

ST. PATRICK'S PARISH

In Focus



Father Martell Scholarships awarded to four teens

The four recipients of the Father Martell Scholarships awarded by the Knights of Columbus were recently honored at St. Patrick's. These awards are based on service to the church and community and on financial need.

Anthony Frank D'Angelo DeCerbo has been a server at St. Patrick's for many years. He has been involved in the religious education program since he was three years old. Anthony works on the Social Committee and has helped put together food baskets with the St. Vincent de Paul Society. At Centennial High School Anthony participated in various bands, as well as in art. This summer Anthony will start at Parkland College; he is interested in e-commerce.

Anthony Maduzia has been a server at St. Patrick's for about seven years. During his high school years he has assisted with preparations for the Easter Vigil. Anthony has also helped his father, Cliff, deliver food for the Susan Freiberg Memorial Surplus Program, and he has volunteered at the Catholic Worker House. He graduated from Urbana High School.

Parish blood drive July 30

The Urbana Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a parish blood drive on Sunday, July 30, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the parish center.

This is the first blood drive held at St. Patrick's for several years. Bring your gift of life to share!



In the fall Anthony will attend Western Illinois University, where he will study law enforcement and justice administration.

Michael Amberg, another Urbana High School graduate, has also been active in service projects with the St. Patrick's Youth Group. He has played drums for the Children's Mass the past three years. At Urbana High School Michael participated in the Marching Band and in Key Club. He will attend the University of Illinois in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Danielle Schaub was a core member of CREW, Christ Renews Everyone's World, the St. Patrick's Youth Group, where she was responsible for organizing activities such as doing yard work at the Catholic Worker House and decorating the Worker House for Christmas. At Champaign Central High School Danielle participated in Student Council and played softball. She will attend Parkland College, where she plans to study elementary education.

St. Patrick's graduates look to the future

In a recent Sunday bulletin Fr. Remm shared his pastor's reflections for our graduates as he wrote: "Know that you are a wonder, a gift, a treasure to many people. Your God loves you (he died for you); your family loves you (it's called unconditional love when it reflects God's paternal/maternal love); your Church loves you (our Church is Catholic, it's there for you wherever you go, offering a spiritual home, the sacraments,



Anthony Maduzia



Anthony DeCerbo

Michael Amberg



Danielle Schaub



compassion, challenge, forgiveness); your friends love you (at least, those do who want the best for you).

"Continue to develop these relationships by your own initiative. That means prayer to God, regular contact with your family (and not just to ask for money), fidelity in the practice of your faith, and deepening and expanding your capacity for friendship."

He concluded (speaking for all of us) by thanking the graduates for sharing

Are you prepared for the CREW Mission trip?

You've heard about the Mission trip for months. You bought cookbooks and 50/50 tickets. You played Bingo until your eyes went blurry and ate spaghetti until you were stuffed. You even attended the auction expecting to buy a particular item that caught your eye, but instead went home with a carload of bargains you never dreamed of buying. And maybe you've already bought your \$10 raffle ticket from the Knights of Columbus, hoping to win \$500 or a DVD



Welcome to new parishioners Anthony and Meredith Bosack, Lawrence and Sandra Broda, Todd and Elizabeth Celie, Mark and Joan Cole, Rupert and Mary Evans, Sheila Jo Foley, Jason and Maria Harris, Todd and Heidi Larson, David and Rebecca Lartigue, Guisela Latorre, Anthony and Elizabeth Menke, Michael and Tina McGill, Mark and Renee Scherrer.

Farewell to these parishioners, who have moved from C-U: Bridget Brandes, David and Dawn Buchanan, Evelyn Eimer, Ed Galezewski, Michael and Ellen Gray, Joe and Lisa Hincliffe, Eric and Karen Horn, Robert and Nicole Kneer, Bryan and Katherine St. Pere.

Welcome to the following baptized into our faith community: Maria Rose Stipes, Collier Paul Kerns, Tanner Matthew Wagner.

Congratulations to these couples, married at St. Patrick's: Sara Lynn Webb and Christopher Earl Williamson, Marcia Anne Weber and Matthew Kenneth Hicks, Morgan Finch and William Vincent Johnston, Melissa Nicole Fairbanks and Shannon Lee Valentine.

Please pray for deceased parishioners Stanley W. Lawrence, Stephen Paul Hackett.

player. Yes, you've done it all, but ... do you know the rest of the story?

Behind each one of these fund-raisers and community-building events, parish teens and adults spent countless hours planning for and working at each of them. There were hours of proofreading, editing, and layout for the cookbook. And who knew that there would be a whole book full of specific rules for running a Bingo event, as well as a blizzard to brave on our first game night? And then there was collecting (and writing descriptions for) each of the 300 items donated to the auction, and then putting them in proper order.

In addition to fund-raising, there are the logistics of the trip itself. A bus has been chartered to take 40 teens and adult chaperones to the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., where teens and adults will be staying in a dorm. And the work site was changed because the original project is so far ahead of schedule that it will be completed before our group arrives. We now have a neighborhood rejuvenation project in Maryland that is even closer to CUA.

We also wrote a Bible study tailored specifically to our theme, "Shine! A torch loses no light, nor heat, when lighting a thousand other torches." This theme embodies our idea of spreading God's light to others as we help rebuild their community. And we're finalizing the plans for sightseeing on our final day of the trip.

Sadly, during all of this planning, we had to say good-bye to our fearless leader, Deborah Riley, who moved back to Indianapolis. I have agreed to coordinate this exciting venture, and look forward to working with this terrific group of teens and adults.

How can *you* be a part of this wonderful, first-time experience? During the week of July 30, you can participate in a Bible study group at St. Patrick's that will be completing the same lessons as the teens on the trip. (Please call Mary Long at the parish center if you are interested in participating.) Also look for information regarding upcoming car washes this summer, and don't forget the Knights of Columbus raffle tickets, if you haven't

already bought yours!

Yes, the plans are all coming together, and the trip is almost here. We all are excited to be a part of St. Patrick's first-ever Mission trip. We have numerous people to thank for all of their work on this project (too many to mention here). We will be rebuilding homes while in D.C., but more importantly, we are thankful that we have had the opportunity to build relationships between the teens and the rest of the parish community.

This is hopefully only the beginning of the story.

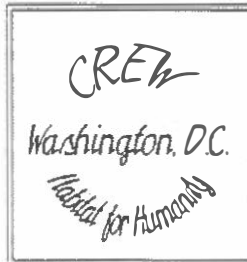
By Cindy Shaw

Life and the dignity of the human person

The Catholic Church declares that human life is sacred and that the dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision for society. Our conviction about the sanctity of human life and the inherent dignity of the human person forms the basis of Catholic social teaching.

All human life, from conception to natural death, is sacred. These values are being threatened today by poverty, racism, deterioration of family life, abortion, assisted suicide, euthanasia, the death penalty, and the many ways in which people are treated with disregard for their human life. Everyone is made in the image and likeness of God. People do not lose their human dignity because of disability, poverty, age, lack of success, or race.

The Jubilee Year is a time for special recognition of human dignity and justice for the poor. As concerned citizens we must measure policies, procedures, and laws that directly affect human dignity and the ability of individuals to grow in our community. We must not separate the principles of human dignity and everyday life. There are many opportunities on a daily basis to treat all human life with dignity. As Jesus said, "As often as you did it for one of my least brothers, you did it for me." (Matt. 25:35-40).



Three "retirees" honored

Three parishioners turned in their resignations after (in the words of St. Paul) having "run the race" and "completed the course." At a reception held in their honor, Deborah Riley (coordinator of the parish's junior-high program), Peter Amberg (coordinator of youth activities), and Ellen Amberg (coordinator of the children's program) each received a framed photographic reproduction of "The Rising Christ" along with expressions of appreciation and gratitude for their generous service to St. Patrick's parents, teens, and youngsters.



Deborah, Peter, and Ellen, "retirees" all, gather for one more picture ("Just one more!") at their reception. Deborah and her family are moving back to Indiana; Peter, college diploma in hand, has new worlds to conquer; and Ellen, not yet ready to say good-bye, will be looking for new challenges at St. Patrick's.

Ellen Amberg displays the commemorative gift she received from the parish, a framed print of "The Rising Christ," which hangs above the altar in St. Patrick's church.



Deadline for submission of information, articles, and news items for the next issue of *In Focus* is August 13.

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our journey to God's kingdom. So say we all. Thank you, and God bless you on your journey!

Michael Amberg will be attending the University of Illinois in Liberal Arts and Sciences. He is interested in History and Spanish.

Sarah Brenner plans to attend the University of Illinois in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. She is interested in an MBA in Journalism.

Catie Crippen has enlisted for service in the Navy. Eventually, she wants to study to be an obstetrician.

Anthony DeCerbo will be Majoring in Business at Parkland College.

Jeremy Delanty has enrolled in the Fire Academy through the University of Illinois Fire Institute, where he will work

toward an associate degree in Fire Science.

Andrew Duncanson plans to pursue an interest in music.

Adam Gentile is enlisting in the Navy. *Melissa Horvey* will be attending Parkland College, where she plans to pursue an associate degree in Biological Science.

Thomas Korder will study Mechanical Engineering at the University of Illinois. *Gregory McDonald* will major in Electrical Engineering at the Milwaukee School of Engineering.

Anthony Maduzia will attend Western Illinois University, where he plans to study pre-law enforcement and justice administration.

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Parish Wish List

Over the years generous parishioners have made possible, through their donations, purchase of items or equipment not regularly included in the parish's operating budget but useful to have, or the construction of oases of peace and relaxation on parish grounds for the enjoyment of all.

The current parish wish list includes several such items:

- Five CPUs to upgrade existing office computers for Internet accessibility, approximately \$600 each
- Sound Mixer Unit for Teen Liturgy choir and musicians, \$1000
- Clavinova keyboard for Teen and Children's liturgies, \$1600
- Eight round tables for parish meetings, \$139 each
- Two benches for the new patio, \$700 each

Donations earmarked for a specific item, in whole or in part, will be gratefully acknowledged! If you would like more information about any of these items, Fr. Remm will be happy to discuss them with you.



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: Joyce Baird, Mary Lee Brady, 344-3752 (BradyMarylbrady@aol.com); Artha Chamberlain, 344-6645; Mary Lou Menches, 344-1125 or 244-4701 (mmenches@uiuc.edu); Frank Modica, 367-4133 (modicafr@knight.cmi.k12.il.us); Cathy Salika, 367-7861 (csalika@uiuc.edu); Peggy Whelan, 367-3668.

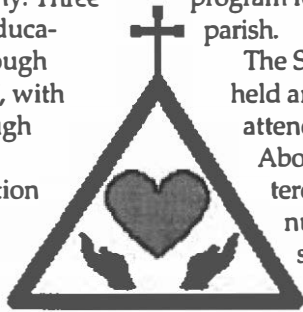
Associates: Carol Bosley, Morene Christman, Mary Fonner, Lori and Tom McDonough, Marty Perry, Joan Poletti, Carole Rebeiz, Lucille Salika, Tom Schlueter.

Articles and information for this issue were contributed by Yvonne Brady, Mary Collins, Judy Conover, Frances Drone-Silvers, Lori McDonough, Carolyn McElrath, Mary Lou Menches, Frank Modica, Fr. George Remm, Leslie Risatti, Cathy Salika, Cindy Shaw, Peggy Whelan. This issue was pagged by Andy Hunt.

Parish Council News

At their June meeting Council members were updated on the Parish Nurse Program at St. Patrick's by parishioner Rosemary Mathy. Three parishioners finished the educational program offered through Carle Hospital in Dec. 1997, with continuing education through 1998. After studying parish programs to avoid duplication of effort, the three made presentations at all parish Masses in Oct. 1998 and began holding regular office hours on Tuesday mornings. A fourth nurse completed the program and began holding office hours in Thursday mornings.

Since then the group has been making home visits to parishioners, offering



blood pressure screenings, holding a health fair, and presenting monthly informational meetings on health care topics. A fifth nurse may join the group after completing the educational program, now offering accreditation through the University of Illinois, in the fall. The group hopes to develop a program for visiting new mothers in the parish.

The St. Thomas More High School held an open house on June 11, attended by over 700 people.

About 57 students have registered for classes in the fall; this number includes a small sophomore class.

By the time you read this, renovation work on the parish center lounge will have begun. Present furniture may be purchased, and anything remaining will be offered to the Cellar-to-Garrett Sale in August. Work is planned for completion this summer.

Fr. Remm has asked that a structural engineer examine the church structure to evaluate the foundation, the structural integrity of the beams, rafters, and walls, and the outside brick before a decision can be made about replacing the church roof (anticipated cost: \$175,000-\$200,000).

The next Council meeting will begin at 7 p.m. on Aug. 17 (the Council does not meet in July). All parishioners are welcome to attend these open parish meetings.

For those interested in a more complete report of Parish Council deliberations, the minutes of Council meetings are posted in the church vestibule and on the bulletin board in the office wing of the parish center.

St. Faustina: Jesus called her his secretary

We have a new saint. In 13 years of religious life, she served sometimes as cook, sometimes as gardener or porter. But in private, Sr. Mary Faustina heard Our Lord say, "Secretary of my most profound mystery, write down everything I make known to you about my mercy."

In her diary she recorded her encounters with Jesus, who desired to make his mercy better known. She wrote of extraordinary graces given her, but nothing external revealed her interior life. Her closest associates saw only that she was recollected, yet she was also cheerful, serene, kindly. Her confessor and her superiors in religion knew of her mystical inner life and encouraged her to continue writing.

St. Faustina was born Helena Kowalska on Aug. 25 in Poland, the third of ten children in a poor family. She had only three years of education. At the age of 16 she left home to work as housekeeper to support herself and help her family. She was almost 20 when, in 1925, she entered the Congregation of Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy. She was given the name Faustina, common in Poland in earlier times.

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in our parish library

Does your spirituality match your personality? "Should it?" you ask. *Yes!* Or at least Dr. Charles J. Keating thinks so. Keating is the author of *Who We Are Is How We Pray: Matching Personality and Spirituality*. He relates the Myers-Briggs personality types to various schools of spirituality and suggests various spiritual writers and styles of prayer for them. (The book is shelved under the call number 201.6 Kea.)

Once you've read about your personality type, you may wish to try out one of his suggestions. Here are some brief introductions:

Praying with Ignatius of Loyola, by Jacqueline Syrup Bergan and Marie Schwan (242 Ber) Learn about the life of St. Ignatius and his Spiritual Exercises, while praying and reflecting.

Peace of Heart: Based on the life and teachings of Francis of Assisi, edited by John Kirvan (242 Kir) Learn a spirituality of compassion, simplicity, and peace of heart from St. Francis.

Fear Not the Night: Based on the classic

spirituality of John of the Cross, edited by John Kirvan (242 Kir) Many consider St. John of the Cross the Western spiritual master *par excellence*. His writing can lead us to see our life in a very different manner and gain insight into the way of the Spirit.

Set Your Heart Free: The practical spirituality of Francis de Sales, edited by John Kirvan (242 Kir) St. Francis tells us to "work and pray at being yourself. Be who you are, where you are." The meditations and prayers are straightforward and deal with many everyday concerns. ["This book especially appealed to me," our parish librarian, Frances Drone-Silvers, writes; "a friend once said the first word she would use to describe me is *practical*."]]

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.

I found out that God really is real!



I was a devout Catholic most of my life, at least until my mid-twenties (I'm 33 now). Then slowly, over a period of years, I completely lost all faith in God. I began this year as an agnostic and was actually hostile toward all religions, feeling that religion is a weakness of humankind and that we'd all be better off if religion just didn't exist.

A series of debates with my brother-in-law, who is working on a masters degree (in Theology), had me wondering again if perhaps there really is something to Christianity. I really didn't want any religion to be true, but decided to put it to the test and went one day to a church to ask God if he was real.

The day before Easter I sat alone in a church and asked God just that. I told him I really wanted just to know the truth. I was determined that if nothing happened in that church, I'd never again be open to faith in God and would live the rest of my life as an enemy of religion. But most of all I really wanted to know the truth.

Well, I had an experience of Jesus being with me and telling me that he was real and that we were going to have a relationship. Needless to say, this really blew my mind! I thought I might be losing my mind, at first.

Since then I've had a nightly prayer time where I just tell Jesus that I love him, confess any sins for that day, talk to Mary and some other saints, read the Bible, and read some other spiritual book. I do this every day, no matter what—except for one day when I was very sick.

My nightly prayer time is like an anchor in God for me. I often feel that God speaks to me during this time and have frequent experiences of overwhelming love and peace—although not always, of course. But

I would give this up, just knowing that God is real and that he really does care for me, that I mean something to him, is enough for me.

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.

Prayer for vocations



Holy Spirit, inspire young people to give their lives in service to the People of God through public service in your Church.

Inspire all your faithful to a renewal of mind and heart in your service, wherever you lead them.

Enable each of us, wherever and however your call is experienced, to respond with alacrity and fidelity, with the assurance of your indwelling guidance and support through the days and nights of our lives.

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Sr. Mary Faustina served with apparent insignificance in several convents. She died at the age of 33 on Oct. 5, 1938.

As a result of her relationship with Jesus, Sr. Faustina took to heart the Gospel command to "be merciful even as your heavenly Father is merciful." Everyone who came into contact with her went away joyful. Her diary, *Divine Mercy in My Soul*, has become the handbook for devotion to the Divine Mercy, which not only forgives sin but reaches out to all human needs.

On Apr. 30 this year Pope John Paul II declared Faustina a saint and established the Second Sunday of Easter as Divine Mercy Sunday. He said her message of Divine Mercy "is not a new message, but ... a gift of special enlightenment that helps us to relive the Gospel of Easter more intensely and offer it ... to the men and women of our time."

Good things happening . . . July at St. Patrick's

- 4 Holiday breakfast
- 22 Sr. Charlene's birthday
- 23 Fr. George Remm's birthday
- 29 CREW Mission!
- 30 Adults' CREW Bible study

Quick fixin's from the kitchen of . . .

Yvonne Brady



Sweet & Sour Green Beans

- 3 lbs green beans (can use canned beans)
- 3 onions
- 1 c vinegar
- 1-2/3 c sugar

- 2/3 c water
- 3 T oil
- 1-1/2 t salt
- 1/2 t pepper

Cook beans whole until tender. Drain. Combine beans and onions in large bowl. Stir together remain-

ing ingredients. Pour over beans. Refrigerate 24 hours, serve cold. Serves 6.

The garage is open

... to accept your donations for the Cellar-to-Garret Sale. This sale, sponsored by the St. Patrick's Guild, is the parish's big community-building and fund-raising activities in late summer or early fall. So as you clean out your cellar, garret, and every room in-between, remember this event.

Almost anything that you have around the house can be donated: clothing, furniture, housewares, tools, books, toys, and jewelry are just a few of the items that are very welcome. Some items have little resale value, so don't plan to bring them: furniture with torn or stained upholstery, large appliances, artificial Christmas trees, fireplace equipment, drapery rods, shutters, kitchen cabinets, tires and rims, and textbooks.

You can drop off your donations at the white garage across the alley behind the church. Just set them inside the door, and our trusty crew will stack it safely. If the garage is locked, the staff in the parish office can help during business hours. If you need a truck to bring large items, call Ray Wait (367-6547).

Please watch the bulletin for information on how you can volunteer to help with the sale. It's a great way to meet people in the parish. There are jobs for people who need to avoid lifting or standing. Even if you can offer just an hour or two, you would be a big help.

All the proceeds of the sale are used by the St. Patrick's Guild to support programs in the parish. So it's a good cause, good fun, and you'll find lots of good bargains too!

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Domenico (Nick) Musumeci will major in International Resources and Consumer Economics at the University of Illinois in Agriculture, Consumer and Environmental Sciences.

Walter Musumeci plans to major in Finance at the University of Illinois in Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Daniel Nelson will major in Psychology at the University of Illinois.

Marissa Nguyen will study Business and Marketing at Parkland College.

Danielle Schaub will also attend

From last year's sale—would you believe it!



Women at the front, men at the back, are ready to help the throng of browsers waiting patiently outside, eager for the doors to open. Look at the array of items waiting for just the right buyer! And here they come...!



Parishioners congratulate graduates after 9 a.m. Mass on May 28. Hugs and handshakes were definitely in order!

Parkland College. She is interested in working with children and will study Elementary Education.



Fr. Remm joined three of the Fr. Charles Martell Scholarship winners—from the left, Anthony DeCerbo, Anthony Maduzia, and Michael Amberg—for this "photo op." (Danielle Schaub was not present for the photo.)

Brian Weber plans to major in Finance at the University of Illinois.

Leisure



What is this life if, full of care,
We have no time to stand and stare

No time to stand beneath the boughs
And stare as long as sheep or cows.

No time to see, when woods we pass,
Where squirrels hide their nuts in grass.

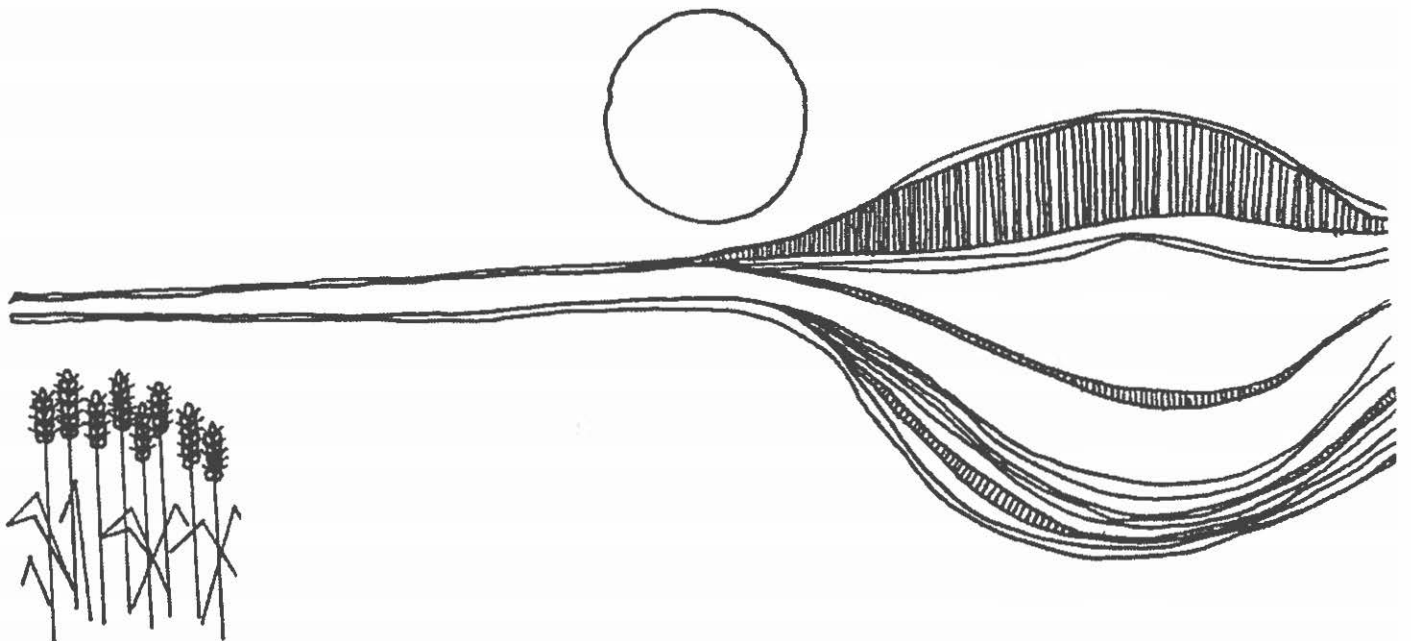
No time to see, in broad daylight,
Streams full of stars, like stars at night.

No time to turn at Beauty's glance,
And watch her feet, how they can dance.

No time to wait till her mouth can
Enrich that smile her eyes began.

A poor life this if, full of care,
We have no time to stand and stare.

—William Henry Davies





July 2000

St. Patrick's Parish

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

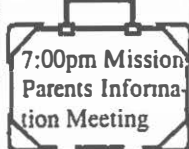
THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

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Because the In Focus calendar is prepared in advance of scheduled events and meetings, please check the weekly bulletin to confirm dates and times for specific listings. Deadline for the next issue of In Focus is August 13.

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|-------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| 2 | 3 7:00pm Education Com 7:00pm Centering Prayer | 4 Independence Day Parish Office Closed 9:00am Mass & Potluck Breakfast | 5 5:00pm SVDP | 6 7:30pm Building & Grounds Com | 7 10:45am Mass-Champaign Cty NH | 8 |
| 9 | 10 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:00pm Social Action Com | 11 7:00pm WATCH Board Mtg | 12 5:00pm SVDP | 13 | 14 10:45am Mass-Champaign Cty NH | 15 |
| 16 | 17 7:00pm Centering Prayer | 18 7:00pm Liturgy Com  7:00pm Mission Parents Information Meeting | 19 5:00pm SVDP | 20 | 21 10:45am Mass-Champaign Cty NH | 22  Sr, Charlene's Birthday |
| 23  Fr. Remm's Birthday | 24 7:00pm Centering Prayer | 25 7:00pm Homily Prep  7:00pm Mission, Participants Only | 26 5:00pm SVDP | 27 7:00pm Communications Com | 28 10:45am Mass-Champaign Cty NH | 29  Teen Mass: CREW departs on Mission |
| 30 | 31 7:00pm Centering Prayer | | | | | |

SVDP=St Vincent de Paul NH=Nursing Home