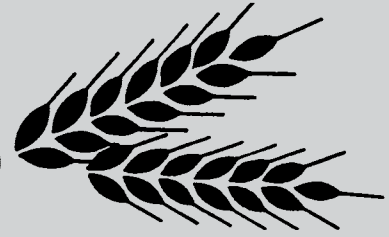


ST. PATRICK'S PARISH

In Focus



www.stpaturbana.org

Father Gene Kane: A Real Original

The Reverend J. Eugene Kane, better known to us as "Father Gene," blessed St. Patrick's with his sense of humor, his slowly paced "Our Father" and his way of questioning the congregation during his sermons: "Did you get it?" or "Loud-er, I couldn't hear you!" with his hand to his ear.

"The kingdom is here! The kingdom is now!" was Father Gene's call to live a life of joyful hope in the Lord. He passed on to the kingdom on July 28.

Sophia Zeigler told how he would sometimes bring his canine companion or companions in from his car after Mass to introduce them to the "Seven Alive" group. Mary Long recalled how he hated coyotes: at the family farm in Thomasboro, he constantly battled to keep them from burrowing under the house. We all were touched by his openness about being a recovering alcoholic who had benefited from the Twelve Step program.

During the years that weekday Mass was celebrated in the multipurpose room, parishioners always knew, when they saw the hymnals placed on the chairs, that Fr. Gene was going to preside. Father would lead them in singing the first verse of a hymn at the entrance and the second verse after Mass. However, if the hymn during Communion

was not sung with enough gusto, Fr. Gene was known to bolster it while distributing Holy Communion.

Fr. Gene was a gracious host: several times he invited the "Seven Alive" group out to a potluck breakfast on a Saturday morning after 8 a.m. Mass. Norma Gremer relates that he would put numbers under each plate for a "door prize." The group was also treated to a tour of the family farm.

"He was a good friend of Catholic Worker House," Ellen McDowell shared with us. "He occasionally helped at Soup Kitchen and hosted retreats at the farmhouse. When he was able, he said the monthly Saturday Mass for us. His heart was in the Catholic Worker movement. I am grateful for his presence in this world." Workers who volunteered with him remember that he always wore a casual shirt because he wanted to be approachable to the guests of the House.

Fr. Gene was born to Mabel Fiedler Kane and James F. Kane in Rantoul on June 4, 1927. He and his siblings, Grace Ann, Mary Helen, Donald, and Virginia, were raised in Champaign County. Virginia Kane Skelton has provided four photos for this article; two were taken on Kane family outings and two on the occasion of his first



Mass.

Fr. Gene and his close friend, Fr. George Wuellner, were both ordained in St. Mary's Cathedral, Peoria, on June 6, 1954. They enjoyed each other's company at Canterbury Ridge and were regulars at daily Mass. After Fr. Gene no longer drove, volunteers from St. Patrick's took them to Mass. As you may know, Fr. Wuellner passed on to Christ's Kingdom on August 8, just 11 days after his friend.

"I first knew Fr. Kane when I said my first Mass after ordination at my home parish, St. Patrick's in Peoria," relates Fr. George Remm. Fr. Kane was the interim pastor there, as the pastor had died one month earlier; he was very kind and helpful to the newly ordained priest. Over the years they had occasion to serve alongside each other, whether with the Office of Christian Worship directed by Fr. Remm or during the time Fr. Kane was pastor of St. Mary's Cathedral in Peoria.

When Fr. Remm became pastor of St. Patrick's in 1986, Msgr. Paul Kinder was assisting here. Msgr. Kinder passed away in 1992. In 1994, due to health reasons, Fr. Gene retired as pastor at St. Mary's in El Paso and moved to the family farm in Thomasboro. Fr. Remm talked to him about assisting at St. Patrick's. The response: "Let's give it a try." He soon came to love the people in our parish,

Continued on page 2

Father Gene Kane

from page 1

and the feeling was obviously mutual.

Fr. Remm pointed out that Fr. Kane's greatest and most lasting legacy to St. Patrick's Church is the gift of the Stations of the Cross. And there is a story behind those Stations.

When Fr. Gene was pastor at St. Patrick's in Elkhart, through his contacts with the art scene in Chicago he commissioned an artist to hand-paint the Stations. Each one is an original, one-of-a-kind oil painting. Father left Elkhart in 1974; on a visit to Elkhart many years later, he discovered that the Stations had been taken down and were stored in the attic of the church. He received permission to take them and kept them in his farmhouse. One day, Barbara Peckham visited him there and

noticed the Stations. She told him that they were both beautiful and very valuable; soon afterward he offered them to Fr. Remm for St. Patrick's church. The Stations were first installed on a trial basis, but over time they have created their own place here.

The Stations have joined Nick Britsky's "The Rising Christ" over the altar, the Holy Spirit tableau over the tabernacle, the baptistry's depiction of St. John baptizing Jesus, the Marian shrine in the rear of the church, and the repair and repainting of the statue of St. Patrick in the church vestibule as essential works of art at St. Patrick's church. Nick Britsky's art and the Stations of the Cross make our church a very special house of worship—an altogether wonderful and much appreciated legacy from two very special people.

—Carole Rebeiz



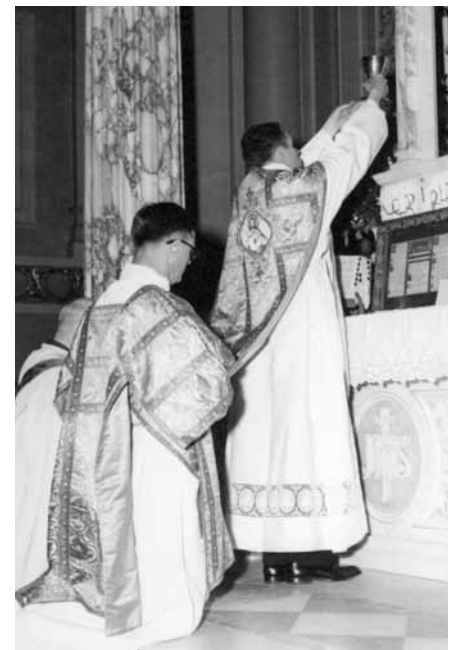
Fr. Gene Kane (1999) was a regular at St. Patrick's parish picnics.



Young Gene Kane (second from the left) with his siblings



A tall and handsome adolescent, Gene Kane (left) enjoyed family outings.



Father Gene Kane celebrates his first Mass.



Surrounded by church dignitaries, newly ordained Father George Wuellner (third from the left) stands with Father Gene Kane (fourth from the left), two priests who were to enjoy a life-long friendship.



Several members of the "Seven Alive" group shown here with Fr. Gene Kane (third from the right) at his home in Thomasboro preceded him into eternal life.

We are called to serve

Hear ye! Hear ye! Come one, come all, for you have been called. Christ has called all of us at St. Patrick's, each and every one of us, new parishioners and all, to share in the building of his Kingdom.

We have been called to serve. As the song we sing at Mass goes:

"We are called to act with justice."

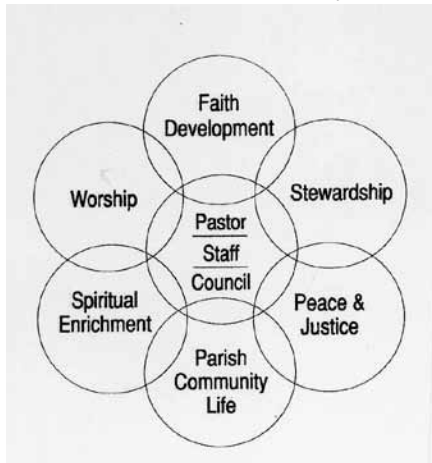
Are you being called to participate in the Peace and Justice ministries?

"We are called to love tenderly."

Are you called to share in one of the Spiritual Enrichment minis-

tries?

"We are called to serve one another." Do you hear Christ calling you to serve in one of the Parish Community Life ministries, the Faith Development ministries, or the Stewardship ministries?



"We are called to walk humbly with God." Are you called to participate in the Worship ministries,

enhancing our celebration of Mass?

On the weekend of Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 5-6, under a tent outside our church, representatives from each of the ministries

will stand ready to answer any and all of your questions. Members of the Parish Council will be at each Mass to distribute the 2009 edition of the booklet *Ministry at St. Patrick's: People, Programs, and Possibilities*, which presents brief descriptions of our parish ministries and contact information for parishioners who can answer your questions.

The following weekend, Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 12-13, the Council will distribute and collect signup sheets for the several parish ministries. This is your time to shine, to respond to your call to share your giftedness in some special way.

Take time to think about your calling and to pray for God's guidance. Remember, we are *all* called!

"Where's the restroom?" A quick guide to St. Patrick's help facilities

For families visiting or new to St. Patrick's, "Where is the restroom?" may be the first and most pressing question. But there is more to know about the church's help facilities.

Emergency telephone: Located in the room to the right as you enter the church from Main Street. (Press 9 before entering the telephone number.)

Defibrillator: For use when someone seems to be having a heart attack, an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) is located in the rear of the church next to the Marian shrine. Several staff members and ushers have been trained in its use.

Restrooms: There are two. One is to the right as you enter the church from Main Street, inside the room with the telephone. The other is in the room behind the baptismal font; take the side exit near the baptistry and turn left, without going downstairs or outside. The restroom is on the left at the top of the ramp. This restroom provides better access for those with mobility impairments. You can get a drink of water in

either restroom; plastic cups are in the medicine cabinets.

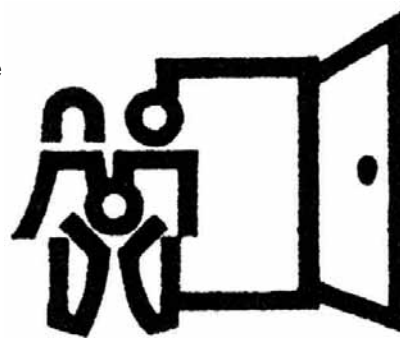
Holy water: You can fill your own container from the crock of holy water in the room behind the baptismal font (see above).

Seating for the handicapped or infirm: The front pew on each side of the church is reserved for the infirm or handicapped. If you remain in the pew, Eucharistic ministers will bring Communion to you there. There is also room for a wheelchair at the ends of the two front pews and the two last pews in the church.

Crying area: Take small children who are fretful or need to stretch their legs to the vestibule, where they won't disturb others. Copies of the hymnals used at Mass, which also contain the day's Scripture readings, are shelved in the lectern there, and the sound

system feeds into the area to help parents participate in the Mass.

Reconciliation room: The reconciliation room is to the left as you enter the church from Main Street. You may kneel at the screen just inside the door or walk around it to sit face to face with the priest for the sacrament. Two lights outside the room help you to



know when you may enter. When a priest is present, the upper light is green; the lower light is red when another person is with the priest, but will turn green to let you know when you may enter. The sacrament of reconciliation is offered every Saturday before Mass from 4:00 to 4:45 p.m. and after Mass until 6:30 p.m. or until all have been served. If you need to make an appointment during a different time period, you may also call the parish office (367-2665) to do so.

Update from the Second Century Advisory Committee

On June 2, Fr. Joe Hogan and Ellen Amberg, chair of the Second Century Advisory Committee (SCAC), updated the Diocese of Peoria Art and Architecture Committee on St. Patrick's developing plans for church renovation and expansion, including a summary of the feasibility study and the modified Phase One plan.

Feedback from the Art and Architecture Committee was positive on the work that St. Patrick's has done thus far. The committee recommended that the SCAC take a more in-depth look at estimated project cost. The Art and Architecture Committee also provided general advice on parish building projects, campaign planning, and diocesan guidelines and requirements. On July 14, the SCAC met to discuss feedback from the diocese and consider next steps to recommend to the parish.

At the Parish Council meeting Aug. 20, the Second Century Advisory Committee submitted two recommendations. The first was to establish the St. Patrick Parish Building Fund. This would be a permanent fund that would allow individuals and parish groups to make contributions, bequests, and memorial gifts prior to launching a formal capital campaign. A fund of this nature was suggested by many parishioners during last fall's feasibility study and was supported by those who attended the parish meetings conducted in May.

The second recommendation was to move forward with the modified Phase One plan. (The plan calls for church renovation and expansion, addition of a gathering space that connects to the parish center, and lower-level meeting rooms.) This next stage entails work in several areas. The Second Century Advisory Committee has established several working groups to

- develop a communication plan to assure that parishioners are informed and engaged in the

church expansion/renovation project and its developments—via In Focus, the parish's Web site, and other means

- follow up on recommendations of the diocesan Art & Architecture Committee related to construction development
- research parish building-fund drives and fundraising firms, in anticipation that St. Patrick does launch a formal capital campaign at a later date
- organize a SCAC road trip to visit parishes that have recently completed church building projects

The road trip took place Aug. 10. Two of the parishes (Sacred Heart in Valley Park,

Mo., and St. Boniface in Edwardsville) had expanded hundred-year-old churches, with design work by Stauder Architecture, the same firm that developed St. Patrick's master plan. In addition, SCAC members visited two new church constructions (Holy Trinity in Fairview Heights, also designed by Stauder, and St. Clare in O'Fallon).

Committee members gained perspective on the challenges and rewards of renovating and expanding an existing structure as well as designing new space. In general, the visits to these churches affirmed the importance of a parish master plan and the need to move forward with the modified Phase One plan at St. Patrick's.

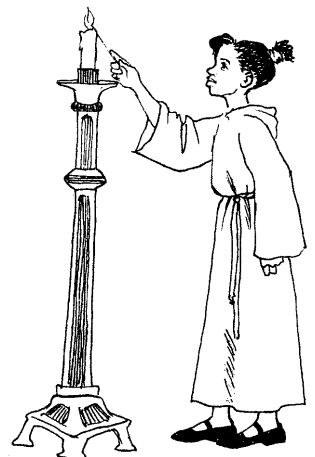
A call for altar servers

Calling all youth of the parish, 5th grade and older! Becoming an altar server is a great way for young people to contribute to St. Patrick's.

Altar servers can be scheduled once or twice each month. Come for training in the church on any one of the following dates:

- Tuesday, Sept. 1, 5:15-6:15 p.m., followed by pizza in the parish center, or:
- Monday, Sept. 21, 5:15-6:15 p.m., followed by pizza in the parish center, or:
- Sunday, Sept. 27, 2:00-3:00 p.m., followed by dessert in the parish center

Contact Alan Schuele for more information (469-7941 or schuele@uillinois.edu).



We must be prepared to make heroic sacrifices for the cause of peace—the same as those that we make ungrudgingly for the cause of war.

—Albert Einstein, 1973

Introducing M³ (Moms Meeting Moms)

A brand new group at St. Patrick's will provide an opportunity for support, encouragement, friendship, and faith sharing for the moms of the parish.

Moms Meeting Moms, or M³, will meet on first and third Wednesdays of the month, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. The first gathering of moms will be on Wednesday, Sept. 16, at 9:00 a.m..

Childcare, provided by loving volunteers, will give moms a well-deserved, worry-free break during their meetings.

An initial fee of \$20 is requested



to cover the cost of the book *Tender Mercy for a Mother's Soul*, by Angela Thomas, which will be read and discussed during the first few months.

Later, the moms will decide on the future format of the group—whether to engage in another book study, establish a more structured format, invite speakers on various topics—the possibilities are many!

Sound interesting? You bet! Questions? Contact Molly Pankau (365-9176, mollyh76@yahoo.com).

Calling all Junior High Students!

Come join the fun with Vivo, the Junior High Youth Group at St. Patrick's. We gather 3-4 times a month, usually on Sunday evenings, to learn about our faith, help others, get to know one another, and have a good time! This year our focus will be on living the teachings of Christ. We will learn about Jesus from a variety of guest speakers, games, discussions, service projects—and from one another.

This fall we will visit the corn maze in Rantoul, have a mini lock-in at the parish center followed by a Mass with Fr. Joe, help the St. Vincent de Paul Society with Thanksgiving baskets, and have a fabulous Christmas Party.

In the spring we plan to host a book drive, enjoy a game show night with parents, see a movie, celebrate the end of the year with CREW—and much more.

Registration will be held after all Masses the weekend of Aug. 22-23. Our first gathering will be on Sept. 13, 6:30-8pm in the parish center. Come be a part of Vivo!

* * *

Where does the name Vivo come from? "Vivo" was inspired by these words of St. Iraneaus: "The glory

of God is man fully alive." We hope to inspire in ourselves and in others a deep love of LIFE by being vibrantly alive and therefore glorifying our Lord.

Questions? Contact Amy Schuele (469-7941).



Elizabeth Keane (left) exchanges impressions of Game Show night with Vivo student Jo Ellen Machesky.



Angela and Jeff Kneer and son Nick were happy winners at last year's Game Show night, hosted by Fr. Joe.

ARE YOU CATHOLIC, BUT INACTIVE? ALIENATED?

If you've parted company with the Catholic Church over new changes, old rules, a marriage situation, hurt feelings, or any other reason, or if you know someone who is and who wants to reconnect with a Catholic community,

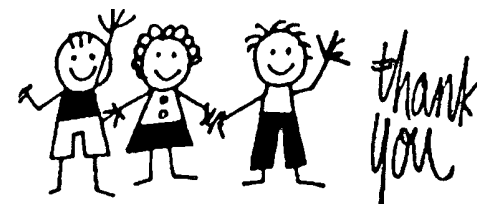
invite them to come and talk with us on Wednesday, September 23, at 7:00 p.m. in St. Patrick's parish center. Offer to come with them if that seems helpful.

The Re-Membering Church Team of St. Patrick's Parish, Urbana

Volunteer Opportunities

Good Samaritans, a group of parishioners helping other parishioners with small acts of kindness, is looking for volunteers to help with grocery shopping for a parish couple. Carla Simmering, 328-4841.

Holiday potluck breakfasts following 8:00 Mass give parishioners a relaxed and pleasant way to begin Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, and Thanksgiving Day. A couple of volunteers are needed to prepare the coffee and to set out dishes and tableware on a serving table—others bring the food items to share. Can you come and bring a friend along to help? Mary Lou Menches, 344-1125



Parish groups or individuals can submit entries for this column to the Communications Committee or by contacting Mary Lou Menches (344-1125 or mmenches@illinois.edu). Provide your name and telephone number or e-mail address with a brief description of the kind of help being sought.

Parish Council News

During its Aug. 20 meeting, St. Patrick's Parish Council endorsed two recommendations made by the Second Century Advisory Committee.

The committee, represented at the meeting by Jerry Pijanowski, recommended establishing St. Patrick's Parish Building Fund as a permanent fund and continuing to fine tune Phase One of the expansion plan. As announced two months ago, the Second Century Advisory Committee has decided to postpone a capital campaign at this time, due to the economy.

The recommendations came less than two weeks after the committee visited four parishes—St. Boniface in Edwardsville, Holy Trinity in Fairview Heights, St. Clare's in O'Fallon, and a fourth church in Missouri—that have had new additions or a new church designed by Stauder Architecture, the firm that is working on plans for expansion of St. Patrick's church.

In other business:

- Tyra Quinones will begin serving as the new secretary of St. Patrick's on Aug. 29. Current secretary Katie Hinrichs' last day will be Sept. 2.
- A gathering of representatives from all groups within the six ministries is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 12, following 8 a.m. Mass and ending around noon. Those assembled will discuss plans for the coming year.
- Parish Council member Shelly Benson gave an update on changes under discussion for the parish's three major communication tools: Web site, bulletin, and newsletter. Changes include an all-new design for the parish Web site and expansion



of the parish bulletin to eight pages. A "teaser" of the In Focus newsletter would appear monthly in the bulletin, with full articles presented on the Web site and printed copies of the complete newsletter available for those without computer access or who prefer reading a paper copy to reading online.

- A tent will be set up outside the church Sept. 5-6 to shelter informational materials on the six ministry areas. On the following weekend, Sept. 12-13, St. Patrick's parishioners will have the opportunity to volunteer for ministries they would like to participate in.

* * *

The next meeting will begin at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 17, 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.

O Great Healer,
Compassionate God,
heal us
so that
we may help those
you send
into our loving care.

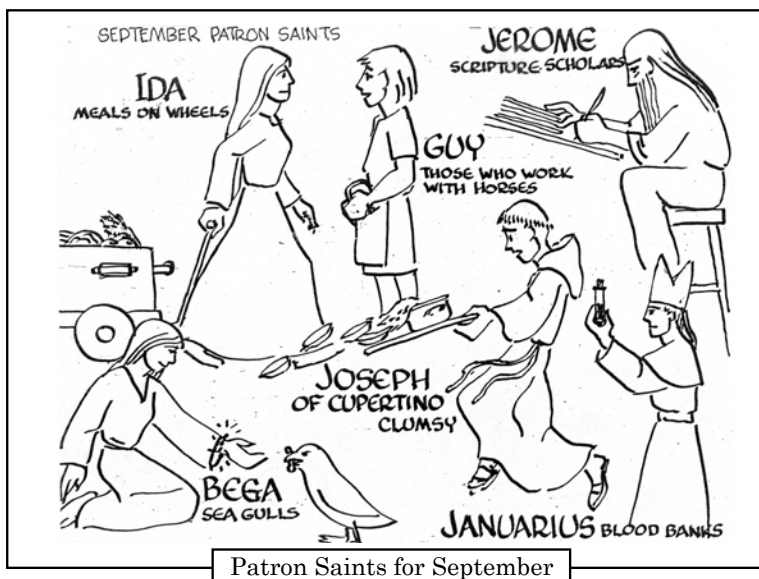


Empty our minds
of all distractions
that we may listen
to the pain of others.
Fill our hearts
with your love
and show us how
to radiate that energy.
Help us to be open
as we listen
to the words of loss.

Give us the confidence
to encourage those who fear.
And all the while,
be with us
as we stay the course
of discipleship.

We who serve you in faith,
We who adore you in gratitude,
We who follow your call.
Amen.

—National Catholic Ministry to the Bereaved



Patron Saints for September

Fr. George Wuellner

Vacation Bible School a big hit

The last week of June saw the parish center and grounds transformed as 84 youngsters made new friends playing games, making crafts of all kinds, acting out Bible stories, and in many other ways celebrating God's love during Vacation Bible School, whose theme this

year was "Son Rock Kids Camp."

The cadre of adult and younger volunteers aged 12-18 seemed to be having an uproariously good time as well while teaching, guiding, and monitoring, with watchful care for the youngest and shyest of the children.

"Even though it was insanely hot, we had a great time!" asserted Suzanne D'Andria, coordinator of the event, in her naturally enthusiastic manner. She expressly asked that the volunteer helpers be acknowledged for all their hard work. Here they are:

Mary Cimikaski
Jenny Crull
Jordyn Koerner
Jessyka Diaz-Stack
Shelly Simmering
Cora Freidhof
Annie Rasmussen
Molly Smith
Mariya Sturdyvin
Stephanie Burton
Jamie Simmering
Alex Corry
Allie Wagner
Sarah Johnson

Claire Drone-Silvers
Mary Campbell
Amy Crull
Carina Quiroz
Paloma Gonzalez
Thomas Atchley
Dan Schuele
Zach Smith
Nick Kneer
Kyle Rasmussen
Paul Burton
Jared Koerner
Mike Fitzgerald
Nick Sutton

Alicia Drook
Julia Welle
Teresa Welle

Adult Volunteers

Lia Hege
Stephanie Smith
Alex Millar
Beth Welbes
Jodi Sauders
Trevia Hopper
Barb Thomas
Shelly Benson





in our parish library

Throughout the Scriptures, Jesus implores us to feed the hungry, to share what we have with the poor, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. Today, we can heed this call by embracing the tenets of Catholic social teaching. Whether the issue is war and peace, immigration, poverty, the environment, or the right to life, Catholic social teaching gives us a powerful framework for working toward social justice for all God's people.

St. Patrick's parish library has a wealth of books dedicated to subjects of social justice. Here is just a sampling:

- ***An Introduction to Catholic Social Teaching***, by Rodger Charles, S.J. Call number: 261.8 CHA. This general introduction to Catholic social teaching compiles passages from various papal encyclicals dealing with issues of social justice.
- ***A Christian Peacemaker's Journal***, by Elizabeth Weaver Kreider. Call number: 261.6 KRE. Quotations, poetry, and artwork about peace serve as prompts for journaling.
- ***Nickel and Dime***, by Barbara Ehrenreich. Call number: 305 HER. Follow one woman as she leaves the comforts of a good-paying job to live the life of a person earning only minimum wage.
- ***Loaves and Fishes***, by Dorothy Day. Call number: 921 DAY. The autobiography of the co-

founder of the Catholic Worker movement.

- ***You Did It for Me: Care of Your Neighbor as a Spiritual Practice***, by Kevin E. McKenna. Call number: 261.8 MCK. Fr. McKenna explains how spirituality and social concern can go hand in hand, with Jesus as our model, by combining prayer with action.

In addition, watch for new titles soon to be added to the library shelves from St. Patrick's JustFaith program, such as:

- ***Amazing Grace***, Jonathan Kozol's devastating look at the effects of poverty on the residents of the South Bronx.
- ***How Much Is Enough?*** by Bread for the World founder, Arthur Simon. He urges us to take a good look at our consumer culture and the need to "live simply so that others may simply live."
- ***Cloud of Witnesses***, compiled by Jim Wallis and Joyce Hollyday, is a collection of articles based on interviews and biographical profiles of people who have truly lived the Gospel message of justice, including Oscar Romero, St. Francis of Assisi, Fannie Lou Hamer, Dom Helder Camara, and numerous others.

* * *

If you would like to donate books on the parish library's wish list, please contact Lori Mestre (365-9004), 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.



Q: How big is our parish?

A: Most St. Patrick's registered parishioners live in Urbana, Champaign, St. Joseph-Ogden, and Savoy, but a substantial number also hail from Rantoul, Homer, Sidney, Monticello, Mahomet, Bondville, Broadlands, Seymour, Philo, Fithian, Fisher, Fairmount, Longview, Loda, Mansfield, White Heath, Potomac, Paxton, Buckley, Pesotum, Dewey, Ludlow, Villa Grove, Thomasboro, Darien, and Tolono. (Did we miss your community? Let us know!)

Because of the parish's proximity to the University of Illinois, some years see a significant turnover in St. Patrick's registered members, as new people move into the area during the summer to settle in for the coming academic year while others who have completed their work at the University move away to follow job opportunities elsewhere or to return to their home

community.

Between May 22, 2008, and April 20, 2009, 43 families and individuals were removed from parish membership rolls while 57 others were added—a net gain of 14. Parish records indicate that the number of households in St. Patrick's Parish, as of April 20 this year, totals 1161. While it remains to be seen what net effect the last few months have had on the make-up of the parish, we can be fairly certain that several parishioners have moved away and several others have joined our faith community since then.

The best of wishes follow our friends and neighbors who have moved on, and a warm welcome greets those of you who enrich our Sunday worship and community life through your participation in parish life!

* * *

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

Summerfest 2009:

THANKS BE TO GOD

Timing was perfect for a beautiful summer evening to celebrate our St. Patrick's on Friday evening, June 26. The lovely weather brought out many parishioners to enjoy all the activities.

Hamburgers, brats, hot dogs, corn on the cob, chips, pop, and lemonade were consumed in mass quantities, thanks to the efforts of the Knights of Columbus and a generous donation of sweet corn and drinks from The Morning Cup & More.

Almost record temperatures (approaching 100 degrees in the afternoon, with no rain in sight) were braved by many this year.

Notes of many a joyous tune floated over the parish grounds, thanks to a combined Children's/CREW choir, the high energy performance of The Ladybugs, and the ever-talented Pocket Big Band.

Kids enjoyed the bounce houses for hours. Once again, CREW teens accepted the job of monitoring the younger ones and, although the parish nurses were on hand, the children were kept both safe and happy.

Stars filled the sky later that evening, and children young and old were able to sample popcorn while watching the movie Night at the Museum in an outdoor setting.

BINGO was held in one of the newly remodeled classrooms. Shirley Splittstoesser and her team of volunteers delighted the participants with fun prizes.

Everyone loves a cakewalk, and the parish bakers outdid themselves with many a fine dessert to share.

The ever-popular dunk tank soaked two new willing victims this year. Fr. Luong and seminarian Alex Millar climbed onto the hot seat and were soon rewarded with a cool dip in the drink.

Our Women of St Patrick served up an ice cream sundae feast for dessert.

Games for all ages throughout the evening included the balloon toss, frisbee toss, fishin' hole, and beanbag toss. These feats of skill awarded any and all contestants with prizes.

Our parish family knows how to have fun. New friends were easily made, old haunts revisited, and a good time was had by all.

Delightful is the word that comes to mind when our parish family can gather for fun and fellowship on a beautiful and relaxing summer evening. Thanks to all who made this a special celebration and, most especially,

THANKS BE TO GOD!



A note from Amy Jobin

Dear St. Patrick's Parish Community~
I am writing to thank you for the past year I have spent with you. Thank you for very warmly welcoming me into the community and for allowing me to become a part of the rhythm of your lives and the life of the parish.

I have found myself in awe this year of how this community cares for each other, how each one of you brings your gifts to the table to make this parish a "whole," and how you generously and compassionately serve each other and our community at large; truly this is a community that lives out of the spirit that Jesus lived His life out of. I am honored to have witnessed and participated in this over the past year and to have learned from each and all of you.

What I have realized is that you have helped to teach me what it means to be present to and take care of each other as Jesus calls us to do so, and I could not have asked for a more important learning than this.

You have given me a strong foundation to build from as I begin work and training in hospital chaplaincy in California this September, and I take leave with a heart filled with gratitude and my life touched and changed by you~ so much so, that I feel myself a different person than when this year began.

Know you will be with me as I travel my journey and that I will be holding you in heart and prayer as you continue on yours. Please feel free to stay in touch with me by email at ajobin4@yahoo.com.

With love, joy, and great, great thanks,
Amy Jobin



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. Submissions 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. Bylines are generally omitted.

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Articles and information for this issue were provided by Ellen Amberg, Carol Bosley, Suzanne D'Andria, Pam Donze De Ley, Sharon Dorsey, Pat Fettig, Chris Freidhof, Amy Jobin, Kelsey Kaiser, David Kraft, Peggy Loftus, Mary Long, Kathy McKenzie, Mary Lou Menches, Ellen Noonan, Nancy Olson, Molly Pan-kau, Carole Rebeiz, Cathy Salika, Sue Schreiber, Alan Schuele, Amy Schuele, Laura Theby, Linda Weber, Joseph Youakim, and Sophia Zeigler. September saints by Fr. George Wuellner. This issue was edited by Rick Partin and paged by John Colombo.

Did you know?

- The Worship Ministries Team has purchased eight **large-print Worship hymnals** for those who'd find them useful. The hymnals provide only the text of the hymns, not the musical notation. Scripture readings, regrettably, are not included. The hymnals are in the church vestibule, to the right as you enter, on the lowest shelf. If you don't see them, ask an usher to help you.
- **Access to the choir loft** wasn't always by means of the rather steep stairway on the west side of the vestibule. The original access was provided by a circular stairway that was located in what is now the restroom in the vesting sacristy and opened into what is now a closet in the choir loft.
- St. Patrick's has an **automatic donation program** that enables you to make contributions to the church by means of an electronic transfer of funds. For more information, pick up an explanatory sheet in the rear of the vestibule or call Dianne Gordon, parish bookkeeper (531-7002),



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

They came to “taste and see”

Vietnamese parishioner Ut Ha somehow was able to make the preparation of Vietnamese egg rolls seem easy for the 26 parishioners who came to the summer demonstration sponsored by The Women of St. Patrick.

Ut Ha gave participants a hands-on demonstration, having them chop the vegetables and actually fill and roll the egg rolls. Altogether they made about six dozen egg rolls, which Ut Ha deep-fried. Afterward they sampled the results of their labor and took some home to enjoy later.

Participants also learned the differences between Chinese and Vietnamese egg rolls.

All in all, it was time well spent and enjoyed!

The Cellar-to-Garret Sale was next on the list of activities sponsored by The Women of St. Patrick, but they've also planned the following:

- A luncheon will be held on Sept. 23; the event will begin with the rosary at 11:30 a.m.
- On Sept. 30 at 7 p.m., parishioner Lucy Synk will give a talk on lessening the clutter in one's home.
- Another “Taste and See” presentation will be given on Oct. 12 by parishioner Betty Conerty on how to make her famous cinnamon rolls.

This is a busy calendar of interesting events—all sponsored by The Women of St. Patrick. You'll want to make your plans now to participate!



SALT for CREW

SALT stands for Student Action Leadership Team. And that explains its relationship with CREW. Salt is a flavor enhancer; the SALT team is made up of teenagers full of life that lends flavor to the CREW youth group.

The SALT team is a group of teens who have committed themselves to the leadership of the

CREW Youth Group. They have duties and responsibilities within the youth group on Sunday nights; they attend retreats (and parties too!); and they take part in monthly leadership training. The SALT team makes many of the decisions about the direction and implementation of the CREW Youth Group.

Hear it straight from one of the

SALT-teens, Kelsey Kaiser. Kelsey is a junior at Central High School and is entering her second year of SALT leadership. She puts it this way:

“What is a SALT-teen? A SALT-teen is a high school student who is part of the SALT team. The SALT team is the leadership group of the CREW high school youth group. The SALT team members make leadership decisions to improve the youth group.

“Every summer the SALT members meet to plan the activities and goals of the youth group. In addition, each SALT member has a job that he or she has to do to make everything go smoothly during the CREW meetings. For instance, there is a welcoming team that gets the tables and name tags ready. They also welcome all of the teens.

“At our SALT meetings we learn different skills to help become better leaders. It is a fun group to be part of and it is a way to have our ideas and input heard.”



On the SALT retreat in June, team members (from the left) Andy Wszalek, Jordyn Koerner, Luke Cottingham, and Mark Sandwick came together on a project to decide which leadership qualities they would use to choose student leaders.



SALT-teens (from the left) Kyle Ritten, Mary Cimakasky, and Kelsey Kaiser take a careful look at how different characters in the Bible showed their leadership skills.



The SALT team created reminders to take home to remind them to be SALT and LIGHT for the world this year.

International Fair: A night to remember!

As they walked into St. Patrick's social hall on July 25, parishioners became world travelers. They saw friends and neighbors in the traditional garb of their native countries—sampled their food, and learned something about their lives through conversation and the displayed flags, maps, brochures, and photos.

Palestine was represented by Diana Youakim, Janet Handal, and Widad Handal; Vietnam by Ut and Bon Bai; Austria and Australia by Trudy and Richard Keane; Czechoslovakia by Eva Vlach; Poland by Sophia Zeigler; Haiti by Amy Jobin; Congo by Suzanne Kayala; the

Marshall Islands by Claude and Susan Cole; Ireland by Erica Heller; Spain by Maria Asuncion Sanchez Manzano; Lebanon by Carole Rabiez; El Salvador by Jesus and Dawn Hernandez; the Philippines by Lilia and Ron Peters; Guatemala by Juan Mancilla—and, last but not least, the United States by Jennifer MacKiewicz. (Her table carried a Cubs theme, a fact not lost on parishioners who know it's Fr. Joe's favorite baseball team!)

World travelers also enjoyed dancing to Arabic, Congolese, and Czech music. Nick Koch set up the tapes, and a large circle was formed in the center of the hall.

Everyone held hands, and the dance began. They danced the night away!

Toward the end of the evening, astonishing many, Trudy Keane came out of the kitchen carrying an accordion. She was dressed in her native Austrian clothing, right down to the feather in her hat. She played the "Blue Danube Waltz," the unofficial national anthem of Austria, where she was born.

As Sophia Zeigler observed, "Throughout the evening there was that feeling of "peace on earth and good will toward men!"



Word from our Sister Church

Dear friends,

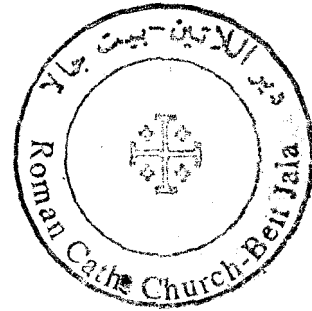
I am sending you this email while I am preparing myself to be transferred to another parish according to the will of our new Patriarchate of Jerusalem.

I will be the parish priest of a big parish in the northern part of Palestine. The new parish priest is F.

Ibrahim Shomali, with whom you will continue your communication as of the first week of August.

I want to thank you for your great generosity and love for our church since we have started our friendship. I raise my prayers always to our God and thank him for all of you who helped with great generosity in different ways. You have been able to demonstrate the great love of God to this land.

I am looking forward to meeting you in our beloved land soon.



God bless,
Fr. Nidal Qanzou'a

One Light, Many Lamps: An interfaith retreat coming in October

Save the date—Saturday, Oct. 17—for “One Light, Many Lamps,” an ecumenical retreat sponsored by the parish’s Peace and Justice ministries.

St. Patrick’s will host an interfaith day that brings together people of different spiritual and religious traditions in our local community to explore our traditions and what we hold in common through song, prayer, sacred movement, and ritual.

This unique program will be facilitated by Brother Joseph Kilikevce, O.P., Founding Director of the Shem Center for Interfaith Spirituality in Oak Park, Ill. (www.shemcenter.org).

For further information or to register, visit the parish’s Web site (www.stpaturbana.org) and go to the Peace and Justice program offering: One Light, Many Lamps. Or you may contact Laura Theby (531-7003).



Quick fixin’s from the kitchen of . . . Denise Freidhof

Chocolate Tacos

Flour tortilla
1 T mini chocolate chips
Cinnamon sugar



Heat the flour tortilla in a small, flat skillet. Add chocolate chips and sprinkle with cinnamon sugar. Flip the tortilla in half and heat until the chips are soft. Sprinkle the top with cinnamon sugar, and serve warm.

* * *

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



Congratulations to these couples, married at St. Patrick’s: Rhiannon Bettivia and Alexis Meza, Katharine Denise Boyer and Anthony Robert Maduzia, Sara Ann Dumich and William Leland Zerkovich, Autumn Brook Rice and Jamison Alan Kuemmerle, Melissa Kay Swain and Andrew Ryan Quigg, and Misty Dawn Taylor and Nicholas Adam Krippel.

Please pray for deceased parishioners Helen Basehart, Mary Jane Dill, Doris Green, James Hagan, Fr. Gene Kane, Virginia McCall, and Fr. George Wuellner.

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

Vocation Prayer

Blessed are you, O God, creator of all things!
In your loving care for us,
you give each of us a piece of your saving work
to do.

Call from among us people who will
preach your Word,
seek out the lost and lonely,
bring healing and reconciliation to those who
are crushed in spirit,
provide food for those who hunger in body or
soul,
and bear witness to your love.

Bless those who serve in these ministries.
Give them gifts of love, faith, prayer, and
friendship
that they may persevere in the life you have
given them
until you call them home to you.

Liturgical ministers to renew commitment

On Saturday, Sept. 12, lectors and Eucharistic ministers will be given the opportunity to renew their commitment to their ministries through the annual Liturgical Minister Re-commitment day. The activities will run from 8:30 to 11 a.m. in the main hall of the parish center, following the 8 a.m. Mass.



Eucharistic ministers and lectors are encouraged to take this opportunity to strengthen their community with fellow ministers, whose service enhances our parish worship.

Our pastor, Fr. Joe Hogan, will be the keynote speaker. His address to the ministers will include ideas on what ministry is, the vital importance of the role of lay ministry in the Church, and how liturgical ministers can connect their ministry at Mass to their personal lives.

All parishioners are welcome to attend.

“Buy one, get one free!”

As a good steward of my family’s finances, I have watched for “buy-one-get-one-free” sales and used them to stretch my food budget. Now such sales have a totally new meaning for me and my family. I feel called now to donate either the item itself or the money saved to St. Patrick’s food pantry or another charitable organization.

Why?

Because of JustFaith!

The JustFaith program was first offered in 2008 at St. Patrick’s. There were twenty of us in that first group, and we began together a journey of awareness about different social issues—racism, consumerism, ecology, economics, poverty, and immigration.

We read, we talked, we prayed. All of us were deeply challenged by that experience. We were surprised, even shocked at times, by what we learned.

After going through JustFaith, I can never again look at a homeless person and simply dismiss that person.

In a second year of JustSkills, we learned

and practiced some of the skills needed to carry out justice ministry in a parish setting—skills of advocacy, collaboration and research, as well as developing presentations on issues of our choosing. We worked on hunger, homelessness, human trafficking, and health care.

Our second year ended with a visit from Fr. Joe, who worked

with us to set some goals and priorities in the area of Peace and Justice—priorities such as the need for quality prayer time to inform our vision and involvement.

Peace and Justice ministries at St. Patrick’s have benefited and expanded greatly because of what we have learned and experienced through JustFaith and JustSkills. The Peace and Justice Ministry Team holds its planning and envisioning meetings from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month.

A new JustFaith group will begin in September and will meet on Wednesdays during the month, from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Please consider these programs, and if you are interested, contact Carolyn McElrath (531-7014, or carolyn.mcelrath@stpaturbana.org).

—Linda Weber

St. Patrick's Parish September 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 5:15 PM Server Training 6:30 PM Cursillo 7:00 PM Web Site Committee	2 6:30 PM Peace and Justice Ministry Team	3 7:00 AM Men's Prayer Group 5:30 PM Building and Grounds	4 10:45 AM Mass, CCNH	5 Ministry Information Tables
6 Ministry Information Tables	7 Labor Day 8:00 AM Mass and Potluck Breakfast 7:00 PM Centering Prayer	8 1:00 PM Great Adventure Bible Study Begins 5:30 PM Financial Affairs Committee 6:30 PM Cursillo 7:00 PM Great Adventure Bible Study Begins	9 9:30 AM Schola 5:15 PM Children's Choir 6:30 PM JustFaith 7:00 PM Choir 7:00 PM CREW Parents' Night	10 7:00 AM Men's Prayer Group 7:00 PM Choir 7:00 PM RCIA: Faith Development Classes Begin	11 10:30 AM Mass, Care Center 10:45 AM Communion Service, CCNH 7:00 PM Jane Austin Book Club	12 8:30 AM Gathering of Ministries Time and Talent Ministry Signup
13 9:15 AM Relig. Ed 10:30 AM Children's Mass 5:00-8:00 PM CREW Kick-off Party, Confirmation Invitation 6:30 PM Vivo Time and Talent Ministry Signup	14 7:00 PM Respect Life 7:00 PM Centering Prayer	15 1:00 PM Great Adventure Bible Study 6:30 PM Cursillo 7:00 PM Great Adventure Bible Study 7:00 PM Ministry of Faith Development: Training	16 9:00 AM Moms Meeting Moms, Kick-off 5:15 PM Children's Choir 6:30 PM JustFaith 6:30 PM Religious Ed, St. Joe 7:00 PM Choir	17 7:00 AM Men's Prayer Group 1:00 PM Cards, Coffee, and Conversation 6:30 PM Parish Council Meeting 7:00 PM Choir 7:00 PM RCIA: Faith Development	18 10:30 AM Mass, Clark-Lindsey 10:45 AM Mass, CCNH 7:00 PM Jane Austin Book Club K of C Tootsie Roll Drive	19 K of C Tootsie Roll Drive ----- CREW Mission Report
20 9:15 AM Religious Ed 10:15 AM K of C 6:30 PM CREW: Confirmation Invitation 6:30 PM Vivo CREW Mission Report, all Masses	21 5:15 PM Server Training 6:00 PM SALT Leadership Training 7:00 PM Centering Prayer	22 1:00 PM Great Adventure Bible Study 6:30 PM Cursillo 7:00 PM Great Adventure Bible Study	23 9:30 AM Schola 11:30 AM WSP: Rosary, Luncheon 5:15 PM Children's Choir 6:30 PM JustFaith 6:30 PM Religious Ed, St. Joe 6:30 PM Vivo 7:00 PM Choir 7:00 PM Re-Membering Church	24 7:00 AM Men's Prayer Group 7:00 PM Choir 7:00 PM RCIA: Faith Development 7:00 PM Communications Committee	25 10:45 AM Mass, CCNH JustFaith Retreat	26 8:30 AM Liturgical Ministers Re-commitment JustFaith Retreat
27 8:30-10:30 AM Library Open 8:30-11:00 AM Blood Pressure Screening 12:00-7:00 PM CREW Retreat 2:00 PM Server Training 3:30 PM Vietnamese Reconciliation, Mass	28 7:00 PM Centering Prayer	29 1:00 PM Great Adventure Bible Study 6:30 PM Cursillo 7:00 PM Great Adventure Bible Study	30 9:00 AM Moms Meeting Moms 5:15 PM Children's Choir 6:30 PM JustFaith 7:00 PM Choir 7:00 PM WSP: Declutter 101 7:00 PM Re-Membering Church	<p style="text-align: center;">Because this calendar is prepared in advance, be sure to check the bulletin to confirm actual dates and times of specific events.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The deadline for the next issue of <i>In Focus</i> is September 13.</p>		