

# St. Patrick Parish IN FOCUS

www.stpaturbana.org

February 2014

## Something old, something new

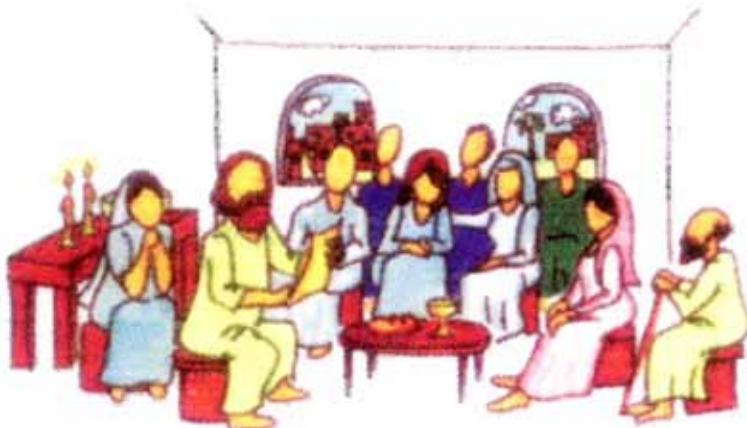
We'll be hearing often from St. Matthew this year. We'll read his gospel on the Sundays of Ordinary Time and on some other days, like Palm Sunday, as well. The stories that he tells show Jesus to be both Son of God and Son of Man, a person with the power to teach, to heal, to reconcile, and to overcome evil. Clearly, Matthew loves Jesus, but he didn't write the gospel as a love letter; he wrote it to share Jesus with the people of his time and place – people very like ourselves.

The gospel was written around 85 A.D., perhaps in modern Syria. It was a place peopled by both Jews and Gentiles, a crossroads where many peoples came together. To the Jews, he showed that Jesus was the fulfillment of the law and the prophets. He often quotes the Hebrew Scriptures to show why Jesus acted as he did, and he shows Jesus' teaching as firmly rooted in the law. But he also tells that Jesus is open to the Gentiles and that his teach-

ings push beyond the specifics of the law. They speak to our attitudes, our biases, our intentions, as well as our actions. They bring about a change of heart. No wonder Jesus is so often in conflict with those who treat the law as an end in itself!

Conflict was familiar to Matthew. He was trying to bring all kinds of people together into the community of believers, but it couldn't have been easy to keep them together. He devoted a whole chapter (18) to the teachings of Jesus that give them the tools that they need – humility, forgiveness, reaching out to the lost.

As we ponder Matthew's gospel this year, we'll be hearing familiar words, but Matthew shows us how to keep them from being humdrum. If we seek a change of heart, if we reach out to others, and if we strive to live together in peace, we'll know that we have truly heard the gospel and that we are coming to know Jesus better.



## Our PC needs YOU!

Are you familiar with the poster where Uncle Sam insists "I want YOU!"? Well, substitute a photo of

### I WANT YOU



for the **Parish Council**  
**ENLIST NOW**

St. Patrick's for Uncle Sam and "Parish Council" for "U.S. Army" and you've got it!

see **Parish Council** on page 4

To Our Readers:  
Happy Valentine's Day!



## Introducing the new Music Advisory Committee

Last fall Father Joe appointed three committees to support the work of the church expansion project – the Building Committee, the Arts and Environment Advisory Committee, and the Music Advisory Committee. Parishioners were introduced to the work and members of the Building Committee and Arts and Environment Advisory Committee in previous issues of the parish newsletter, *In Focus*, now available on the parish website ([www.stpaturbana.org/focus/index.php](http://www.stpaturbana.org/focus/index.php)). This month we introduce you to the Music Advisory Committee.

The charge of the Music Advisory Committee is to research and develop recommendations for the church expansion related to music, liturgy, and acoustics. Specific tasks that the committee has been charged with include:

- recommending placement and organization of the choirs
- reviewing possibilities for a new organ
- researching acoustics – clarity of speech, placement of speakers/microphones
- studying possible placement of musical instruments
- recommending new hymnals and lectionaries
- accommodating combined choral and instrumental efforts (i.e., St. Mary's and St. Patrick's choirs at the Easter Vigil)
- considering what St. Patrick's will do or not do with the existing pipe organ and choir loft
- The advisory committee has been meeting regularly since September 2013 and has also met several times with the architect, general contractor, project manager, Fr. Joe, and members of all three building committees (Building Committee, Arts and Environment, and Music).

About their work so far, Laura Theby, chair of the committee, says, "Since September we have spent significant amounts of time researching pipe organs and electric organs and exploring plans for the location/placement of the choirs and musicians in the renovated church. Currently here at St. Patrick's, space is a challenge both in the existing choir loft and in the baptistry/sanctuary area used for Children's Liturgy. Our committee has been focused on creating a space that is large enough and flexible enough to accommodate various musical ensembles. We have also been working with a renowned church acoustician to make sure that we have the best acoustics possible in the new church."

All members of the Music Advisory Committee bring strong, unique, and vital talents and expertise to the work of this committee that will affect parish liturgies for generations to come:

**Laura Theby** has been the Music Director at St. Patrick's since 2008. In that position, she plays the piano and the pipe organ, conducts and directs all parish choirs, and plans and plays for all Sunday liturgies, as well as funerals, weddings, and holy days. She serves as the parish staff representative for worship ministries, providing leadership for the parish liturgical music program, working with the pastor and the Worship Ministries Team to develop liturgies that invite the full, active, and conscious participation of the assembly. Laura gradu-



ated from the University of Illinois with a Master's Degree in music in 2008. Prior to coming to St. Patrick's, since high school Laura has worked in various Catholic and Protestant churches.

**Yvonne Vitosky** says, "Music has been part of my life in countless ways, and I'm thankful for the many and varied opportunities that I've had to share it with others." Those musical opportunities at St. Patrick's have included serving as a pianist at the Children's Liturgy when son and daughter Caitlin and Alec were young; participating in the funeral schola; and being a vocalist in the St. Patrick's choir.



Within the broader Champaign-Urbana community, Yvonne is a member of the community choir, The CHORALE, under the direction of conductor Julie Beyler. A recent retiree after teaching elementary education for 34 years in the Urbana school, Yvonne looks forward to pursuing volunteer opportunities. She and her husband, Joe, have been attending St. Patrick's since the late '70s, raised their children in the parish, and are now anxiously awaiting the birth of their first grandchild this spring.

**Cathy Salika**, a member of St. Patrick's since 1988, has sung in church choirs for more than 40 years and has served as a cantor for 35. For the selection of a new hymnal, one of the tasks of the Music Advisory Committee, Cathy brings a depth of experience and respect for liturgical music. She was a contributor to the hymnal *Worship – Third Edition* and co-author of the *Hymnal Companion to Worship – Third Edition*. Cathy is a member of the Hymn Society in the United States and Canada, saying from that involvement, "I know a lot about the hymnals that are available and the editors, composers, and authors who create them." She is also a member of the Hymn Society of Great Britain and Ireland as well as the National Association of Pastoral Musicians. For recreation, Cathy chairs the parish's Communications Committee and writes for *In Focus*.



**Camille Goudeseune** shares that his "earliest memory of church music was as a post-Vatican toddler – Bob Dylan's "Blowin' in the Wind!" However, a balanced memory thereafter is singing in the Toronto's St. Michael's Choir School, eventually singing all seven parts of Pal-estrina's "Pope Marcellus" Mass – from first soprano to second bass – due to his voice changing. A member of St. Patrick's for 15 years, his involvements include cantor, Bible study leader,



see **Music Committee** on page 10

## In memoriam: Mary Jo Thomsen

None of us is immune from grief. For the members of the Ministry of Consolation team this truth became very clear with the sudden death of our team member, Mary Jo Thomsen. You may not have known Mary Jo personally, but if you ever attended a funeral at St. Patrick's, or a Ray of Hope program, or an Evening of Remembrance, her calm and loving presence undoubtedly touched you. The ministry team treasured her for her dedication to others in their time of loss, her steadfast commitment to the ministry, and her friendship, which we will deeply miss.



Mary Jo joined the Consolation Ministry team after the death of her husband, Ray. While still dealing with her own grief and loss, she instinctively knew that reaching out to others in their grief would be healing for her. Within days of her sister's death in 2011 she was back with us, helping to minister to a family in mourning at St. Patrick's. She knew that a burden shared is a burden eased.

Mary Jo was also a regular at Coffee, Cards, and Conversation and at Seniors' luncheons. She had a knack for making friends and she shared with many a returning Catholic her own experiences of grace in returning to the Church of her childhood.

She deeply loved her family and spent many hours with her granddaughter, Erin, who was the apple of her eye. A proud Air Force veteran, she was involved with the American Legion and was buried with military honors at the veterans' cemetery in Danville with her husband, who was also an Air Force veteran.

One of Mary Jo's favorite songs, "Life Is Eternal," by the singer/songwriter Carly Simon, is an apt expression of her belief and faith. The song ends with these lines:

*. . . life is eternal  
And love is immortal  
And death is only a horizon  
Life is eternal  
As we move into the light  
And a horizon is nothing  
Save the limit of our sight*

Mary Jo was a woman who loved her family, her community, her faith community, and her God. She has moved on into the light of eternal life, but we believe that we will see her again on the great day when the limits of our sight have been removed. Until then, rest in peace, good friend!

### Did you know?

- Anne Britsky recently celebrated her 90th birthday, soon to be followed into that golden year by Toni D'Urso and Shirley Penny. Congratulations, one and all!
- The Parish Council has opened its spring recruiting drive for new members. (See article elsewhere in this issue for information about the Council, the recruiting process, and phone numbers.) Will you volunteer?
- The seemingly endless child adoption process is coming to a close for the Gordons: On February 7 Rory will legally become the daughter of Dianne and John Gordon. Congratulations indeed!
- For several years parishioner Ray Timpone has donated the wine we use at Mass, the wine that becomes the Blood of Christ. Thank you!

## Special volunteer opportunities

• The two volunteers who prepare the page layout for In Focus would very much like to have a third parishioner to share this responsibility, handling page layout for two or three issues a year. *Cathy Salika, 367-7861 or csalika@uillinois.edu*

• **Drivers needed.** Can you take someone to keep a doctor's appointment or to shop for groceries or to attend Sunday Mass? Several programs—**St. Patrick's Good Samaritans** (Carla Simmering, 328-4841), **Family Service** (352-0099), **Senior Support Services** (352-5100), and **Faith in Action** (337-2778)—have a pressing need of drivers. Call if you can help.

• A volunteer from St. Patrick's drives his own truck to the Eastern Illinois Foodbank every other Tuesday morning to pick up the week's order and deliver it to our **Food Pantry**. He needs someone to help load the truck and unload it at the Food Pantry. Can you help? *Ellen Abell, 367-2665*



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

---

*O God, so mighty and so gentle,  
I bow before you in humble adoration.  
With a calm and quiet spirit  
I climb into your lap,  
There to rest.  
In my resting fill me with hope  
And trust in you forever.*

---

## Parish Council from page 1

The Parish Council needs three, sometimes four, parishioners every year to fill vacant positions on the Council as members rotate off after completion of their three-year terms. This year Oscar Gonzalez, Bridget McGill, and Ron Eagan will be leaving the Council, and their vacant positions must be filled by three new members. Will one of these new members be YOU?

Think about it—what are you doing for your pastor and your parish that is as significant to the future well-being of your parish as serving on the Parish Council, providing consultative advice and assistance to Fr. Joe and advocacy for parishioners?

What else do you need to know? Maybe these facts will help:

- Meetings, 7-8:30 p.m., are held once a month, usually on the third Thursday.
- Agendas are prepared at an executive meeting of Council officers, parish trustees, and the pastor.
- Each member helps to provide vision and leadership for one of six clusters of parish ministries.

What is the process for bringing new parishioners onto the Parish Council? Parishioners who have shown special interest in the parish through volunteering for ministries of one kind or another, who have shown leadership and communication abilities, or who simply want to help the parish in any way they can are asked to submit their names for consideration. These names are put into a “hat” for a drawing at a brief prayer service at a time announced in the parish bulletin. You are invited to submit your own name or that of another parishioner you think would serve the parish well on the Council.

This year three names will be drawn. Will one of them be yours? Pray about it, list your pros and



## in our parish library

While Valentine’s Day seems to be a commercialized holiday dedicated to selling heart-shaped chocolate and candy hearts, the original holiday dates back to the 15th century, marking the birth of St. Valentinus. As we commemorate St. Valentine, the patron saint of love, we ought also to focus on our love for those around us, as well as others’ love and care for us.

***The Meaning of Love***, by Robert Johann. What is the meaning of love’s intense emotion? Johann points to the spark of divinity that we see in another human being and shows how this “living ideal of Divine love, antecedent to our love, contains in itself the secret of the idealization of our love.” 152.4 Joh

***A Time for Love***, by Eugene Kennedy. This book is meant to help those who have lost their way to find it again in friendship and love. There are lonely people everywhere who, even though they cannot put their longing into words, are still hoping for some experience of love and understanding that will give them the strength to face life with a little more courage. When you have experienced real love, you know that it does not come in any ideal state, that it is marked with pain as well as joy, and that, if you are serious about it, you have to keep growing in it and working at it. 152.4 Ken

***In a Different Voice***, by Carol Gilligan. The author believes that psychology has persistently and systematically misunderstood women. Repeatedly, developmental theories have been built on observations of men’s lives. Here Gilligan attempts to correct psychology’s misperceptions and refocus its views of female personality. The result reshapes our understanding of human experience. 150 Gil

***The Secret of Staying in Love***, by John Powell. Communication is the secret! John Powell lays out practical ways to build love, open lines of communication, and share feelings openly and honestly. He explores the fundamental prerequisite to personal sharing: a joyful and genuine acceptance of self. He also shows us how an awareness of our feelings can tell us a great deal about ourselves. The final chapter includes some practical exercises that can be used to deepen communication and sharing. 152.4 Pow

***Love & Will***, by Rollo May. The implications of this distinguished book for education and culture are profound. It is an excellent analysis of life and love in the modern period. 152.43 May

These are only a few of the books about love in the library, many of them in the 152 section.

\* \* \*

*As always, if you have any questions do not hesitate to contact Megan (raab4198@gmail.com); she will be happy to assist you. The parish library is available on weekdays during office hours; ask for a key at the parish office. It is also open on fourth and fifth Sundays, 8:30-10:30 a.m.*

cons, pray again, maybe talk with one or more of the Council members:

Oskar Gonzalez, 356-0411; Libby Stubbers, 390-2784 (cell); Solange Masweka, 344-8911; Ron Eagan, 721-1860 (cell); Bridget McGill, 384-7408; Margaret Bronson, 355-8126; Kelly Skinner, 469-2144; Delphine Mulamba, 979-1737 (cell); Mark

Sweeney, 621-6344 (cell).

Then pray again; ask the Lord what he wants of you here and now, and make your decision. If it feels right to you, give your name and telephone number to any Council member or to the parish office, saying that you’d like to serve on the Council.

Will your name be drawn? God knows.

## Thanks to all of you for your help

Your donations of time and resources in support of the St. Vincent de Paul's annual distribution of Thanksgiving food baskets drew this thank you from Essential Elements on behalf of their clients. You may be sure that every recipient was equally grateful and expressed their thanks with hugs, smiles, blessings, or tears—sometimes all of these.

Dear Ellen and People of St. Patrick Church,

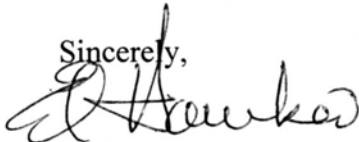
I am writing to let you know the distribution of Thanksgiving food baskets by your church was greatly appreciated by our clients and case managers. We received a total of 133 baskets to assist our clients in having a full course Thanksgiving meal!

I coordinated with Ellen and I appreciated her patience as our staff was slow in getting the total of number of baskets needed confirmed at the last minute. The pick up day went very smoothly with your volunteers available to assist our case managers in loading the food baskets into their cars. This was much appreciated as it saved us a great deal of lifting and time, as we had to get out distributing the baskets.

Many of our clients told us this was the best Thanksgiving meal for them in a long time, and several commented that they would not have a Thanksgiving meal without the baskets. Since most of our people are single the food in the baskets helps them even after the Thanksgiving, as they can make sandwiches, and eat leftovers for several days. The staff delivering the meals enjoyed the opportunity to offer the baskets to the clients and to see the smiles on their faces when they received the food.

You are providing a wonderful service to the community with your food pantry and Thanksgiving basket distribution. You are helping people to survive, and also providing hope to people that the community cares about them. Keep up the good work, and we always look forward to working with St. Patrick Church staff and volunteers.

Sincerely,



Ed Hawkes  
Case Manager  
Community Elements

## Demolition work begins!

Following approval by the Diocese of Peoria, the Franzen Construction Group of Urbana has been hired to perform the demolition work associated with the expansion of the north parking lot.

The scope of the work includes the demolition and removal of building structures (4 apartments, 1 house, and 1 garage), sidewalks to the structures, and miscellaneous landscaping next to the structures. Trees will be protected and remain. A security fence will be placed

around the construction site during the demolition activities and around holes remaining after demolition at 705 and 707 W. Clark.

The Franzen Construction Group has undertaken an asbestos survey

of all structures and will abate any asbestos found. It is anticipated that the demolition work will be completed by mid-March.

*Honoring Our Past*

**BUILDING OUR FUTURE**

ST. PATRICK'S CAMPAIGN

## From slave to saint: Josephine Bakhita

She was born into a wealthy Sudanese family (in Darfur) in 1869. Just seven or eight years old, she was kidnapped and sold into slavery; in fact, she was sold and resold several times and finally given away after she'd been forced to walk barefoot about 600 miles. The trauma she endured drove her given name from her memory, so she chose a new name: "bakhita" ("lucky" in Arabic). She was forcibly converted to Islam and suffered terribly from the cruel treatment of her several owners.

In 1883, Bakhita was bought by an Italian Vice Consul, who treated her kindly for two years before giving her to a friend, who also treated her well during the years spent traveling from place to place—even to Sudan for a few months. Eventually, the family decided to sell all their property and left her (she was "property" after all) in the custody of the Canossian Sisters in Venice. It was there that Bakhita finally gained her independence; in 1889 an Italian court ruled that because Sudan had outlawed slavery before Bakhita's birth, and because in any case Italian law did not recognize slavery, Bakhita had never legally been a slave.

For the first time in her life Bakhita found herself in control of her own destiny. She chose to remain with the Sisters; in 1890 she was baptized with the names of Josephine Margaret and Fortunata (Latin for the Arabic Bakhita) and was confirmed and received Holy Communion—from the future Pope Pius X. In 1893 she entered the novitiate of the Canossian Sisters and three years later took her vows. In 1902 she was assigned to the Canossian convent at Schio, in Vicenza, where she spent the rest of her life.

During her 42 years at Schio, Bakhita was employed as cook,

sacristan, and portress. She became well known for her gentleness and ever-present smile, and is even today often referred to as Sor Moretta ("little brown sister") or Madre Moretta ("black mother"). During the Second World War she shared the fears and hopes of the town people, who considered her a saint and felt protected by her mere presence.

Her last years were marked by pain and illness. In her final hours her mind was driven back to the years of her slavery, and she cried out, "The chains are too tight, loosen them a little, please!" When she came round again, someone asked her how she was and she an-

swered, "I am so happy: Our Lady... Our Lady!"—her last audible words.

Bakhita died on February 8, 1947, and petitions for her canonization began immediately. On October 1, 2000, she was canonized as St. Josephine Bakhita, with February 8 as her feast day. She is venerated as a modern African saint, and as a statement against the brutal history of slavery. She has been adopted as the only patron saint of Sudan.



**Q:** I've noticed that the wine used at Mass has been different lately. Does this have any special

significance?

**A:** The short answer is no. Any wine that is made from grapes is suitable for consecration at Mass. The Third Edition of the General Instruction of the Roman Missal specifies only that "the wine for the Eucharistic celebration must be from the fruit of the grapevine, natural and unadulterated, that is, without admixture of extraneous substances." The wine used at St. Patrick's for several years, a Red Table Wine, has become unavailable. While the search for it was on, it was temporarily replaced by a White Zinfandel, and most recently by a Merlot.

\* \* \*

*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 **February 9**.



Patron Saints for February

## Vietnamese New Year celebration draws many to St. Patrick's

St. Patrick's Parish is the center of a large Vietnamese community in Illinois. On February 8, this community will celebrate Tet, the Vietnamese New Year, at St. Patrick's parish hall.

Vietnamese come here from all over East Central Illinois, from as far away as Peoria, Bloomington-Normal, Decatur, and Danville, as well as Champaign-Urbana, to celebrate their New Year. More than 200 Vietnamese, both Catholic and non-Catholic, are expected to attend this seven-hour celebration, from 5:00 p.m. to midnight.

This year in the Vietnamese zodiac is the Year of the Horse. People born in the years 1930, 1942,

1954, 1966, 1978, 1990, and 2002 are symbolized by the Vietnamese zodiac horse. The horse is characterized as the life of the party, animated, extroverted, and exciting, has fun with strangers and friends alike, bursting with energy, always on the prowl for something enjoyable. Do you know someone with these traits?

The celebration of the Vietnamese New Year of the Horse will feature Vietnamese foods and traditional dancing. The children will be given "lucky dollars" to be used for playing games. This event provides a wonderful opportunity for local

Vietnamese to meet others who live elsewhere.

When asked whether our Vietnamese community misses having a Vietnamese priest serving at St. Patrick's, parishioner Ut Ha said that a retired priest, Father Joseph Mai Chi Thanh, comes three to five times a year to celebrate Mass for them at St. Mary's Church.

We are blessed that people of so many different cultures feel at home here. They add vitality and diversity to our congregations at St. Patrick's and St. Mary's. A very happy and blessed New Year to all our Vietnamese friends!



## From your Parish Nurses

The mission of Parish Nursing is the integration of the practice of faith with the practice of nursing to promote wellness in body, mind, and spirit. One of our Parish



Nurse offerings is the monthly blood pressure screening, held from 8:00 to 11:00 a.m. in the parish center lounge. Screenings for 2014 will be held on 2/23, 3/23, 4/27, 5/25, 6/22, 7/27, 8/24, 9/28, 10/26, and 12/7.

Parish nurses are available at this time not only to check your blood pressure, but also to answer questions or discuss any health issues you may be experiencing. The nurses also enjoy getting to know parishioners, so don't hesitate to stop by and introduce yourself!

As health counselors and educators, community resource liaisons, and facilitators, our Parish Nurses are here to assist parishioners to become more aware of their health and to move toward a fuller sense of wholeness. You may contact them at any time by calling 367-2665, extension 130, and leaving a message. Parish nurses check the voicemail regularly and will return the call to answer questions, discuss your concerns, or arrange a visit.

If you are experiencing an emergency situation, however, please call 911. The Parish Nurses are not meant to replace or duplicate health care you already receive, but rather to complement it through advocacy, bonding, and prayer.

## Come for a really super Super Bowl Breakfast

The K of C Super Bowl Breakfast will be even more "super" than usual this year, with an expanded menu. Come feast on made-to-order omelets, pancakes (regular or chocolate chip), eggs Benedict, biscuits and red-eye gravy, sausage, beverages, and all the fixin's. Good friends, great food, and you'll be supporting the work of the Knights of Columbus too! Sunday, Feb. 2; the Knights will be serving from 8:15 to 10:30 a.m.



### Vocation Prayer

Lord, continue calling me until I hear what it is you want of me. When I am slow to respond, keep nudging, keep whispering, keep pestering, provoking, prodding—keep inviting response, until my heart is open to your guiding Spirit and willing to follow, step by step, where you lead.



# HOLY CROSS SCHOOL

410 W. White Street Champaign, Illinois

217-356-9521

[www.holycrosselem.org](http://www.holycrosselem.org) [www.facebook.com/holycrosselemschool](http://www.facebook.com/holycrosselemschool)

## Have you considered Catholic education?

### Catholic Schools Week at Holy Cross School

**January 26 - February 1, 2014**

**Holy Cross School is a faith-centered community fostering lives of service, integrity, and life-long learning. We are committed to Catholic education founded on Gospel-centered values and the teachings and traditions of the Catholic Church. We are called to be Christ for others and to see Christ in others.**

---

**Did you know that St Patrick's and Holy Cross School have an agreement that St Patrick's parishioners pay the Holy Cross parishioner tuition rate? And that nearly 90 St Patrick's children currently are enrolled at Holy Cross School?**

#### **Other Facts about Holy Cross School:**

- **Average enrollment: 300**
- **Student to teacher ratio: 1/20**
- **Full-time librarian, physical education, art, and music teachers.**

**Please contact the school office for the date and time of the Open House, Kindergarten Round-up, and other activities being held that week.**





## News about area Catholic schools

### From Rose Costello

The Champaign Vicariate and the High School of Saint Thomas More present the Paideia Award each year to an individual who exemplifies true leadership in the area of service to Catholic education. This year's recipient was Ed Kral, who was recognized at the STM Annual Donor Appreciation Brunch "Showcase of Thanks" on December 15, 2013.

Mr. Kral is a former principal and athletic director at the High School of St. Thomas More. He established the groundwork for many of the programs and policies in the early years of the school, and graciously continues to provide guidance and leadership as a supporter and advocate for Catholic schools in this area. Mr. Kral presently serves on the STM Board of Trustees and on numerous committees.

Also at the December event, the High School of St. Thomas More presented a Volunteer Service Award to those who have generously given their time and talent to the many events and programs of the school. This year's recipients were Mary Hinders, from St. Matthew's, recognized for her contributions to the arts and religious programs at STM, and Jack and Annessa Parisi, from St. Patrick's, recognized for their

work with the STM Athletic Booster Organization.

Holy Cross School has announced the opening of a preschool program for this coming fall with classes for children 3 and 4 years of age. The new preschool will provide a safe, nurturing environment, where education and prayer go hand in hand. There will be a preschool and kindergarten information night on Thursday, January 23, at 6:00 p.m. at Holy Cross School. Children are welcome to attend with their parents.

More information about the Holy Cross preschool and kindergarten programs can be found on the school's website, [www.holycross-selem.org](http://www.holycross-selem.org); click on "Current Families," then "Resources," and then "Preschool Brochure" and "Kindergarten Brochure."

The annual Catholic Schools Week celebration begins Sunday, January 26. All area Catholic schools will host events to celebrate the many wonderful things happening in our schools (see list elsewhere in this issue). The website [www.Champaign-CatholicSchools.org](http://www.Champaign-CatholicSchools.org) allows access to the five area Catholic schools' websites. Holy Cross School will host an open house on Wednesday,



January 29, 9 a.m. to noon. St. Matthew School will host an open house also on Wednesday, January 29, 9 to 11 a.m. During this week, all area Catholic schools welcome interested visitors.

You might also visit the Catholic Schools Art Exhibit at the Springer Cultural Center in downtown Champaign, where artwork from all five area Catholic schools will be on view January 27-31.

Applications for the 2014-15 school year are now being accepted. Please contact the individual schools for more information about their programs. Financial assistance is available through the Peoria Diocese Spalding Scholarship Fund; the deadline for applications is March 15. More information about the scholarship fund is available on the

see **School News** on page 10

### Catholic Schools Week

All are welcome to the following events:

#### Holy Cross School, Champaign

- Open House, January 29, 9 a.m. to noon: All are welcome to observe while classes are in session on this regular school day. Please check in at the office.
- All-school Mass: Friday, January 31, 8:15 a.m., in the church; come early to be seated before the children enter.
- Talent Show: Friday, January 31, in the school gym, 12:45 p.m. Enter through the main door and come upstairs.

#### St. Thomas School, Philo

Monday through Thursday, January 27-30:

- Current and prospective families are invited to visit during class time, 8 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. No appointment necessary. Check in at the office.
- A general tour of the school (outside of class time) may be arranged during Catholic Schools Week or other days by appointment. Call 684-2309.



Kudos to the cast and crew of "An Evening in 'The Twilight Zone'" on their performances at the Illinois State High School Theatre Festival, January 10! Both performances were sold out hours in advance and even had festival attendees without tickets lining up outside the performance space hoping for admittance. IHSTF is the world's largest and oldest non-competitive high school theatre festival and this year marked a first for STM as one of ten schools to perform. Way to go!

## School News from page 9

Diocese of Peoria website, [www.cdop.org](http://www.cdop.org), in the parish bulletins, and from the schools.

For those interested in the High School of St. Thomas More, please call 352-7210 to speak with a staff member to learn about the application process. Students wishing to enroll for the 2014-15 school year should register for the EXPLORE Test administered on Saturday, February 22, at the school. Additional application information is found on the STM website, [www.hs-stm.org](http://www.hs-stm.org).

Feeling lucky? Parents of students

at the High School of St. Thomas More are selling raffle tickets for the opportunity to win \$25,000. Tickets are \$100 with only 1000 tickets being sold. Second prize is \$5,000, third is \$2,500, fourth is \$1,000, fifth and sixth prizes are \$500 each, with an additional 10 \$100 winners. The main drawing will be on Sunday, March 2, at the Mardi Gras Party at the Esquire Lounge in downtown Champaign, 3 to 7 p.m. Tickets are available in the parish office, the various schools, and from any STM family.

## Music Committee from page 2

and *In Focus* editor. Camille earned a Master's Degree in piano and a doctorate in music composition from Illinois, and has hands-on experience with music technology and acoustics and all genres of liturgical music. In his work at the Beckman Institute Illinois Simulator Labora-

tory, Camille presents internationally about acoustics (music instrument design, virtual reality, speech recognition, and undoing reverberation with software) and is a reviewer for the *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*. During his "spare" time, he is restoring an antique Wurlitzer in his basement.

## 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.

**Editorial board:** Judy Fierke, 352-7670 ([j-fierke@comcast.net](mailto:j-fierke@comcast.net)); Elizabeth Hendricks, 328-2184 ([elihen@att.net](mailto:elihen@att.net)); Mary Lou Menches, 344-1125 ([mmenches@illinois.edu](mailto:mmenches@illinois.edu)); Cathy Salika, 367-7861 ([csalika@illinois.edu](mailto:csalika@illinois.edu)); and Peggy Whelan, 367-3668 ([margaretwhelan@att.net](mailto:margaretwhelan@att.net)).

**Associates:** Carol Bosley, John Colombo, Joe and Nancy Costa, Frances Drone-Silvers, Mary Fonner, Camille Goudeseune, Mary Karten, Rachael McMillan, Ellen Noonan, Nancy Olson, Rick Partin, Carole Rebeiz, Lucille Salika, Sue Schreiber, Kelly Skinner, Adam and Stephanie Smith, John Towns, Jim Urban, Mary Welle, and Joseph Youakim.

**Articles and information** for this issue were provided by Carol Bosley, Rose Costello, Judy Fierke, Dianne Gordon, Elizabeth Hendricks, Ut Ha, Mary Lou Menches, Ellen Noonan, Dianna Oliveira, Nancy Olson, Megan Raab, Nancy Roth, Cathy Salika, Adam Smith, Laura Theby, and Peggy Whelan. Patron Saints by Fr. George Wuellner. This issue was edited by Rick Partin, page layout by John Colombo.

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

#### Roasted Root Vegetables

4 tablespoons olive oil, butter, or combination of both  
2 pounds root vegetables  
Salt and pepper



Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Peel and cut vegetables into 1- or 1-1/2-inch pieces; use a combination of whatever you have on hand or what appeals to you: potatoes, carrots, sweet potatoes (highly recommended), onions, turnips, or parsnips. Put oil and/or butter into a large roasting pan and place it in the preheated oven, until butter/oil is melted and hot. Remove pan from oven and add the vegetables pieces, tossing them until they are well coated. Sprinkle with salt and pepper, and return pan to oven. Bake for 15 minutes, stir, bake for another 15 minutes, and stir again. If vegetables are not beginning to brown, increase heat to 450 degrees; if they are browning but not getting soft, add a little water and reduce heat to 350 degrees. Bake 30 minutes longer, stirring every 10 minutes. Vegetables are done when they can be poked easily with a fork. Salt and pepper to taste.

\* \* \*

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