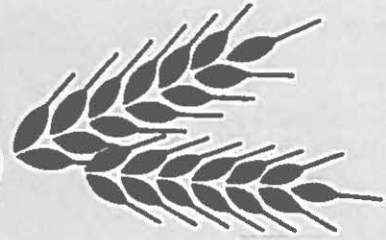


ST. PATRICK'S PARISH

In Focus



ADVENT: WRAPPING OURSELVES "IN THE CLOAK OF JUSTICE FROM GOD"

We all know the pleasure of taking off dirty, stained, or ill-fitting clothing to put on the clean, fresh things in which we're most comfortable. The prophet Baruch, who speaks on the Second Sunday of Advent, recommends this to his people: "Jerusalem, take off your robe of mourning and misery; put on the splendor of glory from God forever. Wrapped in the cloak of justice from God, bear on your head the mitre that displays the glory of the eternal name."

Our clothes are very intimate to us. They are in constant contact with our skin, and they stand between us and others, reflecting how we see ourselves and changing how others see us. The same is true, Baruch says, of our spiritual lives. If all we find in our lives is a misery and mourning that seems to be a part of our very selves, as close to us as our skin, we will be wrapped up in our



own anxieties and fears, unable to reach toward God and others. What we need is a change.

Fortunately, God has taken the first step in this cosmic dance of changing costumes that reveals a deeper change in relationships. God the Son clothes himself in our humanity so that he could give us his own cloak. In a letter to the Galatians, Paul says, "All of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ" (3:27).

This Advent with the help of our Savior, who put on flesh for us, we

can prepare for an inner transformation. Let's all pray that we can accept the garment of "the splendor of glory from God"—which we received in our Baptism—so that we too can be clothed in Christ. By grace, our meditations on the Incarnation and the future coming of the Redeemer will renew our relationships with God so that we have not only the robes but the hands and feet and face of Christ for our mourning world.

A neighbor's independence may depend on you

Do you want to make a difference in someone's life? If your answer is yes, then you might consider becoming a Faith in Action volunteer caregiver.

Faith in Action is an interfaith volunteer caregiver program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Its purpose is to recruit volunteers from houses of worship and the community at large to care for frail and disabled seniors in the C-U area. Services provided by trained volunteers include friendly visiting, transportation to medical appointments and grocery

shopping, light housekeeping, errands, minor home repair, yard work, meals, and respite for family caregivers.

Sound familiar? Yes, this program is very similar to St. Patrick's Good Samaritans program, with two differences: (1) individuals served will be 55 and older, and (2) individuals served will not be restricted to persons living in St. Patrick's parish.

In effect, the Good Samaritans program will serve parishioners under 55 years of age, and Faith in Action

See "Neighbor" on page 2

Advent Litany

Teach us to know your ways, O Lord;
teach us your paths:

*That we may follow in faith and act
in justice and mercy.*

Teach us to know your ways, O Lord;
teach us your paths:

*That we may share your love with
the lost and lonely.*

Teach us to know your ways, O Lord;
teach us your paths:

That Jerusalem may live in peace.

Teach us to know your ways, O Lord;
teach us your paths:

That we may live in joy.

Teach us to know your ways, O Lord;
teach us your paths:

*That we may find the Christ child
and worship him.*

Teach us to know your ways, O Lord;
teach us your paths.

*Based on Lectionary texts
for the First Sunday of Advent*

Neighbor from page 1

will serve anyone in the C-U area 55 years of age or older.

Good Samaritans volunteers have the option of continuing in this program or of joining Faith in Action. Involvement in either will enrich lives by nurturing faith through neighborly outreach, fostering special relationships with people in need and other dedicated volunteers, enhancing health by staying active and involved, and providing a deep sense of satisfaction from helping others.

As Project Director of Faith in Action, parishioner Martha Paap is currently recruiting volunteers from St. Patrick's, but the program is not limited to the parish. St. Patrick's parish is joining Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, St. John's Catholic Chapel, Twin City Bible Church, and Urbana Assembly of God in partnering with Provena Covenant Medical Center's Faith in Action program.

As Senior Programs Coordinator of Provena Covenant Medical Center, Martha Paap is part of a large network of organizations devoted to providing services for seniors, including hospitals, social service agencies, hospice programs, adult day centers, parish nurses, the Area Agency on Aging, and many others. She has seen firsthand how Faith in Action can touch the lives of many people in need,



Martha Paap

having worked with it in Danville.

The program provides for orientation and training, support throughout the process, volunteer insurance, and an annual recognition banquet. Volunteers choose when and how often they will serve and the types of

care they prefer to give. The volunteer's preferences are matched with the care recipient's need.

This ministry has the potential to serve a large and growing elderly population, with many faith communities participating. This is an aging society; family members are often unavailable to care for seniors with chronic illnesses or too frail to care for themselves. Faith in Action gives seniors the opportunity to live independently in their own homes and enhances the quality of their lives.

Martha Paap invites parishioners to volunteer for this program, to join other faith communities in partnering with Provena Covenant Medical Center's broad community-based outreach to seniors in need of assistance in remaining independent. For further information or to volunteer, contact Martha at 337-2022 (office), 469-0134 (home), or MarthaMPaap@ProvenaHealth.com.

Prepare the way!

Communal Reconciliation services are a wonderful way to prepare for Christmas. The services offer scripture and song for reflection, followed by individual confessions for those who wish to celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation. Services begin at 7:00 pm:



Monday, Dec. 15, at Holy Cross church
 Tuesday, Dec. 16, at St. Patrick's church
 Wednesday, Dec. 17, at St. Matthew's church

What's new?

For the last few years the General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM) has been undergoing revision, translation into English, and review by the U.S. Bishops. The General Instruction regulates the celebration of the Eucharist through its presentation of desired norms for place, rites, and texts. The new edition is the first major revision since the one promulgated for use in 1975 following the Second Vatican Council.

This fall all priests of the Diocese of Peoria met with Bishop Jenky on implementing the revised norms. Fr. Remm is reviewing these with his staff but meanwhile has chosen to share them with us to help us recognize and understand how and why some aspects of our worship services will be different from what we have become accustomed to over time. He pointed out that while many elements in the revised norms are simply affirmations of current practice, some require a modest change.

See "Changes" on page 3

*Some day,
 after mastering
 the winds, the waves,
 the tides and gravity,
 we shall harness for God
 the energies of love.
 And then,
 for the second time
 in the history of the world,
 man will discover fire.*

~Teilhard de Chardin

Changes in the Procedures for Sunday Celebrations of the Mass at St. Patrick's...

...Following the New General Instruction of the Roman Missal, Advent 2003

Preparation

1. The lectionary is put at the ambo since this book is not carried in the entrance procession. Sometimes a lector may carry in procession the Book of the Gospels, slightly elevated, to be set on the altar.

2. Enough bread is placed on the offertory table so that the people as well as the priest may communicate from what is consecrated at that Mass.

Celebration

1. Sacred silence is to be observed at designated times. Its purpose, however, depends on the time it occurs in each part of the celebration. Thus within the Act of Penance and again after the invitation to pray, all recollect themselves; but at the conclusion of a reading or the homily, all meditate briefly on what they have heard; then after Communion, they praise and pray to God in their hearts.

2. The Apostles Creed is permitted as an option to the Nicene Creed, especially during Lent and Easter. During the Nicene Creed, at the words "by the power of the Holy Spirit ... and became man" all make a profound bow.

3. At the end of the presentation of the gifts the people should stand after the priest's invitation to pray, "Pray, my brothers and sisters, ..." and before the response, "May the Lord accept...."

4. The Bishops of the United States have mandated that the congregation should kneel from the end of the Sanctus until after the Amen of the Eucharistic Prayer, except when prevented on occasion by reason of health, lack of space, the large number of people present, or some other good reason. Those who do not kneel ought to make a profound bow when the priest genuflects after the consecration. The faithful kneel after the Agnus Dei until the beginning of the Communion procession.

5. The priest says the Lord's Prayer with hands extended. The people say or sing with him, but the GIRM is silent about the people holding hands or lifting up their hands. Apparently local custom may continue.

6. The priest should not leave the sanctuary at the kiss of peace. For a good reason, on special occasions (for example, in the case of a funeral, a wedding, or when civil officials are present) the priest may offer the sign of peace to a few of the faithful near the sanctuary. In accord with the decisions of the Conference of Bishops, all offer one another a sign that expresses peace, communion, and charity. It is, however, appropriate that each person offer the sign of peace

only to those who are nearest.

7. The breaking of the bread is reserved to the priest and deacon. (Apparently this would be true for the pouring of the Precious Blood as well.) Eucharistic ministers may come into the sanctuary at the usual time but are not to approach the altar until the priest has received Communion. They are always to receive from the hands of the priest celebrant the vessels containing either species of the Most Holy Eucharist for distribution to the faithful.

8. It is most desirable that the faithful receive the Lord's Body from hosts consecrated at the same Mass and that they partake of the chalice. Please use hosts from the tabernacle only after hosts consecrated at the Mass have been distributed.

9. The norm for reception of Holy Communion in the dioceses of the United States is standing. The faithful are to shun any appearance of individualism or division. When receiving Holy Communion, the communicant bows his or her head before the

sacrament as a gesture of reverence and receives the Body of the Lord from the minister. (In order to maintain the good order of the Communion procession, and not to impede the presentation of the sacrament, please bow your head while the person ahead of you is receiving Communion.) The sign of reverence is also made before receiving the Precious Blood.

10. Although the posture for Communion is standing until the period of sacred silence after Communion to ensure within broad limits a certain uniformity of posture within the congregation, the mind of the GIRM is not to regulate posture rigidly in such a way that those who wish to kneel or sit after Communion would not be free to do so. (Response from Prefect of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, June 5, 2003, Prot. N.855/03/L) We encourage you to stand and

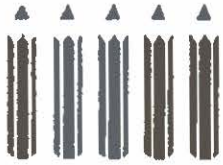
participate in the Communion song throughout the distribution of Communion, but individual communicants may kneel or sit after receiving Communion if they wish.

11. A decree of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments (March 22, 2002, Prot. 1383/01/L) states that the diocesan bishop may grant to priest celebrants the faculty for extraordinary ministers to assist with the purification of sacred vessels after the distribution of Communion at Mass when this is necessary. Bishop Jenky has accepted this indult. Ministers may consume what remains of the Precious Blood. The vessels can be purified immediately after Mass following the dismissal of the people.

12. After the distribution of Communion, as circumstances suggest, the priest and faithful spend some time praying privately or participate in a song of praise sung by the entire congregation.



Holy Cross Newsline



The annual Scholastic Book Fair was held in the library Nov. 10-14, coinciding with the

parent-teacher conferences on Nov. 13-14. On Friday, Nov. 21, an all-school Eucharist Day Mass was celebrated.

The annual Grandparents and Special Friends Day will be observed on Wednesday, Nov. 26. The all-school Mass will begin at 8:15 a.m., followed by a reception in the parish center for the adults. Members of the Student Council will serve coffee and cookies while guests are entertained with short choral and band selections from some of the children. School will be dismissed at noon for Thanksgiving break, with classes to resume on Monday, Dec. 1.

The Kris Kringle Shop will be open for Christmas shopping by

classes on Dec. 1-3 in the parish center mezzanine.

Two all-school Masses are scheduled for December: Advent, Dec. 5, and Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Dec. 8; both begin at 8:15 a.m.

Eighth-graders will visit The High School of St. Thomas More on Wednesday, Dec. 10, for a day of exploration of the school. On Wednesday, Dec. 17, visiting artists will talk to children in grades 3-6.

The annual Christmas Band and Choral Concert will be held at The High School of St. Thomas More on the evening of Dec. 17. All the Holy Cross Bands and music classes will perform in addition to band and choral ensembles from St. Thomas More.

Christmas vacation begins at 2:30 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 19; classes resume on Monday, Jan. 5, at 7:55 a.m.



in our parish library

"Bless me, Father, for I have sinned," many of us remember saying as our opening to the confession of our sins. Despite the fact that it has been over two decades since the revised rite for the Sacrament of Reconciliation was introduced, we may find ourselves sometimes still thinking of this sacrament in the way we learned about it in grade school. As our parish children prepare for their First Reconciliation, we adults might take this opportunity to rethink our perceptions of this sacrament and grow in our understanding of it. Here are some readings that can help:

The Healing Power of the Sacraments, by Jim McManus (265 MCM), views all the sacraments in the light of Christ's healing ministry. Chapter 4, "The Sacrament of Reconciliation," speaks of the self-wound inflicted by sin and the sacrament's power of healing and

spiritual renewal.

Sacraments and Sacramentality, by Bernard Cooke (265 COO). In Chapters 16-19, Cooke addresses the reality of sin in human life and how sin affects society as well as individuals. He also writes about truly celebrating Reconciliation.

Reconciling, by Francis J. Buckley (265 BUC), is about twelve different aspects of the mystery of forgiveness, including speaking, listening, sorrowing, confessing, repairing, forgiving, and celebrating.



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

Prayer for Vocations

O loving and gracious God, Father of all, you bless your people in every time and season, and provide for our needs through your providential care. Your Church is continually in need of priests, sisters, and brothers to offer themselves in the service of the Gospel by lives of dedicated love.

Open the hearts of your sons and daughters to listen to your call in their lives. Give them the gift of understanding to discern your invitation to serve you and your

Church. Give them the gift of courage to follow your call. May they have the spirit of young Samuel, who found fulfillment in his life when he said to you, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening."

We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Redeemer.



Calling all Guy and Gal Fridays!

Volunteers are needed to help Catholic residents of the Champaign County Nursing Home get to Mass on Friday mornings in their chapel. Many are frail or wheelchair bound and are grateful for help in getting from their rooms to the chapel area.

The nursing home is located at 1701 E. Main St., Urbana. Preparations start at 10 a.m. for the Mass at 10:45 a.m.

If you can help, every Friday or even once or twice a month, call Mary Sleeter (643-3785). She will be very glad to hear from you!

Betty Conerty hosts St. Patrick's Seniors

A blazing bonfire welcomed St. Patrick's Seniors as they entered the Conerty farm for a wiener roast on Oct. 9, hosted by Betty Conerty and her family. Fr. Remm greeted everyone, thanked Betty for her generous hospitality, and gave the blessing.

Inasmuch as this is Fr. Remm's final year at St. Patrick's, the Seniors wanted to do something to show their appreciation for all he has done for the parish. They put on a skit and presented Father with a Cubs baseball cap, since he will have time to see the games once he retires. They also gave him the "badge" of a senior—a cane—but not just any cane. This one has a beep, beep horn, a rearview mirror, a

"yield" sign, and a coin or pill purse. (It also has a sign that says "If the owner of this cane appears lost or confused, please notify Bishop Jenky.") And, finally, he was given a large card that read "Father Remm, welcome to the Golden Years. We love you!" and was signed with individual messages for the Seniors in attendance.

Sixty-two Seniors enjoyed the evening under warm but cloudy skies. Following the skit, they feasted on roasted wieners with all the trimmings and lingered over cups of hot cider, hot chocolate, or coffee while catching up on news with friends. It was a wonderful evening!



Betty Conerty and her daughter, Connie Difanis, prepare drinks at the wiener roast.



Fr. Remm and Seniors enjoy a skit in his honor.



Wearing his Cubs cap, Fr. Remm demonstrates the beep-beep attachment on his cane.



St. Patrick's Seniors present a card with many sticky-note best wishes to Fr. Remm.



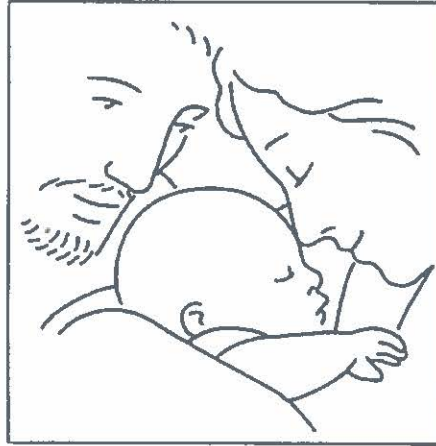
Shirley Splitstoesser (left), Nancy Steerman, Ray Wait, Irma Wait, and Jean Daly listen attentively to Verne Kroes (second from the left).

The child lives

It is the constant fear of every tyrant that somewhere, perhaps in an obscure village, perhaps at that very moment, there is a baby born who will one day signal the end of his power. According to the Gospel of Matthew, this fear was realized for King Herod when wandering wise men from the East came to Jerusalem asking, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews?"

By all accounts, Herod was a man of extreme brutality. He conceived of a simple plan: Rather than sit and wait anxiously for the day of reckoning with this future "king," why not simply kill the infant before he could grow and pose a threat? When the wise men failed to cooperate with his plan, Herod ordered his troops to the village of Bethlehem, there to kill every male child under the age of two.

The order was given and it was dutifully carried out, but as we know, the massacre was pointless. Joseph, forewarned in a dream, had taken his family into exile in Egypt.



The child lives.

This terrible story is a vivid reminder of the violent world into which Jesus was born. There were certainly those for whom the coming of the Messiah represented anything but good news. From the early centuries, however, the Church has commemorated the feast of these Holy Innocents. Unlike later martyrs who would die bearing witness to Christ, these little ones died unwittingly in the place of Christ, killed by the same

interests that would later conspire in his death and for the same reason—to stifle from birth any hope that the world might be changed.

In our own time whole villages have been massacred on the basis of similar reports: peasants in a hamlet have formed a cooperative, in a certain village poor families are gathering at night to read the Bible and other "subversive" literature; action must be taken before the "danger" spreads—and people die.

The feast of the Holy Innocents, Dec. 28, is not simply a memorial to those who died before their time. These infants represent all those cut down to prevent the seed of liberation from taking root and growing. In remembering the Holy Innocents the Church commemorates these victims of rage, but it also celebrates the failure of that rage. The child lives.

In comparison to the genocide and abortion of our own day, they were few indeed. But in all the Holy Innocents, those of yesterday and today, we recognize the greatest treasure God has put on the earth—a human person, destined for eternity and graced by Jesus' death and resurrection.



Q: I've seen people strike their breasts at Mass. What's that all about?

A: This gesture comes to us from the Gospel of St. Luke, who mentions it twice. In one place, Jesus told a story about a Pharisee and a tax collector who went up to the temple to pray. The Pharisee boasted about his good deeds, but the tax collector beat his breast and said, "O God, have mercy on me, a sinner." And immediately after Jesus died, Luck says, "When the crowd that had assembled for this spectacle saw what had happened, they went home beating their

breasts." So it seems that, in Jesus' time, striking the breast was a gesture of penitence or grief.

There are several penitential rites that can be used at the beginning of Mass. When we use the one that begins with the words "I confess to Almighty God" the liturgy invites us to use this gesture. As with all the gestures we use at Mass, it is part of our tradition of Catholic worship, but its meaning may be different for you at different times. This one may sometimes be an admission of guilt: "I did it. I have sinned through my own fault." At other times it may express regret: "I wish I hadn't done that." And maybe at times you can identify with the sinner in Jesus' story and remember that Jesus said "This man went home justified."



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

Did you know?

The Parish Nurse ministry team, as part of their New Moms program, visits new mothers and their babies within the first week after they come home from the hospital. If you are expecting the birth of your baby soon or know of someone who has just had a baby and would welcome a visit from a parish nurse, please leave a message at the Parish Nurse office (278-2118) or call Lilia Peters (355-9233).



Deadline for submission of information, articles, and news items for the next issue of *In Focus* is December 7.

Sophia one of 98 recipients of Pere Marquette Awards

At the Honors Mass and banquet on Nov. 22, Sophia Zeigler joined 97 other men and women from around the Diocese of Peoria who received the 2003 Pere Marquette Awards for their years of service to their parishes and the diocese. Their gifts of time and talent were recognized and celebrated in the awards ceremony by Bishop Daniel Jenky.

Sophia was honored for her work with the St. Vincent de Paul Society, where she oversees preparation and distribution of food through St. Patrick's food pantry every weekday at 4:30 p.m. and preparation of soup for the Catholic Worker House and the TIMES Center.

The following article, written by Shirley Splittstoesser and reprinted from the November 2003 GRIT magazine, tells the "behind the scenes" story of Sophia's work.

Sophia's Recipe for Success

Sophia Zeigler, of Urbana, Ill., is 84 years old and has no plans to retire.

For 24 years she has been the driving force behind two projects that help the less fortunate. She organized a food pantry that serves more than 1400 people a month, and she and her team make 20 gallons of soup each week for the Catholic Worker House.

"My work is my life because it is needed," she says. "What keeps me going is meeting the needy people. ... I will keep doing this as long as there is a need."

Sophia was working in New York City when the first Catholic Worker House was organized by Dorothy Day. That was still vivid in her mind when she and her husband, Martin, moved to Urbana. A priest at St. Patrick's Catholic Church asked her to make a gallon of soup for the needy. That was in the 1970s. These days she makes soup in 10- and 15-gallon kettles.

The food pantry is sponsored by the St. Vincent de Paul Society and is housed at St. Patrick's parish center. This past July 1439 people

were served by the food pantry. The food is donated by grocery stores, caterers, restaurants, bakeries, and parishioners. Volunteers sack the food and distribute the bags.

The [St. Vincent de Paul Society] also provides funds for people needing shoes, bus tokens, small repairs on cars, temporary housing, and more. Law enforcement agencies and others refer people to the pantry for assistance.

Whatever the need, Sophia knows that the people she meets have one thing in common. "I see the sadness in their eyes," she says. "You can tell that they are hurting."



Sophia Zeigler makes 20 gallons of soup each week for needy people. A caterer donates meat leftover from a banquet, and grocers or community members donate vegetables.

KC's fundraiser a success

The first Knights of Columbus fundraiser for the St. Patrick's Tuition Endowment Fund was attended by over 200 parishioners. Proceeds from the dinner and accompanying raffle brought in over \$1000. The Tuition Endowment Fund allows the parish to provide tuition support for parishioners who have children enrolled at the High School of St. Thomas More. The high school principal attended the event and was pleased to see the support shown by our parish community.

The Urbana Knights of Columbus expect to bring this popular fundraiser back next fall; watch for it! Those who came this year are still talking about the wonderful time they had—good food, great entertainment, marvelous goods and services raffled, enjoyable company, and all for a good cause! What more could anyone ask or hope for?



Spinach Lasagna

1 lb ricotta or small curd cottage cheese
 1-1/2 c shredded mozzarella cheese
 1 egg
 1 pkg (10 oz) frozen chopped spinach, thawed and drained
 1 t salt
 3/4 t oregano
 1/8 t pepper
 2 jars (15-1/2 oz each) spaghetti sauce
 1/2 pkg uncooked lasagna noodles
 1 c water

Quick fixin's from the kitchen of . . . Laura Cohen

In a large bowl, mix the ricotta or small curd cottage cheese, 1 cup mozzarella cheese, egg, spinach, salt, pepper, and oregano. In a greased 9 x 13 inch pan, layer the noodles, half the sauce, and half the cheese mixture. Repeat. Top with the remaining mozzarella cheese. Pour water around the edges and cover tightly with foil. Bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour 15 minutes. Let stand for 15 minutes.

The Archives Committee thanks you

With the conclusion of St. Patrick's Centennial celebrations, you'd think the Archives Committee could rest on their laurels and take a deep breath. Instead, they think first of all the parishioners who have helped with information, lists, photographs, names—whatever would, could, and did fill gaps in the recorded history of the parish. And so they say a big thank you to all of you!

Nancy Steerman is especially grateful. She has just finished her task of gathering information for writing histories of parish organizations, ministries, buildings, and committees—all 152 of them! Some, she says, are very short, others



ongoing, but all available for any parishioner to read by contacting a member of the Archives Committee. Right now the committee is searching for a convenient place to work and a comfortable place for browsers.

The committee will always need parishioners to help with the continuing classification and filing and updating the histories that have been written. If you have an interest in history, you might find the Ar-

chives Committee just your cup of tea. Call the parish office—or Nancy Steerman!—for the name of someone who can tell you firsthand about the work of the committee.

Because the work of this committee is never really finished, parish groups are cautioned not to discard minutes, lists of names, or any information pertinent to their organization or activities, but to give copies of these to the Archives Committee. "Just think," Nancy says, with a twinkle and a smile, "this is a good way to clean out papers filling up your desk, your closet, maybe even your basement—just give it all to your parish Archives Committee!"

What can I do for you?

Many families going through critical life events in a hospital are unable to respond to the frequently asked question, "What can I do for you?" Here are a few suggestions for lightening the burden carried by families in crisis:

Prayer, cards of encouragement, balloons

Gas cards for family visiting

Phone cards for updates

Gift certificates to area restaurants so families can take a break

Offers to do household chores, such as cutting the grass, cleaning, laundry

Carpooling children to school or to church-related activities

Meals for family members at home or hospital, in addition to snacks

Childcare

Diversionary materials, such as books, puzzles, games

Offer to sit with the patient so family can take a break

Money for parking passes or cafeteria food

Offer to set up a Web page for updates to prevent excessive family fatigue

~Courtesy Carle Foundation Hospital, Pastoral Care Dept.

When is Santa coming?

Even though Santa can't make it for lunch at St. Patrick's this year, he has sent word that he can be counted on to visit here on Sunday, Dec. 21, and both

young and old can arrange to have their picture taken with him. (Yes, he promised!)

Santa's visit is just one attraction in the parish-wide All-Church Christmas Party planned by St. Patrick's Social Committee. There will be karaoke singing and Christmas carol singing, card games, board games, dominoes, and Christmas trivia games. You could even make your own Christmas decorations—materials will be provided.

The All-Church Christmas Party offers all this and more, especially the more that includes having a good time with friends from our parish community. There is no admission charge—just bring a snack to share, to go with the punch provided by the committee.

That's Dec. 21, St. Patrick's main hall, 4-6 p.m. Don't forget!



St. Patrick's Parish In Focus is published on the last weekend of the month in Urbana, Illinois. News items and information may be submitted by mid-month for the next issue. Written materials must include the name and telephone number of the writer.

Please leave news items in the Communications Committee mail bin in the parish center, or call a committee member. All submissions are subject to review and/or editing by the committee and staff. By-lines are generally omitted.

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Articles and information for this issue were contributed by Kim Belcher, Laura Cohen, Mary Rose Cottingham, Frances Drone-Silvers, Mary Lou Menches, Ellen Noonan, Martha Paap, Lilia Peters, Fr. Remm, Cathy Salika, Shirley Splittstoesser, Nancy Steerman, Peggy Whelan. This issue was pagged by Jim Urban.

St. Patricks Parish

Urbana, IL

December 2003

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	7 pm Watch Bd 7 pm Centering Prayer 7 pm Ed 7 pm Pro-life	6 pm Celebration 7 pm Financial Affairs	9:30 am Moms Group 5:15 SVDP 5:15 Children's Choir 6 pm Rel Ed 7 pm GROW 7 pm RCIA 7 pm Choir	6:45 am Mens Bible Study 7 pm B&G 7 pm Choir	10:45am CCNH	
	1	2	3	4	5	6
9,11am Rel Ed 9 am RCIA 10:15am Childrens Lit	7 pm Centering Prayer 7 pm Social Action	11:30 am Senior Lunch 8:00 pm Exec Council	9:30 am Moms Group 9:30 am Schola 5:15 SVDP 5:15 Children's Choir 6 pm Rel Ed 7 pm GROW 7 pm RCIA 7 pm Personnel	6:45 am Mens Bible Study 7 pm Choir	10:30am Care Center 10:45am CCNH	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9,11am Rel Ed 9 am RCIA 10:15am Childrens Lit	7 pm Centering Prayer	9:30 am Canterbury Ridge 7 pm Liturgy 7 pm Communal Reconciliation	9:30 am Moms Group 5:15 SVDP 5:15 pm Childrens Choir 7 pm GROW 7 pm RCIA 7 pm Choir	6:45 am Mens Bible Study 7 pm Parish Council	10:30am Clark Lindsey 10:45am CCNH	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
9,11 am Rel Ed 9 am RCIA 4-6pm All Parish Christmas Party	9:30am Archives 7 pm Centering Prayer		Christmas Eve Masses: 4 pm 6:30 pm 10:30 pm Carols before masses	CHRISTMAS DAY 6:45 am Mens Bible Study Masses 7:30 am 10:30 am 12 pm	10:30am Manor Care 10:45am CCNH	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
9 am RCIA	7 pm FGDW 7pm Centering Prayer		NEW YEARS EVE 5:15 Vigil	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 December 7. Rel Ed= Religious Education SVDP= St. Vincent DePaul CCNH= Champaign County Nursing Home		
28	29	30	31			

