

# St. Patrick Parish IN FOCUS

www.stpaturbana.org

July/August 2013

## Building Community

A wise old priest walked through the village to the home of a woman who had stopped coming to Sunday Mass. They nodded to each other as she opened the door. She let



him in and motioned to one of the chairs by the fireplace, while she sat down in the other. Neither spoke. After a while, the priest took an ember from the heart of the fire and set it on the hearth stone by itself. As they watched, it gradually stopped glowing and died. The woman said, "I understand. I'll come to Mass next Sunday."

The life of our parish community begins on Sunday morning. God brings us together because we need each other, just as we need God's Word and God's Body and Blood to nourish our faith. This is how we come to know and love God, and how we come to know and love one another. As God draws us to himself,

he also draws us into community. And so the life of our parish community is very important.

The life of our parish community begins on Sunday morning... and it continues through the whole week. In August we will be invited to think about how we can use our time and talents to help our community grow in faith and love. There will be something that every one of us can do... every one. Are you a single parent, juggling kids and work? Could all of you help to rake leaves one Saturday morning? Are you homebound? Your

parish really needs your prayers. Do you like to cook? Bring a dish to a funeral luncheon, or a dessert to a Lenten fish fry. Do you know how to make beautiful things? Knit or crochet a prayer shawl for someone who is ill, or help make our church a beautiful place of worship.

Do you think you have no talents? Think again! God didn't overlook you. If you can push a wheel chair, drive a car, wipe a table, sing a song, or teach a prayer to a child, there's something you can do. Whatever you can do, you'll be doing it for God and for your parish community. Whatever you do, you'll be doing it with God, and with your parish community.

## Living Faith

By Marilyn Pollard

I am a member of St. Patrick's Liturgical Arts Team, which is part of the Worship Ministries Team. Our purpose is to come up with ideas to decorate the church in ways that convey or enhance the themes of the liturgical seasons.

As a member of St. Pat's since the early Eighties, I have seen our church go through some interior changes. My daughter, now an adult, lives in Arizona. The church in her town met in a school gym for years. One day she went online to show a friend what a "real" church (St. Pat's) looks like. She called me right away: "What happened to my church? It used to be red!" Having the feeling that this is "my" church is what I hope everyone personally feels at St. Pat's. Helping to create that feeling is very satisfying to me.

At Time and Talent sign-up, helping with creatively conveying the themes of the liturgical seasons

seemed a good fit with my talent. While others do most of the sewing and flower arrangements,

I bring my experience as a stained glass artist by helping with the design and proportions for banners and for projects like our Easter altar cloth.

My skills also are used in making things, like the wood cross with

see **Living Faith** on page 12



## Fr. Joe celebrates 25 years as a priest

The walls resounded with song. There was a smile on every face, and tears of joy in many eyes. Rapt attention was focused on the altar. One could sense God's grace and love

the occasion. The readings before the gospel were delivered in Mayan and Spanish. Msgr. William Watson delivered the homily, which was especially insightful because he has

cause he looked like John Travolta, with long hair and the dimple in his chin. By college Joe's organizational skills became apparent: he was always arranging family get-togethers



throughout the evening.

The Mass celebrating Fr. Joe's 25th anniversary as a priest was celebrated by ten priests, two deacons, and a seminarian. The music was inspiring. Parishioners from both St. Mary's and St. Patrick's gathered for



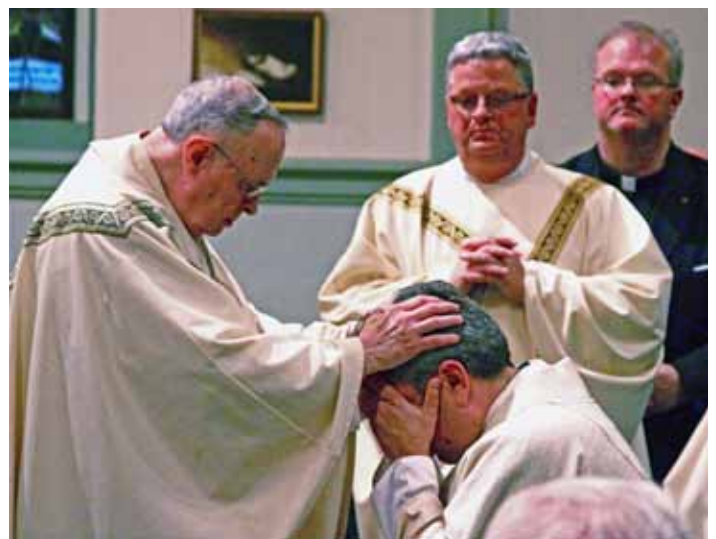
known and worked with Fr. Joe for decades. He said that Fr. Joe has great enthusiasm for life and a gift for bringing people together, that he listens to all—including God.

At the end of Mass Pat and Dick Justice emceed a program of memories and gratitude.

Fr. Joe's sister Robin posed and answered some likely questions. Did our family see the priesthood coming? No, Joe always said he wanted to be a cop. In second grade he began to have regular nightmares. One day he came to Robin and told her that he prayed, and the nightmares went away. So it seems that Joe had a simple, pure faith from childhood. In high school the girls loved him be-

all over the Midwest.

His sister Mary remembered confiding in him about how unfulfilled she felt in the business world. Father Joe advised her to get a Master's in



Pastoral Studies. All who attended the women's retreat here in May can attest to Mary's giftedness in relating to people. She mentioned that on

see **Fr. Joe** on page 12

## St. Patrick's Seniors honor Carolyn McElrath

At their June luncheon St. Patrick's Seniors honored Carolyn McElrath, who has served in a variety of capacities at St. Patrick's for nearly 30 years. Fr. Hogan gave the blessing and instructed the Seniors to grill Carolyn on theology. Joan Haynes started the questioning by asking if there were dogs in heaven. Carolyn answered with the following short story.

A very old man and his dog were out fishing when they met a stranger. The stranger asked if the man was ready to go to the other side of the bar. The man knew what the stranger was asking and replied that he was, but that he wanted his dog to come with him. The stranger replied that his dog couldn't come. "In that case," the man said, "I'm not going." So the stranger left.

A short while later, a second stranger appeared and asked the man if he was ready to go to the other side of the bar. The man replied that he was but that his dog had to come with him. "Of course

your dog can come," replied the stranger. "Dogs are always welcome in Heaven."

"But the other stranger just told me that my dog couldn't come with me," said the very old man.

"Then the other stranger was not from Heaven," replied the second stranger.

After lunch and conversation, the Seniors presented Carolyn with retirement gifts for her cooking, travels, and new home. Last year, Carolyn and Dale purchased their very first home, which is located in southwest

Urbana. They had considered retiring in Wisconsin, where they grew up, but they both agreed that most of their friends are here.

St. Patrick's Seniors will meet next on Tuesday, October 29, for an authentic Oktoberfest. Beer will be served. Please bring a German or American dish to pass. Be prepared to tell the group about a Halloween trick from your past or perhaps an Oktoberfest experience.



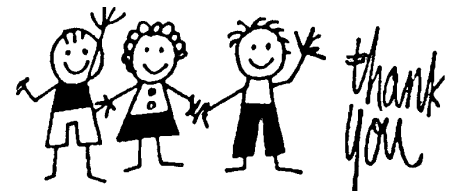
## Special volunteer opportunities

- Who sets out hosts and wine for Sunday Mass—the priest? No! Parishioners just like you do this! Currently there is real and present need for a parishioner (or a parishioner couple) to set up for **the 7:30 Mass** once a month. If you've ever wanted a very special way to serve your parish priests and people, this is it! *Mary Lou Menches, 344-1125 or [mmenches@illinois.edu](mailto:mmenches@illinois.edu)*

- **Shutterbugs** are needed for the parish newsletter, In Focus. Photos of parish events are always in great demand. Please send yours along, with a note identifying the event and/or the specific person or persons shown. If you're willing to be an "official" photographer of parish events 2 or 3 times a year for In Focus, even better! *Cathy Salika, 367-7861, [csalika@illinois.edu](mailto:csalika@illinois.edu)*

- **Ushers for Saturday's 5:00 p.m. Mass** are needed. If that's your Mass of choice on a regular or semi-regular basis, why not arrive a few minutes early to greet arriving parishioners, help take up the collection during Mass, and hand out the parish bulletin to parishioners after Mass? Couples and families welcome! *Chris Billing, 344-5407, [billing.chris@gmail.com](mailto:billing.chris@gmail.com)*

- Starting this fall, the **Food Pantry** will need one or two people to **collect donated breads and bakery from Panera's** at closing time. One of the "regulars" has retired and another parishioner has stepped in for the summer but expects to have knee surgery in the fall. *Can you help? Ellen Abell, 367-2665*



*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](mailto:mmenches@illinois.edu)). Provide your name and telephone number or e-mail address with a brief description of the kind of help being sought.*

### Help available for the unemployed

**For immediate help**, call one of these human resource professionals: Eric Ferguson (217-352-8051) or Donna Rinkenberger (217-220-0301).

Future open meetings for the unemployed will be on July 10 at 7 p.m. at St. Patrick's parish center (708 W. Main St., Urbana) and on July 31 at 7 p.m. at St Mary's (612 E. Park, Champaign).

**Looking for work?** Go to [www.staturbana.org/jobs/](http://www.staturbana.org/jobs/) and click on "EMPLOYMENT WANTED - Post your information here" to let us know about yourself and what job you are looking for.

**Have work available?** We try to link the unemployed to work around the house or at your business. Go to [www.staturbana.org/jobs/](http://www.staturbana.org/jobs/) and click on "EMPLOYMENT AVAILABLE - Post information about job here" to let us know about it!

**Spanish-speaking volunteer** is needed to help the Spanish-speaking unemployed. We will work together to provide the support they request.

Busca Usted trabajo? Vaya a [www.staturbana.org/jobs/](http://www.staturbana.org/jobs/) y haga clic en "EMPLEO DESEADO" para avisarnos de cuál trabajo busca.

**Want to help the unemployed?** If you want to become part of the EMPLOYMENT NETWORK & SUPPORT GROUP, please contact Cliff Maduzia ([cmaduzia1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cmaduzia1@sbcglobal.net) or (217-791-1264).



**Q: I hear that Fr. Joe is a vicar. What does that mean?**

A: The Diocese of Peoria has almost 200 parishes and missions spread over nearly 17,000 square miles. Bishop Jenky visits many of them every year or two while administering Confirmation, attending funerals, and participating in meetings, but obviously he can't be tuned in to the needs of every priest and the circumstances in every parish. So the diocese is divided into regions called "vicariates" and the bishop appoints a priest as vicar for each.

The responsibilities of a vicar are laid down in Canon Law (the laws of the worldwide Church) and in the statutes of the diocese. The vicar facilitates collaboration and communication among the parishes in the vicariate and with the bishop. He might encourage meetings of the priests or the laity. (Catholic Connected is an annual event in our vicariate.) He might encourage parishes to have Masses and Reconciliation at a variety of times to make it easier for everyone to attend.

The vicar also visits each parish annually to make sure that the finances, the buildings, the parish records, the liturgical celebrations, and the cemeteries are in good order. He notifies the bishop if a priest falls ill physically or in spirit. When a pastor dies, he arranges for the funeral and takes care of the parish until other arrangements are made. When there are conflicts between parishes, he tries to settle them locally. The role of a vicar obviously requires a great deal of pastoral experience, good judgment, and a love of parish 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.*

**St. Patrick's Parish is in the Champaign vicariate, together with 18 other parishes: Sacred Heart, Farmer City; Our Lady of the Lake, Mahomet; St. Philomena, Monticello; St. Michael, Bement; St. Boniface, Seymour; St. Joseph, Ivesdale; St. Malachy, Rantoul; St. Elizabeth, Thomasboro; St. Lawrence, Penfield; St. Charles Borromeo, Homer; St. Thomas, Philo; St. Mary, Pesotum; Immaculate Conception, Bongard; St. Patrick, Tolono; St. Matthew, Champaign; Holy Cross, Champaign; St. John Chapel, Champaign; and St. Mary, Champaign.**



**in our parish library**

July marks the commemoration of our country's birth. As Americans, we are fortunate to have the freedom and independence to choose whichever religion we wish to believe in. In many areas of the world, this is not the case. This month's selection of books focuses on religious freedom, as well as civil liberties in the United States.

***The Quest for True Freedom***, by Jennifer Penn, is an intimate portrayal of Fr. Thomas Merton; it journeys into the daily monastic life and Merton's spiritual quest. The book also contains many personal anecdotes and memories from fellow monks. (271 Pen)

***Catholicism & the American Freedom***, by John McGreevy, reveals how the individualist, and often vehemently anti-Catholic, inclinations of Protestant intellectuals shaped the debates over slavery—and how Catholics, although they were the first to acknowledge the moral equality of black people, still had difficulty arguing against the hierarchy and tradition represented by slavery. (282 McG)

***The Inner Voice of Love: Journey through Anguish to Freedom***, by Henri Nouwen, is the author's "secret journal." It was written during the most difficult period of his life, when he suddenly lost his self-esteem, his energy to live and work, his sense of being loved, even his hope in God. Yet he was still able to keep a journal in which he wrote a spiritual imperative to himself each day that emerged from his conversations with friends and supporters. (282 Nou)

***God Lives: From Religious Fear to Spiritual Freedom***, by James Kavanaugh, was written for those who wonder about sin, hell, the Bible, papal infallibility, a personal God, and how to live within their church when they are still fed myths and lies. Kavanaugh writes in the clear, eloquent, down-to-earth style that has characterized all his work, incorporating the latest of theological and biblical insights. (291 Kav)

***The God of Freedom & Life: Commentary about the Book of Exodus***, by Stephen Binz, presents the journey of Exodus as the quest for freedom and life. It is the foundation of the Jewish faith and therefore at the heart of the Christian-Judaic heritage. This commentary explores the perennial event of Exodus, a continuing journey toward God and toward understanding ourselves as God's people. It reveals a powerful story of passage from bondage to freedom, from death to life, and as such is the story of all God's people. (222 Bin)

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*As always, if you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact parish librarian Megan Raab (mer1987@sbcglobal.net), and she will be happy to assist you. Scanning the shelves and looking for subject labels may also prove fruitful in finding something you'd enjoy reading. The parish library is available on weekdays during office hours—ask for a key at the parish office. It is also open on Sundays between 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.*

## Introducing the new Council members

Last month we promised to tell you more about our new Council members, and here you are! Read the brief introductions they have prepared to help you get to know them. When you see them, you might thank them for their readiness to serve the parish in this way and assure them of your prayerful support.

### Ken Horn:

I attended the church for a few years with Marie (my wife) and decided to take the RCIA program in 2005. I joined the Church in 2006, and it wasn't long afterward that I was asked to be an usher/greeter at the 9:00 Mass, something I am still doing.



When Fr. Joe called and asked me if he could put my name in the hat for Parish Council, I was a little slow about saying yes. He gave me some information about the Council, but I was still slow to agree. He then said "Go Cardinals!" and I said okay. (I have been

a St. Louis Baseball Cardinal fan for 56 years.)

I have lived in Champaign/Urbana since 1967. I have an Associate Degree in Ag Marketing. I worked for the University of Illinois for 33 years as a Research Specialist, retired in 2009.

We have two sons, three grandsons, one great-granddaughter, and one great-grandson.

I want to thank everyone for having faith in me and asking me to be a member of the Parish Council. I'm looking forward to working with Fr. Joe, the Parish Council, and our parishioners. There are a lot of wonderful people here in this parish; I will do the very best I can to help all of the members.

### Kelly Skinner:

My husband Shawn and I live in St. Joseph with our five kids—Shane (15), twins Todd and Tyson (13), Erinn (12), and Conrad (9). We also have two dogs, an Old English mastiff and a miniature dachshund. A year after Shawn and I were married in 2007, we moved here from Indianapolis.



We joined St. Pat's soon after we were settled. I grew up Catholic and no matter where I've lived, I've always liked to be part of a strong parish community. I've been in-

involved as a Eucharistic Minister and this year have helped edit In Focus. Our kids participate in religious education in St. Joseph. And two years ago, Shawn participated in RCIA and joined the Church. We were also able to reconfirm our marriage vows with Fr. Joe—it was simply amazing!

I have an M.A. in higher education administration and worked several years in non-profit association management. When I moved from Indy, I kept my job there for a while and worked from home most days. Then I was fortunate to get a job locally and now I work at Carle as the Coordinator of Internal/Corporate Communications. I also do freelance writing and editing. I am an active volunteer with my sorority and am a member of the Educational Foundation Board of Trustees.

I am very honored and excited to be part of the Parish Council. I'm looking forward to working with Fr. Joe, the Parish Council, and our parishioners. This is a great opportunity to get to know even more of the wonderful people in this parish and to be even more involved in our parish community. I will do the very best I can.

### Solange Masweka:

I joined St. Patrick's church in 2006, when we came live in the U.S., then my kids were baptized and made



their first communion. Delphine Mulamba, who is a Parish Council member, contacted me and asked me if I would like to serve the church as one of the parish council members. After she shared her experience with me, I said yes because I always wanted to bring my little contribution to the church.

I have a bachelor degree in Economics from the University of Kinshasa (DR Congo) and Certificate in Accounting from Parkland College (Champaign). I am a tax Professional Assistant. I am married and a mother of five.

I am thankful to everyone who trusts me by asking me to join the Parish Council, especially Father Joe. It's an honor for me to serve God and my fellow parish members in this capacity. I will put forth my best efforts and ask God for guidance in all decisions affecting our parish.

### Vocation Prayer

*If today you hear his voice, harden not your heart.*

Speak, Lord, I am listening. I want to be ready for whatever you ask of me. Guide me in my choice of how best to serve you!

# Vatican II transformed the way we worship

By Fr. George Remm

Last month [*In Focus*, June 2013, p. 12] I shared with you my experience as a new priest celebrating the Tridentine Latin Mass for almost nine years. Although I am grateful for the faith passed on by that tradition, I have no desire to return to that way of liturgical prayer. In this second article to honor the heritage of the Second Vatican Council, I want to remember the first document promulgated by that Council about 50 years ago on Dec. 4, 1963, the “Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy.”



One Sunday afternoon in 1964, after celebrating morning Masses at Holy Trinity Church in Bloomington, Ill. (my first assignment), I slipped away to the parish office and began to read that document. As a member of the Diocesan Liturgical Committee I was asked to prepare a talk on a couple of its Articles. I vividly remember being almost overwhelmed by what I was reading. Nothing from my studies in the seminary (all pre-Vatican II theology) had prepared me for this document. I almost exclaimed that this had to be inspired by the Holy Spirit.

At the time, I did not realize that much study had been done for years regarding the history and development of worship in the Church by liturgical scholars in Europe, especially at certain centers and Benedictine monasteries, and in our own country at St. John’s Monastery in Collegeville, Minn. Also there was an active unofficial liturgical movement in the United States that included a yearly National Liturgical Conference. I attended one of these in 1962 in Philadelphia and became acquainted with persons committed to liturgical change from around the nation, as well as from our own diocese. This led to my involvement with the Liturgical Committee in the Diocese of Peoria.

The “Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy,” approved overwhelmingly

by the bishops of the Council, incorporated the results of research as well as the emerging desires of many for a more inclusive liturgy. The Constitution made it clear that the liturgy was not simply the work of the priest.

In Article 7, the Constitution states that “Christ is always present in his Church, especially in her liturgical celebrations...not only in the person of his minister... but especially under the Eucharistic species.... He is present in his word, since it is he himself who speaks when the Holy Scriptures are read in the Church. He is present, lastly, when the Church prays and sings, for he promised:

‘where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.’ ...From this it follows that every liturgical celebration, because it is an action of Christ the priest and of his body which is the Church, is a sacred action surpassing all others.”

Then in Article 14, the Constitution continued: “Mother Church earnestly desires that all the faithful should be led to that full, conscious, and active participation in liturgical celebrations which is demanded by the very nature of the liturgy. Such participation by the Christian people as ‘chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a redeemed people’ is their right and duty by reason of their baptism. In the restoration and promotion of the sacred liturgy, this full and active participation by all the people is the aim to be considered before all else.”

Specifically the Constitution says that “Servers, lectors, commentators, and members of the choir also

exercise a genuine liturgical function (Article 28) and “the people should be encouraged to take part by means of acclamations, responses, psalms, antiphons, and songs, as well as by actions, gestures, and bodily attitudes (Article 30).”

Do you see what a change this would bring about in the way I and the people would celebrate Mass? Can you understand what a transformation this would demand of the priest, from being the celebrant of “his Mass” to being the leader of the worship of a celebrating community? Do you realize that when I gather with you at Mass, I see Christ in the gathered community before I encounter him in his word proclaimed and in the Eucharistic bread and wine?

The “Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy” did not legislate all of the liturgical changes. Much further development would come about from the “Instruction on Eucharistic Worship in 1967,” “The General Instruction on the Roman Missal” in 1969, “The Roman Calendar” and “The Directory for Masses with Children” in 1973, and the documents on “Music in Catholic Worship” in 1972 and “Environment and Art in Catholic Worship” in 1978.

Nevertheless, it was the “Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy” of 1963 from the Fathers of Vatican II that inspired and initiated all that followed. Furthermore, Article 45 from the Constitution states that “every diocese is to have a commission on sacred liturgy under the direction of the bishop for promoting the liturgical apostolate.

Little did I know in 1963 how that would transform my ministry as a priest for years to come. More about that in future articles.

[You can read Fr. Remm’s earlier article online at [www.stpaturbana.org/infocus/Jun2013.pdf](http://www.stpaturbana.org/infocus/Jun2013.pdf).]



## Get your quilt raffle tickets today!

Raffle tickets for the Friendship Star quilt and pillow made by St. Pat's Quilters will be available at Coffee Shop in July—see Judy Hummel, or one of the quilters, for tickets. (They will be wearing a St. Pat's Quilters apron.) Tickets are 6 for \$5 or \$1 each. The drawing will be held August 17, the last day of the Cellar-to-Garret Sale. All proceeds go to projects sponsored by The Women of St. Patrick.

The quilt was blessed by Fr. Joe. Both he and Fr. Phelps stopped in

to cheer on the quilters. (Fr. Phelps gave Elaine Grimes a moment of anxiety when he playfully stabbed at the quilt with a scissors.)

The quilt has a hand-pieced top donated by Irma Wait, who got it from a long-time friend, Betty Martin. Betty loves to do hand stitching but does not like to do the finishing touches. Irma is not a quilter, but she recognized quality work and said she just knew it had to go to a church or someplace where it would be appreciated and enjoyed.

St. Pat's Quilters, who provided the finishing touches, including hand quilting the designs Betty had drawn, are Janet Althausser, Connie Cimino, Sarah Gertner, Elaine and Tom Grimes, Judy Hummel, Norma Kite, Susan Reese, Mary Smith, and Shirley Splittstoesser. The Quilters will start on a second quilt in the fall. Both experienced quilters and those who would like to learn are welcome to join. Call Shirley Splittstoesser (367-3330) with questions or to join.



## From our Parish Nurses: Avoiding skin cancer

Did you know that skin cancer is the most common type of cancer in the United States? The good news is that it can usually be prevented! Ultraviolet (UV) rays from the sun are the main cause



of skin cancer, so knowing how to protect yourself from UV rays can help prevent its development.

- Before outside activities, apply a sunscreen that is at least 30 SPF. Apply 30 minutes before you go outside and reapply at least every two hours, or more often if you are sweating or swimming.
- Wear sunglasses that filter both UV-A and UV-B rays. Over time, UV rays from the sun can cause wrinkles, cataracts, and even cancer in

and around your eyes.

- Have your skin and eyes checked annually for any changes that could be signs of sun damage.
- Wear a hat to shade your face and eyes.

Summer is a time for enjoying outdoor activities. By following these tips, you protect your skin and eyes while having fun in the sun!

## Ignatius of Loyola, soldier and saint

Ignatius of Loyola (Inigo Lopez de Loyola) was born in 1491 to a noble Basque family in Castile, a province of Spain. He spent his youth as a courtier and later a soldier, a dashing young man imbued with the code of honor and chivalry. In battle, however, in 1521, his leg was severely wounded and was painfully reset (without benefit of anesthesia in those days) three times, requiring a long recovery.

During his forced inactivity, he read copiously from the lives of the saints and was inspired by their dedication of their lives to the service of God. What a great honor it must be to serve the glory of God! Upon his recovery, he made a pilgrimage to the Catalonian shrine of Our Lady of Montserrat where, after an all-night vigil, he laid his sword on the altar and dedicated his life as a soldier for Christ. The next day he walked to the nearby town of Manresa, where he spent several months in solitary reflection.

Ignatius went to Paris where he studied to become a priest. While there he exhorted a group of fellow students to join him in forming a

religious order, dedicated to renewing and serving the Church in any way their services might be required. This was the nucleus of what became the Society of Jesus, or Jesuits.

He drew up an initial constitution for his company in 1539, outlining their ministry as one of preaching, hearing confessions, teaching, and caring for the sick, but without the traditional elements of a religious order, such as praying the Divine Office. It did, however, include direct obedience to the pope, which was a novel feature at the time. The Society of Jesus was officially recognized in 1540, and Ignatius became its first superior general.

In 15 years the Society increased from 10 to 1000 members, actively engaged in ministry in several countries. Today Jesuits can be found ministering in almost every country in the world and count among their members Pope Francis, Bishop of Rome.

Ignatius died on July 31, 1556, and was canonized in 1622. On July 31, then, we celebrate his life, dedicated "to the greater glory of God," the Society's ringing call to arms.



## What makes me Catholic?

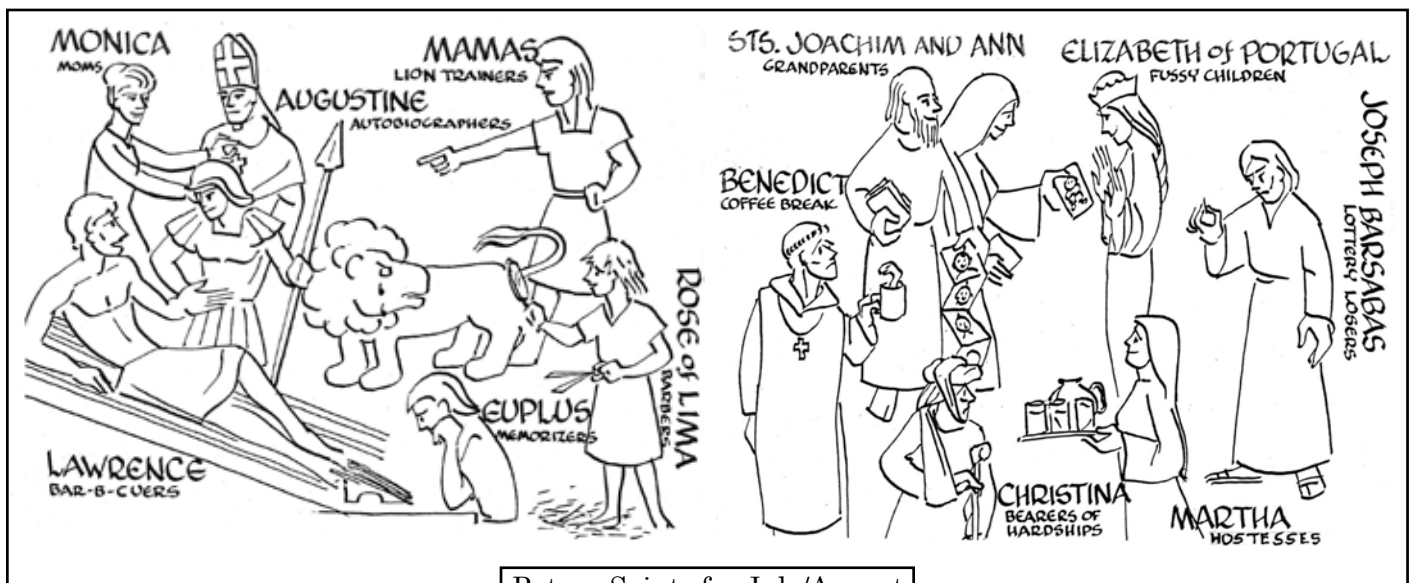
"Sacramentality." "Meditation." "Community." Why are these words so important to our Catholic faith?

If you'd like the answer to this question (and possibly many others), consider participating in Mystagogia, a small Christian community at St. Patrick's that caters especially to people recently received into the Church, but is open to anyone who desires to explore the faith in greater depth.

In Mystagogia, each person is helped to grow in faith through readings, discussion, and prayer.

All who would like to know more about the Catholic faith are welcome, whether "cradle Catholics" or those just received into the Catholic Church. New Catholics are helped to make an easy transition into St. Patrick's faith community and to deepen their understandings and experiences of Catholicism. Participants are encouraged to bring a spouse or a friend.

Questions about Mystagogia may be directed to Jon McCoy (jon.mccoy@stpaturbana.org or 367-2665). The group usually meets every other week, but keep an eye on the bulletin for announcement of upcoming meetings.



Patron Saints for July/August





The High School of St. Thomas More held its Baccalaureate and Commencement Exercises on Sunday, May 19, for 74 students. Members of the Class of 2013 from St. Patrick's and the honors, awards, and scholarships they received are listed here.

God's blessings on all of you—you have made The High School of St. Thomas More and St. Patrick's Parish very proud indeed!

#### **Jessica Page Elliott**

Attending the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
VFW Voice of Democracy Program Scholarship  
STM Ambassador

#### **Sarah Elizabeth Johnson**

Earned College Prep Certificate  
National Honor Society  
Sociedad Honoraria Hispanica  
Attending Saint Louis University  
Vice Provost Scholarship, Saint Louis University  
Presidential Scholarship, Bradley University  
Presidential Scholarship, Butler University  
Presidential Scholarship, DePaul University  
Presidential Scholarship, Loyola University  
Merit Scholarship, Miami University, Oxford Campus  
Illinois State Scholar  
STM Ambassador

#### **William Stephen Justice**

Earned College Prep Certificate  
Attending the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
Academic Scholarship for Freshman, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale  
Father Charles Martel Scholarship, St. Patrick Parish, Urbana  
Illinois State Scholar

#### **Madeline Nicole Kangas**

Earned College Prep Certificate  
National Honor Society  
Sociedad Honoraria Hispanica  
Attending the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
Board of Trustees Scholarship, Parkland College  
American Legion School Medal Award  
STM Ambassador

#### **Eric William Pahre**

Attending Parkland College

#### **Matthew Mark Ramaly**

Earned College Prep Certificate  
National Honor Society  
Attending Creighton University  
Magis Scholarship, Creighton University  
Prestige Scholarship, Indiana University  
Magis Scholarship, John Carroll University

Merit Scholarship, Miami University, Oxford Campus  
Red Hawk Excellence Scholarship, Miami University, Oxford Campus

Merit Scholarship, Ohio Dominican University  
Dean's Scholarship, Saint Louis University  
Trustee's Merit Scholarship, University of Dayton  
Presidential Scholarship, Wheeling Jesuit University  
Presidential Scholarship, Xavier University  
STM Latin Departmental Award  
STM Ambassador

#### **Zachary Allan Smith**

Earned College Prep Certificate  
Attending University of Southern California  
Monsignor Horrigan Scholarship, Bellarmine University  
Trustee Scholarship, Bellarmine University  
Dean's Scholarship, Loyola University Chicago  
STM Ambassador

#### **Theresa Marie Welle**

Earned College Prep Certificate  
National Honor Society  
Sociedad Honoraria Hispanica  
Attending the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
Catholic High School Award, Benedictine University  
Presidential Scholarship, Benedictine University  
Presidential Scholarship, Loyola University Chicago  
Board of Trustees Scholarship, Parkland College  
Enhanced Merit Scholarship, St. Louis University  
Vice Presidents' Tuition Scholarship, St. Louis University  
Board of Trustees Scholarship, Parkland College  
Illinois State Scholar  
SVC All-Academic Team  
STM Athletic Booster Organization Female Scholar Athlete  
STM English Departmental Award  
STM Spanish Departmental Award  
STM Ambassador

#### **Breanna Danielle Wickert**

Attending Eastern Illinois University

## **Holy Cross Happenings**



Several St Patrick's children at Holy Cross School made the Fourth Quarter Honor Roll:

Receiving **Highest Honors**: Justin Smith, Rachel Loftus, Hannah Niccum, Jessica Hood, Van Gunderson, Ethan Smith, and Maris Wszalek

**High Honors**: Nate Baker, Luke Herzog, Morgan Saunders, Lisa Altaner, Austin Ford, Brianna Hopper, and Nicholas Jackson

**Honors**: Mikala Turner, Josie Kuenning, Mary Agor, Elie Nyembo, and Shelby Turner

Congratulations, one and all, on your achievement!

## Totus Tuus: “I couldn’t have asked for more!”

**By Suzanne D’Andria**

Totus Tuus. I could never remember what that means, or exactly how to say it. I looked it up; it means “Totally Yours” and that about sums up the team putting on this program.

I heard about Totus Tuus last year before I resigned as Religious Ed coordinator, but the diocese had just started the program and we couldn’t get them to come to St. Patrick’s last summer. I was excited to hear that they were coming this year.

I sent all three of my kids to the program and was glad I did. I have a 14-year-old boy, a 13-year-old girl, and a 9-year-old boy; I was excited to have something for them all to do! At first I considered letting the teenagers have a choice of whether or not to go, but I think we were all glad in the end that I signed them all up for the week.

Four super-energetic college kids—Blake Brooks, Jack Gebert, Stacey Peters, and Karley Bates— from the diocese came to “our house” for the

Holy Spirit. They love God, they love their Church, and they love what they do. I think this is mostly what made the program such a success. All three of my kids have come away with such a positive attitude toward the program, I couldn’t have asked for more.



For one of my teens, the personal witness talks about Reconciliation and meditation, and participating in the sacrament, was a very im-

portant, moving experience. I was told “I feel like I never really went to reconciliation before tonight. It was so much more meaningful than ever before.”

My other teen was overwhelmed with questions and interest after “open question night,” where the kids got to write any question they had about Catholicism and God.

All the teens seemed to take it very seriously and asked interesting ques-

tions. I think this will inspire them to really own their faith and beliefs.

My 9-year-old never complained about Mass or praying a decade of the rosary every day and had lots of things to share about cool saints and sacraments.

Of course, the best parts were the shaving cream Whiffle Ball game and the water fights, recess, and all

the games and social time. They met new kids they didn’t know before and spent time with kids they’ve known forever.

The atmosphere was positive, energetic, and supportive, and they all felt it. We felt it at home when they were getting up (earlier than normal for summer) and getting ready for a new day. They were excited about going.

As for me, I was impressed with how much substantial content the team was able to put into the day. The kids learned about saints, sacraments, and the Joyful mysteries of the rosary. The teens learned about sacraments, love, chastity, and vocation. Of course, the day was longer than the traditional Vacation Bible School day, but they packed the morning full and still had fun!

My 13-year-old said this program was five times better than VBS and is really excited about bringing the team back next year.

I would love to see this program continue. I see so many kids being fed, inspired by the Spirit. I love that it serves the teenagers too. To the team and volunteers who worked so hard for our parish this week: **THANK YOU!**



week to put on an amazing program. This is what they do almost all summer. They stay with a host family provided by the parish. They start their day at about 7:30 a.m. and wrap things up by about 10:00 p.m., going NON-STOP the whole time. They are truly amazing, they seem totally filled with the



## A father's take on our Catholic education options

In the June issue of In Focus, the relationship between St. Patrick Parish and Holy Cross Elementary School was explored. In this issue, we take a closer look at parishioner Adam Smith's experience with both Holy Cross School and The High School of St. Thomas More.



### Tell a little bit about your relationship to St. Patrick Parish.

We have been attending St. Patrick's since the early 1990s. Currently I am the liaison between St. Patrick's and Holy Cross School; I serve on the Holy Cross School Education Commission.

### Who makes up your family?

My wife, Stephanie, has been part of the Women of St. Patrick and helped with the parish's Vacation Bible School. We have four children: Zack, 18; Molly, 16; Ethan, 13; and Justin, 10.

### What schools do your kids attend locally?

My oldest son and daughter at-

tended South Side School in Champaign until we switched to Holy Cross School in 2005. They graduated from Holy Cross School and went on to attend St. Thomas More. My oldest just graduated from St. Thomas More. The younger two are still at Holy Cross School.

### What is the financial relationship between St. Pat's and The High School of St. Thomas More?

All parishes in the Champaign vicariate support The High School of St. Thomas, regardless of whether the parish has any children enrolled in the high school.

### Is there anything else about it that makes it "our" school?

Just as we are all part of one Catholic Church, the schools that are affiliated with St. Patrick's are definitely our schools. Father Joe is also the head of The High School of St. Thomas More Pastors' Board.

### What are your thoughts about the benefits of St. Thomas More in

### particular, or Catholic education in general?

Faith-based education is the primary benefit; it is the reason why we send our children to Holy Cross School and The High School of St. Thomas More. Both schools have religion classes every day; Holy Cross School has weekly Mass, and St. Thomas More has monthly Mass. Both schools also emphasize service to the community for all students and through all classes. Catholic education not only educates our children and gets them ready for the world but also helps to bring



them closer to Jesus Christ. We also appreciate the small classes and the individual attention that our children receive at both schools.

## Join the CREW send-off!

Early Mass-goers can join CREW teens and their chaperons at 7:30 a.m. on Sunday, July 14, as they begin this year's mission with prayer. Immediately after Mass 25 teens and 20 chaperons will board the bus for Memphis, Tennessee, and their work with the Memphis Medical Center.

Follow them in real time online at [www.crew.stpaturbana](http://www.crew.stpaturbana), and read all about it in the special CREW Supplement in the September issue of In Focus.



Last year's mission trip: more than just a memory!

## Fr. Joe from page 2

a pilgrimage in Assisi, Fr. Joe took the group to the crypt of St. Francis for two hours of prayer and meditation. On a pilgrimage to Lourdes, he wanted to avoid the distracting crowds so he told his pilgrims to meet him at the gate to Lourdes at midnight—only to find it locked. Simple solution: climb the fence to pray the Stations of the Cross in the middle of the night!

Many others chimed in. A barbershop quartet, made up of Jim Mayer, David Madden, Sam Reese, and Chris McDonald, sang a song they adapted for the occasion entitled “Good Father Joe.” Father Joel Phelps recalled that when he was a parishioner at St. Michael’s Parish in Bement, where Fr. Joe was pastor at the time, he fell asleep in the pew only to be rudely awakened by the booming voice of Fr. Joe calling his name. Ryan Bustle, the principal at St. Thomas More, and Rose Costello, the principal of Holy Cross Grade School, thanked Fr. Joe for his commitment to Catholic education and his participation in school events and activities. Anna Maria Escobar of St. Mary’s thanked him for his leadership, his focus on the children, and for making everyone feel welcome at the only Spanish Mass in town.

Two young boys, Wade Schacht of St. Patrick’s and Pablo Gonzalez Jimenez of St. Mary’s, put Fr. Joe in the hot seat. Fr. Joe frequently asks questions of the youngsters at the children’s Masses; this time it was Father’s turn to answer questions—which he did, injecting his own bit of fun.

Father then addressed the congregation. He recalled his first Mass 25 years ago as if it were yesterday. He described the last 25 years as a life of grace, and added that thousands have become channels of grace to him. He ended by saying that he is

highly aware of his sinfulness, that it’s been 25 years of ups and downs followed by grace upon grace—he has been stunned by God’s grace. Then he asked us all to help him with something: he asked us to pray for the sanctification of priests every day.

The church ceremony ended with the laying on of hands in prayer and blessing by the priests and deacons, and then our former pastors, Msgr. Doug Hennessy and Fr. George Remm, led the congregation in blessing Fr. Joe.

Afterward all retired to the parish hall for the reception. Food was generously donated by St. Patrick’s and St. Mary’s parishioners, and featured special foods made by Mayan, Hispanic, Korean, Vietnamese, and Palestinian groups in the parishes. A large screen displayed pictures from Father Joe’s ordination, pilgrimages, and other events, and tables displayed Father’s memorabilia and pictures.

It was truly a night of love and appreciation.

## Living Faith from page 1

metal banding and wood-burn detail for the Easter altar cloth, the small stained-glass crosses you’ve seen on side banners and sometimes on the glass walls and doors, and the metal Trinity rings.

After our brainstorming sessions, I make a sketch to be sure we are all on the same page, and then together we have the fun of figuring how to give reality to our ideas. It is very satisfying to see it all come together.

We all continue to learn about our Church and the meanings of the liturgical seasons. We would enjoy having fresh ideas from others to share in brainstorming, and more hands to help carry out the resulting vision in practical ways. Won’t you consider sharing your talents with us? There is always something to do!

### Did you know?

- The original portion of our parish center was completed in 1965; it included the kitchen, the main hall and nursery, and the classrooms. In the early 1980s the building was expanded to the west by the addition of the parish office, lounge, multipurpose room, and staff offices. It will soon undergo further changes with the soon-to-begin expansion of the church, which will connect the church and the parish center.
- Our parish staff is also undergoing change, with the departure of long-time staff member **Carolyn McElrath**, pastoral associate whose current responsibilities encompass programs in the Peace and Justice ministries and the Spiritual Enrichment ministries. Carolyn retires at the end of June. Also leaving the staff this summer is **Peggy Loftus**, who has served as coordinator of youth ministry since the year 2000, bringing new energy and creativity to the program for our parish teens. She will see the CREW Mission Trip participants safely home in July before taking her leave from the staff.

## Cellar-to-Garret Sale has something for everyone

In 2008, parishioner Amy Boscolo and her husband, Marco, received a phone call from Father Joe asking them to come in for a talk. They wondered what he wanted to talk about, but they made the appointment and, long story short, they found themselves partnering with Alice McLaughlin that summer in the task of running the parish's annual Cellar-to-Garret sale.

The next year, the Women of St.

Patrick took responsibility for the sale but the energetic Amy, a PE teacher and coach at Urbana High School who sings as cantor at St. Patrick's, has remained chair of the sale, joined by co-chair Katie Leininger. "I really love being able to help the parish during this event," Amy says. "I get to work with a lot of different people and do something outside of my normal routine."

The Cellar-to-Garret sale began at St. Patrick's over 30 years ago. The name comes from the idea that once-but-no-longer-useful items stored in one's home from the basement to the attic (that is, from cellar to garret) may be just what someone else needs or desires. The idea that one's trash is another's treasure still holds true—to a point (i.e., please donate only usable items!).

Our parish community benefits from this sale in a variety of ways. People can clear their homes of items that they no longer need. Members of our parish and the larger community can purchase clothes, household goods, and other necessities for their families at a reasonable cost. Every year thousands of items come into the parish center as used goods but leave as new-found treasures!

The Women of St. Patrick (WSP)

hosts the sale as their major fund-raising event. Money from this event has been used to purchase items such as an ice machine, and new dishes and silverware for the parish kitchen; to provide food for parish



events, including the Friends of St. Vincent de Paul dinner; to contribute to Dr. Susan Nagele's missionary work in Africa; to donate to other worthy causes, such as local missionaries working in China; and to provide guest speakers for

WSP events.

Throughout the last few years, there have been some changes to the logistics of the sale. In the past, items were brought to the garage throughout the summer months and volunteers would come in once a week to sort items in the blazing heat. Donations coming in well ahead of the sale had to be stored in the garage and when it came time to set up for the sale, volunteers had to carry hundreds of boxes over to the parish center for further unpacking and sorting, creating a huge amount of work for volunteers. Last year, the Cellar-to-Garret committee decided on a new procedure, which worked very well: donations are not accepted before set-up begins!

On Sunday, August 4, volunteers will be asked to come to the parish center after the noon Mass to help set up tables, clothing racks, and other fixtures needed for the sale. Volunteers will be available to accept donations

beginning on Wednesday, August 7, through Tuesday, August 13. Once again, those bringing in donations are asked to sort items into the following categories: shoes, electronics, books, toys, clothes, household goods, auto, pets, and sporting goods. Thus, when items are brought in, volunteers will be able to unpack them right in the appropriate sales area. These few simple changes have made helping with the sale considerably less grueling for volunteers and has greatly reduced the number of volunteer hours needed.

This year's Cellar-to-Garret sale will run from 5:30 p.m. Thursday, August 15, to 11 a.m. Saturday, August 17. Donations will be accepted August 7-9 from 8 to 11 a.m. and 4 to 7 p.m. each day; August 10 from 4 to 6:30 p.m.; August 11 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.; and August 12-13 from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The Cellar-to-Garret Committee is already looking for volunteers. Strong arms and backs are needed for setup on Sunday, August 5, from 1 to 3 p.m. (following noon Mass). Volunteers are also needed for all of the donation times, and for the sale itself, as well as the tear-down and clean-up on Saturday, August 17, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. If you can help, even for just an hour or two,

please contact Amy Boscolo (aboscolo@usd116.org) or Katie Leininger (ckleinin@aol.com).

The Cellar-to-Garret sale is an event that every one of us at St. Patrick's can take part in, whether we donate items for sale, volunteer to help with preparations and the sale itself, donate food for workers during the sale, or simply show up to



shop. And don't forget the raffle for a beautiful hand-sewn quilt, hand-quilted by a group of talented St. Patrick's parishioners!

## There's joy in coming home

The recent observance of Father's Day engenders many stories of fathers and their children—many filled with examples of mercy and redemption as both confront separation, alienation, and joyful reunion. Sometimes the experiences are physical, more often emotional. No recounting,



however, captures the feelings of loss and joy by both father and son as profoundly as the parable of the Prodigal Son in Luke's gospel.

We are amazed at the elder's unconditional love and

generosity for his young son, who, despite the Father's favor, couldn't be persuaded to remain at home. The Father agrees to the boy's desire, even advancing him his inheritance, fully aware of the pain both would know were the boy to leave.

In so many ways, the story in Luke's gospel is also our story. Baptized into the Catholic faith, we are God's sons and daughters—God's Beloved, recipients of God's favor. Yet we live lives of distraction and ingratitude, mistaking our abilities for the Father's beneficence.

Many who wander make the life-changing decision to find their way back to their Catholic roots. Mother Church – much like the elderly Father—has open arms ready to embrace each one who has been away. Here at St. Patrick's, assistance in the journey home takes the form of Returning Catholics. This small group offers three sessions throughout the year to help facilitate the reunion. Each session focuses on the Mass and the sacraments, addresses Church teachings, and offers practical suggestions for re-engaging with a Catholic community through its ministries, programs, and activities.

This summer's session, offered during the lunch hour, begins at noon on Wednesday, July 10, and runs for six weeks. Call the parish office (367-2665) for more information.

He needs you  
that's all there is to it  
without you he's left hanging  
goes up in dachau's smoke  
gets revalued  
in the next stock market crash  
he's consumed and blown away  
used up  
without you

Help him  
that's what faith is about  
he can't bring it about  
his kingdom  
couldn't then couldn't later  
can't now  
not at any rate without you  
and that is his irresistible appeal



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

**Teresa Niccum**

**Judy Hummel**

**Shirley Splittstoesser**



### A Trifecta of Summertime Treats!

#### From Teresa Niccum:

##### Scotch-a-roos

- 1-1/3 c peanut butter
- 1 c white Karo syrup
- 1 c packed light brown sugar
- 6 c Rice Krispies
- 1 pkg semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 1 pkg butterscotch chips

Heat first three ingredients to a boil (or use microwave) and pour over Rice Krispies (available gluten-free) in a buttered 9 x 13 inch pan. Melt chocolate chips and butterscotch chips in a double boiler (or microwave to melt) and spread over mixture in pan. Let harden and cut into squares.

#### From Judy Hummel:

##### Caramel Corn

- 2 c brown sugar
- 1/2 c white corn syrup
- 1 stick margarine
- 1/4 t cream of tartar
- 1/2 t baking soda
- 5 qts popped popcorn

Combine first four ingredients and boil for 5 minutes. Turn off heat and add baking soda. Pour over popcorn and stir. Spread on baking sheet and bake 1 hour at 200°, stirring occasionally.

#### From Shirley Splittstoesser:

##### Microwaved Corn-on-the-Cob

Put ears of corn on a microwave-safe plate. Leave the corn silk and husks on the ears—these trap the moisture, which turns to steam to hasten the cooking process. Microwave for 2-3 minutes. Peel off the husks and silk—they will peel away from the hot corn easily. (Caution: The corn will be very hot, so protect your hands with oven mitts.) And voila!—ready to eat!

\* \* \*

*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!*

## 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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Deadline for submission of information, articles and news items for the next issue of *In Focus* is **August 10. (In Focus will not be published at the end of July.)**