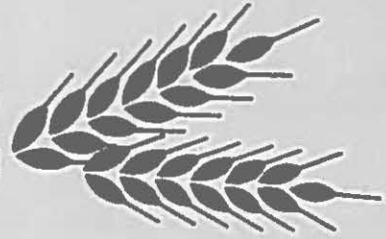


ST. PATRICK'S PARISH

In Focus



www.stpaturbana.org

A Letter to New Parishioners

Welcome To St. Patrick's!

On behalf of the Parish Council of St. Patrick's, I particularly want to welcome everyone who has joined our faith community in recent months. As you probably have seen by now, the faith community here is active and welcoming. Simply said, there are a lot of things going on around here.

We invite you to join us. In fact, as you look through the bulletin hand-out "Who and What Is St. Patrick's?" you

will notice the wide range of activities you can participate in with us. You can choose to join one of the groups

that focus more on faith-filled community building, like base communities, Bible study, the Knights of Columbus, or St. Patrick's Guild.

Or you might be interested in a group that focuses on social action themes, such as the Catholic Worker House, the Social Action Committee, and the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Groups like the Building and Grounds Committee, the Garden Club, the Archives

Committee, and the Parish Council would be happy to have you join them in vari-

ous operational aspects of parish life.

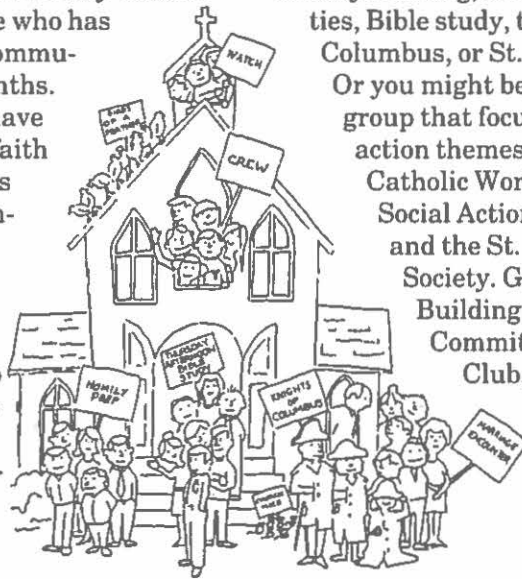
The parish also offers a wide range of activities in areas as diverse as

spiritual growth, pastoral care and special outreach, evangelization, liturgical ministry, youth education, teen education, adult education, and celebration of family life. If these don't strike a chord, maybe you are waiting for a call to join the choir—stop by to talk with Chris Angel, our music director, about life in the choir loft and how you might fit in.

The possibilities aren't quite endless, but they're pretty close!

As summer winds to a close, many of us start thinking again about the regularity of the school year or the cool days and nights of autumn. In our house, with two school-aged children, we actually look forward to relaxing after the hectic pace of summer, and we think again about the more reasonable rhythm of life. Regardless of the pace of life in your home, I hope you will think about

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Why Volunteer?

"People are so inspiring, really! If I weren't already a volunteer, I'd think more than once about becoming one!"

This was the spontaneous response from an already involved parishioner to the following reflections of parishioners when they were asked why they volunteer at St. Patrick's. We believe you too will be inspired, both by their service and by their humility in serving, and may think seriously about volunteering at St. Patrick's this year. There is no better time to make that commitment than now, during St. Patrick's Time and Talent

Weekend.

Marty Sierra-Perry and her son, Nathaniel, prepare the calendar that appears in In Focus. Marty writes: "My parents and extended family have always put out the expectation that ours is a life of service. The talents that God has given us are to be used to do his work. While I was growing up, it was not unusual for my family to assist people who were less fortunate, to serve on church committees, and to serve our youth. No task was considered unimportant; my mother used to help clean the church. We may sometimes think 'I can't do as much as others do,' but

service to God and our community is not a contest. Do what you can; it is always appreciated."

Chris Langendorf is one of the charter members of the Garden Club, which has made such an improvement in the appearance of our parish grounds this summer. She says: "I want to give back to St. Pat's for all St. Pat's has done for me and for my family."

Naneera Vidhayasirinun Walsh participates in Eucharistic ministry at 5:00 Mass and has volunteered to scan photos and illustrations to create an electronic resource for pagers

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Q: Why do we light votive candles in church?

A: The use of candles in worship goes back to the very early days of the Church. They were probably first used simply to dispel darkness, when the sacred mysteries were celebrated before dawn (as was the custom) or in the gloom of the catacombs.

Light penetrates the darkness, nourishes life—a fitting symbol of God, the Source of life and enlightenment. Christ, the Son of God, is the “Light of the world” enlightening “those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death.” The Paschal Candle, blessed and lighted during the Easter Vigil, represents the resurrected Christ dispelling the darkness of a world without God. At baptism the candle placed in the hand of the godparent is lighted from the Paschal Candle, symbolizing the child’s receiving the light of Christ. At funerals the Paschal Candle, symbolic of the resurrected Christ, lights the way to eternal life for the deceased.



The votive candle has its own very beautiful significance as a symbol of prayer. Lighted in fulfillment of a vow

(hence “votive”) or in devotion to the saint before whose image they burn, or in gratitude for favors received, or as an expression of need or desire, votive candles are a very “Catholic thing.” Sometimes called “vigil lights,” they are a source of comfort to those who light them, somewhat like sentinels keeping vigil in prayer. They are an expression of expectant faith, a recognition of the power of persistent, persevering prayer.

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

Welcome to St. Pat’s from Page 1

spending some of your time meeting, sharing, and growing with your fellow parishioners.

If you still aren’t sure where or how you can join in, stop by for a chat with our pastor, Fr. Joe Hogan. He can sympathize with you, as he too is a newcomer to St. Patrick’s!

However you choose to participate in St. Patrick’s parish life, on behalf of Fr. Joe, Sr. Charlene, and the rest of the staff, trustees, Parish Council, and all our parishioners, I want you to know that you are welcome. So, grab a donut and coffee after Mass and get to know your neighbors!

Sincerely,
Don Keefer
Parish Council President



Why Volunteer? from Page 1

of *In Focus*. Naneera writes: “Since we have moved to Urbana, we have joined St. Patrick’s Parish and have always felt at home with the community. I am impressed by the willingness to help of the people of this very diverse but united family. Everyone has been delightful to work with, and I am glad I am able to be part of the helping hands.”

Rose Breen has experienced the call to volunteerism as a response to needs made visible by others. “Father Remm, Sister Charlene, and Sophia Zeigler helped me see the need for help in many projects,” she writes. Rose is a member and past president of St. Patrick’s Guild and is actively engaged in its many projects and

events. She helps Sophia with the preparation of foodstuffs and soup for the poor, assists with Eucharistic ministry at Clark-Lindsey/Meadowbrook, and regularly helps with funeral meals.

John Colombo, responding for himself and his wife, *Tina*, writes: “Tina and I have always been of the view that one should do more than simply give money to those charitable organizations that one cares about. ‘Supporting’ an organization is about more than giving money (though we do that too, as best we can within our means); it is also about being personally involved, and these were the ways we thought we could best contribute personally to the mission of St. Pat’s.” John is one of two parishioners who lay out the pages of *In Focus*, which frequently involves scanning lots of illustrations and juggling space to fit them all. Tina has been a catechist in the parish’s religious education program.

Terry Moreau volunteers her knowledge and skills in very different areas. You may know her as a cantor at weekend liturgies, but you may not know that she also brings her financial know-how to her service on the Financial Affairs Committee. She writes: “Volunteering at St. Patrick’s is my way of sharing various gifts I have been given in order to participate more fully in the parish community. Singing is particularly meaningful to me—not just my contribution, but in hearing the awesome effect of all our voices joined.”

Come one, come all—to St. Patrick’s annual picnic

“What did you do last summer?” “How about those Cubs—did you get to the Cards/Cubs dust-up last month?” “I had a great time on Mission this year—you really ought to come next time!” “Are you new to St. Pat’s? I don’t remember seeing you before—my name is...” “What are you majoring in?” “How’s the new job coming? Do you like working there?” “I moved this summer, and what a mess! Wait till you hear what

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Pro-life float a winner—again!

For the second time in four years the pro-life float won a significant prize. This year it was first prize for best theme. The overall theme of this year's Freedom Parade was "Be All That You Can Be." The pro-life float proclaimed "Let Them BE—In Order to Be All That They Can Be."

The pro-life float featured red and blue stars with infants' and children's pictures superimposed, under which were signs naming professions the children might adopt when they grow up.

The float was sponsored by Life Is for Everyone, a pro-life organization whose co-presidents are Myrna Buyno of St. Matthew's Parish and



Mary Lee Brady of St. Patrick's Parish. Members of Holy Cross Parish

participated in preparing the float for the parade.

"For the safety of our service personnel serving around the world..."

For several parish families this prayer, one of the Prayers of the Faithful offered by the assembly at our weekend liturgies, is especially heartfelt and brings to them the prayerful support of their parish community during this time of great risk to their children who serve in the military. At the Masses on June 26-27 Mary Long, speaking for them in an Evangelization Minute, said:

"We want you to know how much it means to us that our parish continues to pray for and support our sons and daughters. They grew up in this parish, many of them were altar servers. They went through our religious education program, were baptized here, made their first communion here, were confirmed here. You watched them grow up, and you helped to nurture them spiritually. Do you know how much it means to them now to know that their parish prays for them?"

"I recently told my son, Adam, who is on his way to Iraq now, that people at St. Pat's are always asking about him and his brother, Zachary. How the parish prays for them every week, how people say they're thinking of them and praying for them. Adam said, 'We need to hear that!' As some face danger during their training or while serving in foreign places, your prayers give them strength and comfort, not just for them, but for us

moms and dads too, for anyone with a loved one in harm's way. You are holding us up spiritually, and we want you to know how much that means to us.

"Some of us have been meeting periodically to pray for our sons and daughters. We share our stories, our hopes and concerns, our fears and our joys. We pray for one another. If any of you have a loved one in the military, we invite you to join us, we did not mean to leave you out.

"We would like to ask you to pray especially for the spiritual well being of our sons and daughters. Pray that

whatever they face, in their training or on missions, they will know the Lord and depend on him for their strength. We can no longer protect them, though we would like to gather them under our wings and keep them safe. When we sing 'On Eagle's Wings,' we remember Psalm 91, which says, 'under His wings you shall take refuge; God's faithfulness is a protecting shield.' Pray that they will fully appreciate this.

"In your prayers and thoughtful concern for us and for our loved ones in the military, you are showing us the love of Christ. Thank you!"



Not all our parents of service men and women could be present at all the Masses. Those shown here after the 9:00 Mass are (from the left): Jerry and Sandy Pijanowski, Mary Long, Margy Palmisano. Not shown: David Palmisano, Mark and Joan Gerhart.

Observing Labor Day, 2004

Labor Day has become the official "end of summer" holiday, but its

origins had a deeper meaning. Early Labor Day celebrations focused on workers' rights and publicized issues relating to pay for labor and fair treatment of workers.

The concept of Labor Day was suggested by Peter J. McGuire in 1882. McGuire, who had founded the Federation of Organized Trades and Labor Unions (which became the AFL-CIO), wanted to improve working conditions. Other organizations began supporting this idea, using it to dramatize workers' grievances.

The first Labor Day was celebrated in New York City in 1882. It was made a federal holiday in 1894. In 1898 Samuel Gompers, then-president of the American Federation of Labor, expressed the hope that Labor Day celebrations would promote greater effort "in the grand struggle to make mankind free, true, and noble."

The Catholic Church was also considering the rights and needs of work-

ers at this time. It's interesting to note that *Rerum Novarum*, an encyclical by Pope Leo XIII considered to be the beginning of "papal social

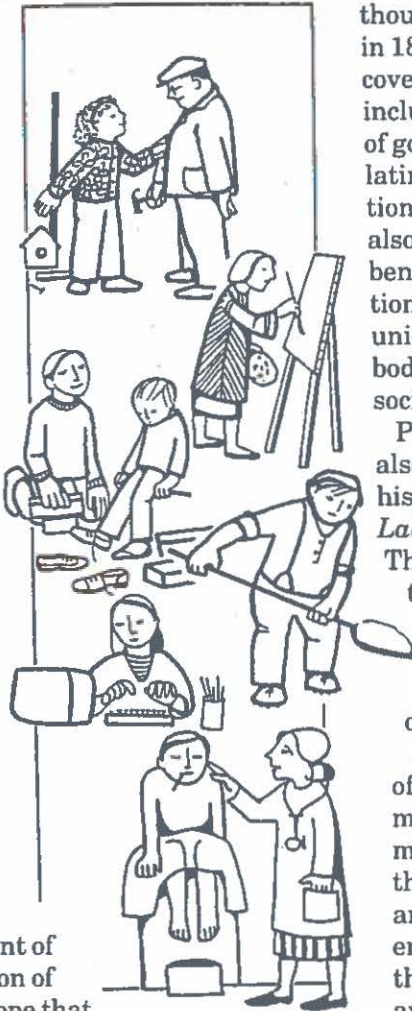
thought," was published in 1891. This encyclical covered many topics, including the functions of government in regulating working conditions and a just wage. It also emphasized the benefits of organizations such as trade unions and Church bodies that focused on social action.

Pope John Paul II also wrote on labor in his 1981 encyclical *Laborem Exercens*.

This document critiqued both communism and capitalism and emphasized the "priority of labor over capital."

As we mark the end of summer 2004, we might take a few moments to recognize the value of our work and the work of others, to be grateful for the ability to work and for the improve-

ments in working conditions achieved in the past century, and to acknowledge how much yet remains to be done for workers still struggling for fair treatment and fair wages.



Protecting God's Children

Interested in volunteering for one of the children's ministries at St. Patrick's? Thinking of going along as a chaperone on next year's CREW mission? Then you need to attend "Protecting God's Children," the Diocese of Peoria's mandatory program for educating and training adults about child abuse awareness and prevention. Attendance is required for all adult volunteers and employees in the Peoria diocese. (If you attended a session last year, you do not have to attend again in order to volunteer.)

"Protecting God's Children" is a VIRTUS program, created by the National Catholic Risk Retention Group, Inc., with the goal of assisting "the Church in being a safe haven for children and a messenger for preventing child sexual abuse within the Church and society in general."

The program consists in a 3- to 4-hour session, led by trained facilitators, that includes videotaped presentations and group discussions on how to recognize and prevent child sexual abuse. Attendees learn the methods that abusers might use to "groom" children and signs that might suggest a child has been abused. You'll learn how to report suspicions of abuse, and how allegations of abuse should be handled.

You may be thinking that this seems like quite a commitment just to be a volunteer in a religious education setting or to help with CREW, but if attending this session helps to protect one child from being abused, wouldn't it be worth that?

If a man is called to be a street sweeper, he should sweep streets even as Michelangelo painted, or Beethoven composed music, or Shakespeare wrote poetry. He should sweep streets so well that all the host of heaven and earth will pause to say, "There lived a great street sweeper who did his job well!"

Martin Luther King, Jr.

Bingo!

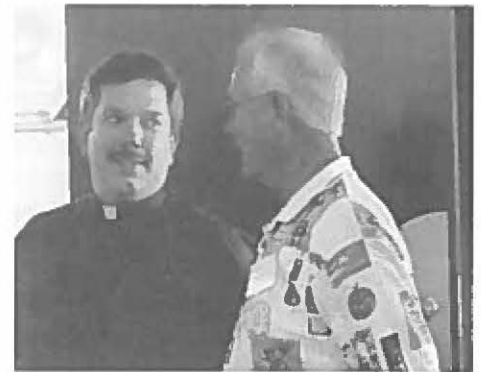
"Bingo!" was the cry of the seniors group who attended the summer annual potluck at St. Patrick's parish center on June 26. The many winners chose prizes from the white elephant gifts all members had brought to the event.

The party was enjoyed by 48 parishioners, including three couples who were new to the group. Fr. Joe Hogan, experiencing his first "senior event," led the group in prayer before dinner. The potluck, needless to say, was enjoyed by all.

Irma Wait donated two dozen white snowball flowers as centerpieces for the tables, and Rose Brown brought a lilac centerpiece for the serving table. The event's planning committee (Bill and Ruth Plymire, Rose Brown, Leo Wood, and Walter and Shirley Splittstoesser) earned thanks for an evening of good fun.



Irma and Ray Wait enjoy the potluck.



Fr. Joe Hogan and Bill Plymire confer on "serious business."

The next seniors outing will be in October; watch for announcements in the parish bulletin. Any senior (50 years and older) who would like to be on the mailing list is asked to call Shirley Splittstoesser (367-3330).



The first four Bingo winners claim their prizes.

Focus on parishioner... Judy Conover

One of St. Patrick's productive volunteers is Judy Conover, who has given generously of her time and many talents in service to her parish.

After working for many years in the President's office at the University of Illinois, Judy had no sooner entered retirement than she was asked by then-pastor Fr. George Remm to take on a special project. He wanted to put the parish's sacramental records into a computer program to simplify access to the records and to prepare sacramental certificates. It required many hours each day over a couple of years for Judy to devise the program and enter all the records.

Upon completion of this task, Fr. Remm presented Judy with another project, this time for the Archives Committee. The project involved the scanning of all the minutes of the Parish Council meetings since its inception. As anyone who has scanned text knows, the job isn't really done when the scanning is finished. Judy then had to read and

compare the scanned copy with the original and make the necessary corrections to bring them into agreement. Ultimately this scanned material would facilitate research for the writing of a parish history.

At the same time, Judy began to assist in the preparation of St. Patrick's Family History, scanning the family histories, some with photos, submitted by parishioners. The book was published during St. Patrick's centennial celebrations.



Judy Conover

Another of Judy's valuable services to her parish has been the many years she has served as recording secretary to the Parish Council, attending the meetings, taking notes, and transcribing them to present a clear and concise account for the Council, for St. Patrick's archives, and as a source of information for the regular feature Parish Council News in *In Focus*.

Years ago, Judy served as parish secretary in the parish office, at the entrance of the now-demolished rectory, which was located the width of a narrow sidewalk just east of the church.

Judy is an avid fan of all Illini sports and of the Chicago White Sox. She enjoys an occasional quiet afternoon in the country during spring, summer, and fall. She derives much enjoyment these days from her "peppy Pomeranian," Nicky, and from outings with close friends.

St. Patrick's has been blessed for many years by Judy's membership in our faith community, by her willing spirit of volunteerism, and by her faith.

Childcare at Sinai Temple returns a gift of love

It has long been a tradition for the congregation of Sinai Temple to do acts of kindness for Christians on Christian holidays. At Christmas and Easter, volunteers from the Temple help with food service at Provena Covenant Medical Center so that Christian aides can have those days off. They work in the office of a social service agency to enable children in foster care to have supervised visits with their families on Christmas, and they offer childcare for churches during holiday worship services.



To return this kindness, the Council of Congregations (of which St. Patrick's is a member) asks for volunteers to provide childcare at the Temple on two Jewish High Holy Days:

Rosh Hashana (Thursday, Sept. 16): first shift, 9:45 a.m. to noon; second shift, 11:45 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Yom Kippur (Saturday, Sept. 25): first shift, 9:45 a.m. to noon; second shift, 11:45 a.m. to 2 p.m.; third shift, 3:45 to 6 p.m.

The children will be grouped by age: infants (to 2 years); young children (3-5 years); and school age (6-8 years). Snacks and activities will be

provided.

Rosh Hashana is a joyful day, the beginning of the New Year in the Jewish calendar, but it is also a day when Jews spend time in profound reflection and prayer. It begins a period called the "Days of Awe," which end with Yom Kippur, the "Day of Atonement."

During this time Jews all over the world congregate in their synagogues. They examine their lives and the actions of the community; as a community, they confess their sins and ask for

forgiveness. According to tradition, on Yom Kippur God's judgment will be sealed in the Book of Life for another year.

If you can help provide childcare on these two days, so special to the Jewish community, please call Peggy Whelan (367-3668), St. Patrick's representative on the Council of Congregations. Any amount of time you can give will be greatly appreciated.

This is a chance for you to visit the Temple, meet the coordinators and the children, and answer the Church's modern-day call for inter-faith service.



Welcome to new parishioners Becky and Steven Billman, Tracey Clayton, Joseph and Lisa Hinchliffe, Bruce and Christine Hopper, Ha Kim Huynh, Patrick Karcher, Helen Leskosky, Richard Leskosky, Frank and Mary Maglione, Clovis and Nicole Nyembo, Leslie Sherman, and Jandee and Lewis Taylor.

Farewell to these parishioners, who have moved from C-U: Gifty Ako-Adounvo, Michelle and Miguel Alvarado, Ed and Eve Cassidy, Carolyn Crawford, Amy Crump, Charles Dourlet, Chris and Kim Evangelisti, Cheri and David Gorrell, Bill Heffernan, Liliane DiBengo and Gilbert Kiamana, Dustin Lange, Patrick Morgan, Dagmar Neaville, Ellen Roney, Jeff Skibbe, Gale and Marilyn Taylor, Bryan and Nora Tyer-Witek, Beulah and Jack Washburn, Cassiette West Williams, and Tracy Wilson.

Congratulations to these couples married at St. Patrick's: Michele Antoinette Theole and Puamuh T. Ghogomu, Evila M. Younger and Timothy J. Newman, Myra F. Cayamanda and Nathaniel "Nix" J. Manzano, Elizabeth J. Jackson and Matthew C. Beth, Alejandra C. Torio and Aquilino E. Bartolome, Traci M. Kissack and Jeremy M. Clodfelder, and Jennifer M. Edwards and Peter M. Amberg.

Welcome to the following, recently baptized into our faith community: Snalegwa Bobbey, Hadley Grace Peters, Christopher Reineke, Kenneth T. Luong, David A. Marszalek, Mary C. Costello, Shelbee Taylor, Hope A. Rajlick, Tyler A. Tackett, Eleanor J. Welshons, and Jack Christopher Williamson

Please pray for deceased parishioners. Casper Roedl, Jr., C. Gilbert "Gib" Long, John "Jack" P. Kirwan, Norma McDonald, Harold Yanchus, and Doug Lewis.



Those bells you hear at Mass? They get a good polishing every year. They are completely disassembled, polished, and finally reassembled, ready for another year of pealing in wonder, joy, or exultation. Helping hands made light work of the task; from the left: Judy Huelsbusch, Scott Shannon, Cathy Salika, Lucille Salika, and Marilyn Marshall.

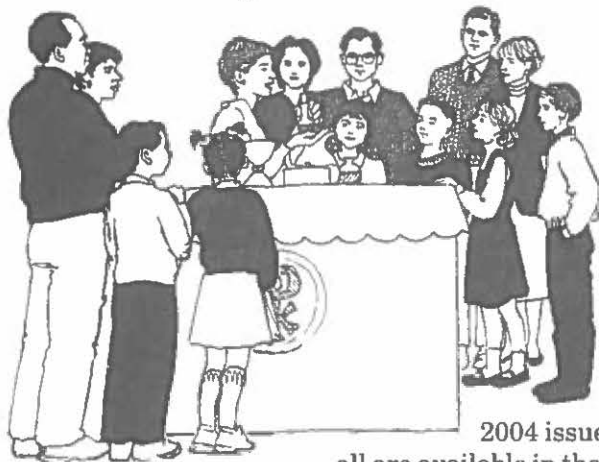
"Good Liturgy" studied by the Liturgy Committee

Liturgy is at the heart of all parish life, and the task of a Liturgy Committee is to work together with the priest who presides at these liturgical celebrations in enhancing the spiritual enrichment of the assembled parish community.

The Liturgy Committee of St. Patrick's Parish currently consists of eleven members that assist in several of the elements involved in preparing and conducting the parish's weekly and special liturgical celebrations. These include, among others, recruiting, training, and coordination of altar servers, ushers, eucharistic ministers, and lectors, as well as music, liturgical art, sacristan activities, and Mass setup. The committee is chaired by Ellen Amberg.

In their desire to carry out these responsibilities with better understanding, committee members have

begun study of a 10-part series called "Good Liturgy" that was published in *America Magazine* this spring. The committee chose to start, appropriately enough, with "The Ministry of the Parish Liturgy Committee," which was printed in the Apr. 5 issue. (Publication of the 10-part series appeared in March, April, and May



2004 issues of *America*; all are available in the parish library.)

The article states that "committee members should have authenticity, integrity, respect, flexibility, courage, humility, and a passion for making things better because they understand the power of the liturgy to transform hearts, lives, and communities." The committee should know, love, and respect the assembly and center its primary attention on doing the basics exceptionally well. These basics are defined as the actions of "gathering, welcoming, proclaiming the Word, and celebrating the Eucha-

rist." Many parishioners—approximately 200 of us—participate in these liturgical ministries.

The Church affirms the theology of lay ministry in *Lumen Gentium*, Vatican II's "Dogmatic Constitution of the Church." (You can find this document on the Internet at www.cin.org/v2.church.html.) Lay ministry is not optional, it is ours by reason of our baptism. It is about service that is a joyous giving to an interdependent community. We serve because of a gift that has been given to us, graciously and unconditionally, by the One who first loved us.

As committee members continue their study of "Good Liturgy," they plan to share highlights with our readers. Look for these in future issues of In Focus.



The Communications Committee knows how to have a good time! Their annual picnic barbecue, held at the home of member Mary Lee Brady, is one way they have chosen to thank associate members for their valuable assistance. Pictured are most of the active members, with a good sampling of the many associates who help with planning In Focus or who write, take photos, edit, lay out pages, or insert issues of In Focus into parish bulletins.

Prayer for Vocations



God, our Father, you have called us in baptism to follow your Son through lives of loving service. Grant us your assistance as we seek to live out our vocation. We pray especially for those who have answered your call as priests, deacons, religious, and lay ministers. Keep all faithful to your call and dedicated to the service of our brothers and sisters. We ask this in the name of Jesus, your Son. Amen.



An Evangelization Minute

By Tijuana, Dave, and David Mendoza

Tijuana: My name is Tijuana Mendoza; with me are my husband, Dave, and our son, David.

We were Protestants for twenty years, when God moved in our hearts to come into the Roman Catholic Church. Ours is really three stories in one, because God worked in us individually, yet at the same time, so that we decided together, as a family, to leave our close-knit Protestant church and come to St. Patrick's. Here is David to tell his story.

David: I was the first one of my family to investigate the real workings of the Catholic Church. As a sophomore in a private Protestant high school, I conducted an independent study of Catholic theology and apologetics. I came to the conclusion that the Roman Church was Christ's most personal expression of his church and that he was fully embodied in the Eucharist. I decided inde-

pendently of my parents to join the Church after attending a Catholic youth conference in Indiana. It was the best choice I ever made.

And now, Dad...

Dave: My journey home as a "revert," or returning convert to the Church, has been a summation of many years. As a Protestant lay pastor and seminarian, the more I prayed and studied, the more I wanted to serve both God and his people. I wanted to share the Father Heart of God with everyone I knew, but eventually I had to ask myself if the church was really ONE as Jesus had prayed that we would be. As a Protestant, the answer seemed to be no. But as I read the early Church Fathers, I found these men were defenders of the One Faith, which was handed down from the Apostles, and this oneness existed in the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church—the Church of my youth. I also found the summit was in the Eucharistic prayer, where all of heaven and earth

are joined to become one Body, both spiritually and physically in the Mystical Supper. The last door for me was home to Rome. Thanks be to God, I've never felt more complete.

Tijuana: It was a study of Church history and how the Bible came into existence that made me realize the Catholic Church is the true, historical Church that Jesus founded. And in ALL of our lives, the Blessed Virgin became a compelling source of guidance, a huge sign that deep changes were happening in our hearts. So, after going through the RCIA program together, we came into the Church at Easter in 2002. David was confirmed a bit early so he could spend Easter in Rome, in the audience with the Holy Father.

It is just two years later, and God continues his work. Dave is honored to be the new Grand Knight, David looks forward to serving beside him, and I am blessed to be the new Family Life Coordinator, under the direction of Carolyn McElrath. We are truly at home in the Catholic faith and at St. Patrick's, and we thank God for bringing us here!

They were lights in the darkness

On Sept. 20 the Church celebrates the lives of Korean martyrs Andrew Kim Taegon, Paul Chong Hasang, and their companions. They were truly lights in the darkness of persecution in nineteenth-century Korea.

Andrew, born in Seoul, was a convert to the faith, the son of Korean converts. His father, Ignatius Kim, was martyred during the persecution of 1839. Baptized at the age of 15, Andrew traveled 1300 miles to a seminary in China and was ordained in Shanghai, Korea's first native priest. Back home again, he was assigned to arrange for more missionaries to enter by a water route that would elude the border patrol, but in 1846 he was arrested, tortured, and finally beheaded, along with his lay associate, 45-year-old seminarian Paul Chong Hasang.

One hundred thirteen martyrs gave their lives for the faith in Korea between 1839 and 1867.

Christianity came to Korea during the Japanese invasion in 1592, when some Koreans were baptized, probably by Christian Japanese soldiers. Evangelization was difficult because Korea refused all contact with the outside world, except for an annual journey to Peking to pay taxes. On one of these occasions, around 1777, Christian literature obtained from Jesuits in China led educated Korean Christians to study, and a home Church began. When a Chinese priest managed to enter secretly a dozen years later, he found 4000 Catholics, none of whom had ever seen a priest. Seven years later there were 10,000 Catholics.

When Pope John Paul II visited Korea in 1984, he canonized the martyrs; among them were bishops and priests, but for the most part they were laypersons, 47 women, 45 men. At the canonization ceremony the pope said, "The Korean Church is unique because it was founded entirely by laypeople. This fledgling Church, so young and yet so strong in

faith, withstood wave after wave of fierce persecution. Thus in less than a century, it could boast of 10,000 martyrs. The death of these martyrs became the leaven of the Church and led to today's splendid flowering of the Church in Korea. Even today their undying spirit sustains the Christians in the Church of silence in the north of this tragically divided land."

Today there are 1.7 million Catholics in Korea.



Deadline for submission of information, articles and news items for the next issue of *In Focus* is September 12.

New carpeting for parish offices—what a job!

Looming large in their memories of the summer of 2004, installation of new carpeting in all the parish offices may rival even the welcoming of a new pastor. As you can see, it was no easy task! Each staff member had one day to pack up and move out all items residing on and in desks, bookcases, and the floor. Professionals moved the heavy stuff—files and furniture—into the multipurpose room. Volunteers helped put loose items into boxes of all sizes and, finally, into lawn and leaf bags, and moved all into the multipurpose room, filling most nooks and crannies around the furniture.

Susan and Claude Cole, in a last-minute work night, moved furniture from the office occupied by Angela Henry and Chris Angel so the old carpeting could be removed and the flooring prepared to receive the new carpeting.

Leslie gathered materials needed by volunteer receptionists (here, Nancy Haessly), who managed to take care of telephone calls while workers and volunteers scurried about, and eventually settled down to work at an improvised station in the hall outside the lounge.

On Tuesday the multipurpose room was filled with furniture and working files, books, and the miscellany of a typical office, so morning Mass was moved to the church "for the duration." On Friday the word came: the carpeting was in and the last of the molding would be in place on Monday morning. The professionals would be back on Monday morning (instead of the previously announced Monday evening) to return furnishings to their designated places. All staff (except Fr. Joe Hogan and Chris Angel, who missed the seeming chaos) were called to duty to supervise, direct, and re-direct the movers.

When you visit the parish center, a few appreciative oohs and aahs would be in order—in acknowledgment of the new carpeting, yes, but also for the reorganization of the work spaces and the newly achieved sense of order. You might admire Sr. Charlene's office, relocated across the

hall beside Fr. Hogan's (he was heard to say that he thought her office looks more like the pastor's office than his does). And you'll find the copier—as well as the meeting table, looking larger than ever in the smaller space—in the room Sister formerly occupied. Weekday Mass returned to the familiar intimacy of the multipurpose room, and the small world of St. Patrick's is once again at peace.



St. Vincent de Paul, a man of the people

St. Vincent would be proud to know that we think of him in connection with the care of the poor, but his life began on a different path. He was born in 1580 in France. At the age of



20 he was ordained and began a comfortable career in the Church as chaplain to the queen and had the income of a small abbey. He seems to have been a good man, but not someone who looked

beyond the needs of the nobility.

He became the confessor and spiritual director of a countess who, in 1617, asked him to hear the confession of one of her peasants, who was seriously ill. The man had not made a good confession in many years, and he later told everyone that that he would have been eternally lost if it weren't for

Vincent.

Awake now to the spiritual needs of the poor, Vincent began to preach missions among them with the support of the good countess. He preached missions to the galley slaves, to prisoners, and to the poor of the countryside. To further this work, he established an order of priests we now call the Vincentians. (Remember Fr Bob Gielow who preached St. Patrick's parish mission in 2002?) With St. Louise de Marillac he founded the Sisters of Charity. In time of war, knowing that the poor suffer the most, he arranged to have food and clothing sent to the needy. He founded many hospitals and charitable institutions, setting them up with wise regulations and, thanks to his contacts among the nobility, with adequate endowments.

Vincent died in 1660 and was canonized in 1737. Pope Leo XIII proclaimed him the patron of charitable societies. The St. Vincent de Paul Society was founded very much in his spirit in Paris in 1833.

We celebrate the life and gifts of this holy man on Sept. 27.

The Religion of Sitting Together

*The religion of sitting together
under a shade tree in
evening breeze with the rattling of
eternity.*

*Dirt road walking
through the religion of insect
sounds.*

*Watching together a boiling incom-
ing storm
in the liturgy of clouds.*

*Becoming aware overhead
of spirits stirring night wind leaves
into a burst of applause.*

*Dropping a stone into a deep well
waiting, waiting for the answer,
then doing it again
in the religion of echoes.*

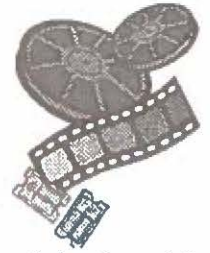
*Talking quietly in bed late at night
floating in a dark terrifying world
but warm and secure
in the religion of together.*

*All the books on my shelves
that I have not read,
thank-yous I have not sent,
pain of others I did not feel,
and all injuries to me,
for all, the religion of forgiveness.*

A new, unpublished poem
by Quentin Kirk

Social Action Committee's film fest offers last viewing

Beginning in June St. Patrick's Social Action Committee has presented a monthly series of film documentaries to increase awareness of social injustices around the world and to provide a chance for dialogue on these injustices. After each viewing, people have gathered in small groups to discuss what they saw and their reactions to it.



All of the films shown were made by the Maryknoll Mission Association and were designed to educate people about social justice issues. The first, *School of the Americas*, focused on the role of the United States in training citizens from other countries in military operations, and the violence and oppression that results for civilian populations in developing countries.

The second, *Arms for the Poor*, highlighted the international arms trade and the role of the U.S. government in promoting arms sales to developing countries with already unstable governments and dire economic conditions.

The latest film, *Banking on Life and Debt*, discussed the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, and the disastrous effect of loans from these institutions on the economies of developing countries, leading them further into debt and rendering them unable to sustain even their former level of living.

If you have missed these films but are still interested, you will have an opportunity to view the fourth and last film in this series, *The Story of AIDs in Africa*, on Tuesday, Sept. 14, at 7 p.m. in the multipurpose room of the parish center.

Committee members thank those who have come to view the films and their willingness to embrace "thinking globally." The films have provided a chance to examine the way we live and how this may be connected to the suffering that occurs in many parts of the world.

Annual Cellar-to-Garret Sale opens Sept. 16

It's that time again—St. Patrick's Cellar-to-Garret Sale will be held from Thursday, Sept 16, through Saturday, Sept. 18.

There are plenty of opportunities for volunteers," says co-chair Carla Simmering. "The more the merrier. Stay-at-home moms can bring their children, as long as they can supervise them while on the premises. We would like all ages to be involved, whether for the pleasure of meeting other parishioners, for earning 'service hours,' or just for helping St. Patrick's."

Preparation of the parish hall begins after noon Mass on Sunday, Sept. 12. Volunteers are needed to set up the tables and to bring donated items in from the garage. During the next few days, Sept. 13-15, volunteers will sort, organize, and price items. Parishioners interested in helping can pick anytime between 8 a.m. and

8 p.m. that accommodates their individual schedules.

The sale will open on Thursday,

Sept. 16, 5:30-9 p.m., with an admission fee of \$1 per person. On Friday there is no admission fee, and the hours are 9 a.m.-7 p.m. On Saturday the famous "bag sale" (\$2 per grocery bag stuffed with as much as can be fit into it) opens at 9 a.m., ending promptly at 2 p.m.

Parishioners can contribute breakfast items, sandwich fixings, salads, and desserts to feed the hungry workers—all donations gratefully accepted!

During the sale, volunteers will be needed to serve as cashiers and to walk the floor answering questions and to straighten the sale tables. And of course volunteers will be needed for cleanup on Saturday after 2 p.m. to put all in order for Sunday's Coffee Shop.

Please don't bring large appliances, tires, or broken or soiled items. By

law, mattresses cannot be accepted for resale. And hold furniture until the week of the sale—space will be at a premium.

Last year the Cellar-to-Garret Sale earned close to \$10,000. Part of the proceeds was used to redecorate our church interior. Over the years St. Patrick's Guild has used the profits from this and the annual Christmas Expo to help with remodeling of the kitchen and bathrooms and to fund in full the remodeling/redecoration of the lounge. This year at least part of the sale's proceeds will support the cost of installing new carpeting in the offices.

Mark your calendars to help anytime between Sept. 14 and Sept. 20. Watch for more details in the parish bulletin, and tell your friends about the sale. Tell any college students you know that this is a great place to pick up inexpensive (cheap!) clothes, dishes, and cookware.

If you have questions, call either co-chair, Carla Simmering (328-4841) or Susan Hublein (384-8356).

See you at the sale!



in our parish library

Can spirituality and the workaday world mix? How do you balance the busyness of the workplace with the sacredness of God's presence? These two books may help. You'll find them on the New Books shelf, on the right as you enter the library.

Spirituality @ Work, by Gregory Pierce (248 PIE) asks "What does it mean to be spiritual at work?" and then offers several possibilities. The author, who calls himself "piety-impaired," writes with humor and in a down-to-earth style. He thinks we can employ various disciplines (such as surrounding yourself with sacred objects, living with imperfection, deciding what is "enough") that can make us aware of God's presence wherever we work.

On-the-Job Spirituality: Finding

God in Work, by Mariannee Roche (248 ROC), notes that we often have a dualistic approach to work and life. We view "work" as something to be endured so we can get to "real living." Roche says that "human work, whether for pay or not, is our call to creation, incarnation, and redemption in this world." She challenges us to see God's work in our jobs, even in our around-the-house chores. The book offers reflection questions and practices to implement with each chapter.

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 special interest, please call Frances Drone-Silvers (398-1458), parish library coordinator. She will be pleased to help.

Come to "Fan the Flames" at St. Patrick's

On Sept. 19, at 2:00 p.m. in the multipurpose room, the WATCH board will host the program called "Fan the Flames" for those who have made a WATCH (We Are The Church) retreat at any time in the past. Although it is designed primarily to keep the spirit of WATCH alive, to help participants experience the continual spiritual benefits of the retreat and remain connected to members of the community, it holds something of value for all St. Patrick's parishioners.

Come for an afternoon of prayer, reflection, music, and fellowship. Everyone is welcome!

The KCs had a great year, looking to better it this year



This summer the Urbana Knights of Columbus welcomed Fr. Joe Hogan and thanked outgoing Grand

Knight Joseph Youakim and his officer team for their accomplishments during the past year. David Mendoza will serve as Grand Knight Elect for the coming year, together with Mike Hodits, Deputy Grand Knight; Frank Modica, Chancellor; Jeff Sage, Advocate; Ed Clancy, Recording Secretary; Joe Costa, Treasurer; Enrique Orozco, Inside Guard; Scott Shannon, Warden; and Joseph Youakim, Chris Stohr, and Tom Kacich, Trustees. Arden Howey remains Financial Secretary, an appointed office.

The Knights were busy this summer, holding a workday for Frank Modica, assisting Fr. Hogan move into his new quarters, helping the Guild with some early work for the Cellar-to-Garret Sale, organizing a parish blood drive, and participating in the Urbana Sweet Corn Festival, where they sell hot dogs and BBQ as well as their famous pickles and lemonade. Proceeds support the Knights' charities.

Proceeds from the Knights' tootsie roll drive were used for (1) program booklets for families with children who needed special assistance transitioning from school life to the working world, (2) a digital camera for the Urbana ASSIST program for documenting accomplishments of students with special needs, (3) mobility assistance for Cole Grabow, son of Dave and Kaye Grabow, and (4) the C-U Special Arts Festival.

Plans for the fall include a golf outing and family picnic at Lake of the Woods, Mahomet, on Sept. 12. (Golfers, contact David Mendoza!) The Knights' annual tootsie roll drive, Sept 18-19, will be held at the Savoy Wal-Mart and the Urbana Schnucks. In October, members expect to hold their second annual education dinner and entertainment

to benefit St. Patrick's endowment fund established to provide tuition assistance as needed by families with high-schoolers enrolled at The High School of St. Thomas More.

The Urbana Knights recently received recognition for their accomplishments of the past year, and they are grateful for the encouragement and generosity of St. Patrick's parishioners that support their endeavors.

Annual Picnic from Page 2

happened!"

Well, that's some of what you could hear at the parish picnic—you can catch up on what your friends have been doing and meet some of the folks who have moved in over the summer months. The annual parish picnic is a great mixer for parishioners of all ages, those who've lived here long enough to be considered the "old-timers" and the "newcomers" among us who are still trying to figure out how to get around town while streets are "under construction" and how a street can change its name two or even three names in a stretch of only a mile or two.

So when is this big event? Sunday, Sept. 26, starting about 1 p.m. and going full-tilt until 6 p.m. This year the picnic will be held on parish grounds, with all the ingredients needed for a great time: food, games, ice cream (ice cream, you say? *I'll be there!*), and music and dancing. You're asked to bring your own plate and tableware, plus a dish to share: A-H, desserts; I-P, fruit or veggie salad; Q-Z, side dish. The main dish, rolls, coffee, lemonade, and water will be provided.

The organizers (the parish's Social Committee) offer the following schedule: food service at 1:30, Bingo at 2:00, ice cream at 3:00, and music and dancing at 4:00 until the toe-tappers tire or 6:00, whichever comes first. The more sedate picnickers will have their choice of Bingo, cards, or dominoes, while the more energetic run off their calories in a game of volleyball or basketball and the youngest set enjoy kid games.

So you see, there's something for everyone. You won't want to miss it!

Quick Fixin's from the kitchen of . . .



Linda Mueller

Doo-Dads

1 lb. ground beef
1 lb. sausage
1 lb. Velveeta cheese
cocktail rye bread

Brown the meat, add the cheese, and spread on the rye bread. Bake at 350 degrees until slightly browned. For pizza snacks, add pizza sauce and top with mozzarella cheese instead of Velveeta.

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 mailbox 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 provided by Carol Bosley, Mary Lee Brady, Judy Conover, Jean Daly, Frances Drone-Silvers, Lyle Fettig, Arden Howey, Cathy Howey, Kathy Jobin, Don Keefer, Quentin Kirk, Mary Long, Mary Lou Menches, Dave, David, and Tijuana Mendoza, Linda Mueller, Ellen Noonan, Nancy Olson, Bill Plymire, Carole Rebeiz, Leslie Risatti, Cathy Salika, and Peggy Whelan. It was paged by John Colombo. Photos by Shirley Splittstoesser, Cathy Salika, and Mary Lou Menches.

September 2004

St. Patrick's Parish

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

Because the calendar is prepared in advance, be sure to check the parish bulletin to confirm dates and times of listed events.

Deadline for the next issue of *In Focus* is September 12.

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| | | | 1 9:30am Moms Group 5:15pm SVDP 5:30pm Bible Study | 2 6:45am Men's Bible Study 7:00pm Baptism Prep 7:00pm Catholic Young Adults 7:00pm Building & Grounds Com | 3 10:45am Mass-Champaign Cty NH | 4 |
| 5 | 6 Labor Day 9:00am Mass & Potluck Breakfast 7:00pm Centering Prayer | 7 7:00pm Financial Affairs Com 7:30pm Parish Council Exec Com | 8 9:30am Moms Group 5:15pm SVDP 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm Pro-Life Com 8:00pm Personnel Com | 9 6:45am Men's Bible Study 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm Catholic Young Adults | 10 10:45am Mass-Champaign Cty NH | 11 8:30-11:00am Bible Study Overview |
| 12 8:30am-12:00pm Blood Pressure Screening 6:30pm Leaders Bible Study 10:15pm K of C Mtg | 13 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:00pm FGDW 7:00pm Bible Study | 14 7:30pm Social Action Com | 15 9:30am Moms Group 12:00pm Bible Study 5:15pm SVDP 5:15pm Children's Choir 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm Bible Study | 16 6:45am Men's Bible Study 5:00-9:00pm Sale 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm Catholic Young Adults 7:00pm Parish Council Mtg 7:00pm Bible Study | 17 9:00am-7:00pm Sale 10:45am Mass-Champaign Cty NH | 18 9:00am-2:00pm Sale |
| Cellar-to-Garret Setup | | | Cellar-to-Garret Sale | | | |
| 19 Catechetical Sunday 1:30pm WATCH Fan the Flames 6:30pm Leaders Bible Study | 20 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:00pm FGDW 7:00pm Bible Study | 21 9:30am Mass-Canterbury Ridge 6:30pm Liturgy Com 7:00pm Living Wills | 22 9:30am Schola 9:30am Moms Group 12:00pm Bible Study 5:15pm SVDP 5:15pm Children's Choir 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm Bible Study | 23 6:45am Men's Bible Study 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm Catholic Young Adults 7:00pm Bible Study | 24 10:45am Mass-Champaign Cty NH | 25 8:30am-2:00pm RENEW Catechetical Day |
| 26 1:00pm Parish Picnic 6:30pm Leaders Bible Study | 27 7:00pm Centering Prayer 7:00pm FGDW 7:00pm Bible Study | 28 7:00pm Homily Prep | 29 9:30am Moms Group 12:00pm Bible Study 5:15pm SVDP 5:15pm Children's Choir 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm Bible Study | 30 6:45am Men's Bible Study 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm Catholic Young Adults 7:00pm Communications Com 7:00pm Bible Study | | |

