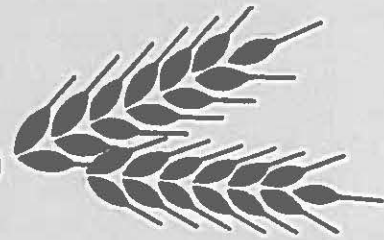


ST. PATRICK'S PARISH

In Focus



www.stpatsurbana.org

Everyday Pentecost



When he left his disciples, Jesus did not leave them to themselves with the mission of continuing his work and remembering what he had done, what he had taught. He sent them, from the Father, the Spirit who would act in them and in his Church with the power and authority of an Advocate, a Witness, and a Guide.

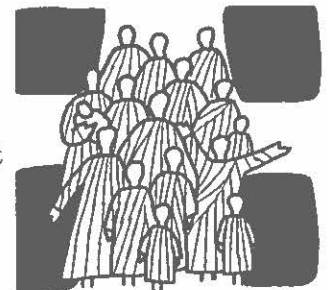
Thanks to the Spirit, the Word is still living in the world, being poured out and raising up new disciples everywhere, witnesses of Christ with the Holy Spirit so that the kingdom may come.

As we celebrate the centennial of our worship space, built in a former age by disciples with faith in the enduring indwelling of the Spirit and the raising up of new disciples in

years beyond their own ability to foresee, we pray not only for ourselves but for those disciples in ages to come, who worship in spirit and in truth in this space and wherever the Spirit breathes:

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in us the fire of your love.

Send forth your Spirit and we shall be created and you will renew the face of the earth.

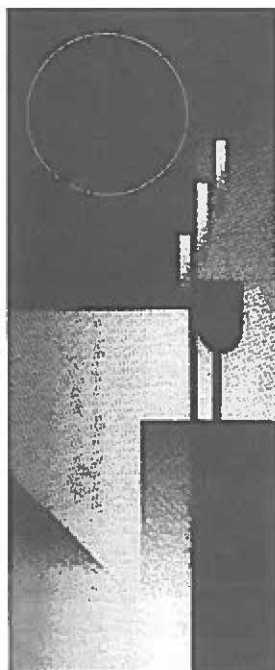


How is a church rededicated? The ritual is rich with symbols of consecration and of the presence of God. The church was long ago anointed—the altar and the four corners of the church—with sacred chrism, the oil that is used for confirmation and ordination. Incense is used as a sign of God's presence and of our prayers ascending to heaven from this place. Lighted candles celebrate the presence of Christ our Light.

Bishop Jenky to preside at rededication of St. Patrick's church

The celebration of St. Patrick's Parish Centennial will climax with the rededication of the church on June 8.

When the parish was founded in 1901, a wood-frame church was used for the first two years while the permanent structure we worship in today was being built. On May 24, 1903, the permanent church was dedicated. Our recently refurbished church will be rededicated, Bishop Daniel Jenky presiding, at 3:00 p.m. Mass on Sunday, June 8—fittingly, Pentecost Sunday.



To allow time for needed preparation, there will be no noon Mass on June 8.

On that day a dinner will be served to the bishop and invited guests at 1:30 p.m., followed by Mass at 3:00 p.m. for the Feast of Pentecost, which will include the ritual of rededication. Afterward there will be a gala reception in the main hall of the parish center. All parishioners and staff, past and present, are encouraged to come for Mass and the social gathering that follows.

The prayers for the day remind us that the church building is not an end in itself; it is the home of the Church, the People of God.

What better way to celebrate a century of people, faith, Word, and service?

Parish Council Elects Officers

At their May meeting, after celebrating the generous dedication of outgoing members and the commitment of newly elected members, the new Council gathered to elect officers for the coming year.

The ad hoc nominating committee presented its slate of nominees and the Council, with no other nominations from the floor, elected them "by acclamation": Janice Parker, president; Don Keefer, vice president, and Tracey Johnson, secretary.

As president, Janice will preside at

Council meetings, is responsible for setting the agenda, and represents (at the pastor's behest) the Parish Council and/or the parish.

As vice president, Don will assist the president in performing the duties of that office and assume them in her absence, serve as Council liaison with the Personnel Committee, and oversee the functioning of all standing and ad hoc committees of the Council.

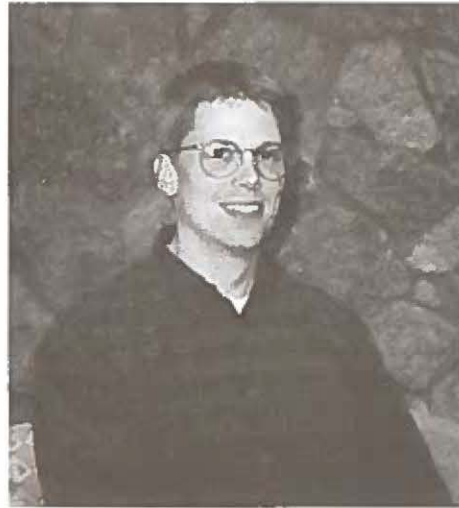
As secretary, Tracey will keep a record of all Council proceedings, publish the meeting agenda and min-

utes of Council meetings, keep the attendance record of Council meetings, maintain a membership roster of the Council and its committees, attend to all Council correspondence, and provide a copy of Council minutes to the parish archives.

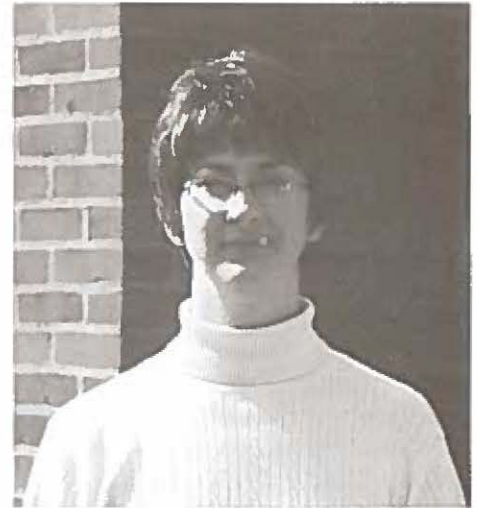
Each officer also serves on the executive committee of the Council, which is made up of the elected officers, the two parish trustees, and the pastor. The executive committee also functions as the Development Committee, at the behest of the pastor.



Janice Parker



Don Keefer



Tracey Johnson

Parish Council News

The May meeting of the Parish Council was, as always, a time for expressions of appreciation, gratitude, and fond farewells for (and by) departing members and warm welcomes extended to new members, elected just a few weeks earlier. The celebration of Mass reaffirmed in a special way the thanksgiving for years of service just concluded and just begun.

With resumption of the meeting, the new Council elected its officers for the coming year. [See related article in this issue.] New members and officers will be commissioned at 9:00 a.m. Mass on Jun. 15.

It was noted that pledges and payments toward the parish's ADA goal of \$99,840 have so far reached \$73,622. Fr. Remm expressed his gratitude for parishioners' support of

ADA and hoped that a mailing of about 800 letters with pledge cards will bring in the rest of what is needed to meet our goal.

The church cornerstone has been removed and the enclosed time capsule will be opened on Saturday, May 24, in conjunction with the 8:00 a.m.

Mass. Items removed from the cornerstone will be photographed and put on

display in the parish center until all are returned to the time capsule, along with other items, and the cornerstone replaced.

Fr. Remm observed that this year will see a significant reallocation of space for programs, personnel, equipment, and supplies through implementation of the Sapient Group report. [We hope to have information about this report and its impact on

parish facilities in the next issue of *In Focus*.]

A maintenance contract with Krueco has been approved. The contract provides for inspection, maintenance, and repair of mechanical and electrical systems in parish facilities.

Work continues on the white garage north of the alley, to provide work space for maintenance personnel, and on the religious education building, with an open house planned for late summer. New ramps for the east entrance to the church and for the religious education building have arrived and may be installed by the time you've read about it here. Asphalt and concrete work will proceed once the necessary paperwork is on hand and a resolution authorizing it has been approved by the bishop.

Final arrangements are being made

continued on page 12



One Church, one family in faith

There is a common thread among the faith journeys of the neophytes, or new Catholics, who entered into full communion with the Church this Easter. Whether married or engaged couples, or whole families, the motivating factor was to promote family unity in one faith. They were attracted by the warm welcome they received here at St. Patrick's.

Doug Boyer expresses this sentiment: "Witnessing the love, support, and faith of family members in the Catholic faith presented before me a path, a journey, that I, too, wanted to



be a part of." He sought "to demonstrate to my sons [Griffin, 4, and Garrett, 2] the joy that faith and worship can bring into our lives, and to strengthen the love and life-long relationship I have with my wife."

Doug has described for us his journey from Inquirer last fall to Catechumens (one being instructed) in December, to Elect (chosen one) on the First Sunday of Lent, to Neophyte at Easter. Doug works for the Division of Campus Recreation at the UI and is married to a "loving and supportive wife, Jana."

"Troy, my husband of ten years, is



Catholic and encouraged and inspired me to inquire," relates **Brenda Waller**. "We wanted a family unity in faith, and I wanted to be able to lead my children [Blake, 8, and Ty, 6] in faith alongside my husband. I am pleased with my decision to join the Catholic Church. The RCIA journey was a wonderful experience." Brenda works full time at Health Alliance, while pursuing a Bachelor's degree through Franklin University.

You may have noticed a familiar face in the group of catechumens dismissed from Mass to "break open the Word" each Sunday of Lent this year. **William VanCleave**, better known as Bill, tells his story: "I have worked at St. Patrick's as the maintenance man for over nine years. I have thought about joining the Church several times but did not do it. In



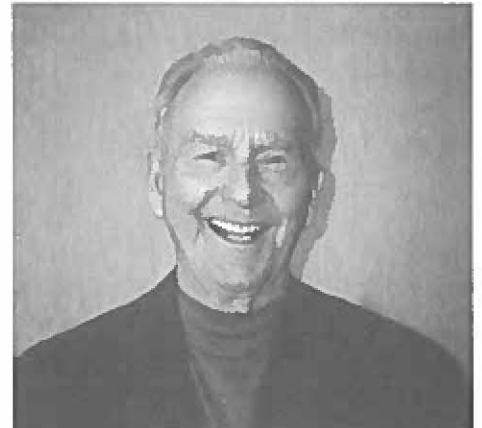
June I began dating Mary Tierney and proposed in January, with our marriage to be on July 4. I thought it would be beneficial to me and to my new family to worship in the same place and belief. My search included talks with my sister and brother-in-law, Connie and Chuck Shaw, with Fr. Remm, with my pastor at Twin City Bible Church, Bill Meier, and with other close friends, as well as my fiancée. I have searched my heart and soul and have decided to join the Catholic faith."

Misty Hays' fiancé, Blaine Thomey, is Catholic, and the couple, who will be married in August, want to raise their children in the Catholic faith. "I find St. Patrick's Parish to be very friendly and welcoming," says Misty. She graduated from the UI in Finance this May and will be moving to the St.



Louis area to work for Monsanto.

Robert Johnson has been married to his Catholic wife, Christine, for 45 years. He has attended Mass at St.



Patrick's for the last 10 years. "I feel good Sundays at services," Robert tells us. He served in the Navy from 1943 to 1946 and retired from the UI in 1992. Robert and Christine have five children.

"I have been searching for a church to belong to for some time, and I had not found one that I felt was 'the right one,'" confides **Renee Potera**. "My husband [Pawel] and his family



are Catholic, and it was through his faith that I decided to inquire into the Church. It was not something he

continued on next page

New Parishioners

From page 3

pushed on me, it was just my observation of his beliefs that led me here. I feel that joining the Church is the right thing for me, and I am looking forward to taking an active role in St. Patrick's." Renee is a medical student at UI and has lived in C-U for eight years. She has been married to Pawel for three years. She is not sure where her family will settle when she finishes medical school in three years, but she will "always consider Champaign-Urbana home," in spite of the winters!

"My fiancée, Hope Rokosz, and I are happy that we decided to take the RCIA journey together," says **Sean Morrison**. "Through the process I've learned, grown, and gained a deeper understanding of self and my partner. I am drawn to the tenets of service,



compassion, and love. By joining the Church and becoming part of the St. Patrick's community, I strive to further incorporate those principles into my daily life as I prepare to start a family." Sean moved to Urbana from Helena, Montana, last fall with Hope, who is earning her Masters in Library Science at UI. The couple met while serving in the Peace Corps in Mongolia. Sean works at the Campaign for Better Health, helping people and children on Medicaid access medical care. He enjoys backpacking, fly-fishing, and Celtic music.

According to **Stephanie Ippolito**, "My fiancé, Clint Finn, and I were looking for a religion and a church that was both welcoming and encompassing of our beliefs." On the advice of her friend Donna Rinkenberger, the couple started the RCIA journey at St. Patrick's. "It has been a wonderful experience learning about the Catho-

lic religion and meeting such great people through the class and in the



church." Stephanie and Clint will be married at St. Patrick's next May. Originally from the Chicago area, Stephanie settled here after graduating for the UI; now she enjoys her mother's company as her mother finishes her Master's degree here.

Clinton Finn started studying the Catholic faith with Stephanie and found it "very interesting and peaceful. Having never belonged to any certain type of religion, I really



wanted to start learning more about God and Catholicism. My family and I are very close and spend much time together. We talk about many things, but religion was never one of them. I would like to learn and pass this education and experience on to them." Clint works at Christie Clinic. The couple plans to move to Texas next, where he hopes to attend the Army Physician Assistant program and Stephanie will be working on her MBA.

A credit analyst for First Midwest Bank, **Kim Hofmann** moved to Urbana two years ago from Laramie, Wyoming. She and her fiancé, Pat Morgan, will marry in June. Pat is

working on his Ph.D. in Plant Biology. Kim enjoys outdoor activities, such as hiking, camping, and skiing, as well as spending time with family and friends. She shares her journey: "I was introduced to the Catholic faith four years



ago by my soon-to-be husband. I feel that God's presence in the center of our lives is vital for a strong marriage, and that the Church provides support to our faith. I appreciate the symbolism in the Catholic Church and have found I also share in its beliefs.

Through the last two years I have felt my faith grow and feel the time is right to take the next step in my journey, which is to join the Catholic Church." Kim wants to thank everyone who has been instrumental in her journey, especially Pat for his support.

Members of two families decided to become Catholic through St. Patrick's RCIA program this year. **Carol Sage** sums up the experiences of her family.



"I was raised Protestant and in church all my life. My husband [Jeff] was raised Catholic but not practicing the faith when I met him. We were very active in church and raised our children Protestant. Then God led us to a liturgical-sacramental church, and we learned much more church

continued on next page

New Parishioners
From page 4

history, covenant, and [Christian teachings]. Jeff felt that God was leading him back to Rome and his roots. Our family followed the leading of the Holy Spirit. We have learned that God was preparing us all these years for this Catholic walk. This is where our hearts are. It has been a challenging journey for me—learning to die to old beliefs and listening to truths the Holy Spirit has shown me. Thanks be to God!”

Although Carol works part-time, she considers her first calling is to her family—raising the Sages’ three children: Megan, a freshman at ISU, Courtney, a sophomore at Judah Christian School, and Blake, a freshman at the High School of St. Thomas More. Carol comes from a long heritage of servants and hopes to get involved where God leads her to serve. “I am thrilled to come into the Catholic Faith. I love working with people, especially women.”

Courtney Sage shares that “we were brought to the Catholic faith by



my dad, who was Catholic. We wanted to know more and go deeper into the Church.” In the RCIA program Courtney finds she has learned a lot from the classes.

Blake Sage says, “It all started when I went on a retreat with my friend David Mendoza. The retreat was called Destination Jesus and was very powerful. His uncle was one of the supervisors there and invited us to come. The best part was the Eucharist and seeing it take place. That got me started.” Blake and his family attended the Charismatic Episcopal Church, where they learned about the Eucharist and Mass; that church turned out to be a transition into the

Catholic Church for the family. About RCIA Blake says, “I loved every bit of



it and love this Church.” He also likes St. Thomas More High School. In his spare time Blake enjoys playing video games and listening to FM107.1, The Planet, and 93.5, The Rock.

Tijuana Mendoza relates her family’s journey: “As a Protestant for over twenty years, my family and I worshiped in a sacramental-liturgical church for the last seven years and learned about the signs and symbols of worship. But it was through reading the early Church Fathers and authors such as Scott Hahn and Stephen Ray, converts from prominent Protestant ministries, that made me realize the Roman Catholic Church is the true, historical church Jesus founded. I knew I had to con-



vert! At the same time, the Blessed Virgin became a comfort and guide.” Tijuana’s husband, David, was raised Catholic, and their son, David, was the first to make the decision to convert. The Mendozas made a family decision to take the journey back to the Roman Catholic faith.

David Mendoza is Sales and Marketing Manager for Bodine Environmental Corp. in Decatur. Their son, David, attended Judah Christian

School for several years before transferring to the High School of St. Thomas More this semester. Their daughter, Heather, passed away in 2000. Tijuana “has been giving Mom support to my family throughout our marriage,” David states.

It is fitting that **David Mendoza**, 16, who initiated inquiries into the Catholic faith in his own family and that of his friend Blake Sage, sums up for the whole group: “I was born a Pentecostal and later became an Episcopalian. However, I have read many Catholic apologetics, and I came to the conclusion that the Roman Catholic Church was the one true Church. I also fell in love with the Eucharist after attending a Catholic youth conference in Indiana. I decided the only thing I could do was to con-



vert to Catholicism. I am glad to be Catholic now.”

* * * * *

Another year with the RCIA has been completed with the help of many volunteers. Carolyn McElrath, Director of Religious Education, and Lenore Nagele, RCIA Coordinator, thank Janine and Patrick Cleary and Lilia and Ron Peters for their expert handling of the reception for the Neophytes and their families and friends after the Easter Vigil. They thank also all who pitched in to help clean up afterward.

Deserving of special thanks are the RCIA team of staff and volunteers, who met every Wednesday and Sunday with the Inquirers, sharing their own stories of faith but also being good listeners. So special thanks to Sr. Charlene Cesario, Sharon DuPuy, Jean Daly, and Robert Dodd for their faithfulness and help in so many ways.

It happened here!



15 Years Ago: June 1988

Fifteen years ago, in the June 1988 issue, *In Focus* reported that Music Director Doug Salokar would be leaving St. Patrick's to take up the position of Liturgical Musician at the North American College in Rome, where Fr. Doug Hennessy, former pastor of St. Patrick's, was serving on the spiritual formation team for seminarians.

Sr. Rosemarie Tomlianovich announced her plans to leave St. Patrick's, where she had served for several years as Pastoral Associate, and return to the motherhouse of the Heading Avenue Franciscans in Peoria. (Sr. Rosemarie gathered single adults interested in spiritual growth for discussion of videos and books of special interest, and was responsible for having the Scripture readings for weekday Mass listed in the parish bulletin.)

Women made up half of the world's population, we were told, working two-thirds of the world's working hours but receiving only 10 percent of the world's income and owning only 1

percent of the world's property. (How have those percentages changed in the last twenty years?)

The religious education staff announced that study of the first draft of the Bishops' Pastoral on Women would continue through the summer months. (A highly anticipated document, rewritten many times before publication; is it relevant still today?)

Ray Wait was thanked for his work in trimming the trees on parish property, Tom Arie for taking care of the smaller trees, and Joe Sleeter for removing brush.

Pat Justice, Barb Wysocki, and Bob Haessly were seated on the Parish Council, filling vacancies created by departing members Audrey Brown, George Fahey, and Rita Weisiger. In parting remarks Audrey reminded new members of their giftedness and urged them to get involved from the very beginning, George recommended that meetings somehow be streamlined as a real service to the members, and Rita said: "I loved the Council. I had a good time. I really tried to do my very best!" At that meeting Bill McClellan, Tom Kacich, and Barb Wysocki were elected as president, vice-president, and secretary, respectively.

George Fahey and Shirley Splittstoesser, co-chairs of the diocesan Annual Stewardship Appeal, reported that pledges had reached about \$57,000 toward the parish's designated goal of \$60,000.

An interesting time in our parish life...



in our parish library

Parish history is on our minds this month as we continue to celebrate St. Patrick's Parish Centennial. You may want to check out the following to learn more about our parish and our diocese. You'll find these among the Reference Books, to the right as you enter the library.

St. Patrick's Catholic Church: The First 100 Years (VIDEO 270 Stp)

The History of St. Patrick's Parish—written in the late 1970s in celebration of the parish's 75th birthday. (270 HIS)

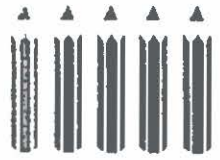
The Good Work Begun: Centennial History of the Peoria Diocese, by Alice O'Rourke (270 ORO)

Most Reverend John Lancaster Spalding: First Bishop of Peoria, by J. J. Cosgrove (921 SPA)

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.

Holy Cross Newsline

In good time for the onset of super-warm school days to come, air conditioning has been



installed in Holy Cross School's cafeteria. Other notable spring events included the eighth-grade retreat at St. Boniface (Seymour) on May 16, the Honors Day assembly for eighth-graders on May 20, and graduation on May 21.

On May 28, children in grades K through 7 will enjoy a Field Day at Hessel Park preliminary to the last day of school on May 30, which will be celebrated with an all-school Mass at 8:30 a.m. followed by dismissal for the summer.

On June 6 the school office will close for the summer, reopening on Aug. 11. Fee Day will be Aug. 21 (7:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.), and then, yes, classes start up again: on Aug. 25 for a half-day, followed by the first of the full days on Aug. 26. The first full day for kindergartners will be Sept. 8. Just remember, the cafeteria is now air-conditioned!

Prayer for Vocations



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

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

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

First Communion: A beginning and a challenge

By Susan Zola

You are the voice of the living God, calling us now to live in your love, to be children of God once again.

Sunday, April 27, marked a day of new beginnings for First Communicants at St. Patrick's Parish. Dressed in their Sunday attire, with eyes of anticipation, the young men and women processed into the church for a Mass of celebration with our pastor, Fr. George Remm, presiding.

The message was a simple one. Today you welcome Jesus into your heart. You are receiving his precious blood and body. You are ready to participate fully in the Liturgy of the Eucharist. You have studied for many weeks. Your parents have studied with you. You have arrived, on this day, to continue your faith journey. A journey of hope and promise in full communion with your God.

As a parent of a First Communicant last year, it was my privilege this year to serve, along with many other parents, at a reception following the Mass. It was time to reflect on the

past year and to realize that indeed, in the life of a young Catholic boy or girl, First Communion marks an important point on their faith journey. At Baptism, other significant adults made the commitment to raise the young child to live a life of faith. First Communion requires the child to make a commitment to embrace Jesus in Holy Communion. Parents are asked to recommit to supporting and nurturing the faith life of their child.

As parishioners, we affirm our own faith as we support that of our young children. They are full of wonder and questions. "Why does Father wash his hands before blessing the bread?" "Why do we join hands when we pray the Our Father?" "When Father reads a story from the church bible, is it in my bible too?" Children continue to challenge us with their need to know and understand their faith. As parents and parishioners, we will continue to share God's message of love and hope and promise. Indeed, God is calling us to be a voice not only for our children in the parish, but for

those others in our workplace, our homes, and our neighborhoods. May all the voices of St. Patrick's, young and old, be heard singing God's praises!

First Communicants, 2003

Louis Paul Acklin, Elizabeth (Libby) C. Cocagne, Angela Joy Crook, Mikhayla Ann Eveland, Cristina Michelle Gratton, Sarah Elizabeth Johnson, Shantae Nicole Johnson, William Stephen Justice;

Kate Myers, Eric William Pahre, Mark Evan Plunk, Daniel Alan Schuele, Zachary Allan Smith, Riley Rose Snyder, Frederick R. C. Stavins, Haley Elizabeth-Ann Stephen, Vincent Alexander Strack;

Karrie Patrice Sturdyvin, Michael Joseph Thompson, Tyler Shawn Towns, Isabel Fairchild Vazquez, Blake Jordan Waller, Fiona Eva Marie Weingartner, Liliana Yopez-Connors, Breanna Danielle Wickert.

Parishioners who received their First Communion with their class at Holy Cross: Blake Carlson, Ryan Gatsche, Madeline Kangas, Robert (R. J.) Twohey, Theresa Welle.



An Evangelization Minute

Mark Freedman



Although I have not always been a Christian, much less a Catholic, God has clearly been active

throughout the span of my 43 years.

My parents were decidedly not religious but did teach me what love is while I was growing up. They taught not through words so much as by a consistent example of affection, care, support, and the frequent verbal affirmation, "I love you." This lifestyle of mutual care, my father would frequently tell me, "is what being a Freedman is all about."

Later on, while I was living in London, away from the comfort of my family, I went through a period of terrible loneliness and alienation, a victim of my own selfish and foolish behavior. In that desperation I began to read the gospels and pray. In the gospels and in prayer I found not only the almighty God of the universe, but—more importantly than—the gentle and kind Jesus who stayed with me in my fear and loneliness.

Knowing nothing about the Church, yet deciding I wanted "in," I went to

the nearest parish (which turned out to be Catholic). I rang the bell and, when the priest answered the door, I promptly asked, "Do you do baptisms here?" He looked at me cautiously and slowly said, "Ye-e-s-s." "Good," I said, "then I'll take one." I glanced at my watch, hoping we could get it over with soon. There was a moment of silence, and then he kindly explained that it was only fair that, before we did something so important, I find out what I was getting myself into. Thus began my journey with the Church. Through the love and wisdom of Fathers Peter and Christopher, I explored the Catholic faith and was baptized a few months later.

Since my baptism, I continue to marvel at the generosity of my spiritual brothers and sisters who, like the early Church in *Acts*, cheerfully shared everything. My family of faith, just like my earthly family, continues to teach me about what it means to be a son (in faith, a son of God) and brother to all people. Moreover God continues to teach me, through my faith family, that to continue on in my faith journey requires frequent communion, through prayer and worship, with Jesus, the author of love.

In 1996 I became a member of St. Patrick's Parish and continued to benefit from God's generosity and guidance, both from the staff and

from you, my fellow parishioners. Here I celebrated some of the most joyous moments of my life. Here I was married to Laurie Kaufmann who, even before our marriage, was a sister in faith. Through her love, prayerful example, and gentle admonitions to attend to our spiritual life, she inspires me to live out my Christian vocation more faithfully. Here also we celebrated the birth and baptism of our two children, Josey and Kennis—beautiful gifts from God even if, as many of you know, they can also be quite noisy. Your joyous celebration and congratulations for both our marriage and our children's baptism really revealed to us how God's love works through his Church.

Moved by the generous examples of Laurie and other parishioners, I decided a couple of years ago to become a Eucharistic minister for Mass and for Carle Hospital. As someone who had received so much from God, it seemed fitting for me also to be one who shared this sacrament of God's love. In these ministries I frequently pray that, in some small way, I may help bring to others Jesus, who comes in love, life, and wholeness—even in, or especially in, our weakness. For me this, to paraphrase my father, is what being a Christian and Catholic is all about.

Special recognition given two young parishioners

Last year Sam Noonan, together with others from throughout WCIA's viewing area, wrote a letter that led to his selection to appear on Channel 3's Morning Show with Robert Reese. WCIA invites children from throughout the viewing area to write in, and Robert Reese chooses the ones he finds interesting. Sam's letter was one of those selected, and on Apr. 25 he assisted weather forecaster Robert Reese on Kidcast while his family watched avidly—"It was great experience for us all," remarked his mother, Ellen.

Not to be outdone by her brother, Hannah Noonan sent her artwork to the Holy Childhood Association in response to the national call for Christmas seal art. Hers was one of 25 selected from thousands submitted

nationally. The seals will be available for sale this fall, the proceeds used by the Association to help children in mission dioceses throughout the

developing world.

Congratulations, Sam and Hannah—well done!



Seniors Group will view slides of Rome

St. Patrick's Seniors Group will gather at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 12, for dinner and a program. Seniors are asked to bring a potluck item to share (Jeanne and Paul Hackett will provide ham) and to donate a dollar to help defray the cost of postage, coffee, and meat.

Paul Luedtke has agreed to show slides of Rome. Whether you've been to Rome or only visited it in your dreams, you'll enjoy being transported on this enchanting trip to the Eternal City.



Jeanne and Paul Hackett, co-chairs for the June Seniors gathering

The committee to plan the June Seniors event met after Mass on May 3. When in doubt, the Seniors err on the side of having fun, so the group met for dinner at Perkins (Urbana) to do the planning. Jeanne and Paul Hackett are chairing the June event;



The Seniors planning committee: seated, Eileen Scott (left) and Rose Breen; standing, Shirley Splittstoesser, Jeanne Hackett, Paul Hackett. Not shown (he was taking the picture!), Walter Splittstoesser.

Rose Breen, Eileen Scott, and Shirley and Walter Splittstoesser also serve on the planning committee.

To qualify as a Senior, you have only to admit to being sixty or older—or have a spouse or friend testify that you are over sixty even if you don't usually act it!

The Once Every 100 Years St. Patrick's History Quiz

At dinner on the opening day of our May 2001 celebration of the centennial of the founding of St. Patrick's Parish, Tom Kacich presented the following true-false quiz. Test again your memory and / or knowledge of parish history—you're sure to find some surprises here! (Answers to the quiz are on page 11.)

1. Fr. Doug Hennessy was the first pastor of St. Patrick's.
2. Holy Cross Parish in Champaign is the oldest parish in Champaign County.
3. The present church and since-demolished rectory, dedicated in 1903, cost \$156,000.
4. The first St. Patrick's bulletin was produced in 1975.
5. The beloved Fr. Paul Kinder was the second man from St. Patrick's to be ordained a priest.

6. Lay Eucharistic ministers were first used in 1967.
7. The Sunday Coffee Shop first opened in 1985.
8. A fire damaged St. Patrick's church on June 1, 1961.
9. The first Saturday evening Mass that satisfied the Sunday obligation was celebrated Feb. 28, 1970.
10. The parish center was dedicated in 1956.
11. The current organ was installed in 1903.
12. The parish center addition was completed in 1982.
13. The hands of Fr. George Remm were used as a model for Christ's in Nick Britsky's "The Rising Christ."
14. Fr. George Remm is the longest-serving pastor in the history of St. Patrick's Parish.
15. There are exactly 50 pews (25 on each side) in the church.

16. The brown garage behind the church was originally a log cabin and was there before the church was built.
17. St. Mary's School, where many parishioners sent their children, was closed in 1986.
18. Mass was not celebrated in St. Joseph until 1973.
19. The Sunday Mass schedule has remained unchanged since 1960.
20. St. Patrick's church was originally to be built on Green Street, but neighbors objected to having a church in the area.



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



Welcome to new parishioners Charles and Melinda Billman, Thomas Bjorklund, Allen and Jane Brzoska, John and Kimberly Connolly, Carolyn Crawford, Andrew and Jennifer Wagner, Cheryl and Jesus Yopez.

Farewell to parishioners Beth Ann Kieler, Monica Ray, Delia Roman, Sarah Ryan, Rob and Trish Sipes.

Welcome to the following, recently baptized into our faith community: Emma Caroline Beddow, Breccan William Berns, Kayleigh Marie Grady, John Thomas Wagner, Ella Brogan Van Schoyck, Alyssa Katherine Pankau, Haven Alise Atwood, Logan Hunter Sass, Maria Katherine Heller.

Congratulations to Karrissa Wolfersberger and Joseph Smith, married at St. Patrick's.

Please pray for deceased parishioner Irene A. Boucher.

ST. PATRICK'S PARISH
In Focus

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.

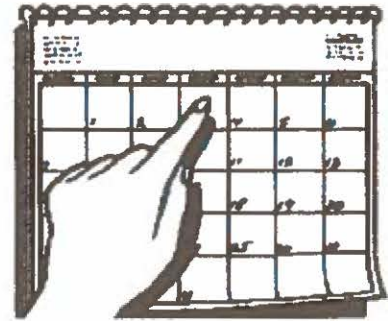
Please leave news items in the Communications Committee mail bin in the parish center, or call a committee member. All submissions are subject to review and/or editing by the committee and staff. By-lines are generally omitted.

Editorial board: Mary Lee Brady, 344-3752 (mlb1028@juno.com); Richard Bronson, 355-8126 (rjb@soltec.net), Mary Lou Menches, 344-1125 (mmenches@uiuc.edu); Cathy Salika, 367-7861 (csalika@uillinois.edu); Peggy Whelan, 367-3668, Stan Yanchus, 352-9894 (SHYanchus@aol.com).

Associates: Carol Bosley, Rose Breen, Artha Chamberlain, Betty Christian, John Colombo, Judy Conover, Mary Rose Cottingham, Mary Fonner, Dave and Cole Grabow, Ellen Noonan, Marty Perry, Carole Rebeiz, Barbara Sak, Lucille Salika, Jim Urban.

Articles and information for this issue were contributed by Carolyn Artz, Mary Rose Cottingham, Frances Drone-Silvers, Cathy Howey, Tom Kacich, Mark Freedman, Meg Grady, Jim Mayer, Alice McLaughlin, Mary Lou Menches, Ellen Noonan, Carole Rebeiz, Leslie Risatti, Cathy Salika, Shirley Splitstoesser, Linda Weber, Peggy Whelan, and Susan Zola. This issue was paged by John Colombo. Photos by Mary Lou Menches, Lucille Salika, and Walter Splitstoesser.

Make a date



June 12, 5:30 p.m.: The parish Seniors group will meet for camaraderie, potluck dinner, and a visit to Rome via slides shown by Paul Luedtke.

June 20, 7-9:00 p.m.: Bring your family and come to have fun at the second of the parish Dance Nights, sponsored by the Social Committee—bring a snack, a dessert, or drinks to share, join in the dances, games, fun, and fellowship.

June 22: Join the Council of Congregations for a church walk—at 2:00 p.m., St. Matthew Lutheran Church (2200 S. Philo Rd., Urbana), and at 3:15 p.m. at First Baptist Church (corner of Prospect and Burwash, Savoy). Come to either or both.

June 29, 2:30 p.m.: WATCH participants and interested others will gather in the parish center for "Fan the Flames."

Lord, give us your Spirit

The Spirit cries out in us: Abba, Father.

He intercedes for us with unspeakable groanings.

He is the anointing, the seal and surety of eternal life.

He is the fount of eternal water
Which has its source in the heart
And rises up to eternal life,
whispering:

Come! Come home to the Father!

—Karl Rahner

Quick fixin's from the kitchen of . . .

Jim Mayer

Super Light Cheesecake

- 25 graham cracker squares
- 3/4 stick margarine, melted
- 1 3-oz. pkg. lemon Jello
- 1 c. hot water
- 6 oz. softened cream cheese
- 1/2 c. sugar
- 1 13-oz. can Milnot condensed milk (chilled)

Put graham crackers in a plastic bag and crush with a rolling pin. Pour crumbs into a bowl and mix in melted margarine. Cover the bottom of a 9 x 13 inch pan with the graham cracker mixture, saving a few crumbs to sprinkle on top. Combine Jello and water, and set aside. Combine cream cheese with sugar, using a fork to mash the cream cheese for easier blending, and set aside. Beat the chilled condensed milk with an electric mixer until stiff peaks form (as in whipped cream). To the milk add the Jello mixture and then the cream cheese mixture. Pour filling over the graham cracker crust, sprinkle the reserved crumbs on top, and chill in the refrigerator for 1-2 hours before serving.



Honoring St. Patrick's "silent heroes"

At a national level, only 5 percent of Americans are blood donors. At St. Patrick's more than 70 parishioners have participated in the parish blood drive in recent years.



People donate blood for many reasons. Some give blood because family members have needed blood. Others because they themselves have received blood in the past, still others because they know the need is constant.

St. Patrick's has a long history of participating in our community blood-donation program. The parish's first blood drive was in 1983. Lori McDonough coordinated successful

drives in the 1990s, most exceeding the goals set. In recent years the Urbana Knights of Columbus has sponsored parish blood drives, overseen by Tom Kacich.

One form of blood donation is the apheresis procedure, which can be done every two weeks. Many parishioners have contributed mightily to this successful program; Jerry McArthur holds the record at 264 donations! Platelet donations require that donors spend at least an hour while blood is extracted, spun in a centrifuge to remove the platelets, and red blood cells and plasma returned to the donor. Platelets benefit a great many people, among them cancer patients.

The Knights want to honor all who have shared this gift of life through participation in blood drives at St. Patrick's. With an apology to any whose names are inadvertently omitted, the Knights celebrate and honor all blood donors of record:

Ellen Abell, Jim Arie, Steve Beckett, Lisa Bell, Marie Boznovich, Dennis Birk, Alana Bonse, Georgina Bonse, Lauren Bonse, Tony Bosley, Gary Bosley, Terry Bosley, Jed Bunyan, Marianne Bunyan, Ed Cassidy, Jeanne Connell, Nancy Costa, Jennifer Currey, Jean Daly, Anthony DeCerro; Nancy Delanty, Tom Delanty, Pauline Dolder, Margaret Erlandson, Mary Erlandson, Graham Evans, Kay

Evans, Mark Fitzgerald, Norma Gremer, Bob Haessly, Steve Heidebreder, Andrew Howey, Helene Kacich, Tom Kacich, Richard Keane, Larry Keck, Bob Kimmey, Pulchratia Kinney, Rebecca Lartigue, Christie Lee;

Mary Long, Randall Lutz, John Phillip Mathy, Bonnie McArthur, Jason McArthur, Jerry McArthur, Joel McArthur, Lori McDonough, Tom McDonough, Kathleen McKenzie, Alice McLaughlin, Roxanne Milazzo, Linda Mueller, Diane Musumeci, Nick Musumeci, Kai Nielsen, Mary Nielsen, Pat Noonan, Robert Pahre, David Palmisano;

Randy Pankau, Regena Pauketat, Anne Pierce, Fr. George Remm, Bruce Rummenie, Steve Retz, Roy Rhodes, Leslie Risatti, Cathy Salika, Peggy Shannon, Connie Shaw, Jennifer Schultz, Emil Talbot, Chris Stohr, Leland Vice, Bill Weber, David Whippo, Joseph Wolschlag, Stan Yanchus, April Yasanaga, Celeste Yasanaga.

* * * * *

Will you join these "silent heroes"? The next blood drive will be held at St. Patrick's on July 20. If this date conflicts with your vacation plans, you can stop by Community Blood Services of Illinois (1408 W. University Ave., U.) before or after this date. The need for blood never takes a vacation!

Answers to The Once Every 100 Years St. Patrick's History Quiz

1. False. The first pastor was Fr. J. H. Cannon.
2. False. St. Mary's Parish is the oldest.
3. False. The cost is truly amazing by today's standards—a mere \$56,000!
4. False. The first was produced in 1957.
5. False. Fr. Kinder was the first to be ordained from St. Patrick's.
6. False. The first lay Eucharistic ministers from our parish were commissioned in 1976 to carry Communion to hospital patients.
7. False. Coffee Shop opened in 1958.
8. True.
9. True.
10. False. It was dedicated in 1965.
11. False. The organ was installed in

- 1963.
12. True.
13. False. Nick used Fr. Doug Hennessy's hands as a model for Christ's.
14. False. Fr. Louis O'Connor served as pastor for 24 years, from 1919 to 1943.
15. False. There are 42 pews, 21 on each side.
16. False. It was built by the KCs in the late 1960s.
17. False. St. Mary's School was closed in 1968.
18. True. The first Mass in St. Joseph was celebrated Mar. 19, 1973, by Fr. Frank Kasperski, at the Methodist Church.
19. False. The six o'clock Mass was dropped in the 1970s.
20. True. They didn't want to be disturbed by the noise of church bells.

A celebration of life



It was a full house for The Rose Dinner on Apr. 25. Sponsored by the Holy Cross Parish Life Committee, the dinner featured a talk by Cathleen Cleaver, chief

spokesperson for life issues from the Catholic Bishops of the United States.

Students from the High School of St. Thomas More gave a testimonial from the March for Life in Washington, D.C. Those attending were also treated to a performance by David and Cindy Howie.

The event lived up to its promise, "an evening to celebrate life!"

What do you know about West Nile Virus?

With the onset of warm weather, the Parish Nurses want to emphasize the importance of being aware of West Nile Virus. The following questions and answers, and tips for staying safe, are intended to help reduce your chances of becoming infected with this virus.

How is West Nile Virus spread?

The virus is spread to humans by the bite of an infected mosquito, although other routes are possible. Usually a mosquito is infected by biting a bird infected with the virus and passes it along by biting a human, who is thus infected.

What are the symptoms of a West Nile Virus infection?

Most people who become infected either have no symptoms or experience mild illness, such as fever, headache, and body aches before fully recovering. Some may develop a mild rash or swollen glands.

I hear that some people infected with this virus develop encephalitis. What are its symptoms?

The symptoms of encephalitis include a severe headache that comes on quickly, high fever, stiff neck, confusion, coma, or muscle weakness.

If I'm bitten by an infected mosquito, how long will it be before I get sick?

Well, you may not get sick. But if illness does develop, it does so within 3-14 days.

Should I be tested for West Nile Virus if I'm bitten by a mosquito?

No, because the risk of illness from mosquito bites is still quite small. But you should see a doctor immediately if you develop symptoms like those mentioned above.

Is there a vaccine for this virus?

No, but researchers are working on developing one.

To reduce your chances of becoming infected with the West Nile Virus from mosquito bites, take measures such as these proposed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

- Avoid being outdoors at dawn and dusk, which are peak mosquito biting times.
- Apply insect repellent containing DEET when you're outdoors. (For children, use a concentration of 10% or less.)
- When possible, wear long-sleeved clothes and long pants sprayed with repellents. (Do not apply repellents containing permethrin directly to exposed skin.)
- Some non-DEET repellent products that are to be applied directly to the skin do provide some protection from mosquito bites, but studies have shown that they do not offer the same level of protection or for the same length of time as products containing DEET.
- Be sure that the doors and windows in your home have tight-fitting screens without holes or tears.
- Limit mosquito egg-laying sites by eliminating standing water around your home, as in plastic containers, garbage cans, old tires, and gutters. Keep swimming pools clean and chlorinated. Change water in bird-baths every 3-4 days.
- Note that Vitamin B, "ultrasonic" devices, and mosquito traps have not been found effective in preventing mosquito bites or reducing the risk of infection.

Parish Council News

From page 2

for this summer's CREW Mission Trip. The youth group will leave for Olean (N.Y.) on Jul. 27 following the 7:30 a.m. Mass and return the following Saturday, Aug. 2. So far, 27 teens have signed up; they will be accompanied by 8-10 adults. The group will be helping Native American tribes with painting, fixing, and drainage work.

The parish's policy regarding use of end-of-year funds, which are expected to be less this year than in some previous years, was discussed. (At present, the balance is a little over \$15,000.) Fr. Remm explained that 10 percent of the funds will go to the support of Dr. Susan Nagele's mission in Africa and 10 percent to our "sister parish" in Beit-Jala. He pointed out that St. Patrick's has a five-year option on purchasing the house just west of the church, which would be a valuable asset should there be a need to enlarge the church and to provide more parking; he urged that remaining end-of-year funds be added to the approximately \$20,000 reserved so far for this purpose in the building fund, which was augmented by the Christmas collection and rebates from last year's ADA donations.

Council members will gather for their annual retreat on Aug. 22-23. Members were also encouraged to reserve Oct. 25 for the Parish Objectives Workshop.

The next Council meeting will begin, after an orientation for new members, at 7:00 p.m. on Jun. 19. All parishioners are welcome at these open parish meetings. Minutes of the meetings are posted in the church vestibule and on the staff bulletin board for those who want a more complete record of Council concerns and discussions.

The Church's Greatest Need

The Church needs her perennial Pentecost. She needs fire in her heart, words on her lips, prophecy in her outlook. She needs to be the temple of the Holy Spirit.

In the empty silence of the modern world the Church needs to feel, rising from the depths of her inmost person-

ality, a weeping, a poem, a prayer, a hymn—the praying voice of the Spirit, who prays in us and for us “with sighs too deep for words.”

She needs to listen in silence, and in an attitude of total availability, to the voice of the Spirit, who teaches “every truth.”

The Church needs to feel flowing through all her human faculties a wave of love, that love which is called

forth and poured into our hearts “by the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.”

This is what the Church needs; she needs the Holy Spirit! The Holy Spirit in us, in each of us and in all of us together, in us who are the Church.

So let all of us ever say to the Spirit, “Come!”

— Pope Paul VI

Help! Help!

Many people work together to make each issue of *In Focus* available to parishioners. Can you see yourself in one of these roles, for which a special need exists?

Picture Editor: You would select appropriate illustrations from our resources to accompany articles for an issue in preparation. We have books of clip art and other illustrations from which to choose. You would receive the articles as they come in, so you'd have at least a couple of days to select illustrations for them—or you can wait until the Prose Editor has gathered them all into one file and printed it out so you can look



for all in one sit-down session. You don't have to create illustrations (though we wouldn't stifle your gifts if you want to do that!), and you don't need a computer—but you do have to meet deadlines! (The person handling this aspect of the job now says she spends 2-3 hours at it altogether.)

Prose, or Text, Editor: We'd like to have two or three people taking turns editing the monthly issues of *In Focus*. (Just one person does this now.) You would collect the articles as they come in and type them into a standard format. For this you would need access to a computer, and e-mail would be handy too. You would create a file containing all the articles, edit them for grammar, consistency, style, and graciousness, and print out a draft for distribution to the parish staff. A day or two later you'd make any changes requested and deliver the final file, with illustrations selected by the Picture Editor, to one of the two parishioners who have volunteered to page the issue. (The current Text

Editor says preparation of the file from scratch takes about 8 hours, depending on how well developed the articles are.)

Deadlines: The deadline for submission of articles and information for the Text Editor is usually the second Sunday of the month (although submissions tend to drift in on Tuesday and Wednesday, sometimes later); the draft is to be ready for staff review on the following Thursday; staff's comments are expected by Saturday noon; and delivery to the person paging the issue is expected on Sunday or Monday. So you'd have a busy week with a tight deadline when it's your turn to be Prose (Text) Editor, but you'll get all the parish news piping hot!

Can you help? If you can help to fill either of these needs, please call Cathy Salika (367-7861), chair of the Communications Committee, or Mary Lou Menches (344-1125), current Picture Editor and Prose Editor. We promise to give you lots of help to get you started, and backup if you need it!

Building peace with justice

Every day the news reports are filled with stories of continued incidents of disorder, signs that hoped-for peace is not yet a reality. The encouraging stories of attempts to get Iraq's infrastructure up and running are tempered by reports of hospitals filled to overflowing, mentally ill patients sleeping on the streets, widespread looting, and clashes between civilians and troops. Suicide bombings that kill innocents mar peace talks between Israel and Palestine.

What will it take to achieve true peace?

In a recent address John Paul II referred to the political liberty enjoyed by the Czechs since their 1993 independence from Slovakia after years of Communist oppression. "History teaches us that the journey from oppression to liberty is arduous, often marked by the lure of false forms of freedom and hollow promises of hope," he said. "While economic development and the accompanying social transformation have benefited many, ... the weaker members of society, particularly the poor, the

marginalized, and the sick and elderly, must be protected. Authentic development can never be attained solely through economic means."

What can individuals do? With your family, some friends, or in a small parish group you might discuss how care for those on the margins of society might be achieved in the plans for rebuilding. You could agree to pray that your visions will become a reality. You might even share your visions with your Congress representative or senator, expressing your desire for the achievement of peace through acts of justice.

Pentecost Prayer

*Come down upon us,
Spirit of God,
spirit of wisdom
and peace and joy.*

Come as a great wind blowing;

sweep our minds with light.

Be in us as bright fire burning;

*forge our wills to shining
swords*

in the flame.

Purify our hearts

in the crucible

of the fire of love.

*Change our tepid nature
into the warm humanity of*

Christ,

*as he changed water into
wine.*

*Be in us a stream of life,
as wine in the living vine.*

—Caryll Houselander

