

St. Patrick Parish IN FOCUS

www.stpaturbana.org

October 2010

Your clothing donations “go the extra mile”—to Congo

Parishioner Thomas Makabu and his wife, Mimi, cherish a wall of photos taken every year of their four sons—Tommy, 10; Travis, 7; Todd, 4; and Toussaint, 5 months—dressed alike and lined up. Thomas (pronounced Tomas) is president of Champaign County’s Congolese Association—from which some 100 members attend St. Patrick. Some have formed a choir, with Mr. Patrice Manunga as director. They are refugees, seeking asylum from the violence and brutality that has plagued Congo since its independence from Belgium in 1960.

Staunch Catholics, the Congolese gather outside church after Sunday Mass, the women sometimes in African dress, the children laughing and playing. All chat in French or other languages different to American ears—charming, but a drawback for those who search for work without knowing English. Thomas studied English at Parkland and Urbana Adult Education, but even so, he is still looking for a job for which his degree in industrial technology qualifies him. Meanwhile, he has a job as a machine operator at Kraft. Oth-

ers accept whatever jobs they can find—not unlike many Americans these days. Parishioner Cliff Maduzia helps via the parish’s Employment Network, and some Congolese wives work, especially if a grandmother is available for child care. The Congolese children of St. Patrick’s number about fifty.



Planners of the clothing shipment include (standing, from the left) Appolinaire Ikuku, Patrick Manunga, Thomas Makabu, and (seated) Giselle Ikuku, holding Daniel, with Claude Mbuyi, holding Samuel.

go container with clothing: 9 pallets, each 4’ square by 8’ high. We now have enough items for 3 pallets, but twice as much again is needed. The challenge for us all is to find more summer-weight clothing, shoes, hats, purses, and scarves—anything that can be worn. Bedding, in clean and usable condition, is also needed. Wheelchairs too are badly needed.

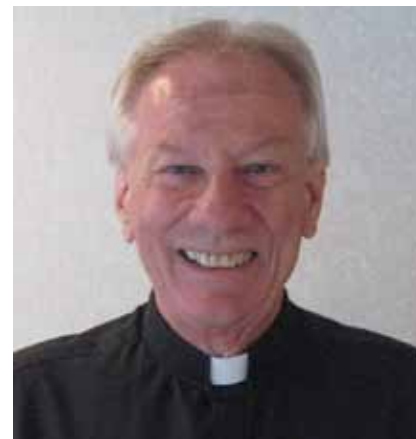
Try to imagine the depth of the need of the poor in Congo: the government is unstable, rebel forces spare no one and stop at nothing to maintain control. When a village is

What can a parish mission do for you?

Try this mental exercise: picture someone who needs a missionary’s visit. What does the person look like? What does he/she eat, wear, do for work? What are that person’s unique spiritual needs?

No matter what mental image you come up with, you’re probably right. But now, look in the mirror: that may also be the face of someone who needs a missionary.

Father Bob Gielow will be leading a parish mission at St. Patrick’s the



week of Oct. 23-28. The goal, Father says, is to “evangelize the already baptized, refresh faith.”

Father Bob, a religious priest of the Congregation of the Mission—which was founded by St. Vincent de Paul—has been conducting parish missions throughout the United States for the past 25 years. In addition, he has taught high school in Arizona and college at DePaul University in Chicago, and he has been one of the team chaplains for the

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destroyed, the people may flee to the nearby forest until quiet returns. Coming back, they find no homes, no animals, no food. The situation is repeated throughout the country, with mutilation and rape for the most vulnerable. Our donations will provide very welcome help.

Appolinaire Ikuku, or "Appo," is known to many parishioners in the Peace and Justice ministry. He insists that we need have no fear of the shipment being hijacked and the contents sold in local markets for private profit. The shipment will be received in Congo by the Josephite Fathers, who will forward donations to the bishops of Congo, each of whom has fair, efficient, organized methods to distribute help to needy people.

From 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. during the week of Oct. 4-8, Monday-Friday, we are invited to bring items to the brown garage, where donations will be kept safe and dry until they are packed. Do not leave items outside the garage—a key to the garage may be obtained from the parish office. The Congolese volunteers will come on Saturday, Oct. 9, to sort and pack everything for the cargo container, which will be here for one hour on Saturday.

The cost to ship the container is \$5,500, so donations of money will also be very welcome. Put yours in an envelope marked "Congo" and place it in the collection on Sunday, Oct. 2, or bring it to the parish office during the week of Oct. 4-8.

Let's do our very best. This "extra mile" reaches across the world to Congo, where help is sorely needed!



in our parish library

Did you know that the parish library has a small collection of fiction novels from acclaimed Christian/Catholic authors? Below are a few examples. Please let library coordinator Lori Mestre (365-9004) know what other authors you would like to see represented in the collection.

Chesterton, Gilbert Keith

- *Citadel of God*. Call Number: FIC DEW 1994
- *The Complete Father Brown* (Father Brown Mysteries). Call Number: FIC CHE 1987

de Wohl, Louis

- *The Spear*. Call Number: FIC DEW 1998
- *Lay Siege to Heaven*. Call Number: FIC DEW 1991

Godden, Rumer

- *Five for Sorrow, Ten for Joy*. Call Number: FIC GOD 2007
- *In This House of Brede*. Call Number: FIC DEW 2005

Greeley, Andrew

- *Angel Light*. Call Number: FIC GRE 1996
- *The Bishop at the Lake: A Bishop Blackie Ryan Novel*. Call Number: FIC GRE 2007
- *The Magic Cup*. Call Number: FIC GRE 2008
- *The Patience of a Saint*. Call Number: FIC GRE 1987
- *The Senator and the Priest*. Call Number: FIC GRE 2007

Gregory, David

- *Dinner with a Perfect Stranger: An Invitation Worth Considering*. Call Number: FIC GRE 2005

Lewis, C. S. (among other books)

- *Space Trilogy*. (Boxed set) Call Number: FIC LEW 1996
- *Til We Have Faces*. Call Number: FIC LEW 1980

O'Brien, Michael D.

- *Father Elijah: An Apocalypse*. Call Number: FIC OBR 1996 (A good book to read before the other O'Brien books in our collection)

O'Connor, Flannery

- *A Good Man Is Hard to Find and Other Stories*. Call Number: FIC OCO 1992

Uris, Leon

- *Trinity*. Call Number: FIC URI 1983 library

* * *

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 Mass, centerpiece of our Faith

We go to worship every weekend. It is our obligation as baptized Catholics. We have been attending Mass since childhood, or perhaps since our adult conversion to the faith. Our knowledge of why and how we worship may date back to our preparation for receiving First Communion.

The Second Vatican Council document *The Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy* speaks of the liturgy of the Mass as the summit toward which Christian life is directed—the source of grace poured over us, the place where we go for reconciliation, peace, and communion. The document explains why we cannot merely “attend” the Mass, but need to exercise full, conscious, and active participation.

There were visible changes in the liturgy of the Mass following the Second Vatican Council in the 1960s. The text of the Mass was translated from Latin to the native language of each country. Priests, who used to stand with their backs to the assembly, began to face the people. Altars were centered in the sanctuary rather than against the back wall. Instead of kneeling at an altar railing to have the priest place the host on our tongue, we began receiving the Eucharist in our own hands, now able to feed ourselves. The laity were invited to minister to one another, some as lectors, others as Extraordinary Ministers of Communion.

Perhaps the most dramatic change was the emphasis placed on the laity and their role of participation in the liturgy. As the baptized assembly of the faithful, we were now called a “priestly people,” offering ourselves along with the offering of the priest, and opening our hearts to receive Christ’s gift of the Eucharist. And our priestly responsibilities do not end with the closing hymn—we are dismissed to

bring the love of God to the secular world in which we live out our daily lives. Is this what we learned at the time of our First Communion? Is it time to refocus on the quality of our worship?

Beginning with the weekend of Sept. 18-19, the Ministry of Worship is inserting in the weekly bulletin a five-part series on the Sacrifice of the Mass. The series will include ways to prepare for Mass, discuss the nature of our worship as a community of believers, examine the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist, and explain what we are to reflect on as we are dismissed each week into a secular world. The series of articles will also be available in the parish office and on the parish Web site: www.stpaturbana.org.

The series concludes on the weekend of Oct. 16-17; all Masses will become “teaching Masses” that weekend. As each Mass is celebrated, Fr. Joe will insert commentary to clarify what is taking place at that moment. Everyone who comes to worship that weekend will have the opportunity to understand better how our participation is in itself a ministry, as we realize that we are witnesses to the power of God’s grace and mercy while celebrating the memorial of the life, death, and Resurrection of Christ—the Mass, the centerpiece of our Faith.



Bulletin Series on the Mass

- Part 1: Preparing for Mass (Sept. 18-19)
- Part 2: What Is the Mass, and How Do We Participate? (Sept. 25-26)
- Part 3: The Liturgy of the Word (Oct. 2-3)
- Part 4: The Liturgy of the Eucharist (Oct. 9-10)
- Part 5: The Dismissal—Sending Us Out into the World (Oct. 16-17)

Vocation Prayer



Lord Jesus, in the Eucharist you offer us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet. May the witness of all the saints prompt us to heed the call to holiness in our lives, fed as we are by your own body and blood. Call many men and women to serve as priests, sisters, brothers, and deacons, and support and guide them in their ministry to us.

Parish Mission

from page 1

Chicago Bears for the past 17 years.

What can Mission Week do for you? It's different for everyone, but here's my story: You may recall Fr. Bob's last visit to St. Patrick's more than seven years ago. At the time, I was married for just over a year and



had recently found out that my father was diagnosed with lymphoma.

Fr. Bob encouraged those of us who wanted to give his mission a monetary donation to include in the envelope a prayer request for him and his team of priests to lift up to God. You can easily imagine what mine was. He taught us to pray boldly, expecting miracles.

My father's cancer is in complete remission. Shortly after Fr. Bob's

visit, we learned that his condition was not "treatable," but "curable." Did God cure my father as a result of my attending one night of Fr. Bob's mission? Impossible to say. I know that prayers for miraculous healing are many times answered in ways other than the ones we imagine.

However, I can say that God used Fr. Bob's mission visit to refresh my own faith, which had been substantially lagging until then. I had been wondering what was the point of faith and of going to church. God met me where I was, and let me know that my trust in him is never wasted.

If it's in your heart maybe to attend Mission Week, take Fr. Bob's advice to "give me one night—or better, give God one night—and then decide." Each evening will consist of a Mass with homily followed by social time in the hall. Families are encouraged to attend together.

Here's a final thought from Fr. Bob: "Attending Mission is giving God something extra. We no longer then are a Church of the 'Minimum.'"

—Rachael McMillan

What is a Cursillo?

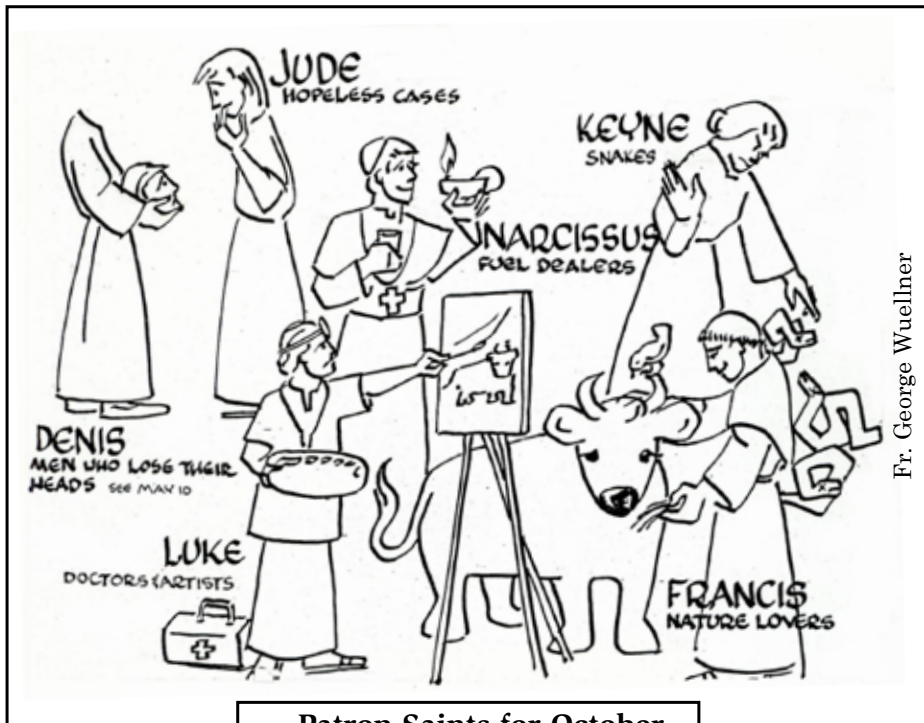
Cursillo is a Spanish word that translates to "short course." It is a three-day weekend that begins on Thursday evening and concludes on Sunday evening. During these three days participants listen to the Gospel message divided into fifteen short talks. Five are given by clergy and focus on grace, the gift of God to all persons.

The other ten presentations, given by deacons and laypersons who have already made a Cursillo, focus on Christian study, action, leadership, living a life in relationship with God, the role of the layperson in the Church, and similar reflections on situations encountered in daily living. Each talk is followed by small-group discussions. The teachings of Christ are presented in an atmosphere of warmth, joy, and fellowship.

The Cursillo movement began in Spain in the late 1940s and spread throughout Spanish-speaking countries. The first English-language Cursillo was held in 1961 in San Angelo, Texas, and that year it spread to a dozen other states, including Illinois. The movement, open to people of all faiths, was introduced in the Diocese of Peoria in 1964. The diocesan prison ministry program is an outgrowth of the Cursillo movement.

You can learn more about Cursillo by visiting champaigncursillo@yahoo.com or by writing to Eastern Area Cursillo Community, P.O. Box 7043, Champaign, IL 61826-7043.

The next Cursillo, to be held at St. Patrick's Oct. 21-24, is for the women of Eastern Illinois. Participants will meet, eat, and sleep at the St. Patrick's parish center. Father Joe and Deacon Cliff Maduzia from St. Patrick's, Father Merdian from St. Matthew's, and Father Willard from Holy Cross will be among the presenters.



Fr. George Wuellner

Patron Saints for October

Catching up with Suzanne D'Andria

On most Sundays during the school year you can catch a glimpse of her rushing around the parish center—busy, sometimes harried, but always ready to smile. Sometimes you may just hear someone say, “Where’s Suzanne?” “Have you seen Suzanne?” or “I have to find



Suzanne!” Stay in one place long enough, and she’s bound to come whizzing by, often with an entourage of people whose questions and concerns she deals with cheerfully as she moves from one task or crisis to another. When she’s lucky enough to be able to sit down, it may look like she is holding court as one person after another seeks her out or approaches with a question. Who is this very popular woman? She’s Suzanne D’Andria, coordinator of the children’s religious education program at St. Patrick’s.

This year will be Suzanne’s sixth year organizing children’s religious education at St. Patrick’s and in St. Joseph. She’s also responsible for the week-long Vacation Bible School, held every year in June. Although the Sundays when religious education classes are taking place can be hectic, Suzanne is very happy in her work.

The position has been a good fit for Suzanne in a number of ways. Her background is in education, and she likes working with young children.

There is a good amount of flexibility—something very important to a mother of young children. After stints working in both the corporate world and in schools, she says that a particularly wonderful aspect of her job is working with a parish staff she loves like family.

Suzanne grew up with two brothers in the Chicago suburb of Elmhurst, Illinois. She attended Catholic schools for most of her schooling and was active in her parish church, including teaching Sunday school while she was in high school. Her dreams and ambitions all involved music. Her biggest ambition? “I always wanted to be a backup singer for James Taylor,” she says.

Always involved in music, she started cantoring at the age of fourteen.

While studying music at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, she directed the 4:30 p.m. choir at St. John’s chapel on campus. It was there that she met a trumpet player named Lou D’Andria. This year they will celebrate their fifteenth wedding anniversary.

After graduating from the UI with a degree in music education, Suzanne spent some years teaching, including two years in Catholic schools. After a year of teaching in Kankakee, she decided to move back to Urbana. Her parents had moved to Florida and she still had friends here, so it seemed a good choice. She has been a parishioner at St. Patrick’s since 1992.

Not surprisingly, Suzanne’s family is also musical. Her husband, Lou, is a semi-professional trumpet player. Her son John, a seventh-grader, plays oboe in concert band. Ellie, in fifth grade, sings with the Central Illinois Children’s Choir and has begun taking part in local musical theatre productions. Second-grader

Matthew is still exploring his musical interests.

Suzanne’s own musical pursuits continue. The one aspect of her job that disappoints her is that her responsibilities and schedule have made it almost impossible for her to be a cantor anymore, although she does cantor for an occasional wedding or funeral. She says she very much misses doing that. (As do many in the parish, for she has a beautiful voice!)

However, Suzanne can sometimes pursue her love of music outside of St. Patrick’s. As her children grow older, she is finding more time to participate in musical theatre again. This past summer, she appeared in the Champaign-Urbana Theatre Company’s production of the musical, “Rent.” She also hopes to become involved in the UI Oratorio Society sometime in the not-too-distant future.

As if she’s not busy enough, Suzanne occasionally takes substitute teaching jobs in order to maintain her teacher certification. Although she is certified to teach every grade from kindergarten to grade 12, she prefers substituting in elementary schools. And yes, she does have a few interests and activities she likes

besides music. “I love to do rubber stamping and other crafts,” she says.

What is her big secret in life? She always went by the nickname “Sue” until she went to college, when her name transformed into “Suzanne.”

What would she do if she could do anything at all in life? She grins and repeats, “Be a back-up singer for James Taylor.” Some ambitions never lose their appeal! Until she achieves that goal, we are lucky to have someone of such enthusiasm, talent, and energy, coordinating children’s programs in our parish.



The “Little Flower,” Doctor of the Church

The story of St. Thérèse is lacking in outward drama. She was born in 1873 to a middle-class family in Lisieux, a small town in Normandy. Her mother died when Thérèse was four, leaving her and her four older sisters in the care of their father, a man of marked piety.

At the age of 15, Thérèse received a special dispensation (for one so young) to enter the Carmelite convent of Lisieux, where two of her sisters had preceded her. The rest of her short life was spent within this obscure cloister. She died of tuberculosis on Sept. 30, 1897, at the age of 24.

It might be supposed that the memory of such a short and outwardly uneventful life would remain within the walls of her convent; instead, her name quickly circled the globe. In response to popular acclamation, her canonization was processed with remarkable speed, and she was declared a saint in 1925. Her feast is observed on Oct. 1.

What lay behind these developments was the posthumous publication of her autobiography, *The Story of a Soul*, in which she described her distinctive insights into the spiritual life. She called her method of spirituality “the Little Way”—performing everyday actions and suffering petty insults or injuries in the presence and love of God. She believed that this way might transform any situation into a profound arena for holiness, and that one might thus make a significant contribution to transforming the world.

Thérèse wrote of her feeling that she was called to all vocations, especially to be a priest—but also a warrior, an apostle, a Doctor of the Church, a martyr. Ultimately, she came to realize that her voca-

tion was nothing less than Charity itself, a virtue embracing every other vocation: “My vocation is love! ... In the heart of the Church, who is my Mother, I will be love. So I shall be everything and so my dreams will be fulfilled!” At another point she described her mission as simply, “to make Love loved.”

In the years following her death, Thérèse was credited with an extraordinary number of miracles. It was remembered that she had once said, “After my death I will let fall a shower of roses. I will spend my heaven in doing good upon Earth.”

In 1925, less than 28 years after her death, she was canonized; in 1927 she was declared the patron



saint of the missions along with St. Francis Xavier; in 1947 she was named a secondary patron saint of France, along with St. Joan of Arc; and in 1997 she was decreed a Doctor of the Church by Pope John Paul II—only the third time such an honor had been bestowed on a woman—a title generally given to saints whose writings have been of fundamen-

tal influence in the development of the Church’s teachings.

St. Thérèse really is a Doctor of the Church. She actually does teach: no writer of theology will carry readers so unerringly to the living heart of the Gospels. Some might say that the title “Doctor of the Church” should be reserved for those who wrestle with the complexities of faith. Here it is used for a young woman who, standing in the midst of the doctors, confounds them with how clearly the Lord taught her to see things. St. Pius X called her the greatest saint of modern times.

I am only a very little soul, who can offer only very little things to our Lord.

What is “Priesthood Sunday”?

Priesthood Sunday, this year observed on Oct. 31, is a special day set aside to honor the priesthood in the United States. Coordinated and sponsored nationwide by the USA Council of Serra International, it is a day to reflect upon and affirm the role of the priesthood in the life of the Church.

That said, it is left to us to determine just how we will mark the day and honor our priests. Perhaps we might send them a personal note or a greeting card affirming our parish priests in appreciation for their constant and faithful ministry among us.

What way will you choose?

* * *

In your loving kindness, Oh good and gracious God, you sent your Son to be our shepherd and guide. Our priests, Father Joe and Father Luong, continue Christ’s ministry by sustaining and guiding your people. Bless them, let your Spirit uphold them always in their service to the people of this parish. We ask this, as always, in Jesus’ name.

For all going on pilgrimage to the Holy Land with Fr. Joe Hogan, Sept. 26-Oct. 5, we offer this prayer from The Book of Blessings:

All-powerful God,
you always show mercy toward those who love you
and you are never far away from those who seek you.

Remain with your servants on this holy pilgrimage
and guide their way in accord with your will.

Shelter them with your protection by day,
give them the light of your grace by night,
and, as their companion on the journey,

bring them to their destination in safety.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Looking to the future

A page of parish history will unfold at some indeterminate time in the future as the time capsule recently buried in the new St. Patrick's sign is opened.

According to Will Justice, the young St. Patrick's parishioner who spearheaded the construction of the sign, curious people in the future will find a 2009 parish directory. They will get a glimpse of parish life in the early 2000s as they unveil pictures of the site taken in the summer of 2010 before the sign was constructed. They will also see an In Focus article and church bulletins that mention the sale of bricks to help support the project.

In addition they will find some Boy Scout memorabilia: a Boy Scout kerchief from the 75th anniversary of Holy Cross School Troop 9 and a patch from the Boy Scout Prairielands Council of Illinois. And, finally, they will find a roll of 2010 dollars with instructions to save one dollar for the archives and sell the rest to feed the poor.

Parishioners have been invited to "buy a brick" to help fund the project, and a recent accounting showed that more than \$4000 has been raised so far to offset the total estimated cost of \$7,185. The bricks are still available at \$10 for one brick, \$24 for 3, \$50 for 6, and \$100 for 12. Checks may be dropped in the Sunday collection or taken to the parish office with "Buy a Brick" on the check's memo line and your name and address so that Will can acknowledge your contribution.

Will proposed having the new sign built as his Eagle Scout project, and he has included in the time capsule a letter explaining the process he went through to see the sign go from only an idea to the reality of installation.

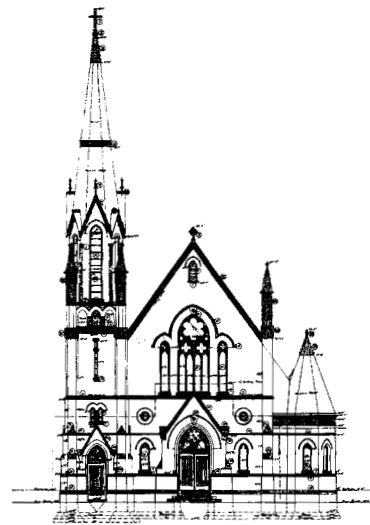
Honoring Our Past, Building Our Future

Church expansion update

St. Patrick's continues to look toward the future and the exciting vision of an enhanced worship space for our faith community. The proposed church renovation and expansion plan would double the seating capacity of our current worship space, create a beautiful gathering space to connect the church and the parish center, and provide the parish with additional meeting space in a new lower level under the expanded church.

Over the summer months, Fr. Joe Hogan and the Second Century Advisory Committee worked with the Diocese of Peoria to finalize two proposed contracts with Community Counseling Services (CCS), a fundraising firm based in Chicago—one for a pre-campaign assessment, the other for a capital campaign. Committee representatives also reported to the Parish Council in June and August to keep them up-to-date on the diocesan office's approval of both contracts.

In early August, the parish officially contracted with CCS to conduct a pre-campaign assessment, which was completed Sept. 2. The Second Century Advisory Committee is pleased with the results and is progressing in a thoughtful and planned manner to ensure that all parishioners are kept informed. Please keep this project in your prayers.





Q: Are there ever times when I can receive Communion more than once in a day?

A: The easiest way to think about

this is to consider what could be wrong with wanting to receive Communion more often. If it becomes a way to collect "grace points," or if it becomes so automatic that it is no longer an encounter with the Love of your Life, then frequent Communion is not a positive thing.

That said, however, it is the most natural thing in the world to want to receive our Lord whenever we attend Mass, and it is encouraged by the Church as long as we are not aware of having committed serious sin. Receiving Communion is an integral part of participating in the Mass, so we need to find a middle way.

Suppose you usually attend weekday Mass and you want to go to a Mass for a special purpose as well—for example, a funeral, Confirmation, a wedding, or a Teen Mass. Then it probably makes sense to receive Communion at both Masses. If you are called upon in a pinch to serve as a liturgical minister at more than one Mass, then it is surely reasonable to receive Communion at both Masses.

Not every Communion is going to be an emotional experience, but every Communion can be an experience of faith, of encountering the living God and inviting him into your life.

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



Deadline for submission of information, articles and news items for the next issue of *In Focus* is October 17.

Holy Cross Happenings

School got off to a great start in August, with many new and returning families. The new school year also brought three new teachers—Mrs. Wong, teaching seventh-grade homeroom and science, and two fifth-grade teachers, Miss Walden from the Peoria area, and Mrs. Pope, a St. Patrick's parishioner.

The entire student body celebrated their "Feast" week, the Exultation of the Holy Cross, Sept. 13-17, with special activities, including a school-wide Living Rosary, a trip to the Cathedral in Peoria to celebrate Mass with Bishop Jenky, and a special Grandparents Day Mass on Sept. 14.

Alumni and families of Holy Cross: Mark your calendars for HOT DOG DAY, Friday, Oct. 15. Students really look forward to this annual lunch with their families and friends. Alumni are also welcome to join in the fun!



Welcome Back! The High School of St. Thomas More is pleased to welcome St. Patrick's young parishioners to another year of study, sports, and fun. With "Saber Stories," we hope to keep parishioners informed of the

many academic and extracurricular achievements of our students. Please contact Mary Welle (m.welle@comcast.net) with the latest news.

Congratulations to the Class of 2010! The High School of Saint Thomas More held its Baccalaureate and Commencement Exercises on Sunday, May 23, for eighty-six students. The Knights of Columbus led the entrance procession. Fr. Robert Lampitt served as presider, with Msgr. Albert Hallin, Msgr. Gregory Ketcham, Msgr. Mark Merdian, Fr. Joseph Hogan, Fr. Steve Willard, and Deacon J. Robert Ulbrich participating.

This event marked the culmination of four years of dedicated scholastics, spiritual growth, and community services. Graduates will remember the good times with classmates, exciting achievements, and inspirational moments shared with faculty and friends. May God bless them in their journey into adulthood. St. Patrick's graduates from St. Thomas More:

Tyler Marcus Faught Attending University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Johanna Eileen McCarthy Attending Northwestern University
Samuel Patrick Noonan Attending Parkland Community College
John Frank Patterson Attending Southern Illinois University/Carbondale
Andrew Earl Wszalek Attending University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Sports Page Fall sports at St. Thomas More include cross country, boys and girls golf, volleyball, soccer, football, and cheerleading. There is also an enthusiastic pep band playing at football and basketball games throughout the year. Sports schedules are available at the high school's Web site (www.hs-stm.org).

Did you know?

- St. Patrick's has a Personnel Committee that meets 3-4 times a year to formulate, update, and monitor application of comprehensive personnel guidelines for all salaried employees of the parish. The committee also does comparative studies of duties, salary structure, and benefits to assure our employees of competitive and fair compensation levels.
- Our parish bell choir has grown in popularity. The choir was recently invited to play at a wedding Mass.
- The founding pastor of our parish was Fr. John H. Cannon. It was he who chose to name the parish for St. Patrick, perhaps because many of his new parishioners were of Irish descent.

Come to the (Health) Fair!

Plan now to visit the St. Patrick's Health Fair in the main hall on Oct. 31 from 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. This annual event, sponsored by the Parish Nurses, will have multiple booths available to increase awareness of your personal health status and helpful community resources. Here is a list of just some of the opportunities offered:



- Flu shots
- Lipid profile testing
- Exercise/Nutrition information; Body Mass Index calculation
- Balance testing
- Demonstration of the Heimlich maneuver (to prevent choking)
- Demonstration of Automatic External Defibrillator
- Blood pressure screening
- Cancer awareness education
- Winter health/safety preparation
- Questions for the Pharmacist: A registered pharmacist will be available to answer questions and provide information regarding your medications.
- Blood drive
- Healthy Smiles

There will also be a prize drawing for a "Winter TLC" basket. Everyone who fills out a survey designed to assist the Parish Nurses in planning future events will receive an entry form for this drawing. You won't want to miss it!

CREW offers evergreens for sale

A tradition continues. For the seventh year CREW members will again be taking orders for Christmas evergreens to support their annual summer Mission Trip. Parishioners may place their orders before and after all Masses from Oct. 16 to Oct. 31, either outside the church or in the coffee shop.

Order forms will also be printed in the parish bulletins, and orders may be placed in the parish office during these three weeks. Parishioners may pick up their evergreens or purchase extras at the Christmas Expo, co-hosted by the Women of St. Patrick on Dec. 5.

Peggy Loftus, Senior High School Youth Ministry coordinator, is enthusiastic about the product: "You will not find a fresher, greener, or fuller wreath or swag anywhere in town. Ask any of our satisfied customers. The evergreens are all full, beautiful, and fragrant. CREW orders them from Sherwood Forest farms in Washington State. The company does not cut down old-growth trees. All evergreens are grown and produced by their farm." The products can be viewed at www.sherwoodforestfarms.com.

Parishioners may also order evergreens to be sent to loved ones around the country. CREW will have information on the prices for direct shipping to anyone in the Continental U.S.

Although the destination of the next summer mission trip is still undecided, the teens and adults will again be traveling during July 2011 to help an organization in the selected area with their social justice endeavors. Last year, the parish helped support the 26 teens and 13 adult chaperons on mission to East St. Louis, Illinois.



Special calls for volunteers

- The Communications Committee is seeking a correspondent to report on Parish Council meetings for In Focus. Judy Fierke, 352-7670
- The Grounds Crew tries to keep an eye on the need for new plantings, watering, and weeding on parish grounds. Much remains to be done this fall. Chris Langendorf, 328-2809
- The parish's Fall Cleaning Day, Oct. 9, will require many helping hands in the church, the parish center, and the grounds to follow up on the excellent work accomplished by so many last spring. Kathy McKenzie, 328-2241; Mary Ann Luedtke, 328-1143



Parish groups or individuals can submit entries for this column to the Communications Committee or contact 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.

Prayer

Teacher and Healer,
you brought the gift of yourself
to those who benefited from your
work.

You touched them with well-
springs of love.

Remind me each day to do the
same.

Consecrate all I do today
so my service to others brings a
blessing.

I open the door of my heart to you.
I open the door.

—Joyce Rupp

From Dr. Susan Nagele

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September 2010

Dear friends,

I have been back in Kenya since April 8 and am now in Mombasa, a big city on the coast of the Indian Ocean. The recent census found there are 523,000 people here, making it the second largest city in the country.

The day I arrived in Mombasa, Maryknoll Brother John Mullen died after a long illness in New York. He was only 58, but he had come to Mombasa 16 years ago with his nursing skills and started the first home-based care program for people living with AIDS. The accompanying picture is the Mbungoni clinic, which was dedicated to his memory in July.

I am standing with a nurse and social worker in front of a metal container that was converted into four offices. It is a fitting remembrance to the pioneering work Bro. John did at a time when people were afraid to whisper the word AIDS.

I am living with Mary Oldham, a new Maryknoll lay missionary who is working in a Maryknoll project for orphans whose parents died of AIDS. She is 36 and from Iowa, so we have some things in common. She was also trained as a chemical engineer and lived in California for 10 years, so our different backgrounds give us skills to help each other out in the day-to-day challenges of beginning new ministries in a new place. I am truly blessed to have such a wonderful companion in mission.

I am working with Sr. Pauline, the Health Coordinator of the Archdiocese of Mombasa. I have visited all 15 diocesan dispensaries and health centers, which are spread out over 24,000 square miles. Even though I've worked in East Africa for 26 years, I didn't realize how needy and marginalized the people are, here on the coast. Educational standards are poor, especially for girls, who are often married at age 14-16. Eight percent of the population are HIV+, the third highest number in the country.

I have started to do monthly clinics in a broken-down dispensary near the Tanzanian border. There is no running water, but there are lots of very sick people and a very good nurse trying to help them. We want to renovate the dispensary to make it adequate to do normal deliveries. It will take \$26,000, and we've already raised half of that amount. Soon the workers will start to repair a big crack in the main wall and put on a new roof.

I also visited another remote parish on the Tanzanian border that has a very energetic Tanzanian priest who is a member of the missionary group Apostles of Jesus. He wants to bring a community of Sisters to the parish; in less than three months he has built a convent that is almost finished. He also has an old building that he would like to renovate to become a small dispensary. These are the kinds of people we want to support, and I am hopeful we will be able to help him with this dream as well.

My health is gradually improving, and while I am not able to do as much as in the past, I am very grateful for being able to return and do what I can. It seems that, more and more, my role will be to teach younger health-care workers and support them in trying to provide quality health care to those who are most in need. Kenya passed a new constitution on Aug. 4 and the voting process was very peaceful so we are hopeful that by working together we can make progress in the future.

Thanks to all of you for your support and prayers. I will be back in the U.S. at the end of September to attend the American Association of Family Physicians conference in Denver. They want to give me the 2009 Humanitarian award, which I was unable to receive last year because I was too sick. Now I have a profound understanding of chronic pain and illness and can better empathize with those of you who have similar problems. I will keep all of you in my prayer with much gratitude.



*Peace + God Bless,
Susan*

Vietnamese celebrate Mary and their heritage

For more than 30 years, Vietnamese Catholics have gathered in Carthage, Missouri, on the first weekend of August to celebrate Marian Days. This year, more than 60,000 faithful souls came together to grow in their faith and to celebrate their heritage. About 10 families from the U-C area attended Marian Days this year, including our own Fr. Luong Tran.

The meeting is held on the grounds of the Congregation of the Mother Co-Redemptrix, a community of 170 priests and brothers. This congregation was founded in Vietnam. After the Vietnam war ended in 1975, many of their members arrived in the U.S. and established a home here. Their special charism is the support of Vietnamese Catholics in the United States. Marian Days began as a retreat offered by the community, and has grown from there.

It is now a four-day event. Each day, a Mass is celebrated, incorporating Vietnamese customs. There are workshops and conferences, opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, processions, and other devotions. Fr. Luong reports that he heard confessions for three hours each



day, sitting outside in the shade of a large tree.

Most of the participants camp on the grounds of the congregation, though some are able to find hotel space nearby. They bring their own tents or bed down in one of the communal tents.

You can imagine that the logistics of caring for so many people are immense. The congregation arranges for toilets and showers. Many vendors provide meals, and some of their booths are intended to raise funds for Vietnamese churches, either in the U.S. or in the homeland. Like any Midwestern fair, there are funnel cakes and popsicles, but this one features the rich aromas of Vietnamese cookery.



Come to the parish cleaning party!

St. Patrick's parish buildings are due for a good fall cleaning from its members who call it home. Please come out to help take care of our beautiful "parish home." We will be cleaning the church and the parish center, so we will need many hands.

The Women of St. Patrick are hoping to make this a fun social and service event. Some food and fun will be provided, along with clean-

ing supplies (but bring gloves if you like to use them).

Come for a chance to share in this wonderful ministry to our parish and have fun while you're at it. Give the gift of your time as individuals, couples, or families, and join in making light work of a big job!

The cleaning party will take place on Saturday, Oct. 9, from 9 a.m. to noon.



They came (and came) to the Meet and Greet BBQ

Youngsters climbed trees and generally ran their parents in circles on the parish lawn. New parishioners found the Welcome Tent and visited with staff. And everyone enjoyed the barbeque with all the side dishes provided by those who came. It was a great day for looking up friends after the summer hiatus and for making new friends. Even our changeable weather cooperated. If you missed this year's kickoff "happening," look for it again next year!



May God bless all volunteers!

Stouthearted volunteers helped the Women of St. Patrick turn the parish center into an upscale thrift shop for three days in August for the Cellar-to-Garret Sale.

Many hands carried, sorted, priced, folded, refolded, and sold our donations, earning a total of \$7,800 (before expenses) for the parish. These funds will pay for some major parish needs in the coming year.



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 Carol Bosley, Judy Fierke, Elizabeth Hendricks, Mary Karten, Mary Long, Rachael McMillan, Mary Lou Menches, Lori Mestre, Susan Nagele, Nancy Roth, Cathy Salika, Stephanie Smith, Margaret Stewart, Joe Tobias, Fr. Luong Tran, Mary Welle, and Peggy Whelan. "October Patron Saints" by Fr. George Wuellner. Photos received from Pat Justice, Peggy Loftus, Lucille Salika, Mary Lou Menches, Naneera Vidhayasirinun. This issue was edited by Rick Partin and paged by John Colombo.

Quick fixin's from the kitchen of . . . Margaret Stewart

Broccoli Harvest Salad

- 2-3/4 c chopped fresh broccoli
- 1/4 c raisins
- 1 c unpeeled cored and chopped red delicious apples
- 1/4 c finely chopped red onion
- 1/4 c bacon bits
- 1/3 c shredded cheddar cheese
- 1/2 cup Miracle Whip Salad Dressing
- 1 T white vinegar
- 2 t sugar (or 1 packet sugar substitute)



In a large bowl combine broccoli, raisins, apples, and onion. Stir in bacon bits and cheddar cheese. In a small bowl combine Miracle Whip, vinegar, and sugar. Add to broccoli mixture and mix well. Cover and refrigerate at least one hour. Gently stir before serving.

* * *

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!