

ST. PATRICK'S PARISH

# In Focus



## Easter Triumph, Easter Joy

One of the high points of the liturgies surrounding Easter is the baptism of adults. Their joy is infectious, the joy of the gift of faith and the joy of belonging to God. St. Paul says, "Are you not aware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ... And just as Christ was raised from the dead, so we too might walk in newness of life."

Some of that joy is available to us if we immerse ourselves in the liturgies of the Triduum and the spirit of these days. The Triduum is the three days from the evening of Holy Thursday through Easter. Immersion is a good image for these days. They are rich with stories, symbols, and the core elements of our faith, so rich that to drink them in is like drinking an ocean. But we can be buoyed up by them, taste them, and savor them, if we give them the time they deserve.

The liturgy of Holy Thursday



night is called the Mass of the Lord's Supper, and the gift of the Eucharist is one of its themes. But that night's gospel is not about "Take and eat." It is the story of Jesus' model of service, washing his disciples' feet before the meal. Jesus gives himself in

service before he gives himself in the Eucharist. This model is meant for all of us, but especially for our priests, many of whom renew their priestly vows on this day. The first reading recounts the Passover, the Israelites' passage from slavery to freedom. This reading also begins our celebration of Jesus' passage from death to life, and our own passage as we live these days with him.

The liturgy of Good Friday night is named for its most distinctive ritual, the Veneration of the Cross. The day is solemn, not sad. While we recall Jesus' suffering and death, we don't pretend to

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## Be like Pat

Despite the existence of a short autobiography (*My Confession*) and an angry letter he wrote to the pirate-slaver Coroticus, we know very little for certain about St. Patrick.

We do know he wasn't Irish and he wasn't the first missionary to tackle the Irish situation. A man named Palladius has that honor, but his mission failed and he was driven off.

Experts locate St. Patrick's place of birth somewhere near the mouth of the Severn River, meaning Ireland's patron saint was probably Welsh. Recollecting that his father was a Roman Decurion, the Italians tried to stake a claim to his nationality, forgetting that the Romans conferred

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## Pat from page 1

citizenship on their conquered people.

The dates of Patrick's arrival in Ireland, his training for the priesthood (in Britain or on the Continent), and his death are also debated.

What does emerge as quite clear is that he was a "steadfast man." Those who lived alongside him thought this, and his actions show it. He faced down the powerful local chieftains and in his lifetime completely reversed a pagan culture.

According to one story, early in his time in Ireland he approached the hill of Tara, seat of the high king, on the eve of a pagan feast that fell on Easter. That night locals were ordered to put out all fires until the king kindled his bonfire high on the hill. Patrick, however, lit the paschal fire to celebrate the Resurrection, in full view of the king and the entire pagan gathering. When confronted by the king, Patrick emerged the victor.

He railed against Coroticus for capturing a group of newly baptized

Christians: "Wherefore let every God-fearing man know that they are enemies of me and of Christ my God, for whom I am an ambassador." He called the pirates "ravening wolves that eat the

people of the Lord as they eat bread."

One of his contemporaries wrote that he was "steadfast in the fear of God and in faith unshaken." The word *steadfast*, defined as "fixed in purpose, resolute," now seems old-fashioned, outdated in both meaning and practice. In an era when people are busy "finding themselves," and where uncertainty in matters spiritual is considered fashionable and intelligent, steadfastness may be mistaken for stubbornness or intolerance. Maybe that's why there are not more steadfast men and women today.

But you surely know a few. People who live their beliefs, suffer for them, and still stand tall, Patrick-like.

Some years ago a person shared a train ride with an elderly Anglican minister. They talked all the way from Omaha to California. When they parted, the minister said, "Dear boy, I enjoyed our chat. I seldom meet anyone who believes in anything anymore." That would be taken as a

compliment because belief is the basis of all decent qualities, including being steadfast. Sometimes it's hard to stand up when everyone else is sitting down, but if you believe strongly enough, you can get to your feet. Like Patrick!



## 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 contacting Mary Lou Menches (344-1125 or [mmenches@uiuc.edu](mailto:mmenches@uiuc.edu)). Provide your name and telephone number or e-mail address, and the name of your group.*



**Q: When I take home a blessed palm on Palm Sunday, what should I do with the palm from the previous year?**

**A:** Palms that are blessed and distributed on Palm (Passion) Sunday, the Sunday before Easter, remind us of our Lord's death and resurrection, and of our share in his passage from death to life.

People have many reverent ways of keeping these palms in their homes with a prayerful and devout intention. Some place them behind a crucifix, others with a picture that is particularly meaningful. Still others fold them into a cross, to hang on the wall, use as a bookmark, or keep on a desk.

As with anything blessed, a palm loses its blessing when it loses its identity. The proper way to dispose of a blessed palm, therefore, is either by burning it or breaking it up. The remains may then be thrown away.

Every year at St. Patrick's, the palms that remain after Palm Sunday are burned to produce the ashes with which we will be marked on Ash Wednesday next year. If you like, you may bring your palm from last year to be burned with the others. For this purpose, a marked container will be placed in the church vestibule on Palm Sunday.

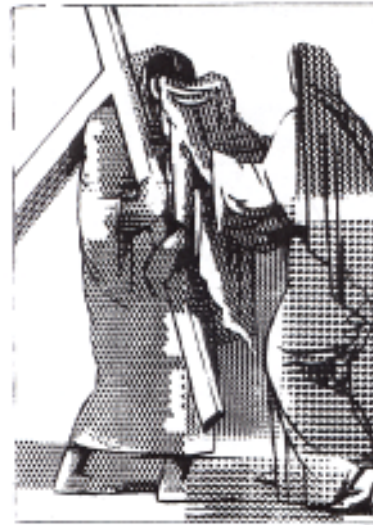
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*Questions about Catholic practice or Catholic teaching may be sent to the Communications Committee in care of the parish office.*

## Stations of the Cross, live from St. Patrick's

The Stations of the Cross historically developed to satisfy Christians who couldn't make an actual pilgrimage to Jerusalem. Certainly a trip to the Middle East every Lenten Friday is beyond the means of the typical parishioner here. But on one Friday, our local Stations will be special.

On Friday, Mar. 14, the 5:15 p.m. Stations will be led by some of our teenage parishioners. In these "Living Stations" teens will perform



the parts of Jesus, Mary, Pilate, Simon, Veronica, and other familiar characters. Each station will be described briefly and accompanied by a prayer. Yes, teenagers have a reputation for sheer energy, but you'll

see the reverence and dignity CREW can muster when called upon. If your Lenten practices are feeling a touch stale and commonplace, our teens invite you to be renewed in your devotion through this time of reverent prayer.

## Begin your spring cleaning at St. Patrick's!

If you are like most folks, cleaning your own house is a boring, repetitive chore. Cleaning someone else's house can be fun, simply because it's not your own house. What if you could clean God's house? How exciting and rewarding that would be! What a privilege to work for God!

You will have that opportunity on Saturday, Mar. 15, after the 8 a.m. Mass. If you can give an hour or more between 9 a.m. and noon, the blessed work of preparing God's house for Holy Week and Easter can be completed quickly.

All cleaning materials will be provided, and instructions

given. You may be asked to dust, wash pews, polish the altar and ambo, wash windows and the glass walls and doors of the vestibule, polish brass candlesticks, or whatever else our parish sacristan, Mary Ann

Luedtke, suggests. The end result will be a sparkling clean St. Patrick's, ready for the most important weeks of the Church year. Some members of CREW will be participating in this

project, accumulating service hours to be eligible for their summer Mission trip. The rest of us, on the other hand, will be accumulating good works for heaven!





## From Dr. Susan Nagele

**Editor's note:** *The following letter, dated December 2007, arrived just too late for our January newsletter. Last month we held it back so that we could bring you her account of the events following the Dec. 27 presidential election in Kenya. Here now is Susan's Christmas letter.*

To all the good people of St. Pat's,

Last year was a year of vehicle accidents. In August the police on the road to Nairobi stopped a car filled with Maryknoll lay missionaries traveling from Tanzania. A truck plowed into them, and they were pushed into the side of a bus. If the bus hadn't been there, they'd have gone over a cliff at the side of the road. By the grace of God, no one was killed, but one person sustained multiple fractures and another had bad injuries from glass embedded in her leg.

In September our hospital ambulance was taking a pregnant woman to a bigger hospital and blew a tire. The ambulance rolled over twice and threw the woman from the vehicle. By the grace of God, she and her baby and the other passengers were not seriously harmed. The ambulance is still in the garage being repaired.

In October one of our Kenyan lay missionaries, Rose Anderson, was traveling to a new mission from Kitale to northern Kenya. The road was very bad and the car got caught in sand, spun around, and landed on its side. Rose suffered a head injury and multiple fractures, including her spine. She had to be flown to



Johannesburg, South Africa, for surgery. Another lay missionary, Chris Cahalan, went with her. By the grace of God, she is recovering slowly, without paralysis, and has returned to her home in Miami to recover.

But when I look back over the year, I see good things that happened too.

In March our social worker, Mary, was going to visit a patient in her home and found a 16-year-old boy, Victor, seated by the side of the road, crying. He had a bad-smelling wound on his leg and had been sent away from school for treatment. The district hospital wasn't able to help him, and he was miserable. Mary brought him to our hospital, where we started to treat a chronic infection in the bone and then sent him to Tijabe hospital for two surgical procedures. The wound is now almost completely healed, he has gained 8 pounds, and he is back in school, happy and smiling.

A few months later a grandmother

brought in her 3-year-old granddaughter, Maureen, who weighed only 16 pounds. The rectum had prolapsed outside, but otherwise the child was very clean and well cared for. (The mother had disappeared some time before.) We were able to do a blood test that confirmed the child has congenital hypothyroidism, a condition never seen in developed countries because there all children are screened at birth. With one pill a day of thyroid hormone, the rectal prolapse has resolved, the child is much easier to care for, and she has started to smile and to have better muscle tone. We know she will never have normal intelligence, because there is already permanent brain damage, but we hope she will be easier to care for. Long live the grandmothers of this world who are caring for such children as Maureen!

Beatrice came to us in August with florid hyperthyroidism. Her thyroid gland was producing way too much thyroid hormone, and her heart was starting to fail. We calmed the heart down with drugs, and Kijabe did surgery. She was in the intensive care unit for

almost a week, comatose and with a lot of swelling of her throat. When I talked with her surgeon on the phone, I thought she would never recover. Then she turned the corner, woke up, and returned to our hospital



*Continued on page 5*

## Nagele from page 4

completely well. It was like seeing the Resurrection when I saw her again, smiling and talking—oh me of little faith!

We are trying to send two girls to Mater hospital in Nairobi for heart surgery. Brenda has a patent ductus arteriosus (for those of you in the medical know), and Eunice has a bad heart valve. With the grace of God, we will be able to arrange it in the New Year.

Kenya will be electing a new president on December 27, and there has already been a lot of violence. We are praying that the process will be peaceful and that a good person will be chosen to lead the country.

I am doing well and just finished a retreat where I remembered all of you very specially in my prayer. As you can see, it has been a grace-filled year! Thank you for your support in many different ways. Have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

*Pence,  
Susan*

Man's capacity for justice makes democracy possible, but man's inclination to injustice makes democracy necessary.

~Reinhold Niebuhr



## St. Patrick's Day celebrations set

The luck of the Irish to you! St. Patrick's Day is almost upon us again. This year's parish celebrations will take place the weekend of Mar. 15-16. Following on the success of last year's events, Saturday evening will again be set aside for an adult gathering, and the party on Sunday afternoon will be open to families.

Saturday night's event will feature food, music, and dancing. If the mood or the Leprechaun strikes, there may also be an open microphone for jokes and storytelling. The celebration on Sunday will present an opportunity to enjoy sweet treats and fun, kid-friendly St. Patrick's Day activities with the whole family.

Tickets to the Saturday night event will be \$20 and will be on sale starting Mar. 1. The celebration, from 6 to 11 p.m., will

include an Irish-themed dinner served at 6:30. Attendees who wish to enjoy alcoholic beverages are encouraged to bring them (responsible consumption is requested). Soda, tea, coffee, and other non-alcoholic beverages will be provided throughout the evening. The celebration on Sunday, from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m., is free of charge.

Because many hands make light work, many volunteers are needed for both events to help set up, cook, serve, and clean up. Donated desserts will also be accepted for both events, so

keep your cake pan dusted! If you are interested in helping, please contact Don or Laura Keefer (337-0768 or [dlrj.keefe@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dlrj.keefe@sbcglobal.net)).

*May the good  
saints protect you  
And bless you  
today*

*And may troubles  
ignore you  
Each step of the way*



## Holy Cross Happenings

It's been a busy fall and winter at Holy Cross School.

In November, three 8<sup>th</sup>-graders from St. Patrick's, in a group of nearly 40 students, were confirmed:

William Laumann, Nancy N-Mutendu, and Matthew Tate.

In early December, the students performed two Christmas concerts on consecutive nights. And throughout Advent, each classroom worked on a service project of some type for the Humane Society, the Catholic



Worker House, and St. Vincent de Paul, to name just a few.

Holy Cross School hosted many special events during Catholic Schools Week in January, including Mass

with Bishop Jenky attended by Catholic students from throughout the diocese.

In February, rehearsals began for the spring musical, "The Wizard of Oz," starring 150 students from kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Make sure to mark your calendar for performances, Apr. 10-13.

## The Knights entertained their "ladies" in fine style!

On Jan. 26 the Knights of Columbus served women of the parish a sit-down meal and home-grown entertainment with a baseball theme. It looks as though the entertainers had as much fun as their audience did!



## Easter from page 1

forget that from death he also rose. And so we venerate, we honor the cross as the Tree of Life, as a tree of light and beauty, even as we remember it as a tree of suffering and death. An ancient hymn of this liturgy pulls these threads together for us: "Holy is God! Holy and strong! Holy immortal one, have mercy on us!"

The Easter Vigil, celebrated on Holy Saturday night, crowns the whole Church year. It begins with the lighting of a new fire, recalling Christ who came as the light of the world. That light is shared among us all, filling the church building with light.

The night's readings recall God's patient work in bringing us to salvation, his work throughout history, his work in Jesus, and then the proclamation that Jesus is risen from the dead, so that each of us might receive the gift of salvation. After this, we call the catechumens forward to receive salvation in the waters of baptism, and we too renew our baptismal promises, savoring this great gift.

The liturgies of Easter Sunday contain many echoes of the Triduum, albeit in shortened form. The light of Christ is present in the flame of

the Paschal candle, which remains shining through the whole Easter Season. The liturgy includes a renewal of baptismal promises, linking us with the catechumens and the whole Church. And, as at every liturgy, we recall the Eucharist, the cross, the leadership of the Church, and God's loving gift of salvation.

Find ways to savor these three days. Come to the liturgies. In your private and family prayer, savor the Scriptures and prayers of these liturgies. Keep the Easter fast on Good Friday and, as the Church suggests, perhaps on Holy Saturday as well, palpably participating in Jesus' death and resurrection. Spend the time you save by fasting to enrich your personal prayer. Mind the sacredness of these days in all that you do. Immerse yourself in their riches, and let them buoy up your faith!

## Teen joins group on retreat in Emmitsburg

*The following account was written by Kelsey Kaiser, a CREW member, who traveled to Mount St. Mary's University in Emmitsburg, Maryland, with a group from St. Matthew's for what was to be an unforgettable experience.*

This year in February I had the opportunity to go to Maryland for Mount 2008. Before I went, I always thought that not a lot of teens cared about their faith. This thought of mine changed after walking through the doors of the Mount retreat. I saw hundreds of teens around my age singing their hearts out to Christ. It was amazing to see all of them coming together.

We had guest speakers talk to us about different topics. One of my favorites was Father Peter. He helped us understand God in a teen way. We also had three Masses, which were full of energy and faith.

One of the most moving events that happened at Mount was the

Eucharistic precession. The lights were off except for one beam that shone on the Eucharist that the priest was carrying. When he walked by, people raised their arms as if to touch Jesus.

During that weekend I laughed, made friends, praised God, learned about my faith, and enjoyed being with Christ.

I know that I am going again next year. If you get an opportunity to go on a retreat or join a teen youth group, go for it. You will be surprised how much fun your faith can be!



*Msgr. Stuart Swetland, formerly at St. John's chapel and now a member of the Emmitsburg seminary faculty, gave the homily at Sunday's Mass.*



### VOCATION PRAYER

Gracious Father, you sent Jesus to proclaim the Good News of salvation to the world. Make us mindful of those who have not heard the Gospel, and bless the efforts of all missionaries. May more of our sons and daughters seek and follow your call to discipleship, especially as priests, deacons, sisters, and brothers. Amen.

## "Reconciliation: To restore friendship or harmony" Lost and Found

Reconciliation is a good thing, regardless of how, when, and with whom it is sought. Reconciliation with God, however, is more than just good at any time, and seeking reconciliation with—and as a part of—our faith community is especially timely as we near the culmination of our Lenten journey.

In the services referred to as Communal Reconciliation, or Communal Penance, we approach God with the support and encouragement of others of our faith community, all of us seeking God's forgiveness for our transgressions, big and small. We ask forgiveness for ourselves as individuals, of course, but also as members of our community of faith, with which we seek to be reconciled.

The communal reconciliation service helps us to prepare for this reconciliation—with God, with ourselves, and with one another—by means of hymns, Scripture readings, a homily, and an examination of conscience. We are then invited as individuals to approach any of the several priests present to



confess our sins, receive absolution, and perform the penance given.

Local churches cooperate in offering communal reconciliation on three successive evenings, hoping to meet the needs of all. Several priests from three parishes gather at each church in turn for the 7:00 p.m. services:

- Monday, Mar. 10, at Holy Cross
- Tuesday, Mar. 11, at St. Patrick's
- Wednesday, Mar. 12, at St. Matthew's

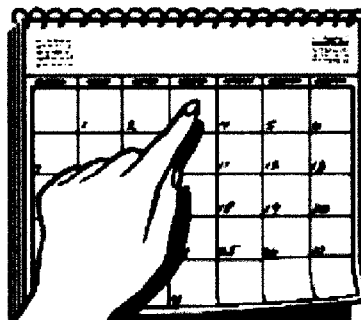
This special opportunity to "restore friendship or harmony" is offered to us by the priests of our area. What better way to prepare ourselves for Holy Week and Easter?

## Schedule adjusted for baptism prep classes

Baptism preparation classes are offered several times a year at St. Patrick's. The class, held in the parish center, is a one-time, small-group, multimedia preparation for parents on the sacrament of Baptism.

Please make note of the following adjusted schedule of spring classes for baptismal preparation:

Mar. 5: No class  
Apr. 2: Class at 7 p.m.  
Apr. 23: Class at 7 p.m.  
May 7: No class



Mittens, gloves galore (nice ones, too), scarves, hats (yes, hats!), jackets, sunglasses, reading glasses, umbrellas, prayer books, rosaries, wallets—you name it, we've found it in the church after a typical busy Saturday evening and Sunday morning.

On Mondays, the weekend's harvest of lost (found!) items is brought over to the parish office to be added to the Lost and Found collection our parish secretary, Leslie Risatti, keeps for owners to reclaim. Although many items remain unclaimed after several weeks or even months, occasionally an owner will call to ask about a lost item. Someone once called about a gold earring, and someone else reclaimed a cell phone. Identification in wallets, purses, and prayer books helps in locating their owners. But what about all the other items?

When the collection overflows its carton, Leslie takes it to Sunday morning Coffee Shop in the hope that some items may be identified and reclaimed. Items left unclaimed for several months are given to the needy poor. Two nice jackets, for instance, one in an adult size and another for a teen or older child, now keep someone else warm after spending several months keeping no one warm. Rosaries are eventually given to those who haven't one but would like to pray the rosary. Teething rings, baby bottles, hair clips, and such are simply discarded.

And then, of course, there are all those pans, plates, bowls, and plastic containers in which home-prepared foods were brought for special events at St. Patrick's and remain unclaimed in the parish kitchen.

Might any of these be yours?



## Cardinal Yves Congar, architect of Church reform

Did you know that Cardinal Yves Congar was one of the most important theologians of the twentieth century? Did you know that he was the greatest influence behind the documents of the Second Vatican Council? Yet this Dominican theologian was for many years the target of critics in Rome. Only in his later years did he enjoy universal esteem for his brilliance, loyalty to the Church, and personal holiness.

Yves Congar was born in Sedan, France, on April 8, 1904. He was ordained a Dominican priest in 1930. As Professor of Fundamental Theology and Dogmatics, he taught at the renowned Dominican educational institution Le Saulchoir between 1931 and 1954, excluding the war years.

(In 1939 he was drafted as a military chaplain, but within a year he was captured and spent the next few years as a German prisoner-of-war.)

Between 1939 and 1968 Congar wrote sixteen books, most notably on reform in the Church and on the theology of the laity. In his lifetime he published over 1500 books and articles. He was a driving force in the French worker-priest program, which the Vatican disapproved of on the grounds that it distracted priests from their ecclesiastical functions. In 1950, after the publication of a book on Church reform, he had to submit everything he wrote to Rome for approval. In 1953 Congar and other Dominican theologians were expelled from their academic posts by the

order of Rome and were forbidden to teach, lecture, or publish.

With Pope John XXIII's election in 1958, the atmosphere of the Church changed dramatically. In 1959, Pope John recalled Congar from his internal exile and appointed him a "peritus," or expert, to the Second Vatican Council. His influence in this role was greater than that of any other Catholic theologian. He shaped the documents in the Council's teaching on Revelation, the Church, the laity, ecumenism, and the recovery of Tradition. The Second Vatican Council was a vindication of his theology.

St. Patrick's parish library contains Cardinal Congar's book *Lay People in the Church: Study for a Theology of Laity* (call number 262.15 CON). His masterpiece, *The Meaning of Tradition* (call number 230 CON 2004), is currently on order. In it Congar explains why Tradition is an inescapable aspect of a fully biblical Christian faith and explores its various forms, discussing the relationship between Scripture and Tradition as well as the role of the Magisterium of the Church.

In 1968 a painful neurological ailment forced Congar to give up most of his physical activities, and by the 1980s it left him unable to work. He accepted this suffering with typical grace. Six months after Pope John Paul II named him a cardinal, he died on June 22, 1995, at the age of 91.



**Lenten Projects** Students and faculty from the High School of St. Thomas More purchased 29 pigs and goats for the students at St. Peter Claver, a school for orphans in Africa. These animals will provide milk and meat for the students at St. Peter Claver, including our sponsored child, Pendo Blasio. Theology students also received letters from their pen pals at St. Alfred High School in Tanzania. During Lent there will be an opportunity to help provide tuition for Pendo through the "Pennies for Pendo" collection in all of the theology classes. Students are encouraged to give from their own spending money to help a child in need. If

enough money is donated, soccer balls will also be purchased for St. Peter Claver and St. Alfred schools.

**Twilight Gala** Save the date! Saturday, Apr. 19, is the Twilight Gala, "Set Sail for Saint Thomas," the premiere fundraising event for the High School of St. Thomas More. Embark on a fantasy evening of fine dining, incredible shopping, and exciting live entertainment. There's something special waiting for you aboard the "Twilight Gala." For tickets, call the school office (352-7210).

**Coming Attractions:**  
Spring Break, Mar. 15-23  
Spring Musical, Apr. 3-5  
Congressional Art Competition, Apr. 11  
Twilight Gala, Apr. 19  
Prom, May 3  
Graduation, May 18  
School ends, May 22



The deadline for submitting information, articles, and news items for the next issue of *In Focus* is March 9.



## in our parish library

There are several new and highly recommended Catholic fiction books now available in our parish library and more are on the way, thanks to an anonymous parish donor. You will surely find something to your taste among the following:

***Amata Means Beloved***, by Sr. Mary Catharine Perry, O.P. (FIC PER 2004). This novel glimpses into the lives of cloistered contemplative nuns and a woman's deep inner struggle with pain and forgiveness. This thoughtful read immerses you in the world of monasteries and the ideas, struggles, hopes, and dreams of Sister Mary Catharine. One caution, though: you will have to overlook the writing style, which is less than professional.

***Children of the Last Days***, a series by Michael D. O'Brien. This trilogy, beginning in 1900 and concluding with the climactic events leading up to the Millennium, follows Anne and Stephen Delaney and their descendants as they live through the tumultuous events of this century. Set in the rugged interior of British Columbia, it traces the lives of four generations of a family of exiles and the gradual movement of souls from despair and unbelief to faith, hope, and love. The recommended order to read the books is:

- ***Strangers and Sojourners*** (FIC OBR 2002). The first in the trilogy, this spiritual novel follows the struggles of Anne Delaney's family with religion, society, culture, and the government.

- ***Plague Journal*** (FIC OBR 2003). This story describes a nation quietly shifting from democracy to totalitarianism. *Plague Journal* chronicles the struggle of a thoroughly modern

man, Nathaniel Delaney, who is put to the ultimate spiritual and psychological test, a man who in losing himself finds himself.

- ***Eclipse of the Sun*** (FIC OBR 1998). O'Brien presents a thrilling apocalyptic novel about the condition of the Roman Catholic Church at the end of time. In this novel, the Vatican sends a Carmelite, Fr. Elijah Schäfer, on a secret mission that leads him into a series of crises and subterfuges affecting the Church's ultimate destiny.

***Sophia House***, by Michael D. O'Brien (FIC OBR 2005). *Sophia House* is set in Warsaw during the Nazi occupation. Pawel Tarnowski, a bookseller, gives refuge to David Schäfer, a Jewish youth who has escaped from the ghetto, and hides him in the attic of the book shop. Decades later, David converts to Catholicism; he is the Carmelite priest Fr. Elijah Schäfer, called by the Pope to confront the Anti-christ in Michael O'Brien's best-selling novel, *Father Elijah: An Apocalypse*. This book explores, from two distinct perspectives, the meaning of love, religious identity, and sacrifice.

***The Complete Father Brown Mysteries***, by G. K. Chesterton (FIC CHE 1998). The protagonist in these English detective stories is a quiet, unassuming, and modest Catholic priest. Chesterton, known as the "prince of paradox," was one of the few writers in the twentieth century who made an important contribution to English literature that was stamped by Christian principles instead of the prevailing secularism of the day.

***Dear and Glorious Physician***, by Taylor Caldwell (FIC CAL 1959). This novel is set in the time of St. Luke. Caldwell

brings the Gospel writer Luke to life, from his beginnings as the young son of a Greek freedman in the Roman Empire to his ultimate search for Christ. It depicts the human struggle for spiritual relevance and the rebellion of the human soul. This is a great novel, written in a wonderful narrative style.

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*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.*



***Welcome to the following, baptized into our faith community:*** Brooklyn Thi Brady, Noah Grady Baker, Gilbert Thomas Pedrotty, Kyan Michael-Pearson Pope, and Lauren Rose Haas.

***Congratulations*** to Matt Pavelski and Andrea Collins, married at St. Patrick's.

***Please pray for deceased parishioners*** Richard Ahlstedt and Jacqueline Reynolds Lincicome.

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

## Service Auction: Send CREW (and Fr. Joe) to Omaha!

By now you know what to expect of CREW's seventh annual Service Auction, which will take place on Sunday, Mar. 29, after the 7:30 and 9 a.m. Masses. Teens (sometimes with their entire families) offer their special talents and services, but for a price. They might power-wash your deck, help with hours of gardening or child care, prepare a home-cooked meal, wash and wax your car, and much, much more. Many gift baskets, some with a special theme, will be put up for bid.

"In the hopper already," said



Peggy Loftus, CREW coordinator, "are an authentically Italian pizza dinner prepared by an Italian family, a wood carving by Chuck Shaw, babysitting, yard work, spring cleaning, pet sitting, pet walking, homemade German breads, golf lessons, and basketball lessons." Just you wait; you'll see! And you'll be sorry if you aren't present to bid!

All proceeds from the auction support this summer's Mission Trip to the Winnebago Native American Reservation, just north of Omaha, Nebraska, July 6-11.

This year Fr. Joe Hogan plans to spend the entire week working alongside our teens and their chaperones.

Mark your calendars, you won't want to miss the auction!

### 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.

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**Articles and information** for this issue were provided by Mary Lee Brady, Pat Fettig, Judy Fierke, Laura Keefer, Pat Justice, Peggy Loftus, Alice McLaughlin, Rachael McMillan, Mary Lou Menches, Lori Mestre, Lenore Nagele, Ellen Noonan, Leslie Risatti, Cathy Salika, Margaret Stewart, and Peggy Whelan. This issue was edited by Camille Goudeseune and paged by Jim Urban. Drawing by Fr. George Wuellner.

<b>Who?</b>	You!
<b>What?</b>	CREW Talent and Service Auction
<b>When?</b>	Sunday, Mar. 29, after 7:30 and 9:00 Masses
<b>Where?</b>	Parish Center, Main Hall
<b>Why?</b>	Fun and Funding Support

### Quick fixin's from the kitchen of . . .

**Pat Justice**

#### **Hanky Pankies**

(appetizer)

- 1 lb pork sausage
- 1 lb ground beef
- 1 lb Velveeta cheese, cubed
- 1 t garlic salt
- 1 t cayenne pepper
- 1 t oregano
- 1 loaf party rye bread

Brown meat and drain. Add spices and cheese. Once



cheese is melted, spread mixture on party rye slices. Freeze. Put frozen on cookie sheet. Bake at 350°, for about 5 minutes or until bubbly.

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



# St. Patrick's Parish

## March 2008



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<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 March 9.</p>						
						9am-12pm Gathering of All Ministries 6:15-8pm 10 Great Dates  1
9:15am Rel Ed 10:30am Children's Liturgy 5:30pm CREW Mission Meeting 6:30pm Jr.-Sr. High Reconciliation 6:30pm Leaders Bible Study 2	7pm Centering Prayer 7pm Pro-Life 3	6pm Faith Sharing Group 6:30pm Mystagogia 7pm Great Adventure Bible Study 4	12pm Men's Book Club 5pm SVDP 5:15pm Children's Choir 6:30pm St. Joe Rel Ed 7pm Choir 7pm JustFaith 7pm Re-Membering Church 5	6:45am Men's Bible Study 6pm Building and Grounds 6:30pm Mystagogia 7pm Choir 7pm RCIA 7pm Social Action 6	9am Catechesis of the Good Shepherd 10:45am Mass CCNH 5:15pm Stations of the Cross 6pm Fish Fry 7	9:30am Altar Server Training 8
9:15am Rel Ed 10:30am Children's Liturgy 6:30pm Jr.-Sr. High Rel Ed 6:30pm Leaders Bible Study 9	7pm Centering Prayer 10	5:30pm Financial Affairs 6:30pm Mystagogia 7pm Communal Reconciliation 11	9:30am Schola 5pm SVDP 5:15pm Children's Choir 6:30pm St. Joe Rel Ed 7pm Choir 7pm JustFaith 7pm Re-Membering Church 12	6:45am Men's Bible Study 6:30pm Mystagogia 7pm Choir 7pm RCIA 13	9am Catechesis of the Good Shepherd 10:30am Mass Care Center 10:45am Mass CCNH 5:15pm Living Stations of the Cross 6pm Fish Fry 6:30pm Reconciliation for the Deaf 14	8am Catechesis of the Good Shepherd 6pm St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance 15
<b>Palm Sunday</b> 8:30-12 Blood Pressure Screenings 9:15am Rel Ed 10:15am K of C 2pm St. Patrick's Day Family Celebration 16	7pm Centering Prayer 17	6pm Faith Sharing Group 6:30pm Mystagogia 18	5pm SVDP 6pm Seder Meal 6:30pm St. Joe Rel Ed 5:15pm Children's Choir 7pm Adult Choir 7pm JustFaith 19	<b>Holy Thursday</b> 7pm Mass 6:45am Men's Bible Study 6:30pm Mystagogia 20	<b>Good Friday</b> 3pm Stations of the Cross 7pm Liturgy 21	<b>Holy Saturday</b> 7:30pm Easter Vigil Mass 22
<b>Easter</b> Masses: 7:30, 9, 10:30, 12pm Vietnamese: 3:30pm Confession 5pm Mass 23	<b>Easter Monday</b> Offices Closed 7pm Centering Prayer 24	6:30pm Mystagogia 25	5pm SVDP 5:15pm Child Choir 6:30pm JustFaith 26	6:45am Men's Bible Study 6:30pm Mystagogia 7pm Communications 7pm RCIA 27	9am Catechesis of the Good Shepherd 10:45am Mass CCNH 28	29
<b>CREW Service Auction</b> 8:30-9:15am and 10-10:45am Library Open 6:30pm Teen Mass and Dinner 30	5:30pm St. Pat's Presents Team 7pm Centering Prayer 31					