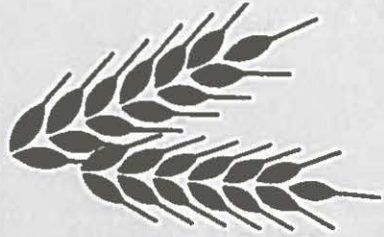


ST. PATRICK'S PARISH

In Focus



In Focus celebrates 20 years

Fr. Hennessy looks at St. Patrick's then and the Church today

With this issue, In Focus marks the 20th anniversary of its publication. The paper originally was published only four times a year. For the first issue in September 1982, Fr. Doug Hennessy, then pastor of St. Patrick's, wrote a front-page article entitled "You Can Count on Me!"

In Focus recently interviewed Fr. Doug, asking him to reminisce about those early days and about his life in these 20 years.

The Way We Were

Fr. Doug, as you look back over 20 years, what memories do you have of your time at St. Patrick's?

I have always thought of St. Patrick's as my "Camelot." I remember fondly all the wonderful people, the great spirit of community, the marvelous liturgies with outstanding music, the beautiful church with Nick Britsky's breathtaking *Rising Christ*. (A picture of it hangs above my computer.) During my time at St. Patrick's I was blessed with two co-pastors, Fr. George Dorsey and Fr. Dave Roche, and the best "associate" a priest could ever hope to have, Msgr. Paul Kinder. I remember his line about St. Patrick's: "There are so many interesting people here."

The Young Adults group and the Divorced/Separated/Widows group seemed important places for many people at that time. Christ Renews His Parish weekends during those years ignited some strong friendships and some exciting things in the parish. Parish Council meetings were

always lively, and often lengthy — with so many interesting people, everyone had a lot to say!

I have always thought our discussion of the issue of sanctuary (for illegal refugees from El Salvador) was one of our best efforts to wrestle thoughtfully with a difficult issue, to listen to one another respectfully, and to come to a decision that tried to be true to the community and to the process. We all discovered how much harder this is to put into practice than to profess.

And how could I forget the Knights of Columbus softball team! It indulged my Ozzie Smith fantasies and provided lots of fun for several years.

In Focus was born in those days. I am pleased to see that it, like so many things at St. Patrick's, has only gotten better through the years.

Next Stop: Rome and Pope John Paul II

It has been said that Italy is a state of mind. You left St. Patrick's for a five-year teaching assignment in one of the great cities of the world. Tell us about Rome.

If you have to leave Camelot, Rome is not a bad next stop. I left St.



Fr. Doug Hennessy as he appeared in the first Issue of In Focus

Patrick's in 1986 to spend the next five years on the Formation staff of the North American College in Rome. This is the place where the U.S. dioceses send seminarians to prepare for the priesthood in

Rome. Again, I was blessed to be able to work with some outstanding priest colleagues, with whom I have become good friends. There were also some fine seminarians, many of whom are now serving the Church well in dioceses throughout the United States.

I was able to meet Pope John Paul II on several occasions and concelebrate Mass with him. On one occasion, my two sisters were visiting Rome during the summer. We were able to attend a morning Mass with the Pope at his summer residence in Castel Gandolfo, and I found myself shoulder to shoulder with him as we concelebrated.

Rome is a wonderful, fascinating, sometimes maddening city, filled with layers of history and great food and wine. The pace of the seminary allowed more time for reading, reflection and prayer than one finds in parish life, an opportunity I appreciate

continued on page 2

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*Celebrating 20 years  
in service to  
St. Patrick's Parish*  
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*Fr. Hennessy
from page 1*

ate all the more as I find myself immersed in parish life again.

The location of the seminary also made travel easy. Two locations among many that I remember fondly were Russia and Kenya. We visited Russia for a week, just as *glasnost* had begun. We saw the cracks, but also much of the grim reality of the Communist state. In the summer of 1988 I spent a month in Kenya with Mill Hill missionaries. The natural beauty, the wildlife, and a society caught between the first and second millennia made for a fascinating 30 days.

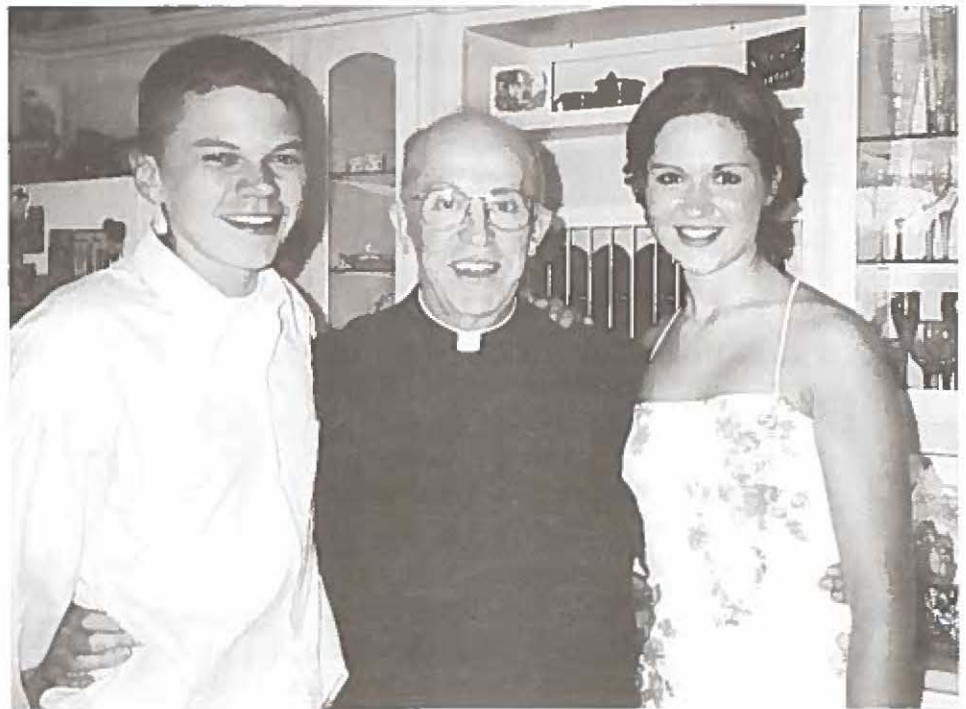
Danville Re-entry: Tiger Woods, Beware!

And today you are in Danville. That's quite a re-entry to the United States. What can you tell us about your current ministry as pastor of St. Paul's?

I returned to the Diocese of Peoria in the summer of 1991 to begin a ministry as pastor of St. Paul's Church in Danville. This has been my first experience with a parish grade school and a central Catholic high school. Danville is a much smaller community than Urbana-Champaign. It is also a town that has known some economic hard times in the last 25 years. The presence of the schools and the smaller size of the community seem to bring more involvement with the children and



Msgr. Paul Kinder and Fr. Doug Hennessy try out a camera's automatic timed shutter for a picture in Fr. Doug's room at the North American College in Rome.



Tony Bosley, Fr. Doug, and Emily Kacich pose for a picture after their high school graduations in May 2001. Father baptized them on the same day at the same Mass on June 29, 1983.

young families of the parish (and as a result, less adult-centered contact with the adults). Schools also bring lots of sports, lots of conflicts, and lots of fund-raising. But there are wonderful people here. Their great generosity keeps the schools flourishing.

Again, I am blessed with a fine staff. Perhaps the biggest adjustment to life in Danville after Rome was the fact that there were no Italian restaurants in town. With my advancing years, golf has replaced softball as the summer recreation of choice, and I play with the same enthusiasm and lack of skill!

Time has passed quickly. I am beginning my twelfth year at St. Paul's and have found it another great parish in which to serve as pastor.

New Leadership, Ancient Wisdom, and Grace

Could you comment on the state of the Catholic Church today?

Although we face some difficult issues at this time, we have been given new leadership in Bishop Daniel Jenky, ancient wisdom, and the grace of God to move forward with hope and joy. To quote one of my

heroes, Pope John XXIII, "In the present order of things, Divine Providence is leading us to a new order of human relations, which, by men [and women's] own efforts and even beyond their expectations, are directed toward the fulfillment of God's superior and inscrutable designs. And everything, even human differences, leads to the greater good of the Church."

Sinai Temple needs child care for High Holy Days

It has been a tradition for the congregation of Sinai Temple to do acts of kindness for Christians on Christian holidays. At Christmas and Easter, volunteers from The Temple help with food service at Provena Covenant Medical Center so that Christian aides can have those days off. They work in the office of a social service agency to enable children in foster care to have supervised visits with their families on Christmas, and they offer child care for churches during holiday worship services.

To return this kindness, the Council of Congregations (of which St.

continued on page 8

They're rolling up the carpets

The refurbishment of St. Patrick's church is well under way. The last Mass to be celebrated in the church before the renovation was at 5 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 10. A week or more before the move, workers began tuckpointing the outside of the church. On Tuesday, Aug. 6, a crew of Liturgy Committee members (and friends!) packed everything that won't be needed until late September. On Thursday, Aug. 8, a hardy crew of volunteers moved the boxes to storage. After the 5 p.m. Mass on Saturday, other workers began setting up our temporary worship space in the main hall of the Parish Center, under the guidance of Ellen Amberg, the chair of the Liturgy Committee, and our Sacristan, Mary Ann Luedtke.

On Sunday morning, Aug. 11, volunteers unbolted the pews from the floor and removed the kneelers so they'd be ready to move. Whew! They were done by 10 a.m. And then on Monday the 12th, the professionals rolled in. By 8 in the morning, crews were loading the pews onto the moving van, pulling up the old carpet, removing the gutters from the roof ... dozens of jobs!

A gigantic thank you goes to all the volunteers who helped during this busy week, and especially to Claude Cole, who is working with all the contractors and craftsmen who are involved in the refurbishment.



Gary Wszalek and Chris Stohr move the baptismal font to the main hall.



Mary Ann Luedtke and Ellen Amberg set up for the first Mass in the hall.



The old carpet is rolled up.



Work begins on the gutters, Monday, Aug. 12

Help! Help! In Focus needs lots of help:

Recipe editor. Collect 11 recipes for easy-to-fix dishes from parishioners for the "Quick Fixin's" column. Need one recipe per month, can be e-mailed, handwritten, or typed.

In Focus stuffer. Insert newsletter into the bulletin, late Friday afternoon or Saturday morning, last weekend of the month. One volunteer already, need one to two others. Time commitment: 45 minutes to 1 hour per month.

In Focus editor. Prepare computer file from submitted articles (e-mailed, handwritten, typed). Review for style consistency, select illustrations, deliver to volunteer for paging. Time commitment: 10 to 15 hours per month plus monthly committee meeting.

Questions? Call Mary Lee Brady (344-3752) or Mary Lou Menches (344-1125, 244-4701).



Long ago and far away, my twin sister, Kathleen, and I were born on the west coast of Ire-

land. We thrived in the shadow of the Reek-Crough Patrick, Ireland's highest mountain. It is little wonder that I find myself once again sheltered here in Urbana by St. Patrick. Being Irish and Catholic, my formation began at an early age. I'm sure I heard the rosary recited daily while in utero. As emigrant 2-year-olds, we celebrated our birthday on a boat headed toward Ellis Island and then continued our journey by train to the Windy City, Chicago.

Our family then faced the challenges of being immigrants — strangers in a strange land. My parents bought their first home in Evanston and belonged to Ascension of Our Lord Church, a Polish ethnic parish with a grade school. Here I learned about diversity. Mass was said in Latin and Polish, and, after Vatican II, in English. Gaelic was spoken at home. There was a daily Mass before school, a daily family rosary before bed. Cleaning the altar was Saturday morning and confession on Saturday afternoon. Sunday was Mass and a day of rest. There was usually a drive in the car after church. The church calendar and its rituals gave our life a sense of rhythm and security that was not available with both parents working outside the home.

My father was the janitor for the church and school, but what I vividly remember was him ringing the Angelus and death bells in the belfry. We lived next door to the church and school so when it rang out loud and clear, we would be going to pray. I once begged my father to let me see him ring the bells, and he did. I was amazed by the sound and wanted a turn. He said no, but I grabbed the rope from his hands, and instantly understood why he had said no. I was flying six feet up into the air. I was "up, off and on my way to God." I do not know who was more surprised,

me or my father. I decided it was time to leave the belfry, so I let go of the rope before it reached the ground, fell and quickly scrambled out of the door before my father could punish my disobedience.

Growing up, I remember thinking of Jesus Christ as my secret friend, and I spoke to him frequently. As a constant companion, Jesus and I grew up together — innocent children, anxious adolescent, and finally adults. Our relationship matured as I went from grade school to St. Scholastica's High School. I would then visit him in the Benedictine Sister's private chapel. I began to realize that it was my job to imitate Christ's life to follow in his footsteps — his passion, death and resurrection. Like him, I walked the "Way of the Cross." I witness Christ falling three times beneath the weight of the cross he carries. I weep as he struggles to pick up a cross which my sins helped create. Yet in my lifetime I left the faith of my fathers, and like Peter I denied Christ three times.

Fortunately, with the birth of my children, I returned to the Catholic Church. Like a wayward sheep, I remembered Christ's flock and found Christ, my good shepherd here at St. Patrick's' parish. I am eternally grateful for the members of the Remembering Church committee for their guidance. This Easter was a very special experience for me as I attended the Easter services with my family. It was extra special since I was blessed to be able to sing in our Angel Choir. The Rising Christ kept reminding me of the Resurrection of our Lord, and my flight in the belfry long ago. I kept thinking how the sick and lame would reach out and touch the hem of Christ's garment so as to be healed. I kept imagining reaching out and touching the Rising Christ's garment and imagine that going to Christ to heaven will sound and feel a lot like that amazing flight the instant when I grabbed the belfry bell rope as a child. I look forward to that time and can hardly wait to complete my journey to God.

Bridget McGill



Welcome to new parishioners Dominique Aarons and Linda Sheehan, Eduardo and Denise Alba Baez, Manda and Shad Crawford, Larry and Manon Di Girolamo, Molly Ann Dickman, Kevin Ficek, Brooke Hawkins, Jean McDonald, David and Donna Novak, Michele Olsen, Daniel and Rose Marie Regnier, Andy and Carla Schaefer, Edward and Meghan Sindelar, Lawrence and Elizabeth Solava, Kyle Vasquez and Catherine Dye.

Farewell to parishioners who recently moved from the community: Keith and Maria Cengel, Diane Essex Sorlie, Morjorie and Allen Torega.

Welcome to the following, recently baptized into our faith community: Sean T. Nagele, Emma M. Schuler, Margaret J. Vavrik, Duncan C. Kerby, Sarah R. Ahrens, Ysabella A. Z. Cabawatan, Joseph G. Acton, Kennis L. Freedman, Alyiah M. McDaniel.

Congratulations to those recently married: Craig A. Fitzpatrick and Katrina S. Shipley, Matthew A. Stratton and Erin K. Maloy, Christopher J. Niebur and Katrin M. Driesner, Louis D. Beuschlein and Bridget A. Maloney, Lowell J. Lee and Patricia A. McCabe, David W. Oakes and Mary Ann Staunton, Anthony A. Hicks and Lee M. Zahnle, David M. Loane and Jaime L. Birt, Jason T. Harris and Maria A. Okuniewski.

Please pray for the following members of our parish who have died: Cecil Byrnes, James J. Sullivan, Estelle Plewa, Walter "Skip" Hublein.



Deadline for submission of information, articles and news items for the October issue of *In Focus* is September 15.

Word from Susan Nagele



Hello again! I've been back two weeks and a lot has happened. When I came across the border, the SPLA took the handset and antenna from the Maryknoll Sisters' car — the car I got a lift in. The mobile radio for the medical car had been in Loki for repair, and I was bringing it back. They saw it sitting on the car seat and took it too. It was obvious that something military was up, as they did the same thing to the car of CRS [Catholic Relief Services] and the Comboni Fathers.

They also did not allow vehicles to leave Sudan but permitted us to enter. There were commanders with

all their bodyguards in Narus (the border town inside Sudan). Two days later the SPLA took Kapoeta town from Khartoum in an early morning attack. Many government soldiers were sleeping, and they didn't resist. They were caught off guard, and those who could run away. In one sense it is good that few people were killed; on the other hand, it gave a great morale boost to the SPLA and all the civilians around here. Now they feel stronger and are ready to fight again.

This week peace talks in Nairobi began again after 18 months. But I don't think either side is serious about making peace. I think they're all enjoying good food and nice hotels in Nairobi and will go back to war in a few weeks when the talks (vacation?) are over. It makes me sad.

Much love,

Susan

The preceding letter from Dr. Susan Nagele to her parents, Tom and Lenore Nagele, is dated June 20 and was received July 18. Letters to Susan may be addressed to her at CDOT, c/o NCA, Box 52802, Nairobi, Kenya.

Give ... and you will receive

St. Francis of Assisi's Prayer for Peace beautifully reminds us of the great irony of our faith — that we love to be loved, that we give so we may receive, that we forgive to be forgiven, and that we die so we may live, eternally. Here at St. Patrick's we have a long tradition of service to the Church, with many giving of their time and talent in inspiring ways. It takes the love and labor of many to support a parish the size of St. Patrick's.



During Mass on September 7 and 8, each member of St. Patrick's will be asked to give of themselves to one of the many ministries in the parish. The "Who and What Is St. Patrick's" booklet, with descriptions of parish groups, activities, and events, will be distributed to parishioners the previous (Labor Day) weekend. You are asked to spend the following week reading it and considering what you have to offer our church community. There is something available for everyone. Time and talents both large and small are welcomed.

If you haven't joined some parish work already in progress, now may be the time to begin and to discover the fellowship of this community. If you've volunteered in the past, now may be a time to give in some new way — perhaps in a leadership role in your present ministry or involvement in another you've always thought especially worthy or meaningful. In any case, come to Mass September 7 or 8 ready to pledge your time and talent to enrich our graced parish life at St. Patrick's.



in our parish library

What do we know about angels? How have angels touched our lives or the lives of others? Here are two books that explore those questions:

A Book of Angels, by Sophy Burnham (235 Bur). *A Book of Angels* tells of present-day encounters with angels and traces the study of angels throughout history and in different cultures. Sophy Burnham writes about angels of the Old Testament, Buddhist bodhisattvas, Hindu apsaras, Islamic angels, guardian angels, and more.

Angel Letters, by Sophy Burnham (235 Bur). In this book Ms. Burnham shares some of the stories that came to her after *A Book of Angels* was

published. If you're looking for a little inspiration, you may find it here.

If you'd like a little more information, consult the *New Catholic Encyclopedia* (big green volumes in the Reference area, to your right as you walk into the library). You'll find entries under "Angels" as well as under specific names, such as Michael and Gabriel.

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.

It happened here!

20 years ago: August 1982

On August 18, bids for the expansion of the Parish Center were opened. The older part of the building included the main hall, the two classroom wings, the nursery, and the kitchen. The new part included the lounge, multipurpose room, staff offices, and basement. The winning bid came in at \$506,300. Ground was broken on Labor Day.

20 Years Ago: September 1982

The first issue of *In Focus* was published in September by the Publicity Committee of the Parish Council. It was published four times a year.

10 years ago: August 1992

Operating procedures for a proposed "St. Patrick's Education Foundation" were reviewed by the Parish Council and were sent to the bishop for approval. The account was to be used to provide funds for students attending a Catholic school and for the religious education program of the parish.

5 years ago: September 1997

Dan Murphy, who has served as deacon in Lourdes (near Metamora, Ill.) and in Cincinnati, and his wife, Pris, moved to Champaign-Urbana. He applied to Bishop Meyers to serve at St. Patrick's, and the bishop indicated his agreement to this proposal.



Colorful quilts, 72 in all, graced the main hall for a fund-raiser sponsored by the St. Vincent DePaul Society. "Soup's on," cried Marjorie Allain, Sophia Zeigler, Rose Breen, and Nicki David. The event featured soup, salad, dessert and the quilt exhibit. Proceeds were used for the kitchen renovation.

Place your bids for Fr. Kane's art

After the 9 a.m. Mass on Sunday, Sept. 29, many of Fr. Kane's treasured pieces of art will be auctioned off by Barb Peckham, assisted by Steve Beckett, in the multipurpose room in the parish center.

Fr. Kane described the pieces with obvious fondness, pieces he has collected over the years that include a "magnificent acrylic painting of the head of Christ" by Richard Benda of Chicago, and earlier studies for the painting; a small print of a Madonna with "unique coloration"; a large painting of Pentecost by famed artist Corita Kent; and many of his own watercolors, mostly abstracts and landscapes, some of them framed.

Asked what the auction was intended to benefit, he replied, "A garage!" Fr. Kane, as many parishio-

ners know, lives in the country north of Urbana in his family homestead, built at a time when garages were not common. He plans to locate the garage, estimated at \$5,000, where it will stand against the wind that builds great drifts of snow against the front steps of the house — once, at least, forcing him to climb through a window and into another snowdrift to get on his way to celebrate Mass at St. Patrick's.

Do you remember?

The parish Archives Committee asks your help in completing a list of parish couples who belonged to the Christian Family Life Movement in the 1950s and 1960s. Nancy Steersman, who has been building lists of parishioners active in more than 60 parish committees, groups and organizations as part of St. Patrick's parish history, provides the following

names in the hope that readers will be able to volunteer others not included here:

Helen and Ralph Barrymore, Rose and Tom Brown, Julie and Francis Coolican, Ceil and Bill Crane, Pat and Paul Doebel, Mr. and Mrs. Don Evanson, Joyce and Julian Gorski, Jean and Paul Hackett, Marne and Gregg Helgesen, Margaret and John Robertson, Cathy and Al Rutledge, Mr. and Mrs. Neil Schilmoeller, Judy and Howard Schneider, and Barbara and Lawrence Wallman.

"I'm approaching the end of the parish histories," Nancy said (one senses a sigh of relief). "The only other one I need help with now is on Scouting. I'd really like to hear from anyone who can recall Scouting at St. Patrick's!"

If you can help with either list, please call Nancy (328-1217); she'll be delighted to hear from you.

Celebrating Sophia Zeigler

At 83, Sophia Zeigler shows no sign of slowing down. And the hungry served by the St. Vincent DePaul food pantry are grateful.



In 1963, Sophia moved to Champaign-Urbana with her husband who had taken a job with the University of Illinois. Almost instantly, Sophia became active in the community, working to make the community a better place to live. In the early 1970s, Sophia began volunteering at St. Jude Catholic Worker House, making lunches for the homeless. At that time, the church would have a few calls per week from those needing groceries. As the number of those calls began to rise, St. Patrick's Church developed a food pantry to feed the hungry in the community. Sophia volunteered to run the organization.

More than 20 years later, Sophia is still running the food pantry. She devotes hours each day striving to feed as many of her hungry neighbors as she can. She does this by purchasing food from the Eastern Illinois Foodbank, picking up donations from area businesses, and arranging emergency housing and transportation for those who need it.

From January to June this year, food from St. Patrick's Parish served 3,409 people. Sophia also distributes extra food supplies to the Catholic Worker House, empty tomb, and the Times Center. Sophia leads and aids another group of volunteers on Monday morning, preparing and freezing soup for the Catholic Worker House.

Sophia quietly and humbly re-

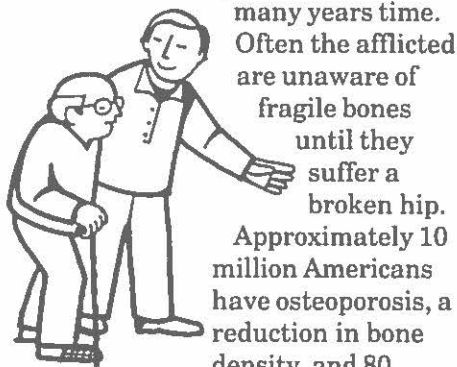
sponds to the needs of the poor in our community.

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Parish nurse corner

Osteoporosis, the silent bone thief

Osteoporosis is a disease in which bones become fragile and brittle over many years time.



Often the afflicted are unaware of fragile bones until they suffer a broken hip.

Approximately 10 million Americans have osteoporosis, a reduction in bone density, and 80

percent of them are women. One in two women older than 50 suffer an osteoporosis-related fracture.

There are steps that can be taken to prevent osteoporosis or to reduce the risk factor for those who already have it. Preventative measures include a diet rich in calcium and Vitamin D, and exercise — building strong bones at a young age.

Those who are menopausal or post menopausal may want to have a bone density test. Last year the parish nurses offered a simple bone density test at St. Patrick's Health Fair, and they hope to offer it again at the health fair in October.

If you have osteoporosis, it is important for you to take an adequate amount of calcium with Vitamin D and to do some weight-bearing exercise, like walking. People older than 50 should have 1200 mg of calcium per day. The urologists at Carle recommend calcium citrate with Vitamin D over calcium carbonate because of better absorption. Your doctor may suggest a treatment that includes medication designed to increase bone density.

Clearly today there are a number of safe and effective options to stop the thief of bone density we call osteoporosis. By taking simple preventative measures, one can maintain good bone health and stay physically

active well into late adulthood — and continue to dance the night away.

Let's have fun — it's good for us!

Fun things sometimes happen spontaneously, but when a large group of people participate, it's probably a good idea to do some planning. At least, that's the thinking of St. Patrick's Social Committee.

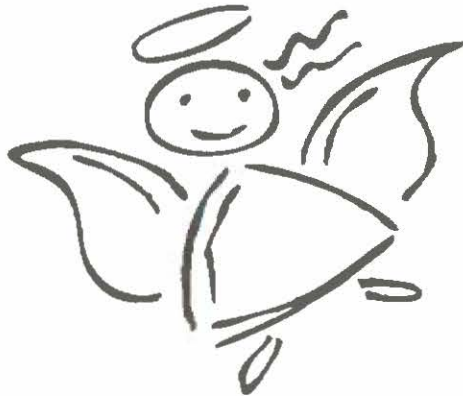
The committee is an informal group of parishioners who have fun planning fun events for parishioners. They meet on the fourth Sunday of the month after Coffee Shop, at 10:45 a.m., and are hoping to be joined by a few other parishioners who like to have fun planning fun things since some of their members have moved to other parts of the country.

Among the annual events that bring people together at St. Patrick's are the fall parish picnic, Lunch with Santa, and the popular summertime ice cream social. Others are added from time to time as people suggest them — Christmas caroling, St. Patrick's Day dinner dance, Mardi Gras, a hayride. Bring your ideas to Coffee Shop some fourth Sunday (why not the very *next* fourth Sunday?) and talk them over with the group. You will find a warm welcome and eagerness to hear your suggestions. You may even find a way that you can help make your ideas a reality.

If you can't make it to Coffee Shop or can't stay, you can always offer your suggestions in writing and leave them in the committee's mailbox in the parish lobby, or call Linda Weber (344-4884), the committee's chair. But they'd *really* like to meet you in person, don't you know!

Angels among us

Whether your interest in angels is modern media or Scripture, you might want to circle the last weekend of September on your calendar as noteworthy. On Saturday, Sept. 28,



the popular TV series "Touched by an Angel" begins its ninth season on CBS. In "Touched by an Angel," angels are dispatched from heaven to inspire people who are at a crossroads in their lives. The following day on Sunday, Sept. 29, the Catholic Church celebrates the feast day of the archangels Michael, Gabriel and Raphael. Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael may not have a high Nielsen rating but their popularity has certainly surpassed the nine-year mark. In fact, they are quite popular archangels by Biblical standards in that even though angels appear frequently in the Bible as messengers from God only Michael, Gabriel and Raphael receive credit and are named in the Bible.

Michael appears in the Book of Revelation during Daniel's vision as the prince who defends Israel against its enemies. He leads God's armies to victory over the forces of evil. Devotion to Michael is the oldest angelic devotion. John Travolta's portrayal of Michael the Archangel in the 1996 movie "Michael" rekindled an interest in angels and archangels.

Gabriel the Archangel also makes an appearance in Daniel's visions, announcing Michael's role in God's plan. Most of us are aware of this well-documented appearance. (Some of us may have even played the role in the Christmas Pageant in grade school.) Gabriel is best known for his encounter with a young Jewish girl

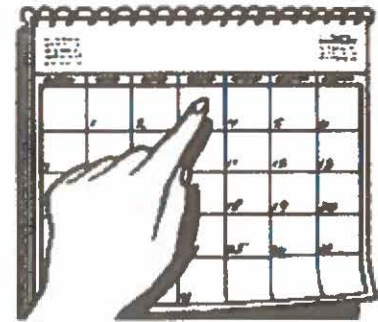
named Mary, who consents to bear the Messiah.

Raphael's activity is confined to the Old Testament in the story of Tobit. There he appears to guide Tobit's son Tobiah through a series of adventures which lead to a threefold happy ending: Tobiah's marriage to Sarah, the healing of Tobit's blindness, and the restoration of the family fortune.

In "Touched by an Angel," while the angels may not bring answers to every problem, they always deliver a message of hope. In the Scripture, each of the three archangels performed different roles as messengers from God. Michael was the protector; Gabriel was the announcer; Raphael was the family counselor.

Centuries ago, mystifying events often were attributed to the actions of angels; angels were given the credit they were due. Through time, that belief gave way to scientific, cause-and-effect explanations. However, in the last decade of the 20th century, this popular TV show along with the movie "Michael" have led millions of people to be open to angels in their lives and to acknowledge the possibility of their presence. Some may question the secular nature that brought about this spiritual awakening. Others may realize that anyone can be messengers from God, even Hollywood folk.

Make a date



Sunday, Sept. 8 Blood Pressure Screening. Stop by the Parish Nurse office, south of the main hall in the parish center, for a free blood pressure check, 8:30 a.m. to noon.

Wednesday, Sept. 11 A Memorial Mass will be celebrated at 5:15 p.m. in the main hall of the parish center, to remember the many affected by the events of last Sept. 11.

Sunday, Sept. 15 The parish picnic will be held at Crystal Lake Park. As part of our ongoing centennial celebration, ice cream will be served. Watch the bulletin for times and details.

Sunday, Sept. 22 WATCH participants and others interested in spiritual renewal and fellowship are invited to the Fan the Flames mini-retreat from 2 to 4 p.m.

Sinai Temple Child Care from page 1

Patrick's (a member) asks for volunteers to provide child care at the Temple on two Jewish High Holy Days:

Rosh Hashana (Saturday, Sept. 7): first shift, 9:45 a.m. to noon; second shift, 11:45 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Yom Kippur (Monday, Sept. 16): first shift, 9:45 a.m. to noon; second shift, 11:45 a.m. to 2 p.m.; third shift 3:45 to 6 p.m.)

The children will be grouped by age: infants (to 2 years); young children (3 to 5 years), and school age (6 to 8 years). Snacks and activities will be provided.

Rosh Hashana is a joyful day, the beginning of the new year in the

Jewish calendar, but it also a day when Jews spend time in profound reflection and prayer. It begins a period called the "Days of Awe," which end with Yom Kippur, the "Day of Atonement." During this time, Jews all over the world congregate in the synagogue. They examine their lives and the actions of the community; as a community, they confess their sins and ask for forgiveness. According to tradition, on Yom Kippur, God's judgment will be sealed in the book of life for another year.

If you can help at any of the times listed, please call Peggy Whelan (367-3668), St. Patrick's representative on the Council of Congregations. Any amount of time you can give will be greatly appreciated.

Parish council news



At the council's Aug. 15 meeting Fr.

Remm reported that he's pleased with the work done by Renaissance Architects on the refurbishing

of the church. A painting and carpeting scheme has been approved, and the project has begun and is on schedule.

There's been only one surprise so far. When the carpets and pews were removed, it was apparent that the floor tiles were broken and in bad shape. Since the tiles are asbestos, the refurbishing committee agreed that the parish should carpet the whole church.

In financial matters, Fr. Remm reported that the annual diocesan report has been sent to the diocese. The reports lists total assets and liabilities of \$4,521,975, including properties appraised at \$3,590,000. The results of third Sunday collections for the poor were of special note. The parish is extraordinary in its support of the poor through these collections, which enable the St. Vincent DePaul Society at the parish to feed the hungry.

Fr. Remm reported that he hopes to work this year on increasing awareness of and support for the St. Patrick's Catholic Education Foundation. He also wants to see the foundation for the High School of St. Thomas More to become as big as the education foundation. He would like to oversee a major push to help this foundation before he retires.

A total of \$94,869 has been pledged for the 2002 Annual Diocesan Appeal, which is more than the diocesan goal, but still less than the total goal set by the parish. Fr. Remm plans to write a pastoral reflection encouraging people who have not yet contributed to make a donation; anything pledged now will come back to the parish in rebates.

Steve Beckett was thanked for his

service as trustee; his assistance has been exceptional and generous. Fr. Remm will ask the bishop for approval of Pat Dill as the next trustee.

The council received an update on the CREW mission trip to Memphis this summer. The teens spent most of their time working on the house of an impoverished woman who had been active in the civil rights movement 20 years ago. CREW members were so committed to the project that they voted to give up a whitewater rafting trip on their one free day to work on the house.

In other business, the council learned:

- The parish objectives workshop will be held Oct. 12. It's hoped that representatives of every committee will attend.

- The Good Samaritan program is up and running. If anyone knows of families or individuals needing assistance, please notify the parish.

- The Habitat house worked on by parish members will be dedicated at 5:30 p.m., Sept. 12, to be followed by a reception at Holy Cross.

- The centennial committee will not put on a talent show next spring and will instead focus on activities for the rededication of the church in May.

Don't miss centennial mission

Celebration of St. Patrick's centennial continues with the parish mission planned for Dec. 7-12. Mark your calendars now and plan to reserve those few days to join in special liturgies with inspiring homilies as we look with gratitude to our past and anticipate the challenges the future holds for our second century as a parish.

Fr. Bob Gielow, from the Vincentian Parish Mission ministry, will lead us in this five-day renewal experience, which will feature evening liturgies with homilies on the mission themes, followed by a social time in the parish center. Babysitting will be provided. During the daytime, he will be available for

confessions, counseling, and visits to the homebound.

More information will be forthcoming as the time for the parish mission draws near — watch for it, and be ready to participate! Mary Long (367-2665) is serving as coordinator of this event in our celebration of the parish centennial and will have the most up-to-date information at any time to answer your questions.

Catechists called to walk in Christ's path

Live for the Lord is the theme of this year's Catechetical Sunday, celebrated on Sept. 14 to 15. On that Sunday, more than 150 volunteers who help pass on faith to our parish children, teens and adults will be commissioned for this task at Mass. They are commissioned because they have been called by the church to be catechists; they teach in the name of the Church.

Every catechist, indeed every Christian, is called to walk in the path of Christ. Catechists do this in a special way as they help us to understand better the way of Christ. Their efforts and preparation represent a great gift to the Church. In living for the Lord, catechists, indeed all of us, are called to witness to all that the Church teaches and believes.

Following each Mass that weekend, children, teens and adults will be invited to sign up for classes in the parish center. Children's classes are on Sunday mornings from 9 to 10 a.m. or from 11 a.m. to noon. A children's liturgy is offered from 10:15 a.m. to 11 a.m. Alternate children's classes are on Wednesday evenings at St. Patrick's from 6 to 7 p.m. and in St. Joseph from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Junior high and high school classes are on Sunday evenings from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Bible study and occasional classes for adults are offered at various times, as announced.

No silver lining with decline in religious vocations

The priest shortage should not be welcomed as a means to increase lay involvement in the church, Pope John Paul II has warned.

"We must not be content with the explanation that the scarcity of priestly vocations will be compensated by the growing commitment of the lay apostolate or even less that it could be desired by providence in order to favor the growth of the laity," the pope told pastors of Rome parishes this spring.

He said that in Rome and in other parts of the world, social obstacles stand in the way of making a lifelong commitment to celibacy, the priest-

hood and religious life.

The pope said a decrease in the number of religious vocations often is the "consequence of a lessening of the intensity of faith and spiritual fervor."

He said people fail to realize that such a vocation is not the result of their choices or talents, but is a call from God. And because a vocation comes from God, it is not enough for a diocese to have a good recruitment plan.

"The first and principal commitment for vocations cannot be anything but prayer," he said.



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. Bylines are generally omitted.

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Articles and information for this issue were contributed by Ellen Abell, Carolyn Artz, Jan Bellington, Carol Bosley, Mary Lee Brady, Artha Chamberlain, Judy Conover, Frances Drone-Silvers, Rosemary Garhardt, Mary Long, Carolyn McElrath, Bridget McGill, Mary Lou Menches, Dr. Susan Nagele, Leslie Risatti, Cathy Salika, Nancy Steerman, Linda Weber and Peggy Whelan. This issue was paged by John Colombo.

Quick fixin's from the kitchen of . . .

Robin Schingel

Potato Salad

- 4 lbs. medium-size red potatoes
- 1/4 c extra virgin olive oil
- 1/4 c coarsely chopped fresh basil leaves
- 1 T chopped fresh rosemary or 1 t dried rosemary leaves, crushed
- 2 t salt
- 1/2 t coarsely ground black pepper

Cut unpeeled potatoes into quarters. In 4-quart saucepan over high heat, heat potatoes and enough water to cover to boiling. Reduce heat to low; cover and simmer 20 minutes or until potatoes are tender; drain. In large bowl, mix potatoes, olive oil, basil, rosemary, salt and pepper until blended. Cover and refrigerate.



Thanks for the affirmations, keep them coming

Since we have just finished a busy year of parish activities and are embarking on another, this seems a good time to take a moment to reflect on the year past. Think of the many programs completed last spring: religious education, RCIA, Confirmation, First Communion, CREW's Mission. Did someone in one of these or some other program have an impact on you, or on the parish? Did someone provide that extra care you needed? Perhaps you glimpsed Jesus' presence in or through them. If so, it's never too late to recognize them for their service to you or to the

parish community.

The Personnel Committee invites you to take a moment to write a note of affirmation, a few words of appreciation to such individuals. The note of affirmation needn't be long (a few words of appreciation go a long way!), and signing it is optional. If you place your note in the committee's mailbox in the parish center, the committee will see to it that the note reaches the individual affirmed.

Affirmations are welcome at any time, so submit them throughout the year as you notice the gifts so freely given by many individuals in our

parish community — you needn't wait to asked.

Among those you may want to recognize are members of the parish staff (Fr. George Remm, Fr. Gene Kane, Sr. Charlene Cesario, Cliff Maduzia, Dan Murphy, Carolyn McElrath, Chris Angel, Leslie Risatti, Tim Thilmony, Bill VanCleave), coordinators (Carol Retz, Mark and Diane Cousert, Peggy Loftus, Linda Glazier, Cindy Shaw, Mary Long, Mary Tierney, Lenore Nagele, Frances Drone-Silvers), and volunteers (far too numerous to list!).

Need help? Use the form below!

AFFIRMATION FORM (Please write or print clearly.)

Name (the person you are affirming): _____

I wish to affirm this person because (use a separate sheet of paper if more space is needed):

Your name (optional): _____




Please place your completed note of affirmation in the Personnel Committee's mailbox in the parish center.



September 2002

St. Patrick's Parish



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2  Labor Day 9:00am Mass & Potluck Breakfast 7:00pm Centering Prayer	3 7:00pm WATCH Board 7:00pm Financial Affairs Com	4 4:30pm CREW Board 5:15pm SVDP 6:30pm Liturgy Com	5 6:45am Men's Bible Study 7:00pm Building & Grounds Com	6 10:45am Mass-Champaign Cty NH	7 Stewardship of Time & Talent 8:30-11:00am Bible Study Overview of Romans 9:00am-3:00pm Parish Council Retreat
8 Stewardship of Time & Talent 8:30am-12:00pm Blood Pressure Screening	9 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:00pm Social Action Com 7:00pm Centennial Com & Mission Planning Mtg	10 7:30pm Parish Council Exec Com	11 5:15pm SVDP 5:15pm Sept. 11 Remembrance	12 6:45am Men's Bible Study 7:00pm Baptism Prep	13 10:30am Mass-Care Center 10:45am Mass-Champaign Cty NH	14
15  Catechetical Sunday 1:00pm Parish Picnic 6:30pm Leaders Bible Study	16 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:00pm WATCH	17 9:30am Mass-Canterbury Ridge	18 5:15pm SVDP	19 6:45am Men's Bible Study  7:00pm Parish Council	20 10:30am Mass-Clark-Lindsey 10:45am Mass-Champaign Cty NH	21
22 10:15am Holy Cross Parents Meeting 2:30-4:00pm Fan the Flames 6:30pm Leaders Bible Study	23 9:30am Archives Com 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:00pm WATCH	24 7:00pm Homily Prep	25 5:15pm SVDP	26 6:45am Men's Bible Study 7:00pm Communications Com	27 10:30am Mass-Manor Care 10:45am Mass-Champaign Cty NH	28
29 10:00am Fr. Kane's Auction 10:45am Social Com 6:30pm Leaders Bible Study	30 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:00pm WATCH					

SVDP=St Vincent de Paul NH=Nursing Home