

ST. PATRICK'S PARISH

# In Focus



## Spiritual Spinach, just when you need it

Remember Popeye, that salty cartoon character, whose trusty can of spinach at moments of crisis saved the day? In a certain sense, the great feasts we celebrate this May serve us in a similar manner. Just when it seems that life is too much of a struggle, that progress eludes us, just then, at a make-or-break moment, we find that the help we need is at hand.

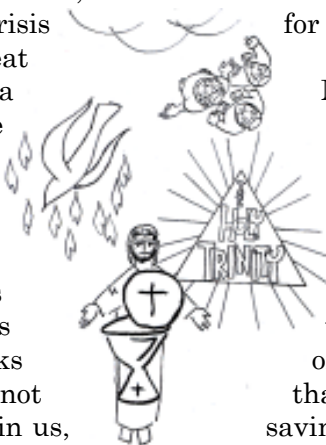
On May 4 (Ascension), Jesus offers "spiritual spinach" in the assurance of his prayer for us. Lovingly, continually, he speaks our names and our needs before God. He not only prays for us, he prays with and within us, enabling and empowering us with the grace we need to live authentically in this world as his own. When our own strength and courage prove insufficient, we are to remember the power of prayer and rest easy in the

assurance that the one who prays best is praying for us.

The spiritual strength that we celebrate on May 11 (Pentecost) is called the Paraclete, or Advocate, or Holy Spirit. Once breathed upon the disciples by the risen Jesus, this Spirit continues to breathe and pulsate within us, particularly when we come together as Church to witness to one another and to the world that God is, that God loves, that God chooses to be involved in the lives of sinners, that God heals, that God forgives, that God fires up and moves forward the divine saving purpose for all of humankind.

As we gather to remember and acclaim the Triune God on May 18 (Trinity), we are enveloped in the gift of family. God, our loving Mother and Father, has made us daughters and sons. God loves and bears

— See **Spiritual** on page 4



## Parishioners elect three to Parish Council

When all the ballots had been carefully tabulated, checked, and double-checked, the results were clear: parishioners elected to three-year terms on the Parish Council are Doug Wolfersberger, Pam Donze De Ley, and Shelly Benson. They will fill vacancies created by the departing Jim Mayer, Cathy Sarnecki, and Annessa Parisi, whose terms expire in May.

Doug, Pam, and Shelly will be seated at the Council's May meeting. Their first responsibility will be to participate in the election of Council officers

for the coming year.

This year a new voting record was set: 711 parishioners marked their choices on ballots, presented during the time for announcements at all Masses on April 12-13. After each Mass, Council members

collected the ballots and tallied the votes. The final results were known soon after the noon Mass.

Congratulations to the new Council members, with thanks to *all* the candidates, who made the choices difficult for voters!



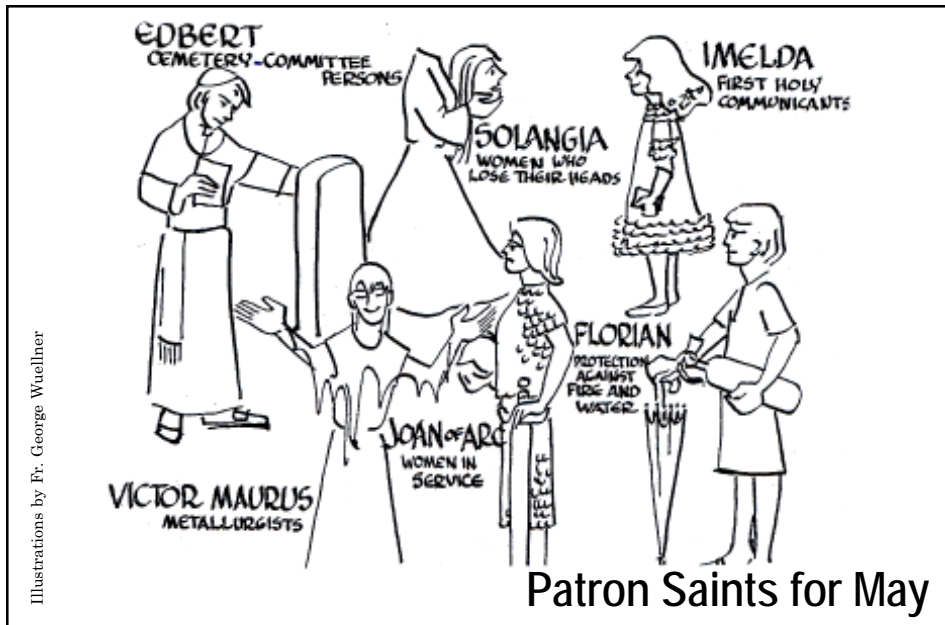
Doug Wolfersberger



Pam Donze De Ley



Shelly Benson



### Birds, Butterflies, and Weeds

I own a bit of land in Mexico,  
 flambeau trees, spider grass, wild onions.  
 I can show you the deed.  
 I am erecting a new sign, look, it says: **KEEP OUT!**  
 I stand back, study it.  
 It's not that it grants me freedom  
 as much as it disenfranchises other inhabitants  
 of this vast world  
 from a spot on their own planet.  
 I take the sign down and add:  
**EXCEPT POETS, ARTISTS, SCHOLARS,  
 KIND PEOPLE, AND THOSE  
 WHO MAY AT SOME TIME BECOME SUCH.**  
 Nail it back up. It's becoming a little unwieldy—  
 I bring it down and add:  
**BIRDS, BUTTERFLIES, WEEDS, STRAY DOGS,  
 CATS, NEIGHBOR'S CHICKENS, STARS AT NIGHT, AND  
 EVENING BREEZES MAY IGNORE THIS SIGN.**  
 Re-mount it, I stand way back squinting.  
 Down again.  
 Brush back into the ink:  
**VOLLEYBALL NETS ARE OKAY, AS ARE BONFIRES,  
 TENTS, SMALL HOUSES, HOMEMADE MUSIC,  
 KITE FLYING, AND POTLUCKS.**  
 The lawyer in me feels that it still lacks something.  
 Careful even letters now say:  
**IDEALISTIC CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE,  
 NEGLECTED OLD PEOPLE, DREAMERS,  
 WELCOME.  
 THOSE WITH A HISTORY OF BAD LUCK,  
 POOR HEALTH, UNREALIZED VISIONS,  
 WELCOME.**  
 Done.  
 Except as a last thought I add: **ALL THOSE  
 WHO FIT NONE OF THE ABOVE CATEGORIES,  
 JOIN US,  
 PLEASE..... THE OWNERS**



## Help is urgently needed

"My employer is sending me out of town next week. I can't find anyone who can take Communion to the homebound in my place, even after calling everyone on the list. 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.



### VOCATION PRAYER

Loving God, help us follow the example of the Blessed Virgin Mary in willingly giving of ourselves in service to your Church. Stir up the grace of priestly and religious vocations in the hearts of many within our community, and send your Spirit to guide and strengthen them in answering your call. Amen.

## Litany of Nonviolence

Provident God, aware of our own brokenness, we ask the gift of courage to identify how and where we are in need of conversion in order to live in solidarity with all Earth's people.

*Deliver us from the violence of superiority and disdain.*

Grant us the desire, and the humility, to listen with special care to those whose experiences and attitudes differ from our own.

*Deliver us from the violence of greed and privilege.*

Grant us the desire, and the will, to live simply so others may have their just share of Earth's resources.

*Deliver us from the silence that consents to abuse, war, and evil.*

Grant us the desire, and the courage, to risk speaking and acting for the common good.

*Deliver us from the violence of irreverence, exploitation, and control.*

Grant us the desire, and the strength, to act responsibly within the cycle of creation.

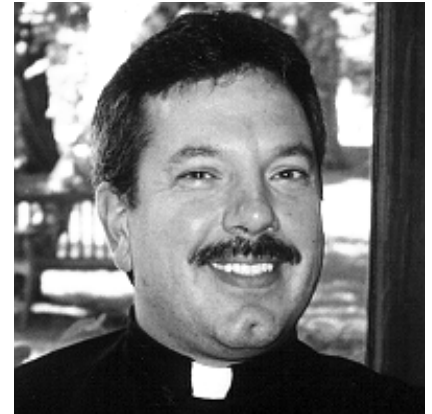
God of love, mercy and justice, acknowledging our complicity in those attitudes, actions, and words that perpetuate violence, we beg the grace of nonviolent hearts. Amen.

*Sisters of Providence of St. Mary of the Wood*



Fr. Joe Hogan will celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his ordination on May 28.

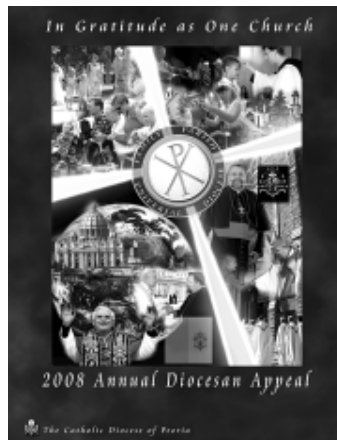
Congratulations!



## Help the larger Church help you

Pope Benedict's visit to the U.S. earlier this month reminded us all that the Church is much bigger than our local parish. We all have an interest in the workings of the larger Church, and one way that we in the Diocese of Peoria can express this is through the Annual Diocesan Appeal. This annual appeal is the major source of funding for the diocese's activities.

The largest part of the funds, 28%, helps students in our Catholic schools by training teachers and catechists and providing scholarships to children who could not otherwise afford a Catholic education. Another 26% supports pastoral care, such as workshops for engaged and married couples, pro-life activities, and services to



troubled individuals and families. Seventeen percent of the income supports vocations, including support for our seminarians and for the development of deacons. While every parish has a role to play in these areas, it is more effective and economical to do them at the diocesan level.

The ADA helps to make this happen.

It used to be that the diocese simply assessed each parish the amount needed for these purposes. In 1986, Bishop O'Rourke established the ADA to replace this assessment. The biggest difference is that by the ADA the diocese appeals directly to parishioners. This helps with the fundraising but, more importantly, it directly teaches all of us about the many

services that the appeal supports.

Each parish's ADA goal is a percentage of its ordinary income. "Ordinary" income includes regular giving such as the Sunday collection; it does not include bequests or donations to special funds such as St. Patrick's Education Foundation. The amount is reduced based on what a parish spends in support of a Catholic school or religious education program. Finally, the amount may be altered so that it will not vary by more than 15% from year to year. St. Patrick's goal for 2008 is \$127,858.

The ADA can also help individual parishes. Whatever our parishioners donate beyond \$127,858 will be returned to support St. Patrick's parish operations. Please prayerfully consider the ways that the Church helps your faith to grow and express itself in good works, and pledge what you can.

## Spiritual from page 1

responsibility for us from womb to tomb and ever thereafter. As beloved siblings of a Brother who gave his life that we might live, we can be so sure of God's love as to be secure and happy even in desperate situations. Like a loving Sister whose shoulder is always available to lean on, the Spirit rounds out the family unit, the bonds of which can never be broken except by our own choosing. And even if we do break the bonds, a place still remains set for us at the Lord's table.

On May 25, we celebrate that table's food as the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. This "spiritual spinach" does more than feed. It creates communion with Jesus, who gave himself as nourishment, and it unites us to all others who are fed by him. This food and our sharing make each of us responsible for feeding others. We who eat what has been taken, blessed, broken, and shared must allow ourselves to be taken by Jesus, blessed and broken with him, so as to be shared and given fully to others.

As we consider all the gifts set before us by God, by Jesus, by the Spirit, we can take these extraordinary gifts for granted—or, like Popeye, buoyed by hope, we can welcome these gifts of fire, family, and food (Spirit, Trinity, and Eucharist) and let their "spiritual spinach" renew our strength and stamina for what lies ahead.



**Q:** How are people selected to bring up the gifts at Mass?

**A:** The selection process is quite simple:

Ushers invite people entering the church for Mass to bring up our gifts of bread and wine. Two, three, or sometimes more people are needed, and the ushers extend their invitation until they have the number of persons

## St. Patrick's Seniors collect wisdom for graduates

On April 1, St. Patrick's Seniors met at the parish center for their Spring Fling potluck. Betty Blanco reported on how the group fits into St. Patrick's ministry structure. A month earlier, Betty had attended the Gathering of Ministries at St. Patrick's. She represented the Seniors group at the discussion of Parish Community Life ministries, which operate under the leadership of Carolyn McElrath, Cynthia Morgan, and Tony Schutz, representatives of the staff, the Parish Council, and the parish at large, respectively.

Peggy Loftus invited the Seniors to host the graduation celebration for 8th and 12th grades on May 31. If you can help, please contact Peggy (367-2665 at the parish

office, or ploftus@loftuscountr.com). All Seniors are also invited to send "been there, done that" advice to Peggy. The advice can be serious or funny, anecdotal or poetic. Peggy will compile the stories into a book to be given to each of the graduating seniors. Help connect the generations by passing on your wisdom to Peggy!

Seniors will meet next on Tuesday, June 10, to honor Leslie Risatti for her 24 years as parish secretary and to welcome her and her husband, Jim, as new members. If interested in serving on this committee, please contact Shirley Splittstoesser (367-3330, splitts@life.uiuc.edu).

## Pocket-sized help and healing

Have you seen Care Notes? A rack of these small leaflets is in the parish center, just outside the multipurpose room.

Care Notes support and guide you in understanding new feelings and circumstances. They offer concise words of hope and encouragement on a broad range of topics. Whether you are caring for an aging parent, experiencing the loss of a loved one, dealing with anger, feeling that your prayers

aren't being answered, or are facing an illness, you will find a Care Note to lift your spirit and bring about new understanding.

Many other topics are covered by the Care Notes, provided for free by St. Patrick's Ministry of

Consolation. They are published by Abbey Press at St.

Meinrad Archabbey, a Benedictine community a few hours south of here. Go ahead and browse through them, and choose those that speak to you.



they seek.

Any individual, group, or family may volunteer to take up the gifts by speaking to an usher before Mass.

As a gift bearer, your demeanor will be reverent, for you represent the people assembled as you carry their offerings to the altar of the Lord. The ushers will prompt you at the right moment to take up the bread, wine, and collection basket from the small gift table at the back of the church. Then you walk

together up the center aisle to the altar steps, where the priest or deacon accepts the gifts from your hands. You then bow together to the altar and return to your places in the church.

Will you be a gift bearer?

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

## Parish Council News

*The following notes include information from both the March and April meetings of the Parish Council.*

Architects are continuing to work on a design for the proposed expansion of the church and parish center. Father Joe Hogan said the parish's Second Century Advisory Committee had chosen one design from three presented by Stauder. The architectural firm is making changes to the design based on input from the committee. The design will then be brought to the Parish Council and staff and, after any additional changes, will be brought to the parish for input. Fr. Hogan emphasized that changes to the design will be possible at all stages during the process.

Fr. Hogan also announced that Kristi Turner, the business manager for the parish, will be resigning her position to pursue further education.

In other business:

- Parishioners Chris Stohr and Richard Keane asked the Parish Council to provide assistance for a St. Patrick's neighbor whose porch was deemed unsafe by the City of Urbana. They asked for \$2,000 for building materials and for the Council to encourage volunteers to help with the project. The issue was tabled for discussion at the May meeting.

- The Nominating Committee announced the nominees for the April 12-13 Parish Council election: Shelly Benson, Stephanie Daniels, Pam Donze DeLey, Donna Skaggs, Eileen Unander, and Doug Wolfersberger. Shelly, Pam, and Doug were elected, with 711 parishioners voting. Outgoing Council members Jim Mayer, Annessa Parisi, and Kathy Sarnecki were thanked for their three years of service.

- Members discussed the possibility of having a separate "Time and Talent" survey for the



children of the parish. The survey would be distributed in the Religious Education classes, and the children would be asked to fill them out with their parents.

- The Parish Council will look into the cost of increasing the size of the parish bulletin. Council members noted that often people who ask to place an announcement in the bulletin learn that there is no space available. A larger bulletin would also allow the parish to run more contact information, such as the contact names and numbers for the various committees and teams of the parish's ministries.

During ministry reports, Kathy Sarnecki announced that the prayer shawl ministry has completed its first project, which has been blessed and delivered. Also, the Ministry of Spiritual Enrichment has created a postcard-sized handout listing resources and contact information for such items as the parish nurses, Good Samaritan and Faith in Action programs, and senior services. These cards can be distributed on visits to the homebound, nursing homes, and hospitals.

For the Parish Community Life Ministry report, Cynthia Morgan announced that a farewell party for parish staff members who are leaving has been scheduled for Saturday, June 7. There will be a Newcomer Welcome at Coffee Shop on April 20 for anyone who has joined the parish since last fall.

And a big summer event is in the planning stage; possibilities discussed are inflatables for the children and an evening event for adults that could include a band.

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*The next Parish Council meeting will begin at 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 15, in the parish center following a 6:30 p.m. gathering in the church for prayer. All parishioners are welcome to attend these open meetings.*



### ***Welcome to new parishioners***

Emmany Nyembo, Madonna Bradley, Eric Bramowicz, Christine and Dale Mackiewicz, Elizabeth and Robert Stubbers, Mary Anderson, Christie and Jimmy Nugent, Anne and Geoffrey Rosean, and Jean and Terry Green.

***Farewell to these parishioners who have moved away:*** Lisa Carlson, Amanada Sparrow, Doreen Marie and Marvin Brigoli, Suzannah Hershey, Blaine J. and Misty Thomey, and Fan Fan Makenda.

***Welcome to the following, baptized into our faith community:*** Bianca, Tyler, Fiona, and Ashton Kimble; Thien dan Le Tran; Michael Oliver Green; and Adyson May Leming.

***Congratulations to these couples, married at St.***

***Patrick's:*** Hillary Rose Beckmann and Nicholas Michael McCann, and Jamie Spencer and Travis Ashmore.

***Please pray for deceased parishioners:*** Cathy Acevedo and Dorothy Corrine Sullivan.

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



## Spirited bidding at CREW auction

The Laumann family is going to enjoy a wonderful vacation in Williamsburg (Va.) at a top-of-the-line resort in July, and all because they were the successful bidders for this prized item in the CREW talent and service auction on March 30!

Bidders Reed and Stacey Panos took home the beautiful picture of St. Patrick's church sanctuary taken by Jimmy Long, and the Friedhof family was delighted to win computer help from Andy Loftus of Loftuscountruy Consulting.

The Shaw family "rode off" with the Diamondback boy's bicycle. That seemed fair because not only were the Shaws successful bidders for this item, but Chuck Shaw had donated three of his wood carvings for the auction. Alice McLaughlin was the happy bidder who took home his two penguins, and Peggy Loftus managed to wrest his frog from competitive bidders.

"There was a huge bidding war over the golf lessons," Peggy said, and the tennis lessons proved equally popular. The Cimaskasy family will have the cleanest yard in the parish thanks to the services

of Nathaniel Perry. Several families eagerly acquired the services of teens offering hours of yard work or gardening.

Tempting homemade lemon pies, breads, cakes, pizzas, a lasagna dinner, and other goodies attracted bidders hoping for that "something special" from someone else's kitchen.

When Tom Kacich finally laid down his gavel, the auction had raised about \$6900. "The parish was very generous," Peggy said, "and we definitely appreciate that. To put it in perspective, the \$6900 will cover the cost of our bus for the week!"

So thank you to all who participated in the auction, both satisfied bidders and generous contributors, to help send CREW and Fr. Joe Hogan on this summer's mission trip to Omaha!



## Archiving for the next century

If you were here during St. Patrick's centennial celebrations, you probably remember the fascinating exhibits prepared by the parish's Archives Committee. For almost 30 years the committee has been collecting, preserving, and sharing the records of our past and present. Some artifacts are on a grand scale, such as the blueprints of the parish buildings.



Others offer fascinating snapshots of life in bygone days, such as a ledger entry for 13 cents for the priest's laundry.

Members of the Archives Committee work in whatever areas interest them. Nancy Steerman has been writing the histories of parish groups. Her work includes the names of members, whenever she could get them. Grace Bowen has been assembling information about the families in the parish. When there are news items or obituaries in the local newspapers, she clips and files them. Wilf Lancaster has been working through piles of photographs, identifying the date, event, and people in each. Judy Conover has been preserving digitally the minutes of the Parish Council. Of course, the archives include a complete run of *In Focus*!

Like many parish groups, their records are squeezed for space. They are housed in the church basement, in a room that is hard to

reach and too small to work in. Perhaps someday there will be enough space to undertake new projects and to collect not only printed records but actual artifacts that tell the story of the parish. Wouldn't it be fun for someone a century hence to view Mass vestments from a bygone era, the church's original baptismal font, or a chalice that be-

longed to one of our priests? Another project will be to make a digital record of the archives to preserve the information in the event that some disaster destroys the originals.

The archives also preserve the minutes of parish committees and organizations. Last month's committee minutes may seem dull, but someday they will be as revealing as that 13-cent ledger entry. And when one of your grandchildren researches your family history, think how glad they will be to learn how you gave your time to your parish. So here's a request from the Archives Committee to all parish groups: As you wrap up your activities for the summer, please send copies of your minutes and other records to the archives. Simply leave them in the Archives Committee mailbox in the parish center.

If you'd like to know more about the work of this group, Nancy Steerman (328-1217) has lots of stories to share. Of her many years on the Archives Committee, she said, "I feel like I've left a gift of myself to the church. I'm proud of my parish!"

## 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 monthly? *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.



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



## in our parish library

In honor of Mother's Day, this month's library selections are on the theme of "Women of Influence."

**Women of Influence: Ten Traits of Those Who Want to Make a Difference**, by Pam Farrell (248.8 FAR). Farrell shares what she has learned about disciple making, discovering a personal ministry, and staying focused on goals. She discusses how to develop ten character traits, all starting with "I": impassioned, individual, intimate, idealistic, interdependent, initiative, integrity, intense, inquiring, and infectious. Stories from great women of the past, those living today, and women whose lives have intersected with Pam's, show how God can develop those traits in your own life.

**Hildegard of Bingen's Book of Divine Works with Letters and Songs**, edited by Matthew Fox (248.2 FOX 1987). Although she never traveled outside of Germany, Hildegard of Bingen was widely recognized by contemporaries across Europe as extraordinarily gifted. *The Book of Divine Works* is her record of visions from God. Included are a number of letters and sermons she wrote to various figureheads of the time, along with 15 songs, complete with lyrics and medieval notation.

**Mother Angelica: The Remarkable Story of a Nun, Her Nerve, and a Network of Miracles**, by Raymond Arroyo (921 MOT). Arroyo chronicles the life and faith of Mother Angelica, the nun who almost single-handedly created a religious media empire through her Catholic cable network, Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN).

**Such a Vision of the Streets: Mother Teresa—The Spirit and the Work**, by Eileen Egen (921 MOT). This biography won the Christopher Book Award in 1985.

**St. Catherine Labouré of the**

**Miraculous Medal**, by Father Joseph J. Dirvin (282.09 DIR 1984). This is the story of the famous visionary through whom we received the Miraculous Medal. Three times in 1830 the Virgin Mary appeared to St. Catherine Labouré. The author spent 10 years in research, studying many documents never before available. What he has produced is a definitive life of the Saint, a woman of incredible strength and character, of unbelievable constancy, kindness, humility, obedience, and self-effacement.

**The Life of St. Catherine of Siena**, by Blessed Raymond of Capua (translated) (921 CAT). Catherine Beninsca was a Dominican tertiary who was involved in an active apostolate, but was also a mystic who received the stigmata in 1371. She was a persuasive mediator who negotiated peace between Florence and the papacy and who was behind Pope Gregory XI's decision to return the papal court to Rome after its long stay in Avignon. See also **Saint Catherine of Siena**, by Johannes Jorgenson (921 JOR).

**St. Joan of Arc**, by John Beevers (921 JOA). Beevers details the life of the 19-year-old girl who in 15 months defeated England saved her country, crowned its king, and changed history, yet was burned as a heretic. Still, 500 years later she was canonized and named the patron saint of France.

**Collected Letters of St. Thérèse of Lisieux**, translated by F. J. Sheed (921 THE), and **St. Thérèse of Lisieux**, by Monica Furlong (921 THE). Thérèse Martin was a Carmelite nun in the French Catholic world of the late 19th century, a spokeswoman for the "Little Way" to God and a contributor to modern Catholic thought. Furlong details the very remarkable facts of the life of

Thérèse and her subsequent canonization.

**Teresa: A Woman. A Biography of Teresa of Ávila**, by Victoria Lincoln (922 LIN). This is a biography of the 16<sup>th</sup>-century Spanish saint, mystic, reformer of the Carmelite order, and a legend.

**Saint Teresa of Ávila: A Biography**, by William Thomas Walsh (921 TER). Walsh chronicles the life of St. Teresa, one of the greatest saints of the Church, one of the most appealing women of all time, and universally considered the greatest mystical writer of the Church.

**The Life of Teresa of Jesus: An Autobiography of St. Teresa of Ávila**, by E. Allison Peers (922 TER). St. Teresa's writings remain classics of Christian mysticism. Here is described her early life and education and the conflicts and crises she underwent, culminating in her determination to enter fully into the path of prayer. God also began to speak to her more directly. All this comforted her and guided her as she established the convent of St. Joseph's at Avila.

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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.*



## Blessed Julian of Norwich: Mystic, visionary, writer

Blessed Julian of Norwich was born in 1342. She lived a life of solitude as an anchoress in a cell attached to the church of St. Edmund and St. Julian in Norwich, East Anglia.

By definition, an anchoress pledged herself to a life of prayer in a small room either in a church or attached to it. She was to pray for the local Christian community, for the welfare of the living as well as for the souls of those who had died. Typically, the cell contained two small windows. One opened into the church itself, through which the anchoress could view the services and receive Communion. The other opened to the public, enabling the recluse to converse with visitors who requested her prayers or advice. Pilgrims came to Julian's cell from all over England, for her reputation for sanctity was widespread.

When Julian was thirty years old, she became gravely ill. On the seventh day her illness passed, and she had a series of sixteen visions or "showings" on the Passion of Christ and the Trinity, which she described twenty years later in her *Book of Showings*, also known as

*Revelations of Divine Love*, and on other mysteries of faith.

In one of her visions she describes God's hand holding something tiny, like a small, brown hazelnut, which seemed so fragile and insignificant that she wondered why it did not crumble before her eyes. She came to understand that this tiny nut was the entire created universe. She was told, "God made it, God loves it, God keeps it." Julian concluded that if all creation is the size of a hazelnut compared to God, then a person's soul was as large as an infinite world. Why? If we can gather God into our soul, we thereby gather into our soul all of creation and all of the Church, too. If God, who is immense, lives in the soul, then the entire Church could be within each person.

Julian shared with God her concern about those who had never heard the Gospel. She received a direct answer that whatever God does is done in Love, and, therefore, "all shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well."

She was taught from her visions that Love was our Lord's meaning.

She learned that before God made us, God loved us, and this Love "was never slaked nor ever shall be." Little wonder that her visions brought her peace and joy!

Blessed Julian's small cell still exists as part of St. Julian's Anglican Church in Norwich. Both Catholics and Anglicans honor her memory on May 8.



*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 Pat Fettig, Judy Fierke, Quentin Kirk, Peggy Loftus, Mary Lou Menches, Lori Mestre, Ellen Noonan, Nancy Olson, Leslie Risatti, Cathy Salika, Sue Schreiber, Pat Sheehan, and Margaret Stewart. Drawings by Fr. George Wuellner. This issue was edited by Camille Goudeseune and pagged by Jim Urban.

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

Pat Sheehan

#### Delicious Grape Salad

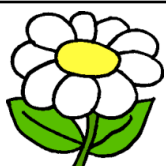
8 oz cream cheese, softened  
8 oz sour cream  
1/3 c sugar  
1 t vanilla  
3 c seedless grapes  
1 large apple, cored and diced  
3/4 c crushed walnuts or pecans  
3/4 c brown sugar

Mix well the cream cheese, sour cream, sugar, and



vanilla. Add grapes and apple. Fold into a 9 x 9 inch pan. Mix crushed nuts and brown sugar, and sprinkle on. Best when refrigerated overnight.

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

## May 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. The deadline for the next issue of In Focus is May 11.</p> <p>CCNH - Champaign County Nursing Home SALT - Student Action Leadership Team</p>				6:45am Men's Bible Study 6pm Building & Grounds 6:30pm Mystagogia 7pm Adult Choir 7pm Social Action	9am Catechesis of the Good Shepherd 10:45am Mass CCNH 4pm JustFaith Retreat Begins	6:15pm Ten Great Dates	1	2	3				
10:30am Children's Mass 11:30am Rel Ed Picnic 1:30pm Henri Nouwen Book Discussion 6:30pm CREW End of Year Dinner	7pm Centering Prayer 7pm Pro-Life	6pm Parish Council Executive Com. 6:30pm Mystagogia	12pm Men's Book Club 5:15pm Children's Choir 7pm Adult Choir 7pm Baptism Prep	6:45am Men's Bible Study 6:30pm Mystagogia 7pm Adult Choir	9am Catechesis of the Good Shepherd 10:30am Mass Care Center 10:45am Mass CCNH	9am Prayer Shawl Ministry	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>Mother's Day</b> 1:30pm Guest Speaker on Henri Nouwen 6:30pm CREW Guest Speaker	7pm Centering Prayer	5:30pm Financial Affairs 6pm Faith Sharing 6:30pm Mystagogia 7pm Confirmation	9:30am Schola 5:15pm Children's Choir 7pm Adult Choir	6:45am Men's Bible Study 6:30pm Mystagogia 6:30pm Parish Council 7pm Adult Choir	8am Catechesis of the Good Shepherd 10:30am Mass Clark-Lindsey 10:45am Mass CCNH	8am Catechesis of the Good Shepherd 2pm Guild's Spring Tea Party	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
10:45am Knights of Columbus	7pm Centering Prayer	6:30pm Mystagogia 7pm Worship Ministry Team	5:15pm Children's Choir 6:30pm SALT 7pm Adult Choir	6:45am Men's Bible Study 6:30pm Mystagogia 7pm Adult Choir 7pm Communications	10am Prayer Shawl 10:45am CCNH		18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	<b>Memorial Day</b> 9am Memorial Day Mass and Breakfast 7pm Centering Prayer	6pm Faith Sharing 6:30pm Mystagogia		6:45am Men's Bible Study 6:30pm Mystagogia	10:45am Mass CCNH	5pm Graduation Mass and Dinner	25	26	27	28	29	30	31