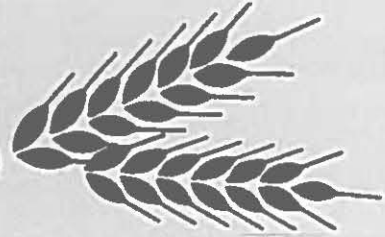


ST. PATRICK'S PARISH

In Focus



EXPERIENCING THE "PRESENCES" AND "ABSENCES" OF LENT

During Lent we become aware of changes in our Masses that reflect presence and absence in special ways.

As soon as we enter the church, the environment makes us aware of Lent in the presence of purple and the absence of flowers.

The Mass itself is more quiet. The absence of an opening procession and song and the absence of the usual introduction of ministers, together with the quiet presence of presider and other ministers in the sanctuary a few moments before Mass begins call us to quiet reflection on the act of worship we are about to undertake together.

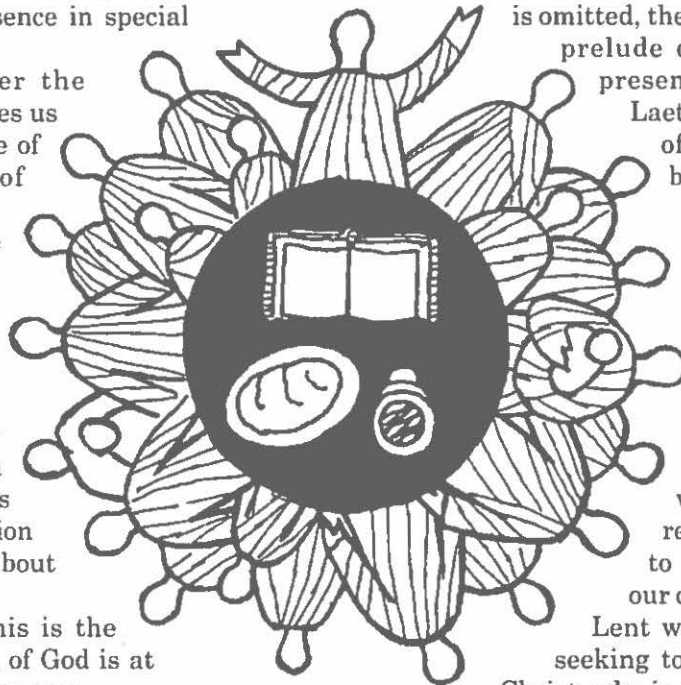
The proclamation This is the time of fulfillment! The reign of God is at hand! recalls the focus of this season.

The absence of some familiar music helps to

simplify and hone our Lenten observance: the Gloria is omitted, the Alleluia is not sung, there is no prelude or postlude. Conversely, the presence of instrumental music on Laetare Sunday, the Fourth Sunday of Lent, provides a midseason break from the austerity of Lent.

The presence of the Scrutinies on the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Sundays of Lent draws us to join with the Elect (formerly called catechumens) in examining our consciences, asking for mercy.

Yet some aspects of our worship never change. Each week we gather in community to reflect on our shared journey and to give God thanks and praise in our celebration of Eucharist. During Lent we explore this sacred mystery, seeking to deepen our relationship with Christ, who is to be found in each of us and in all of us gathered in his name.



Will you be a Council candidate?

Hello! My name is Cheryl Mitchell. I'm a first-year member of the Parish Council and I want to share with you my thoughts about the Council.

It was a very calm Saturday morning in February, my life was smooth, not over-committed and crazy, when my phone rings.

"Hi, Cheryl," says the caller. "I was wondering if you would be willing to run for Parish Council."

My mind did what most



everybody's would-I have all kinds of questions: What's the commitment-I mean the real commitment? What do I have to do? How much time? Why me, of all people? I've been a member of St. Pat's for only 3 years, I know nothing about being on a Parish Council! My answer was, "I need time to pray about this."

So that's what I did, I prayed and listened really hard for the answer I wanted: no, too much, can't do it, not

for me.

Obviously, I said yes. Why? Well, it came through my children, actually. They are 5 and 7, and one of the things I'm working very hard to teach them is how to be part of a family, what that means and what that looks like. I've also talked to them about who is the Church, and what that means.

What do contributing members of a family do? They participate, they get involved where and when they can, they ask questions and give opinions and listen to the facts of all the

Candidate from page 1

workings inside that family.

The same for me with St. Patrick's Parish. As I listened to God in my prayer, I kept hearing the same thing over and over again. Being a member of the St. Pat's family means more than coming to Mass on Sunday and sitting in the pew. It means getting involved in lots of ways, which is the reason I said yes to Parish Council.

As a priest mentioned a few Sundays ago, God has ways of moving that we don't even know, and God lets things in that we haven't known before. As I've taught my children, we are the Church, you and I. We make up this congregation of St. Patrick's. It cannot run without us and all our contributions.

So what have I learned and why was saying yes the best decision I could have made?

~I've gained a better and deeper understanding of this parish from the spiritual to the financial side.

~I've learned that the Council is an advisory body to the pastor and that because we are the Church, our thoughts and wisdom are both respected and valued.

~I've met many incredible people who have wonderful ideas different from mine.

~I've learned that a priest's job is awesome and unbelievably diverse.

~I've learned to see the parish from the business perspective and what it takes to keep it running in order to meet our spiritual needs.

~I've been blessed with the opportunity to get to know Fr. Remm in a way I would never otherwise have been able to.

~I am given the opportunity to get to know the new pastor in a way that just coming to Mass on Sunday wouldn't have offered me.

Of course, you're wondering just what the true commitment is, really. I must admit that I was concerned about this, but it turned out to be an unfounded concern. First, it is important to realize that it is a commitment (3-year term), a priority, and that each of us chooses to make it so. This 3-year commitment is

important, it provides continuity from year to year. Second, there are two meetings a month, the Council meeting and a committee meeting (every Council member serves as a liaison with a committee). Third, there is a Council retreat, Friday evening through Saturday afternoon, in the fall. Fourth, Council members are expected to participate in the Objectives Workshop on a Saturday in October. These are the basics. As with everything in life, other situations arise in which there are other opportunities to serve the Council!

I encourage you to pray about how God is calling you to serve. Is he reaching out to you to give you an opportunity to serve your parish family this year as a Council member?

Please call me if you'd like to hear more, or talk to any Council member—we are so excited to hear from you, to answer questions, to give you an opportunity to serve!

Cheryl Mitchell may be reached at 355-4566 or Cheryl@pdnt.com.

The parish structure, because of its dogged stability, is a sacrament of the enduring presence of God, who is there before we arrive and remains after we have gone. In its best form, the parish is to be a sacrament that supports our trust in God.

The parish ... is meant to suggest that we should never be totally alien, that there is always available to us the support of an enduring community that reminds us of our relationship with God, recalls the values that we hold dear, and supports us on our personal journeys.

Msgr. Philip J. Murnion

Movies on tap at St. Patrick's - and they're free!



The movies selected for this year's Lenten film series are outstanding. Even if you managed to catch these in local theaters, you'll want to explore them again in light of the challenge of life's expected and unexpected transitions and the ways that people respond to the Christian call for continuous transformation.

Most films will be shown twice to accommodate parishioners' scheduling difficulties: Fridays at 7:00 p.m. in the multipurpose room, and Sundays at 1:30 p.m. in the parish hall. You could actually see a film twice, first to become familiar with its story line and theme and again from the perspective of God's power to transform all for good, even life's most difficult or surprising transitions.

Each showing will include an introduction, viewing the film, refreshments, and a short discussion. No reservations or fees required. The movies coming up in March are:

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)

Women call the world to prayer

A world-unifying event will take place on Mar. 5. It is a day when people from every country, every philosophy, and every walk of life are invited to join together in prayer. It is known as the World Day of Prayer.

Dating back to the nineteenth century, the World Day of Prayer was born out of concern for the needs of women and children. In 1861 and following years, in spite of strong resistance from all-male mission boards, Christian women of the U.S. and Canada initiated cooperative activities in support of women's involvement in mission at home and, ultimately, around the world.

The response worldwide was enthusiastic, and by the beginning of 1927 the call to prayer that was issued was for a World Day of Prayer for Missions.

In 1928 the World Day of Prayer Committee, located in New York City, issued this statement: "It is

with deep gratitude that we recognize the growing power inherent in our World Day of Prayer. The circle of prayer has expanded literally around the world. We have learned the great lesson of praying with, rather than for, our sisters of

other races and nations, thus enriching our experience and releasing the power that must be ours if we are to accomplish tasks entrusted to us."

In 1941 the coordination of World Day of Prayer in the U.S. became the responsibility of an interdenominational movement now known as Church Women United. A local chapter of this group is active in

C-U. This year's theme is "In Faith, Women Shape the Future."

Through the World Day of Prayer, women assert their faith in Jesus Christ. They affirm that prayer and action are inseparable and that both have immeasurable influence in the world.



"I feel really appreciated!"

At the Religious Education Appreciation Dinner, Feb. 23, one of the catechists remarked: "I feel really appreciated! And the kids had a great time!" She added, "Having the dinner at this time of year is nice because we're halfway through the year of teaching. And it's just before Ash Wednesday, so we can have fun with the Mardi Gras theme."

In addition to a chicken dinner for the families of St. Patrick's catechists, hosted by the parish's Education Committee, there are games and prizes, beads and masks, kazoos and other noisemakers—all combining for a lot of noise and a lot of fun.

About 170 volunteers help with the religious education classes and family life ministries every year. This number includes adults and their teen assistants who teach children weekly, preschool through sixth grade; those who teach five-week units to the CREW (high school) teens; those who teach junior high every week; and those who minister to adults through the RCIA or through the marriage preparation program using FOCCUS materials.

"Through the years," says DRE Carolyn McElrath, "we have found that catechists feel especially appreciated when their whole families are invited out so that they don't have to worry about feeding their families at home or getting babysitters in so that they are free to go out in the evening."

Many thanks to all who give so generously of their time and talent to help pass on the Faith to parish children, teens, and adults!

Family dancing on March 13 - y'all come!

The St. Patrick's Day family dance will be held on Saturday, March 13, from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. in St. Patrick's social hall. A wide range of different kinds of dance music will be provided by Kleiss Vital Sounds.

Everyone is invited and encouraged to step up to a jig or reel—no experience required! There will be something fun for everyone,



of any age. Simple, easy-to-learn novelty dances and popular folk dances can be enjoyed.

Drinks and snacks will be provided, as well as prizes for contest winners.

Tickets for admission—\$3 single, \$10 family—can be purchased at the parish office, during Coffee Shop or Friday Fish Fries, or at the door.

Fathers, come dance with your daughters.

Mothers, come dance with your sons.

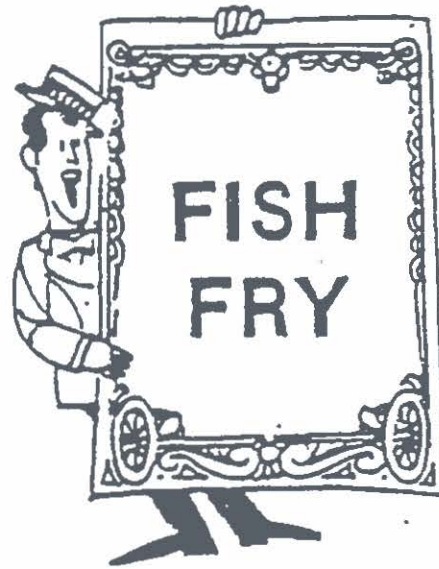
Grandkids, come dance with Grandma and Grandpa.

It's going to be lots of fun!

Stop on by ...

Many parishioners enjoy the Fridays in Lent when the Knights of Columbus sponsor Fish Fries. They look forward to attending, enjoying a delicious non-meat meal at a good price with people from their church community after a busy week. But it can't be so easy for the Knights to prepare, serve, and clean up for about 200 dinner guests on Fridays after their busy workweek. Someone asked, "Why do they do it? Why do they work so hard to feed so many folks so many times?" An interesting question, and here are answers directly from a few of the Knights themselves.

"There are two reasons the Knights sponsor the Fish Fries. We would like all our Catholic and Christian brothers and sisters with their children, if any-to come together once a week in Lent to share a meal and meet and get to know other families. And we would like to help our graduating high school students from St. Patrick's Parish by distributing all the net



profit from the Fish Fries through the Fr. Charles Martell Scholarship Fund." Joseph Youakim, Grand Knight

"I think we Knights work the Fish Fries during Lent as a service to our parish as well as a fundraising event to help support service projects. The 'hard work' aspect of the project really isn't terribly demanding. It

involves lots of setting up, preparing, and finally serving. I think most, if not all, of the Knights involved find the Lenten Fish Fries one of our most enjoyable and rewarding projects. It is most of all a social gathering in which we get to be hosts! We feel honored to do it!" Terry K. Bosley, Deputy Grand Knight

"As Robert Kennedy said, 'There are those who look at things the way they are and ask why. I dream of things that never were and ask why not?' That, in brief, is the philosophy of St. Pat's fish fries. Why not have a fish fry every Friday during Lent? Why not make it a pleasant experience to separate St. Pat's parishioners (and others) from their money so that we can raise money for college scholarships? Why not celebrate our non-meat-eating tradition together? Why not watch chief cook Steve Beckett's face slowly redden during the course of two hours over a vat of hot grease and cod? Offer people a good product, an opportunity to see their friends and neighbors, a chance to do something for their parish, and the possibility of a Sophia Zeigler cream puff or a Betty Conerty cinnamon roll, and they'll practically knock the doors down." Tom Kacich

And this from a Fish Fry volunteer who isn't a St. Patrick's parishioner but offers his services in the kitchen each year: "These gatherings bring together members of a larger community than just St. Pat's. The opportunity to joke and visit and get updated on families is a great by-product of the good works helped by this event." Tom Costello

The K of C Fish Fries are held every Friday during Lent except Good Friday. Stop on by...



in our parish library

The parish library has just added two documents from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops published in response to the sexual abuse crisis in the Church:

Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, Revised Edition

Essential Norms for Diocesan/Eparchial Policies Dealing with Allegations of Sexual Abuse of Minors by Priests or Deacons.

If you attend the program "Protecting God's Children," you may hear references to these documents. They are currently available in a green folder on the library's New Books shelf, with the call number 261 USC.

Also recently added to the library's holdings are publications from the

National Catholic Office for the Deaf:

The Ten Commandments of God for Deaf Persons

A Bible Rosary for the Deaf

Understanding the Sacraments

The Sacrament of Love

These booklets are also available on the New Books shelf, to the right as you enter the library.

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.

Parish Council News



At their February meeting Council members heard from Sarah Burch/CREW that the spaghetti dinner raised \$1659 in support of this summer's Mission trip. The current fundraiser is the sale of butter braids and cookie dough. About 20 more teens than last year have signed up for the Mission trip. The group hopes that the cost can be held to last year's \$100/teen.

Because Holy Cross School will not be able to subsidize tuition for students from other parishes, the tuition for our students will increase to \$3500 next year. St. Patrick's currently budgets \$28,000 for tuition assistance and pays the \$100 surcharge for each student. Council members anticipate that the cost increase will mean that families already receiving tuition support may need more help next year and that other families may now qualify for support. It is hoped that increasing the budget to \$40,000 will cover this need.

The Financial Task Force for the High School of St. Thomas More has recommended parish assessments to finance the school's operational deficit, which up to now has been financed by loans from the diocese totaling \$1.250 million. Fr. Remm expects that St. Patrick's assessment may be \$36,000-\$45,000. Actual instructional cost per student is \$7000, but only \$4500 is charged. St. Patrick's pays a portion of the tuition for parish families that cannot afford the full amount.

Income from the St. Patrick's Religious Education Foundation and the Tuition Endowment Fund provides some help, to which will be added funds formerly set aside for debt retirement, the Centennial celebration, and property acquisition. Even with funds from these and other sources, however, it is expected that the parish's operational budget may have to be

increased by about \$32,000.

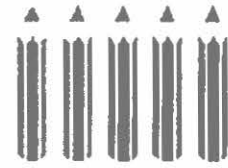
Income so far this year has not reached the budgeted amount, but it is expected that the parish will end the fiscal year in the black. Fr. Remm has not yet received an updated Annual Diocesan Appeal report, which will indicate whether or not we have met the diocesan goal set for St. Patrick's.

The Parish Council election will be the weekend of Apr. 24-25. The election committee reported that 3 parishioners have agreed to stand for election, and that 17 others are considering doing so, but the cautious election committee members urged that Council continue to recommend others to be invited.

Committee news: Membership on the Social Action Committee is reduced to the chair, Russ Rybicki, and the Council liaison, Victoria Pifalo. They are talking about what they can do to recruit members. The Education Committee was planning its annual appreciation dinner. The Building and Grounds Committee planned a workday for upgrading the Yauk property, have a subcommittee reviewing custodial responsibilities, have revoked the contract with Krueco for mechanical maintenance and contracted with Mattex instead. They will also review the contract with the landscaping contractor. The Liturgy Committee is addressing the problem of no-shows among ministers scheduled to serve at weekend liturgies. The Communications Committee has welcomed 3 parishioners as members in the last few months.

The next Council meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. on Mar 18. 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.

Holy Cross Newsline



On Feb. 17, fourth- and seventh-graders took the Writing Assessment test, the school's annual Sock-Hop dance for all students and their families was held Feb. 21, and an all-school Mass was celebrated on Feb. 25, Ash Wednesday.

During Lent, homerooms will participate in class Lenten projects, and a Lenten liturgy will be held on Monday, Mar. 15, at 8:15 a.m. Other March events include:

Scout Advancement Day, Mar. 5 (Note: School will be dismissed at noon.)

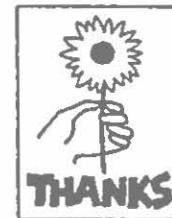
Performance by The Little Theatre, Sullivan, Mar. 11

Parent-Teacher Club meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the school library, Mar. 15

Sixth-graders' all-day field trip, Medieval Times, Mar. 17

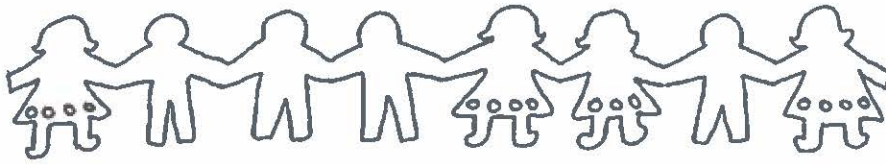
All-school Mass on the Feast of St. Joseph, Mar. 19 (This day marks the end of the third-quarter grading period.)

Spring Break at Holy Cross School begins at 2:30 p.m. on Friday, Mar. 19. Classes resume at 7:55 a.m. on Monday, Mar. 29.



Many thanks to our intrepid parishioners who, challenged by snow, sleet, and rain, delivered meals to shut-ins the week of Feb. 2: Marie Bozinovich, Joe Costa, Connie Difanis, Cesaria Lancaster, Tim McCarthy, Sam Reese, Kay Schaller, Elizabeth and Emile Talbot, and Donna Thompson.

Protecting and caring for our children



This year a program called "Protecting God's Children" is to be implemented in every parish throughout the Diocese of Peoria. It will be introduced at St. Patrick's on Monday, Mar. 8, 6:00-9:30 p.m. All catechists, staff members, volunteers, and others who have contact with children, preschool through teen years, in our parish are required to participate in this session. It is open also to anyone in the vicariate or the parish who is interested.

The sessions are offered at the various parishes in our diocese throughout the year to make it convenient for people to attend.

They are designed to help people become aware of the psychology of abuse, aware of the devastating effects of childhood abuse, and alert to signs of abuse in children.

A similar program tailored to parents is nearing completion and will be implemented by the diocese this fall.

"Protecting God's Children" is a positive step in caring for and protecting our most precious treasure, our children. Anyone interested in attending this session on Mar. 8 is invited to register by calling Carolyn McElrath (278-2126), St. Patrick's Director of Religious Education.

All St. Patrick's Seniors Irish or not are invited to celebrate St. Patrick's Day at a luncheon of corned beef, cabbage, and potatoes

**Wednesday, March 17,
at noon
in the parish center social
hall**

Beverages provided.
Bring a dish or dessert to
share
and \$2 to defray costs.



Q: I understand why we abstain from meat on the Fridays of Lent, but why doesn't this include fish? Why is the flesh of fish considered different from the flesh of animals for this purpose?

A: There are several answers to this question. The cultural answer stems from Christianity's early days in the countries around the Mediterranean. Meat was often expensive, so most people ate it only at times of feasting and rejoicing. Fish was a more common food, especially among the poor. So abstaining from meat is in keeping with the quiet simplicity of Lent, and eating fish could be a way of identifying with the poor.

The linguistic answer: In English we sometimes use the word meat loosely to refer to fish as well as to

the flesh of mammals and poultry. In Latin and the languages that developed from Latin, the word for meat does not include fish. This may seem like a minor point, but the words we use and how we define them affect how we look at the world. In the Latin Church, fish was different from meat because it was spoken of with a different word.

The symbolic answer derives from the fact that the early Christians used a fish as a symbol for Christ. Some see the eating of fish as a symbol of being nourished by Christ.

The Western, or Roman, Church has never required that Christians eat fish on Fridays, only that we abstain from eating meat—that is, the flesh of mammals and poultry.



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

Prayer for Vocations

Spirit of eternal Love, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, we thank you for all the vocations of apostles and saints that have enriched the Church.

Open the hearts and minds of young men and women so that a new flowering of holy vocations may show forth the fidelity of your love and all may know Christ, the true light come into the world to offer to every human being the sure hope of eternal life.

—Pope John Paul II



What is "Purim"?

It's sometimes called the "Jewish Mardi Gras" because it is a time of noisy partying and usually takes place in February or March. But the name of this Jewish festival is really Purim, pronounced poo-REEM, and this year it will be observed on Mar. 7.

Purim celebrates the story of Esther, who saved all the Jews in ancient Persia, where they were in exile. Esther was a young Jewish girl who became the queen when the Persian king fell in love with her. The king had an adviser, Haman, who ordered that everyone bow before him. Mordecai, Esther's uncle, refused, saying that he would not bow before any man. Haman was very angry at this and decided to destroy all the Jews in Persia.

Esther heard about what was going to happen, and she knew she must go to the king to plead for her people, even though she would be risking her life in doing so. When she told the king what Haman was planning to do, he was outraged. He commanded that Haman be arrested and executed, and that the order to kill the Jews be canceled.

During the celebration of Purim today there are parties, and as the story is retold in the synagogue the children hiss and shake rattles to make a lot of noise every time Haman's name is mentioned. People put on plays and eat special foods, such as triangle-shaped pastries called "Haman's ears" in reference to how that evil man listened to people who urged him to destroy the Jews.

One of the lessons from this story is that good people must confront evil and seek to overcome it.

To learn more about the story of Esther and Mordecai, read the Book of Esther in the Bible. You can find out more about the festival Purim on the Internet.

Parish Council postpones vote on Constitution

In January Council members decided to table the vote for proposed changes to the Council's Constitution. The majority of these changes were focused on the procedures for filling vacancies on the Council as members complete their terms.

The current procedure requires that the slate of candidates include two for each vacancy (e.g., eight candidates for four vacancies), with a parish-wide election by vote. The proposed changes would require that the slate of candidates include one for each vacancy plus two (e.g., six candidates for four vacancies), with a drawing from that pool of candidates to fill the number of vacancies.

In recent years the election committee has had difficulty developing a slate with the number of candidates required, even following appeals by the pastor. In addition, parishioners have expressed reluctance to participate as candidates in the election process, which they view as resulting in "winners" and "losers" in a "popularity contest." By contrast, selection by drawing from a pool of candidates in the context of a prayer service suggests an openness to the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The Council views the changes proposed

as presenting a simpler, more prayerful, less personally objectionable method of filling vacancies that occur as members complete their terms. They found that this method has worked well in other parishes, citing in particular St. Paul's, Danville.

The Council received feedback from some parishioners who voiced concern about what was seen as removing the democratic process and, in essence, the rights and responsibilities of the laity. The wisdom of making changes to the Constitution without involving the incoming pastor was also questioned. As a result, the Council decided to table the issue until some time after the arrival of the new pastor, when the concerns expressed by parishioners will be revisited.

The Council was grateful to parishioners who took the opportunity to present their views on this matter and hopes for continued communication by parishioners as other issues or matters of concern arise.



*Quick fixin's from
the kitchen of . . .
Roxanne Milazzo*

Chili 'n' Cheese Roll-ups

- 4 oz cream cheese, softened
- 1 c (4 oz) shredded cheddar cheese
- 1 can (4 oz) diced green chilies
- 1/2 c sliced green onions
- 1/2 c pitted ripe olives, chopped (optional)
- 4 6-in flour tortillas
- salsa (if desired)

In a bowl, blend cheeses, chilies, green onions, and olives. Spread 1/2 cup of the cheese mixture on each tortilla. Roll up each tortilla in a jelly-roll fashion. Wrap each in plastic and chill for at least an hour. To serve, cut each roll into 12 half-inch slices. Serve with salsa, if desired. Makes 48 appetizers.

Joseph, man of silence

Joseph, Mary's husband, appears three times in the first two chapters of Matthew's Gospel. Afterward, his existence is not mentioned. For Matthew, Joseph's mission concerned Jesus' infancy, from which Mary is inseparable; by taking Mary into his home he gave to Jesus his legitimacy in David's lineage. He saved the child from Herod, who wanted to kill him, and he brought his wife and child back from Egypt to settle in Galilee.

In all of these circumstances Joseph took no initiative, he merely did what God asked of him. But consequently he can be seen as the personal representative of the Father at the side of his Son come to earth, the guardian whom the Father chose because he could trust him totally.

God communicated with Joseph through an angel in a dream. Now, Joseph was anything but a dreamer; he was a man of decision, a realist

JOSEPH

Displaced,
a common worker,
no name but carpenter,
this Joseph,
yet one wonders
how each person, each place
was neighbor
to him,
for the child he called Son
treated none as
stranger.

who confronted situations and coped with them with determination and efficiency. He was a carpenter and cabinetmaker who used his know-how in the service of his family and his village. When one needs a tool, a house, or a cradle made or repaired, one does not call on a dreamer! But in the Bible dreams were understood as a way that God communicated his will, revealed his plan. In this light Joseph can be seen as the model for believers, who can be assured of receiving guidance at the proper time concerning what must be done in order to respond to their personal vocations in the world and the Church. Joseph's example shows us that the most humble persons, when they are open to the unexpected coming from God and obedient to God's calls, become capable of doing great things for the coming of God's kingdom.

The Gospels say very little about Joseph, and when they do speak of him, they say that he was "righteous." This prestigious adjective includes all the qualities that make a human being precious in the eyes of God. God chose this humble village craftsman to be the guardian of his Son made human and of Mary, his mother full of grace. Through Joseph, the Father accomplished the prophecies announcing that the Messiah would belong to David's lineage. From the day on which God told him to take Mary into his home, Joseph did all that God asked, in complete trust. He fulfilled his mission in silence, without attracting attention to himself, looking for no reward other than that of work well done.

Little wonder, then, that the veneration of Joseph, originating in the East, spread quickly to the West, and enjoyed widespread popularity through the centuries. Among his promoters were Sts. Vincent Ferrer, Bridget of Sweden, Bernardino of Siena, Pope Sixtus IV, Teresa of Avila, Francis de Sales, and Ignatius of Loyola. Joseph was declared patron saint of the universal Church



by Pope Pius IX at the close of the First Vatican Council. He is also the patron saint of a happy death, of workers, the poor, and fathers of families. Countries that have chosen him for their patron saint include Russia, Canada, Mexico, Peru, Belgium, Korea, Austria, Vietnam, Bohemia, and the mission to China. His feast is a Solemnity on the General Roman Calendar and is celebrated also by the Church of England, the Episcopal Church in the U.S.A., and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

We honor and celebrate this silent, humble, righteous man on March 19, asking for his guidance and protection.



Deadline for submission of information, articles, and news items for the next issue of *In Focus* is March 14.

Benediction

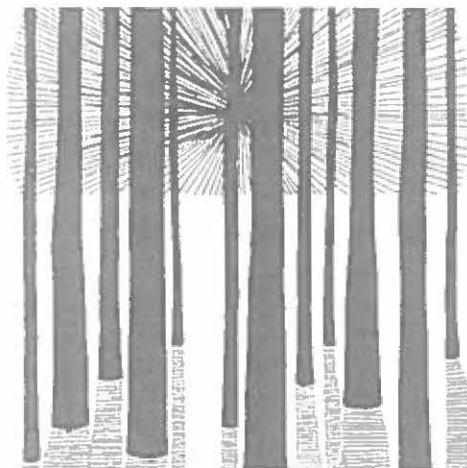
May the Lord protect you from your nightmares.
 May the Lord defend you from your fears.
 May the One who made you walk beside you.
 May the One who sees you dry your tears.

May the Lord be by your side in sorrow.
 May graciousness from Heaven make you smile.
 May the face of Yahweh shine upon you,
 Dispelling darkness you have known a while.

May the Lord shed mercy in abundance.
 May you lift your face to meet God's gaze.
 May solace tuck you in and guard your slumber.
 May his confidence be yours for all your days.

No longer will they lead into temptation.
 Cast off all your worries, guilt, and shame.
 No anonymity allowed in Heaven.
 It's there that "everybody knows your name."

May God carve into sand your darkest secrets,
 That waves may wash away the hurt you've known.
 Then may the Greatest Giver carve your comfort,
 And hope, and joy, and health, and



Attention, shutterbugs!

The Communications Committee is trying to build up a file of photographs that can be used to illustrate In Focus. Photos heighten reader interest in articles and increase the appeal of a newsletter for and about parishioners and their activities, so they are included as often as possible.



Photographs that show parishioners - individuals or families - involved in some aspect of parish life or living out their faith in some situational setting are of special interest. Photos of specific parish events or activities, like those marking the parish's Centennial, the frequent parish-wide social activities, sacramental celebrations such as Confirmation and First Communion, are especially welcome and would be used in connection with articles about these events. Others, like the baptism of an infant, a gathering for Bible study, a catechist's helper involved with children in class, and the like, might be used to illustrate an article on the sacraments, an invitation to the start of a new Bible study "semester," an appeal for volunteer catechists in the fall - in other words, as a topical illustration rather than one related to a specific event.

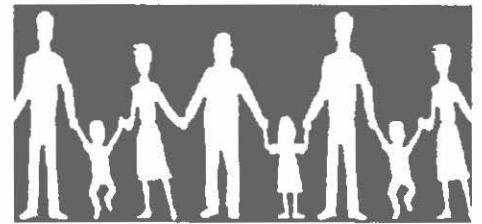
Do you have photographs that you'd be willing to share with the readers of In Focus? Will you keep this request in mind as you take photos of special events in your own lives or in the life of the parish?

Photos in digital format may be sent via e-mail to committee member Naneera Vidhayasirinum (naneera@uif.uillinois.edu). Prints may be dropped off in the Communications Committee mailbox in the parish center; these will be scanned and can be returned if you wish. With any photo, digital or print, be sure to include the

following information:

- ~Your name, address, and telephone number
- ~Names of the people in the photo
- ~Anything you'd like to tell about the occasion when the photo was taken
- ~If the photo includes a child or teen under 18 years of age, the Diocese of Peoria requires a parent's permission for its use in any parish publication. You will be asked to sign a permission form and return it for the parish's files.

Fame and fortune may not come your way with the use of your photos, but you'll surely have the gratitude of the Communications Committee and that of our readers!



Welcome to new parishioners Ashley Einck, Willard Garrison, Puamuh Ghogomu and Michelle Thoele, Shellie Gump, Margaret Havlicek, Appolinaire Ikuku, Heather and Robert Kenny, Amber and David Lannert, Lac Huu Nguyen, Mary Olson, Jason Retz, and Shannon Slingsby.

Farewell to these parishioners, who have moved from C-U: Bonnie and Terrance Clennon, Ed Barstow, Doug and Jana Boyer, Grace Hall, Anthony Menke, Anne Shumate, and John Peter Smith.

Welcome to the following baptized into our faith community: Ashley Gentner, William Isaac Duncanson, Bailey Thomas Kazyak, Cassidy Jo McQueen, Jamie Marie Wanserski, and Emma Marie Parkinson.

How are we doing?

In Advent our parish began implementing some modifications to our practice of liturgy stemming from revisions to the General Instruction of the Roman Missal. The revised edition, the first in 25 years, strongly affirms the principles of the liturgical renewal mandated by the Second Vatican Council. The revision calls for a few changes and provides some guidelines for our worship, seeking to bring all to a deeper understanding and appreciation of the liturgy that we may grow in holiness through our "full, active, and conscious participation in the mystery of the Eucharist."

The Book of the Gospels

According to the General Instruction, the Gospel is the high point of the Liturgy of the Word. We show reverence for the Gospel, the Word of God, in several ways. The Book of the Gospels is carried, elevated, in the entrance procession and placed on the altar for all to see. At the time for proclamation of the Gospel, all present stand and sing an acclamation, usually Alleluia, while the deacon or priest carries the Book in procession to the ambo, where the Word, Jesus, is proclaimed.

The Book of the Gospels recalls for us one of the ways Christ is present during Mass. There are four in all: Christ is present in the gathered assembly, in the person of the presider, in the Eucharist, and in the proclamation of the Word of God—the same Word affirmed by the Father and confessed by John at the Jordan.

Signs of reverence

Bishop Jenky wrote: "If I had to explain the renewal of the Mass in just one sentence, I would ask everyone to show greater reverence for the mysteries we celebrate." We show this reverence in the many ways we participate in this celebration—in our posture (for



instance, standing attentively during the proclamation of the Gospel), in our gestures, in our manner and appearance.

We show reverence, too, in a few specific ways. We are asked, for example, to make a profound bow (a deep bow from the waist) during the Nicene Creed at the words "by the power of the Holy Spirit he was born of the Virgin Mary, and became man." And in approaching to receive Communion, we bow our head before receiving the Body of Christ and again before receiving the Blood of Christ. We also show reverence in the uniformity of our posture and gestures as a community at one in Christ—standing when all stand, bowing when all bow, bowing instead of substituting an action of our own and in our own time.

Silence in the liturgy

The General Instruction reminds us of the importance of silence in the liturgy. Moments of silence are sometimes taken as a sign that someone has forgotten what to do or say. In fact, silence in the liturgy is always meant to be reflective, prayerful, a time for us to ponder or prepare for or to gather ourselves for what is to come.

At the opening prayer, the presider invites us to pray and then pauses, giving us a moment to gather ourselves for this prayer. After the first reading, the moment or two of silent reflection is followed by the Responsorial Psalm, in which we voice our response to the Word we have heard. This time of silence after each of the readings and after the homily allows us to reflect on and assimilate what we have heard before proceeding. After Communion, we have the opportunity to reflect in silence on the great gift of Eucharist we have just received.

In his pastoral letter "One Body, One Spirit in Christ," Bishop Jenky observes, "The Church asks us

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"doing" from page 10

to be silent before Mass so we can prepare ourselves." Just how we accomplish that is left to us. A simple recollection of who we are (the Body of Christ, the People of God, the Church assembled) and why we've come (to worship, to give thanks and praise, to acknowledge and serve Christ in one another) may be all we need by way of preparation. The moments before Mass begins can also be used for reading, or reading again, the Scriptures of the day to prepare ourselves for their proclamation and the meanings they hold for us this day.

Intinction?

Intinction is the act of dipping a consecrated host into the consecrated wine when receiving Holy Communion at Mass. For several years many parishioners used this practice as a way of receiving the Blood of Christ, perhaps following from an earlier practice in which the priest dipped the host into the Blood of Christ and placed it on the tongue of the communicant. Later, many persons began to dip the host they had received into the chalice as a way of receiving the Blood of Christ, often out of concern about hygiene in drinking from a common cup. However innocently, they were self-communicating, taking the Blood of Christ instead of receiving it, a practice that is disallowed.

In an explanation of intinction and a brief overview of the Church's practice of giving and receiving communion in the forms of bread and of wine (In Focus, Oct. 1994), Fr. Remm wrote, in part, it is "the firm custom of the Church that communion is ministered to the communicant, not taken. Self-communication by anyone other than the priest is not a tradition in our Faith. Moreover, the fullness of liturgical symbolism in drinking from the cup is lost by intinction." This understanding is affirmed by the General Instruction in several places.

Parish nurses active at St. Patrick's

A Parish Nurse is a "minister of health," whose focus is on empowering each individual to make sound choices in order to promote (a) health and a sense of well being for the body, mind, and spirit, and (b) healing, an integration of body, mind, and spirit to create wholeness. Healing is different from curing; healing is a restoration of the whole person to God.

Parish Nurses serve as health educators, health counselors, referral agents, and advocates/facilitators. They assess the physical, mental, and spiritual health needs of the parish and its members and plan programs to help meet those needs; they visit members in their homes, hospitals, and nursing homes; they provide screening and up-to-date health information; they refer members to community resources to meet health care needs; and they listen to parishioners as they offer guidance and input into the program.

Parish Nurses do not take the place of the pastor, the pastoral associate, regular health care professionals, or home care providers, and they do not perform invasive procedures, such as giving shots, changing dressings, or providing hands-on care.

In January, seven registered nurses were commissioned as St. Patrick's Parish Nurses after completing 44 hours of training: Carolyn Artz, Melody Billman, Marie Bozinovich, Jeannette Handal, Teresa Krassa, Rosemary Mathy, and Lilia Peters. They receive neither salary nor stipend for their ministry of caring and service, under the guidance of Sr. Charlene Cesario. Their relationship with the parishioners they serve is confidential.

Help Wanted Communications Committee Members

Great job, lots of fun, good
friendship.

No experience required.
Sense of humor a must.

Call Cathy Salika at
367-7861!



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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St. Patrick's Parish

Urbana, IL

March 2004

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1:30, 7 pm Bible Study 7 pm Ed 7pm Centering Prayer 7pm Pro-Life	7 pm Financial Affairs	9:30 am Moms Group 5:15 pm SVDP 5:15 pm Childrens Choir 7 pm RCIA 7 pm Choir 12:30, 7pm Bible Study	6:45 am Mens Bible Study 7 pm Building & Grounds 7 pm Baptism Prep 7 pm Choir 7pm Bible Study	10:45am CCNH 5:15 pm Stations of the Cross 5:30pm Fish Fry 7 pm Faith and Films	
	1	2	3	4	5	6
9 am RCIA 9, 11am Rel Ed 10:15 am Childrens Lit 1:30pm Faith and Films 6:30 pm Leaders Bible Study 6:30 pm HS Rel Ed	1:30, 7 pm Bible Study 7 pm FGDW 7 pm Centering Prayer 6pm Protecting God's Children	7:30 pm Exec Council 7:30 pm Social Action 6:45 pm 1st Communion Prep	9:30amMoms Group 9:30 am Schola 5:15 pm SVDP 5:15 pm Childrens Choir 7 pm RCIA 7 pm Choir 12:30, 7pm Bible Study 7 pm Personnel 6 pm Children's Lenten Reconciliation	6:45 am Mens Bible Study 7 pm Choir 7pm Bible Study 7 pm C.Y.A.	10:30 am Care Center 10:45am CCNH 5:15 pm Stations of the Cross 5:30pm Fish Fry 7 pm Faith and Films	St. Patricks Dance
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9 am RCIA 1:30pm Faith and Films 6:30 pm Leaders Bible Study 6:30 pm HS Rel Ed	1:30, 7 pm Bible Study 7 pm FGDW 7 pm Centering Prayer	6:30pm Liturgy 9:30 am Canterbury Ridge 6:45 pm 1st Communion Prep	9:30amMoms Group 5:15 pm SVDP 5:15 pm Childrens Choir 6 pm Rel Ed 7 pm RCIA 7 pm Choir 12:30, 7pm Bible Study 6:30 St. Joseph Rel Ed	6:45 am Mens Bible Study 7 pm Choir 7pm Bible Study 7 pm C.Y.A. 7 pm Parish Council St	10:30 am Clark Lindsey 10:45am CCNH 5:15 pm Stations of the Cross 5:30pm Fish Fry 7 pm Faith and Films	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
10:15 am Childrens Lit 1:30pm Faith and Films 6:30 pm Leaders Bible Study 10:15am K of C 9 am RCIA 9, 11am Rel Ed 6:30 pm HS Rel Ed	9:30 am Archives 1:30, 7 pm Bible Study 7 pm Centering Prayer	7 pm Homily Prep 6:45 pm 1st Communion Prep	9:30 am Schola 9:30amMoms Group 5:15 pm SVDP 5:15 pm Childrens Choir 7 pm RCIA 7 pm Choir 12:30, 7pm Bible Study 6:30 St. Joseph Rel Ed	6:45 am Mens Bible Study 7 pm Choir 7pm Bible Study 7 pm C.Y.A. 7 pm Communication	10:30 am Manor Care 10:45am CCNH 5:15 pm Stations of the Cross 5:30pm Fish Fry	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
9 am RCIA 1:30 pm Faith and Films 9am Teen Mass 6:30 pm HS Rel Ed	7 pm FGDW 7 pm Centering Prayer	6:45 pm 1st Communion Prep	9:30 am Moms Group 5:15 pm SVDP 7 pm RCIA 7 pm Choir	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> FGDW-Finding God in Daily Work SVDP- St. Vincent DePaul CYA- Catholic Young Adults CCNH- Champaign County Nursing Home Rel Ed- Religious Education </div>		
28	29	30	31			