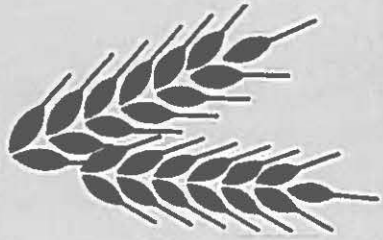


ST. PATRICK'S PARISH

In Focus



Pentecost 2006: Kissed by God

Among the mystics of past ages, it was not uncommon for God's Holy Spirit to be referred to as God's kiss. Therefore, it could be said that on this feast of Pentecost, we celebrate the grace of being filled with the Spirit and, thereby, of being kissed by God.

Paul tells us that God's kiss enables the one kissed to profess faith in Jesus as Lord. That same Spirit kisses and endows each member of the community with gifts, gifts that are meant to complement one another in working in concert for the common good. The kiss of God who is the Spirit also enables a community of diverse people with varying backgrounds, desires, and concerns to maintain an authentic unity so that the community is perceived as one body in Christ.

When the Holy Spirit was sent forth by the risen Christ, all was overturned and set afire. Those who welcomed the Spirit were able to become a life-sharing community from

whom love began to overflow. All were fired with the same burning love that drew them irresistibly together. In those first believers love became a "holy must." Just as Jesus gathered his own to himself as friends, so the Spirit drew and continues to draw Christians together.



In order to avail ourselves of the power of the Spirit to make us one, we need to overcome our fears and come out from behind locked doors, as the first disciples did. We need to remember, to realize, the gifts that are ours and to disperse them in this world—the gifts of Jesus' own peace, the ever-present breathing of his Spirit within all of us, and the

mandate of forgiveness.

Some object that the Pentecostal power of the early Church contrasts sharply with the Church as it exists today, and that this contrast may be too sharp to overcome. Nevertheless, despite our weaknesses, sins, and lack of responsiveness to the presence and power of the Spirit, that same Holy Spirit continues to kiss and bless us, each and all, anointing us for continuing the mission of Jesus.

The Holy Spirit, whose presence we celebrate in a special way on this feast of Pentecost, shapes its power to our crookedness so that even in our weakness we can be worthy witnesses of God's universal love and the good news of salvation to all of humankind.

Welcome to Kristi Turner, parish business manager

Marking a return to St. Patrick's Parish, Kristi Turner was recently hired to serve as full-time business manager for the parish. She started on the job Apr. 18. Kristi is no stranger to the area or to the parish; she was born in Champaign-Urbana and was both baptized and married at St. Patrick's.



She and her husband of twelve years, Scott, have two daughters; Shelby, 6, is enrolled in Holy Cross School, and Mikala, 4, in preschool at Judah Christian School. Kristi says she's really into photography as a hobby, and her computer skills are quickly

See Welcome on page 12

Are you getting the most out of Mass?

David Philippart, in "Seven Habits of Highly Effective Mass-Goers," lists seven steps that let the Mass do its work on us. The seventh step, he says, is to "go and do likewise." Here's what he has to say:

Participating fully in the Mass trains us to live more fully outside of church, too. When we recognize Christ in our neighbor-parishioners, we learn to recognize Christ in all



people, especially in the poor. When we train our hearts to listen to God's Word, we become better listeners for those we love. Our ears are better attuned to the cries of the poor.

When we intercede for those who are too downtrodden even to ask for help, we find the strength and wisdom to help them. When we offer ourselves to God with the bread and wine at Mass, we learn to be bread for those who hunger and wine for those who thirst. And when we share together in the Lord's supper, when we eat and drink the Body and Blood of Christ—well, you know what they say: You are what you eat.

This concludes our series on the seven habits of highly effective Mass-goers. Do you remember what they are? First, enter into mystery. Second, sing for your supper. Third, listen (it's hard work). Fourth, be a beggar. Fifth, give it up! Sixth, sing, walk, eat, drink. And seventh, go and do likewise. Simple, right? Worth striving for? You bet!

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Being Saved

After Mass we go to the parish hall to be saved again.
I arrive first, hold the door for others who joke about first to the door, last to the doughnuts.

Inside is a long table of cakes and rolls, kids studying one, then another, before a final choice.
"Oh," I say, "that's the one I wanted."
They grin.

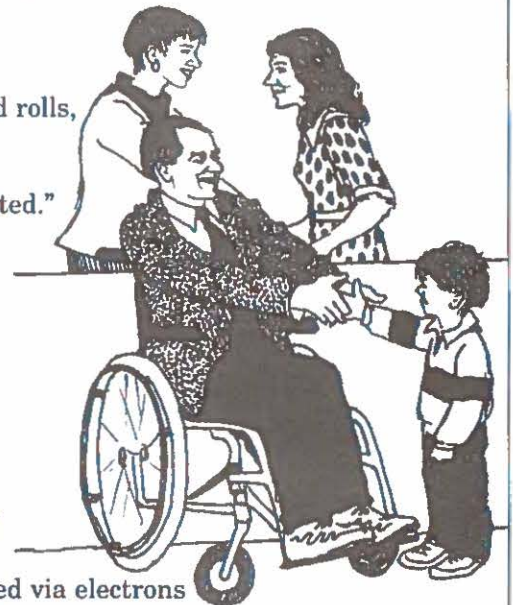
Blanca has chosen a table and gradually others join us—much small talk.
Then it happens.

Blanca laughs.

She tells a joke from Spanish TV in her pretty accent.
All laugh now at a message passed via electrons from deep Mexico to the family of man and I know then that life is okay.

More tales and humor,
we have passed the narrows into open sea
and are good for some time now.

We are not on Earth alone,
we have a calm horizon, and
it will be days before the cliffs
begin to close in on both sides.



~Unpublished poem by Quentin Kirk

What's next for high school graduates?

At the 9 a.m. Mass on May 14, St. Patrick's graduating high-school seniors received the recognition and congratulations of parishioners on completion of their years of study. After a brief summer, all will be back at their books doing coursework in a variety of subject areas:

Liz Bazar (Central High School) is moving to Dallas, Tex., with her family. She plans to start college in 2007, pursuing a major in elementary education.

Nick Bialeschki (St. Joseph-Ogden High School) will play football for Illinois College, Jacksonville, where he will pursue a degree in education.

Tom Bunyan (High School of St. Thomas More) will attend Southern Illinois University, where he will major in art.

Sarah Burch (Urbana High School) plans to major in business at De Paul University, Chicago.

Kelli Busey (Urbana High School) will start at Illinois State University this fall in General Studies.

Nicole Denhart (St. Joseph-Ogden High School) will take classes this fall in general coursework at Parkland Community College.

Maria Dorsey (Urbana High School) will attend Illinois State University, majoring in journalism.

Carly Eifert (Urbana High School) will major in history education at Illinois State University.

Emily Floess (University High School) will study biochemistry in

the University of Illinois College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Rachel Faught (Champaign Central High School) will attend Parkland Community College, in art studies.

Rosemary Keane (High School of St. Thomas More) will major in English at the University of Illinois College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Rosalia Lugo (Urbana High School) will major in biology at the University of Illinois.

Matthew Maduzia (High School of St. Thomas More) will major in international studies at the University of Illinois College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Fernanda Mendes (Urbana High School) will major in computer science at the University of Illinois College of Engineering.

Brianna Oliver (Urbana High School) will major in biology at the University of Kentucky in Lexington.

Stephen Patterson (Urbana High School) will major in accounting at the University of Illinois College of Business.

Janet Pauketat (Urbana High School) will major in scenic design at the University of Illinois College of Fine Arts, Theater Department.

Blake Sage (High School of St. Thomas More) will study computer science at Parkland Community College.

Maciej Swiech (University High School), after spending a year abroad studying in Germany, will major in engineering at Northwestern University, Chicago.

Lily Szujewski (Centennial High School) will major in history and secondary education at De Paul University, Chicago.

Alec Vitosky (Urbana High School) will attend the University of Illinois College of Liberal Arts and Sciences in the general curriculum program.

+ + +

Congratulations to all of you as you take your next step in life. Know that your parish family will keep you in prayer, as we have over so many years while we witnessed your growth in wisdom, age, and grace.

Fr. Charles Martell Scholarships awarded

Ten young men and women from St. Patrick's were awarded Fr. Charles Martell scholarships by the Knights of Columbus reflecting their academic achievements, involvement in school programs, and local community service. Special congratulations to **Thomas Bunyan, Maria Dorsey, Carly Eifert, Emily Floess, Rosemary Keane, Matthew Maduzia, Fernanda Mendes, Janet Pauketat, Maciej Swiech, and Alec Vitosky.**



Teapots, simply wonderful hats, and new officers

St. Patrick's Guild certainly knows how to have a good time with the election of officers! On Apr. 22 members and guests, arrayed in hats of straw, felt, feathers, flowers, veils, and sundry other materials in pleasing and fetching colors, gathered for a high tea that featured teapots of various sizes and shapes as well as hats, hats, and more hats. Oh, yes, and for electing new officers.

The nominating committee of Carol Rebeiz and Ceil Weir presented the slate of candidates for office, all of whom were unanimously accepted by those present: Carol Rebeiz, president; Susan Hublein Sellers, vice-president; Leslie Risatti, secretary; and Mary Ann Luedtke, treasurer. In a simple ceremony, all recalled that service to the Lord and to his people is a gift, and that the gift of service is always intended to build up the Body of Christ, always an opportunity to grow

in the ways of Christ, always a call to go beyond oneself for the good of the whole community. Sr. Charlene then asked each to confirm her willingness to accept the office to which she was elected, in service to the Lord and to the people of St. Patrick's.

With that acceptance, the assembled members of the Guild were ready to celebrate, and celebrate they

did—with fragrant teas and temptingly delicious treats, and in mutual admiration of their many-colored hats! The featured speaker, Gretchen Potter (widely known as Champaign's "hat lady"), displayed several hats from her extensive collection and told the circumstances of their acquisition, together with her sage advice on hats for any occasion.



Newly installed officers of the Guild, elected by acclamation (from the left): Leslie Risatti, secretary; Susan Hublein Sellers, vice-president; Mary Ann Luedtke, treasurer; and Carole Rebeiz, president.



"Hat Lady" Gretchen Potter tells how she acquired some of the hats in her collection.



Serving Fr. Joe his "tea" are (from the left) Ceil Weir, Leslie Risatti, and Susan Hublein Sellers.



Guild members (from the left) Barbara Peckham, Nancy Olson, Gretchen Potter, Sr. Charlene, Leslie Risatti, Ceil Weir, Carole Rebeiz, and Mary Long.

Young parishioners are invited to vocation awareness retreats

Opportunities to explore a possible vocation to the priesthood or religious life include the annual Emmaus Days, retreats sponsored by the Diocese of Peoria, and programs offered by communities of women religious.

For men and boys, the diocesan vocation awareness program offers four sessions based on age: (1) high school graduates and older, Jun. 16-19, at King's House of Retreats, Henry; (2) High school juniors and seniors, Jun. 30-Jul. 3, at King's House; (3) High school freshmen and sophomores, Jul. 9-12, at St. Bede Abbey, Peru; and (4) seventh- and eighth-graders, Jul. 12-14, at St. Bede. For more information contact the diocesan Office of Vocations (309/671-1569 or www.cdop.org).

For young women, four communities of women religious serving in the Diocese of Peoria will co-sponsor Emmaus Days vocation awareness programs this June at St. Mary Monastery, Rock Island. Two sessions are planned: (1) 4 p.m. Jun. 12 to 5 p.m. Jun. 13; and (2) 4 p.m. Jun. 14 to 5 p.m. Jun. 15. Both are open to young women in grades 7-12 and feature a double track offering activities for different age groups.

The theme of each session is "Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus," with activities that include presentations, outdoor Stations of the Cross, a medication hike, arts and crafts, a "Call to Holiness" ritual, daily liturgy with the Sisters of St. Benedict, and Mass offered by Fr. Jim Ramer, pastor of St. Anne's Parish in East Moline.

Sponsors include the Benedictine Sisters of St. Mary Monastery, the Sisters of the Third Order of St.

Francis, the School Sisters of Notre Dame, and the Daughters of Charity.

The fee is \$15 per person plus \$25 from the sponsoring parish. Brochures are available at Catholic grade and high schools. For more information contact Sr. Bobbi Bussan, OSB, at St. Mary Monastery (309/283-2300 or rbussan@smmsisters.org).

Also for young women, the Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis will host Franciscan Emmaus Days 2006, Jun. 8-11, at the motherhouse (1175 St. Francis Lane, East Peoria). Young women who will enter junior high or high school next fall are welcome. Conferences will be arranged by age, with all participants coming together for Mass, meals, and recreational activities.

The program begins at 7 p.m. on Jun. 8 and closes at noon on Jun. 11. The fee is \$20; some scholarships are available. Registration deadline is Jun. 5.

For more information contact the motherhouse (309/699-9313 or vocation.info@osfhealthcare.org).



VOCATION PRAYER

Lord Jesus, you are the Good Shepherd who never leaves his flock untended; send more laborers into the harvest to serve as priests, deacons, sisters, and brothers. Holy Spirit, fill us with the fire of your love; make us more fully the Body of Christ in the world, ready to give our lives in service to the Gospel. Amen.



Welcome to new parishioners Charity and Derek Dallas, Jeff and Jennifer Eads, Dennis McNulty and Denine Benedetto, Emily and Kenn Polonus, and Doug Tucker.

Farewell to these parishioners, who have moved from C-U: Melissa Bennett, Cheryl and Mark Duncan, Elizabeth Ann Paisley, Dhany-Paul Punchapputhusseril, Joyce Rothgeb, Joe and Theresa Staudenmaier, and Melissa Szewdczkowski.

Welcome to the following, baptized into our faith community: Patrick Joseph Selby, Jeremy Austin Eads, Haley Elizabeth Noel Eads, Anna Celene Polonus, Alexandria Crystal Lloyd, Isabella Lai Whippo, Isabella Dallas, Finn Dallas, Cecily Dallas, and Angela Q. Nguyen.

Congratulations to Stephanie Elson and Dave Haas, married at St. Patrick's.

Please pray for deceased parishioners Albert Ellsworth, Richard Matuzewicz, Joseph Stanley Miller, and Evelyn Virginia Yauk.

Also remember in your prayers the very many seriously and chronically ill members of our parish.

Fr. Joe revisits Kenya with Seniors at their spring potluck

St. Patrick's Seniors held their spring potluck on Apr. 20. Walt Splittstoesser brought woodland wildflowers from his yard to decorate the tables: white trillium, shamrock plants, bluebells, and celandine poppies.

Fr. Joe Hogan spoke on his trip to Kenya, illustrated by slides. Among the photos was one of his guide, whom Father described as a very

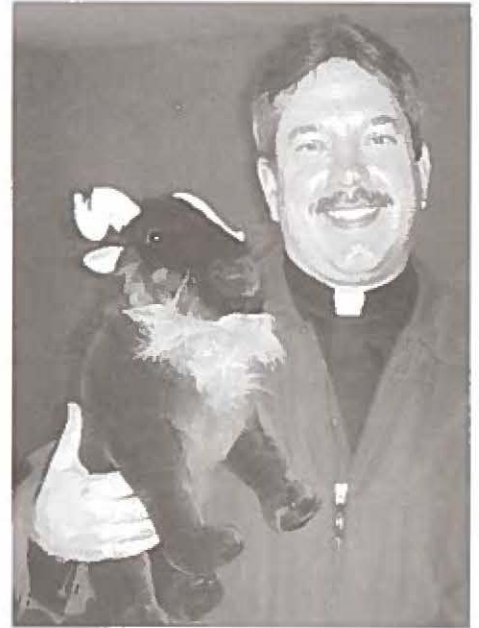


Seniors welcome Mike Catanzaro, new member.

spiritual man, gave out religious symbols made from thread taken from his garment. Others included leopards, lions, a baboon,

ostriches, a funeral director bird, flamingoes nearly covering Bird Island, wildebeests, gorgeous flowers, markets—and children. One captured a rare “Peaceable Kingdom” scene of traditional enemies, a crocodile and a hippopotamus, sleeping side by side on a riverbank. He explained that animals know no boundaries in Africa and will migrate north or south at will. Wildebeests, however, don't know where to go so follow zebras.

Sophia Zeigler enjoyed rare good luck at Bingo, winning five games (she declined to accept two of the prizes). Other winners were Maria Barger, Jim Barger, Walt Splittstoesser, Bob Leach, Mary Grace Bowen, Tony Vattano, Leo Wood, and Bob Haessly.



Fr. Joe holds a “tame” wildebeest, souvenir of his trip to Africa.

A special day for First Communion youngsters

On Apr. 23, a Sunday afternoon warmed by the sun and watered by a gentle rain, 26 second-graders from St. Patrick's received the Body and Blood of Jesus for the first time at a special Mass with Fr. Joe Hogan. After weeks of preparation with parents and catechists, their day had come.

They lined up dressed for the occasion, hands folded and faces wreathed in smiles, waiting to enter the church in procession, ready for the Mass to begin. What were their thoughts, one wonders. Feet feeling tight in stiff new shoes? Veil trying to blow away? Keeping clothes wrinkle-free and clean? Worried a bit about the taste of the Precious Blood? What if they dropped the Body of Christ? Would they remember to say Amen? Or, more likely, warmed by the embrace of a parent or godparent, ready and eager to receive this Jesus they'd been learning about for so long a time. Whatever their thoughts, in they came—ready or not—to join the congregation of family and friends waiting for them, and the Mass began.

Congratulations to each of you. May you continue to grow in wisdom and grace, to love and follow Jesus, led by the Spirit of God.

Bernie Arend
 Nicholas Arroyo
 Paul Berlocher
 Stephanie Connolly
 John D'Andria
 Macie Dodd
 Haley Eads
 Jeremy Eads
 Cristián Garnier
 Paloma Gonzalez
 Abigail IZard
 Alexander IZard
 Jacob Knuth
 Lyndsay McArthur
 Ashlynn McConaha
 Cora McQueen
 Alec Menees
 Ethan Mizer
 Hannah Monk
 Brenna Mooney
 Libby Mooney
 Joseph Orr
 Matthew Sandwick
 Robert Stavins
 Piotr Swiech
 Austin Williams



Gerard Manley Hopkins, Jesuit poet extraordinaire

Gerard Manley Hopkins was born in England in 1844 into a prosperous High Anglican family. He received a superb education, culminating in studies at Oxford, where he was called "the star of Balliol" College. He seemed destined for a brilliant and successful career as a scholar or man of letters, but these great expectations were dashed when he announced his decision in 1866 to become a Roman Catholic. In October he was received into the Church by John Henry Newman.

The social stigma attached to Catholicism meant that Catholics were not allowed to graduate from Oxford or Cambridge, and so Hopkins withdrew from the university. Then he entered the Society of Jesus—a move considered akin to that of joining a bizarre and foreign cult. Believing that in becoming a Jesuit he must entirely subordinate his literary interests to his religious vocation, he privately burned all his poetry.

It was nearly ten years before he wrote again, and when he did it was at what he took as authorization by



a superior, on the occasion of the shipwreck of the *Deutschland*, which was carrying a group of German Franciscan nuns escaping anti-Catholic persecution in their native land.

Hopkins's life was spent in obscure religious assignments for which he displayed no particular aptitude, and which he found pure drudgery. He was frequently ill and suffered wracking doubts about his abilities and accomplishments, all of which were reflected in his poetry. None of his poems were published in his lifetime.

For all his struggles, in the end one thing was certain. Old doubts about the compatibility of his vocations as priest and poet were resolved. Poetry, his means of naming and replicating the sacramental nature of existence, was precisely his way of expressing his true being, and thus of returning praise to his Creator. He died of typhoid on Jun.8, 1889; his last words were, "I am so happy!"

Many of Gerard Manley Hopkins' poems can be found on the Internet. Here are some cogent and perhaps familiar lines:

"For Christ plays in ten thousand places, / Lovely in limbs, and lovely in eyes not his / To the Father through the features of men's faces."

"Glory be to God for dappled things— / For skies of couple-colour as a brindled cow"

"The world is charged with the grandeur of God."

"I caught this morning morning's minion, king- / dom of daylight's dauphin, dapple-dawn-drawn Falcon"

Hopkins's poems are not easily understood but worth the effort to grasp; his striking images will be etched in memory. He had a profound appreciation for the sacramental character of the created world and its capacity to shine forth in witness to its Creator. Created things, simply by being what they were meant to be, give praise to God. As he did; as we must.



in our parish library

As we look to forward to Pentecost, you might browse in the parish library for books about the action of the Holy Spirit in our lives and in the Church. Here are two that you'd find interesting.

Gift of Gifts, by former Peoria Bishop Edward O'Rourke (248 ORO), is a practical book that encourages us to contribute to our own spiritual growth. We are each called to overcome "hardness of heart," to respond to divine grace, and to develop our own personal gifts. In this small book Bishop O'Rourke writes about discernment, obstacles to the Spirit, and ways to overcome those obstacles.

An Experience Named Spirit, by John Shea (269 SHE), is a book of

stories that illustrate the Holy Spirit in a variety of ways. Shea writes about various aspects of the Spirit, including divine love and human response. In each chapter he uses stories from the Bible and from people's lives to illustrate the many ways the Holy Spirit works in our lives.

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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.



The deadline for submitting information, articles, and news items for the next issue of *In Focus* is June 11.

Bishop Daniel Jenky confirms teens and adults

At an evening Mass on May 2 Bishop Jenky, assisted by Fr. Joe Hogan and Deacon Cliff Maduzia, confirmed 44 at St. Patrick's, 41 teens and 3 adults. Congratulations to each and every one of you, newly sealed with the Holy Spirit!

High School Confirmands

Keegan Peter Bannon
 Michael Michael Bialeschki
 Nicholas Florian Bialeschki
 Christine Juliana Black
 Madeline Michael Blair
 Mitchell Alexander Blair
 Duat Benedict Bui
 Thomas Ambrose Bunyan
 Kelli Felix Busey
 Samantha Lawrence Caragher
 Neil Albert Cech
 Grant Dennis Cinker
 Joshua Louis Daly
 Nicole Raphael Denhart
 James Eugene Ducey
 Carly Valentine Eifert
 Emily Lucia Floess
 Peter Francis Floess
 Jessica Cecelia Grove
 Mike Michael Handal
 Jesus Michael Handal
 Elias Peter Handal
 Thera Patrick Hubler
 Kathryn Clare Jean
 April Joan Jessee
 Laura Maria Goretti Kammel
 Jared Thomas More Kimball
 Adam Sebastian Kirby
 Clair Ann McTaggart
 Tommy John Nguyen
 Brianna Isabel Oliver
 Stephen Stephen Patterson
 Janet Margaret Pauketat
 Lucas Joseph Raab
 Justin Daniel Regnier
 Christine Cecelia Rinkenberger
 Thomas Sebastian Rohl
 Lily Lucy Szujewski
 Timothy Christopher Turner
 Alec Romuald Vitosky
 Emily Mary Westervelt

Adult Confirmands

Jennifer Agatha Weitekamp Eads
 Lillian Catherine Nguyen
 Juanita Margaret Blanco



Carolyn McElrath, Director of Religious Education for St. Patrick's, with Bishop Daniel Jenky and Fr. Joe Hogan



Bishop Daniel Jenky and Fr. Joe Hogan, pastor, with the high school candidates for Confirmation

Volunteer Opportunities

Designers and creative thinkers, please apply!

The Liturgical Art Team is looking for parishioners with a creative bent to provide designs or suggestions for visual effects in the church that will enhance our worship experience. Designs can be implemented by others if need be.
Liturgical Art and Environment Team: Jan Callahan, 469-9346

Help with Bingo...

...at Champaign County Nursing Home while students are away this summer. When? 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays or 2-3:30 p.m. Saturdays. Be among the first to

enjoy the new facilities! *Council of Congregations: Peggy Whelan, 367-3668.*



Parish groups are invited to submit entries for this column to the Communications Committee or by calling Peggy Whelan (367-3668). Provide your name and telephone number or e-mail address and the name of your group.

Presenting the 2006-7 Parish Council

It seemed a weekend of choices and prayerful decisions, for on the weekend of Apr. 29-30 parishioners were asked to elect four new Council members and to consider what their generous hearts' contributions were to be for the Annual Diocesan Appeal. (Which did *you* find the harder decision?)

When all 582 ballots had been tallied, it was determined that parishioners had elected Ellen Noonan, Jack Collins, Mary Karten, and Cynthia Morgan to serve three-year terms on the Parish Council, a consultative body to the pastor. Each new member was seated on the Council at the May meeting, when their first responsibility was to participate in the election of Council officers for 2006-7. Elected by



acclamation were Jerry Pijanowski, president; Annessa Parisi, vice-president; and Jack Collins, secretary.

Council members meet monthly on third Thursdays, with the agenda set by the Council officers in conjunction with the parish trustees and the pastor. In addition, each serves as liaison for the Council with a cluster of parish groups in related ministries, for better communication from and with the Council and helping to keep

the Council abreast of the concerns, issues, and activities of parish groups in their several ministries.

As a result of the recent election, the Parish Council for 2006-7 is made up of the following ten *elected members* (see below): Jack Collins, Mary Karten, Jim Mayer, Cynthia Morgan, Ellen Noonan, Randy Pankau, Annessa Parisi, Jerry Pijanowski, Kathy Sarnecki, and Joseph Youakim. *Ex-officio members* are the two parish trustees, Ellen Amberg and Pat Dill, and the pastor, Fr. Joe Hogan. *Honorary (non-voting) members* Sr. Charlene Cesario, Pastoral Associate, and Marguerite Maguire, Recording Secretary, bring the number to fifteen.

All will be grateful for your interest, communication on matters of concern, and (especially) your prayerful support.



Jerry Pijanowski
President (2004)



Randy Pankau
2004



Joseph Youakim
2004



Annessa Parisi
Vice President (2005)



Jim Mayer
2005



Kathy Sarnecki
2005



Jack Collins
Secretary (2006)



Mary Karten
2006



Cynthia Morgan
2006



Ellen Noonan
2006

Holy Cross Happenings



This is the last edition of Holy Cross Happenings until school begins in the fall. We appreciate your interest in what's happening at

Holy Cross School and hope you have enjoyed reading the summary of events.

Kindergarten: Kindergarteners have had a great year! They are headed to first grade with a sight-word vocabulary of over 60 words, reading simple books. Most students can recognize numbers to 100 and can do simple addition and subtraction. By attending Mass with their seventh-grade prayer pals, they have learned proper behavior at Mass, and they have learned several new daily prayers.

They ended the year with several field trips: a final trip to Skateland with their prayer pals, a tour of Memorial Stadium, a picnic on the Quad (with a quick stop at St. John's on campus), a trip to Monticello to ride the 1928 train into town for a picnic, and a walk to Hessel Park with the whole school for Field Day.

First Grade: What a year first-graders have had. They piloted a writing program called "Units of Study for Primary Writing," written by Lucy Calkins. They are leaving first grade being comfortable with writing, and they have developed a sense of how to write and how to make changes. Their favorite is the purple pen because they use it when they edit—it's the "royal color." They are writing in journals and use "small moments" from their lives to develop stories.

They made field trips to the zoo in Bloomington, the Anita Purvis Nature Center, and Curtis Orchard. First-graders also participated in and helped with the May Crowning Mass by reading, carrying up the gifts, and carrying flowers. They also performed at the annual Mother's Day Tea program for moms and grandmothers, at which they sang songs—and allowed the moms to be first in line for tea and cookies.

Second Grade: Twenty-eight second-graders at Holy Cross School made their First Holy Communion on Saturday, May 6. Several of the children participated by doing the readings and bringing up the gifts. Each year second-graders learn all about animals, and their culminating activity is an animal exhibition. On Apr. 7, second-graders completed their animal unit with an exhibit in the cafeteria showcasing their reports, dioramas, and posters. Many other related activities were on display in the hallway and classrooms.

Third Grade: Throughout the year third-graders have been involved in cross-curricular units, which cover several subject areas in one shot. A favorite was *Flat Stanley*; children read the chapter book, made flat versions of themselves, and mailed them. It became really exciting when the "flat students" began arriving with all kinds of great adventures to read about. They had traveled to England, France, the southwest, the northeast, and various locations in Illinois.

They wrapped up the year by studying the ocean habitat. Each student chose a creature to study and spent time in the computer lab researching their creature on the Internet, then wrote a research paper and created a diorama.

The highlight of the year was a visit by David Howie, who wrote a song with the children. The class talked about everything they had learned in religion during the year and came up with the song "Fully Rely On God." FROG became the theme for the year. David Howie did a beautiful job of fine tuning the lyrics and composing the music. He was wonderful with the children, even managing to work math into his sessions with them.

Fourth Grade: The fourth-graders made their annual field trip to Springfield, Illinois, and visited the new Lincoln Museum. They spent a couple of hours there and enjoyed the wonderful exhibits full of new technology—some even made them jump! They also toured the Senate and House Chambers and had the privilege of going into the Senate

Chamber a second time to witness a bill being passed in the Senate. After the bill was passed, Senator Rick Winkel publicly recognized the fourth-graders from Holy Cross, and they were asked to stand—a "really cool" experience. The last leg of the trip was a visit to Lincoln's tomb.

Fifth Grade: The fifth-graders made their final visit to Carle Arbours on Friday, May 19. They have been very caring and understanding with their "special friends," realizing that even though they are "giving," they receive much in return. They also collected pennies in their "Penny Jar" all year and will use this money to help buy milk for the Catholic Worker House during summer months. Their end-of-year field trip was to the Lincoln Log Cabin State Park near Charleston, where they participated in "Live-in Days" by spending a day on a farm in the 1860s.

Sixth Grade: Off to space! Sixth-graders began preparing for their Challenger Mission in February, studying space and training for their trip. In April they traveled to Bloomington to begin their challenge. They entered Mission Control and were briefed as to their mission that day. Then they moved to the spaceship and eventually to the International Space Station, where they were given the task of finding a named comet. It was a great experience for them of working together in response to a challenge.

Seventh Grade: The seventh-graders began their preparation for Confirmation next November. They discussed Confirmation as a major step in their life-long faith journey. They will continue their preparation in eighth grade.

Students traveled to Chicago for a field trip to the Museum of Science and Industry. It was quite a full day of fun and learning.

Eighth Grade: Eighth-graders traveled to Washington, D.C., for a full week of sight seeing: John Paul II Cultural Center, the Basilica to the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception,

Continued on page 11

Holy Cross from page 10

the Smithsonian Museum complex, the Vietnam War Memorial, the Korean War Memorial, the Lincoln Memorial, Arlington Cemetery, the World War II Memorial, the F.D.R. Memorial, the Jefferson Memorial, and tours of the capitol, Ford's Theatre, Mt. Vernon (George Washington's home), Colonial Williamsburg, and Monticello (Jefferson's home).

They participated in a team-building course at Allerton Park and an end-of-year retreat at St. Boniface. They made rosaries and had them blessed. With their first-grade prayer pals they attended Mass and shared stories from their writing workshop.

State Science Fair: Andy Wszalek was selected to participate in the State Science Fair on May 5 at the Assembly Hall in Champaign. He received a "Silver Level" and had a successful day! *Way to go, Andy!*

Teacher Appreciation Week: A huge thank you to all of the parents who sent food and gifts and covered "duty" assignments during Teacher Appreciation Week.

Thanks to Missy Kaiser for coordinating the teachers' luncheon, with assistance from Susan Zasada, Kim Pankau, Rosa Davisson, Jean Ann Hausladen, Ann Kaufmann, Ann Brewer, Jackie Kehl, Terri King, Kim Murphy, Cindy Tabeling, Juli Schultz, Beth Baillon, Tracey Wszalek, Kendy Stewart, and Annessa Parisi.

Welcome Home for the Troops: On Thursday, May 4, the entire school walked to Neil Street to welcome the troops home from Iraq. Students waved hand-made flags, cheered, and chanted "USA" while they were waiting. Chuck Walters, the husband of fifth-grade teacher Jennifer Walters and dad of Sam (fifth-grader) and Max (kindergartner) at Holy Cross School, was coming home that day. It was very emotional and yet fun to be there as the police and fire fighters escorted the troops into Champaign that morning.

New Writer: Beginning with the September issue of *In Focus*, this feature will be prepared by Mary Welle. She will also help to keep readers informed about what's happening at The High School of St. Thomas More. Mary would like to

hear from you with any information, ideas, or photos you can contribute for either of these features (m.welle@insightbb.com; 337-6110, home; 328-4143, work; 621-5270, cell).

Mark Your Calendars



Jun. 2: School office closed for the summer

Aug. 22: Fee Day, 7:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Aug. 24: School begins for grades 1-8 (come in uniform and bring supplies); noon dismissal

Aug. 25: First full day of school for grades 1-8; hot lunch begins

Aug. 24-Sept. 1: Kindergarten students attend, 7:55 a.m.-11:45 a.m.

Sept. 4: Labor Day (no school)

Sept. 5: First full day for kindergartners, 7:55 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

"I die the king's good servant, but God's first"

On June 22 we celebrate the feast day of St. Thomas More, known to many as "A Man for All Seasons" because of the play about him by Robert Bolt. Born in 1478, More became a scholar, poet, writer, lawyer, father of four, and a knight. King Henry VIII named him Chancellor of England in 1529. He was the first layman to hold this position and was considered excellent at his duties, which included serving as a judge and enforcing laws against heresy.

It is said that More enjoyed the royal favor, but he had no illusions about it. He knew full well that if he displeased the king, he could face execution. When Henry proclaimed himself "Supreme Head" of the Church of England in 1532, More resigned his position as Chancellor, cheerfully accepting the strained finances this caused. Two years



later Parliament passed the Act of Succession, which required that anyone called upon to do so must take an oath acknowledging any children of Henry and Anne Boleyn as legitimate heirs to the throne and repudiating "any foreign authority, prince, or potentate" (understood to refer to the Pope in Rome). More

was summoned to take this oath and refused; consequently he was imprisoned in the Tower of London. To all accounts he remained cheerful while in prison and continued his writing. He was beheaded July 6, 1535, and was canonized 400 years later, in 1935.

More's best-known writing was his *Utopia*, published in 1516, about a fictional man who happens upon a society called Utopia, "nowhere." The work critiques English society at the time and is considered communistic by some, while others argue that its argument for abolishing private property is rooted in monastic life.

Though an amazing diplomat and counselor to the king, More refused to compromise his spiritual values and gave his loyalty to God, the ultimate authority, a priority for every Christian.

Welcome from page 1

becoming recognized by staffers.

Kristi has accounting and bookkeeping experience, starting in banking, where she worked for seven years. She and Scott opened a Stanley Steemer franchise in Rochester, Minn., where she set up office procedures and handled the books while Scott served as the expert in carpet cleaning. After five years they sold their flourishing business and returned to the C-U area, settling in Pesotum.

Provisionally for St. Patrick's, Kristi brought her skills to St. Patrick's at a time when the parish's operating budget for the next fiscal year is coming together and when information is to be assembled for the parish's annual report to the Diocese of Peoria. In addition to the usual accounting duties of a

business manager, Kristi will be responsible for maintaining the staff calendar and the parish calendar of meetings and events.

Mary Lee Brady, chair of the Financial Affairs Committee, introduced Kristi to the basics of the parish's financial procedures and practices and the several programs used, with Father Joe and Leslie Risatti filling in the gaps as questions arise.

Asked what she most enjoys about her job, Kristi quickly responded, "I really enjoy reconciling the bank statements—I get a special thrill when they balance to the penny!" Imagine that, all you who dread balancing your checkbook!



Q: During Mass I see some people make a deep bow at times, and sometimes people bow their heads.

And I've noticed that sometimes people bow before entering the pew, and others genuflect. I don't understand.

A: Sometimes the difference is just that people do things differently for no special reason. And sometimes the difference is significant.

In many cultures bowing is a very commonly used gesture meant to convey an attitude of respect or reverence. In our own culture it wasn't too many years ago that a man would tip his hat with a slight bow when passing a woman on the street, or when passing a church.

In the Mass, a bow is always intended as a sign of reverence. In the recently revised norms for celebrating Mass there are several places called out for use of this reverential gesture.

One of these is the bow to the altar, which is recognized as a sign of Christ and of Christ's sacrifice for us. So we see the ministers reverence the altar

with a deep bow (head and shoulders), both when approaching at the beginning of Mass and when leaving at the end of Mass.

People carrying up our gifts of bread and wine bow to the altar before resuming their places. Ministers bow to the altar when crossing in front of it.

And people entering the church may bow to the altar before entering a pew—or genuflect (a gesture of adoration) to Christ's Eucharistic presence in the tabernacle.

There are other times during the Mass when it is especially appropriate for us to bow—always as a sign of reverence. One of these is during our profession of faith when reciting the Creed; we make a deep bow as we declare our belief in Christ's conception and birth in taking on our humanity.

Another occasion is less often experienced in our churches, where kneelers are common. However, in places where the people stand because circumstances render it difficult or impossible to kneel during the Eucharistic Prayer from after the "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts" until the Great Amen, all who are standing make a deep bow when the

presider genuflects (or bows) after the consecration of the Body and of the Blood of the Lord. The deacon and any other ministers standing in the sanctuary make a deep bow at this time.

We are also asked to reverence the Body and the Blood of Christ with a bow of the head when approaching to receive Holy Communion—just as we bow the head at the name of Jesus.

Then, of course, there is the simple fact that one's physical condition may suggest the wisdom of substituting a bow for a genuflection at any time!

So you may see individuals make a deep bow before receiving Communion, while others bow the head, and some will genuflect when entering or leaving their place in church while others bow. But all such gestures are meant simply as marks of reverence or (in the case of genuflection) adoration.

+ + +

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

Adieu, au revoir, Cathy and Arden!



Friends of long-time parishioners Cathy and Arden Howey (left) gathered on a Saturday evening in April to celebrate years of working, playing, and praying together and to wish them well in their move to

Wisconsin, where Arden will take on new administrative responsibilities as an agronomist. Both have been very actively engaged in parish family life. Arden was a member and officer in the Knights of Columbus, participating in most fund-raising activities and working behind the scenes to encourage new members and to gather information for the K of C archives. He also saw to it that the Knights were represented often in the pages of *In Focus*. Cathy provided the creative impetus for many parish-wide, family-oriented get-togethers, served ably on the Social Committee for many years, and for some years partnered with Beth McDonald (right) at The Magic Needle, to which she brought her sewing skills. Both were among the founding members of a base community for married couples, where they shared their reflections on the ups and downs of family life. They will be missed.

Quick fixin's from the kitchen of . . .

Linda Weber

Buffalo Chicken Pizzas

1 can Pillsbury Refrigerated Pizza Crust
 3 T butter or margarine
 1 lb boneless, skinless chicken breast halves, cut into half-inch pieces
 1/2 c chopped sweet onion
 3 T hot pepper sauce
 1 c diced Italian plum tomatoes
 4 oz shredded Monterey Jack cheese

Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Lightly coat cookie sheet with olive oil. Unroll dough and cut into 4 rectangles with a sharp



knife or pizza cutter. Place on oiled cookie sheet and press to form 6 x 4-inch rectangles. Melt butter in large skillet over medium-high heat. Add chicken, onion, and hot pepper sauce. Cook 4-6 minutes, or until chicken is no longer pink in the center, stirring occasionally. Remove from heat and stir in tomatoes. With slotted spoon, spoon mixture over dough rectangles to within 1 1/4 inch of edge, and sprinkle evenly with cheese. Bake 13-16 minutes, or until crust is a deep golden brown.

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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St. Patrick's Parish

Urbana, IL

June 2006



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 June 11.</p>				6:45am Merfs Bible Study 6pm Building & Grounds	10:45am Mass CCNH	
				1	2	3
	7pm Pro-Life 7pm Centering Prayer 7pm Rel Ed Committee	9:30am Mass Canterbury Ridge 7pm Baptism Prep 7:30pm Parish Council Exec. Committee	9am Moms UIP	6:45am Merfs Bible Study	10:30am Mass Care Center 10:45am CCNH Communion Service	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	7pm Centering Prayer		9am Moms UIP	6:45am Merfs Bible Study 7pm Parish Council	10:30am Mass Clark-Lindsey 10:45am Mass CCNH	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
FATHER'S DAY 10:15am K of C 	7pm Centering Prayer	7pm Liturgy	9am Moms UIP	6:45am Merfs Bible Study 7pm Communications	10:45am Mass CCNH	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
8:30-Noon Blood Pressure Screening	7pm Centering Prayer		9am Moms UIP Senior's Lunch	6:45am Merfs Bible Study	10:45am Mass CCNH	
<p>Vacation Bible School</p>						
25	26	27	28	29	30	