

# St. Patrick Parish IN FOCUS

www.stpaturbana.org

July/August 2014

## Now what?

The disciples of Jesus went through a lot of change in the days after his crucifixion. The Lord whom they loved was dead. A way of life that filled them with hope was shattered. They must have wondered, "Now what?"

Two of the disciples, sad and discouraged, decided to leave Jerusalem for Emmaus. Jesus met them on their way, and refreshed them with a new understanding of the scriptures and with his presence in the Eucharist. Peter, probably at loose ends and figuring that they had to eat, rounded up his crew to go fishing. Jesus met them on the shore with a hot meal and the gift of his presence. Another "Now what?" moment came after Jesus' ascension into heaven. The disciples were standing around wondering what to do. It took a vision of angels to get them to quit staring at the sky and return to Jerusalem.

We're going to have some "Now what?" moments here at St. Patrick's as we journey through the building expansion together. The church is the heart of our parish. For many of us, it is where we or our children were baptized, where we were confirmed, where we were mar-

ried, where we said final goodbyes to family and friends. It is where we encounter Jesus in community, in scripture, in Eucharist, and in Reconciliation. It is full of memories and faces, prayer, joy and sadness. And there will be some annoyances too. Your usual parking place, pew, or meeting room might be gone. So probably, we're all going to have some "Now what?" moments. As we move toward a beautiful new space that better meets our needs, there will be moments of loss and confusion.

But, as always, in this time Jesus will be with us. You may meet him in the enthusiasm and welcome of your fellow parishioners. You may meet him in the careful planning and good guidance of our par-

ish staff and many volunteers. You will continue to meet him in prayer, in scripture, in Eucharist, and in the worship that we share.

And, just as Jesus' disciples were surprised every time they met the Risen Lord, you may meet Jesus in some moments and events that surprise you.

Probably, we will have some "Now what?" moments. Definitely, we will have Jesus with us!



## There is joy in returning

*"[My conversion] was like coming into a port after a rough sea; and my happiness on that score remains to this day without interruption."*

John Henry Newman

This eloquent expression of what religious conversion meant to Cardinal Newman applies equally to



those who have made the decision to return to their religious home in the Catholic Church. For many years, St. Patrick's program RETURNING CATHOLICS has helped those seeking to return; it now has many alums.

Their happiness is evident in their faces as they receive the Eucharist. Their joy is evident as they serve the community as lectors and in other ministries, as helpers on parish projects, as participants in Bible study, retreats, and renewal programs. Our community has truly benefited from their presence. In return, St. Patrick's continues to offer a six-week session at three times throughout the year

see **Joy in returning** on page 3

## Seniors Honor Mary Long

The Senior Group at St. Patrick held a delicious pot luck luncheon on June 2, to thank Mary Long for her years as Pastoral Associate. Walt



and Shirley Splittstoesser happily greeted the 45 guests and created a joyful mood. The tables were set with flowers and bowls of mints and pretzels to nibble before dinner. After Fr. Joel led the prayer, each table joined the buffet line.

The buffet tables were laden with colorful and delicious foods: lettuce and fruit salads, sliced ham, lunch meats, cheeses, buns, and ethnic foods such as curry and spaghetti. Sides included sweet potatoes, rice, and corn casserole. There was a luscious strawberry dessert all ruby red and white and plates of different cookies.

After the meal, Walt and Shirley gathered us to the east end of the hall for a slide show highlighting Mary's life, organized and narrated by her husband, Jimmy, who has a Ph.D. in civil engineering, and has taught at the University of Illinois since 1985. We got to see baby pictures of Mary. We learned that as a girl, Mary wanted to become a nun. Jimmy told us how Mary was the valedictorian at Travis High School in Austin, Texas in 1973. Mary graduated from the University of

Texas in 1977 with a BA in German. Mary and Jimmy were married in 1976 and have three sons. Mary got her Masters in Religion in 2008 from Urbana Theological Seminary. She has recently completed studies to become a Spiritual Director.

When the slide show was concluded, many attendees gave tributes to Mary about how she had helped them personally or with a church ministry. Then Mary spoke and said how surprised she was

that Jimmy found all these pictures from the past. She thanked him for supporting her in everything she has done. He would even come over and set up the audio/visual equipment for big events at St. Patrick.

Mary recounted how she knew St. Patrick was the parish for them after talking on the phone in 1985 with our past secretary, Leslie Risatti. Mary reminisced about their first Mass here on January 1, 1985,

when the temperature was minus 24, and they were used to Texas weather. Mary concluded by saying that this parish is amazing because

of all the people who generously help out.

Although Mary is retiring from being Pastoral Associate, she will still be helping at her parish. She is on the Sabbath Renewal Team that will facilitate the transition to the new church so that parishioners can grow with their church. Mary said that God is calling her to be a Spiritual Director who will help people on their faith journey either singly or as a small group. She will do this at St. Patrick.

Mary and Jimmy now have time to travel. In July they will take their son, Alex, and his wife, Kate, to Austin,

Texas to spend time with Jimmy's mother. This winter they will visit their other two sons, Zach and Adam, who are in the military in Hawaii. Adam and his wife, Julie, have two sons, so Mary and Jimmy will get to experience that ever-rewarding grandparent time.

While everyone was leaving, Walt and Shirley were still cleaning the tables and loading the dishwasher. They are also retiring after fifteen years of leading this Senior Group. We hope that some other parishioners will step in to fill those large shoes!





## Planning for transition – growing as a parish during a time of change

As plans for St. Patrick's church expansion project move forward, the day when construction begins is getting closer. Such a massive project will impact our parish life. For a period of time, the church will be unavailable and Masses will be held in the parish center. Because of space limitations during different stages of construction, some regular programs will be adapted or suspended during this time.

**May Gathering of Ministries.** This past May, ministry leaders gathered to discuss preliminary ideas for adapting parish programs. Leaders were asked to view this time of transition, when we take a break from some of our usual activities, as an opportunity to take time to assess our different ministry areas and consider new directions.

The overall goal is to gracefully move through a time of change. We must thoughtfully prepare, so we can carry on our core ministries and stay united as a faith community. What is taking shape, thus far, looks to be an exciting and fruitful time – a time to reflect on who we are as a parish and a time for us to grow in faith.

*Together, we are embarking on a Sabbath Renewal.*

**Sabbath Renewal Team.** This special committee is planning for this time of transition and renewal. Members are: Fr. Joe Hogan, Mary Long, Carolyn McElrath, Delphine Mulamba, Terry and Kathy Jobin, Jim and Dottie Davito, Margaret Kelley, Mary and Kai Nielsen, and Frank Modica. The committee is divided into three subgroups:

- **Liturgical Movement Subgroup.** This team will coordinate the move out of our current church,



*Honoring Our Past*  
**BUILDING OUR FUTURE**  
 ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC CHURCH CAMPAIGN

prepare for Masses in the parish hall, and eventually plan the move into our newly renovated worship space. In each stage, they will work with the Liturgy Committee to ensure a sacred setting for our celebration of Eucharist.

- **Sabbath Renewal Study Subgroup.** This team is developing a unique parish-wide study program focused on Pope Francis' encyclical "The Joy of the Gospel." They will create materials for in-home study groups and take-home resources for individual families. Regardless of when construction actually begins, this home study group will begin in January.
- **Small Group Formation Subgroup.** This team will organize the network of in-home study groups and provide leadership training for the volunteers who head them.

As we prepare for our church expansion project and a time of transition, let us pray for all those who are leading these efforts. Let us pray for God's blessing as we prepare to re-create our worship space and renew ourselves as a faith community.

## Joy in returning from page 2

to those seeking to return—to be that port in a storm that beckons and welcomes.

Our summer session begins on Wednesday, July 9, 12:10-12:50 p.m. in the parish center. Besides helping you understand the Mass and the sacraments, the sessions are designed to answer your questions and concerns, especially in these early years of Pope Francis.

RETURNING CATHOLICS also offers you several assurances. Consider:

- It can be your gateway for rejoining a Catholic community after an absence, long or short.
- Its volunteer have journeyed with people of varied circumstances, and empathize with those who have left and now want to return. One team member is herself a returned Catholic.
- It is confidential. Shared information leaves the room only with your permission.
- Its personnel know not to judge; instead they offer support, even after the sessions are over.
- Its team includes a Notary-Auditor who can work through the legal aspects of a marriage case.

Join us in the parish center on July 9 for the noon hour – feel free to bring your lunch and nourish your body as well as your spirit! Need more information? Contact the parish office (367-2665), Barbara Wysocki (367-5014), or Mary Lou Menches (344-1125).

### Things We Know

#### Children's Religious Education Classes on Wednesday

Children's religious education classes will be held on Wednesday evenings beginning in the Fall. That schedule will continue until the end of the building project. Launching the year off with this change will create an academic year pattern for children, parents, and teachers instead of changing schedules mid-school year when the Parish Center's space becomes limited. Vivo and CREW will still meet on Sunday evenings.

#### What about Coffee Shop?

Sunday morning Coffee Shop in the Parish Center's Main Hall will continue until Mass is moved there, whereupon it will be paused.

#### Ladies Knight Out

The Knights of Columbus will host a second Ladies Knight Out this year – sometime in November – anticipating that the Parish Hall may be unavailable in the spring.

#### St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry

The Food Pantry will continue to serve the needy, from its current location, even while Masses are held in the Parish Center.



**Q: What is a “transitional” deacon?**

**A:** The title of deacon comes from the Greek for “servant” or “helper,” and we know that the Apostles had deacons to assist them in caring for the community of believers. Then as now, they assisted at liturgies. Their duties centered on helping the poor, visiting the sick, and other necessary but time-consuming pastoral functions.

“Transitional,” a movement from one stage to another, aptly describes the seminarian ordained as a deacon who is on his way to becoming a priest. The transitional deacon is a seminarian in his last stage of formation, in training for the priesthood. After a year as deacon, he is ordained a priest. Alex Millar, a seminarian from St. Patrick’s, was ordained a transitional deacon this spring and will be ordained to the priesthood next year by Bishop Jenky.

A permanent deacon (St. Patrick’s is graced with two, Cliff Maduzia and David Zola) is ordained, but has no intention of becoming a priest. He may be single or married at the time of his ordination, but he may not marry thereafter. A widowed deacon may be ordained a priest, if he desires and the bishop permits and approves. A permanent deacon is self-supporting, holding a secular job—especially if he has a family to support.

Deacons, whether permanent or transitional, may baptize, witness marriages, perform funeral and burial services outside of Mass, distribute Holy Communion, and preach the homily at Mass. They must pray the Divine Office daily. They help the pastor by visiting the sick, teaching the faith, counseling couples and individuals, and serving on parish groups. In general, they learn the needs of parishioners, take care of those needs that they can, and bring them to the attention of the pastor.

\* \* \*

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



## in our parish library

July marks the day of commemoration for our country’s birth. As Americans, we are very lucky in that we have the freedom and independence to choose whichever religion we wish to practice. In many areas of the world, this is not the case.

For this month, I would like focus on some material dealing with both religious and spiritual freedom.

***The Quest for True Freedom*** by Jennifer Penn. An intimate portrayal of Father Thomas Merton, this book 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. This book explores the part Catholicism has played in the intellectual and political life of the United States over the past two hundred years. 282 McG

***The Inner Voice of Love: Journey Through Anguish to Freedom*** by Henri Nouwen. 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, Henri Nouwen was still able to keep a “secret journal” in which he wrote a spiritual imperative to himself each day. 282 Nou

***Living a Gentle, Passionate Life*** by Robert J Wicks. Using poignant and humorous stories, Wicks invites readers to seek perspective and develop a strong inner life through learning to accept both joy and pain as part of a thriving life, to listen to ourselves and others, to discover the goodness in solitude and to appreciate the gift of now. He brings a hopeful message of finding spiritual freedom and greater meaning in daily life. 158 Wic

***Jubilee Time: Celebrating Women, Spirit, & The Advent of Age*** by Mariah Harris. Based on the Jubilee passage in Leviticus---“You shall hallow the fiftieth year. It shall be a Jubilee for you”---Jubilee Time aims to help women assess what values and beliefs they want to carry forward into the second half of life through readings, exercises and meditations. Harris draws on her own experience and that of writers such as May Sarton, Anne Morrow Lindbergh, and M.F.K. Fisher, as well as more than one hundred “ordinary” women. 158 Har

Happy Independence Day! May we never forget how lucky we are as Americans to live in a country with so many freedoms. Let us also pray that other countries will come to recognize the importance of these liberties and allow their citizens the same freedoms.

\* \* \*

*As always, if you have any questions do not hesitate to contact Library Coordinator Megan Raab (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. During the summer, browse to your heart’s content on Sundays during Coffee Shop—the Coffee Shop team leader can open the library for you.*

### Did you know?

- In our renovated, expanded church, the choir will be relocated from the choir loft to the main floor. No longer will choristers have to mount the steep stairway to the loft!
- As Fr. Joe recently reported at Mass, Carle Foundation Hospital will pay for the construction and maintenance of the new parking area north of Sassafrales Alley in an agreement that lets Carle employees use it on weekdays, and lets parishioners use it on weekends (and for funerals, weddings, and major parish events). This arrangement has been approved by the diocese.

## What are teens saying about Totus Tuus?

Totus Tuus means “Totally Yours” or “All For You.” This week-long program, which took place in June, let children and teens learn more about their faith and have fun while learning. A team of college-age leaders from our diocese directed each activity. Coordinator Jon McCoy asked some of the teens what they thought about the program.

Joe, who will be entering 9th grade at the High School of St. Thomas More said, “The Totus Tuus teen program is a very fun and social way to learn and grow in your faith, and I love it!” Maddy, a junior

at STM agreed. “The teen program has strengthened my relationship with God and I really learned a lot about myself and my faith while having tons of fun!”

Faith and Gracie, both juniors at STM, appreciated the leaders. “The teen program was a great opportunity to get closer to God and strengthen our faith while having a great time with the amazing leaders,” Faith said. Gracie remarked that “Hearing their talks and knowing they went through the same things I do in high school lets me know that I’m not alone.”

Would they take part in the program again? “Through the Totus Tuus program I really felt like I grew in my faith and connected with the people around me. I felt like the leaders cared about us, and I would definitely come back again next year,” said Erin, another junior at STM. Isabella, a junior at Urbana High School, was also enthusiastic. “This year was interesting. We had a new team and new concepts. It was super fun and a great experience. Can’t wait until next year!”

Sounds like a success!



In the children’s section of Totus Tuus, the classes were promised that on the last day of the program the class who had the best behavior would get to make a human sundae out of one of the team leaders on the last day of the program. What they didn’t know was that they would get to make a human sundae out of Father Phelps as well!

### SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, July 27, 2014

Send-off Mass for CREW Mission Trip

CREW teens and chaperones will leave after 7:30 a.m. Mass, headed to Winnebago, Nebraska!

Come show your support!

### *Vocation Prayer*

*I, the Lord, have heard my people cry, I have borne my people’s pain, I have wept for love of them. Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?*

Here I am, Lord; send me! I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.



## Holy Cross Happenings

The end of the school year brings the expected joy at finishing another year, and perhaps some sadness at leaving behind a year filled with great experiences, teachers, and friends. At Holy Cross School, our 8th graders' year started winding down at the end of April when they went to Washington, DC, Williamsburg, and Monticello. The 8th grade trip is an annual tradition; the students prepare for it during the spring semester in several of their classes. On May 23, the 8th graders had an all-day retreat out to St Joseph Parish in Ivesdale. On May 27, they celebrated Honors Day: Jessica Hood won the Presidential Academic Award, Brianna Hopper the Spirit of Coopera-



*St Patrick's graduates with Fr. Phelps and Fr. Joe*

tion Award, and Maris Wszalek the American Legion Citizenship Award. Their Graduation Mass, held on the evening of the 28th, was presided by Fr. Dave Sadjak and Fr. Joe, with Fr. Phelps attending. The school year

concluded on June 3 after an all-day "field day" on the 2nd.

The graduates who attend St Patrick's are Jessica Hood, Brianna Hopper, Yasmine Lubuzya, Maria Lukusa, Nick Roseman, Lucas Simpson, Ethan Smith, and Maris Wszalek.

Congratulations to St Patrick's parishioners who made the 4th Quarter Honors List! Highest Honors: Kaleb Leining, Sophia Solava, Justin Smith, Rachel Loftus, Sarah Grosse-Perdekamp, Hannah Niccum, Jessica Hood, Maris Wszalek.

High Honors: Calum Beckett, Will Moore, Austin Ford, Mary Agor, Brianna Hopper, Ethan Smith. Honors: Kylie Hopper, Luke Herzog, Morgan Saunders, Lisa Altaner, A.J. Porter.



*St. Patrick Parish*  
**IN FOCUS**  
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**The gifts we have, we are given to share**

Where do you belong? You are probably part of several communities: home, extended family, work, place, neighborhood, school, coffee shop, church, or places you volunteer. To each of them, you give some of your time and your talents. It's not the price of admission—it's just part of belonging. We belong in places where people share of themselves. If people weren't sharing in these places, there'd be no point in belonging.

At St. Patrick's we talk a lot about giving of one's time and talents. As a faith community, we give witness to how God wants us to live. Living in community, sharing of ourselves, being available to one another—these are some of the things Jesus showed us about living together. There are things that help to prepare us for the great community of heaven.

One reason we talk about time and talent is that we want St. Patrick's to be a strong and vibrant community—a place where many people express their faith by sharing. We also respect the other communities that we are part of and the way we share with them. After all, the Church shines when families and circles live there.

There are hundreds of ways that you can give of yourself at St. Patrick's. If you reflect on the possibilities you'll probably find several ways that fit into your schedule and interests. If you have children, pick something that involves all of you. You'll be giving to both your parish and your family, and what a wonderful example you'll be giving your children! If your schedule is tight, could you manage to help with yard work around the parish on a couple of Saturday mornings, take something for a parish event, or provide a food dish for a funeral meal? You might also look for overlap with some of the other commitments that you are a part of. Maybe someone at work would like to know about the Crisis to Crisis site, for example.

Toward the end of August, St. Patrick's will be publishing ways that you can share your time and talent and inviting each of us to find some way to share. What can you find to share?

We are many parts. We are all one body.  
 And the gifts we have, we are given to share.  
 —Mary Stegner

**Could God be nudging you?**

If you've ever your ads announcing Returning Catholics sessions many times. This time, I just had to respond to it.

This comment from a recent attendee could be viewed as the power of advertising. On the other hand, it could be seen as God nudging an individual to return to his or her Catholic roots after a long absence and some significant life changes.

The Returning Catholics team will offer a session on work summer sessions for inactive or questioning Catholics beginning on Wednesday, July 4, at the parish center. Each week, we will focus on some aspect of Catholic sacramental spiritual life: Mass and the sacraments, especially Reconciliation, parish life and ministries. Even with the time limitation (we promise to keep to about 45 minutes), we'll leave time for your questions!

Bring your lunch and make this session the most productive use of your lunch hour in some time. Need more information? Call the parish office (342-2000), Barbara Wypocki (342-5034), or Mary Lou Menches (344-1121) for more details. Could God be nudging you?

**In Focus Newsletter needs your help!**

We are looking for someone to help with page layout for two or three issues in the coming year. John Colombo and pastoral associate Jim Urban have alternated handling page layout for *In Focus*. But John has accepted appointment as interim dean of the UI College of Law during the search for a permanent dean and will have to reduce the time he can give to *In Focus* during the search.

We feel confident that there are many talented folks in our parish who can do page layout using any one of many paging programs. Jim uses Publisher, and John uses InDesign; both can provide templates and helpful guidelines, and our committee can fill you in on our simple production procedures.

Can one or two of you come forward to help us in our need? If you'll leave your name with the parish office, one of us will get back to you promptly!

For the Communications Committee,  
 Judy Fierke  
 Elizabeth Hendricks  
 Mary Lou Menches  
 Cathy Salika (chair)  
 Peggy Whelan

**Market at the Square ministry connects us with the community**

For several years St. Patrick's has had a tent set up on Saturday morning at Urbana's Market at the Square in the Lincoln Square parking lot. The Saturday Market is a popular place with crowds of community folks and newcomers to Champaign-Urbana. This year, we will have our booth for four Saturdays: August 15 and 23, and September 6 and 13. Visitors stop by and inquire



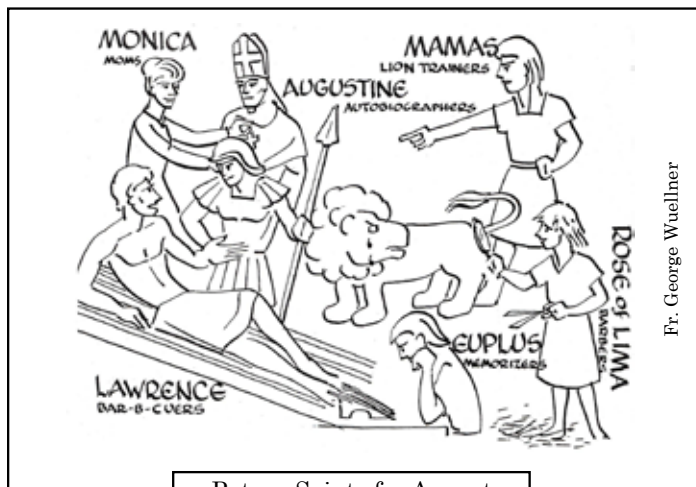
about Mass times; newcomers want information about our parish, and

many folks seem to like to see what types of ministries we offer. Please consider helping for even an hour or two at the tent. We could use your help! Even just help in setting up the tent or taking it down would be appreciated. Call Linda Weber at 344-4884 or email to [lindaweber@juno.com](mailto:lindaweber@juno.com)

for more information and to sign up.



Patron Saints for July



Patron Saints for August



## When in Rome...believe in miracles

If you are in Rome on any August 5th, you may see a shower of white rose petals dropped from the dome of Our Lady's Chapel of St. Mary Major Basilica. On the same day at sunset, an artificial snowfall is staged outside the church as a tourist attraction. These customs commemorate the legend of the church's miraculous beginning. This fourth largest of Roman churches, and the largest dedicated to Mary, was for centuries known unofficially as Our Lady of the Snows. You may recognize this from the National Shrine of the same name in Belleville, Illinois.

The original story tells that a Roman patrician named John and his wife, a rich couple without children as heirs, wanted to donate all their goods in honor of Our Lady. They prayed for a sign of how to do so. On August 5th in the hot summer night snow fell on the Esquiline hill, one of the seven hills of Rome. That same night

the rich couple had a vision of Our Lady. So the church was built, when Liberius was pope in the mid-300's, and rebuilt in 431.

No reference to the legend appeared until the year 1000: it has no historical basis. But even in the fifteenth century, the Snows name was still popular in art. One painting by Masolino da Panicale shows Christ and Mary looking down from above while Pope Liberius marks the outline of the basilica in the legendary snowfall. In Italy 158 churches bear the name, as do several parishes in the U.S.



The feast of Our Lady of the Snows was entered in the General Roman Calendar by Pope Pius V in 1568, but the legendary name was removed in a 1969 revision. Our Lady is, however, still honored in the current Roman Calendar on August 5, which memorializes the Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major.

## 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); Elizabeth Hendricks, 328-2184 (elihen@att.net); Mary Lou Menches, 344-1125 (mmenches@illinois.edu); Cathy Salika, 367-7861 (csalika@illinois.edu); and Peggy Whelan, 367-3668 (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, Stephanie Smith, John Towns, Jim Urban, Mary Welle, and Joseph Youakim.

**Articles and information** for this issue were provided by Carol Bosley, Kathy Cimasky, Judy Fierke, Jon McCoy, Mary Lou Menches, Ellen Noonan, Cathy Salika, Adam Smith, Shirley Splitstoeser, Linda Weber, Peggy Whelan, and Barbara Wysocki. Patron Saints by Fr. George Wuellner. This issue was edited by Camille Goudeseune. Page layout was by John Colombo.

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

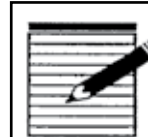
#### Cucumber Salad

3 cucumbers, peeled and thinly sliced  
1 medium onion, peeled and sliced  
1 c vinegar  
1 c water  
1/4 c sugar or equivalent sweetener  
Salt  
Pepper  
Paprika

Combine cucumbers, onion, and salt. Let stand at room temperature for at least 4 hours, then squeeze out the liquid. Dress with mixture of vinegar, water, and sweetener; add salt, pepper, and paprika to taste.

\* \* \*

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



Deadline for submission of information, articles and news items for the next issue of *In Focus* is **August 10**.