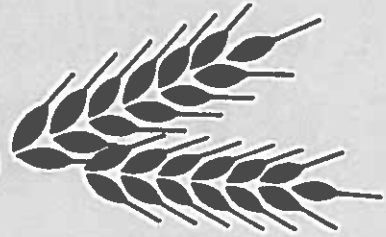


ST. PATRICK'S PARISH

In Focus



www.stpaturbana.org

Sharing Enthusiasm for the Faith

"St. Patrick's Church appealed to me for several reasons," shares **Brock Peoples**, one of our new Catholics (a.k.a. neophytes). "There is a vibrant faith community at St. Patrick's that welcomes newcomers in a way that other churches often do not. Also, Father Joe's enthusiasm quickly became contagious; at the time we started to come to St. Patrick's, neither my wife nor I were strong in our faith. His inspiring example kept us coming back—and that led to a rediscovery of our faith life.



"My wife, Michelle, introduced me to the Catholic faith, which became the next step in my re-

ligious exploration. After being raised Methodist, it was not a large doctrinal jump to the Catholic Church." Brock was impressed by the definitive answers given to many issues and by the two thousand years of Church tradition and history.

Married in August 2004, Michelle and Brock live in Savoy with their son, Patrick, born last August. Brock works as a production editor for AOCS Press in Urbana, as a freelance page designer, and manages a small online poetry press.

Our parishioners will find a similar vein of inquiry, discovery, and shared enthusiasm in each of the stories of the men and women who joined the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil. During the process known as the Rite of Christian

Initiation of Adults, or RCIA, they were guided by Father Joe and supported in their journey by the RCIA team, by their sponsors, and by our prayers.

"My wife and I kept hearing good things about this parish," relates **Gale Stafford**. "She was raised in the Catholic faith in her home country of Venezuela. It was mainly my wife's influence as a Catholic that drew me to inquire into this faith more seriously.



"I love to learn and explore new ideas about things. My wife and I have two wonderful daughters, ages 4 and 10." Gale works in Information Technology at the UI.

Continued on page 5

Space Painter Tom Sparough returns to St. Patrick's

St. Patrick's presents ... "You, CREW, BBQ & Space Painter II," next in the series of parish-wide intergenerational events, on April 12. Members of the CREW youth group and their parents are preparing a delicious BBQ dinner as a fundraiser for this summer's Mission Trip. Along with the BBQ sandwiches, there will be potato salad, pretzels, veggies, and fruit, with PB&J for the littlest ones and homemade desserts to top it all off. CREW will wait on parishioners to help make the evening relaxing and special—



no "queuing up for your BBQ!" Dinner begins at 6 p.m., with a guest appearance by the CREW Praise Band at 6:45p.m.

The main event will be an interactive performance featuring Tom Sparough, Space Painter. You may remember our first parish-wide intergenerational event, in 1999, called "Pasta & Parables," an evening of storytelling, juggling, and fun for all ages as

Tom Sparough shared the Good News in an enchanting way. Tom will engage the entire audience in his skits in his uniquely funny yet

reverential manner. He makes apparent the loving face of God.

The Space Painter doesn't just stand and talk. He fills the space with color and movement. He paints analogies with balls and machetes, eggs and bowling balls. ... The audience is fully involved. This performance-based presentation taps into the creative, experiential side of the brain. It is an experience of laughter and community-building, as the themes of the evening are explored using a juggler's perspective.

Tickets are \$8/person (all ages) and are on sale March 29-30 and April 5-6 before and after all Masses and at the Coffee Shop, and at the parish office on weekdays.

COMING APRIL 16 AT 7:00 P.M. TO THE VIRGINIA THEATRE
A PRE-SCREENING OF THE INDEPENDENT FILM
“THE HUMAN EXPERIENCE”

SPONSORED BY C-U CATHOLIC PARTNERSHIP

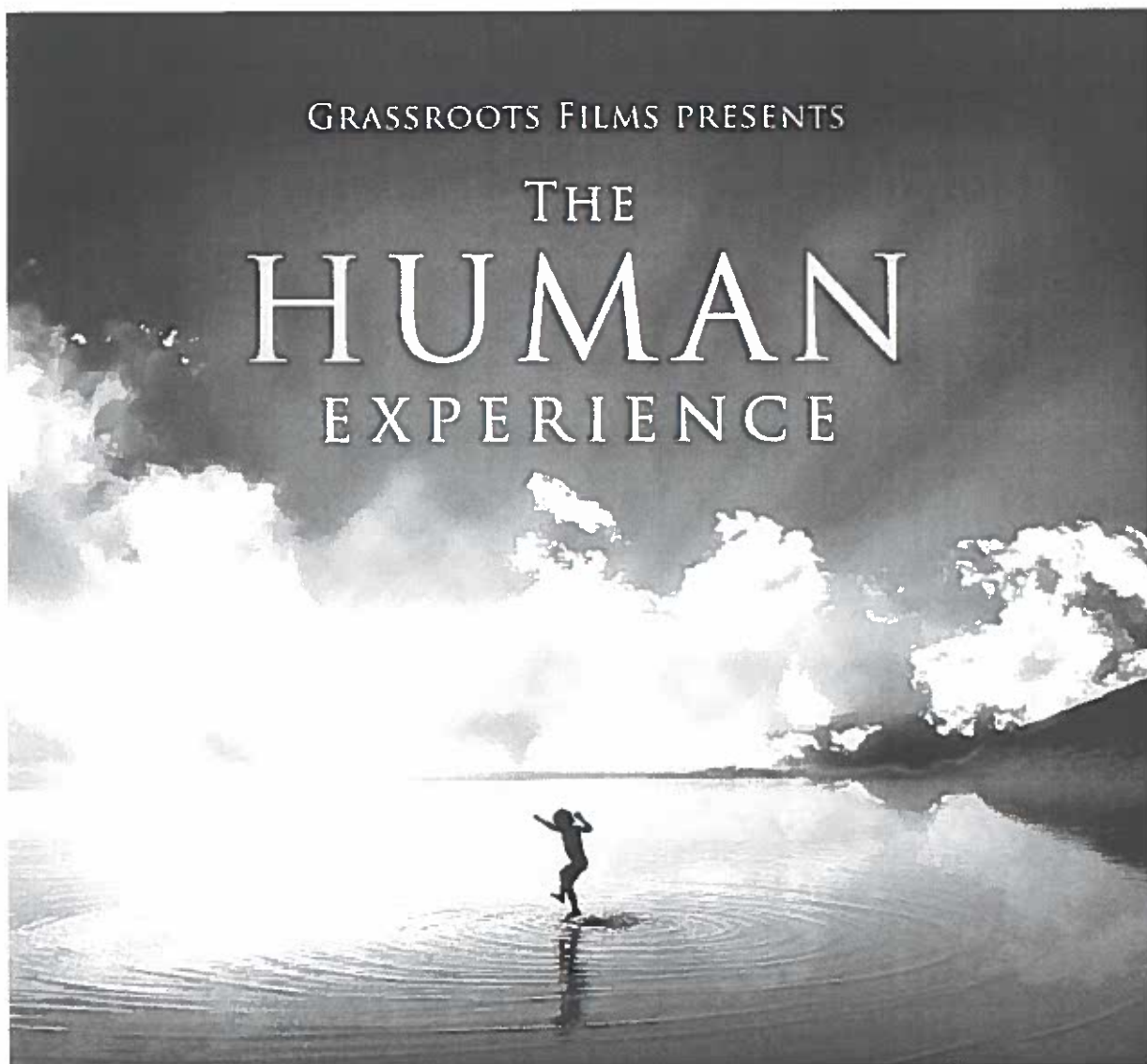
From Grassroots Films of Brooklyn, New York, comes the film *The Human Experience* – the true story of a band of brothers who travel the world in search of answers to the burning questions Who am I? Who is Man? Why do we search for meaning? Their journey brings them into the lives of the homeless on the streets of New York City, the orphans and disabled children of Peru, and the abandoned lepers in the forests of Ghana, Africa.

What the young men discover changes them forever. Through one-on-one interviews and real-life encoun-

ters, the brothers are awakened to the beauty of the human person and the resilience of the human spirit.

Everyone is invited to the FREE pre-screening of this new feature-length motion picture, which will be released to the general public later this year. Don't pass up this opportunity to join with the community at the Virginia Theatre to preview this new film! Invite your friends and family.

Please go to www.grassrootsfilms.com to view the inspiring movie trailer; it will convince you that this is an event you won't want to miss!



Help is urgently needed

"My employer is sending me out of town next week and I've called everyone on the list [parishioners who take Communion to our parish shut-ins], but I can't find anyone who can take Communion to the homebound in my place. I don't know what to do! Can you help?"

This recent cry for help underlines the great need St. Patrick's pastoral care ministry is experiencing. The number of ministers has declined to the point that it's often very difficult to find someone who can step in when needed.

If you've ever been separated from your faith community for any length of time because of illness, convalescence after surgery, or frailty, you know just how much these visits mean to our shut-ins. If you can help for a couple of hours once a month, or even once every other month, **please call Donna Thompson (688-2701)**. She will be delighted to hear from you and will see to it that you receive "on the job" training with an experienced pastoral care minister.

The need is great, and urgent.

Personnel Committee benefits St. Patrick's

Who do you call if you need a copy of your baptismal record? Who do you call if you have a question about a particular hymn at Mass? Who do you call to have a meeting room reserved or furniture placed for a meeting or event? What about your record of giving to St. Patrick's for tax purposes? Yes, you call a member of the parish staff.

St. Patrick's is extremely fortunate to have an excellent team serving the parish family. And who assists the pastor in recruiting and retaining our staff, in making sure that appropriate screening procedures are followed for the volunteers who work with our children, etc.? That would be the Personnel Committee.

When a vacancy occurs, the Personnel Committee assists the pastor in identifying the specific duties and responsibilities required for the position. The committee places advertisements in the bulletin, the local newspaper, the diocesan newspaper, and professional journals when appropriate. The committee then assists the pastor through the interviewing process.

To ensure that staff members are paid equitably, the Personnel Com-

mittee performs salary surveys every other year. This survey is sent to other parishes of similar size in the diocese and to some other dioceses in Illinois, Wisconsin, and Indiana. In addition, the committee looks at what is paid in the general area for similar positions. Recom-



mendations for adjustments to the salary ranges for staff positions at St. Patrick's are then made to the pastor and the Parish Council. For the years when such a survey is not conducted, the committee looks at the cost of living figures to determine whether a salary adjustment

They came to help

A small but energetic crew of adults and teenagers joined forces to give St. Patrick's church a thorough spring cleaning on Saturday, March 15. They dusted high places and low, washed kneelers and pews, vacuumed, polished brass candle followers, washed glass doors, walls, and windows—and more. Amazingly, they all looked still cheerful and full of energy when they left!

Heartfelt thanks to Carri Hunter, Kelsey Kaiser, Alyssa Kaiser, Missy Kaiser, Will Penning, Mark Sandwick, Caitlin Schutz, Ginger Schutz, Fiona Weingartner, and Mary Lou Menches. They worked under the direction of sacristan Mary Ann Luedtke and with the assistance of Nathaniel Perry.

should be recommended.

The Personnel Committee keeps informed concerning new laws and regulations pertaining to employees that have been recently enacted by state and federal governments as well as by the Diocese of Peoria. This information, as well as any recommendations, is discussed with the pastor before implementation of any staff policy changes.

This committee usually meets only on a quarterly basis, or when various issues arise—such as the currently pending staff vacancies. Thus the committee is not always busy and may not be as noticeable as, say, the Financial Affairs or Building and Grounds committees. The work of the Personnel Committee, however, is important, and the benefits are important to our parish staff as well as to our parish community as a whole.

If you have a human resources background or are interested in the work of this committee, please contact Cindy Kelly (355-0541), committee chair, to offer your assistance.



Q: Why do we bring people into the Church during the Easter Vigil?

A: The ancient custom in the Church

is to give the sacraments of initiation—Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Communion—on this night.

It makes sense to celebrate these sacraments at Easter because, as stated in the Rite of Initiation of Adults, “the initiation of Christians is the first sacramental sharing in Christ’s dying and rising.” This timing also brings the new Christians into the rhythm of the Church

year. The season of Lent, when the whole parish is trying to grow deeper in faith, is the time of final spiritual preparation for the new Christians. During the Easter season, we join together in celebrating the joy of faith.

Adults who wish to join the Church and who have never been baptized are called “catechumens.” Those who have already been baptized are called “candidates.” The Catholic Church recognizes the validity of baptisms done in any Christian church; consequently, only catechumens are baptized during the Easter

Vigil.

This year St. Patrick’s was blessed with adults who wanted to join the Church, all of whom were candidates (that is, already baptized), so they were not baptized during the Easter Vigil. In addition, four members of one family took the first step toward full membership in the Church by being baptized.

* * *

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



in our parish library

The parish library has recently catalogued many donated books that can be checked out. These books are located on the top shelf to your immediate left when you enter the library, unless otherwise noted. Because of the lengthy list there are no annotations this month.

Fiction (Catholic)

Chesterton, Gilbert Keith. *The Complete Father Brown (Father Brown Mystery)*. FIC CHE 1987

de Wohl, Louis:

Citadel of God. FIC DEW 1994

The Spear. FIC DEW 1998

Lay Siege to Heaven. FIC DEW 1991

Godden, Rumer. *In This House of Brede*. FIC DEW 2005

Greeley, Andrew:

Angel Light. FIC GRE 1996

The Bishop at the Lake: A Bishop Blackie Ryan Novel. FIC GRE 2007

The Magic Cup. FIC GRE 2008

The Patience of a Saint. FIC GRE 1987

The Senator and the Priest. FIC GRE 2007

Lewis, C. S.:

Space Trilogy. Boxed set. FIC LEW 1996

Til We Have Faces. FIC LEW 1980

O’Brien, Michael D. *Father Elijah: An Apocalypse*. FIC OBR 1996 (A good book to read before the other O’Brien books that we now have in the collection.)

O’Connor, Flannery. *A Good Man Is Hard to Find and Other Stories*. FIC OCO 1992

Uris, Leon. *Trinity*. FIC URI 1983

Nonfiction

Anders, Isabel. *Awaiting the Child: An Advent Journal*. 242.33 AND 2005

Congar, Yves. *Lay People in the Church: Study for a Theology of Laity*. 230 CON 2004

Dirvin, Fr. Joseph I. *St. Catherine Labouré of the Miraculous Medal*. 282.09 DIR 1984

Flinders, Carol Lee. *Enduring Grace: Living Portraits of Seven Women Mystics*. 248.2 FLI 1993

Gustin, Marilyn Norquist:

The Inward Journey: Discovering Your Spiritual Self. 248.4 GUS 1991

John Paul II: The Epic Life of a Pilgrim Pope. 282.09 JOH 2005. (Includes a cd: 282.09 JOH

2005)

Snyder, Bernadette McCarver. *150 Fun Facts Found in the Bible: For Kids of All Ages*. Children’s Library, C SNY 220.02 1990

Youngberg, Rev. Vincent. *From Fragmentation to Wholeness*. (Includes 6 cassettes, DVD, and book. tape: 1 Prologue; 2 Self Acceptance; 3 Fulfillment; 4 The Enabling Power; 5 Reconciliation; 6 Future Church. (On the top shelf with the DVDs/cassettes) DVD YOU

* * *

If you would like to donate books on the parish library’s wish list, please contact Lori Mestre (365-9994), library team coordinator. If you need help locating materials in the library, Lori or one of the other team members will be happy to help. The parish library is open weekdays during office hours, and on the fourth and fifth Sundays of the month from 8:30 to 10:45 a.m.

Enthusiasm for the Faith from page 1

"What attracted me to St. Patrick's was Father Joe," says **Jonathan Arambula**, a native of San Juan, Puerto Rico, who also lived in Cancun and Acapulco, Mexico, as a child. "I have always been attracted



to the tradition and the underlying meaning of every single event in the Mass and have been to several Masses from all

regions. I have not found a priest as charismatic and passionate about Christianity as Fr. Joe is. His weekly homily is filled with spiritual and philosophical enlightenment and a sense of humility that I did not see in my Baptist background. His guidance through the Catholic faith is what helped me make my decision to convert."

Jonathan grew up in El Paso, Texas, where his parents, Patty and Felipe, still live; his mom teaches high school, and his dad is a cross-country truck driver. He met his fiancée, Belinda, at Baylor University in 2000; from that time, Jonathan and Belinda attended Mass together. In 2003, Jonathan moved here to work on his Ph.D. in chemistry at the UI. Belinda spent three years working on her degree at the UI School of Law and then returned to Texas to practice law. During her time here Belinda and Jonathan attended St. Patrick's church; they plan to marry on October 11. Jonathan will graduate soon and has a job waiting at the University of Texas in Austin.

"My wife and kids are already members of St. Patrick's," says **Kent Hinrichs**. "I have been attending Mass here for five to seven



years. I want God and the Church to be in our lives. My wife, Katie, and I have two children, Ethan, 6, and Mary, 3." Kent is a

local electrician.

Drawn to inquire into the Catholic faith by her Catholic husband, **Ryan, Annika Haggerty** loves "the symbolism and history of the Catholic Church.

By becoming Catholic, I will be able to participate in Eucharist with my husband and raise our future children Catholic.

We will go to Mass as a family. I believe that this is what God is calling me to do."



Born and raised in the Oakland, California, Bay Area, Annika grew up in the Baptist Church, went to a Christian high school and then to a Lutheran University in southern California. She earned her MBA in international business from a university in Kristianstad, Sweden. After graduation Annika returned to California, where she met and married Ryan. When Ryan decided to pursue a Ph.D. in material science and engineering at the UI, the couple moved here. Annika organizes Elderhostel experiences in the Office of Continuing Education at the UI. After Ryan graduates, they hope to move back to California to be closer to family and to warmer weather.

"I love running, swimming, dancing, playing with my lovable Yorkshire terrier, Coco, as well as traveling, experiencing new cultures and meeting new people, shopping, fashion, and a good cup of hot tea," she confides. "Above all, I love God, my husband, family, and friends more than anything."

Hayley Smith grew up in the Methodist Church. Her parents live in Philo; her brother, Tyler, lives in Chicago. She is a speech therapist at Decatur Memorial Hospital and lives



in Monticello. Haley and her fiancé, Luke, will be married at St. Patrick's in July. In her free time, Hayley enjoys spending time with family and friends, traveling, shopping, running, and spending time outside.

Haley shares, "I feel I was always surrounded by the Catholic faith through both family friends and my friends. I still remember attending my first Mass as a young child. While attending Marquette University, I found the Jesuits there to be inspiring. Luke and I chose St. Patrick's because of its strong sense of community and its diversity."

Cecelia Kimble grew up Catholic. She decided "it was time to come back," and she wanted to bring her children with her. She acknowledges that each of them from time to time approached her to talk about this decision, which all of them participated in, so that the family is united in their desire to become members of the Catholic



Church. The ministrations of Fr. Joe during the illness of a family member drew them to St. Patrick's.

Cecelia home-schools her children; she adds, "I like being with my kids." You'll understand why when you meet them: Bianca, 16, eagerly looks forward to driving. Tyler, 12, and Ashton, 8, enjoy sports. Fiona, 10, likes to sing and dance and, like her brothers, she too enjoys sports.

Now that you have seen their faces and read their stories, greet our new Catholics and welcome them into our parish. Help them feel not just like new members but old friends!

From Dr. Susan Nagele

Susan sent the following brief updates on the events in Kenya.

Feb. 10:

It's been a busy week at the hospital, and it's clear that people are not being honest about who is displaced and who is trying to get something for free. These situations always cause a lot of jealousy and mistrust. The poor local people are in need as well. Chris has been faced with the problems of trying to get relief to the people who really need it. I'm just busy with a lot of sick people. We got a new registrar (Family Medicine Resident) this week; his name is Jeremiah Lactabai, and he's a very fine young man. We really have been blessed with the registrars that have come to us so far. We also got three new nurses, helping to replace the two who haven't come back from Christmas break and the one who left to work with the government. The clinical officer who was away for Christmas came back, replacing the one who left. All in all, we are ahead one doctor to deal with all the sick people, but that's better than most places, I think.



The negotiations going on in Nairobi seem to be making some progress. People seem hopeful that something will be worked out politically so that more violence doesn't occur. At least here we haven't been seeing more trouble, and we are grateful for that. Let's hope that this week everything will settle down and people can start to repair their lives. It rained twice this past week, and people should be in their fields preparing to plant their maize and beans. Thanks for all your prayers and support.

Feb. 16:

I am happy to say that there has been no new violence in our area this past week. We've had loads of people coming to the hospital. Everyone is psychologically traumatized. That brings a lot of physical complaints that won't be well treated with pills. There are three people with tumors that weren't worked up before because they were poor. One woman has severe hyperthyroidism. Lots of pregnant women have come, too. One woman on her ninth pregnancy got to our clinic the week before she delivered. We were able to confirm that she had twins, and we found out that she is HIV+. She had no problems with delivering in our hospital. She now has ten children, no home, no husband present (he ran in a different direction), and a life-threatening chronic illness. In my book, she's one of the strongest people in this country.

Meanwhile, the politicians continue to negotiate at an exclusive hotel somewhere safe. To their credit, they have stopped the violence and have made some progress. They will start again next week. People remain hopeful that a political solution will be found so that the government will begin functioning again. The alternative, more violence or even civil war, is just too awful to contemplate.

We are now well into Lent and I admit to being tired. But all I have to do is remember that pregnant woman and take a nap.

*Peace + God Bless,
Susan*

Volunteer Opportunities

A friendly visit by a parishioner who also brings Holy Communion makes a world of difference to someone who is unable to come to church. The pastoral care of parishioners who are homebound or residents of local nursing homes urgently needs volunteers to continue this compassionate ministry. Can you help even once a month? Pastoral care: Donna Thompson, 688-2701

Assistance is needed to continue the Personnel Committee's research and monitoring of parish personnel guidelines that assure all salaried employees of the parish of fair employment practices and competitive compensation levels. Can you help? Personnel Committee: Cindy Kelly, 355-0541

Some wheelchair residents at Champaign County Nursing Home need help getting to and from their chapel for Mass on Fridays. Can you give an hour to help, either weekly or once a month? St. Patrick's Guild: Sandy Anderson, 469-2416



Parish groups can submit entries for this column to the Communications Committee or by calling Mary Lou Menches (344-1125). Provide your name and telephone number or e-mail address, and the name of your group.



Deadline for submission of information, articles and news items for the next issue of *In Focus* is April 13.

Parish Council News

St. Patrick's Parish will soon have some improved meeting spaces, thanks to planned renovation of the five classrooms and library, members of the St. Patrick's Parish Council heard at their meeting February 21.

The Building and Grounds Committee has scheduled remodeling—which will include new lighting and carpeting—to start in May after Confirmation and conclude before Vacation Bible School the last week of June. Fr. Joe Hogan noted that groups usually want to meet in the lounge or the multipurpose room because these are nicer rooms; remodeling the classrooms will make them more usable for meetings.

In other business:

- Fr. Hogan said that Stauder Architecture met with the Second Century Advisory Committee in mid-February, with eight or nine potential schemes for expanding the capacity of the church and parish hall. "The designs were very interesting, with different concepts of what could happen here," he said. The committee asked for a few changes, and Stauder will come back with three proposals.

While there is no time frame for those proposals, Fr. Hogan said the committee would like to get the concepts to the Parish Council, staff, and parishioners as soon as possible.

- June 7 has been set aside for a good-bye event in honor of Father Hoa, who is going back to Vietnam after three years in the U.S.; parish secretary Leslie Risatti, who is retiring after approximately 22 years; and music director Chris Angel, who is leaving after seven years on the parish staff. The Personnel Committee is advertising for a new music director and secretary, and it is hoped that the new hires will be in place before Leslie and Chris leave.

- The Parish Council approved the updated Parish Council's By-laws, which have been undergoing revision for the past few months.

- The Parish Council Election Committee—Kathy Sarnecki, Ellen Noonan, Linda Weber, and Pat Mayer—has been compiling a list of potential candidates. Biographies of the candidates are sched-

uled to be included in the bulletin April 5-6, with the election taking place April 12-13.

During ministry reports, Mary Karten announced that schedules for liturgical ministers are now being e-mailed when possible. This is expected to save the parish several reams of paper a year and associated copying costs.

Fr. Hogan said he would like

to see the parish have two main social events each year: a St. Patrick's Day celebration and a summer event. He noted that he could envision the St. Patrick's celebration becoming a

weeklong event, with St. Patrick's taking up the challenge to combat the campus bars' "Unofficial" St. Patrick's. "We need to teach the community how to celebrate St. Patrick's Day," he said.

* * *

The next Parish Council meeting will begin at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 17, in the parish center following at 6:30 p.m. gathering in the church for prayer. All parishioners are welcome to attend these open meetings.



Are you being called...

... to serve on the Parish Council?

You don't have to know a lot of people in the parish but, by the end of your term, you'll surely have made some wonderful new acquaintances. You don't have to have a close personal relationship with Fr. Joe and the parish staff, but you'll have many opportunities to get to know them as you serve. You don't have to know everything that's going on in the parish—no one else does either. But during your service, you'll come to appreciate the variety of activities in the parish and meet some of the dedicated people who help make them happen.

What is required? The Council needs people who care deeply about parish life and want to see it flourish. They need people from a variety of backgrounds. They need people who are new to the parish, people who can look at things with fresh insight. They need long-time parishioners who remember the parish's history and customs. They need people who are responsible, who follow through when they agree to do something.

The Parish Council gathers monthly, usually on third Thursdays, for prayer at 6:30 p.m. followed by the meeting. This is the essential time commitment, although you'll be invited to par-

ticipate in other ways and at other times as well. Questions? Contact any of the members of the election committee: Kathy Sarnecki (469-7639), Ellen Noonan (403-0979), Linda Weber (344-4884), Pat Mayer (384-4860).

Are you being called?



News from the Ministry of Consolation

The **Spring Evening of Remembrance** will be held on Wednesday, April 16, at 7:00 p.m. in the multipurpose room. We

gather on this evening to remember our friends and loved ones who have died in the last several months. There is time for sharing memories and stories of their lives, and the evening ends with a prayer service for those

who have gone before and those of us who remain to cherish their memory. It is an evening for reflecting on the people and the love that have touched us and made us who we are and on the mystery of the Communion of Saints. Anyone in the parish who has lost a friend or family member is welcome to participate in the Evening of Remembrance.

The **Prayer Shawl Ministry** has a new schedule. There will be two times each month when those who wish to work in a group may do so. One group will meet on the second Saturday of each month from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m., the other on the fourth Friday of each month from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. Both groups will meet in the parish center. The session includes a prayer of blessing for those present, the work of their hands, and the person who will receive the shawl. All participants pray silently as they work, making their prayer a part of the shawl. People help one another when they are stuck on a stitch or something doesn't look just right, but for the most part it is a quiet activity. Patterns and yarn are available; please bring your own needles or hooks. Donations to help offset the cost of yarn are appreciated. Mark your donation "Prayer Shawl" and drop it in the collection basket on Sunday or



leave it at the parish center.

Cancer Companions will meet on Tuesday, April 8, at 7:00 p.m. to share a time of prayer, quiet, and companionship. This group of women who are facing or who have faced cancer continue to inspire one another with their spirit of hope and courage. The 20-year survivors have much to share with those who have just

passed a one-year anniversary or are still undergoing treatment. The April meeting will begin a bi-monthly schedule of gathering on the second Tuesday of the month. Future Companions evenings will be in June, August, October, and December. If you know a woman who has faced or is facing cancer, please invite her to come to a Companions evening.

The Ministry of Consolation is co-sponsoring an **Expressive Writing Workshop** on Friday, April 11, from 8:00 a.m. until noon at the parish center. The presenter will be Sharon Bray, who is nationally known for her work facilitating writing groups.

This experiential workshop is designed for individuals who wish to understand or incorporate writing as a way to heal from loss, serious illness, or other life difficulties. Participants will learn about key research on writing and healing, have the opportunity to write in response to exercises and prompts, and explore and discuss the transformative power of words to heal the wounded spirit. Sharon Bray has led writing workshops for women with breast cancer for over ten years and is an exciting and enthusiastic presenter.

Co-sponsors of the workshop include the Self Help Center at Family Service, the Mills Breast

Cancer Institute, and others. There is a \$25 fee for the workshop and 4 CEUs (Continuing Education Units) are available. There will be a 20-hour intensive writing workshop the same weekend at a cost of \$200 for those who wish to become writing group facilitators. For more information, please contact Sharon Monday-Dorsey at Family Service (352-0099).

If you have any questions about the **Ministry of Consolation** at St. Patrick's, please feel free to call the ministry coordinator, Nancy Olson (359-6424 or nancybolson@yahoo.com).



Welcome to new parishioners

Dustin Bauer, Irene Coromina, Hung and Vo Nguyen, Emmanly Nyembo, Kate and Michael Pedrotty, Carrie Peltier, and Megan Quaka.

Farewell to these parishioners who have moved away: Liza Brubaker and Julius Manalang.

Welcome to the following, baptized into our faith community: James Joseph Graham, Lucah Sahyovni, Finn Morrison, Rebecca Le Mi, and Paul Steven Hung Nguyen.

Congratulations to Keri Hitz and Matt Palmisano, recently married at St. Patrick's.

Please pray for deceased parishioners Kristin McCartney, Betty Howell, and Mary Condomitti.

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

Parish booth at Farmers' Market set to reopen in May

Want a fun activity? An opportunity for fellowship? An excuse to get out of the house and into the fresh air? Want to get off the bench and into the game?



Then join the parish crew to help staff St. Patrick's booth at the Farmers' Market at Lincoln Square! They gather there one Saturday a month from May to October. Their mission includes:

- inviting people to Mass at St. Patrick's, giving them the flyer that includes directions, Mass times, and a map
- providing sources of reference

- to our Catholic faith
- sometimes lending an ear to those who feel that they are not being heard
- giving a visible witness to our Lord

The service most often provided is to out-of-towners and new students looking for a Catholic church.

Generally, the morning is split into two shifts. Last year those staffing the booth had an enjoyable, invigorating experience. This is your chance to be an ambassador for Christ—don't miss it!

Dan Richards (714-3703) or Mary Long (367-2665) can provide more information.

Area Vietnamese celebrate New Year

The enchanting smells of traditional Southeast Asian dishes wafted through St. Patrick's parish hall on February 9, greeting guests to this year's Vietnamese New Year celebration. The hall was decorated with colorful streamers and paper lanterns, and upbeat tunes sung in Vietnamese lifted through the air. Ladies dressed beautifully in traditional as well as contemporary outfits and little girls in their best party dresses completed the air of gracefulness and festivity.

The delightful evening, sponsored by the local Vietnamese Association, was a well-attended cross-cultural celebration. Before the planned activities began, attendees

stood for both the U.S. and Vietnamese national anthems. A traditional dragon made an appearance, as did a treat-bearing Mickey Mouse (to celebrate of the year of the rat). Special guests were recognized and honored, and a delicious meal was enjoyed by all.



ST. PATRICK'S PARISH

In Focus

St. Patrick's Parish In Focus is published on the last weekend of the month in Urbana, Illinois. News items and information may be submitted by mid-month for the next issue. Written materials must include the name and telephone number of the writer.

Please send news items to a Communications Committee member, leave them in the committee's 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.

Editorial board: Mary Lee Brady, 344-3752 (bradysipes@sbcglobal.net); Judy Fierke, 352-7670 (j-fierke@insightbb.com); Suzanne Kayala, 344-4894 (louisettelukusa@yahoo.fr); Rachael McMillan, 359-1878 (srmcmillan@insightbb.com); Mary Lou Menches, 344-1125 (mmenches@uiuc.edu); Cathy Salika, 367-7861 (csalika@uillinois.edu); Margaret Stewart, 356-9475 (mkestewart@aol.com); and Peggy Whelan, 367-3668.

Associates: Carol Bosley, Betty Christian, John and Tim Colombo, Joe and Nancy Costa, Frances Drone-Silvers, Mary Fonner, Camille Goudeseune, Dave and Cole Grabow, Lisa Hall, Mary Karten, Ellen Noonan, Marty and Nathaniel Perry, Carole Rebeiz, Lucille Salika, Sue Schreiber, Stephanie Smith, John Towns, Jim Urban, Naneera Vidhayasirinun, and Mary Welle.

Articles and information for this issue were provided by Ellen Abell, Pat Fettig, Mary Long, Rachael McMillan, Mary Lou Menches, Lori Mestre, Lenore Nagele, Ellen Noonan, Nancy Olson, Carole Rebeiz, Dan Richards, Leslie Rizzati, Cathy Salika, Sue Schreiber, Gigi Simon, and Margaret Stewart. This issue was edited by John Towns and paged by Tim and John Colombo.



Hatred does not cease by hatred at any time: hatred ceases by love. This is an unalterable law.

Buddha

David Howie the featured speaker at February CTC

Nearly forty area teens met at St. Patrick's on Sunday, February 17, for a Catholic Teen Connection with the theme "They Will Know We Are Christians by Our Love."

Following Mass, David Howie, a Holy Cross parishioner, spoke about his love for Christ and how people choose their vocations, using his own faith journey as an example. He explained how he makes room for prayer each day.

David is a guitarist, and he played for the group. He was formerly part of the musical group Sons and Daughters, which has disbanded, but he still performs in venues like Catholic schools and radio station WPGU. He recently won a Parent's Choice Award for an album called "Baby Boogie," which he did for the Champaign Public Library.

Peggy Loftus, St. Patrick's youth minister, showed the video "Fishers of Men" from Grassroots Films.

A Catholic Teen Connection is a gathering of teens from several local parishes. Four CTCs are held annually. This was the third such gathering for this school year, the others being hosted by St. Mary's in Pesotum and St. Matthew's in Champaign.



Vocation Prayer



Creator God, life is your gift to me. You invite me to share it in service to others. Give me courage and generosity to respond to your love, to your call. I pray especially for priests, deacons, brothers and sisters, and all those who serve you in witnessing to the gospel. Keep them close to you. Open the hearts of many men and women that they may accept your challenge to build the kingdom. Amen.

Keep Easter going in your life

We have just celebrated Easter, representing the high point of hope in our faith journey. We now have an opportunity to continue to move forward on our spiritual journey by participating in a once weekly program sponsored by St. Patrick's over the coming five weeks, beginning April 6.

The components of this reading-based adult education program are: (1) a film about Henri Nouwen, the author of several books on the spiritual journey; (2) reading group participation on his book *Life of the Beloved: Spiritual Living in a Secular World*; and (3) a public lecture at St. Patrick's by Ed Wojcicki, a member of the Board of Directors of the Henri Nouwen Society.

The program starts at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 6, with the movie *Journey of the Heart*. This one-hour film presents Nouwen's life and faith journey. After viewing the film, those who wish can purchase the book and sign up to participate with others in a reading group.

You may have already read some of Henri Nouwen's books, including this one. Now you have the opportunity to join with others for com-

munity, hospitality, reflection, and spiritual nourishment.

The book *Life of the Beloved* affirms us as children of God. Nouwen uses the analogy of the Eucharist to describe the movement of the Holy Spirit in our lives: taken, blessed, broken, and given. The book is written as a letter to a young reporter from *The New York Times* who did not yet share Nouwen's spiritual vision. Its 119 pages pack a lot to reflect upon.

Copies of the paperback book (for purchase) and the reflection guide (free) will be available at the first meeting on Sunday, April 6, at 1:30 p.m. in the multipurpose room of the parish center. Child care will be provided for this meeting and for the public lecture on May 4 at 1:30 p.m.



Henri J.M. Nouwen

What's new with CREW?

Teens have been learning about liturgy and the sacraments this year. Class attendance is averaging about 36. There are approximately 25 teens in the Confirmation class this year as well. Their Confirmation retreat is scheduled for April 5-6.

We are inviting the teens to attend a talk by Mike Patin, a national guest speaker, on the evening of April 8 at 7 p.m. at St. Patrick's. Our final Catholic Teen Connection Mass and guest speaker is set for April 13 at St. Philomena's in Monticello.

About 40 teens participate in Teen Liturgy. The teens have nothing but good things to say about the Teen Masses and the dinner that follows. The next Teen Mass is March 30 at 6:30 p.m.

The final guest speaker of the year is Kathy Jobin, who will speak to CREW parents and teens on May 4 about the dangers of drugs and alcohol.

This is commitment month for CREW teens for the mission trip. By the end of this month, they need to turn in their Mission Trip applications and \$100 deposit. The Mission Trip will be July 6-11 in Omaha, Neb. The group will travel by chartered bus and take along a cargo van to carry food and supplies. They will visit a Winnebago Indian Reservation just north of Omaha, and go to Adventure Land near Des Moines, Iowa, on their way home. Their choice for the theme of this year's trip is "I AM."

The teens are also scheduled to help build two garden sheds for Habitat for Humanity on April 19 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. This activity not only provides "service work" but also a chance to get hands-on experience with tools.

Quick fixin's from the kitchen of . . .

Gigi Simon

Lemon Sandies

- 1 c sugar
- 1 c Crisco
- 3 c white flour
- 1 t lemon zest

Mix Crisco and sugar well. Add flour and lemon zest slowly, and mix well. Roll dough with a rolling pin and cut into circles. Place on a cookie sheet lined with waxed paper or parchment, and bake at 350° for 20-25 minutes. Sprinkle with powdered sugar.

* * *

If you have a recipe you'd like to share, please send it to Ellen Noonan (403-0979 or jpnoon@insightbb.com). The only requirement is that it be easy and quick to prepare!



St. Patrick's Parish

April 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		12pm Seniors Luncheon 6:30pm Mystagogia 7pm Faith Sharing Group 7pm Great Adventure Bible Study 7pm Taize Prayer Service 1	12pm Men's Book Club 5pm SVDP 5:15pm Children's Choir 6:30pm St. Joe Rel Ed 7pm Baptism Prep 7pm Re-Membering Church 7pm Choir 7pm JustFaith	6pm Building & Grounds 6:30pm Mystagogia 6:30pm Social Action 7pm Choir	9am Catechesis of the Good Shepherd 10:45am Mass CCNH	6pm Confirmation Retreat Begins 6:15pm Ten Great Dates
9:15am Rel Ed 10:30am Children's Liturgy 5pm Confirmation Retreat Ends 6pm CREW Mission Meeting 6:30pm Jr/Sr High Rel Ed 6	7pm Centering Prayer 7pm Pro-Life 7	5:30pm Financial Affairs 6:30pm Mystagogia 7pm Great Adventure Bible Study 8	9:30am Schola 5pm SVDP 6:30pm St. Joe Rel Ed 7pm Choir 7pm JustFaith 7pm Re-Membering Church 9	6:30pm Mystagogia 7pm Choir 10	9am Catechesis of the Good Shepherd 10:30am Mass Care Center 10:45am Mass CCNH 11	6pm You, CREW, BBQ, & Space Painter Too 12
Parish Council Elections At All Masses 9:15am Rel Ed 10:30am Children's Liturgy 4:30pm Catholic Teen Connection 6:30pm Jr/Sr High Bowling 13	7pm Centering Prayer 14	6:30pm Mystagogia 7pm Great Adventure Bible Study 7pm Worship Ministries Team 15	5pm SVDP 5:15pm Children's Choir 6:30pm St. Joe Rel Ed 6:30pm CREW SALT Team 7pm Choir 7pm Evening of Remembrance 7pm JustFaith 16	6:30pm Mystagogia 6:30pm Parish Council 7pm Choir 17	9am Catechesis of the Good Shepherd 10:30am Mass Clark-Lindsey 10:45am Mass CCNH 18	8am Catechesis of the Good Shepherd 19
8:30-12 Blood Pressure Screenings 9:15am Rel Ed 10:15am K of C First Communion Retreat 6:30pm Jr/Sr High Rel Ed 6:30pm Confirmation Prep 20	5-9pm JustFaith 7pm Centering Prayer 21	6:30pm Mystagogia 7pm Great Adventure Bible Study 22	9:30am Schola 5pm SVDP 5:15pm Children's Choir 7pm Baptism Prep 7pm Choir 23	6:30pm Mystagogia 7pm Choir 7pm Communications 24	10:45am Mass CCNH 25	10:30am, 2pm First Communion Masses 26
Library Open 8:30-12 Blood Pressure Screenings 6:30pm Confirmation Practice 27	7pm Centering Prayer 28	6:30pm Mystagogia 29	5pm SVDP 5:15pm Children's Choir 6:30pm JustFaith 7pm Choir 30	<p>Because the calendar is prepared in advance, be sure to check the bulletin to confirm dates and times.</p> <p>The deadline for the next issue of In Focus is April 13.</p>		