

# St. Patrick Parish IN FOCUS

www.stpaturbana.org

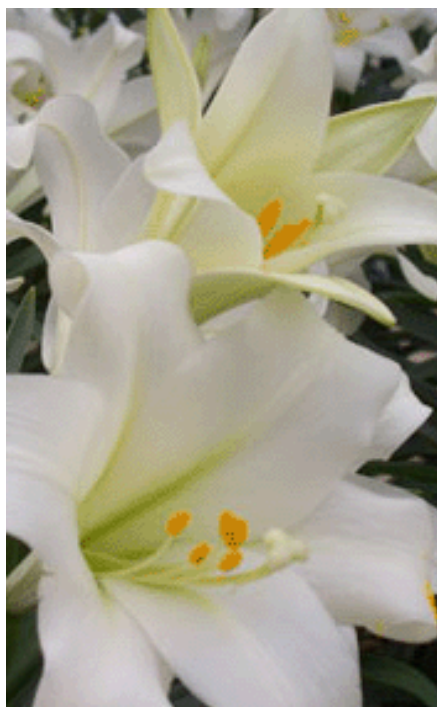
May 2010

## Eastertime: Fifty days of unbounded joy!

Eastertime, the earliest distinct season in Christian communities, may be hardly noticed today by some. But as Christians, all the stories we tell of exodus and of Jesus and of dry bones and of Abraham and Isaac and Jonah reflect what we believe about the struggle of life and death that grips us all. These stories are what makes Eastertime.

We shape the Sunday liturgies of Eastertime with many songs and sights, the best we have. There is the simple and beautiful presence of water: the font, the holy water, the rite of sprinkling. There is the paschal candle, large and beautifully crafted and burning during all the liturgies of the season. There is the beauty and fragrance of spring flowers. There is extra light and color everywhere. There is the sound of alleluias sung to melodies used only during these days, and in the hymns of Eastertime.

Surely the best exemplar of the joy of Eastertime, the alleluia, is itself music. It sounds like what it means,



resounding human joy that defies explanation. In the fourth century there was a tradition for a soloist to elaborate the last vowel, the last “a,” beyond the singing of the assembly, as long as possible—as if the soloist didn’t want to let go of this holy word or end this holy song. In Latin, this prolonged singing of the alleluia’s last syllable is called jubilus; Augustine called it “joy without words.” And that in fact is what it is: pure joy, joy beyond telling.

Easter joy permeates all the gospels of the Easter weeks: Jesus and Mary in the garden, the upper room, the stranger cooking breakfast, the Emmaus supper, the discourse from John’s gospel. A joyful and resonant Eastertime invites us to celebrate with the fullness of our deeply Christian voices and eyes and hands.

Fifty days of rejoicing can burst out in a single word: Alleluia! Death dies, life lives in a song: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

## Hello...Good-bye...It’s been grand to know you!

You may have noticed another new face at the altar lately. Father Jules Komi Adator—or simply Father Jules, which is pronounced sort of like “jewel”—has been filling in during Father Joe’s sabbatical.



We have been blessed in recent years to have priests visit us from other areas of the world, and Father Jules, who hails from Togo (a French-speaking country in West Africa), keeps this exciting streak alive.

In the following interview, Father gives us a little more information about where he’s been, what the future holds for him, and how he’s enjoyed his brief time at St. Patrick’s. He will be leaving us when Father Joe returns in very late April from his three-month sabbatical, so be sure to let him know how much his ministry among us has been appreciated!

*What is your full name?*

Jules Komi Adator

*Where are you from originally?*

I am from Togo, a French speaking country in West Africa.

*Can you tell us a little bit about your family background?*

## They come with joyful hearts!

Every Easter St. Patrick's welcomes new Catholics who have completed the process called the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. Most have received Baptism and/or Confirmation and First Communion either during the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday, others at a later date.

"I believe God put my fiancée in my life as a liaison to God. I am so grateful that he has presented himself through her," related **Patrick Burns**.

Patrick and Karolina Stawarz will be wed in December. Since his father's side of the family is Catholic and his mother's side is Methodist, Patrick had been meaning to take an RCIA class for years. "St. Patrick's was the first church I checked out, and I was immediately taken to the library and given so much information. The people I have met here are exactly the people I need in my life." Patrick works in the medical field at Christie Clinic. "This whole process has given me a new outlook on my profession."



"I very much look forward to my fiancée and I taking our first Communion together," Patrick added. "Confirmation will be a big moment for me and my family. It is very heartwarming to become a member of this parish."

**Katherine Nadolski** told us: "I've had a curiosity for a long time now and it was my cradle-Catholic husband, Charles, who finally persuaded me to come to RCIA. I've always been attracted to the beauty and tradition of the Mass." Formerly



a librarian, Katherine is now a stay-at-home mom to Konrad, 1½; the couple expects their second child in July.

"I had been searching for something to fill an emptiness for several years. The birth of my children really opened me up to God," said **Joseph La Montagne**.

"I have always been most comfortable in a Catholic church. The faith already feels natural to me." Joseph's wife, Jennifer, is the daughter of St. Patrick parishioners Randy and Mary Sandone. Married for seven years, the Montagnes have two daughters, Norah and Madeline. Joseph, a Gulf War veteran, is an avid reader and enjoys the outdoors. He is a project manager for Signature Homes, a residential home builder.



**Michael Steven Williams** works as a Residence Hall Director and Instructor at the UI. He did his undergraduate work at Villanova University



and received his M.A. in Higher Education from the University of Pennsylvania. He is happily married to Marjorie Dorimé-Williams, who is a Ph.D. candidate in Education Policy Studies at the UI. "I am the proud son of Marilyn Franklin, a nurse and single mother who sacrificed so much so that I could succeed. I love good food, sports (especially basketball), intelligent conversation, and people dedicated to making the world better."

Michael shares a similar story with this year's other neophytes (new Catholics). "I decided to

inquire into the Catholic faith after doing pre-Cana at St. Patrick's with my wife. Father Joe had such a strong influence on us that we considered having him come to New York to marry us. St. Patrick's has strong leadership, progressive parishioners, and a dedication to spirituality and education that I find very attractive and fulfilling."

According to **Ja Nelle Pleasure**,



"My husband, Christopher, is Catholic; we were married in the Catholic Church, and our three children

were baptized Catholic. I thought that it would be best to end any confusion brought on by going to two different churches. I was drawn to St. Patrick's because of the community. Our children can be involved, and our family as a whole is supported by the church. I really feel at home here. The parish is and has been a blessing to me and my family."

Ja Nelle is a stay-at-home mom to Aria, 6, Ian, 4, and Joshua, 3 months. She home-schools Aria and Ian. Ja Nelle is a fashion designer, she competed in ballroom dancing for ten years, she loves exotic cooking, and she loves singing (just not in public).

"I have been involved with the Catholic faith for the majority of my adult life since college," shared **Chad Slack**. "I was attracted to St.



Patrick's through my good friends and sponsors, Bruce and Christine Hopper." Chad was born in

## Joyful Hearts from page 2

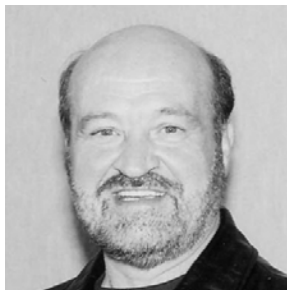
Alton, Illinois, attended high school there and graduated from Illinois College. He has an older brother and sister and a younger sister, plus several nieces and nephews. He has lived in Champaign for 12 years and worked at the UI Childcare Resource Service for the past ten years. He is in his fourth year of coaching football at the High School of Thomas More.

"I was baptized and received my First Communion in the Catholic Church," said **Katie Leininger**. "I was talking with a friend who was a sponsor, and she said that I would really enjoy the RCIA process. She encouraged me to consider attending." Katie and her husband, Chris, have been married for fourteen years and have



lived in Urbana since 2005. They have two children, Kaleb, 7, and Emily, 5. Katie is a stay-at-home mother.

"My wife is Catholic and so are my girls, so I wanted to make our family whole. The church has always been a part of my life. St. Pat's just feels like a warm, friendly family," related **Don Beddow**. Don, 56, was a traveling musician for 35 years. "Now I'm a stay-at-home dad and I love every minute of it. Just taking care of my wife, Jennifer, and our daughters, Hannah, 9, and Emma, 7, is the most wonderful feeling. I've always felt like the luckiest man to have such a wonderful wife and two amazing daughters."



**Shawn Skinner** told us, "My wife,



Kelly, and my best friend, Todd, are both Catholic. When we moved to St. Joseph in 2008, we discovered

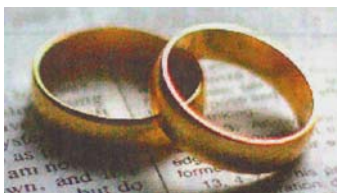
that we had friends who belonged to St. Patrick's." It seemed natural for him to become a Catholic here at St. Patrick's. Shawn is a teacher and coaches both football and softball in Westville. Kelly and Shawn have four sons, Shane, 12, Todd and Tyson, 10, Conrad, 6, and one daughter, Erinn, 9.

Now that you have heard their stories and seen their pictures, *In Focus* invites you to offer these new Catholics a warm St. Patrick's welcome.

—Carole Rebeiz

## There's still time to share your story!

Afraid you missed your chance to submit your marriage story? There's still time! The deadline for submitting stories to the book being prepared by Pat and Jim Mayer has been extended to May 15.



marriage you would like to share? Such stories, Pat says, would be a great addition to the book.

If you are married, there are endless stories to tell. Where did you

meet? What did you think of your spouse at first? What was it like when you first talked about marriage? Was there a matchmaker involved in your relationship? Was there an obstacle you had to overcome at the beginning of your relationship, and have you overcome it or are you still working on it? Do you have a special poem, letter, or song you've written for your spouse that you would like to share? Is there a time you had to extend forgiveness to your spouse or forgiveness was extended to you? How has becoming—or not becoming—a parent impacted your marriage? How has your relationship changed as you became empty-nesters? Has a particular spiri-

tual journey affected your marriage? What brings you the greatest joy in your marriage? What are some humorous moments in your marriage?

If any of these questions conjures up a smile or a special memory or awareness of a lesson learned, you have a story. If it helps to see how others have told their stories, sample stories are available in the parish office and at [www.stpaturbana.org](http://www.stpaturbana.org) (click on the "Do You Have a Marriage Story to Share?" link under the "Events" heading).

Stories should be between 500 and 2000 words. To submit a story electronically (the preferred method), email it to Pat and Jim Mayer ([mayer701@ameritech.net](mailto:mayer701@ameritech.net)). Handwritten stories will also be accepted. Stories must be received by May 15, 2010.

Questions? Contact Pat or Jim Mayer (384-4860). Then get writing—you still have a chance to share your story!

The Mayers are collecting stories and reflections about marriage from the people of St. Patrick's to publish as a book, which will be available to parishioners in the fall of 2010. As of early April, they had received 10 stories and had been promised 10 more. They would like to have more than 30, so there's still a chance to submit yours.

Pat Mayer points out that everyone has a marriage story, even those who have never been married or are not yet married. Is there a marriage you have watched that you have admired, or that has taught you an important lesson? Do you have reflections on

### Did you know ... ?

The men and women who entered the Church at Easter joined a spiritual family that numbers 1.666 billion worldwide and increased 19 million in 2008 alone (the last year for which records are available). We welcome those who joined the community of faith we love, and we thank God for the many gifts they bring to the Church. Their presence and their witness enriches us in so many ways.

David Kraft plans to fly to Tanzania (yes, Tanzania!) in mid-May to spend a few days visiting with Fr. Stan, who has lined up some adventures-after a tour of the school, of course, which is still a-building-for his friend. David has offered to take cards and a few (small) mementoes from us for Fr. Stan. You could leave these, clearly marked for Fr. Stan, at the parish office for David to pick up.

## St. Patrick's Seniors celebrate Eastertime

St. Patrick's Seniors met for their April luncheon on Tuesday, Apr. 6, and welcomed Fr. Jules Adator, who gave the blessing and joined them for the meal.

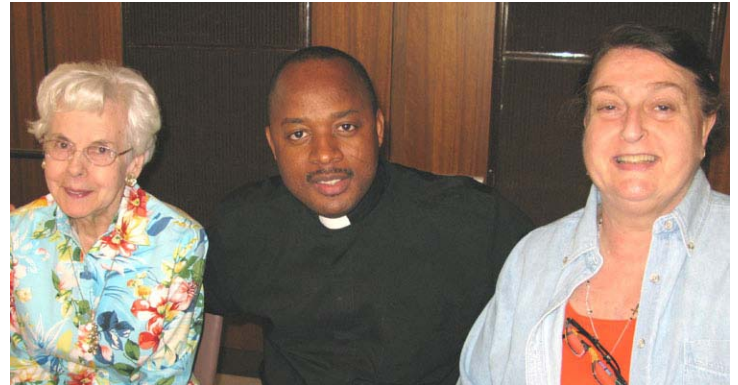
Sophia Zeigler displayed her decorated Easter eggs. She made them by making a small hole in the shell and blowing out the yolks and whites, which she then used in making her cream puffs. She decorated the eggs with pieces of her mother's dresses from the 1960s and plans to give them to relatives attending their family reunion this July.

We welcomed Freda DeCerbo and Josephine Dubois to the group. (Note: Being a senior has little to do

with age; it has more to do with deciding to join a group of people who enjoy spending a relaxing luncheon together.) The committee for the April meeting was Betty Blanco, Ron Eagan, Shirley and Walter Splittstoesser.

After the meal, Walter showed slides of the Way of the Cross as it was 2000 years ago (Walt's really old!) and as it is today.

The Seniors' next meeting is planned for Jun. 9.



Seniors welcomed Josephine Dubois (left), Fr. Jules Adator, and Freda DeCerbo at their April luncheon.

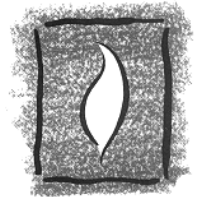


God, you have created me  
to do you some  
definite service:  
you have committed some  
work to me  
that you have not committed  
to another.  
Somehow I am necessary for  
your purposes:  
you have not created me  
for nothing.  
I pray, let me serve you,  
to be yours,  
to be your instrument  
in whatever you would  
have me do.

## From Our Parish Nurses

### Can you recognize stroke symptoms?

Stroke is the third leading cause of death and a leading cause of serious, long-term adult disability in the United States. A stroke is a "brain attack," where the vital flow of blood and oxygen to the brain has been cut off. Recognizing possible signs of a stroke and acting fast can save a life and limit disabilities.



Use the F.A.S.T. test for recognizing and responding to stroke symptoms:

- F = FACE** Ask the person to smile. Does one side of the face droop?
- A = ARMS** Ask the person to raise both arms. Does one arm drift downward?
- S = SPEECH** Is the person's speech slurred or does it sound strange?
- T = TIME** If you observe any of these signs, call 911 or get to the nearest hospital.

Know your own risk factors for a stroke. High blood pressure is a leading cause of stroke. Keep an eye on your blood pressure by attending the monthly blood pressure clinic put on by the parish nurses. Other stroke prevention steps include moderate exercise; a lower sodium and lower fat diet; if you smoke, quit; if you drink alcohol, do so in moderation; and get regular check-ups to monitor for any medical stroke risks such as high cholesterol, poor circulation, diabetes, or heart disease.



**Q:** Why do we celebrate Ascension Thursday on a Sunday?

**A:** The Acts of the Apostles (1:3) says that

Jesus ascended into heaven on the 40<sup>th</sup> day after his resurrection. Since we celebrate Easter on a Sunday, the Ascension would fall on a Thursday. But to make it easier for all Catholics to celebrate the mystery of Jesus' ascension into heaven, most bishops in the U.S. have chosen to move this feast to a Sunday, when more of us are able to get to Mass. This is not all that unusual.

The universal Church has 10 holy days when the faithful are obliged to attend Mass. It's a shame that "obliged" is such a dreary word; these days are some of the most beautiful and joyful days of the year. But bishops are allowed to take into account the needs of their people and make some changes in the calendar.

U.S. bishops have chosen to dispense the obligation for two of the holy days: St. Joseph (Mar. 19) and Sts. Peter and Paul (Jun. 29). They have moved three of the holy days to the nearest Sunday: Epiphany (Jan. 6), Ascension, and the Body and Blood of the Lord (Thursday after Trinity Sunday). Three feasts are always celebrated on their proper days, but the obligation to attend Mass is dispensed if they fall on a Saturday or Monday: Mary, Mother of God (Jan. 1), Mary's Assumption into Heaven (Aug. 15), and All Saints Day (Nov 1). This leaves two holy days that are always celebrated on their proper dates: Mary's Immaculate Conception (Dec. 8) and Christmas (Dec. 25). In the U.S. Mary's Immaculate Conception is always celebrated: Mary is the patron saint of the U.S. under the title of her Immaculate Conception.

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

## Women of St. Patrick to host Ben and Felicia

Two young missionaries who have shared the message of the Gospel with non-Christian college students in East Asia will talk about their experiences when they join the Women of St. Patrick for their potluck luncheon on May 12, following the rosary at 11:30 a.m.

The missionaries are Felicia, daughter of St. Patrick's parishioners Chuck and Cheryl M., and her husband, Ben. They have been serving in the mission field with Campus Crusade for Christ. Felicia recently completed two years of service, and Ben has served for four years.

To begin their work, Felicia and Ben enrolled in a college in the capital of a very poor region of the country. As students themselves, they became friends with some local students who were eager to get acquainted with foreigners. The two would engage the students in conversation, which often turned to spiritual matters. Eventually they would ask the students if they would like to study Christianity, and often the answer was "yes." If a student took the step to become a Christian, he or she was invited to join a

Bible study group led by Felicia or Ben.

Felicia recalled that the first year of work was very hard as several of the young women in her group gave up their faith in the face of persecution. The second year was much more rewarding. There were seven women in her Bible study group. Some of the women had been Muslims, some Buddhists, some non-believers. Though they also encountered persecution for their faith, they remained steadfast. Ben had similar experiences in his Bible study group of young men.

Ben and Felicia each joined Campus Crusade for Christ when they were in college. Ben is from the Indianapolis area and joined the organization at Purdue. Felicia attended the University of Illinois. Married just four months ago, the couple met at the college in East Asia.

What's next for this young couple? They are raising funds to support their work abroad and are nearing their financial goal. They are eagerly planning to return to in East Asia in August. We wish them well in their endeavors.

### Women of St. Patrick's



**Spirituality  
Service  
Social**

## The Parish Council says "Thank you!"

What, no coffee and doughnuts after Sunday Masses? No religious education for our children and young people? No lectors or Eucharistic ministers?

What is this church? It's surely not St. Patrick's, where hundreds of volunteers provide a myriad of valuable services. They carry out programs for faith development, help create inspiring and joyful worship experiences, plan social events that bring people together, care for our parish property,

and more.

To acknowledge the important contributions of these many volunteers, the Parish Council hosted an Appreciation Dinner on Apr. 17, chaired by Pam Donze De Ley, Council vice-president. Each volunteer attending was recognized for the important contribution that each makes to parish life.

As Fr. Joe has remarked frequently, St. Patrick's would not be the same parish without the services of these generous individuals.



## Father Jules from page 1

I am the fifth born and the only son in a family of seven children. My father was a Catholic school teacher and also a catechist; he not only taught catechism classes but also translated sermons from French into Ewe, our local language, during Mass. (Because not everybody understands French and the majority of priests were missionaries from France who cannot speak our local language, there was a need for somebody to translate their sermons when they were preaching during Mass.) My dad died of kidney failure the very year I entered seminary, but my mum is alive, as are all my six sisters.

*Please share as much as you'd like about your decision to join the priesthood.*

Born into a catholic family, I grew up seeing my dad serving with a priest at least every Sunday at Mass. Gradually the desire of serving at the altar grew in me, however not as a catechist but like a missionary priest that I knew since my childhood.

*Were there any other careers you considered?*

I wanted to become a medical doctor, but I found myself becoming a priest. However I think I have not

gone too far from what I initially intended, because I am now a "doctor of souls."

*Briefly describe how you found your way to St. Pat's.*

I belong to a religious order called the Society of African Missions (S.M.A.), which is well known in the Diocese of Peoria. Therefore, having been appointed to work in this diocese for two years, my superiors sent me to substitute for Fr. Joe at St. Pat's until he returns from his sabbatical.

*What is your impression of St. Pat's as a parish? (How is it different from other parishes you've been to? What does it have in common with other parishes, including those you've been to overseas—Africa, etc.?)*

I am really impressed by how friendly the people of St. Pat's are. They always stop by to say hello. I have been invited for dinner by five families and many more are still willing to. My greatest positive and satisfactory impression is the visit of a parishioner giving me his address and asking me to call him anytime I need any help, and later he invited me for dinner in his house. I enjoy working with a very supportive and

cooperative staff in the parish office. I also enjoy taking coffee with senior citizens after morning Mass. It makes St. Pat's different from other parishes where I have been so far.

*What do you hope the future holds for your ministry?*

On July 2 of this year I will celebrate my 5 years of priestly ordination. During all these years I have been happy in my ministry. I became pastor after two years of my ordination and it has been a real encouragement for me. It is my strong desire to continue being enthusiastic in my ministry and to be a source of joy and consolation for others.

*Are there any other thoughts you'd like to share with St. Pat's parishioners?*

My journey so far:

1997-1999: Philosophy studies in Ivory Coast

1999-2000: Spiritual year (Noviciat) in Benin Republic

2000-2001: Pastoral year in Nigeria

2001-2005: Theology studies in Kenya

July 2, 2005: Ordination in Togo

2005-2010: Mission assignment in the D.R. Congo

## Around the world, a day of prayer for vocations

The Fourth Sunday of Easter is often called Good Shepherd Sunday because the readings are about the care we receive from Christ, our true Shepherd. It is also a world-wide day of prayer for vocations to the priesthood.

These may appear to be difficult days to appeal for acts of generosity from individuals who feel a calling from God. The Church and priests have been in the headlines too often and mostly for the wrong reasons in recent times. But in this turbulent era God is still calling to individuals to serve on behalf of his people, whose needs do not change.

Sometimes those who are called may not feel up to the task



and wonder why God is calling them. The Bible is full of such examples, from Jonah, the reluctant prophet who tried to escape his calling, to Peter, whose first reaction to Jesus' invitation to follow him was, "Leave me, Lord, for I am a sinful man."

Others in more modern times have sometimes found themselves called to lead and to serve amid dramatic and even historic events. The quiet priest from rural England, Fr. Robert Byles, could never have imagined, as he set sail for New York in April 1915 to celebrate a family wedding, that he would comfort and inspire terrified passengers in their last hours and minutes on the sink-

ing Titanic. On Sept. 11, 2001, Franciscan Fr. Mychal Judge, chaplain to the New York Fire Department, didn't suspect, as he raced to the scene of disaster at the World Trade Centre, that he would become one of the first victims of the tragedy and be seen by millions praying with and for the firemen and victims as the Twin Towers fell.

God, it seems, has always provided shepherds for his people in their hour of need. But they don't just "happen." Shepherds appear as a result of the call answered, the response to serve heeded, and a leap of faith in the power of God to see one through.

On Good Shepherd Sunday, pray that many will have the generosity to listen when God calls and find the courage to respond.



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April 5, 2010

To all the good people of St. Patrick's Parish,

I came to Urbana last July for my three-month leave as a Maryknoll Lay Missioner. I was sick at the time, and it took several months to diagnose my illness and begin treatment. I needed some time to respond to the treatment and start to heal, but I am happy to say that now I am much better and ready to return to Kenya on April 7.

One of the greatest blessings of this illness was the time I was able to spend with you and the parish. I participated in the Engaging Spirituality program. The Christmas and Easter celebrations were wonderful and reminded me of what a living and growing community you are. You have helped me to reconnect with the Catholic Church in the U.S. in a deeper way, and I am so grateful for your community of support.

When I return to Kenya, I will go to a new mission site in Mombasa, a large city on the coast of the Indian Ocean. The archdiocese would like me to look at their health facilities when I return and make a work plan. So I will write again from Kenya to let you know that I have arrived safely and tell you my plans for future ministry.

I am sending also my financial report for 2009 to show you how we used your donations from 2009. As always, thank you for your support and prayers. Together we can make our world a better place, especially for those in need. I wish you a very joyful Easter Season, with celebrations all the way up to Pentecost!

God bless,  
Susan Nagele

*Note: Susan's financial report is posted on the staff's bulletin board in the parish center.*

## Cousins embrace in wonder and praise

We celebrate Mary's visit to her cousin, Elizabeth, on May 31, two months after Mary conceived of the Holy Spirit at her acquiescence to the message conveyed by an angel. We can imagine Mary becoming aware of Jesus' growth in her womb. She would have turned to her mother, if St. Anne was alive, for answers to questions about pregnancy, birth, and baby care.

Mary's elderly cousin, Elizabeth, was also experiencing a divinely inspired pregnancy. Her time was nearing, and help would be welcome. This alone would have been a strong motive for Mary to plan a trip to Elizabeth's home, all the more so if Mary could not turn to her mother for advice.

Women did not travel alone in those days and it took time to organize a trip, yet Mary went "to the hill country in haste." We can imagine the joy and relief in their embrace on meeting, when even their unborn babes acknowledged each the other's presence.

On the feast of the Visitation, we rejoice just as the two women did at their meeting. Elizabeth gave us the lines we use with dear familiarity:



"Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb." And Mary gave us the prayer of praise and thanksgiving, the Magnificat, prayed by all priests and religious at Vespers as the day draws to a close.

As we celebrate this feast on May 31, we too may draw on these lovely prayers to enhance our observance of it!

## in our parish library

In honor of Mother's Day and Mary, our focus is on books available in the library pertaining to Mary, our Blessed Mother.

**Fatima, Mary's Immaculate Heart and Your Salvation**, by Frère Francois de Marie des Anges. Call Number 232.9 MAR 1993. Abridged from "The Whole Truth about Fatima." The author interprets the story and message of the Cova da Iria, of PonteVedra, and of Tuy.

**Lourdes: A Modern Pilgrimage**, by Patrick Marnham. Call Number: 232.9 MAR. Marnham reveals both the horrors and wonders of Bernadette's evidence of the mysteries of faith at work in an age of doubt.

**Maria: Pope Benedict XVI on the Mother of God**, by Pope Benedict XVI. Call Number: 232.91 BEN 2009. A coffee table book with pictures of famous statues, paintings, sculptures, and other art work of the Blessed Virgin Mary from all over the world. Pope Benedict also offers in-depth inspirational reflections on the unique spiritual role Mary plays as the Mother of the Savior.

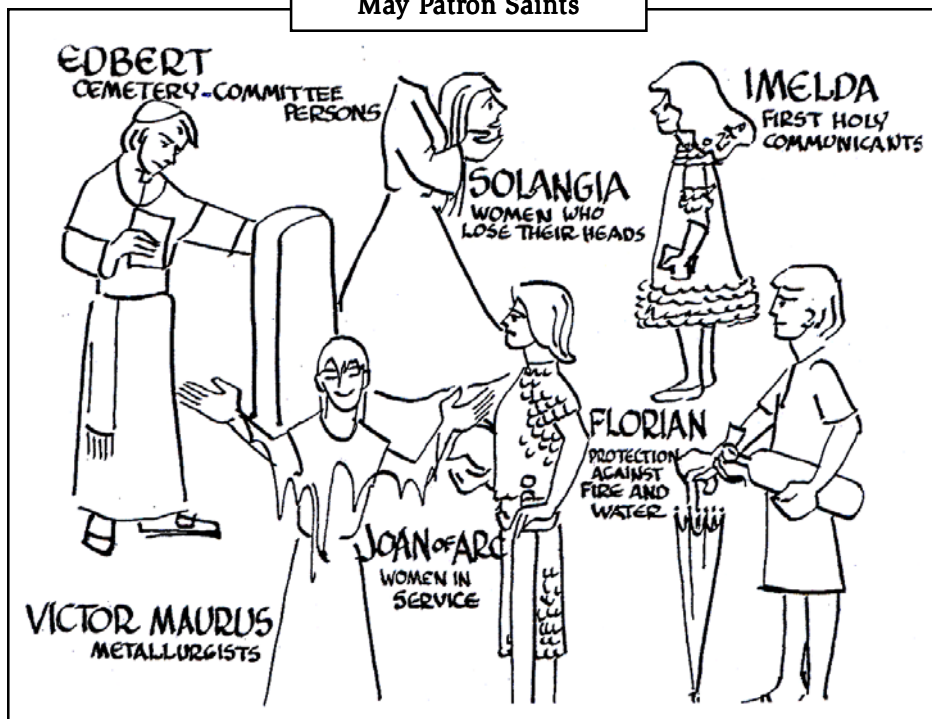
**Mary and Your Everyday Life: A Book of Meditations**, by Bernard Häring. Call Number: 232.93 HAR.

**Mary with Us: Readings and Prayers**, by Rev. Joseph A. Viano, SSP. Call Number: 232.93 VIA. Each chapter contains a brief meditation and prayers.

**Meditations on Mary, with Essays**, by Kathleen Norris. Call Number: 232.9 NOR 1999. This book uses text and images to describe the many faces of the Virgin Mother of God. The meditative essays are joined by the biographical details of Mary's existence, from the Gospels.

**Refuting the Attack on Mary: A Defense of Marian Doctrines**, by Father Mateo. Call Number: 232.9 MAT 1999. This book explains the basis for teachings on Mary, both from writings in the scriptures and from other teachers on Mary. Father Mateo also points to errors of logic

### May Patron Saints





## Parishioners elect three to the 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 Judy Altaner, Mark Cousert, and Amy Fahey.

The three will fill vacancies created by departing members Mary Rose Cottingham, Susan Hublein, and Marty Sierra Perry, whose terms

expire in May.

The new members will be seated at the Council's May meeting, when the officers for the coming year are announced. Pam Donze De Ley will advance to the office of president and Jeff Kneer to the office of vice-president; the office of secretary will be filled by one of the incoming members, selected by Fr. Joe Hogan.

This year 693 ballots were

completed following the homily during all Masses on Apr. 17-18. After each Mass Council members tallied the votes, with the final counts known soon after the noon Mass.

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



Judy Altaner



Mark Cousert



Amy Fahey

## Library from page 9

and fact committed by anti-Catholics regarding their attack on Mary.

**Understanding the Mother of Jesus**, by Eamon R. Carroll. Call Number: 232.93 CAR. The author presents four areas of development: scriptural insights; Mary, model of the Church, as illustrated in the liturgy; Our Lady and the Holy Spirit; and ecumenical hopes.

+ + +

*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.*



The deadline for submitting information, articles, and news items for the next issue of In Focus is May 16.

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

Pat Justice

#### Brigid's Easy Caramels

1 c butter  
2-1/4 c brown sugar  
dash of salt  
1 c light corn syrup  
1 14-oz can sweetened condensed milk  
1 t vanilla

Melt butter in heavy 3-quart saucepan. Stir in brown sugar and salt until thoroughly combined. Stir in corn syrup. Gradually add condensed milk, stirring constantly. Stir over medium heat until ball stage,



about 12-15 minutes. Remove from heat and stir in vanilla. Pour into 9 x 13 inch pan and cool in refrigerator. Score during cooling so cutting will be easier. Wrap individual pieces in clear wrap or waxed paper.

+ + +

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

## Come, Holy Spirit!

Bishop Jenky will visit St. Patrick on Tuesday, May 11, to administer the sacrament of Confirmation. Our young people have been preparing for this day all year. Many of them have been active with CREW for several years now, with its special mix of study, prayer and service. In January, they participated in a retreat built around the themes of Wind and Fire, and Gifts of the Spirit.

Thank you to all the catechists who have helped our young people to prepare for the sacrament: High School Coordinator Peggy Loftus, Vivo Coordinator Amy Schuele, Carolyn McElrath, Suzanne D'Andria, Paula Sturdyvin, Megan Raab, and Nicholas Koch.

We're blessed to have many *confirmandi* this year. In the past, we have confirmed our 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders. After much discussion and discernment with St. Patrick's staff and parents, the decision was made to confirm earlier, in 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades. So this year, all of our high-schoolers will be confirmed. This change will be helpful to our students who go to Holy Cross and the High School of St. Thomas More. Holy Cross, like most parishes in the diocese, confirms 8<sup>th</sup> graders. Having a mix of confirmed and unconfirmed students in classes makes religious education more complicated. Besides, the junior and senior years of high school are increasingly stressful with college test prep and college visits, job hunting, and school work.

Please pray for all of the Confirmation candidates.



### High school Candidates:

Louis Acklin  
 Angela Anderson  
 Angela Bronson  
 Neli Crawford  
 Renee Durant  
 Jessica Elliott  
 Katherine Floess  
 Chris Fowler  
 Hannah Graham  
 Rachael Graham  
 Austin Griswell  
 Emily Griswell  
 Christina Helregel  
 Heidi Hublein  
 Zita Hubler  
 Will Justice  
 Peter Kim  
 Caroline Koch  
 Jo Ellen Machesky  
 Sarah Maloney  
 Chris Mathy  
 Alex Mestre  
 Marc Myers  
 Kate Myers  
 Jackson Nguyen  
 Tate Long  
 John Patterson  
 Evan Ramos  
 Kyle Ritten  
 Mark Sandwick  
 Betsy Schuele  
 Daniel Schuele  
 Freddie Stavins  
 Tessa Turner  
 Annie Valocchi  
 Isabel Vazquez  
 Michael Wagner  
 Patrick Wagner  
 Liliana Yopez-Connors  
 Sarah Zola

In addition, Fr. Luong Tran has been preparing three young people for Confirmation:

Joseph Kiet Bui  
 Mary Thuy Hoang Luu  
 Mary Tam Thi Thanh Le

St. Mary's Church in Champaign is sending 13 teenagers to be confirmed at our parish, St. Malachi is sending one, and the St. John Newman Center Latino Ministry is sending 9-10 teenagers.

Come Holy Spirit!

### Did you know . . . ?

Fr. George Remm, pastor of St. Patrick's Parish from 1986 until his retirement in 2004, will celebrate with us his 50th anniversary of ordination on the afternoon of Sunday, May 30. You won't want to miss this! Watch the bulletin for information as it becomes available.

## St. Patrick 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. Materials must include the name and telephone number of the person submitting them.

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 Chris Ángel, Elizabeth Hendricks, Pat Justice, David Kraft, Peggy Loftus, Rachael McMillan, Mary Lou Menches, Lori Mestre, Susan Nagele, Ellen Noonan, Carole Rebeiz, Nancy Roth, Cathy Salika, Shirley Splittstoesser, Margaret Stewart, and Peggy Whelan. May saints by Fr. George Wuellner. This issue was edited by John Towns and paged by Jim Urban.