

ST. PATRICK'S PARISH

In Focus



www.stpatsurbana.org

Reflecting on the Days of Christmas

Christmas Eve, Dec. 24

For a child is born to us, a son is given us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They shall name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace. (Is 9:5)

Christmas Day, Dec. 25

In the wonder of your incarnation your eternal Word has brought to the eyes of faith a new and radiant vision of your glory.

In him we see our God made visible and so are caught up in love of the God we cannot see.

(Preface for Christmas)

Holy Family, Dec. 28

God, our Father, you are the guardian and guide of our lives.

Watch over and guide us as you did your Son's earthly family. Through the celebration of this feast help us to respond to your word and will, that we may grow together as people of faith



and enjoy the peace of your Kingdom.

Mary, Mother of God, Jan. 1

By your miraculous birth of the Virgin you have fulfilled the scriptures: like gentle rain falling upon the earth you have come down to save your people.

O God, we praise you!
(Evening Prayer)

Epiphany, Jan. 4

God has called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. May you experience his kindness and blessings, and be strong in faith, in hope, and in love.

Because you are followers of Christ, who appeared on this day as a light shining in darkness, may he make you a light to all your brothers and sisters.

The wise men followed the star and found Christ who is light from light.

May you too find the Lord when your pilgrimage is at an end.
(Solemn blessing at the end of Mass)

Baptism of the Lord, Jan. 11

A wondrous mystery is declared to us today:

The Creator of the universe has washed away our sins in the waters of the Jordan.

(Evening Prayer)

North Pole Expo

The North Pole Expo sponsored by the St. Patrick's Guild was a wonderful success. Even though our beautiful bridal ensemble was not sold, everything else went: the train with whistle and Christmas tunes, a beautifully decorated Christmas tree, hand-made afghans and dolls and ornaments, lovely glassware, scrumptious edibles, and of course a gingerbread house. The Guild thanks everyone who supported this event!



Mary Long, Ceil Weir and others ply their wares at the Expo.

Parish Council news

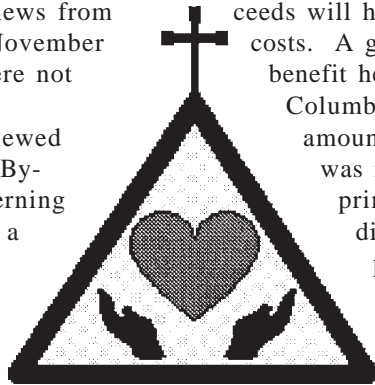
This report includes news from both the October and November meetings, since they were not previously reported.

Council members reviewed possible changes to the By-laws, particularly concerning nominations to prepare a slate of candidates for Council membership. (See article elsewhere in this issue).

As of October 31, \$83,597 of the \$102,381 pledged in the Annual Diocesan Appeal (ADA) has been paid, leaving about \$20,000 remaining. Dick and Pat Justice and Diane Ruedi will be on the Bishop's Campaign Cabinet for the Diocesan Capital Drive to help him approach major donors, etc. St. Patrick's is in Block 2 of the drive, March through June, and hopes to get good participation.

The cornerstone should be replaced very soon. A souvenir booklet of the Centennial is nearing completion. When finished, Fr. Remm plans to mail a copy to each family in the parish.

The annual appeal for the High School of St. Thomas More is in process. Material is being mailed to all Catholic families in the vicariate for the ADA list. It is hoped that pro-



ceeds will help meet operational costs. A good crowd attended the benefit held by the Knights of Columbus, but the exact amount raised for the school was not available. The principal and development director are very actively pursuing students for next year's freshman class. They are visiting all schools to get the word out.

A process has been developed for submitting stories or pictures for inclusion in the web site (see "Put your Event on the Parish Web Site" in this issue). Technical support is also being provided for parish computers. We will also have a contract with McLeod for phone and high-speed access replacing the current service with Soltec. The network connection is about ten times faster, and does not tie up any phone lines. The website committee is willing to help educate staff on the new network.

CREW reports an impressive number of students coming. Upcoming events include assisting Crisis Nursery with their Children's shop. CREW members will rotate attendance at Council meetings to have someone present each month.

After discussion, Council agreed on the following Council objectives for 2004:

- Promote the spirit of St. Patrick's Parish while preparing for the transition in pastors.
- Meet the transition with trust and grace and a renewed focus on own spirituality by communicating regularly with fellow parishioners and committees.
- Review parish council documents (handbook, bylaws, constitution) and revise in accordance with established procedures.

To best inform the new pastor, it would be helpful for committees to write a one- or two-page summary of what they do and how much the pastor needs to be involved with this work.

Ellen Amberg was commissioned as the new parish Trustee.

The next Council meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 13, in the multi-purpose room. All parishioners are welcome to attend these open parish meetings. Those interested in a more complete report of Parish Council deliberations can find the minutes of Council meeting posted in the church vestibule, and on the bulletin board in the staff wing of the parish center.

Updating the Parish Constitution

At its October meeting, the parish council approved various changes to the parish constitution. A task force headed by Victoria Pifalo spent several months reviewing the constitution and bylaws and suggested changes. These changes need to be voted on by the parish at large to take effect. Most changes have to do with clarifying language and definitions (for example: a parishioner is defined as Catholics and non-Catholics listed on census registrations on file with the parish).

The biggest change is in *Article V, Section 1: Selection of Members* (for the Council). In the past this has been a parish-wide election, but the task force recommended a "casting of lots" method, which would be less of a contest and emphasize the work of

the Holy Spirit in selecting council members. This has worked well in a number of other parishes.

The procedures for casting lots:

The Parish Council Nominating Committee will prepare a slate of candidates. The slate must be at least two more than the number of vacancies. The committee will recruit individuals; candidates may also apply to the nominating committee. The committee will publish the final slate of candidates the Sunday before the selection. The wording in the Constitution will say:

"The Nominating Committee will assist the Pastor in planning a special prayer service at which the vacancies shall be filled by casting lots. The entire parish shall be invited to the service and parish council members

and the candidates shall be encouraged to attend. A double-blind process shall be used for the drawing of names by a member of the parish uninvolved with the parish council and the selection process."

Vacancies would be filled by a casting of lots at a regular Parish Council meeting. Those eligible to be selected in the vacancy process are those who were not selected at the last prayer service and who agree to be included in the new round.

The complete text of the proposed changes will be available at the back of Church if you would like to view them. Or, contact a Parish Council member for more information.

We hope you will support the changes with a "yes" vote on Feb. 21 and 22.

Cornerstone resealed for another century



At the 8:00 AM mass on Saturday, October 25, Fr. Remm blessed the following items which were placed in the box for the cornerstone at St. Patrick's Church.

- Catholic Post article dated Feb. 9, 2003 (parish of the week)
- Invitation to May 20 mass and dinner program, the start of the centennial celebrations
- Video history of the parish given at the dinner, narrated by Steve Beckett, produced by Flushing Pheasant
- Opening of cornerstone on May 24: list of people present; News-Gazette article dated May 25; Catholic Post front page article dated June 1
- Photographs and liturgy booklet of June 8 Mass of Rededication and centennial celebration
- Summary of Nancy Steerman's historical notes for artifacts at June 8 celebration
- Pictorial directories (2003, 1993-4, 1987, undated but prior to 1970)
- Family history book
- Memorabilia: ornament, keychain, memorial card
- U.S. mint sets, 2003 (state quarters and complete set of coins)
- Illinois quarter, new 2003 issue
- DVD's of opening of cornerstone and Mass of Rededication
- List of parish council presidents
- In Focus *articles on the centennial celebrations*

After the ceremony, Prof. Wilfrid Lancaster of the Archives Committee reminded us that a hundred years from now the DVD and video would probably be obsolete. It is hoped that playback equipment will be found in future museums.

Knights of Columbus events planned



The Knights of Columbus have numerous events coming up after the New Year begins. On February 1, plans are being made for the Super Bowl Breakfast. The always popular Ladies Knight Out will occur on Valentine's Day this year, Feb. 14. As always a delicious meal is planned and the usual she-

nanigans involved with Urbana's Knights of Columbus entertainment will also take place. The Knights urge everyone to get their tickets early once they are available.

St. Patrick's Day at St. Patrick's would not be St. Patrick's Day unless all the good parishioners got together to celebrate! On March 13 there will be just such a celebration. Social committee members are busily planning a dance. Kleiss Vital Sounds will deejay dance music for the evening. Linda Webber indicates it should be a

Thanksgiving Dinners appreciated by 231 families

The St. Vincent de Paul Society is very grateful to 145 parishioners who donated \$5,833 to its annual Thanksgiving Dinner for the needy. Besides this Treasure, Time was also volunteered by parishioners (including Religious Education classes) who picked up food from IGA, carried it to storage and later to the Parish Center, arranged it on tables, packed it into baskets, carried it out to vans, and delivered it around town. And the Talent to organize this immense production was of course provided by St. Vincent de Paul Society members.



In total, 231 dinners were delivered to low-income families. These families profoundly thank St. Patrick's and indeed look forward to doing so next year!

HELP WANTED:

Communications Committee Members

Great job, lots of fun, good friendship.

No experience required
Sense of humor is a must.

Call Cathy at 367-7861!

fun evening for adults of our community.

Lenten Fish Frys will begin February 27 and occur every Friday until April 2. In addition to the fish and fries, the Knights are confident that the outstanding baked goods that appear each Friday night will return. As always, proceeds from the Lenten Fish Frys will be used for scholarships for our Parish High School Seniors. Grand Knight Joseph Youakim encourages everyone to attend.



A new semester of Small Group Bible Study begins the week of January 11 with Part II of *The Gospel of John*: “Who do you say I am?” This continues our year-long study that ran this Fall for ten weeks. The study focuses on discovering who Jesus Christ is from the testimony and signs that John writes about, and how belief in Jesus leads to eternal life. Applying what we learn to our lives opens us to grow in faith and relationship to the Lord.

This study is part of Community Bible Study (CBS), a home-grown, ecumenical, community-wide program founded in 1970, involving about 700 people from many denominations in the Champaign-Urbana area. That’s unity in the Body of Christ! CBS uses a well-rounded approach to studying the Bible, involving *prayer*, *mission*, and *fellowship* (see the logo).

- In *prayer* we grow aware of and become able to worship God as individuals and as a group through new understanding of God’s character from His word.

- Our *mission* is to encourage members to reach out to others as ambassadors for Christ, and invite others to join in Scripture study.

- *Fellowship* provides a climate where each person can grow in personal relationship to Jesus Christ through application of Scripture to their own life, and then share insights with other small group members as we grow as a community.

One reason for CBS’s continued effectiveness is its support network for training leaders. Parishioners Mary Long and Margy Palmisano co-lead the Leadership Team of CBS Wednesday afternoons, modeling leadership techniques and leading the Scripture Study. On Sunday or Monday Team members then lead Leaders Groups in churches and in the community. Then during the week small groups are facilitated by these leaders. Parishioners involved at various levels of leadership include Bonnie Kimball, Lisa Herzog, Chris Whippo, Cathy and Doug Wolfersberger, Beth McDonald, Laura Cohen, Steve Sula, Matt and Mary Kuenning, and Carole Rebeiz. Ten small groups with about 90 participants are led through St. Patrick’s parishioners. They meet at the Parish Center, in homes, on campus, and one meets in a nursing home. Several other churches have

started their groups modeled on that of St. Patrick’s.

CBS Bible studies are “inductive.” First we observe what the Scripture is saying, then we interpret what it meant to the people of the time and what it means for us today, and finally we apply what we have learned to our lives. By getting to know the Lord more personally in studying His Word and applying it to our lives, we open ourselves to God’s growing and guiding us.

On January 10, CBS will present an overview of the Bible, an opportunity to understand how God works out His plan of salvation for His people throughout all of history. Our presenter will be Dr. Kenneth Cuffey, Director and Biblical Scholar of Urbana Theological Seminary. All are welcome to attend this event whether or not they are in a small group Bible Study. The overview will be from 9 to 11 a.m. (coffee and donuts at 8:30 a.m.) in the Parish Hall.

Both newcomers and old hands at Bible Study will enjoy the comfortable atmosphere, faith sharing, and fun of this small group format. CBS can also help new groups form, if someone would like to get together a group of friends to study God’s Word. CBS provides the leadership training; all a leader needs is a willing heart. For more information on CBS, call Mary Long at the Parish Office (367-2665).

Finding God in Daily Work

Think of how much time and effort you give to daily work. Perhaps no single block of time takes more of your each day or week than your livelihood.

For some, work is exhilarating and positive. For others it is a time of stress and frustration that leaves them anxious and dissatisfied. Fortunately are those who see their work as a vocation to share in God’s creative activity!

Perhaps you feel a desire to refresh your daily routine by reclaiming God’s gift of time. If you are “too busy” at work to attend this program, you probably need it most. If you have been holding back or have let procrastination delay your response, please call Sr. Charlene Cesario at 367-2665.

The registration deadline is *January 5*.

The program requires a commitment to attend nine sessions Monday evenings from 7 to 9 p.m., as well as a retreat on Saturday February 7, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. This is not a sociological or psychological study of work: it is a time of *spiritual renewal* to help relate faith, prayer, and spirituality to work. It is practical. It is related to daily experience.

The program aims to have you: become more aware of God’s presence in your daily work; find ways to respond to God in your daily work; discern the value of regular personal prayer based on Scripture; interact with others at the Monday sessions; participate in a one-day retreat; and create work projects that examine values and relationships.

The weekly sessions are January 12, 19, 26; February 2, 16, 23; and March 8, 15, and 29. All events are held at the Parish Center.

And It’s Free!

St. Patrick’s Parish Nurses will be doing a Blood Pressure Screening on Sunday, Jan. 25, from 8:30 to noon. Stop by their office off the Main Hall for a free check up.

Fanning the flames

Fan the Flames is a program that has grown out of our WATCH (We Are The Church) retreat weekends at St Patrick's parish. Many WATCH participants felt a real need to continue to meet and stay connected with each other to continue their spiritual growth after the retreat.

Two years ago, with the help of Sr. Charlene Cesario, a small WATCH Share Group began these meetings to follow up on the WATCH weekend. Fan the Flames meets every six weeks on Sunday afternoons. Prayer and meditation is followed by a presentation on one of many diverse themes. We have used Henri Nouwen's "taken, blest, broken, given" writings and other writings and films (see "Faith and Films" elsewhere in this issue) to help us see what God calls us to do with our lives. People come to continue and renew

their personal journey of faith with God.

All members of St. Patrick's Parish are invited to attend these afternoon events. It is a great way to stay connected with our fellow WATCH participants and to introduce other parish members to future WATCH weekends. Above all we want everyone to feel welcomed and encouraged to be a part of not only Fan the Flames and

WATCH but our entire parish community.

In addition to these regular events, Sr. Mary K. Himens, SSCM, D.Min., will give a presentation Sunday, Jan. 18 on transitions. This will help St. Patrick's think about the changes the parish will experience while moving to a new pastor. And watch for the next WATCH retreat in February!

Faith and Films 2004: come WATCH with us

For 2004, the Faith and Films Series – Come WATCH with us will expand to Friday evenings. This year's film series will be shown on Friday evenings after the Knights of Columbus Fish Fry's and also on Sunday afternoons. The free films include independent and commercial films from throughout the world. All focus on the theme "We are Called." Each showing will be followed by a short discussion where participants can reflect on God's presence in our world using the media of film. The film series is another opportunity for spiritual reflection for all parish young adults and adults during the Lenten season. A complete list of films to be shown will appear soon. For information, contact Claude and Susan Cole (367-4187; crc1346@aol.com).

Deadline for submission of information, articles and news items for the next issue of *In Focus* is January 18.



in our parish library

Christmas in the Parish Library

One of the best gifts you can give yourself or family members this Christmas is time at prayer. The parish library offers several book that you can read or meditate with, or share with your family.

For the grownups:

Stations of the Nativity: meditation on the Incarnation of Christ, by Raymond Chapman. In this devotion, the events leading up to and following the birth of Christ are arranged into 14 "stations," each based on accounts in the Gospel. They offer a rich meditation for Advent, Christmas and Epiphany, and whenever you want to recall the love of God for you.

The Mystery of Holy Night, by Dietrich Bonhoeffer. These moving reflections on the meaning of Christ-

mas, peace and joy will give you much to ponder as you celebrate this holy season. The accompanying illustrations, reproductions of paintings relating the Nativity, offer a visual feast as well.

These two titles are on the top of the bookshelves on the South wall of the Library.

The young or young-at-heart can check out these books from the Children's Library (the Kindergarten classroom):

Saint Francis celebrates Christmas, retold by Mary Caswell Walsh. The story of the first nativity scene, created by St. Francis of Assisi almost 800 years ago, is great to read as you set up your own crèche.

A Gift for the Christ Child, by Linda Schlafer. This South African folk tale

has a message on the importance of generosity. Two young boys travel far from their home in the mountains to the church in town to make the family Christmas offering. Along the way, they are challenged to be brave, resourceful, and unselfish when they meet an older woman in need.

These books and other Christmas season titles will be on the top of the bookshelves.

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.

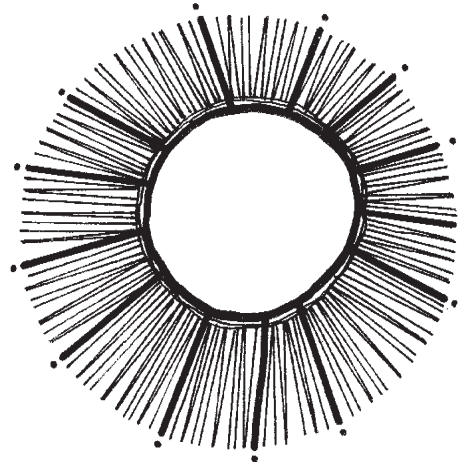
The Liturgical Year

Unlike the secular calendar's months, weeks, and special days, the Church's year has a purpose beyond merely the marking of time. It helps us celebrate and understand the divine mysteries: Christ incarnate, his passion and resurrection, the many reflections thereof in saints since then, and even those mysteries which lie outside historical time. Besides Sundays, saints' days and special holy days, the Liturgical Year also has seasons: Advent, Christmas, Lent, Triduum, Easter, and Ordinary Time. Each season has its color, most easily seen in priestly vestments. (Quick, how many do you know?)

Advent ("coming") starts four Sundays before December 25 to prepare us for both the Nativity and the Second Coming. Christmas proper, as in "The Twelve Days of," begins only with the Christmas Eve Vigil Mass and concludes with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. This season celebrates Jesus's life on earth from

birth to the start of his public ministry.

Lent is the other preparatory, and penitential, season. This one prepares for the "Sunday of Sundays." By the traditional disciplines of prayer, fast-



ing, and almsgiving we try to become more Christlike and loving. For catechumens it is a particularly important preparation. They are a powerful inspiration and cause for prayer for those whom they are about to join.

The Triduum or "three days" then begins with the Mass of the Lord's Supper (the only Mass with no dismissal: the Church remains at vigilant prayer) and continues through Good Friday and Holy Saturday through Easter Sunday. Like Christmas, Easter is an entire season: a single church service does not suffice. The Season of Easter joyfully celebrates Christ's resurrection and leads into the feast of Pentecost, "fifty days" afterwards when Christ sent the Holy Spirit to his followers in Jerusalem.

The words "Ordinary Time" easily bring to mind an image of the everyday, the humdrum. But this season which marks out the other days of the Year is better thought of in the mathematical sense of "ordinal" counting. God becoming one of us in the Incarnation makes holy *all* of our world, even time itself. Not only do we number our years from the Saviour's birth, but the days and weeks within each year reflect his glory as well.

Quick fixin's from the kitchen of . . .

Pat Justice

Heavenly Dessert

- 1 German chocolate cake mix
- 1/3 c oil
- 1° c water
- 3 eggs
- 1 can sweetened condensed milk
- 1 jar caramel ice cream topping
- 1 8-oz. container Cool Whip
- Skor candy bar pieces



In a large bowl blend cake mix, oil, water, and eggs with an electric mixer. Pour mixture into a prepared 9x13-inch pan and bake per cake mix instructions. When the cake is done, poke many holes in the cake with a toothpick. Pour condensed milk over the cake, then the caramel ice cream topping. Let cool completely. Cover the cake with Cool Whip and candy bar pieces (shelved by chocolate chips in the supermarket) or a substitute of your choice. Refrigerate until ready to eat.

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 Artha Chamberlain, Claude and Susan Cole, Frances Drone-Silvers, Aimee Fleming, Camille Goudeseune, Arden Howey, Pat Justice, Mary Lou Menches, Leslie Risatti, Cathy Salika and Sophia Zeigler. This issue was pagged by John Colombo.

Greetings from Dr. Susan Nagele

Dear Family and Friends, Fr. Remm and all the good people of St. Patrick's,

The year is again drawing to a close. Since my last letter in June many things have happened.

In July I packed up a few things but left anything that could be replaced in Sudan. I am not very good at saying goodbyes, preferring to just quietly disappear. At the insistence of a good friend I did much better this time.

There were difficult moments when some of the local authorities and elders made ridiculous accusations about me. Eventually all the questions were answered and the matters resolved. And so this time I took time and was able to say goodbye better than in the past. So often in Sudan we were uprooted by the war and scattered to safety with no chance to say goodbye.

I will particularly miss the women and children. We helped each other through tough times and found a way to laugh together. Regina is one of those women. She knew a bit of Arabic. Since her Arabic was better than my Toposa language skills we could talk with each other a bit better than the other women. She was the seventh wife of Festus, a fairly progressive Toposa man. He allowed her to be a catechist in the parish and she turned out to be the best! Her brother became sick and died suddenly. He had an unknown fever that took his life very quickly. His death shocked and upset me as well as everyone else. The priests had hoped that he might be another good church leader. I wondered what I had missed and sent a summary of his case off to another doctor in the U.S. In the end, it seems there was nothing obvious that we missed and the most likely cause of death was a virus spread by a tick bite. So I went to her village to say goodbye.

When I left she had a sad look on her face while I walked away with the gift of a chicken in my arms.

The Sudanese people are very tired of this twenty-year war. People who continue the fighting have said they will agree to a ceasefire by the end of 2003. I am skeptical but we must

continue to work and pray that a peaceful process will replace the fighting.

In August I came to the States. For the next two months I visited family and friends in Illinois, Virginia, New York and Minnesota. I saw my youngest nephew, Sean, for the first time at 18 months of age, and found most people happy and healthy. I am especially grateful that my mother's cancer is in remission.

Most of October I spent with my parents in Urbana. Our Maryknoll Association for lay missionaries is trying to become financially self-sufficient and so I spent some of this time speaking with different groups to educate about our ministry and do some fundraising.

It's now November and I am preparing to return to Kenya on the 29th. Please make note of the new postal address [Box 2406, Kitale 30200, Kenya, E. Africa]. This can be used for personal letters but do not send any checks overseas. They should be mailed to: MMAF Promotions, Box 307, Maryknoll, NY 10545-0307.

My Kenyan work permit has been approved and I am trying to fit everything into my luggage. I will be working for the Catholic Diocese of Kitale in Kiminini Health Centre. I am really looking forward to living with Marj Humphrey and working with other people and missionaries in the Diocese. Say a prayer I find my way.

I hope each of you is happy and healthy. When I am celebrating Thanksgiving with my family I will say a special prayer of gratitude for all the support you've given to us in overseas mission.

*Peace + God Bless,
Susan*

The preceding letter from Dr. Susan Nagele is dated November 21, 2003.

Welcome to new parishioners: Ed Barstow, Sharon and Terry Craddou, Lucy Buteyo, Patrick Morgan, Matt Nilles, Donna and Greg Novak, and Chris and Jackie Sturdyvin.

Farewell to these parishioners, who have moved from C-U: Paul and Judy Dollins, Kate Dougherty, Audrey Ford, and Brenda Niemerg.

Welcome to the following baptized into our faith community: Ryan Scott Cimarusti, Josephine Grace Kuenning, Emma Carolyn Selby, Sophia Ann Vavrik, and Ryne Thoms Willard.

Congratulations to these couples, recently married at St. Patrick's: Jeffrey Chambers and Erin Wolf; Sterling George and Jennifer Mabry; Robert Glasa and Rachel Palmisano; Jeremy Jobin and Jamie Gzesh; Leon Mayer and Bessie Schwiesow; Jerry Meyer and Joan Sockel; Maxwell Stowe and Jennifer Wolfersberger; and Paul Sundberg and Terry Moreau.

Please pray for deceased parishioners: Mary Ilene Bledsoe, Ruth Corkery, Matthew R. Fejes, and Robert N. Johnson.

A whispered message from God

May you not become so preoccupied that you forget joy.

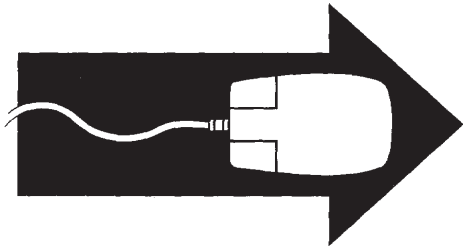
May you not become so self-assured that you forget eagerness.

May you not grow self-conscious of the manner in which you speak to me.

May you not relegate me to distant, heavenly thrones.

May you know that I am with you always—and may you continue to recognize my face.

Put your Event on the Parish Web Site



Parish club leaders, group sponsors and other parishioners may submit stories or pictures describing their activities or parish events for possible inclusion in the parish website. A memo was recently given to all parish staff with guidelines for submitting items for the parish website. Materials submitted to the staff will be forwarded to Website Committee chairman Bob Andersen for review.

Please keep stories brief (50 words can say a lot!) and submit only one or two pictures (jpg or gif format). For completeness please include your name, the group's name, the event or title, any dates, and names of author or photographer. (For privacy we encourage pictures of groups over individuals, and not mentioning individuals' names without their consent.)

So please contact your favorite parish staff member and learn more about how you can add to <http://www.stpatsurbana.org>.

Check out our Parish Web Site

"In a dark mud hut on a locally made bamboo bed sat a short, tired woman, pregnant with her first child..." This is the start of an article by St. Patrick's parishioner Susan Nagele in *Africa: St. Patrick's Missions* magazine. Read the complete article on the parish web site at <http://www.stpatsurbana.org/news/>.

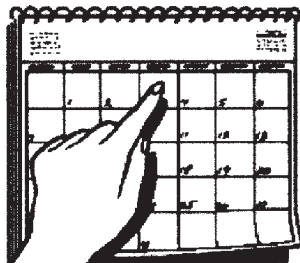
Prayer for Vocations



Heavenly Father, help all our young people to know their vocation in life, and assist them to prepare for it. For your greater glory, and for the service of the Church and all your people, call many to be priests and religious. Give those whom you call the grace to respond generously and to persevere faithfully. We ask this through Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

Mary, Mother of the Church, show your care for the Body of Christ; encourage many vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

Make a date



January 22, 2004 (Thursday)

31st anniversary of Roe v Wade
6:00 p.m. Candlelight Prayer Vigil For the Unborn. At the Women's Health Practice located directly north of Biaggi's restaurant at 2125 S. Neil St., Champaign. The vigil is held there because abortions are routinely performed at this facility.

7:30 p.m. Community Ecumenical Prayer Vigil. Several area churches get together to pray for an end to abortion. This year it is being held at the First Wesleyan Church, 408 E. Illinois St, Urbana.

Come join us to help end abortion in our country and the world!