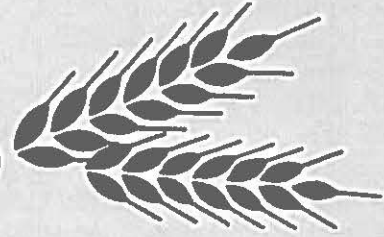


ST. PATRICK'S PARISH

In Focus



www.stpaturbana.org

You Really Came Through! Thank You!

The number of sign-up forms turned in by parishioners at Masses on Time and Talent Sunday, August 27-28, totaled 434. Several parishioners used one sign-up form for 2-6 family members, so the actual response was greater than the numbers otherwise indicate!

Some generous parishioners signed up for as many as 8-12 different ministries at St. Patrick's, although the more usual number was 2-3. How can any one person handle so many different ministries? You'd have to ask those who do. Those who tallied responses can only say that they recognized them as parishioners who are extremely reliable in fulfilling commitments.

Many parishioners responded to our pastor's urging to consider taking on



a new ministry even while renewing commitment to another. There was an outpouring of response to the need expressed the previous weekend for many new volunteers for Eucharistic ministry. People listened; people heard; people responded with generous hearts.

Here are some numbers:

434 sign-up forms were turned in at Mass; 851 ministries marked were renewed commitments, 384 were new ones.

320 parishioners renewed 851 commitments (averaging 2.65 per person), and 223 parishioners made 384 new commitments (averaging 1.72 per person).

109 parishioners renewing commitments also volunteered for new ministries.

One parishioner didn't mark any ministries on her sign-up sheet but wrote, "I can help where needed!" Another, who marked several minis-

tries as "new," added a note saying that she would be happy to serve where most needed, even if not in one of those ministries she'd marked.

If you have volunteered to serve in a new ministry and haven't yet heard from anyone about it, please do call the contact person for that ministry given in the booklet "Who and What Is St. Patrick's?" If you cannot locate that information, leave your name and telephone number with the parish secretary (367-2665), who will have the appropriate person call you.

If you haven't yet returned a sign-up form, you can pick up one at the church entrances or the parish center lobby. You can hand it to an usher after Mass or deliver it to the parish office during the week.

Thank you for your generosity in responding to the appeal for volunteers to share time and talents in maintaining the spirit that identifies St. Patrick's as a faith community!

Living wage examined in panel discussion

On Wednesday, Oct. 12, the Social Action Committee will present a panel discussion on the pros and cons of supporting a living wage.

The panel members include Msgr. Stuart Swetland, St. John's Catholic Newman Center; Dr. Beldon Fields, Professor Emeritus of the University of Illinois and a member of the Living Wage Champaign County; and County Board/business representation (to be confirmed).

The three questions each panelist is to address are: (1) What are the pros and cons of supporting the Living Wage petition for employees of Champaign County and local city government? (2) What are the pros and cons of supporting as a standard practice the payment of a living wage to full-time employees of St. Patrick's Parish? (3) What are the pros and cons of St. Patrick's adopting a standard practice of supporting a living wage standard for companies with which the parish contracts for services valued at more than \$10,000?



"Well, I guess we weren't hopelessly middle-class after all."

The panel discussion is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. in St. Patrick's multipurpose room. Panelists will take questions at the conclusion of the discussion.

Parish Council news

At their September meeting Council members reviewed feedback from the Time and Talent weekend, pleased with the results in general but looking for a better way to compile information from parishioners' responses (in a database) that will provide a better resource for retrieval of specific information sought. Ways will be sought to enable better participation in the event by parishioners, e.g., scheduling, availability of signup forms beyond the weekend itself, etc.

The Disciples in Mission team is planning as a fall activity "Pasta and Presence," on Saturday, Nov. 5, at 6 p.m. The evening will include dinner and a presentation by Msgr. Bill Watson, with a special program for youngsters.

Ellen Amberg reported that the group pursuing parish goal 4, on space utilization and needs that encompass both church and parish center, is now officially named the Second Century Advisory Committee. Members recently reviewed Champaign County statistics that indicate continuing growth in the overall county population and in particular the Hispanic population, as well as in the population of Urbana

and St. Joseph. The committee is working on an "appreciative inquiry needs assessment" for parishioners to complete sometime in the next few months.



In discussion of budget timetables, with committee budget proposals for FY 2006-7 due in mid-December, members pointed out that committees need monthly budget reports (ledger sheets) in order to track current expenditures and to be able to project next year's needs.

Committee news: The *Building and Grounds Committee* reports that the concrete work on the west side of the church has been completed, and attention will now be given to widening the paved area in front of the church.

The *Communications Committee* planned the upcoming issue of *In Focus* and helped with tallying responses to the Time and Talent weekend.

Education Committee members have expressed some concern about the timing of religious education classes (9:15 a.m.), which may result in reduced participation in Mass. This is something members will try to assess as the season progresses.

Catechetical Sunday will be observed by St. Patrick's on Oct. 2 instead of Sept. 18 because of other plans for intervening Sundays.

The *Liturgy Committee* is getting word out to all liturgical ministers, both new and continuing, about the need to participate in this fall's training sessions.

The *Social Committee* co-chairs are looking for a volunteer to take on responsibility for chairing the committee. All is in readiness for the Parish Picnic (competing with Cursillo for use of the parish kitchen) in September.

The *Social Action Committee* reports that about 20 parishioners participated in the first of four discussions of the book *Nickled and Dimed*, the experiences of the author in trying to eke out a living while holding minimum-wage jobs. A panel discussion on living wage policy is also planned in response to the request by Council for more education of the parish on this issue. There is a diocesan policy already in place requiring all parishes to pay a living wage.

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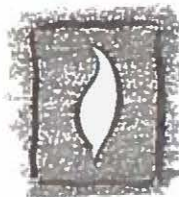
The next Council meeting will begin at 7 p.m. on Oct. 20. All parishioners are welcome to attend these open parish meetings. For those interested in a more complete report, the minutes of the most recent Council meeting are posted in the church vestibule and on the bulletin board in the office wing of the parish center.

Learn how to save a life

The St. Patrick's Parish Nurses will provide basic CPR classes for adult and child resuscitation, beginning in October. The fee for the three-hour class is \$15. (A small price to pay for learning how to save a life!) To register, call Mel Billman (390-1023). Class size is limited, so early registration is advised. Classes will be offered on the following dates:

- Oct. 19, Wednesday, 6-9 p.m.
- Nov. 2, Wednesday, 6-9 p.m.
- Nov. 10, Saturday, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

These classes will take place prior to the purchase of an AED (Automatic External Defibrillator). However, an AED will be on hand for demonstrations at the Health Fair, Oct. 23.



Deadline for submission of information, articles and news items for the next issue of *In Focus* is October 16.

Altar servers needed!

Several new altar servers are needed to fill vacancies created by graduating seniors and by those whose families have left the area. Boys and girls in fifth grade or older, high-schoolers or even graduates, all are eligible to serve at the altar during parish Masses.

If you are interested in assisting the priest at Mass and can make a commitment to serve at least once a month, please contact Janet Althausser (367-5397 or janet.althausser@carle.com)



or leave your name and telephone number with the parish secretary (367-2665).

Fall training sessions have been scheduled with Fr. Joe in the church on Sunday, Oct. 16, at 1 p.m. and on Wednesday, Oct. 19, at 5:30 p.m. Both new and experienced altar servers are asked to participate in one of these sessions, each of which will last a little more than an hour.



Welcome to new parishioners Virginia Bolan, Sara Devine, Brent and Tina Fleming, Lorraine and Thomas Kim, Chris and Samantha Ritzo, Chris and Jodi Saunders, Amanda Sparrow, and Guibre Wen-Yam Eslher Some.

Farewell to these parishioners, who have moved from C-U: William R. Harrington, Donna Ramirez, Meredith Bosack and A. Santerelli, Sophie Eighmey, and Michael Kerns.

Please also remember in your prayers the very many seriously and chronically ill members of our parish, whom the "Privacy Act" prevents us from naming here.

The Year of the Eucharist 2004-05

The risks of Eucharist

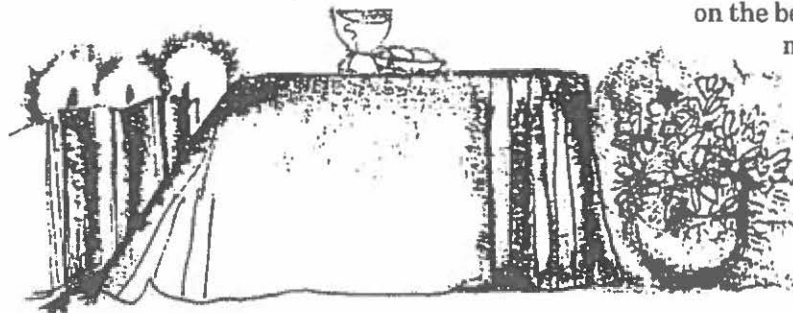
After blessed water is poured, the Church tells the newly baptized something that is startling about the next step, the anointing: "You will be anointed so that, united with God's people, you may remain forever a member of Christ." To be a member of Christ's body is a little like being a member—an arm or a leg—of one's own body; the arm or the leg can't go away from the rest of my body. We're a set.

Because we sometimes forget our union, managing somehow to be cut off from all that nourishes and directs us, we gather on Sunday to be "re-membered." We take Christ into us by receiving him in empty, outstretched hands, into parched, hungry mouths. Body and blood, whole and entire, we are given and we receive.

It doesn't end there, of course, because we go out from Mass, and Christ—now in us—comes too. We're a set. This is good news for us, but is it perhaps less so for the King of the Universe, who gets dragged through some dangerous neighborhoods? Sometimes by drunks, certainly by liars and cheats and people watering

and weeding and tending our own patches of ever-green grievances.

We're reminded of this each time we gather and declare, "Lord, I am not worthy to receive you." Harsh words in a culture gone self-esteem crazy, but true. Only God is worthy of God. This is the moment when we rejoice again that God's love for us is



not based on our small worth but on God's great and overflowing love. It's the promise of baptism, made by God, not us: Wherever we're going, God will go too. He will not leave us orphans. "When you pass through waters, I will be with you. ... For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior" (Isaiah 43:2-3).

This promise is renewed at every Eucharist, every time we eat Christ's body and drink his blood.

Maybe God really ought to be more particular about the company he

keeps. But our glimpse in Scripture of God and us is of the Almighty fashioning a body from dirt and then breathing into its open mouth. God breathes into Adam, an act so intimate—and risky—that we reserve it to lovers and lifesavers.

Our last glimpse of Jesus and us in the Gospels shows the Savior cooking on the beach. It was there that he made one of his final statements to the disciples. But first he issued this motherly invitation: "Come, have breakfast." God is down in the dirt with us, with some people who will come to know him and some who will not. It is there, in

the dirt of the mountains, with all people, strangers and friends, that Isaiah promises "the Lord of Hosts will make ... a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear" (Isaiah 25:6).

With that much food and that many people, someone is bound to spill. It is the risk of Eucharist. It is a risk that God is willing to take, and so it is one we must take as well.



Q: What is the Scriptural Rosary?

A: As we were growing up, when we prayed the Rosary we probably figured it would always

be prayed in the same way, using what have become familiar groups of meditations: the Joyful, Sorrowful, and Glorious Mysteries. In relatively recent times, however, another group of meditations, called the Luminous Mysteries, has been added. And then there is what is called the Scriptural Rosary, prayed while meditating on short passages from Scripture, with one brief passage for each Hail Mary.

For example, the Scripture passage for the first Hail Mary in the Joyful Mysteries is from Luke 1:26: "The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a virgin betrothed to a man, named Joseph, of the House of David. The virgin's name was Mary." The passage for the second Hail Mary is Luke 1:28: "And coming to her, he said, 'Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you.'"

In a similar vein the Scripture verse for the first Hail Mary of the Sorrowful Mysteries is taken from Matthew 26:36-37: "Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemani and he

began to experience sorrow and distress." Relevant Scripture passages are selected for each Hail Mary for each of the Mysteries of the rosary, which total 200 in all, when including the Luminous Mysteries.

This may seem very new to us, but in fact it is a modern version of the way the Rosary was prayed in the late Middle Ages.

The origins of the Rosary go back even earlier, to the tenth century, in Ireland. It grew out of the 150 Psalms of David, one of the most important forms of monastic prayer. In order to make this devotion accessible to laypeople, who couldn't read, it was suggested that they substitute



one Our Father for each Psalm. To count them, people carried 150 pebbles; later the pebbles were replaced by ropes with 150 knots, and later still by strings with 150 pieces of wood. By the end of the 11th century, the Angelic Salutation (the first part of the Hail Mary) had replaced the Our Father.

While praying in this manner, some people meditated on a series of 150 praises in honor of Jesus, others on 150 praises of Mary. When the

praises numbered 50, they were referred to as a Rosarium, or bouquet. In 1365 Henry of Kalkar, a Carthusian monk, grouped the Angelic Salutations into decades; in 1409 the Carthusian Dominic the Prussian attached meditations about the lives of Jesus and Mary to each Hail Mary. By 1470 this way of praying was referred to as the "new" Rosary.

This so-called new Rosary was abandoned in the 1500s, when it was possible to reproduce woodcut illustrations. Since most laypeople still couldn't read, it became popular to pray the Rosary with a picture for each decade and praying the Rosary with a special meditation for each

bead gradually died out. There remained only the meditations for each of the Mysteries that we know today.

You can find a complete set of Scripture readings for each Hail Mary in the Scriptural Rosary at the Web site www.rosarycreations.com.

* * *

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



in our parish library

Why is the Rosary such an important element in the prayer life of numerous saints and living Catholics? How does praying the Rosary work as meditation? How can one overcome resistance to praying the Rosary? And how even begin?

These questions are posed and answered in *The Rosary: A Path into Prayer*, by Liz Kelly (242 KEL). It is located on the New Books shelf in the parish library. The author examines the practical and spiritual benefits of praying the Rosary and includes powerful testimonies by people whose lives have been affected by this simple but powerful prayer.

Kelly examines the many ways people pray the Rosary and provides insight into the prayers that make it up. She offers reflections on the traditional Mysteries of the Rosary as well

as the Luminous Mysteries, instituted by Pope John Paul II in 2003, giving background and Scriptural context. Several variations on the Rosary, e.g., the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, together with their meaning and traditions, are also included.

If you'd like to explore this powerful prayer, two other books may interest you: *Praying the Rosary*, by David Konstant (248 KON), and *The Story of the Rosary*, by Anne Vail (248 VAI).

If you need help locating books or materials in the library or want to know whether the library has something on a subject of special interest, you may contact Frances Drone-Silvers (francesds@yahoo.com or 398-1458), library coordinator. She will be pleased to help.

Prayer for Vocations



O Lord, we pray for those who have yet to realize their call to a life of ministry to you and your people. We pray that they will come to this realization and stand open-armed to your love.

We pray also for those who are already preaching your Word to your people. Give them strength and hope. Fill them with your love and peace. Help them help others. Show them love so that they can follow your example. Fill them with your light and Spirit so that, through them, we can grow closer to you. Amen.

Thanks to outgoing Parish Trustee, Pat Dill

September 2005 marked the end of Pat Dill's three-year term as parish trustee. At the Sept. 15 Parish Council meeting, Father Joe Hogan recognized Pat for his outstanding service and thanked him for his excellent leadership during a key period of parish life.

When asked to reflect on his years of service, Pat Dill readily points to several significant areas of involvement. During his first year as a trustee, Pat recalls the culmination of St. Patrick's two-year Centennial celebration and the "Spirit-filled" Mass, a glorious expression of praise and thanksgiving.

Before he became a trustee, Pat served on the Church Refurbishment Committee and headed efforts to refinish the church pews. Throughout his time as trustee, Pat continued his service on the Building and Grounds Committee, so his hands-on expertise will remain with us well into the next century!

In his second year as trustee, he recalls working closely with Father Remm and the Parish Council during a time of transition. Many hours of careful thought and planning helped

the parish prepare for a change in pastoral leadership, as Father Remm moved toward his retirement after 18 years as pastor.

During this same period, there was continued discussion and activity related to property acquisition as the parish considered future needs in terms of facilities and space. Pat played an instrumental role scouting various properties east and west of the parish grounds. It was "very fortuitous" when "a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity" came along for the parish to purchase a block of apartment buildings directly north of the parish center.

Welcoming new pastor Father Joe Hogan was the highlight of Pat's third year as parish trustee. During this important transition he helped Father Joe gain a better understanding of St. Patrick's Parish by sharing valuable input and advice. Pat also supported efforts to engage more parish volunteers in the start-up year of the Disciples in Mission program.

Pat describes the role of trustee, working closely with the pastor and the Parish Council, as uniquely re-

warding: "It gives you a real appreciation of how many people it takes to keep the parish going, all the individuals and organizations that are involved. The life of the parish really depends on many dedicated volunteers."

Thank you, Pat, for being a true example of what it means to be a dedicated volunteer. Your wisdom, expertise, and faithful leadership are a blessing to St. Patrick's Parish.



Pat Dill operates a leaf blower during spring cleanup of parish grounds.

New Parish Trustee, Joe Rasmussen, ready to serve

Joe Rasmussen, the new parish trustee, brings many years of faith-filled service to his new role. A member of the parish since 1991, Joe has experience in a wonderful variety of ministries here at St. Patrick's.



He has fed the poor working as a

St. Vincent de Paul volunteer. He has been part of a St. Patrick's Base Community. He has extended hospitality to newcomers as a Welcome Team member. He and his wife, Jeannie, have served on the Marriage Prep Team. Joe's musical talent has brightened the sounds of Children's Liturgy and other parish liturgies.

Joe is a former member of the Parish Council and has also served on several parish committees, including Education, Building and Grounds, and Social Action. Without a doubt, Joe

Rasmussen has a true grasp of parish life and what it means to serve faithfully.

Professionally, Joe has worked in social services for the last 16 years in various capacities and with diverse populations. His interests and hobbies include music, art (painting, sculpture), reading, and doing things as a family. Joe and Jeannie and their two children live in Urbana. Jeannie is an early childhood teacher in the Champaign Unit 4 School District; Annie is a fourth-grader and Kyle a first-grader at Holy Cross School.

As Joe begins his service as a trustee, he cites "diversity among people as one of the great strengths of St. Patrick's community." He also appreciates the fact that "a good

percentage of people are involved in parish life. The first-year response to the Disciples in Mission renewal program is a good example of this."

St. Patrick's Parish is truly blessed

to have Joe Rasmussen serving as new trustee. He brings a wealth of knowledge and experience that is faith-based and people-oriented. His dedication to faith, family, community, and Church will help to shape our parish as we work together to fulfill Christ's mission.

"I feel both humbled and honored to have been asked to take on the responsibility of trustee.

With God's help and your prayers, I am ready to be of service in any way I can to the people of St Pat's and to Father Joe."



Joe (second from the right) mans the drums during Children's Liturgy



Holy Cross happenings

Welcome back to Holy Cross School! School is back in session, and what a great beginning to the new year, with 26 new kindergartners and over 20 new students (several from St. Patrick's Parish) this year. In addition, the school welcomed Nick Stefanic, the new band teacher, as well as Fr. Steve Willard, the new pastor, and Fr. Dennis Spohrer, new associate pastor. You can see Fr. Steve on the playground each morning with his cup of coffee, visiting with the students and saying the Pledge of Allegiance with them to start the school day.

Construction: Some improvements made over the summer, thanks to the generosity of many people. The north and east stairwells have been enclosed with fire doors, and several classroom doors and other doors have been replaced. These doors provide additional safety for children in the unlikely event of a fire. The generosity of three families in particular allowed Holy Cross to complete this project: Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy John Liautaud, Mr. and Mrs. Bryan Thomas, and Mr. and Mrs. Ramiro Aquas. Architects Riley Glerum and Scott Wachter of Isaaksen-Glerum-Wachter donated their design skills to the project. Wayne Robinson also helped with the design. Pat Dorsey of Petry-Kuhne donated the labor. (Pat attended Holy Cross School, and his mother, Florence Dorsey, taught at Holy Cross for many years.) Steve Billhymer (another alumnus) from Remco Electric was also generous in his donation to the project. All benefactors will be remembered in daily morning prayers.

Grant Money: In June, the school received a grant of nearly \$40,000 from the Illinois Clean Energy Commission. All the lights in the school were upgraded to be brighter and more energy efficient. In the gym, restrooms, and front vestibule, the lighting fixtures were changed, and as a result the school will be brighter

and energy costs will be substantially reduced.

Teachers' Lounge: The teachers' lounge has been completely redone by a group of parents, headed by Susan Burton and Cindy Howie, all of whom donated money and hard work to the project—especially Bruce Clapp and Dan Weber of Kitchen, Bath, and Cabinet, who so graciously designed and supplied the new food preparation area in the lounge. Many others helped with the project, and the teachers and staff are very grateful!

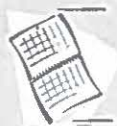
Other Projects: The girls' and boys' restrooms on the west side of the building have been freshly painted, and new stall partitions purchased by the PTC have been installed. The boys' restroom also has new flooring. Other areas have been painted and repaired, and new lockers were purchased for the 3rd floor. Mr. and Mrs. George Pennacchi's generous contribution has helped with these improvements.

Weekly Mass: This year the school children will participate in Mass every Friday at 8:15 a.m., and the all-school Masses will continue to celebrate various themes, such as Re-

spect Life, May Crowning, etc.

Ongoing Programs/Projects: Holy Cross School will resume many of its programs for this year: collecting Campbell Soup labels, collecting box tops for education, weekly trips to the Catholic Worker House to deliver milk and fresh fruit, magazine drive, to name a few.

PTC: The Parent/Teacher Club is a vital component of Holy Cross School. They meet on the first Thursday of the month. The group sponsors many activities and fundraisers and do many good deeds for the school. All parents are encouraged to attend the meetings, get involved, and help in whatever way they can. Here is a small list of some of the programs and activities that PTC was able to help fund last year: Bibles for all sixth-graders, dance party, Fall Festival, field trips to Krannert Center and Medieval Times, train station and science museum, Grandparents Day, Junior Great Books, Kris Kringle Shoppe, playground cleanup, support for the office copier, teacher enrichment, continuing education programs, uniform exchange closet—and so much more! Thank you, PTC!



Mark your calendars

- Oct 7:** Box Top Collection
- Oct. 10:** No school (Columbus Day)
- Oct. 11:** No school (teacher in-service, Peoria)
- Oct. 14:** Hot Dog Day
- Oct. 14:** Mass, 8:15 a.m.
- Oct. 15:** Market Day Pickup
- Oct. 21:** Mass, 8:15 a.m.
- Oct. 21:** Halloween Party, grades 6-8, Kaufmann Lake
- Oct. 28:** Mass, 8:15 a.m.
- Oct. 28:** End of the first quarter
- Oct. 29:** Fall Festival, gym
- Nov. 1:** All-school Mass, 8:30 a.m. (All Saints Day)
- Nov. 4:** Report cards distributed

To all parishioners: Come to Pasta and Presence!

Save the date to participate in a parish-wide, inter-generational event on Saturday, Nov. 5, 6-8 p.m. What is it? A dinner and presentation for the whole family on the theme of Eucharistic spirituality. Do you remember St. Pat's dinner theater called Pasta & Parables in 1999? We are referring to Pasta and Presence as P&P2, with the second P standing for "Presence," as in the presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

After the Disciples in Mission experience last Lent, many of you expressed an interest in having more opportunities to learn about our faith, deepen our spirituality, and experience community-building gatherings. This event is designed to fulfill those desires.

For the two weekends prior to Pasta & Presence, every Mass will be a "teaching Mass," designed to help us better understand and appreciate the Liturgy of the Word (Oct. 23) and the Liturgy of the Eucharist (Oct. 30). During the Masses, Fr. Joe will explain what we are doing and why. This will be a wonderful opportunity to refresh our own understanding of our Eucharistic celebration and to bring visitors to a Mass that is explained.

The Pasta & Presence dinner will be followed by a talk on Eucharistic spirituality given by Msgr. Bill Watson. Msgr. Watson has long been a mentor for Fr. Joe. He was at the University of Illinois Newman Center for 12 years and has been the pastor at St. Thomas in Peoria Heights for the last 23 years. He is the current vicar of the Peoria Vicariate and was appointed "Chaplain to His Holiness" (i.e., named a monsignor) in 2003. He is a deeply spiritual man and will have many insights into Eucharistic spirituality to offer us.

While the adults hear Msgr. Watson in the church, children will be engaged in a program geared for them, led by Tina Sherman and helpers. Tina, who heads up the Good Shepherd program at Holy Cross, will use creative, hands-on activities to explore the Eucharistic theme with children. Babysitting for younger children will also be provided.

Here is a tentative schedule for the evening:

6:00 p.m. Dinner, possible entertainment

7:15 p.m. Msgr. Watson's talk and children's program

8:05 p.m. closing prayer

8:15 p.m. dessert and social for those who can stay

We will charge a nominal fee for Pasta & Presence: \$3/adult, \$2/child or \$10/family. If the ticket price would prevent anyone from attending, we will see to it that they can attend, but tickets must be obtained so we know how much pasta to prepare!

Dinner will be served "family-style," with servers bringing food and drinks to the tables, so no one has a long wait in buffet lines.

We encourage you to mark these "teaching Masses" and the Nov. 5 event on your calendar, and plan to come. Tickets will be available beginning Oct. 9. Watch the bulletin for more information as plans progress—you won't want to miss P&P2!

Sincerely,
Disciples in Mission Team, and
St. Patrick's Parish Council

Pro-Life coordinators hear good news at workshop

Many parish pro-life coordinators from around the diocese made their way to Peoria on Aug. 27 for the annual Respect Life Workshop. The day began with a joyful celebration of Mass at which Bishop Jenky presided.

Bishop Jenky thanked all participants for their pro-life efforts, reminding them that while the victory belongs to God alone, efforts modeled on the perseverance and fidelity in prayer of St. Monica, whose feast was celebrated that day, cannot fail to bring results pleasing to God.

The bishop also surprised participants by announcing the newly created Office of Respect Life and Human Dignity for the Diocese of Peoria, an announcement that drew prolonged and enthusiastic applause. The new office will be directed by Lynn Grandon, wife of Dr. Douglas Grandon, Director of Diocesan Catechetics.

Joseph Piccione, corporate ethicist for the OSF Health Care Systems, addressed participants on embryonic and stem cell research, which he summed up as an issue that is both moral and clinical. He urged that all stay active in the public policy debate on stem cell research, especially on the legislative level.

Lynn Grandon has been charged by Bishop Jenky to create a comprehensive unity of the many pro-life activities in the diocese. She now has a pilot program in diocesan schools promoting chastity and is setting up a Web site calendar of pro-life events in the diocese.

The 2005 Respect Life materials given to all participants proclaim the theme "Help build a world where human life is always loved and defended, every form of violence banished."

Shine the spotlight on St. Patrick's children!



This summer Shelby and Jamie Simmering, children of Bill and Carla Simmering, were ribbon winners in the Junior Division at the Champaign County Fair. Shelby took first place in the Texas Sheet Cake competition, second place in Magnets, and third place in Cake with Any Frosting.

Jamie took first place in Snickerdoodles, in Peanut Clusters, and in Modeling Clay, and second place in Brownies.

Congratulations, kids — way to go!

* * *

You can shine the spotlight on St. Patrick's children by sharing their academic accomplishments, special

projects, honors, awards, programs, performances, sports, theatre and the arts, music or band or dance, art contests, community projects, and upcoming events. Please submit your information to Cheryl Mitchell (355-4566 or Cheryl@egix.net). Photos of featured youngsters are also very welcome and will be returned.

Campion's "brag" cost his life but won him heaven

Edmund Campion was not the only hunted, trapped, and martyred priest of Elizabethan England, but he was the queen's prize catch.

Campion had been chosen to address Queen Elizabeth on her state visit to Oxford University, where he was, at 26, a junior fellow notable for his oratory. His eloquence and charm impressed her and her courtiers, who promised him favor in the future. They needed ministers in the new Protestant religion.

But Campion's sympathies were for the Roman Catholic Church. He eventually fled to Douai in Belgium, where he found fellowship in the ardor of the English Catholic seminarians who were preparing to return to England for service and almost certain martyrdom. He completed a theological degree at Douai but felt called to enter the Society of Jesus in Rome.

A Jesuit, he was ordained and sent to Prague in 1574 as Professor of Rhetoric and Philosophy. He worked tirelessly for six years, teaching, preaching, hearing confessions, direct-

ing a sodality, and producing plays. When the Jesuits decided to cooperate with Douai and send priests to England, Campion was an obvious choice. He set out in April 1580 and landed in England in June, disguised as a jewel merchant.

Advised to state his aims in writing, to be used clandestinely (publicly if captured), in a half hour he composed his "Challenge to the Privy Council," known as "Campion's Brag." In it he announced himself a priest and a Jesuit, charged "to preach the gospel, to minister the sacraments, to instruct the simple ... to confute errors, in brief, to crie alarm spiritual" against the abuses suffered by Catholics under Elizabeth.

Campion rode through the north and midlands of England. When word spread that he was coming, Catholics assembled in secret to hear Mass and a sermon and to receive the sacraments. He was welcomed everywhere

with great hope. "The harvest is wonderful," he wrote, though his disguises were "ridiculous appearing," he changed his name often, and he felt "I cannot long escape."

It was only a year and a half before Campion was captured, a prize, in 1581. The queen still wanted him for his talents, offering to release him if he would become a Protestant minister. He refused, was imprisoned, tortured, and in a weakened state made to dispute at mock trials because of the challenges in his "Brag" and the "Ten Reasons" he had published in defense of Catholicism.

With customary grace he prayed for the queen and his captors, who hanged and butchered him on Dec. 1, 1581. In 1970 Pope Paul VI canonized Edmund Campion as one of forty English martyrs. We honor them on Oct. 25 for saving the faith in England.



Celebrating Our Lady of the Rosary (Oct. 7)

Why pray the Rosary? Why so much repetition, making concentration difficult? What prompted the selection of specific aspects of Christ's and Mary's lives for meditation in the Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious, and Luminous Mysteries?

Mary, the gracious and grace-filled mother of our Savior, Jesus Christ, has promised many blessings for those who devoutly and faithfully pray the Rosary. As our mother, she acts as an intermediary for us with Jesus and with the Father. Of over a hundred titles by which she is honored, Mary chose "Our Lady of the Rosary" as the one by which she wished to be known during her apparitions at Fatima. One of her promises was that the Rosary would be

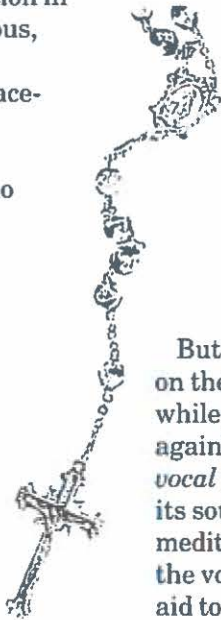
a powerful armor against hell, destroying vice, decreasing sin, and defeating heresies.

We pray the Rosary because it unites us with Mary, with Christ, with the Holy Spirit, with the Father. In it we pray the prayer Jesus taught us, the Our Father. We pray, too, the Hail Mary, a prayer that combines Scripture with a plea that Mary pray for us. And we do this while dwelling on the mysteries of Christ's and Mary's lives.

But isn't it hard to keep one's mind on the Our Father and the Hail Mary while praying them over and over again? These are what is called the *vocal* part of the Rosary; meditation is its soul. The Rosary is meant to be a meditative prayer, and repetition of the vocal prayers is meant to be an aid to this meditation. As one prays

the Hail Mary again and again, the mind and spirit dwells on the Mysteries of the Rosary—the birth of Jesus, for example, his agony in the Garden of Olives, his resurrection, the Holy Spirit's coming upon the Apostles, Mary's assumption into heaven. In the brief span of time spent with each Mystery, one is present to the Father, to Jesus, to Mary, in a special way of looking, of meditating, of finding one's place in the Mystery.

Some of the popes have referred to the Rosary as a comprehensive summary of the Gospel, based as it is on events in the lives of Jesus and Mary that are celebrated in the liturgy. There is a parallel between the Mysteries of the Rosary and the feasts honoring Jesus and Mary during the liturgical year. One could say, then, that in praying all twenty Mysteries of the Rosary, one reflects on the entire liturgical cycle.



EWTN celebrates 25 years

Next August the Eternal Word Television Network will reach the quarter-century mark. Started in Birmingham, Alabama, by the outspoken Mother Angelica, a Franciscan Poor Clare, in a would-be garage, the network now spans the globe via satellite. On a recent program kicking off a yearlong observance, it was noted that EWTN goes into 180 million households in 127 countries. With satellite TV, radio, and short-wave radio, EWTN is the largest religious medium in the world.

The program initiating the network's year-long celebration featured hosts of several of its popular shows: Marcus Grodi, of "Journey Home," for converts to Catholicism; Raymond Arroyo, whose in-depth news program had the only English-language interview with then-Cardinal Ratzinger; Fr. Mitch Pacwa of "EWTN Live," an expert on Eastern Rite Catholicism who interviews prominent Catholics from around the world; and Fr. Francis Stone, of "Life on the Rock," a special show for Catholic youth and young adults.

In January 1982 Pope John Paul II praised Mother Angelica for her efforts to launch the satellite system. Fr. Charles Connor, a specialist in Church history, has declared EWTN a tremendous oasis of Catholic orthodoxy and Catholic faith. Bishop Daniel Jenky appeared on EWTN Live to urge the cause of Fulton Sheen's canonization. (The Fulton Sheen

programs are rebroadcast every Friday night.)

EWTN's global showcase has featured programs on ancient Irish monasteries, the persecution of the Church in the former Soviet Union, and many lives of saints (e.g., Maximilian Kolbe, Clare the founder of the Poor Clares, Faustina Kowalska, Mother Theresa). The Catholic author Scott Hahn has presented a series on the Bible, and Fr. Benedict Groeschel has offered several programs, including the current "Sunday Night Live."



Mother Angelica

Fr. Groeschel and Fr. Pacwa state that EWTN is viewed in the Muslim world as an example of clean and decent programming from otherwise morally compromised American offerings. As much as a third of the network's viewers are Protestant, Jewish, or Muslim. The network also makes a special effort to provide Spanish-language programming for South America, where the Catholic faith is targeted by members of other religions. "I wish we could all love one another," Mother Angelica said.

During the yearlong celebration, EWTN will host five national conferences, including one in St. Louis on May 13-14.

The Eternal Word Television Network airs locally on cable channel 65, providing an alternative to the usual TV fare for Catholics who wish to enhance their life of faith.

Volunteer Opportunities

Adopt a flowerbed at St. Patrick's. Planting, watering, and weeding a small garden area can give you the satisfaction of cooperating in nurturing God's gift of beauty in nature. *Garden Club: Chris Langendorf, 328-2809.*

At least 20 new altar servers are needed to continue the fine service faithfully rendered by parish teens and young boys and girls. Many are serving 5 or 6 times in an 8-week period, the result of a decrease in their ranks due to graduations and family relocations. *Liturgy Committee: Janet Althausser, 367-5397.*



New ideas for parish social events and new members are on the wish list of the committee that presents opportunities for parish families to have fun together. *Social Committee: Cathy Howey, 684-2372.*

Many thanks to parishioners who have generously volunteered in response to needs featured here. **Jim Richardson** has taken on the responsibilities of treasurer for the Social Committee. **Nancy and Joe Costa** will help insert monthly issues of *In Focus* into Sunday bulletins. And six parishioners are now serving on the newly formed Liturgical Art and Environment Team: **Janet Althausser, Becky Billman, Jan Callahan, Kay Evans, Doey Gordon, and Susan Reese.**

* * *

Parish groups are invited to submit entries for this column to the Communications Committee or by calling Peggy Whelan (367-2668). Provide your name and telephone number or e-mail address and the name of your group.

A service opportunity: child care for High Holy Days

In the spirit of interfaith cooperation, volunteers from Sinai Temple have a tradition of providing child care for Christian churches at Christmas and Easter, and at other times when requested. In turn, volunteers from churches help with child care at the Temple on the Jewish High Holy Days.

The Council of Congregations asks for volunteers for the following days.

Rosh Hashana: Monday, Oct. 3, 8-9 p.m.; Tuesday, Oct. 4, *first shift:* 9:45 a.m.-noon, *second shift:* 11:45 a.m.-2 p.m.

Yom Kippur: Wednesday, Oct. 12, 8-9 p.m.; Thursday, Oct. 13, *first shift:* 9:45 a.m.-noon, *second shift:* 11:45 a.m.-2 p.m., *third shift:* 3:45-6 p.m.

If you can help at any of these times, please call Peggy Whelan (367-3668).

Soup, salad, and— chocolate?

Everyone is invited to attend the next St. Patrick's Guild function, "Soup, Salad, and Chocolate," at noon on Wednesday, Oct. 19, in the main hall. The soup and salad will be provided by the Guild; you are asked to bring an



item you can honestly say fits the category of "chocolate." Your recipe (please do bring it) will be copied for everyone who wants it.

A business meeting will follow the luncheon.

Please call the parish office (367-2665) before Oct. 14 to let the Guild know that you plan to join them for the luncheon—it wouldn't do to run short of soup and salad!

St. Patrick's Seniors plan festive lunch

On Oct. 11, at noon, St. Patrick's Seniors will gather for a potluck lunch. The theme for this event is Halloween as remembered from "the old days." Because reminders are no longer sent by mail, members are advised to mark their calendars now!

Walter Splittstoesser will show slides from his and Shirley's April trip to the Holy Land, "Following the Footsteps of Jesus."

Seniors are asked to bring a food item to share and \$2 per person to help defray expenses for such items as coffee, creamer, and the like.



Coffee, donuts, and . . . the Health Fair!

St. Patrick's Parish Nurses suggest that you make the sixth annual Health Fair a family affair this year. They are providing activities for parishioners of all ages and interests.

Last year's more popular activities for adults were the blood pressure and blood sugar screenings and the bone density screening. For children, the visit with "STUFFEE BEAR" proved the biggest draw. This year's Health Fair will also include a demonstration of the Automatic External Defibrillator, information on cancer prevention, fire safety, nutrition, Family Services materials ("First Call for Help"), and the Vial of Life program.

The Health Fair will take place in the parish hall from 8:30 a.m. to noon on Sunday, Oct. 23. Come for coffee, and enjoy the Health Fair.



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 Ellen Amberg, Mary Lee Brady, Carol Bosley, Sharon Dorsey, Frances Drone-Silvers, Bernie Laumann, Mary Long, Mary Lou Menches, Cheryl Mitchell, Ellen Noonan, Marty and Nathaniel Perry, Lilia Peters, Lu Pillar, Dan Richards, Leslie Risatti, Cathy Salika, Shirley Splittstoesser, Margaret Stewart, Peggy Whelan, and Joseph Youakim. This issue was edited by Mary Lou Menches and paged by John Colombo.

Quick fixin's from the kitchen of . . .

Bernie Laumann

Herbed Spinach Bake

- 1 pkg frozen chopped spinach (10 oz)
- 1 c cooked rice (leftover rice works nicely)
- 1 c shredded cheese
- 2 eggs, slightly beaten
- 2 T margarine
- 1/3 c milk
- 2 T minced onion
- 1/2 t Worcestershire sauce
- 1/4 t crushed thyme

Cook spinach according to package directions, and drain off excess moisture. Blend spinach with remaining ingredients and pour into greased baking dish. Bake at 350 degrees for 20-25 minutes, or until knife inserted near center comes out clean. Cut into squares to serve. Serves 6.



Greetings from our Sister Church in Beit-Jala

The following letter was received Sept. 9 by parishioner Joseph Youakim, who shares it with our readers:

Dear Joseph:

I thank you very much for your willingness to help your brothers and sisters of the Holy Land and especially the Bethlehem area. As you know I am new in the parish of Beit-Jala. I took the place of Fr. Yacoub, who now is still in the hospital, paralyzed.

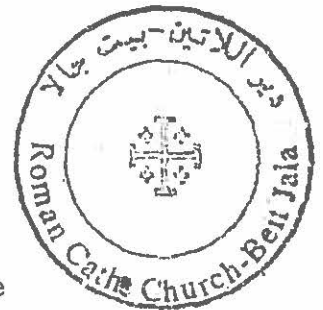
I thank you also for your suggestion to have more contact with our parishioners and us. I agree that this will create a link of fraternity and friendship, which can help especially our students.

The convent and the church need many repairs and maintenance. The political situation is still difficult, and very confusing. Daily life became more difficult with the wall the Israeli are still constructing around Bethlehem, which make the lives of the inhabitants very hard. My work is to help these people, and they are expecting this help from me. But do we notice a little amelioration in the number of pilgrims and tourists.

Dear Joseph, any help and assistance you can provide for us will be very appreciated!

I thank you, and through you all the St. Patrick Church parishioners and Knights of Columbus, for all that you will do for the benefit of the parishioners and inhabitants of Beit-Jala.

I thank you again in the name of all the parishioners of Beit-Jala. The only way we can repay your generosity is to pray for you. Be sure of our prayers for you and for your activities and for all the benefactors, especially during our visit to the Nativity Grotto in Bethlehem.



God bless you all!
Fr. Nidal Qanzouah
c/o Latin Patriarchate
P.O. Box 14152
Jerusalem

St. Patrick's Parish

Urbana, IL

October 2005



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Because the calendar is prepared in advance, be sure to check the parish bulletin to confirm dates and times of listed events.</p> <p>Deadline for the next issue of <i>In Focus</i> is October 16.</p>						<p>6pm K of C Dinner Dance</p>
<p>9:15am Rel Ed 10:30am Mass, Childrens Liturgy 1:30pm Fan the Flames 5:30pm SrHi Parents Mtg 6:30pm JH/SH Kickoff Party 6:30pm Leaders Bible Study</p>	<p>7pm Pro-Life 7pm Centering Prayer 7pm Education Committee</p>	<p>9:30am Mass Canterbury Ridge 5:30pm Financial Affairs</p>	<p>9am Moms UIP 5:15pm SVDP 5:15 Children's Choir 6:30pm Rel Ed St. J 7pm RCIA 7pm Choir 12pm Brown Bag Lunch, Re-mem Church</p>	<p>6:45am Men's Bible Study 7pm Baptism Prep 7pm Building & Grounds Com. 7pm Choir</p>	<p>10:45am Mass CCNH</p>	<p>1</p>
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<p>9:15am Rel Ed 10:30am Mass, Childrens Liturgy 6:30pm JH/SH Rel Ed 6:30pm Leaders Bible Study</p>	<p>7pm FGDW 7pm Centering Prayer</p>	<p>12pm Seniors Lunch 6:30pm Lector Training 7:30pm Euch. Min. Training 7:30pm Council Exec. Com.</p>	<p>9am Moms UIP 9:30am Schola 5:15pm SVDP 5:15 Children's Choir 6:30pm Rel Ed St. J 7pm RCIA 7pm Social Action 7pm Choir 12pm Brown Bag Lunch, Re-mem Church</p>	<p>6:45am Men's Bible Study 7pm Choir 6pm Faith Sharing Group</p>	<p>10:45am Mass CCNH 10:30am Mass Care Center</p>	<p>8:30am Lector Training 9:30am Euch. Min. Training</p>
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
<p>9:15am Rel Ed 10:15am K of C 1pm Server Training 3:30pm CTC 6:30pm Rel Ed 6:30pm Leaders Bible Study</p>	<p>7pm FGDW 7pm Centering Prayer</p>	<p>7pm Liturgy</p>	<p>9:30am Moms UIP 12pm Brown Bag, Re-Mem Church 5:15pm Child Choir 5:15pm SVDP 5:30pm Server Trng 6pm CPR Class 6:30pm Rel Ed St. J 6:30pm Lector Trng 7:30pm Euch. Min. Training</p>	<p>6:45am Men's Bible Study 7pm Parish Council 7pm Choir</p>	<p>10:45am Mass CCNH 10:30am Mass Clark-Lindsey</p>	<p>WATCH Retreat</p>
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
<p>8:30am Health Fair 6:30pm Leaders Bible Study</p> <p>WATCH Retreat</p>	<p>7pm FGDW 7pm Centering Prayer</p>		<p>9am Moms UIP 9:30am Schola 5:15pm SVDP 5:15 Children's Choir 7pm RCIA 7pm Choir</p>	<p>6:45am Men's Bible Study 7pm Communications 7pm Choir 6pm Faith Sharing Group</p>	<p>10:45am Mass CCNH</p>	<p>9am Parish Nurses Breakfast</p>
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
<p>6:30pm Leaders Bible Study 9am Teen Mass</p>	<p>HALLOWEEN 5:15pm Mass, All Saints Day Vigil 7pm Centering Prayer</p>					
30	31					

SVDP-Saint Vincent DePaul Society
CCNH-Champaign County Nursing Home
FGDW-Finding God in Daily Work
CTC-Catholic Teen Connection
UIP-United In Prayer