

ST. PATRICK'S PARISH

In Focus



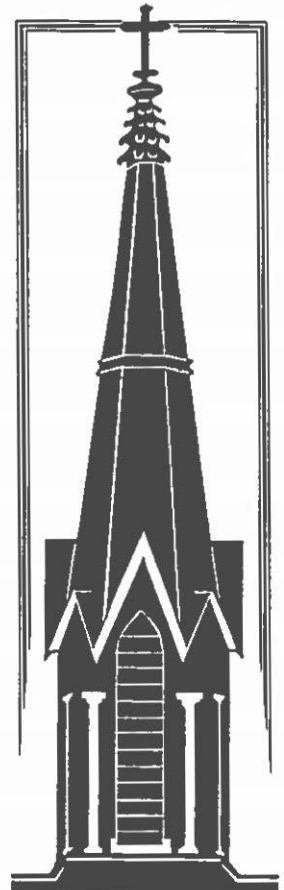
ALL ARE INVITED TO PARISH LENTEN RETREAT

Fr. Mike Schaub and Sr. Sandra Brunenn to facilitate

You are invited to attend the annual parish Lenten retreat on Saturday, Mar. 11. The day will begin with Mass at 8 a.m. in the church for those who can attend. Registration will follow, along with a continental breakfast, in the parish center. The retreat will begin officially with morning prayer at 9 a.m., break for a delicious box lunch from Jimmy Johns (available for \$5 when you reserve ahead of time), and conclude by 3 p.m.

The Lenten retreat is a wonderful way to focus yourself spiritually at the beginning of Lent. Presenters will be Fr. Mike Schaub and Sr. Sandra Brunenn. You may remember Fr. Mike, who visited St. Patrick's recently as a respondent in the "Dialogue into the Millennium" lecture series. Sr. Sandra will be familiar to many from her years of campus ministry at St. John's Newman Center.

Fr. Mike Schaub is pastor of Mary, Our Lady of Peace Parish in Orion. He is also a faculty member in the Theology Dept. of St. Ambrose University (Davenport, Iowa) and is enrolled in a Doctor of Ministry in Preaching degree program through the Chicago Theological Seminary. He recently spent several years in Kenya and Zambia as lecturer and spiritual director. *(Continued on page 2.)*



To all our friends at St. Patrick's...

Thank you for all that you did to make our 50th wedding anniversary such a wonderful occasion. Your cards, warm wishes, and loving presence were very special to us.

Len and Clara Butler

Parish History Festival: Come and see!

St. Patrick's Archives Committee has planned another *history extraordinaire* for all of us to enjoy after all Masses the weekend of Mar. 18-19. Members plan to display some treasures from our parish's first hundred years and hope to fill some gaps *for the record*.

To mark the event, those who missed out on the St. Patrick's Rose last year will have another chance. Orders will be taken for these Jackson & Perkins rose bushes on a first-come, first-served basis at \$6 per bush, individually

potted and ready for planting when

delivered in the spring. The flowers are yellow with a hint of green edging the petals. You may have noticed them near both entrances to the parish center last summer and fall.

Histories of St. Patrick's pastors, the Altar and Rosary Society (now St. Patrick's Guild), and high school religious education, records painstakingly compiled by Nancy Steerman, will be on display. Come and see!

Pictures, newspaper articles, and other memorabilia on parish

continued on page 2

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Parish Lenten Retreat

Sr. Sandra Brunenn, OSB, was for many years charged with religious formation at St. Mary Monastery, Nauvoo, and has led many retreats there and elsewhere, often with Sr. Audrey Cleary, OSB. She and Fr. Mike have collaborated in facilitating retreats before.

By the time you read this, both will have visited St. Patrick's to meet with staff to plan a retreat "customized" to meet the needs of parishioners.

Watch the weekly bulletin for further details on the retreat theme and registration. You won't want to miss this splendid offering!

ASH WEDNESDAY MARCH 8



Welcome to new parishioners Donna Avery, Barbara Bailey, Ernest Barbenberg, Chad and Tara Beckett, Kate Dougherty, Chris and Melissa Luffman, Dagmar Neaville, Marcia Reed, Phil Rinaldi, Matt Wolfersberg.

Farewell to parishioner Nick Schuneman, who has moved from C-U.

We welcome the following recently baptized into our faith community: Rachael Nicole Johnston, Lucas Harrison Simpson.

Please pray for deceased parishioners Paul J. Eimer, Marion Gilmore, Edward Broghamer, Marjorie Allain.

Cont. from page 1

Parish History Festival

families will attract and hold your interest, as will family pictures and pictures of parish events over the decades of parish life. You may even be able to identify some of the as yet unnamed youngsters in some of the First Communion and Confirmation photographs—you may find pictures of you, or your grandparents, or your own grandchildren. Come and see!

Any pictures you have of parish events, weddings, receptions, parties, baptisms, confirmations, former parish buildings now gone, etc., can be scanned on the spot without damage to the original

Parish Council election set for April 9

The Council by-laws require that the annual election of new members be held in April. This year the Council has designated the weekend of April 8-9 for the election—earlier than usual because of Passion Sunday and Easter Sunday, also in April.

Tom Korder and Richard Keane will serve on the ad hoc election committee; they will be joined by three members of the parish at large. The committee's charge is to discern a slate of candidates from which parishioners are to elect new Council members.

This year four positions are to be filled. Richard Keane, Cindy Kelly, Tom Korder, and Dave Palmisano will complete their three-year terms on the Council in May.

Service on the Council, a consultative body, calls for a real gift of self in many ways, but especially in terms of time. Members participate not only in the

photos and returned immediately, so bring them along! And be prepared to identify the event, the year if possible, and the people pictured so these can be included in upcoming Centennial publications—the book of family histories, the pictorial directory, and the parish history.

The Archives Committee has been hard at work for several years and have some truly fascinating treasures and astonishing quantities of information about our parish's hundred years to share with us.

Come and see!



monthly Council meeting itself but, as liaisons to standing committees, in a monthly committee meeting as well. Participation in ad hoc committees to attend to specified matters outside the Council meeting itself places an additional claim on members' time. And their presence at parish events, such as the "Dialogue into the Millennium" lecture series, the annual parish picnic, and the welcoming event for newcomers to the parish, is an added priority.

When you meet up with any of the Council members then, thank them for their selfless service on your behalf, and pray for the Spirit's lively and enlivening action in their assemblies.

Meanwhile, pray for the gift of discernment for yourself as you prepare to vote on April 8-9.

Social Action Committee

REORGANIZES

GATHERS STRENGTH

A small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world

Leon Mayer and Bob Haessly were probably breathing a sigh of relief at the turn of the millennium. After many years of tirelessly leading the Social Action Committee, they are pleased to see renewed interest in the committee's important work. After Leon sent personal, handwritten letters of invitation to interested parishioners last fall, membership of the committee grew from two to more than ten.

With the larger group, Leon led efforts to rethink the work of the committee. At a special meeting in December, members gathered to brainstorm about the future direction of the committee, its purpose, how to involve parishioners, and the question of whether the committee's role was to operate as an action group or a funding group. The results of that brainstorming session found expression in January, when members set objectives for the coming year.

A major objective for 2000 is to increase parishioners' awareness of social justice issues and opportunities for participation in activities that explore the Christian response to social justice issues in the parish, community, state, nation, and world. Another objective is for members to become educated regarding social action issues.



Some ideas put forward included these:

- (1) Invite interested parishioners to read a book related to a specific social justice issue and then come together to discuss it.
- (2) Some parishioners may be willing to donate their used books on social action/justice issues to the parish library; the committee could maintain a reading list of these books.
- (3) The committee supports a number of community organizations that serve important needs in the community; more information about the work of these organizations will be shared with the parish via *In Focus*.

If you are interested in being part of a St. Patrick's committee that both serves and learns, then you may be interested in attending the next committee meeting. The Social Action Committee meets on the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. in the parish center. Mary Collins is the chair; if you have any questions, she will be happy to talk with you (call 355-9007, evenings and weekends).

It was Margaret Mead who said, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world, indeed it is the only thing that ever does." Leon and Bob, along with Mary, invite you to be part of that small, thoughtful group at St. Patrick's.

Just so you know
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. 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 (BradyMarylbrady@aol.com); Artba Chamberlain, 344-6645; Tim Brenner, 384-2060 (Timothy.Brenner@vesuvius.com); 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); Katharine Schrader, 344-5995; Peggy Whelan, 367-3668.

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

Articles and information for this issue were contributed by Carol Bosley, Morene Christman, Frances Drone-Silvers, Mary Long, Jim Mayer, Lori McDonough, Mary Lou Menches, Fr. George Remm, Deborah Riley, Leslie Risatti, Cathy Salika, Peggy Whelan. This issue was paged by Arden Howey.



in our parish library

The Jubilee Year calls us to build a better world through service, generosity, and prayer. The Jubilee Pledge invites us to learn more about Catholic social teaching. The following resources offer readings in various aspects of social justice issues.

Building Economic Justice: The Bishops' Pastoral Letter and Tools for Action, published by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops (261 Bui) Includes the text of the Pastoral Letter, with discussion questions, a Scripture guide to justice, and other resources.

Dare to Be Christian: Developing a Social Conscience, by Bernard Haring (241 Har) "The world needs saints," writes Haring. "Saints don't sit in a corner or withdraw from the world—they follow Christ and reach out to others." Fr. Haring offers examples of how to share your faith, shape public opinion, and spread the Gospel of peace.

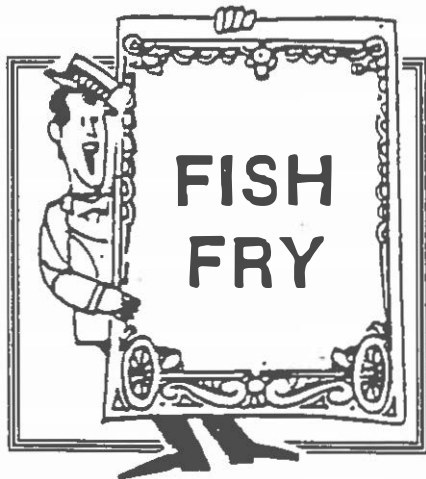
Following Christ in a Consumer Society: The Spirituality of Cultural Resistance, by John Francis Kavanaugh (261.8 Kav) Fr. Kavanaugh combines an analysis of our consumer culture with a hope-filled reflection on the power of the Gospel to transform our lives.

On the following Web sites, try *A Century of Social Teaching*, a summary of key themes:
<http://www.nccbuscc.org>
 (National Council of Catholic Bishops / U.S. Catholic Conference)
<http://www.AmericanCatholic.org>
 (Catholic Update)

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.

Fish, anyone?

The Lenten Fish Fries, sponsored, prepared, and served by the Urbana Knights of Columbus, return to St. Patrick's for the Fridays of Lent, beginning Mar. 10 and concluding Apr. 14. This popular Lenten event draws people from the local community in addition to parishioners, who seem to enjoy



not only the fare but one another's company.

Income from the fish fries is used by the Knights to support their generous assistance to the handicapped and to St. Patrick's in response to specific need. So come early, stay late, and have a great time—and a great meal!

Watch the weekly bulletin for serving times and prices.



Q: Millennium? Jubilee? Centennial? I'm confused! Tell me again what we're celebrating this year?

A: It really is confusing! There is a lot going on in our parish, the wider Church, and the whole world.

Millennium refers to a period of a thousand years. Some people say the third millennium on our calendar began with the year 2000; others say it will begin with the year 2001. The Vatican's Web page says that next Dec. 31 will be the eve of the next millennium. But it was fun to watch all the digits turn over at the end of last year, wasn't it?

A *Jubilee* or *Holy Year* is celebrated by the Church whenever the Pope declares one. In recent times we have had a Jubilee in years divisible by 50, but it doesn't have to be that way. So it's almost a coincidence that this Jubilee year falls in the year 2000. This Jubilee year began on Christmas Eve of 1999 and runs through the Feast of Epiphany, 2001.

St. Patrick's Parish will soon be celebrating its *centennial*. There are two dates of significance: July 7, 2001, will be the hundredth anniversary of the founding of the parish, and May 24, 2003, will be the hundredth anniversary of the dedication of our church building. The Archives Committee and the Parish Council are already preparing for these anniversaries.

All these events celebrate the passage of time and remind us that God is at work in our times. We do have a lot to celebrate!

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

Walking in the footsteps of Jesus

Each Friday during Lent you can *walk in the footsteps of Jesus* in company with other parishioners who gather at 5:15 p.m. for the Stations of the Cross. In the person of the leader of prayer, all present walk with Jesus the path to Calvary, culminating in his death—and resurrection.

You can walk the Way of the Cross anytime, of course, and alone if you choose. Booklets to help you in your meditations will be available in the church vestibule, or you can simply reflect on Jesus's redemptive suffering as you move from station to station. In our parish church these are marked by the large crosses on the walls of the church.

Caryll Houselander, in *The Stations of the Cross*, asserts that the Stations are meant not only to remind us of the historical Passion of Christ but to show us what is happening now, and happening to each one of us.

We meet ourselves (she says) on the Way of the Cross, the road through death to life. In Christ we find the meaning of our own suffering, the power of our own capacity for love.

"For us," she writes, "it is a showing not only of the way of sorrows, which we are all destined to walk if we will or not, but of the way of love, which heals sorrow, and which we all can take if we walk in the footsteps Christ has marked out for us, not only imitating him but identifying ourselves with him.

"The Stations," she adds, "show us how each one can lighten the heavy cross that is laid upon the



bent back of the whole human race now." Each of us in the power of Christ's love can sweeten our own suffering and that of those who are dear to us and indeed of all the world. This is why we walk the Way of the Cross, why we walk in the footsteps of Jesus.

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus. (Phil. 2:5)

Parish Council News

This year's parish drive for pledges in response to the Annual Diocesan Appeal (formerly the Annual Stewardship Appeal) will take place May 6-7. Because of an



error in calculating the parish goal last year, this year's goal is expected to be a bit higher, although notification of the amount has not yet been received. Nor has a final report been received on our parish's follow-through on last year's drive.

Meetings with the high school principal and athletic director drew

some St. Patrick's parishioners, but not in great numbers. At the first meeting, some teens present asked a few questions; the second drew only 10-12 adults. The number of teachers to be hired is dependent on expected student enrollment, hence the present emphasis on interviewing students interested in enrolling.

Fr. Remm has sent a letter of invitation to individuals regarding membership on the new Long Range Planning Committee, with the first meeting set for March 3.

The Council accepted the 7 percent increase in parish income projected by the Financial Affairs Committee for the next fiscal year. In reviewing new programs presented by parish groups, Council members asked the Building and Grounds Committee to consider reverting to their 3-year spending plan for landscaping of parish grounds instead of trying to accomplish all in a single year.

Council members also approved the CREW's proposal for

Council backing of their Mission to Washington, D.C. to assist Habitat for Humanity in building homes for the needy. Dwain Berggren volunteered to serve as Council liaison with the group.

The next Council meeting will begin at 7 p.m. on Mar. 16. All parishioners are welcome to attend these open parish meetings.

Half a bowl of rice a day?



One of the Lenten traditions of St. Patrick's is Operation Rice Bowl, and the Social Action Committee invites you to take part in it again this year. The first step in accepting this invitation is to pick up a Rice Bowl in the church vestibule when you see them displayed around the beginning of Lent.

A program of Catholic Relief Services, Operation Rice Bowl encourages all of us, in a very simple and everyday way, to act on Pope John Paul II's call to "nourish the spirit of hope" by providing an easy framework for doing so. Operation Rice Bowl offers a daily opportunity to assist and reflect in solidarity with the poor around the world and to strengthen the bond, the connectedness, of our human family.

As a participant in Operation Rice Bowl during Lent you and your family are invited to:

* *Pray* that we all may be united with our brothers and sisters in need as members of the one

body of Christ.

* *Fast* as a form of self-discipline and to foster solidarity with those who hunger. Many of the world's poor subsist on less than half a bowl of rice a day. (Can we even begin to imagine the pain we would feel if we could feed our children just half a bowl of rice a day?)

* *Learn* about the realities, courage, and strengths of the poor. Catholic Relief Services provides people with the skills they need to improve their lives and the lives of their families.

* *Give* assistance to the most vulnerable members of our human family throughout the world—the poorest of the poor.

The Seven Sacraments Symbols of God's Care

Sacraments of Initiation

Baptism: Incorporates us into the Church and gives us a rebirth as daughters and sons of God

Confirmation: Is a continuation, ratification of sealing of Baptism.

Eucharist: Is the preeminent sacrament from which all others have meaning

Sacraments of Healing

Reconciliation: Focuses on forgiveness in our life and on our acceptance of that forgiveness, which brings us back to spiritual health

Anointing of the Sick: Takes place as the community gathers in faith to pray over and lay hands on those who are sick

Sacraments of Vocation

Matrimony: Celebrates and witnesses the covenant of love between two people

Holy Orders: Is a sacrament of service by which some are called by God to be spiritual leaders.

-taken from Catholic Update 043 by Sandra DeGidio, O.S.M.

Help needed for the Dialogue
Lecture Series

For the remaining lectures in the "Dialogue into the Millennium" series, help is needed for hosting, baking cookies, and cleaning up the refreshment area. Please call Pat Fetting (356-8136) to volunteer.

The money you and your family put into your Rice Bowl this Lent will bring clean water, small enterprise development, and agricultural enrichment to the poorest of the world. In addition, 25 percent of funds collected at St. Patrick's will remain in the Diocese of Peoria to help support local programs designed to alleviate poverty and hunger right here in our neighborhoods and communities.

This is an invitation that is hard to turn down!

Living witness and not just talking about it!

In my former days as member of a religious community in the '60s, we were frequently reminded that the habit we wore gave witness of loving service to the Lord through his people. One day I rode a department store escalator to the second floor, at the top of which stood a youngster about 8 years old. When



I reached his level, he looked me directly in the eye with an intensity I can still feel today and said, "I know you. You're not married." That was not exactly what I hoped I was giving witness to! But let me tell you about a friend who really does give witness by living it, not by the clothing she wears.

Last year Ellen, who is a high school history teacher, received the "Living Witness" award at her school during Catholic Schools Week. The award was new last year and is now presented annually "to the individual whose unselfish service to both school and community demonstrates Christ's call to love and serve others."

Ellen is the one in her school who befriends the "underdog" students in a middle-class environment. The students who hang out in her classroom every night are often the ones learning English as a second language, or those who can't read very well and so need to have their exams read to them, or the ones who have no friends—in other words, the students who take up a teacher's time.

Ellen also volunteers at a local shelter and invites students to go

with her. And something those at the school don't know is that she cleans house on Saturdays for an elderly woman.

I think Ellen is living "witness"—not just talking about it, but doing it.

Margaret

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.

Local performance A LENTEN TREAT

Edward Elgar's *The Dream of Gerontius*, a late-Romantic oratorio on a poem by John Henry Cardinal Newman, will be performed on Apr. 1 by the University of Illinois Oratorio Society, Chorale, School of Music Symphony Orchestra, student and faculty soloists, and conductor Fred Stoltzfus. The performance commemorates the centennial of Elgar's dramatized meditation on death and the after-life.

This is a rare opportunity to hear a work that, although part of British musical life, is seldom performed in this country. The passionate, richly scored oratorio combines the expression of a great religious leader and a great composer of the nineteenth century. Call the Krannert Center box office (333-6280) for ticket information.

Focus on ministry

Sacristan Assistant



The work of the sacristan involves more than weekly and monthly cleaning—although this is not to be ignored! Care for the condition of the entire worship space where liturgy is celebrated, as well as for the vestments, sacred vessels, candles, bread and wine, is essential to establishing an environment that is hospitable, welcoming, clean, one that fosters prayer. The work of caring people.

* Time commitment is the choice of the sacristan assistant, who may be able to help weekly, monthly, or for special liturgies

only, and for an hour or two or on an as-available basis. The more regular the assistance, however, the easier to plan!

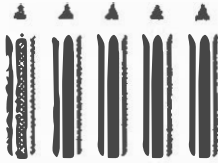
* Who may help? Anyone who is free to work under the direction of the sacristan. Most tasks are completed during daytime and weekday hours, although some may be taken care of on one's own time, such as cleaning and refilling votive candle holders or arranging flowers for the sanctuary.

Coordinator:

Mary Ann Luedtke, 328-1143

Holy Cross News

February was a busy month at Holy Cross School. Terra Nova Writing Assessment tests were given to boys and girls in grades 4-7. Students who are Brownies and Scouts celebrated Catholic Scouting on Feb. 13 with Mass, presentation of religious awards, and a reception. Eighth-graders received the sacrament of Confirmation on Feb. 6.



Congratulations to Thomas Schroder, winner of the Holy Cross Geography Bee, and to Madelin Woods, winner of the Spelling Bee.

Catholic Schools Week was observed Jan. 31-Feb. 4. Children engaged in activities to "Light the Way to a New Century," beginning with an all-school Mass on Monday. Tuesday was Hat Day, and all the students wore their favorite hat to school. Wednesday began with a prayer service in the gym to celebrate Candlemas Day; an open house was held for open classroom observation, and a Medieval Fair was held in the gym that evening. On Thursday, feast of St. Blase, both students and teachers gathered for the blessing of throats, and community volunteers were guest speakers for the day. Catholic Schools Week concluded with a student talent show on Friday.

March

17

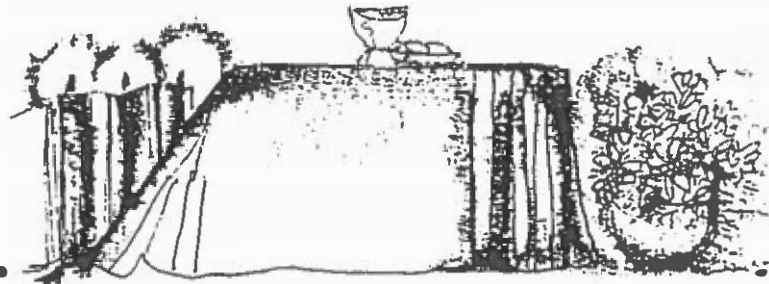
St Patrick's Day

Mark My Words

Nail me to the cross
Pierce my side
Break my feet
Yes, crown me with thorns
And pawn my clothes
Mock, laugh, spit
and slap my face

You may bury me
In a tomb sealed
With seven seals
You may guard the tomb
With a squad of soldiers
But on the third day
I will rise
Mark my words
I will rise
Rise

—Musa W. Dube



As we gather

The beginning of the Mass, from the introductions up to the first Scripture reading, is called the Gathering Rite. We come to worship from different places and different family situations. Perhaps some of us come to be with people, while others come to get some time apart from the bustle at home. The stated purpose of the Gathering Rite is "to make the assembled people a unified community and to prepare them properly to listen to God's word and to celebrate the Eucharist."

How does the Gathering Rite do this? First of all, we enter the church where the community is gathering. We sing together, an action that has a marvelous way of uniting us. We acknowledge God's presence by genuflecting (or bowing) as we enter and by making the sign of the cross together with others assembled.

The penitential rite reminds

us of two things that we have in common: we sometimes sin, and we hope in God's loving mercy. The *Glory to God* reminds us to be people who praise God. And finally, the presider leads us in a short prayer that begins to open up the themes that we will ponder as we hear the Scripture readings.

During Lent we often simplify the Gathering Rite because Lent is a good time to focus on the essentials of our faith. The priest and other ministers may come to the sanctuary quietly and pray a bit as we assemble for Mass. The gathering hymn may be shorter, perhaps no more than a simple refrain. The penitential rite may be highlighted to help us with this season of turning again to God.

But whatever form the Gathering Rite takes, it is always for us a time of coming together as a community that remembers God's presence.

The CREW Mission

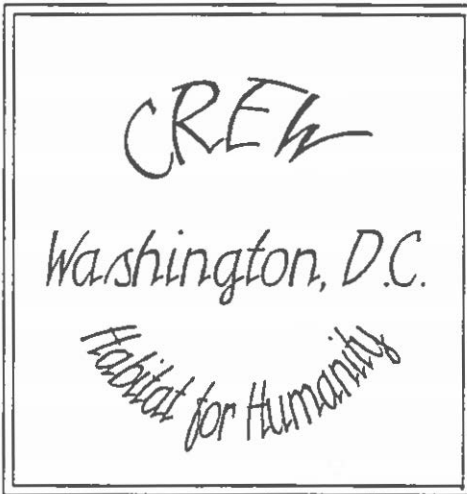
By now you've probably heard about the CREW mission in August, when St. Patrick's teens will travel to Washington, D.C., to help Habitat for Humanity build homes for families who need them.

Who can go?

Any teen (freshman through senior class) who has completed 20 hours of service and 10 hours of fund raising.

Why go all the way to Washington, D.C.?

Aside from the excitement of visiting a new place, D.C. was chosen because there was a project ready for CREW to take on. By going out of town, teens have an opportunity to be with friends in



youth group 24 hours a day for an entire week. They will work to help the needy during the day, and in the evenings they will participate in Bible study, Mass, and fellowship.

How much will this cost?

It will cost an estimated \$25,000 to send our teens to Washington. They have been

working all year to raise this money through various fund raisers such as Bingo, the charity auction, the CREW Cookbook, etc.

Why should you help?

This is the first time teens from St. Patrick's have embarked on a mission. What an exciting opportunity for our parish! More and more young people today are looking to make a connection with their church. What an opportunity for us all to connect with our teens by supporting them in any way we can!

How can you participate?

CREW needs help on several committees, including our Worship and Bible Study Committee, which will be planning the teens' evening studies on mission. Also, please attend and/or financially support



the fund raisers. There is an urgent need of items, crafts, and services for the April 1 charity auction. Cookbooks are still available (\$10 each), and be on the alert for future car washes. If you want to make a private donation, be sure to write *Mission* on your check or envelope. Above all, please pray for the CREW to have a meaningful and spiritual mission!

The CREW thanks you in advance for your support!

JOSEPH

Displaced,
a common worker,
no name but carpenter,
this Joseph,
yet one wonders
how each person, each place
was neighbor
to him,
for the child he called Son
treated none as
stranger.

In Focus regrets

The account of CREW's efforts in decorating the St. Jude Catholic Worker House, published in the February issue of *In Focus*, was written by CREW member Ines Hübler, whose name was inadvertently omitted in paging the issue. Ines, please accept our apology for the omission!

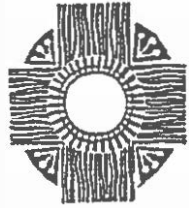
Sr. Jeannine Gramick speaks March 25

The Roncalli Society will host Sr. Jeannine Gramick at its Spring Gathering on Saturday, Mar. 25, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The gathering will be held at Westminster Presbyterian Fellowship Hall, 1508 W. Moss Ave., Peoria.

The day's theme is *Justice in the New Millennium: Rebirthing Vatican II*. In her morning presentation Sr. Gramick will focus on subsidiarity and due process in the Church, and in her afternoon talk she will look at freedom of conscience and the development of doctrine.

There will be opportunity for group discussion and questions.

Lunch is provided for \$6.00, so people are asked to register (and indicate choice of meat or vegetarian entree) by



writing to The Roncalli Society, P.O. Box 6606, Peoria, IL 61601-6606. For non-members the registration fee is \$5.00 in addition to the fee for lunch.

The Roncalli Society is "a group of Catholic lay women and men, religious, and clergy who share the vision of Church of John XXIII of the Second Vatican Council and seek to make this vision a reality, both within the structure of the Catholic Church and in ministry to the entire world."

Car pooling can be arranged. If interested, call Mary Lou Menches (344-1125).

Greetings from our sister parish

Dear Rev. George Remm and dear benefactors of St. Patrick's:

I read and meditated with my parishioners on *Our Saviour and King Is Born*, signed by Fr. George Remm and inspired by Maria Harris's book, *Proclaim Jubilee!*

One of her themes is connectedness. Christmas is a celebration of connectedness, the unity of God and human flesh. I will translate these *unpublished* ideas to publish them in our local official report, or Bulletin.



Effectively, in

Christmas, we in the Holy Land have experienced that connectedness in the love your community extends to the Christians, the *living stones*, around the most sacred spot in the world, Bethlehem.

I told you that this year I am celebrating my *golden jubilee* of priesthood, hoping that your community will pray for me and support me with your prayers as we remember each one of our benefactors in the Holy Grotto of Bethlehem.

Father Remm, please do convey our best feelings of gratitude and friendship to all your collaborators. With the \$100 I will celebrate Masses in the Holy Grotto for the intentions of our benefactors.

Sincerely,

Rev. Abdenour

Parishioners may address correspondence to our sister parish as follows:

Rev. Jakob Abdenour
P.O.B. 188
Beit-Jala, Israel.



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

Quick fixin's from the kitchen of . . .

Jim Mayer

Super ^{LIGHT} Cheesecake



25 graham cracker squares
3/4 stick margarine
1 3-oz pkg lemon Jello
1 c hot water

Put graham crackers in a plastic bag and crush with a rolling pin. Mix in melted margarine. Coat the bottom of a 9 1/2 x 13 inch pan with the graham cracker mixture, saving a few crumbs to sprinkle on top.

Make Jello by combining lemon Jello and water. Mix cream cheese with sugar, using a fork to mash the cream cheese for easier blending. Beat chilled condensed milk with an electric mixer until

6 oz softened cream cheese
1/2 c sugar
1 13-oz can Milnot con

stiff peaks form (as in whipped cream). Continue to use the mixer and add the Jello mixture, then the cream cheese mixture.

Pour filling over the graham cracker crust in the pan, and sprinkle the reserved crumbs on top. Chill in the refrigerator 1-2 hours before eating.

Variation: Spread a can of cherry pie filling over the cracker crumbs in the pan before adding the cream cheese mixture. Serves 12-15.



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.

- * Storage shelving and cabinets for Coffee Shop materials in locked area, \$800.

- * Sound Mixer Unit for Teen Liturgy choir and musicians, \$1000.

- * Eight round tables for parish meetings, \$139 each.

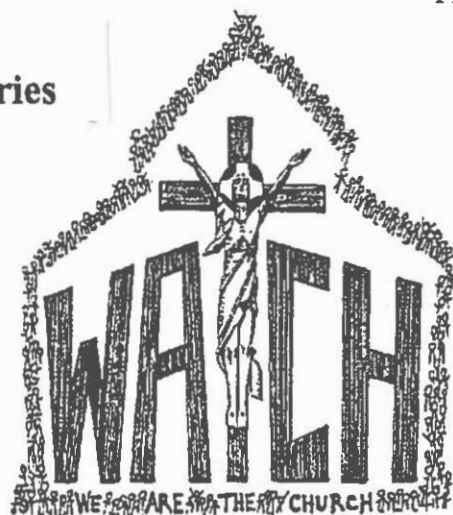
Donations earmarked for a specific item, in whole or in part, will be gratefully acknowledged! If you would like more information about any of these items, Fr. Remm will be happy to discuss them with you.

Evangelization: Sharing stories

Among St. Patrick's parishioners there are many stories of how God has affected or changed our lives. One way of sharing these stories is through the *Evangelization Minute* given by a parishioner on the fourth Sunday of the month at the end of each Mass. These stories are personal and concise.

Evangelization brings the Good News of Jesus Christ into our everyday lives. Lives are changed when people hear and respond to the Good News. One of the primary reasons for sharing our stories or *faith journeys* in an *Evangelization Minute* is to give witness to God's action in our lives so that others will become aware of God at work in their own lives. People want to hear real, personal stories that they can relate to given by people they know or recognize as another parishioner.

Speakers are encouraged to tell of the wonderful things God has done in their lives, or how God was present in the truly hard times of their lives. They often share how God has transformed their lives and led them to become active in parish or community service. Or they may relate their personal experience of God to a spiritual opportunity in the parish.



The *Evangelization Minute* provides an opportunity for sharing our stories, for others to hear the message of Christ's saving power in our lives, to see how we live out Gospel values. As one parishioner put it, "We see how God acts in so many different ways and in so many different people's lives!"

One of the tasks of St. Patrick's Evangelization Team is to help the Word of God to come alive for parishioners. The *Evangelization Minute* is one way we try to accomplish this task. Please consider sharing your story with our parish community. What you say may be just what another person needs—hungers—to hear!

Everyone has a story to share; if you're willing to share some part of yours, call Mary Long, parish Evangelization coordinator (wk: 367-2665; hm: 328-2989).



Spring begins
March 20
Do you know
where your
softball glove is
lying?

Every time you make a choice you are turning the central part of you, the part that chooses, into something a little different from what it was before.

—C. S. Lewis

Mere Christianity

K of C's ever-popular Ladies Knight Out a crowd pleaser!



Chris Shore displays one of the fabulous door prizes as Steve Beckett announces the lucky winner.



J. Mark Baker (*left*) as Rapunzel's prince and Jim Mayer as Cinderella's compare woes in wooing their fair maidens.

St. Patrick's Village People—(*from the left*) Gary Bosley, Jim Mayer, Chris McDonald, Terry Bosley, and John Minor—put lots of energy into "Anything Goes"!



Our own beach boys—(*from the left*) Tom Kacich, Dick Justice, Joe Mahoney, Tom Shaw, and Chuck Shaw—have fun "Surfin' the U. S. A."



Richard Keane (to whom *In Focus* is indebted for this photographic record) serves some of the guests at the sell-out event.

St. Patrick's Parish

March 2000

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <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 of In Focus is March 12, 2000.</p>			5:00pm SVDP 5:15pm Children's Choir 6:00pm Rel Ed, Parish Center, Urb 6:30pm Rel Ed St. Joe 7:00pm Choir	6:45pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm Evangelization Team 7:30pm Bldg and Grounds	10:45am Champaign County N.H. 6:30pm Seniors 7:30pm Long Range Planning	
			1	2	3	4
9:00am RCIA 9:00am 11:00am Rel Ed 10:15am Children's Liturgy 6:30pm Leaders Bible Study 6:30pm Jr-Sr Rel Ed 8:30-1:30pm Library Lenten Sale	7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:00pm Over 21 Club 7:00pm Pro-Life	9:30am Bible Study 6:00pm Education Appreciation Dinner 7:00pm Financial Affairs 7:30pm Parish Council Exec Com 7:00pm Bible Study	Ash Wednesday Masses:7,12,10,5:15;Ashes ONLY 7:30pm 5:00pm SVDP 6:00pm Rel Ed, Parish Center, Urb 6:30pm RelEdStJoe 7:00pm RCIA 7:00pm Choir	6:45am Men's Bible Study 6:45pm Bible Study 7:00pmBaptism Prep 7:00pm Choir	10:30am Mass Urbana NH 10:45am Mass Champaign County NH 5:15pm Stations of the Cross 5:30pm Fish Fry	Lenten Retreat 8:00am-3:00pm
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9:00am RCIA	7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:00pm Social Action	12:10pm Catholic Daughters Luncheon 7:00pm Homily Prep	5:00pm SVDP 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm RCIA 7:30pm Personnel Committee	7:00pm Choir 7:00pm Parish Council	10:30am Mass Clark Lindsey 10:45am Mass Champaign County NH 5:15pm Stations of the Cross 5:30pm Fish Fry	6:00-7:00pm Parish History Festival
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:00am RCIA 9:00am 11:00am Rel Ed 10:15am Children's Liturgy 6:30pm Jr-Sr Rel Ed 8:30-1:30Parish History Festival	7:00pm Centering Prayer	6:45pm 1st Communion Class 7:00pm Liturgy Com	9:30am Schola 5:00pm SVDP 6:00pm Children's Reconciliation 7:00pm RCIA	6:45am Men's Bible Study 7:00pm Choir	10:30am Mass Manor Care 10:45am Mass Champaign County NH 5:15pm Stations of the Cross 5:30pm Fish Fry	8:00am ProLife Mass
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9:00am RCIA 9:00am 11:00am Rel Ed 10:15am Children's Liturgy 6:30pm Leaders Bible Study	9:30am Archives Com 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:00pm Over 21 Club	9:30am Bible Study 6:45pm 1st Communion Class 7:00pm Homily Prep 7:00pm WATCH 7:00pm Bible Study	5:00pm SVDP 5:15pm Children's Choir 6:00pm Rel Ed, Parish Center, Urb 6:30pm Rel Ed St. Joe 7:00pm Choir	6:45am Men's Bible Study 6:45pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm Communications Com	10:45am Mass Champaign County NH 5:15pm Stations of the Cross 5:30pm Fish Fry	
26	27	28	29	30	31	