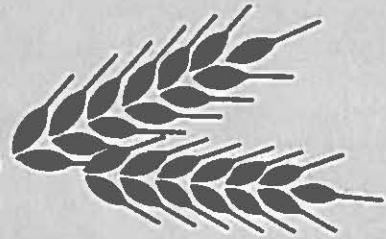


ST. PATRICK'S PARISH

In Focus



www.stpatsurbana.org

A Primer On Lent

By Peter Gilmour

Christians find themselves doing a variety of things during Lent to prepare for Easter. "What are you giving up for Lent?" was an oft-asked question in pre-Vatican II

grammar school. I remember one wise guy (not me) who, when asked by Sister what he planned to give up during Lent, responded: "Large-curd cottage cheese and watermelon." Sister was not amused—the class, on the other hand, was.

Lent did not start out to be either a preparation for Easter or 40 days in duration. In *Living Water, Sealing Spirit*, Maxwell E. Johnson sets the record straight: "In its origins Lent has nothing to do with Easter at all but everything to do with the final training of candidates for Baptism." Good evidence



suggests this baptismal training was about three weeks rather than the now familiar six weeks of Lent. Once Easter was decided upon as the right and proper time for Baptism, a period

of baptismal preparation began to develop prior to Easter. The traditional 40 days of Lent quite possibly had its origins in a 40-day post-Epiphany fast practiced by the early Egyptian church.

How did Lent get so disassociated with Baptism and so associated with giving things up in the hearts and souls of so many Catholics? An unusual story, for sure. And that centered on

reconciliation for public sinners who wanted to be reunited with the Church. Their reconciliation was accomplished through public penance, at times wearing sackcloth and smeared with ashes, kneeling on the church steps during the Lenten sea-

son. The ritual act of marking the foreheads of Christians with ashes on Ash Wednesday is a kinder, gentler reminder of those days of yore when public sinners could be reconciled once in a lifetime. Penance eventually overtook Baptism as the major thrust of Lent.

Where does that leave us today? The Church still has fast and abstinence rules for people over 21 and under 59. Catholic calendars have the familiar fish superimposed on every Friday's date during Lent. There is far less talk about "giving up" and more about "giving to" during Lent. We hear the word *almsgiving* a lot more today. People who are involved in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA), either as catechumens or as their sponsors, experience some of the original vibrancy and intention of this liturgical season.

So, Lenten bean counters, start the countdown. Pass the large-curd cottage cheese, please. Hold the watermelon.

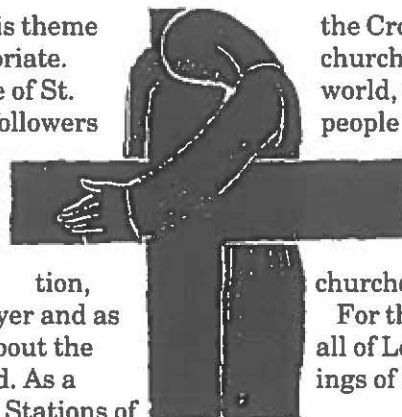
From *U.S. Catholic*, March 2001.
Used with permission.

Lenten retreat follows the Way of the Cross

This year's Lenten retreat, on "The Way of the Cross," will be presented by Fr. Dacian Batt, OFM, assistant pastor at St. Mary's, Bloomington, on Saturday, Feb. 21. He will present slides from the Via Dolorosa, the Way of the Cross in Jerusalem, illustrating the holy places associated with Jesus' walk to Calvary.

The choice of a Franciscan priest as

retreat master for this theme is particularly appropriate. Almost from the time of St. Francis himself, his followers have been given charge of the holy places in Jerusalem and have helped to popularize this devotion, both as a form of prayer and as a sort of catechism about the sufferings of our Lord. As a result of their efforts Stations of



the Cross have been placed in churches throughout the world, with the result that people who are unable to travel to Jerusalem for this purpose can walk the Way of the Cross in their home churches.

For this retreat, and during all of Lent, original oil paintings of the Stations of the

Continued on page 2

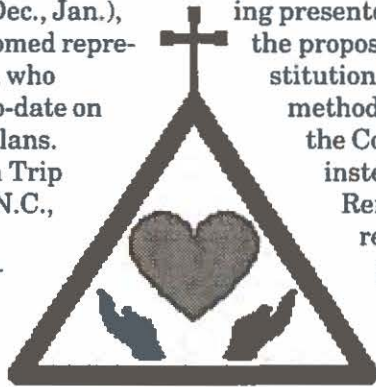
Parish Council news

At recent meetings (Dec., Jan.), Council members welcomed representatives from CREW, who brought members up-to-date on current activities and plans. This summer's Mission Trip will be to Wilmington, N.C., to help with repairs of hurricane damage. Several fundraisers are planned to help cover expenses—the number of teens expressing interest in participating this summer has nearly doubled from last year. One member will be baptized and receive First Communion at the next Teen Mass (9:00 a.m., Jan. 25). A presentation on sexuality and chastity by diocesan representative Jeremy Pitt-Payne was well attended by teens (see article elsewhere in this issue). Fifty teens are expected to receive the sacrament of Confirmation on May 8; the service begins at 2:00 p.m. CREW expects to send one member each month to the Council meetings. Janice Parker thanked CREW for their participation and their input to the meetings.

The need for tuition assistance for families with children enrolled at Holy Cross School can be expected to increase because of the increase in Holy Cross tuition from \$2585 (the result of a subsidy from Holy Cross) to \$3700 (actual tuition cost). And St. Patrick's should learn in February whether parishes will be assessed, and how much, to help finance operational expenses for St. Thomas More High School, perhaps also to retire the school's current debt to the diocese. These can be expected to have an impact on our budgeting process this spring.

The Annual Diocesan Appeal for 2003 has received \$90,150 of the \$102,331 pledged by our parishioners. It is hoped that we will reach our goal in the next 2-3 months. In April-June St. Patrick's will be involved in the Diocesan Capital Campaign; we expect to have significant work to do for the campaign but haven't much information yet.

Three visitors to the Council meet-



ing presented their concerns about the proposed change to the Constitution that involves a new method for filling vacancies on the Council (by drawing lots instead of by election). Fr. Remm mentioned also receiving a letter from a parishioner who urged postponement to enable the incoming pastor to participate in the discussion. As a result, the matter was tabled until the arrival of the new pastor and the April election will follow the established procedures. The Council hopes to hear from parishioners on their reactions to this postponement.

The ad hoc election committee has been constituted; members are Cheryl Mitchell and Sam Reese from the Council, joined by Tim Brenner, Richard Bronson, and Jean Daly from the parish at large. They will get to work immediately to develop a slate of six candidates for the April election. Council members will speak at all the Masses on Feb. 14-15 to explain the duties of a Council member and to encourage parishioners to consider standing for election.

Mindful of his coming retirement in June, Fr. Remm is preparing a report for Bishop Jenky and the diocesan Personnel Board, going into some detail on the background of the parish, the kind of parish we are, financial and other issues facing the parish (e.g., the need for space, the number of weekend Masses, property acquisitions, financial considerations regarding Holy Cross School and St. Thomas More High School), and ministerial responsibilities to Carle Foundation Hospital.

The next Council meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. on Feb. 19. All parishioners are welcome to attend these open parish meetings. For those interested in a more complete report of Parish Council deliberations, the minutes of the most recent Council meeting are posted in the church vestibule and on the bulletin board in the office wing of the parish center.

Lenten Retreat from page 1

Cross will be mounted on the walls of St. Patrick's church, near the crosses that now mark the Stations. The paintings were done by Robert Benda, an artist known to Fr. Kane. He has acquired them from a parish where they had been stored and has donated them to St. Patrick's. Fr. Remm encourages parishioners to experience these Stations in private prayer and meditation and to join with others praying the Way of the Cross on Friday evenings during Lent. At the end of the Lenten Season he will be eager to hear parishioners' responses to these Stations as a help in deciding whether they will become a permanent part of the unique art that enhances our communal prayer at St. Patrick's.

Fr. Dacian Batt plans to relate his slides of the Via Dolorosa to these paintings, and as the closing prayer for the retreat, participants will make the Way of the Cross together in the church.

The retreat will be held on Saturday, Feb. 21, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., with registration and a continental breakfast following 8:00 Mass. The retreat will include several presentations and opportunities for reflection and small-group sharing.

Box lunches can be ordered for \$5. Call the parish office (367-2665) by Monday, Feb. 16, to register and, if you wish, to order a box lunch. After that date you may still register for the retreat, but plan to bring your own sack lunch. Questions? Call Mary Long at the parish office.

HELP WANTED: *Communications Committee Members*

Great job, lots of fun, good
friendship.

No experience required.
Sense of humor is a must.

Call Cathy Salika at 367-7861!

Celebrating God's forgiveness

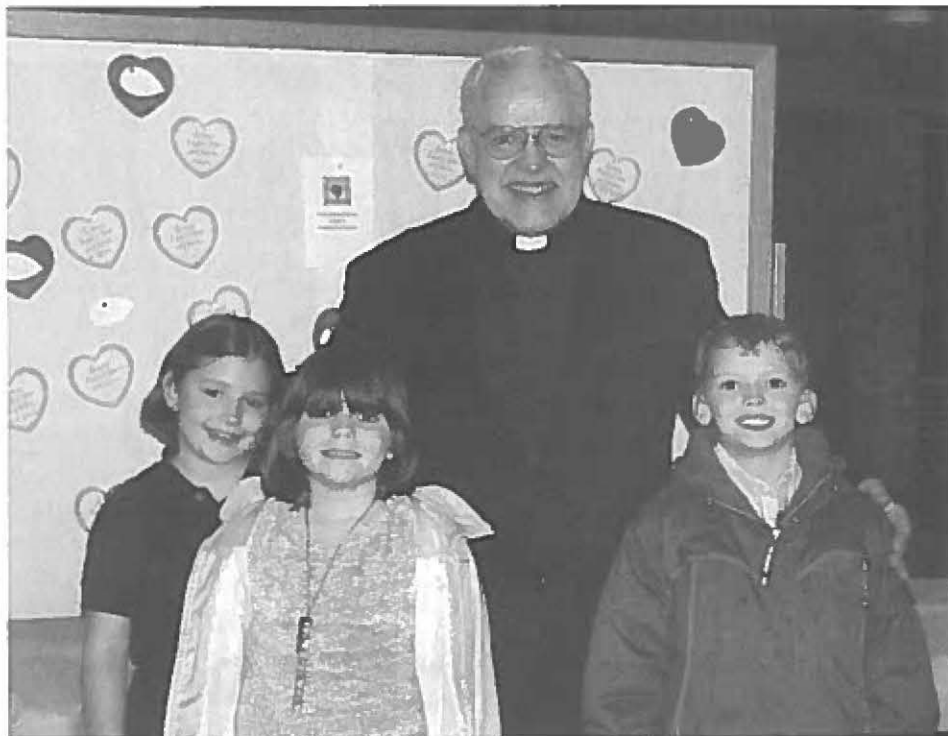
Twenty-nine youngsters, accompanied by their parents and friends, gathered for the celebration of First Reconciliation at St. Patrick's church on Dec. 9. Fr. George Remm presided, assisted by Fr. Gene Kane and two other priests from the area, Fr. Tom Royer and Fr. Donald Henderson.

The prayer service included a gospel reading, the parable of the lost sheep (Luke 15:1-7), followed by Fr. Remm's reflections on this parable for the children who had spent many weeks in preparation for this great event in their lives. After the prayers of petition and examination of conscience, all were invited to participate in the Rite of Reconciliation.

Parents presented their children individually to the priest to receive this sacrament and then withdrew to prepare themselves to receive the sacrament of reconciliation when all the children had been accommodated.

Afterward all gathered in the parish hall to continue their celebration over pizza.

Special thanks to the catechists and assistants who helped the children prepare for First Reconciliation: Janet Althaus, Jackie Althaus, Bridget Kimmey, Katie Schuh, and Sarah Stieber. Thanks also to second-grade catechists and assistants: Maria Dorsey, Ashley Gentner, Michelle Gunning, Chris Krassa, Jean Ann Metz, Hannah Noonan, Marilyn Paul, Jeannie Rasmussen, Amy Schuele, and Sarah Stieber.



The youngsters who celebrated their First Reconciliation are:

Leticia Arbex
 Agustina Colonna
 Conner Gremer
 Seth Griswell
 Kelsey Gump
 Brooks Hauser
 Devante Hodges
 Amrei Hubler
 Alyssa Kaiser
 Peyton Kaiser
 Ryan Keefer
 Tam Le
 Jo Ellen Machesky

Matthew Meyer
 Douglas Mitchell
 Victor Mouschovias
 Ian Niccum
 Maeva O'Brien
 Colton Parisi
 Michael Plunk
 Annie Rasmussen
 Elias Roussos
 Stephanie Sass
 Jamie Simmering
 Austin Stephen
 Pawel Strzebonski
 Mariya Sturdyvin
 Ty Waller
 Gabrielle Wszalek





Q: Where do the ashes come from that are used on Ash Wednesday?

A: The words said while our foreheads are marked with ashes—"Remember, you are dust and to dust you shall return" (or, in more recent years, "Turn away from sin and be faithful to the gospel")—are familiar to most of us. Less familiar is the source of the ashes and their significance.

The ashes used are made by burning the blessed palms that remained after our celebration of Palm Sunday (or Passion Sunday, as it is now called) last year. The ashes too are blessed, with prayer and holy water, for their use on this first day of Lent.

Palm Sunday recalls the great rejoicing of the populace when Jesus rode into Jerusalem, when the tumultuous crowds greeted him by waving palm branches and crying out "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!" The use of palms burned to ashes reminds us that even as we rejoice at Christ's coming we need to repent our sins and amend our lives, for it was to save us from sin that Christ came.

In the days of the Old Testament, ashes symbolized mortality and repentance. Those who sought forgiveness fasted, wore sackcloth, and sat in dust and ashes, even heaped ashes on their heads, at the doors to the church. In the early centuries of the Church this ancient custom was continued. By the eighth or ninth century, penitents who had committed grave sins were required to perform public penance. On Ash Wednesday (Dies Cinerum, or Day of Ashes) they were given hair shirts blessed by the bishop and were sprinkled with ashes. They were required to wear the hair shirts for forty days while doing penance and were barred from the church until Holy Thursday, when their return to the community of the faithful was celebrated with special rituals.

Today hair shirts and public penance and exclusion from the community of the faithful no longer mark the days of Lent. But ashes continue

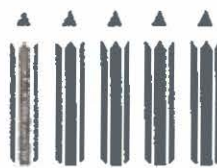
to remind us of our mortality and our sinfulness, our need for repentance and change of heart. The Church asks us to seek God's mercy throughout Lent, to fast and to pray and to do works of charity in anticipation of renewing our baptismal commitment at Easter.

* * * * *

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

Holy Cross Newslines

Ms. Barbara Yount, longtime teacher of science and seventh-grade homeroom at



Holy Cross School, passed away at her home in Decatur on Jan. 1. School was canceled on Jan. 5 so that faculty, staff, and students could participate in her funeral Mass at Holy Cross.


The annual Geography Bee was held in the school gym on Jan. 7. Congratulations to eighth-grader Eric Ahasic, the winner, and to seventh-grader Laura Welle, who was runner-up.

Jan. 16 marked the end of the second quarter grading period; report cards were sent home the following week.

Catholic Schools Week, Jan. 25-31, will be observed by Holy Cross School with an open house on Jan. 28, 8:30-noon, and Mass on Jan. 30 at the High School of St. Thomas More in which students in grades 5-8 will participate.

Kindergarten Round-up will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 4, at 7:00 p.m. in the Holy Cross Parish Center. Please call the school office (356-9521) for more information.

On Presidents Day, Feb. 16, there will be no school. On Ash Wednesday, Feb. 25, students will participate in an all-school Mass at 8:30 a.m. On Friday, Mar. 5, there will be an all-school Mass at 8:15 a.m., and students will be dismissed for the day at noon.



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



in our parish library

On Sunday, Feb. 22, C & A Inspirations will hold a sale of religious books and articles in the parish hall from 8:30 a.m. to noon. C & A offers a variety of Catholic books, videos, CDs, and other items that may aid your Lenten journey. The sale will also include many items that may serve as gifts for First Communion and Confirmation, including rosaries, prayer books, crucifixes, and more. Drop in and take a look.

If you are used to going to a specific shelf in the parish library to find your favorite type of book, be advised that your favorites may be moving soon. Books are being shifted to give some categories more space where shelves are full. Because books may be mov-

ing a few shelves over from where they've been, signs will be posted to help you find what you're looking for.

The parish library is also clearing out some older issues of magazines, *America* and *U.S. Catholic* among them. These will be placed on the library tables. Please stop by and take a few (or several) with you. All are informative and provide interesting reading.

* * * * *

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.

Teens hear talk on "Sane Sex in the Third Millennium"

"I'm not a pen, so don't try to use me!" was a highlight of Jeremy Pitt-Payne's talk on chastity to the St. Patrick's high-school class on Dec. 7. Mr. Pitt-Payne is Associate Director of the diocesan Office of Catechetics. His message on sexuality and chastity education, mixed with humor, was well received by the teens. Forty-two high-schoolers heard thought-provoking arguments for the wisdom of saving their love and their bodies for their future spouses.

Mr. Pitt-Payne's talk was both realistic and appropriate for today's Catholic teenager. He encouraged listeners to base their dating and marital relationships on love and caring, a task made harder by our media-laden culture.

His address to teens was preceded by dinner at St. Patrick's religious education office with the religious

education staff: Carolyn McElrath, Peggy Loftus, Mark and Diane Cousert, and Carol Retz.



Sophia Zeigler honored by MLK award

Once again Sophia Zeigler's work in feeding the hungry has been given special recognition. She was chosen to receive the Martin Luther King Outstanding Achievement Award for 2004.



The recipients of this annual award were selected on the basis of their efforts to make a positive difference in the lives of people in our community, so of course the selection of Sophia Zeigler makes perfect sense.

Her work in making soup for the Catholic Worker House and in organizing the daily distribution of food at St. Patrick's for the hungry in our community has without a doubt made a positive difference in the lives of many!

The award presentation was made during the program on Jan. 16 at Urbana's Holiday Inn. The event was jointly sponsored by the Champaign County Board, the City of Champaign, and the City of Urbana. Congratulations, Sophia!

What? CREW's Family Spaghetti Dinner, with raffle and live entertainment

When? Saturday, Feb. 7, 6:00 p.m.

Where? St. Patrick's parish hall

Why? CREW fundraiser for 2004 Mission Trip

Cost? \$5 (additional donations gratefully accepted)

Questions? Call Carol Retz at 239-2176

Prayer for Vocations



*Christ Jesus,
who on the shores of the Sea of Galilee
called the Apostles
and made them the foundation of the Church
and bearers of your gospel,
in our day sustain your people on
their journey.*

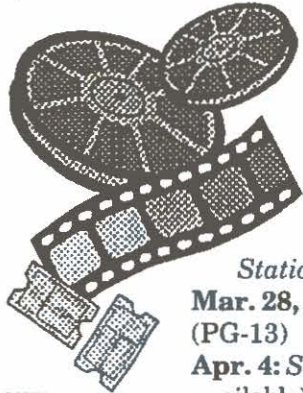
*Give courage to those whom you call
to follow you
in the priesthood and the consecrated life
so that they may enrich God's field
with the wisdom of your Word.
Make them docile instruments of
your love
in everyday service of their brothers
and sisters.*

Pope John Paul II

New this year — dinner and a movie

Selection of movies for this year's Lenten film series is now complete. Building on themes in the hymn "We Are Called," the medium of film will be used to explore the challenge of life's expected and unexpected transitions and the ways that people respond to the Christian call for constant transformation.

The film series will take place at St. Patrick's on Friday evenings and Sunday afternoons during Lent. Most films will be shown twice to accommodate parishioners' scheduling difficulties: Fridays at 7:00 p.m. (after Stations of the Cross at 5:15 and the KC Fish Fry at 5:30) in the multipurpose room, and Sundays at 1:30 p.m. in the parish hall. You could actually see the film once and then come back to view it again, perhaps in a different perspective!



Each showing will include an introduction, viewing the film, refreshments, and a short discussion.

Feb. 29, Mar. 5: *Whale Rider* (PG-13)

Mar. 7, Mar. 12: *What's Eating Gilbert Grape* (PG-13)

Mar. 14, Mar. 19: *Romero* (PG-13)

Mar. 21, Mar. 26: *Central Station* (R)

Mar. 28, Apr. 2: *Life Is Beautiful* (PG-13)

Apr. 4: *Summer Snow* (no rating available)

The film series is an opportunity for spiritual reflection during Lent for young adults and adults, an opportunity to consider God's power to transform all for good, even life's most difficult or surprising transitions.

Come for dinner and a movie on Friday nights—or come Sunday afternoons while the sun shines!

St. Valentine and St. Valentine's Day

The good St. Valentine was a priest in Rome in the third century. He assisted the Christian martyrs at great risk to himself during the per-



secution under Emperor Claudius II. He was eventually arrested and sent before the prefect of Rome, and when he refused to renounce his faith he was beaten and beheaded. For his kindness to the persecuted, Valentine suffered martyrdom on Feb. 14, about the year 270.

Although the association of St. Valentine with pink hearts, flowers, boxes of chocolates, and the exchange of romantic fancies is unclear, there are several theories about the origin of St. Valentine's Day celebrations. The custom of sending valentines on Feb. 14 stems from as far back as Chaucer. Men and women wrote love letters to their beloved on that date because the English commonly observed that birds began to pair and mate around the feast of St. Valentine, that is, from the middle of February—on that date "every bird chooses him a mate." Another custom was to pin bay leaves to your pillow on the eve of St. Valentine's Day in the hope of seeing your future mate in your dreams that night.

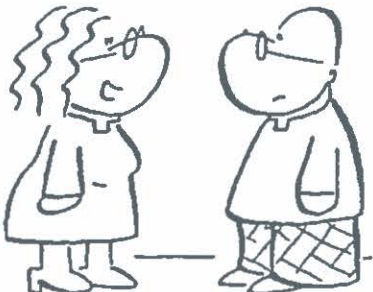
Perhaps we might conclude that by offering his heart, St. Valentine proved himself a true devotee of the God of Love.

On the dignity of the human person

Catholic social teaching generally follows ten major themes. The dignity of the human person is one of them. Its principles can help us guide our lives:

- All people are sacred, made in the image and likeness of God.
- People do not lose dignity because of disability, poverty, age, lack of success, or race.
- Emphasis must be on people over things, being over having.

The dignity of the human person is the foundation of the Church's promotion of respect for human life.



My theological position is that men are basically good, but that women are basically better.

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 (bradymarylbrady@aol.com); Judy Corbett, 398-2322 (jcorb18317@aol.com); Mary Lou Menches, 344-1125 (mmenches@uiuc.edu); Cathy Salika, 367-7861 (csalika@uillinois.edu); Naneera Vidhayasirinum, 337-5995 (naneera@uif.uillinois.edu); Wendy Wagner, 469-9177 (WagnerWendk@aol.com); 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, Nathaniel Perry, Carole Rebeiz, Lucille Salika, Jim Urban.

Articles and information for this issue were contributed by Mary Lee Brady, Artha Chamberlain, Judy Conover, Mary Rose Cottingham, Frances Drone-Silvers, Rosemary Garhart, Peggy Loftus, Mary Long, Mary Lou Menches, Ellen Noonan, Leslie Risatti, Russ Rybicki, Elaine Theobald. This issue was paged by John Colombo.

The sick and their caregivers need our prayers

The World Day of the Sick is celebrated annually on Feb. 11, the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. Although celebrated the world over, each year a different part of the world is selected for special emphasis. This year Lourdes, France, was selected because this is the one hundred fiftieth anniversary of the proclamation of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception, the name Our Lady first made known in an appearance at Lourdes to Bernadette Soubirous.



This day is a special occasion to reflect on redemptive suffering, pastoral care, love of neighbor, and respect for human life from conception to natural death. It is a responsibility we all share to support the sick and the health care professionals through prayer and through visits to the sick and suffering to bring the love of God to them.

Caregivers also need our support. Many people voluntarily give of themselves to assist friends or family members who are ill but either cannot or do not wish to remain in hospital or nursing home during their final illness. It is important not only to pray for these caregivers but also to relieve them for short periods of time for rejuvenation of their energy and their courageous and generous spirit.

On this special day so appropriately designated World Day of the Sick, remember to pray for the sick and their caregivers and to find ways you can involve yourself in that care, even for brief periods of time. There are many in our parish who are chronically or terminally ill, others who are recovering from surgery or are disabled, still others who are homebound by age or frailty and are lonely. Pray for them especially on this occasion, but do pray for them often, even daily. For prayer is a great healer of body and spirit.

Below are two prayers (by Deborah Cooper, Chaplain, of the National Association of Catholic Chaplains)

that may help you get started.

Prayer for Sick Persons

Heart of compassion, Source of life, grant to the frail in body the assurance of your strength, to all who are ill this day a healing balm. To those who wrestle with despair grant peace. May those with failing minds be met with kindness. May broken bodies gently mend, the broken-hearted find your consolation. May those caught in the throes of pain be soothed and all who dwell on the threshold of eternity be lifted to the fullness of your light. Calm in the storm, Dawn in the darkness, Spirit, come!

Prayer for Caregivers

Lord, give caregivers the grace this day to tend those in their care with full attention and true tenderness. Remind them anew to use their hearts as well as their minds and hands in their practice. Create in them a generosity of spirit that they may clearly see the unique spark in each person they serve, that no one in their care today may feel themselves a burden. Help them to recognize the unspoken need, a cool cloth on a hot brow, soft hand on a shoulder. Let them remember we are one. Let them honor their call to the service of healing, the small part they play in the consolation of the world.



Welcome to new parishioners Thomas Kazyak, Chad and Staci Lewis, Linda Morford, Chi Nguyen, Barbara Pyhel, Karl Rich, Kathryn and Robert Sarnecki.

Farewell to these parishioners, who have moved from C-U: Ely Anderson, Marty Barrett, Ken and Vickie Bierman, Greg and Linda Dzurisin, Philip Garcia, Alessandro Gardini, Mary Ann Parks.

Welcome to the following baptized into our faith community: Kathryn Marie Currey, Matthew Joseph Currey, Yyunsuh Moon, Jackson Charles Solava, Marissa Ann Boyd, Natalie Elize Heaton.

Congratulations to Brian Clark Anderson and Loyal Leonna Wright, recently married at St. Patrick's.

Please pray for deceased parishioners Douglas Jon Barrett, Florence A. Chevalier, Joseph D'Urso, Jane Aileen Grace, Edith Tedlock Borg, Lawrence F. Oakes, Grace Mary Hall, Irene Deborah Baylor.

Quick fixin's from the kitchen of...

Elaine Theobald

Mexican Cheese Soup

- 2 medium onions
- 1/2 bunch cilantro
- 1 can whole sliced potatoes
- 1 16-oz. can tomatoes
- 1 qt. water
- 2 T salsa
- salt
- pepper
- 1/2 t cumin
- 1 t sugar
- 1 large pkg. shredded jack cheese



Saute onion and cilantro in a little butter. Add potatoes and water. Set aside the cheese, and add remaining ingredients; simmer until ready to serve. To serve, arrange shredded cheese in bottom of bowl and add hot soup.

On the question of human rights for immigrants

In 2003 over 150 persons seeking to immigrate to the United States died in the desert region north of the border with Mexico. Some immigrants come for jobs, even those at the lowest end of the wage scale. Others come to escape persecution or to reunify their families.

In their historic document *Strangers No Longer: Together on the Journey of Hope*, the U.S. and Mexican conferences of bishops spoke out on the perils, pastoral implications, and policy perceptions of migration in both countries. They remind us that God's presence is revealed in the harsh stories of migrants and point out five principles of Catholic social teaching:

- Persons have the right to find opportunities in their homeland.
- Persons have the right to migrate to support themselves and their families.
- Sovereign nations have the right to control their borders—except when it is exerted merely for the purpose of acquiring additional wealth.
- Refugees and asylum seekers should be afforded protection.

- The human dignity and human rights of undocumented migrants should be respected.

At this time the United States does not make work visas available for low-skilled workers from any country. Asylum seekers are detained upon reaching this country, and many are held 8-12 months in jail, only to be returned to their homes to face imprisonment, torture, and even death.

We must encourage the development of a humane immigration policy that will put an end to illegal trafficking in human labor, to deaths in the desert, to the invisible existence of people who have no legal status in our country. Some changes in immigration policy are currently under discussion in Washington, D.C. What can you do to help?

For more information, go to the U.S. Bishops' Web site, www.usccb.org/mrs. To assist locally, contact the East Central Illinois Refugee Mutual Assistance Center (344-8455) or Hugh Phillips at El Centro Por Los Trabajadores (328-0718).



*Frankly, no—they're not
just a rough draft.*

St. Patrick's Urbana IL

February 2004

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9am RCIA 9am, 11am Rel Ed 10:15am Children's Lit 6:30pm Leader's Bible Study 8am K of C Super Bowl Brkfst 1	1:30pm Bible Study 7pm Bible Study 7pm Centering Prayer 7pm Ed 7pm FGDW 7pm ProLif 7pm WATCH 2	6pm Financial Affairs 3	12:30 Bible Study 9:30am Moms' Group 5:15 Children's Choir 5:15 SVDP 6pm Rel Ed 7pm Bible study 7pm Choir 7pm RCIA 4	6:45am Men's Bible Study 7pm Baptism Prep 7pm Building & Grounds 7pm Choir 7pm Bible Study 5	10:45am Mass CCNH 6	6pm CREW Dinner FGDW Retreat 8:30am WATCH 7
9am RCIA 9am, 11am Rel Ed 10:15am Children's Lit 6:30pm Leader's Bible Study 8	1:30pm Bible Study 7pm Bible Study 7pm Centering Prayer 7pm Social Action 9	7:30pm Executive Council 10	9:30am Moms' Grp 9:30am Schola 12:30 Bible Study 5:15 Children's Choir 5:15 SVDP 6pm Rel Ed 7pm Choir 7pm RCIA 7pm Bible Study 11	6:45am Men's Bible Study 7pm Choir 7pm C.Y.A. 7pm Bible Study 12	7pm WATCH 10:45am Mass CCNH 13	Ladies Knight Out 5pm RCIA 14
9am, 11am Rel Ed 10:15am Children's Lit 10:15am KofC 6:30 pm Leader's Bible Study 6:30-8pm 6:30-8pm JH/ HS Rec. Service 15	1:30pm Bible Study 7:00 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm Centering Prayer 7:00 pm FGDW 7:00pm WATCH Team 16	9:30am Mass Canterbury Ridge 6:30pm Liturgy 17	12:30 bible Study 5:15 SVDP 7:00 pm RCIA 7:00pm Bible Study 7:00 pm Choir 9:30am Moms' Group 5:15 Children's Choir 6:00pm Rel Ed 18	6:45am Men's Bible Study 7:00 pm Choir 7:00 pm C.Y.A. 7:00pm Bible Study 7:00 pm Parish Council 19	10:45am Mass CCNH 10:30am Mass Clark Lindsey 20	Lenten Retreat 21
9am RCIA 10:30am Holy Cross Support Group Lenten Book Sale 6:30pm Leader's Bible Study 22	9:30am Archives 1:30pm Bible Study 7:00pm Bible Study 7:00 pm Centering Prayer 7:00 pm FGDW 23	24	ASH WEDNESDAY 9:30am Moms' Grp 9:30am Schola 12:30 Bible Study 5:15 SVDP 6:00 pm Rel Ed 7:00 pm Choir 7:00 pm RCIA 7pm Bible Study 25	7:00 pm Choir 7:00 pm Communications 6:45am Men's Bible Study 7:00 pm C.Y.A. 7:00pm Bible Study 26	10:30am Mass Manor Care 10:45am Mass CCNH 5:15pm Stations of the Cross 5:30pm Fish Fry WATCH Retreat 27	28
Rite of Election 6:30 pm Leader's Bible Study 9am RCIA 1:30pm Faith and films WATCH Retreat 29	FGDW-Finding God in Daily Work SVDP- St. Vincent DePaul CYA- Catholic Young Adults CCNH- Champaign County Nursing Home					

