

ST. PATRICK'S PARISH

In Focus



Parishes a primary source of our Church's vocations



The Church's Vocation Awareness Sunday will be observed Oct. 10-11. In past years many of our parishioners have pledged to offer prayers for vocations in some special way, such as the Serra Club's "Club 31," which involves attending one weekday Mass each month for that purpose. Others may have offered daily prayers either at home or in church.

We are continually reminded by individuals from all levels of the Church's hierarchy that the vocations problem continues to be critical. Realizing that a primary source of vocations is the parish, we must persevere in our prayers for priests, brothers, sisters, and deacons.

There must be some individuals in St. Patrick's Parish who will want to volunteer their services to the Vocations Committee. It should be a rewarding experience. Each committee member will be asked to perform one specific task related to the committee's objectives. Meetings will be held to an absolute minimum. To volunteer, call Joe Tobias (344-6521) or Jim Moffitt (367-5221).

Please meditate on the following excerpt from Pope John Paul II's message of May 3, 1998:

"My wish is that the annual celebration of the World Day of Prayer for Vocations raise up in the hearts of the faithful a more intense prayer to obtain new vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life and reawaken the responsibility of all, especially parents and those who educate in the faith, to promote vocations."

Five new mysteries enrich Rosary meditation

October, the Month of the Holy Rosary, is a fitting time to take note of retired Bishop Edward O'Rourke's suggestion to add 5 new mysteries, or subjects for meditation, to the traditional 15.

Quoted in the *Catholic Post*, Bishop O'Rourke said, "The Rosary is not a revealed, unchangeable thing. ... I believe others might find it useful to have another set of mysteries for meditation."

The retired bishop observed that the familiar joyful, sorrowful, and glorious mysteries leave "a huge gap." The joyful mysteries conclude with Jesus, at the age of 12, found in the temple by Mary and Joseph. "We then skip to the first sorrowful mystery, where we find Jesus 21 years later beginning his Passion. In between these two events we have omitted his public life and most of his teaching."

The new mysteries Bishop O'Rourke proposes "include Mary's presence and influence." They are focused on the theme of Jesus the Divine Teacher:

1. The baptism at the Jordan
2. The wedding at Cana
3. The Sermon on the Mount
4. The parable of the prodigal son
5. The Transfiguration

Bishop O'Rourke, known for the simplicity of his life during his tenure as Bishop of Peoria, now lives in a seniors' residence in Peoria. He limits his activities to "serving impoverished people, prayer, and liturgy." He helps the needy of Peoria to find work. And he makes a gift to us of these new meditations for praying the Rosary.

Objectives Workshop set for Oct. 10

The annual workshop for developing parish objectives for 1999 will be held on Saturday, Oct. 10, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. This workshop will provide an opportunity for committees and other parish groups to formulate objectives designed to move the parish toward achievement of the 5-year parish goals (see page 7, this issue) that were established last fall.

The workshop, facilitated by Cindy Kelly and Tom Korder, will begin at 9:00 a.m. following 8:00 Mass in the church and continental breakfast in the parish center. Lunch will be provided.

All members of parish committees will receive written invitations to the workshop. Other parishioners who are interested are encouraged to participate even if not associated with a parish committee, according to Parish Council president Cindy Kelly. Watch the parish bulletin for more information as it becomes available.



Welcome to new parishioners: Judy and Steve Altaner, Sandra Bayles, Richard Barnardini, Sam Fugazzotto, Sarah Hosler, Thomas McMahon, Robert Ritter, Theresa and Todd Schumacher.

Farewell to parishioners who have left C-U: Wojciech Chrzanoski, Lavina Noronha.

We welcome the following recently baptized into our faith community: Benjamin Andrew McDonald, Alesander Andres Feistritz, Toni Marie Henk, Marisa Paige Worner, Taylor Madison Worner, Jakob Paul Bollman, Jordanne Irene Bollman, Ashlynn Marie McConaha, Laura Elizabeth Quick, Paul Theodore Berlocher, Cristian Alejandro Garnier, Joseph Dale Williams, Alec John Menees, Jason Danh Tran, John Vinh Tran, Randy Dexter Epouhe-Bebey, Kelsey Ann Harris, Christopher James Tate, Samantha Pham, Louis John D'Andria, Benjamin James Thompson, Michael Joseph Thompson.

Congratulations to these couples, married at St. Patrick's: John Girard Sorenson II and Dawn Michelle Hafner, Michael Joseph Hodits and Freda Arne Dye DeCerbo, Jonathon Matthew de Fiebre and Amy Lori Reeder, Calvin Royce Mischo and Stephanie Ann French, Mark Alford Pulokas and Amy Ann Schuda, William T. Becher and Margaret Ann Schulte, Michael Damian Thomas and Cherish Marie Keller, Michael Dominic Wipfli and Lara Elizabeth Quick, Joseph William Ragle and Laura Ann Osmond, David Todd Spinner and Holly Christine Birt, David Joseph Cimino and Teresa Gene Bethel, Mark Alexander Freedman and Laurie Helen Kaufmann, David E. Hanlon and Amy Jo Buss, Jeffrey John D'Alessio and Christa Lynn Husband, Kevin Alan Kalata and Erica Dawn Brinkley, Eric Thomas Boder and Margaret Faye Ware, William Brian Erickson and Caryn Lee Guzy, Edward Andrew Mlodzik and Michele Lynn Thies.

Please pray for deceased parishioners: Theodore J. Burgin, Sr., Ellen Jane Baxley, Dennis J. DeHaven, Nathaniel "Abe" Dunn, Robert B. Veatch, H. Eugene Stoner, James W. Withers, Sr., Eleanor Ann Kern.

We owe a lot to Luke!

Most of what we know today about St. Luke comes from the letters of St. Paul. At the end of his letter to the Colossians, Paul sends greetings from the Christians who are working with him. He refers to Luke as "the beloved physician" (4:14). In his second letter to Timothy, Paul writes from prison in Rome that everyone has abandoned him: "Only Luke is with me" (4:11).

We might guess from these clues that Luke was courageous, talented, faithful, respected. He probably did much to build up the early Christian



community. But that would be just the beginning; Luke is also author of the third gospel and of the Acts of the Apostles. His gift to the heritage of our faith has lasted far longer than our memory of his life and service.

Luke's gospel tells us most of what we know about Jesus' birth and childhood. He tells the story of the angel's invitation to Mary, Mary's visit to Elizabeth, and Jesus' birth in Bethlehem. How much he has taught us about Jesus!

Luke also gives us three great songs of praise: Mary's canticle, the Magnificat (1:46), the canticle of Zechariah, "Blessed be the God of Israel," (1:68), and Simeon's canticle, "Now, Master, you can dismiss your servant in peace" (2:29). How he has enriched the prayer of the Church!

In the Acts of the Apostles Luke tells about the growth of the early Church, its struggles, its triumphs, and its growing influence on society. His work helps us to understand all of the other writings of the New Testament in context.

We've been hearing Luke's gospel at Sunday Mass all this year, and at weekday Mass from September through November. When you hear his gospel proclaimed, think about how much you owe to Luke and what his witness means to you! And on Oct. 18, his feastday, join the entire Church in celebrating his life and work.

Make-a-Difference Day: Oct. 24

Dr. Karl Menninger, the famous psychiatrist, was once asked what action he would recommend if a person were to feel a nervous breakdown coming on. "Lock your house!" he said. "Go across the railroad tracks, and find someone in need and do something for him!"

So . . . if you are feeling a little stressed these days, you may find it beneficial to follow the doctor's order by participating in this year's Make-a-Difference Day!

The Social Action Committee is facilitating St. Patrick's participation in this national service event by offering parishioners the opportunity to donate items that will be used for local homeless shelters or activities. At press time, the items parishioners will be asked to donate had not yet been determined. After a list of needed items has been published in the local media, members of the Social Action Committee will choose items from the list and inform parishioners of their choices via bulletin announcements in early October.

Donated items will be accepted at all Masses the weekend of Oct. 17-18; baskets or boxes will be placed at church entrances for receipt of the items. Donations will also be accepted at the parish center during the week of Oct. 18-23.

On Make-a-Difference Day (Saturday, Oct. 24), members of the Social Action Committee will deliver donated items to the designated community collection point.

By then, based on the recommendation of Dr. Menninger, St. Patrick's parishioners should be feeling substantially de-stressed and Coffee Shop on Oct. 25 will be filled with joyful people!



Deadline for submission of information, articles, and news items for the next issue of *In Focus* is October 11.



Help Wanted!

Liturgy Committee seeks volunteer Liturgical Arts Coordinator (two-year term) to plan and coordinate "dressing" the church for liturgical events and seasons and to attend committee meetings 7-8:30 p.m., last Mondays. (Beth McDonald, 328-7603 or 337-7238)

Liturgy Committee also seeks volunteer Lector Coordinator (2-year term) to recruit and train parishioners as lectors for parish liturgies and to participate in monthly committee meetings. (Beth McDonald, 328-7603 or 337-7238)

New chairperson (two-year term) sought for Liturgy Committee, which meets 7-8:30 p.m., last Mondays. Principal responsibilities: planning and presiding at monthly meetings, preparing and monitoring committee's budget. (Beth McDonald, 328-7603 or 337-7238)

Married couples needed to help engaged couples complete the pre-marriage inventory requirement. Time requirements very flexible. Inter-faith and retired couples especially needed. (Wayne or Franne Davis, 359-6322)

If you are interested in helping out at the parish with small odd jobs like painting and yard work, call the parish office (367-2665). (Bill VanCleave, Building and Grounds Committee)

Communications Committee seeks 3-4 volunteers to page In Focus. If you can use paging software (PageMaker or QuarkXpress) and can spare a few hours 3-4 times a year, call Mary Lee Brady (344-3752) or Mary Lou Menches (344-1125).

Ads submitted by parish groups are limited to 30 words (give or take a few), including the name of the sponsoring group and the name and telephone number of a contact person.

Investing for the future

On Tuesday, Oct. 20, the Family and Personal Investment Seminar, sponsored by St. Patrick's Financial Affairs Committee, will be held in the parish center's multipurpose room from 7 to 8:15 p.m.

Facilitated by John Howard of the diocesan Stewardship Office, the seminar will touch on IRAs and Roth IRAs, wills, planning for retirement, and gift planning.

The committee may offer a daytime seminar, perhaps next spring, for seniors.

Volunteer "brick workers" needed!

If you have a few hours to give to St. Patrick's, then come and help members of the Building and Grounds Committee with their next project: replacing the brick ramp in front of the church.

"We need volunteers to help remove the old bricks and mortar and to put down the new bricks," Bill VanCleave, parish custodian, explained.

Work on the project will begin Tuesday, Oct. 6, at 4:30 p.m. and continue each evening and all day Saturday, Oct. 10. If you can help, call Bill at the parish office (367-2665) to volunteer.

Need some "glad rags"?

On Oct. 23 St. Patrick's Guild will sponsor a Style Show from Deena's of Rantoul. The event will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m. in St. Patrick's parish center. If you want to know what's "in" and what's not, if you just absolutely *need* an infusion of something new for your wardrobe, this is the place to be. Spread the word, bring a friend or two or three, and prepare for a lively evening!

ARE YOU CATHOLIC? INACTIVE? ALIENATED?

If you've parted company with the Catholic Church over

new changes, old rules
a marriage situation
hurt feelings
or any other reason

or if you know someone who wants to reconnect with a Catholic community, invite them to:

Come talk with us
at an open meeting
October 7, 1998
at 7:00 p.m.
at St. Patrick's parish center.

*The Re-Membering Church Team
of St. Patrick's Parish, Urbana*

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 and staff. By-lines are generally omitted.

Editorial board: Mary Lee Brady, 344-3752; Artha Chamberlain, 344-6645; Mary Lou Menches, 344-1125 or 244-4701 (mmenches@uiuc.edu); Frank Modica, 367-1133 (modicafr@knight.cni.k12.il.us); Cathy Salika, 367-7861 (csalika@uiuc.edu); Katharine Schröder, 344-5995; Peggy Whelan, 367-3668 (m-whelan@uiuc.edu).

Associates: Carol Bosley, Morene Christman, Mary Fonner, Julie Herman, Linda Jackson, Lori and Tom McDonough, Marty Perry, Joan Poletti, Carole Rebeiz, Lucille Salika, Marlene Shiraki.

Articles and information for this issue were contributed by Carol Bosley, Rose Brown, Morene Christman, Judy Conover, Fr. Kane, Mary Long, Lori McDonough, Mary Lou Menches, Frank Modica, Lu Pillar, Fr. Remun, Leslie Risatti, Cathy Salika, Marlene Shiraki, Joe Tobias, Bill VanCleave, Peggy Whelan, Barbara Wysocki. This issue was paged by Linda Jackson.

Parish Council News

At their September meeting Council members finalized plans for the Oct. 10 objectives workshop, which will begin at 9:00 a.m. after 8:00 a.m. Mass and a continental breakfast, and conclude at 3:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided. Committees are asked to provide objectives for review at the workshop in light of the parish's five-year goals. The workshop will be facilitated by Cindy Kelly and Tom Korder, and will include small-group sessions focusing on objectives and general discussion.

The stewardship (Time and Talent) weekend will concentrate on specific parish ministries in need in addition to the general invitation to parishioners for taking up (or continuing) participation in some aspect of ministry.

Fr. Remm updated members on the parish phase for the Catholic High School funding campaign. Kickoff for this phase is scheduled for Oct. 12 at the Krannert Center. All parishioners will be invited to the kickoff event, and afterward those with the potential to contribute \$1000 or more will be contacted personally by a volunteer. A parish support committee of volunteers will be established to solicit contributions. The campaign has raised pledges of about \$4 million so far, with the hope of reaching \$6 million by the Oct. 12 kickoff.

The Social Action Committee, following a request presented by Matthew House for a donation of \$3000 from St. Patrick's for use as seed money for a Godparent Center, engaged in a study of Matthew House, its facilities, and the program in operation, met with its staff and founder, and recommended the donation be made. The Godparent Center established in the Chicago area appears successful, and Matthew House hopes to develop a similar center in the Peoria area. Council members approved a motion to accept the committee's recommendation, but with the stipulation that Matthew House submit a written proposal that includes specifically how the money would be used and confirmation that the Godparent Center would be established within our community.

The new telephone system has been installed, and a decision was made to purchase the Ricoh copier (one of two that had been used on a trial basis by the staff) for about \$9000.



The Committee on Committees asks that committees provide an update on their charges from the Council for inclusion in the report, which is still undergoing refinement.

New parishioners will be invited to a welcoming event, a pancake breakfast, following the 9:00 Mass on Oct. 25.

The Social Action Committee has identified several items needed by local shelters and organizations and will invite parishioners to place these in large baskets provided for this purpose in the church on Oct. 24-25.

For parishioners who want more complete information about issues discussed at Council meetings, minutes of the preceding meeting are posted in the church vestibule and on the bulletin board in the office wing of the parish center. The next Council meeting will begin at 7 p.m. on Oct. 15. All parishioners are welcome to attend these open parish meetings.



in our parish library

The Parish of the Next Millennium by William J. Bausch

William J. Bausch has authored several books on parish life that are pastorally and theologically sound, practical, and easy to read. This book is no exception.

In the first two parts of *The Parish of the Next Millennium*, Bausch discusses the current social problems facing the Church (violence, poverty, family breakdown, etc.) and several significant harbingers of hope on which to build the future (the millions of people trying to live out their faith each day, volunteer programs in higher education, the manifest spiritual hunger among all types of people).

In the rest of the book he considers the kingly, priestly, and prophetic functions of the Church and how to keep these in proper balance.

The author asks himself what the parish of the future might look like, what will be its guiding spirit. In answer, he presents 12 conclusions. The parish of the next millennium, he proposes, will be lay oriented and one of shared and collaborative ministry. It will be grounded in baptism and charism. It will be relationally rather than numerically or institutionally defined.

Bausch includes introductory focus questions to help the reader bring personal concerns into dialog with the contents. He also presents discussion and planning questions to facilitate use by small groups.

Four New Coordinators Ready for the Coming Year

With the beginning of the catechetical new year, we would like to introduce and recognize four new coordinators currently involved in St. Patrick's religious education ministry under the direction of Carolyn McElrath, Director of Religious Education. They come from different walks of life, near and far, to contribute their skills and efforts in doing what they can to serve the parish community.



Mary Tierney has been a volunteer teacher at St. Patrick's since she moved back to Urbana from New York twelve years ago. Now, as Family Life Coordinator, she's looking forward to the increasing challenges and possibilities she'll be facing this year. "I'm extremely excited and thrilled to be a part of something I've felt called to do for a long time," Mary said. "I have three kids myself (Jean, 19, Claire, 18, and Aidan, 13), and I know what it's like to be married and not married, so I have more of a global outlook. They were lucky enough to be brought up in this church, and I'd like to share with other people the joy that I've found in this parish." The Family Life Program encompasses Pre-Marriage preparation, Pre-Baptism preparation for parents, Parents Cooperative Nursery, and a variety of family support groups.



Frances Drone-Silvers, Parish Library Coordinator, decided to utilize her background in library and information science when she applied for the position. She says, "We've gotten a lot from the parish and I felt it was time to give back. My daughter (five-year old Claire) has just started kindergarten, so I have time to get more involved." Frances is responsible for organizing and selecting library materials and promoting its usage to those who would benefit from its wide array of books and subscription magazines.



Junior High School Program coordinators, Mark and Diane Cousert from St. Joseph, both enjoy working with children. Now that their own (Lyndsay, 21, and Megan, 18) are attending college, they want to do something together and also get involved with the youth in the community as a means of actively assisting the parish. Says Mark, "We feel that we're giving the junior high youth group a good foundation. It's a challenge to keep the Catholic faith meaningful for this age group, and we have to come up with creative things to keep up their interest in the Church." They are responsible for coordinating and supporting the volunteer teachers and the curriculum for the junior-high program.



Deborah Riley, Senior High School Program Coordinator, moved here with her husband, Jeff, about a year ago from Indianapolis, where she was a youth minister at her former parish. She believes she is doing God's work by taking part in St. Patrick's religious education program. "I'm trying to make my journey according to God's plan, and I feel really good about that." She adds, "This year we're planning to add a teen liturgy and get the kids to actually participate in terms of the readings and the music. Our goal is to get them more active, even by speaking in youth meetings."

Volunteers are always welcome to assist with the religious education program offered at St. Patrick's. For more information, refer to the "Who and What Is St. Patrick's?" pamphlet or call Carolyn McElrath (367-2665).

Lunching with God

The following little story was sent to me by a friend; it brightened my day. It has come to mind several times since, as I go about the daily routine of my life, and has added value to my encounters with others in the course of the day. I hope it does the same for you.

There once was a little boy who wanted to meet God. He knew it was a long trip to where God lived, so he packed his suitcase with Twinkies and a six-pack of root beer, and he started his journey.



When he had gone about three blocks, he met an old woman. She was sitting in the park, staring at some pigeons. The boy sat down next to her and opened his suitcase. He was about to take a drink from his root beer when he noticed that the old lady looked hungry, so he offered her a Twinkie. She gratefully accepted it and smiled at him. Her smile was so pretty that the boy wanted to see it again, so he offered her a root beer. Once again, she smiled at him. The boy was delighted. They sat there all afternoon, eating and smiling, yet they never said a word.

As it grew dark, the boy realized how tired he was and he got up to leave. Before he had gone more than a few steps, he turned around, ran back to the old woman, and gave her a hug. She gave him her biggest smile ever. When the boy opened the door to his own home a short time later, his mother was surprised by the look of joy on his face.

She asked him, "What did you do today that made you so happy?"

He replied, "I had lunch with God." Before his mother could respond, he added, "You know what? She's got the most beautiful smile I've ever seen!"

Meanwhile the old woman, also radiant with joy, returned to her home. Her son was stunned by the look of peace on her face, and he asked, "Mother, what did you do today that made you so happy?"

Continued on next page

She replied, "I ate Twinkies in the park with God." Before her son could respond, she added, "You know, he's much younger than I expected."

Yesterday, I too had lunch in the park with God. Not Twinkies, but a juicy peach. Not root beer, but cool water. When I returned to the office, someone asked me what had happened that made me look so happy. I was less ingenuous than the little boy of this story; I simply said I'd met a friend and shared a peach.

—MLM

When we share our faith stories, we are changed; those listening to us are changed as well. 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. Names will be withheld on request.

Parish Wish List

The parish wish list is intended to present to parishioners a list of items that, although not included in the parish budget, might be acquired through earmarked donations. Such items in the past have included the patio and benches on the east side of the church and coat racks used for large gatherings in the parish center.

Items on the wish list are not absolutely essential to the running of the parish, but they open new opportunities for enriching the spiritual or community life of the parish for helping parish organizations do their work more effectively.

The Archives Committee has requested that the following items be placed on the parish wish list:

- Funds to duplicate and preserve the blueprints for the church. St. Patrick's has only one copy now, and it is getting worn. The committee is looking into options and costs.
- A fireproof file cabinet for the parish archives, at \$800.

Fr. Remm will be happy to discuss the purpose of the wish list with interested parishioners or to answer questions about items on it. Donations in any amount will be gratefully received; it is not necessary to contribute the whole amount for any item.

An Evangelization Minute from Mary Long

Evangelization means bringing the Good News of Jesus Christ into our everyday lives. The resulting benefit of evangelization is changed lives because of hearing and responding to the Good News.

What is this Good News we're supposed to share?

The Good News of Jesus Christ was really opened up for me about ten years ago when a friend invited me to join a Bible study group in my neighborhood. Our group was made up of non-Catholic Christians, a new experience for me, but our common ground was Sacred Scripture, God's Word.

Of course, growing up Catholic I heard Scripture at Mass and at the parochial school I attended. But it wasn't until I opened the Bible for myself, to study, to absorb God's word and open myself to how this applies to me, that my life was transformed.

Now, when standing amid the beauty of nature, Psalm 8 springs quickly to mind: "O Lord, our Lord, how glorious is your name over all the earth!"

When feeling overwhelmed by the things of this world, I remember the end of Romans 8: "If God is for us, who can be against us?" For nothing can "separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

In preparing to serve this parish in many ways, and now as Evangelization Coordinator, I remember that as he washed the disciples' feet, in John 13, Jesus instructed his followers: "I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do."

As God expanded my horizons of understanding, he gave me an enthusiasm to share his Word with others, so I became a Bible study leader and invited my friends to come break open the Word of God. Dreaming with God about what the next step was, I was led, with my friend Margy, to start

Bible study groups here at St. Pat's, and we have watched with amazement as the original group became ten groups as other lives were transformed and they caught the vision of inviting others.

Studying the Bible has enriched my appreciation for the Sunday Scripture readings during Mass and given me new insights into our rich, Catholic tradition. God has given me such an enthusiasm for my faith that I want to share it with others. That is evangelization.

We are all called to evangelize and share the Good News of salvation in Jesus Christ. We do this by "a life touching a life." When we reach out to invite someone to Bible study, we are being ambassadors for Christ, as if God were appealing through us. We invite you all to join one of our Bible study groups this fall

to explore "The Teachings of Jesus Christ." We need leaders with an enthusiasm to join in the mission of spreading God's Word, and we welcome everyone to explore Scripture with us as we grow in fellowship, pray together, and reach out to others.

In the Gospel message today (Luke 11:9), Jesus teaches his disciples to pray and that there is power in prayer:

"Ask and you will receive...

"Seek and you will find...

"Knock and the door will be opened to you."

We are assured by Jesus that our Father in heaven desires only the best for us.

All evangelizing action proceeds from prayer—both personal and communal. So I ask you to join with me in calling upon the power of heaven to bring renewal and new life to us all and into our parish community of St. Pat's. We know our Father will be delighted by our asking for that which he wants more than anything to give us—changed lives and a transformed world.



St. Patrick's Parish Goals, 1998-2003

Following is a statement of the parish 5-year goals for 1998-2003 that were developed during an open-parish meeting of fifty or so interested parishioners in Nov. 1997 and adopted by the Parish Council in December. These goals reflect participants' prayerful and earnest hopes for the future of the parish as we move into the next millennium. It is the responsibility of every parish group annually to set measurable objectives designed to move the parish toward achievement of these goals. All parishioners are invited to participate in the formulation of objectives, whether as members of parish groups or as individuals. If unable to participate in the objectives workshop on Oct. 10, present your suggestions to any Council member or to Council president Cindy Kelly.

Centennial: To ensure involvement of all groups of parishioners in planning and celebrating the St. Patrick's Centennial.

Communication: To improve and develop methods and programs that inform parishioners of activities and opportunities and provide for their involvement and response.

Community: Conscious of our baptismal call and a continuing need for conversion, to renew our commitment to Jesus Christ in a diverse faith community and encourage unity and transformation of society through Christian service.

Facilities Planning: To develop a ten-year strategic plan that assesses the demographic projections, physical plant, and community needs.

Liturgy: To evoke the richness of the liturgical form of our celebration of the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist in all its elements.

Religious Education: To improve and develop effective programs, opportunities, and resources that increase participation in religious education for children, youth, adults, families, and ministries.

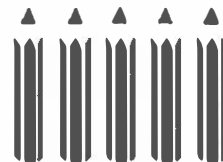
Social Justice: To provide opportunities for parishioners to become involved in identifying social concerns and to study them within the context of Christian teachings and values, guiding parishioners to development of an intelligent position and enabling them to plan and take action.

Volunteer Ministry: To create an environment of stewardship where more parishioners serve God and their community, realizing personal spiritual growth, and to develop provisions for a balance between continuity and the inclusion of new membership and ideas in parish groups and activities.

Witness: To create a climate that reflects Christ's image and encourages individuals to be God's ministers in their personal and communal lives.

Youth: To promote youth participation in evaluating and directing their activities and programs and those of the greater parish.

Holy Cross newsline



Staff Update: Martina Miranda-Lugo has been hired to teach seventh- and eighth-grade Spanish.

Kathy Beiser, second-grade teacher, was in a minor accident Sept. 10. Taken to Carle, she was found to have a brain tumor and has undergone two surgeries. She remains in ICU and is responding well, although she has lost sight in one eye. Please keep her and her family in your prayers.

Pat Merle has taken Kathy Beiser's second-grade class.

Special Programs: A prayer group has been formed to pray for the youth in our community. The group will meet from 1:45 to 2:15 p.m. on the first Monday of each month in Holy Cross church. All are welcome.

Positive Peer Culture curriculum has been started to enhance the theme "Peaceable Kingdom." Students and teachers will learn more about themselves and other students by learning to respect themselves and others.

Eighth-graders will be introduced to the Snow Flake program and "Challenge Obstacle Course" designed to teach students conflict resolution, problem solving, and cooperation.

On Oct. 2 Respect Life Month will be marked by an all-school Mass. Each student is asked to make a donation of a penny (or more) for each year of his or her life.

For Make-a-Difference Day, Oct. 24, students will collect tubes of toothpaste, hoping to reach their goal of 350 tubes.

Construction Update: Construction continues on schedule. A new fire alarm system and public address system have been installed. Air conditioning units have been installed in all classrooms on the east and south sides of the school building.



Q: What are all the crosses about that are made before the Gospel?

A: There are several "externals" used within the liturgy that should be explained and understood so that we don't just make empty gestures.

1. The crosses. The triple sign of the cross made by the priest before proclaiming the Gospel, or when he blesses a deacon who is to proclaim it, is made with the prayer "May the Lord be on my heart and on my lips that I may worthily and fittingly proclaim his holy Gospel, in the name of the Father and of the Son ..." People in the assembly make this triple sign of the cross—on forehead, lips, and breast, praying "May the Lord be in my mind, on my lips, and in my heart." It symbolizes, then, our desire to assimilate Christ into our lives.

2. Genuflection. People everywhere are, sadly, getting away from the use of this gesture. We touch our knee to the floor (or make a profound bow) as we enter a church to acknowledge that it is a special place, that God is present here in a special, sacramental way, that we believe he, the divine Lord of all life, is with us. Not just "hello" are we saying, but "I believe," "I worship," "You are here and here am I." Obviously we should make this gesture with great reverence.

3. Altar. The use of the altar as a place of worship is not just out of our Jewish heritage but as the place of atonement, thanks, penance, joy, petition, communication with God. People of all ages, forms of worship (Aztecs, Buddhists, pagans, etc.) turn to an altar to say "We are yours," "Forgive us," "You are our Lord," "Help us." And so we kiss it, incense it, adorn it, put our gifts upon it, eat at it.

4. Sign of Peace. This simple gesture really speaks for itself. Just as in any meeting with others, we exchange greetings and handshakes, so we pray that the peace of Christ may be with those around us—far more than a simple "hello." It is a sign of the faith that tells us we are all brothers and sisters, children of God, members of Christ and one another. Again, this is a symbol from our Jewish roots: "Shalom" was the word, "Peace to all who enter here" the inscription put on the doors and touched by all who entered. Merely externals, these speak the unspeakable for us, or we make of them what we want.

—G. K.

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

Let us be very sincere in our dealings with each other and have the courage to accept each other as we are. Do not be surprised or become preoccupied at each other's failures—rather, see and find in each other the good, for each one of us is created in the image of God.

—Mother Teresa

No potholes!

Parishioners won't have to dodge potholes anymore behind the church and parking lot after the repaving that was recently completed in the alley. The City of Urbana, Carle Foundation Hospital, and St. Patrick's split the cost for the work. Thank you, City of Urbana, Carle Hospital, and St. Patrick's Building and Grounds Committee!

Do you recognize this alley?



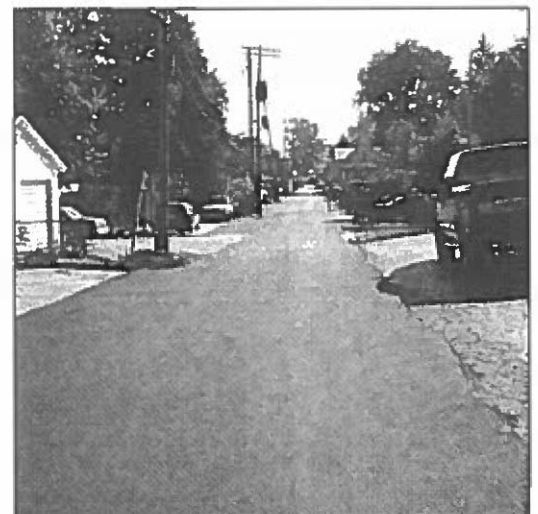
As members of St. Patrick's Archives Committee research the history of the parish, they find that quite a few of our people have gone on to "fame and fortune" or have had a major impact on our lives because of their work. As an example, consider the ways in which these people have excelled:

Don Bitzer, in the computer world
Nick Britsky, for his art
Roger Ebert, movie critic
Susan Nagele, for her missionary work in Africa

Penny Patterson, for her work in sign language with Koko, the gorilla
Constantin Rebeiz, for his research into how plants become green

Roger, Susan, and Penny grew up in St. Patrick's Parish. Many others, whether here as children or as students or teachers at the University, should also be included in such a list.

If you can add names to the list, please let the committee know. They'd like to compile this information for inclusion in the parish history book to be published during the Centennial celebration. You can drop them a note in the the committee's or Judy Conover's mailbox in the parish center, or call Judy (367-2109) with your information.



Project Rachel: "Healing the Wounds"

In September St. Patrick's Parish began a spiritual and informational program entitled "Healing the Wounds." The purpose of "Healing the Wounds" is to share the Good News of hope, healing, and reconciliation with anyone affected by abortion; to generate prayer for the spiritual and psychological healing of women and men wounded by abortion; and to inform the general public of the physical, psychological, spiritual, and social wounds caused by abortion.

The first of seven informational fliers regarding the harmful effects of abortion appeared in our parish bulletin on Sept. 20. The others will be distributed on the third or fourth Sunday of the following months.

With roughly 35 million abortions performed in the U.S. since 1973, there are many hurting women and men who need our prayers to seek the spiritual and psychological healing that is available to them. Please read these fliers and share them with others. Make this simple commitment for the cause of life.

Project Rachel material has been prepared by the Diocesan Office of Family Life, Peoria.

Be kind to your little children,
Lord. Be a gentle teacher, patient with
our weakness and stupidity. And give
us the strength and discernment to do
what you tell us, and so grow in your
likeness.

—Clement of Alexandria



*Quick fixin's from the
kitchen of . . . Rose Brown*

Fat-Free Apple Crisp

6 flavorful apples (e.g., Jonathon, Granny Smith), peeled, cored, and thinly sliced

1/2 c apple butter

2 c grape-nut cereal

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Toss apples with apple butter. Place in 9 x 13 x 2 baking pan. Scatter cereal evenly over surface. Bake for 1 hour. Serve warm or at room temperature. If desired, top with fat-free vanilla ice cream or yogurt.

What kids say to God

Dear God, I want to be just like my Daddy when I get big but not with so much hair all over.

Sam

Dear God, I think the stapler is one of your greatest inventions.

Ruth M.

Dear God, I bet it is very hard for You to love all of everybody in the whole world. There are only 4 people in our family and I can never do it.

Nan

—From an e-mail correspondent

From Religious Leaders for Community Care The C-U Good News

The third annual Racial Reconciliation Conference, "Commitment to Grace," will be held on Saturday, Oct. 3, at New Hope Church of God in Christ (911 W. Bradley). The day's agenda includes workshops, a panel discussion, and prayer services. Participants will also hear presentations given by Glen Kehrein, of Chicago's Circle Ministries, and John Perkins, founder of the Christian Community Development Association. The day begins with registration at 8 a.m. and concludes at 9 p.m. Cost: \$25 per person, or \$20 each for 5 or more.


Church Women United will observe World Community Day on Friday, Nov. 6, at First United Methodist (304 S. Race). Theme for the day: "The World within Our Neighborhoods." Assisting churches: Faith United Methodist, Morningstar Free Will Baptist, and St. Matthew's Catholic. Participants are asked to donate items for the International Hospitality Committee's storeroom for foreign students; especially needed are pots, pans, towels, toys, cooking utensils. Child care provided.

Interracial Study Circles in Champaign are being organized by Denise Kennedy-Bell, Assistant to the City Manager for Community Relations. The planning committee is arranging pilot groups to meet for 6 weeks this fall, facilitated by already trained discussion leaders. They plan to launch community-wide study circles in January. Call 351-4455 for



October, 1998

St. Patrick's Parish, Urbana

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">  <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. Deadline for the next issue is October 11.</p> </div>				7:30pm Bldg & Grounds Com	10:45am Mass CCNH	
				1	2	3
9:00 & 11:00am Children's Rel Ed 10:15am Children's Liturgy 6:30-8:00pm Jr & Sr High Youth Group 6:30pm Leaders Bible Study	7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:00pm Educator Com 7:00pm Finding God in Daily Work	9:00am Bible Study 7:00pm Financial Affairs Com	9:00am Mothers Grp 5:00pm SVDP 5:15pm Children's Choir 6:00pm Rel Ed, Urb 6:30pm Rel Ed, St Joseph 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm RCIA	3:45pm Handbell Choir 7:00pm Baptism Prep 7:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm Knights of Columbus	10:30am Mass Care Center 10:45am Mass CCNH	9:00am - 3:00pm Objectives Workshop
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9:00 & 11:00am Children's Rel Ed 10:15am Children's Liturgy 6:30-8:00pm Jr & Sr High Youth Group 6:30pm Leaders Bible Study	7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:00pm Finding God in Daily Work	9:00am Bible Study 7:00pm Parish Council Exec. Com	9:30am Funeral Schola 5:00pm SVDP 5:15pm Children's Choir 6:00pm Rel Ed, Urb 6:30pm Rel Ed, St J 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm ProLife Com 7:00pm RCIA	3:45pm Handbell Choir 7:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir	10:30am Mass Clark Lindsey 10:45am Mass CCNH	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
9:00 & 11:00am Children's Rel Ed 10:15am Children's Liturgy 6:30-8:00pm Jr & Sr High Youth Group 6:30pm Leaders Bible Study	7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:00pm Finding God in Daily Work	9:00am Bible Study 7-8:15pm pm Family & Personal Investment Seminar 7:00pm Over 21 Club	9:00am Mothers Grp 5:00pm SVDP 5:15pm Children's Choir 6:00pm Rel Ed, Urb 6:30pm Rel Ed, St Joseph 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm RCIA	3:45pm Handbell Choir 7:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm Parish Council Meeting	10:30am Mass Care Center 10:45am Mass CCNH 6:30pm Guild Style Show	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
5:30pm Jr & Sr High Liturgy 6:30pm Leaders Bible Study	9:30am Archives 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:00pm Finding God in Daily Work 7:00pm Liturgy Com	9:00am Bible Study 7:00pm Homily Prep	9:30am Funeral Schola 5:00pm SVDP 7:00pm RCIA	7:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm Communication Com	10:45am Mass CCNH	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

SVDP- St. Vincent DePaul
Rel Ed- Religious Education
CCNH- Champaign County Nursing Home