

ST. PATRICK'S PARISH

# In Focus



## *Advent, the Season of Waiting*

Autumn. Everything around us reminds us that this is a time of letting go, of falling, of vulnerability before the natural ebb of life. But even in the dying, in the letting go, we sense anticipation. From the cold and dark of the coming winter something ever new will burst upon us—the Christ-birth, the coming of the child who heralds new life in the midst of our gray waiting.

In the silence of our hearts we are comforted. Surrounded by threats of wars and famines, distressed by poverty, prejudice, and inequity, unsettled by rumors of global eco-

nomie and ecological collapse, we are comforted.

It is the time. A star will shine in the darkness. There will be music. There will be light. We will hear the words "Do not be afraid." There will come fresh new hope.

This hope will be born in a mess and into a mess. It will come about in a dark corner of our world. It will slip into our reality almost unnoticed. And we trembling, insecure children of God will stir from our fears and tears with the renewed assurance that from generation to generation God will never leave us orphans.



We will remember, perhaps, that God never has left us. We will remember, perhaps, reflecting on God's promise, that God's light comes not from outside but from within. It is from our small darkness that God's light shines. The star that rises above

*continued on page 6*

## Dialogue into the Millennium *Globalization and Catholic Social Teaching*

On Dec. 1 Rev. J. Bryan Hehir of the Harvard Divinity School will address the important topic "Globalization and Catholic Social Teaching." He will seek to locate the globalization debate in the context of contemporary international politics, examine the resources the Catholic Church brings to the wider debate, and assess where development may occur in Catholic social teaching in light of the challenge posed by globalization.

Rev. Hehir is superbly qualified to lead us through this complex topic. He served as a counselor for social policy for the U.S. Catholic Conference from 1988 through 1992, and earlier served as director of its Office of International Justice and Peace and as secretary for its Department of Social Development and World Peace. He is currently a



counselor for Catholic Relief Services.

A widely recognized scholar, Rev.

Hehir has contributed chapters to many books and written articles for encyclopedias and a wide range of journals. He earned a Th.D. in Applied Theology from Harvard University in 1977 and is the recipient of 25 honorary degrees as well. A Professor of

the Practice in Religion and Society, last year he was named head of the Harvard Divinity School, the first Catholic to hold this position.

The evening's discussion will begin at 7:30 p.m. in St. Patrick's parish hall and will conclude with a reception. The evening will also include a tribute to Sr. Marie Golla, who conceived of the lecture series and obtained grants to support it.

Everyone is warmly invited to this, the last but one, presentation in the "Dialogue into the Millennium" lecture series on the threshold of Advent.

## *Ho! Ho! Ho!*

Children and their parents can lunch with Santa at St. Patrick's this year on Sunday, Dec. 10, from noon to 2 p.m. in the main hall of the parish center.

Along with lunch there will be crafts and a visit and photo opportunity with Jolly Ol' St. Nicholas himself.

Tickets (\$5 for children, \$3 for adults) will be available at coffee shop beginning Sunday, Nov. 25, or at the parish office during the week.

Don't miss an afternoon of fun when Santa comes to town!



## K.C. "Walkers and Hawkers" to Assist at Guild's Christmas Expo

St. Patrick's Guild will sponsor its annual Christmas Expo on Sunday, Dec. 3, from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Homemade fruit cakes will be featured at the sweets table, as well as a table of gifts and ornaments. An auction (10:30 a.m.) will feature specialty gift baskets open for inspection and cellophane-wrapped upon request. Also for sale will be handcrafted stationery. CREW members will be selling their cookbooks and t-shirts and will gift-wrap as a fund raiser.

Three gift certificates for Shirley Splittstoesser's famous lemon pies will be auctioned. The pies can be



scheduled for pickup anytime up to Rose Bowl week (Shirley and Walter expect to be cheering on Purdue in Pasadena at that time). Betty "Julia Child" Conerty is donating her special homemade rolls.

Newly elected Champaign County board member Steve "The Barker" Beckett will be in charge of the auction. (One hot item is a silver Christmas tree with silver ornaments.) Santa's elves, the Knights of Columbus "Walkers and Hawkers," will be available to assist shoppers and ensure a happy Yuletide experience for all.

If you plan to donate baked goods or auction items, please call the parish office (367-2665) to indicate what you are bringing. And come to shop!

## "It Was an Encounter with the Lord"

"It was an unbelievable joy to get back to confession after being away for so long. I had a real rough time with confession as a child, and I had avoided it all these years. I was amazed at how it had changed—that face-to-face experience was really an encounter with the Lord."

These sentiments are common to many of the men and women who have returned to the Sacrament of Reconciliation at St. Patrick's through the Reconciliation program for children. Parents, through the accompanying adult component of the program and through working with their children on lessons at home, are themselves formed, shaped, and more deeply disposed toward reception of this sacrament.

When parents and even entire families are involved in helping to prepare the child for First Reconciliation, the child truly comes to realize the importance of this sacrament. It's not just one more thing to learn. The child's whole being—spiritually, emotionally, affectively—is prepared to welcome God's forgiveness.

St. Patrick's process of formation for First Reconciliation takes place during the month of November on Tuesday evenings. While the children are in class, parents have sessions taught by Fr. Remm and

Carolyn McElrath, Director of Religious Education, focusing on a deeper understanding of sin and morality and on a deeper understanding of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Reflection and sharing questions help parents to get in touch with where God is at work in their lives and with the realities of sin and grace in their lives. Role modeling helps both parents and their children feel more comfortable with the sacrament.

On Dec. 5, the first Tuesday of December, the sacrament will be celebrated in the church from 6 until 8 p.m. Sufficient priests will be available so that older siblings and parents may also participate in the sacrament. To assist parents in bringing their families to the sacrament without concern over meal preparation, a meal is provided in the parish center following the sacrament.



Welcome to new parishioners Christopher and Sarah Aulbach, Beth Gatsche, Beth Ann Kieler, Sara Klinzing, Charles Matz, Cynthia Morgan, Dian Strutz, Gregory and Helen Timp, Bridget Trogden.

Farewell to these parishioners, who have moved from C-U: Earlene Barnes, Blanche and Fred Bayer, Annabelle Betenia, Charlotte and Frank Chouard, David and Linda Oliveira.

Welcome to the following baptized into our faith community: Tanner Joseph Francisco, Matthew Zachary Morgan, Emily Schlueter.

Congratulations to these couples, married at St. Patrick's: Kristin Jill Smyrmiotis and Brian Michael Westendorf, Kathryn Anne Smith and Michael James Graham.

Please pray for deceased parishioner Mary Ann Arenas.

## An Ancient Rite Restored

"The Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens—what a mouthful. Sounds like some kind of club, or fraternity."

Actually, the Rite of Acceptance is the Church's way of welcoming persons who have been inquiring into Catholicism into deeper communion with the Church, a way of saying that those who will become catechumens will belong now, in a real and visible way, to the Church. The Rites book tells us that "Mother Church now embraces these men and women as her very own." They are now part of the "order"

of the Church, official "learners and seekers in the Church." The Second Vatican Council documents on the Church tell us that the Church is the "people of God, hierarchically assembled/ordered." Priests are an order in the Church, as are laity—and as are catechumens.

When Inquirers become catechumens on the First Sunday of Advent, at the beginning of a new Church year, they immerse themselves more deeply in our Catholic Christian way of life. They will now receive parish sponsors, men and women who will accompany them in their journey and help them to come

to feel a sense of oneness with our Catholic faith and practice. This process represents a restoration of ancient



Christian practice, when the whole Church—and in a special way, parish sponsors—helped to guide and form catechumens toward Easter.

For a long time this ancient practice was lost; many men and women joined the Catholic Church by taking individual instruction from a priest in order to become Catholic. Unfortunately, the priest was often the only person in the parish that the convert knew. When the priest was reassigned to another parish, converts were left in a parish without always receiving much support in their faith journey from other parishioners.

The restoration of this rite not only provides a whole community of support for the catechumens in their journey of faith, but it can reawaken in all the people of the parish a greater awareness and recognition of the great gift of their own baptism, and of the responsibilities coming from that baptism to evangelize, to share the precious gift of faith with others, and to deepen knowledge of one's own faith.

## You'll Recognize John of Damascus

(or at least some of his hymns!)

St. John Damascene takes his name from his home, Damascus, in modern Syria. At the time of his birth, around the year 690, Damascus was ruled by Muslims, but both Jews and Christians were able to hold positions at the court.

John's father was head of the

revenue department, a post which John could have inherited. He gave John the best of educations, covering all branches of knowledge, grammar, logic, the sciences, theology, poetry, and music. John served in public office for several years, but then he and his tutor, Cosmas, left to become monks at St. Sabas, near Jerusalem.

The brothers found John and Cosmas to be disruptive because they wrote books on the controversial theological topics of the day and, worse yet, because they wrote and sang hymns. One issue of the day was whether it was appropriate for Christians to venerate images. The Jews and the Muslims did not make images of God because God is too great to be limited by physical form, but some Christians felt that images of Christ were an affirmation of both his humanity and his divinity. John argued in favor of the icons.

The patriarch of Jerusalem recognized their worth. Cosmas was made a bishop, and John was ordained and brought to Jerusalem. John soon returned to the monastery, where he spent the rest of his life writing theology and poetry. Many of his hymns are still in use in the Eastern Church, and two of them are included in our Worship hymnal: "Come ye faithful, raise the strain" (#456) and "Come and let us drink of that new river" (#723). Take a look at these on Dec. 4, the day we honor St. John Damascene.

## Is This the Last Issue of In Focus?



Well, it might have been, but for the generosity of one of our staff members, who agreed to take on editorial responsibility for

the parish newsletter. But ... the search for a volunteer editor continues.

If you can (1) participate in the Communications Committee's monthly planning sessions, (2) assemble writings submitted on paper, on disk, and via e-mail into a single file for the volunteer who pages the issue, and (3) select appropriate illustrations from available resources—then please don't hold back.

Mary Lou Menches (344-1125) will be happy to answer questions or work with you to get you started. Call now to volunteer!

## 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.

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## in our parish library

It's only a few days after Halloween and already Christmas decorations are going up in the stores. It's so easy for us to get caught up in the holiday hurry and hustle that Christmas may come and go without touching us deeply. How do we, as Christians, make Christmas holy? Advent is a great gift, because it gives us time to prepare inwardly, to "make the path straight" for the coming of Christ at Christmas.

We can prepare for Christmas by daily readings, by listening to music, or by finding ways to simplify our holiday so that our focus is on Christ. The following books are just a few of the selections available in the library that may be a help.

*Night Visions: searching the shadows of Advent and Christmas*, by Jan L. Richardson (263.1 Ric) Here are brief meditations for each day of the Christmas season (Advent through Epiphany). Each week has a theme: darkness, desire, preparing a space, hope, birthing, welcoming, thresholds. The illustrations themselves (paper collages) are beautiful and could serve as a form of meditation.

*You can Choose Christmas*, by Clyde Reid (263.1 Rei) This is a book about Christmas for adults. The short chapters are about the joy and sadness of Christmas, about giving and receiving gifts, about the coming of the Light of Christ into our world. The story on page 67 is especially lovely.

For families:

*Advent Begins at Home: Family Prayers and Activities*, by David Polek and Rita Anderhub (263.1 Pol) You may like this one so much that you'll want to buy a copy for your family. It has short, simple prayers that can be used with small children, and a number of activities for helping capture the spirit of Advent in an everyday way. The recipes and crafts are simple, and the suggestions are workable.

*The Jesse Tree*, by Marlene Kondrady (263.1 Kon) Have you heard of a Jesse Tree? The Jesse Tree contains symbols of Bible stories that prophesy the coming of the Messiah. It can help us remember that each event or person's way of living adds something special to Jesus' coming. This book explains

the symbols and includes pages you can copy (or use for inspiration to make your own).

On the shelf with the Advent books, you'll find tapes of Advent and Christmas music by Marty Haugen, the St. Louis Jesuits, and others. Try listening to these as you drive, or during meals, to add a special difference to the Advent season.

If you are looking for ways to simplify the secular aspects of Christmas so you can focus on its spiritual aspects, try these Web sites:

<http://www.simpleliving.net/slj/>  
This is the Web site for *Simple living: the journal of voluntary simplicity*. Click on "Newsletter archives" to get to the November/December issues from previous years.

<http://www.google.com> Try searching on the phrase "simple Christmas."

*If you have trouble locating books or other materials in the library, or want to know whether the library has something on a subject of interest to you, please call Frances Drone-Silvers (398-1458), parish library coordinator. She will be pleased to help.*

## Prayer for vocations



Loving Jesus, you walked the streets of Palestine spreading the word of forgiveness and peace. You cured many and taught them the secrets of God's kingdom. Most of all you gave your life, offering yourself on the cross, and called us to continue your mission on earth.

Enkindle in us the fire of your zeal. Give us a heart ready to see, to listen and joyfully respond to the needs of others.

Let our hearts burn with the fire of your love, and help us to see your face in all of them.

Let our hands, like yours, reach out to them.

Grant us to be one with you so that, through our daily work, we may build your kingdom of freedom and love.



**Q:** How do you keep the celebration of Christmas simple?

**A:** Basically, celebrate as Mary and Joseph did: *put Jesus at the center of your celebration and life*—the Jesus of daily Scripture; the Jesus of daily Eucharist; the Jesus of our daily relationships; the Jesus within our hearts. Daily ... daily ... daily.

Put the Advent wreath on the dinner table, the Christmas tree in the living room, the crib at the center of the home. And use them every day. (I've used the same four candles for ten years in my Advent wreath.)

Let gift giving be simplified by drawing names instead of giving a gift to each person. Give simple gifts rather than choice items, and use a sense of humor when shopping.

Pray... responding to daily Scripture readings, ... repeating mantras (e.g., "Come, Lord Jesus"), ... renewing morning and evening prayer in your own way, ... contemplating the mysteries of the Rosary daily, ... making your own novena of part or all of these.

Fr. Gene Kane

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

## I Learned Something of God

I read this story in *America* magazine and it really made me think. I want to share it with you because it seems so appropriate for Advent and Christmas, a time of gift and grace.

"As we rounded a corner in our jeep [the writer was in Kosovo], I spied a boy walking home from school with his head down. He never even turned to look and see who was coming up behind him. He had sandy blond hair, and as we slowed to pass him, I thought his expression was dour. I whistled to him and he looked up, just in time for me to toss him a fistful of sweets, which he scooped from the air.

"His expression immediately went from disbelief to elation. He could not believe his good fortune. He waved and beamed a smile at me that I can still see. Pure, unadulterated gratitude. He shouted something I could barely hear and wouldn't have understood, but I suspect it meant 'thanks!'

"Later, as I prayed about the expression on that boy's face, I realized that he had taught me much about God's grace and our needed acceptance of that grace. Like us, he was going along, thinking that



nothing new or different or good was going to happen that day. Then, out of nowhere, goodness rained down upon him—unlooked for, unhopd for, unearnable, just a gift freely given, beyond price and beyond the means of the recipient. The only thing he could do was

accept it for what it was, be grateful, and move on."

That is just what I need to do: be stunned by the explosion of God into my everyday life. Accept the

gift of grace, use it for the purpose for which it was given, and be grateful for it. The writer said he learned something of God from the children he met in Kosovo. So did I.

Mary Lou Menches

*When we share our faith stories, we are changed, and those we share them with are changed as well. Do you have a story to share? Send it to the Communications Committee, c/o St. Patrick's, or drop it off at the parish office. Be sure to include your name and telephone number, although names will be withheld on request.*

## Seminarians Plan Pilgrimage of Thanksgiving

Through prayer parishioners can support Bishop Myers and the seminarians of the Diocese of Peoria in their pilgrimage of thanksgiving for vocations.

On Dec. 26 Bishop Myers and the nearly 40 seminarians depart for France, where they will travel to Lisieux, Alencon, and other places special to the life of St. Therese of the Child Jesus, patron of seminarians and newest Doctor of the Church.

The focus of the pilgrimage is "to grow closer to our friends the saints, to grow in love for each other, our bishop, and the Church," said Fr. Joe Donton, diocesan director of vocations. Besides spending several days with St. Therese, "the Little Flower," the group will travel to Paris to visit

## The Christmas Candle

*Across the driveway,  
Every night,  
I see my neighbor's  
Candle bright.*

*I wonder if she  
Really knows  
How far her candle  
Shines and glows.*

*For me it is a  
Lovely sight  
When I'm alone to  
See that light.*

*So, little candle,  
Don't you see,  
You warm the hearts of  
Her and me.*

By Dorothy Mueller,  
sister of Artha Chamberlain

shrines of St. Vincent de Paul and St. Catherine Laboure. They also hope to celebrate Mass with Cardinal Lustiger, Archbishop of Paris, at Notre Dame Cathedral.

They will also visit Rimont, motherhouse of the Community of Saint John, and Ars, the town of St. John Vianney, patron of parish priests. The pilgrimage will end in Rome, where the group hopes to join the Holy Father when he closes the Holy Doors at St. Peter's Basilica on Jan. 6 in a ceremony that concludes the Jubilee Year.

St. Patrick's Vocation Committee encourages parishioners to remember the seminarians in prayer each day of the trip. Information on how you can participate is available at the parish office. Each participant will receive from the diocese the name of a seminarian and a booklet of prayers to offer daily for him.

### Good Things Happening . . . December at St. Patrick's

- 1 Millennium Dialogue: Rev. J. Bryan Hehir
- 3 Guild Christmas Expo
- 8 Immaculate Conception
- 10 Lunch with Santa
- 19 Communal Reconciliation
- 24 Christmas Eve
- 25 Christmas Day
- 31 New Year's Eve Jubilee Supper
- 31 New Year's Eve Jubilee Prayer Vigil

## Middle East Discussion an Ecumenical Learning Experience

On Oct. 19 Sue Morris, leader of four Living Stones Pilgrimages to the Holy Land, presented a fascinating account illustrated by slides showing the land, holy sites, and residents of the area. She discussed the plight of Palestinian Christians and Muslims under Israeli rule, as well as underlying issues at the heart of peace efforts in Israel and Palestine.

Three panelists gave their reflections on the situation in the Middle East: Joseph Youakim, a member of St. Patrick's and a Palestinian; Hazeem Jaber, a local Palestinian Muslim; and David Green, a member of the Jewish community. All presenters gave eye-opening background and viewpoints on issues pertaining to the Holy Land.

For more information on the Holy Land, Sue Morris recommends the following:

- *Jerusalem: One City, Three Faiths*, by Karen Armstrong
- *Palestine: A Photographic Journey*, by George Baramki Azar
- *Blood Brothers: A Palestinian Struggles for Reconciliation in the Middle East*, by Elias Chacour
- *Walking the Red Line: Israelis in Search of Justice for Palestine*, edited by Deena Hurwitz
- *The Rise and Fall of Palestine*, by Norman Finkelstein

The evening's presentation, "Jubilee Pilgrimage to the Holy Land: A Peace and Justice Perspective," was co-sponsored by St. Patrick's Social Action Committee, the Peace and Justice Committee of Holy Cross Parish, Pax Christi-Champaign County Chapter, and St. Jude Catholic Worker House.

The Social Action Committee plans to sponsor other events like this one to introduce parishioners and others from the local community to important issues on international, national, and local levels. Watch for future justice-oriented programs in the parish bulletin!

Sue Morris and her husband, Jim, are planning their fifth pilgrimage to the Holy Land in January. For more information, contact them at 217/523-4049, sjimorris@msn.com, or 1328 Holmes Avenue, Springfield, IL 62704.

## Communal Reconciliation—What It Is and What It Isn't

A story goes that one Saturday evening a priest and penitent were in the reconciliation room of a church. The priest had just finished celebrating Mass, during which he wore a small wireless microphone, as usual. Outside the reconciliation room, the red

"occupied" light was on. Nearby, several parishioners stood in line quietly, meditating as they waited their turns, when suddenly a voice came over the public address system: "Bless me, Father, for I have..." and a loud squawk as the priest turned off the mike.

That can't happen at Communal Reconciliation services, in case you wondered what we do when we celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation together. During that service, confession is a very private option following a communal preparation.

In Advent and Lent we gather for this revised rite of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, to restore to public consciousness the social dimension of sin. That purpose becomes clearer each time one participates.

The service begins with a scripture reading, followed by a homily and a time of reflection, during which we are invited to examine our conscience silently.

Then together we acknowledge that no one is free from sin, that we are all called to a continual change of heart, and that we are all in need of God's merciful and healing love.

With this healing love in mind, those who wish to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation are invited to approach one of the several priests stationed at strategically private places around the church for individual confession. (One station is the

reconciliation room, where there is a screen between priest and penitent.) In quiet conversation, the priest may offer some encouragement or advice, followed by a penance, absolution, and a blessing.

No penitent is hurried, though many conversations appear brief. A respectful distance is kept by those waiting. The lines quickly become long, for confession seems popular!

This year the local Church gathers for communal reconciliation

- Monday, Dec. 18, at Holy Cross
- Tuesday, Dec. 19, at St. Patrick
- Wednesday, Dec. 20, at St. Matthew

The service, the same each evening, begins at 7:00 p.m., with priests from the three parishes participating in each.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will also be offered to individuals on the following Saturday, Dec. 23, 3-4:30 p.m. and 6-7:30 p.m.



Caught up in your beauty,  
I speak of my heart's desire;  
to find the fullness of life,  
dwelling in your presence  
forever.

*Psalm 27*

continued from page 1

the place of new life is the light that rises from us—the light of faith, never quenched in spite of the all-pervading darkness.

Not only do *we* wait, but God waits too. Waits for us to recognize the light within us, waits for us to acknowledge the new birthing, waits for us to consent to the Christ-birth in us. The moment is ours.

When we say yes, when we dare to believe, we will hear angels sing. The voices glorifying God will be ours, and the light that dispels the darkness will come from us. Then indeed we will know that Christ is born, born anew in us.



### Mary's Immaculate Conception

On Dec. 8 the Church honors Mary, who was conceived without sin, unique in God's creation to have been so conceived, because she was to be the mother of God in the person of Jesus.

At St. Patrick's we celebrate this remarkable grace with Mass offered on Dec. 7 (Thursday) at 5:15 p.m. and on Dec. 8 (Friday) at 7 a.m., 12:10 p.m., and 5:15 p.m.

### From Walter Splittstoesser *An Evangelization Minute*

For February and March we decided to go to the highest, coldest, most remote, and least-known continent on earth: Antarctica. We booked and paid for a 25-day cruise (if you don't get on the boat, you've still paid for the cruise—no refunds) from Miami.

We left home in an ice storm. The local flight was canceled, so we took a taxi to Chicago. Our flight was repeatedly delayed, and all others to Miami and 1300 others were canceled. After 6 hours we were told that our connecting flight had landed; 20 minutes later we learned that it had landed all right, but in Minneapolis-St. Paul, and out of fuel. We got a new plane, new gate, new flight crew—and finally boarded.

Then the captain announced that, according to the manual, the plane was overloaded, what with the ice on the plane and the number of people; some people would have to get off. No one did. Twenty minutes later the flight was canceled.

So we got off the plane—with just a boarding pass, because our tickets had already been taken. Because it was a holiday, there were no seats

available on any flight to Miami, not from Chicago or from St. Louis or from Indianapolis, not for 3 days. We'd miss the cruise....

I decided prayer was in order: "I want to say 'Get that pilot back out here and have him tell us he made a mistake and we're going to Miami after all.' But I'm asking for a favor so I'll take a six-hour delay and we can still make it. If you don't want to do this for us, than do it for the priests and the people at St. Pat's who pray for travelers every day."

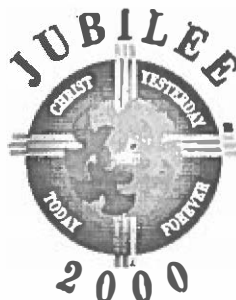
I walked over to my wife, Shirley, and was going to say that I thought we still had a chance to make it when the captain said "One good thing about the Boeing aircraft—they're illiterate, they can't read the manual. So we'll unload half the fuel, use all the runway, and fly low, and we can refuel in St. Louis. We're your third crew, and we've done this before, but if you don't think it's safe, don't board." Well, he was nearly run over by passengers getting back on the plane!

The crew unloaded fuel and deiced the plane, and we took off. The plane leveled off about 30 seconds after takeoff.

I joined some other guys waiting in line for the restroom. One said it sure was lucky that we made it out of Chicago. I told him I didn't think luck had anything to do with it—it was the priests and the people at St. Pat's who pray for travelers. He replied, "I knew it! I knew it! We're going to get this airline to spring for free drinks so we can toast the people who pray for travelers."

And that's what happened. You were toasted many times!

We did make it to Antarctica for a month, but it wouldn't have happened without your prayers. Thank you very much!



### Quick fixin's from the kitchen of . . .

Ceil Weir

### Christmas Lime Parfait Pie



1 6-oz pkg lime-flavored gelatin  
2 c boiling water  
1 t shredded lime peel  
1/3 c lime juice

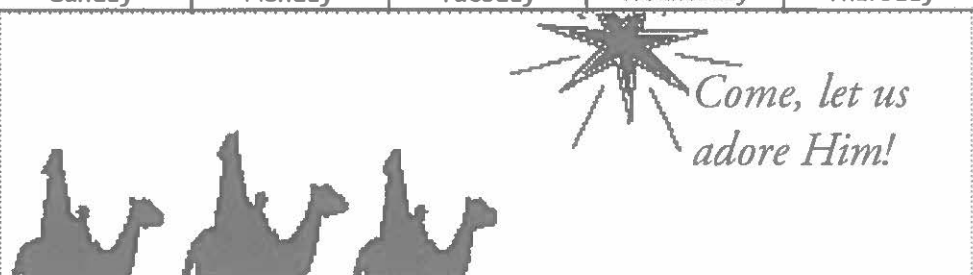
1 qt vanilla ice cream  
1 baked 10-in pie shell  
whipping cream or Cool Whip  
maraschino cherries

Dissolve gelatin in boiling water. Stir in lime peel and lime juice. Add vanilla ice cream (let soften a bit) by spoonfuls, stirring until melted. Chill until mixture mounds slightly when spooned. Pour into cooled baked pie shell. Chill until firm and top with cream and maraschino cherries. (If a 9-inch pie shell is used, there will be excess filling; this may be molded in individual custard cups.)



Deadline for submission of information, articles, and news items for the next issue of *In Focus* is December 10.

# St. Patrick's Parish, Urbana December 2000

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p><i>Come, let us adore Him!</i></p>					Lecture Series	
					1	2
Guild Expo 8:30am - 1:30pm 2-4 WATCH 9:00am RCIA 9:00&11:00am Childrens RE 10:15am Children's Liturgy Noon Teen Liturgy 6:30pm CREW RelEd	7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:00pm ED Com 7:00pm FGDW 7:00pm Pro-Life	6:00pm Reconciliation Celebration 7:00pm Financial Affairs 7:00pm WATCH	5:00pm SVDPr 6:00pm Children's Rel Ed, St. Pat's 6:30pm Children's Rel Ed, St. Joe 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm RCIA	5:15pm Mass 7:00pm Over 21 7:00pm Choir 7:30pm Bldg & Grds	Immaculate Conception Mass: 7:00am 12:10pm 5:15pm	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Lunch with Santa 9:00am RCIA 9:00&11:00am Childrens RE 10:15am Children's Liturgy 4:30-6:30pm Teen Choir 6:30pm CREW RelEd	7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:00pm FGDW 7:00pm Social Action	7:00pm Mission	9:30am Schola 5:00pm SVDP 6:00pm Children's Rel Ed, St. Pat's 6:30pm Children's Rel Ed, St. Joe 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm Peronnel	7:00pm Baptism Prep 7:00pm Over 21 7:00pm Choir	10:30am Mass Clark-Lindsey 10:45am Mass CCNH 3:30 High Level	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9:00am RCIA 9:00&11:00am Childrens RE 10:15am Children's Liturgy 10:00am K if C 6:30pm CREW RelEd	7:00pm Centering Prayer Communal Reconciliation Service	10:30am Mass Canterbury Ridge 7:0pm Liturgy 7:00pm WATCH Communal Reconciliation Service, St Pats	5:00pm SVDP 6:00pm Children's Rel Ed, St. Pat's 6:30pm Children's Rel Ed, St. Joe 7:00pm Choir	7:00pm Parish Council 7:00pm Choir	10:30am Mass Manor Care 10:45am Mass CCNH	Individual Confessions 3-4:30pm 6-7:30pm
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Christmas Eve Mass: 4:00pm 6:30pm 10:30pm	Christmas Day Mass : 7:30am 10:30am Noon	7:00pm Homily Prep	5:00pm SVDP	7:00pm Choir		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
New Year's Eve 11:30pm - 12:30am Ecumenical Prayer Vigil Mass: 7:30am 9:00am, 10:30am, 12:00pm	Because the In Focus calendar is prepared in advance of scheduled events and meetings, please check thr weekly bulletin to confirm dates and times for specific listings. Deadline for the next issue of In Focus is December 10, 2000.			SVDP- St. Vincent DePaul Society NH- Nursing Home K of C- Knights of Columbus		
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