order to celebrate the Good News. If our life is governed by commitment to the God we believe in, then that faith will permeate our lives and be visible in word and action.

Evangelization is something we are called to, and it is a gift to be able to forward the work of Christ. How can we be involved in evangelization—individually involved, in the community and in the Church? The best thing each of us can do depends on who we are and what our talents are.

The most important thing to do is to reach out to others. We needn't be afraid; we have been chosen to go out of our way for those who need us most. As Catholics we have a responsibility to bring our faith and values into the religious as well as the secular community.

The Good News of God's love is communicated one person, one good deed, at a time.

stewardship and how you carry out this responsibility. Ask your children to think about what contribution of their own time, talents, and treasure they can make. Opportunities abound; they might consider being an altar server, joining the children's choir, using the children's weekly offertory

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"I love you!"

I was driving home one evening recently, a bit stressed, not feeling well, my mind pretty convoluted from the day—just in one of those "blah" moments that come from time to time—when I rounded a corner and looked up ahead. There, in a gigantic ball of reddish-orange glory, was the sun blazing from behind the outline of some trees.

The sight was so dramatic that I caught my breath and nearly stopped the car. My first thought was not "Ah, the beauty of nature!" or "Wouldja look at that!" My first thought was GOD. Not as in "O my God," but an immediate, involuntary monosyllable of my spirit. The strange thing was that I was hearing the word GOD within, but it felt like I was shouting "You ... You ... I love You!" This felt almost juvenile, but then I knew that that was okay too.

I thought next of many of the experiences others have shared in *In Focus* and realized that reading and pondering them has given me a greater awareness of the Presence, the expression, and the reality of God in our lives, in *all* of his creation. Thank you for sharing your insights and experiences in *In Focus*. I hope my sharing of this experience may help someone else as yours have helped me!

Name withheld on request

When we share our faith stories, we are changed; and those listening to us are changed as well. In Focus welcomes faith stories that tell of God's working in our lives. Send yours to the Communications Committee, c/o St. Patrick's, or drop it off at the parish office. Be sure to include your name and a telephone number where you may be reached. Names will be withheld on request.

Morning prayer

So far today, God, I've done all right. I haven't gossiped, haven't lost my temper, haven't been greedy, grumpy, nasty, selfish, or over-indulgent.

Open meeting on marriage annulment process planned

On Friday, Sept. 26, at 7:00 p.m., St. Patrick's Re-Membering Church Team will host an open meeting to help couples and individuals sort through information about invalid marriages, the annulment process, and related issues.

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

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

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

One reason many Catholics don't understand the process, she said, is that they don't know what an annulment really is. Contrary to popular belief, a church annulment does not declare that a marriage never existed, Sr. Marianne stated. "It means that something was standing in the way of making it fully valid according to Catholic doctrine. We are not denying



Sr. Marianne Burkhard, OSB, is shown here speaking with a participant following one of her presentations on annulments and the annulment process. (Catholic Post photo; used with permission)

that the people were married before the law."

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

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

Mark your calendar now to reserve these important dates:

- Sept. 26 (Friday), 7 p.m., multi-purpose room
- Sept. 27 (Saturday), from 9 a.m., conference room

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

Sr. Charlene Cesario, SSCM, pastoral associate at St. Patrick's, has been trained as Notary Auditor and has had additional training in the annulment process as it pertains to the Diocese of Peoria. She is regularly available for consultation; to make an appointment, call her at the parish office (367-2665).

I'm very thankful for that.
But in a few minutes, God,
I'm going to get out of this bed.
And from then on I'm probably
going to need a lot more help.
Amen.

Parish Council News

At their August meeting, Council members heard a presentation by Miriam Chenault, Christian Nurse at the Frances Nelson Health Center (FNHC). The Center is the only source of health care for people with jobs but without health benefits, such as migrant workers and international students.

She works 32 hours a week at FNHC and two mornings at Empty Tomb as a clinic nurse, offering not only health care but also encouragement, kindness, Christian love, respect. Seven local churches, including St. Patrick's through the Social Action Committee, and Empty Tomb pay her salary.

In early November Council members will retreat to Riverton (Ill.) for a couple of days together to become better acquainted through focused discussion, prayer, and play.

Plans for the parish's five-year goal setting workshop are in the making. The workshop will be spread over two days, Nov. 14-15: Friday, 7-9 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. The goals set during this workshop will guide the parish staff, Council, committees, and other groups in planning for the years just ahead and will set the general direction and priorities for the parish during this period. Consequently, the Council hopes for participation by a large number of parishioners to assist in this process.

The Parish Needs Assessment Survey has been modified and adjusted to reflect feedback from committees and staff and will be mailed during the first week of September; the random sampling (20%) of parishioners to whom it will be sent has been made. Copies will also be made available on request to parishioners not included in the sampling who wish to complete the survey.

Because of deficits in tuition payments to reimburse St. Patrick's

for Holy Cross School tuition paid on behalf of our families with children enrolled there, the Financial Affairs Committee has suggested that the parish move to a professional system (such as that used by Holy Cross and other parishes in the diocese) through which applications for tuition assistance are handled. Families will be informed about the new system, how it works and what it involves, during the coming year.



Dan Murphy, who has served as Deacon in Lourdes (near Metamora, Ill.) and in Cincinnati, and his wife, Chris, are moving to C-U. He has applied to Bishop Myers to serve at St. Patrick's, and the bishop has indicated his agreement to this proposal. The couple are expected Sept. 7.

Fr. Remm has been notified of two meetings in September dealing with the proposed Catholic high school for the C-U area, one for the committee conducting the feasibility study for the school and the other for pastors with the bishop, to bring all up-to-date on the process.

Because of Peter Bloome's pending move to Oregon, he tendered his

St. Lorenzo Ruiz and companions

Lorenzo Ruiz, whose feast we celebrate on Sept. 28, is the Church's first Filipino saint and martyr. Born in Biondo, Manila, about 1600, he was educated by the Dominicans and served as an altar boy, later as clerk-sacristan.

Lorenzo was a married layman with two sons and a daughter. He made his living as a calligrapher, lettering both private and public documents.

In 1636 Lorenzo was accused of being involved in a crime and feared that he would receive the death penalty. He fled the Philippines to Japan at a time when the Christians of Japan were undergoing great persecution.

Upon landing in Japan, Lorenzo and his Dominican companions were

resignation from the Council, which was accepted with deep regret and many grateful thanks for the contributions he has made in parish and Council affairs. Marnie Fuesting, first runner-up in the April election, was welcomed and seated on the Council to complete Peter's term. Cindy Kelly was nominated and unanimously elected to serve as vice-president of the Council, the office left vacant by Peter's resignation.

A revised lineup of liaison appointments was also announced: Building and Grounds, Dave Palmisano; Communications, Frank Modica; Education, Marnie Fuesting; Financial Affairs, Chuck Milewski; Liturgy, Pat Holden; Social, Allen Booth; Social Action, Richard Keane; Personnel, Cindy Kelly.

Drawings for the renovation of the parish kitchen have been completed and bids are being written. If the bishop gives his approval to the bid selected, and if the present schedule is maintained, the renovation is expected to be completed by late February.

The next Council meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. on Sept. 18. All parishioners are welcome to attend these open parish meetings.

arrested and imprisoned. He underwent terrible tortures, all the while refusing to renounce his Christian faith. After two days of agony, he died of blood loss and suffocation. His body was cremated, and the ashes were thrown into the sea.

Lorenzo Ruiz and his fifteen companions, who were also martyred, were beatified by Pope John Paul II in Manila on Feb. 18, 1981, and elevated to the full honors of the altar by canonization on Oct. 18, 1987, in Rome.

While our faith may never be tested as theirs was, to the point of death, yet we might pray for their aid in the day-to-day encounters that challenge us to live and act out of this great gift of faith.

Soup's on!

Yes, "Soup's on," say Marjorie Allain, Sophia Zeigler, Rose Breen, and Nicki Davis. "Y'all come" to the St. Vincent de Paul Society's Soup, Sandwich, Dessert, and Quilt Exhibit on Sept. 4 and 5, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Why are SVDP members putting on this event? At the very first parish kitchen renovation meeting, when Steve Beckett and Tom Shaw were appointed as co-chairs of the project, they emphatically said that all parish groups and committees who use the parish kitchen should contribute to the cost of the renovation. And, of course, all parishioners profit in many ways from having a well-designed and well-equipped parish kitchen.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society cannot use the donations received for the poor and needy to support the kitchen renovation. Yet the Society uses the kitchen seven days a week; members store bagged foods in kitchen cupboards and use the freezer and half of the refrigerator for the fresh foods given out daily to the walk-ins who come to St. Patrick's. They do want to help in paying for the kitchen improvements suggested by the Health Department.

The Society has only a few members, but there are over one thousand families registered at St. Patrick's. They are asking every parishioner to

support their effort to contribute to the cost of the renovation by attending this event (pay \$1 at the door). If you have a quilt, bring it for the exhibit. Bring a homemade dessert. Give a few hours by working: they need helpers at the door, helpers to serve soup and sandwiches and desserts, kitchen and floor helpers.

They have too few members to call everyone, so Leslie Risatti, parish secretary, has put out a sign-up sheet in the parish center lobby. You can sign up also just by calling her (367-2665). She and Bill VanCleave have made posters, Blanche Vasnaik has sewn 24 tablecloths, Mary Sleeter and Norma Gremer will display the quilts in the main hall, Bob Hagan from Town and Country Catering will help where needed (the catering's meat and vegetables are in the 5 soups).

There will be a display of quilts to be proud of that parishioners have agreed to share, with their notes attached. Elizabeth Talbot, for instance, is sharing her Great Grandmother quilt that was made in England using all her clothing while she was growing up (sateens and velvets); the last patch was a piece of her wedding gown. Many have described their quilts, beautifully stitched, for us to admire.

There will also be different sand-



Marjorie Allain, Sophia Zeigler, Rose Breen, and Nicki Davis are your chefs for the big event. "Y'all come, now!"

wiches and desserts for you to enjoy on both days. All food will be priced separately. Bring your neighbors, friends, families, and co-workers to support the Society in their effort to help pay for renovation of the parish kitchen! If you come to enjoy the quilts and the good foods prepared for you, this "one-time event" will be a great success for the Renovation Committee!

From Religious Leaders for Community Care

The C-U Good News

For the third consecutive year in C-U about 150 members of area black and white churches gathered to celebrate unity in Christ by worshipping together at the New Hope Church of God in Christ. The service featured music from three Gospel choirs and hymns led by Maureen Burch of New Covenant Fellowship. Featured speakers included Fr. George Remm of St. Patrick's and Evangelist Olivia Neal of the New Free Will Baptist Church. Refreshments and fellowship followed.

On Oct. 24-25 RLCC will present the second annual Racial Reconciliation Conference: "A Call to Action." The conference will include inspirational speakers, thought-provoking workshops, and panel discussions.

Quick fixin's from the kitchen of . . .

Teresa Zapp

Marinated Pea Salad

2 large cans LeSeur peas
(drained)
1/2 lb sliced fresh mushrooms
1 small onion (cut in rings or
chopped)
2 ribs celery (diced)

Dressing:
3/4 c sugar
2/3 c white vinegar
1/3 c salad oil
1 t salt
1 t pepper

Whisk the dressing ingredients in medium bowl until blended. Add remaining ingredients and stir to coat well. Refrigerate overnight; serve chilled.



Latino Ministry at St. Patrick's

There are over 3,000 Latinos in the Champaign-Urbana area, many of whom speak little or no English. These are urban Latino migrants who stay here year-round. For the most part they are employed by local businesses in service jobs; they are maids, waiters, cooks, janitors, dishwashers.

El Centro por los Trabajadores is an organization started in 1995 to provide community services for the Latino people. El Centro helps with legal assistance, health care, teaching practical English, counseling, transportation, and housing. Local churches of several denominations contribute funds and volunteers to support El Centro, and University of Illinois students assist with tutoring.

The principal religion of the Latino community is Roman Catholicism, but Mass in Spanish was offered only once a month, by Fr. Ed Adelman of St. John's in Champaign. Many were turning to other denominations for their spiritual needs. There was also a need for social interaction with their peers.

Hugh Phillips, El Centro's executive director, contacted the Catholic clergy in early 1996 to request that a fund-

raising insert be placed in Sunday bulletins. That request led to a meeting with pastors to identify needs and to determine how to provide assistance. Following that meeting, all of the pastors in the Vicariate met with Fr. Adelman and Mr. Phillips. The pastors decided that Mass should be celebrated in Spanish, weekly if possible, with refreshments to follow. They also agreed that there should eventually be religious education classes for the children. Several priests were willing to learn enough Spanish to celebrate Mass in that language. Mass celebrants could rotate so each priest would usually be obligated to just one Sunday each month.

Because St. Patrick's facilities are largely unused on Sunday afternoons, Fr. Remm offered to make the parish church and parish center available for this important ministry. He wrote

For "garret" read "garage sale"

A garret is an attic. In a time before garages, garrets were places to find treasures like old love letters, photo albums, a black velvet cape no longer in use but too good to throw away. And maybe a ghost or two...

For this correspondent, that note of romance pervades St. Patrick's Cellar-to-Garret Sale. Who knows the stories behind the things I've bought: two solid wood dining chairs for \$10; a small chest that just fits in my closet, \$5; a TV cart with big wheels that roll easily, \$2; a light-weight iron; sheets of percale and muslin; a mahogany salad bowl; many items for 10 cents or 25 cents: baskets and painted flower pots, Pyrex custard cups, small loaf pans, lint-free linen dish towels, a white wicker towel ring, a dishpan in a hard-to-find size, scarves, cotton gloves for cold hands in spring and fall.

In the "Bit Better" room, at sales through the years, I found a Sony audio cassette player, \$12; six crystal water goblets for \$12; four gold-rimmed cake plates; earrings, and a fleecy blue jacket. I wish I'd known the people who owned all these, before....

letters of invitation, translated into Spanish, to be sent to all on El Centro's mailing lists. The first Spanish Mass at St. Patrick's was celebrated on Sunday, June 30, at 5 p.m., with Fr. Adelman presiding.

Mass in Spanish was offered once a month, with Fr. Adelman presiding, until the end of September. He and Hugh Phillips found volunteers to serve as sacristans, lectors, eucharistic ministers, servers, and musicians, as well as to help with hospitality. Spanish Lectionaries, Sacramentaries, and other needed books were obtained.

On September 29, 1996, Mass in Spanish was offered weekly and the time changed to 3 p.m. Word of the Mass in Spanish continues to spread in the Latino community, and attendance is growing.

In addition to providing facilities, St. Patrick's makes an annual financial contribution to El Centro, in keeping with its interest in and commitment to the Latino community.

continued from page 4

envelopes, serving as an aide for the Parent's Cooperative Nursery or as a helper for the Religious Education program, help an elderly neighbor, care for someone's pet, or baby sit free of charge so that parents can have a few hours to themselves. Older children can consider roles as liturgical ministers, participation in any of the parish's many committees, helping prepare meals for the Catholic Worker House, filling food bags for distribution by the St. Vincent de Paul Society to the needy who apply to the parish for help.

As with most lessons we teach our children, they often learn more from observing our actions than from listening to our words. What are our actions teaching our children about stewardship?

St. Patrick's sale is what you might call comprehensive. Each parish center classroom holds a different category of goods: one for shoes (do you need silver slippers?), one for furniture, one for books. Tables and tables of household items fill the west side of the main hall. Do you need an odd glass, or a whole set of dishes? Across the aisle, on the east side, racks upon racks, and more tables, offer bargains in clothing for adults and for children. Bedding, curtains, and towels are folded in one corner, toys in another. Parish volunteers provide sacks and boxes as you line up to pay volunteer cashiers.

Workers are needed to sort and mark (and get first look) on the days before the sale, and to help customers on the three days of the sale.

Bring your friends, your "stuff" (ahead of time), yourself. Come for the romance, the bargains, the good cause. The profits are used by St. Patrick's Guild for projects such as the lighting in front of the church. Remember the dates: Thursday, Sept. 11, through Saturday, Sept. 13.

Liturgy Committee issues invitation

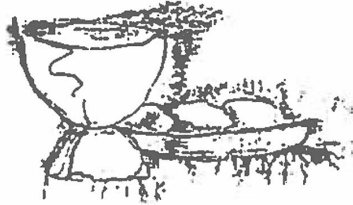
"Lord, I am not worthy" is a sincere expression of our personal and collective recognition of unworthiness to receive the Lord in Holy Communion. Yet after making that admission to God, to ourselves, to one another, we go ahead and receive Holy Communion. Why? Because we trust in the Lord to make up for our deficiencies, we trust in his love to overcome that unworthiness, to accept our intention and desire to be better, to love as we are loved.

When we are invited to serve our parish assembled for Mass, our first and almost instinctive reaction is to pull back, to say again "I am not worthy." Why? Is the Lord any less trustworthy, are we any less likely to be accepted, to be loved, if we accept his call to serve our brothers and sisters at Mass?

The Liturgy Committee is charged with responsibility to recruit and train parishioners to serve as lectors (readers), eucharistic ministers, altar servers, ushers, cantors, choir members, instrumentalists, liturgical artists, and sacristans. That charge includes helping them to a better understanding of their chosen ministries and scheduling ministers in a way that is responsive to the needs of the individual parishioner-volunteer as well as to the needs of the parish assembled for Mass each weekend.

There is great need at the present time for more volunteers in almost every ministry listed above, if the scheduling requests of those now serving us at Mass are respected. With 27 eucharistic ministers and 10 lectors and 14 altar servers required for the 5 liturgies each weekend, it is quickly apparent that participation in these ministries must be expanded if the same individuals are not to serve each week—or are not to double up by serving in more than one ministry at the same Mass. At least 20-30 more eucharistic ministers and 15-20 lectors and 10-15 servers are needed, just to

provide an adequate number of ministers for our weekend Masses. Our new music director, Sr. Lori Kirchman, would undoubtedly also be delighted to have twice as many cantors and choir members and instrumentalists to enrich the music program for our weekend gatherings to worship.



Is any one of us worthy? Then so are all of us! Is any one of us unworthy? Then so are we all! Yet, by reason of our baptism we are called to serve the People of God. Let this be your invitation. Let this be your "tap on the shoulder" to take up *your* call to serve. If you leave your name and telephone

number with the parish secretary (367-2665) and indicate the type of ministry that appeals to you, someone will get in touch with you. Or call directly:

Lectors: Grace Conlee, 367-4353
Eucharistic ministers: Mary Lee Brady, 344-3752

Altar servers: Sandi Burke, 469-2757

Ushers: Lou Fincham, 344-7462
Cantors, choirs, instrumentalists: Sr. Lori Kirchman, 367-2665

Liturgical artists: Beth McDonald, 328-7603, for Michelle Bari

Sacristan assistants: Mary Ann Luedtke, 328-1143

If you are able to answer this call, you will be enriched in ways you've never dreamed of!

Your money is well used!"

Dearest Pastor George Remm,
Dear benefactors of St. Patrick's Parish,

We Parish Council of Beit-Jala gratefully acknowledge having received through Rev. George Remm the generous donation of \$765.

The arrival of your help coincides with the double suicide bombing attack inside the most crowded quarter of Jerusalem. Thirteen casualties among innocent people: women and babies.

The answer of the Israeli government: closure of all the Palestinian cities—owing that we rely upon Israel for all our daily necessities: food, bread, fuel—immediately, our people begin crying famine; the Parish Council has a lot to do, dealing with such a pitiful situation.

Living in the "Palestinian-Israeli" conflict is our sad destiny; your sacrifices, sending us from time to time your generous donations, are really a providential help. Be sure, dear benefactors, that your money is well used for the needy families and at these very gloomy times in the Holy Land. If we were to give you in detail the description of our social work, it would be too long, but we suppose that you trust us.

You remember the widow with 5 children, for whom you have contributed to fixing up for her a small house. She is happy, and she is among the needy families we support regularly.

We continue also making all our effort to release our parishioners detained in prison; we succeeded in releasing Bishara Karufeh from Beit-Jala. His wife, Fadwa, is most grateful for your contribution! The Society of St. Yves for Social Welfare and Human Rights was efficient in this case.

As you may realize, our Parish Council in Beit-Jala benefits from your donations and uses them in the right way.

May the Divine Child of Bethlehem reward you, protect you, and bless your families. We keep you in our prayers.

Sincerely,

For the Parish Council, Beit-Jala,
Father Abdel-Nour

Founder of St. Vincent de Paul Society beatified

Pope John Paul II had repeatedly said that the Church needs more lay saints. In Paris on Aug. 22 he moved a young French man closer to that honor.

Best known as the founder of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, Blessed Frederic Ozanam was a scholar, a husband, and a father.

"Frederic was a man of passion," wrote Vincentian Fr. Ronald W. Ramson in a biography of Ozanam. "He was a lover—of God, of his parents and siblings, of his wife and daughter, of fellow Vincentians, of study and teaching, of the truth, of poverty, and of the poor."

Frederic Ozanam was born in 1813 to a French couple temporarily living in Milan, Italy. He studied in Lyons, France, before moving on to the Sorbonne in Paris to study law.

At the university he and other students formed a debate and discussion group focusing on history, philosophy, and Catholicism. Debating with nonbelievers, Ozanam and the other students were challenged by charges that French Catholics in the early 1800s were doing little in the way of social work or charitable activity. They realized they must translate their faith into action and the Gospel mandate of love into service to the poor.



On Apr. 23, 1833, his 20th birthday, Ozanam gathered his friends for a special meeting during which they committed themselves to serving

Christ by serving the poor. Using their meager resources, they began taking food and friendship to poor families. It was in this way that the first conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was born.

While dedicating part of every week to visiting the poor and bringing them material

assistance, Ozanam continued his involvement in the debate society and finished his law degree. For a short time he worked as a lawyer, but he returned to the university and received a doctorate in literature. Within a few years he was teaching literature at the Sorbonne. He married Amelie Soulacroix in 1841, and they had a daughter, Marie, in 1845.

While direct contact, support, and friendship with the poor was Ozanam's primary focus, he did not neglect working for justice. He called for the institution of a minimum wage, protection for the unemployed and workers injured on the job, and retirement benefits.

He died Sept. 8, 1853, victim of a misdiagnosed kidney infection, at the age of 40.

"Frederic was ordinary in the sense that he was a man of faith who truly believed and lived that belief, who expressed the love of God in compassionate love to God's poor, abandoned, and forgotten," wrote Fr. Ramson. "The spirituality of Frederic Ozanam is that of the person in the pew who burns with the desire to love God and neighbor and who also wants to put that love into practice."

There are now 46,650 local St. Vincent de Paul conferences (one of them operates out of St. Patrick's, Urbana) with 880,000 members serving the poor and aged in every part of the world.

Holy Cross School newsline

The 1997-98 Holy Cross School year began on Friday, Aug. 22, with Fee Day and an Open House. Classes for grades 1-8 began on Monday, Aug. 25, and classes for kindergartners will begin on Tuesday, Sept. 2. This year 57 families from St. Patrick's parish are sending 81 children to Holy Cross School.

How can St. Patrick's parishioners support Holy Cross School? Numerous opportunities exist to show your support for Catholic education:



Magazine

Drive: Order or renew your magazine subscriptions this fall through a Holy Cross student.

UI Sports Programs: Purchase a program at various University sporting events. Holy Cross receives a percentage of the price of each program sold.

Market Day: Order food products from the monthly Market Day sales brochure.

Boxtops and Labels: Save boxtops from General Mills products (the school earns 15 cents for each). Collect the UPC symbol from Kodak, Hershey, and Hefty products (points are earned toward the purchase of school equipment). Save labels from Post and Campbell products as well.

AT&T Education Points Program: Your long distance phone bill can be used to earn points for Holy Cross School. The school can redeem these points for school equipment.

Poinsettia Sale: Place an order early this fall with a Holy Cross student. Plants are distributed the first Saturday of December.

After School Enrichment Program: Teach a 6-week enrichment class this fall in computer science, studio art,

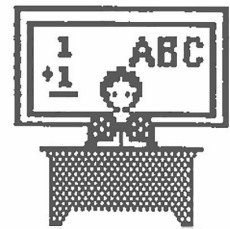


Deadline for submission of information, articles, and news items for the next issue of In Focus is September 14.



September 1997

St. Patrick's Parish



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Labor Day 9:00am Mass & Breakfast 7:00pm Centering Prayer	2 7:30pm Personnel Com	3 9:00am Guild Ornament Workshop 9:30am Moms Group 5:30pm Bp. Myers Aniv. at Cathedral 7:00pm SVDP	4 11:00am - 6:00pm SVDP Quilts, Soup & Sandwich Benefit 6:30pm Building & Grounds Com	5 10:45am Mass-Champaign Cty NH 11:00am - 6:00pm SVDP Quilts, Soup & Sandwich Benefit	6 8:45am Trustees Mtg
7 3:00pm Latino Mass 6:30pm Bible Study	8 6:30pm Bible Study 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:00pm Evangelization Team 7:00pm Pro-Life Com 7:00pm Education Com	9 7:00pm Financial Affairs Com 7:30pm Parish Council Exec Com	10 9:30am Funeral Schola 5:00pm SVDP 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	11 5:00pm -9:00pm Sale 7:00pm Baptism Prep 7:00pm Knights of Columbus 7:00pm Choir	12 9:00am -9:00pm Sale 10:30am Mass-Care Center 10:45am Mass-Champaign Cty NH	13 9:00am -3:00pm Sale
Cellar-to-Garret Setup				Cellar-to-Garret Sale		
14 1:00-4:00pm Parish Festival Picnic 3:00pm Latino Mass 6:30pm Bible Study	15 6:30pm Bible Study 7:00pm Centering Prayer	16	17 9:00am Guild Ornament Workshop 9:30am Moms Group 5:00pm SVDP 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	18 7:00pm Parish Council 7:00pm Choir	19 10:30am Mass-Clark-Lindsey 10:45am Mass-Champaign Cty NH	20
21 Catechetical Sunday 3:00pm Latino Mass 6:30pm Bible Study	22 9:00am Archives Com 6:30pm Bible Study 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:00pm Finding God in Daily Work 7:00pm Liturgy Com	23 7:00pm Homily Prep	24 8:00am Guild Ornament Workshop??? 9:30am Funeral Schola 5:00pm SVDP 6:00pm Religious Ed, Urbana 6:30pm Religious Ed, St. Joe 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	25 7:00pm Communications Com 7:00pm Choir	26 10:30am Mass-Manor Care 10:45am Mass-Champaign Cty NH 7:00pm Sr. Marianne Burkhard on Annulment Process	27 9:00am -Noon Annulment Consultations with Sr. Marianne
28 Stewardship of Time/Talent 9:00am & 11:00m Religious Ed 3:00pm Latino Mass 6:30pm Bible Study 6:30pm Jr/Sr High Religious Ed	29 6:30pm Bible Study 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:00pm Finding God in Daily Work	30	<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 September 14.</p>			

