

# St. Patrick Parish IN FOCUS



www.stpaturbana.org

July/August 2016

## It's all in a leaf

**H**ave you ever looked closely at a leaf, and marveled? The beautiful curves of its shape, the delicate tracery of the veins, the difference in color, texture, and function of the top and bottom, the dappled sunlight that shines through it – all these things are very beautiful. The way the leaf converts sunlight to food, the way the branches support it, the way that water and nutrients from the earth are drawn far above ground – these things are amazing. There are creatures that rely on it for food, for safety, for their home. How wonderful!

If you want to see God's creativity, God's ingenuity, you need look no further. If enough biologists, chemists, and physicists put their heads together, they could describe the things that this living leaf is doing. Anyone can plant a seed, but only God brings forth life. If God gave all this thought to a leaf when he created it, how much do you think he thought about you?

If you want to see the value that God puts on community, it's all here. The complexity of this one leaf is awesome. The complexity of the ecosystem that sustains it is vastly greater. This leaf lives and dies, nourishes and takes nourishment, breathes in and breathes out, all the while playing its part in the life of the whole community around it. What a marvel is this leaf, which nourishes the fruit of the tree that is eaten by a bird that drops its seed on the ground, so that new trees and new leaves can spring forth! God surely knew that we would take the wood of those trees for our homes, the furnishings of our church, the very books that nourish our minds and our souls. If God lavishes

such care on this leaf, giving it the community it needs to grow and bear fruit, how much care has God lavished on you?



*Through all the world below*

*God is seen all around.*

*Search hills and valleys  
through;*

*there God's found.*

*The growing of the corn,  
the lily and the thorn,  
the pleasant and forlorn  
all declare,*

*God is there.*

*In meadows fresh and green  
God is seen.*

## What better way to serve?

*As often as you do these things for one another, you do them for me.*

You are to be commended for the important role you play as a worshiping member of St. Patrick's, and for the way you serve one another with grace.

Several of you have served by taking Communion to the homebound of our parish, to one of the assisted-living residences, or to Catholics staying at Carle Foundation Hospital. There is a critical need for more of our parishioners to serve those who cannot physically attend Mass at St Patrick's.

*What time commitment is involved?*

- For homebound and assisted-living ministry, once a month on a Tuesday morning.

- For Carle visits, twice a month on either Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri., Sat., or Sun.; you choose a convenient time for your visits.

*Training?*

- Mary Karten coordinates, schedules, and trains volunteers carrying

**What better way** continued on page 6



## FAIR Task Force a local effort to assist refugees

The UN Refugee Agency estimates that there were 37.5 million forcibly displaced refugees a decade ago. Today there are more than 60 million. Can we sit back and watch the suffering resulting from this refugee crisis of historic proportion and do nothing? The faith and secular communities of Champaign County are coming together to take action.

Our region has a long history of sponsoring, welcoming and helping to successfully integrate migrant families fleeing danger and hunger. After the Vietnam War, our community welcomed hundreds of Vietnamese families and other South-east Asian refugees.

The East Central Illinois Refugee Mutual Assistance Center – a.k.a. “Refugee Center” – was founded to assist refugees and immigrants to become self-sufficient and contributing members of our society. These earlier refugees, their children and relatives are now important members of our community.

Since then many more refugees, asylum seekers, and other immigrants from Africa, the Middle East, Central America, Russia, and Asia have been welcomed and assisted through the Refugee Center.



On February 1 the First Presbyterian Church of Champaign organized a meeting of faith communities, secular groups, and individuals to hear a presentation by a representative of World Relief about the refugee crisis in the Middle East. Those present agreed to develop a dialogue with our communities that demonstrates the justice and benefits of welcoming immigrants and to act to mitigate the refugee crisis.

Since then and without any publicity, representatives of 15 faith communities, 6 secular groups, and a number of individuals met and founded the FAIR Task Force (Friends Assisting Immigrants and Refugees). The Task Force is united on the following:

- Commitment to sponsor, welcome, and help integrate into our society refugees, asylum seekers, and economic and political immigrants
- Support and help in expanding the services of the Refugee Center
- Identification of community resources for housing, transportation, ESL, job training, communications (including help-line), and legal, health, mental health, and social services
- Involvement of other faith communities, secular organizations, government entities, and caring individuals
- Partnership with existing programs in C-U, especially members of refugee and immigrant families that have already achieved economic and social integration in our community

The FAIR Task Force and the Catholic Charities Refugee Program are currently discussing how best to sponsor and receive new refugees. Besides St. Patrick’s, members of Holy Cross, St. Malachy (Rantoul), and St. Michael’s (Monticello) participate in these efforts along with members of other Christian churches, the Baha’i Center, and the Mosque.

If you are interested in taking part in this corporal work of mercy or in other interfaith activities related to social justice, contact Luis Cuza (217-954-1956 or [Luis@cuza.us](mailto:Luis@cuza.us)) or Jim Urban ([jim.urban@stpaturbana.org](mailto:jim.urban@stpaturbana.org)).

## Fairwell, Father Joseph!

Just one year ago at our inaugural Sister Parish Party, Fr. Joseph Baker could be seen in his trademark cassock going from table to table warmly greeting—and being greeted by—his new church family.



Sadly, this year's Sister Parish Party had to do without him, as he had already left for his new assignment at St. Mary Parish in Bloomington.

*In Focus* was able to catch up with Fr. Joseph one more time to get his thoughts on his year here. Read on, and join us in praying for a long and blessed ministry for Fr. Joseph wherever the priesthood takes him!

***Were you surprised to hear you'd be leaving St. Pat's so soon, or did you see it coming?***

It definitely wasn't something I saw coming or expected. Typically a priest is at his first assignment 2-3 years, but staying for just a year or even for four years is not unheard of.

During our time in the seminary we're moved around from one pastoral assignment to another rather frequently. In six years, I was assigned to nine different locations for pastoral ministry, both at home in the diocese during the summers as well as at the seminary in Maryland. So unfortunately, I'm somewhat accustomed to change, though it's never easy.

***You'll be awfully close to home in your new assignment. Do you still have family in Morton? If so, how did they react to the news?***

Actually my mom is my only relative still in Morton; my immediate family is really spread around the country. With that said, I think

my mom is pretty happy about my moving a bit closer for my next assignment. I'll probably be seeing her more often and may be stopping in at home more frequently.

***Surely not too many new priests also have a brand new church in which to celebrate Mass. Was this a blessing? A mixed blessing? Or would you not recommend the experience?***

Ha, this was definitely a blessing! It was a wonderful experience to come in and celebrate Mass for the first time on my own on the morning of December 11. I remember feeling a bit out of place, sort of thinking to myself, "Shouldn't we be doing this in the parish hall? ... Wait, I guess this is our church now!" By now I think everyone is accustomed to the new church and its various aspects that make it such an excellent place to celebrate the Eucharist and the other mysteries of our faith.

***If you could go back and relive any one moment, what would it be?***

I think probably the Paschal Triduum (Holy Week) services with the community were a highlight of the year. Luckily Easter comes around every year, so while it will be at a different parish, we'll do it all over again next year!

***For a new priest, you seem pretty comfortable giving a well-researched and thoughtful homily. What (aside from prayer, of course) is the key to preparing for these?***

To prepare for preaching prior to my ordination as a deacon in 2014, I came up with a basic guiding principle to help me prepare for homilies. The principle is essentially that I never want to give a homily that I'm not primarily preaching to myself. In other words, I always want to say things that I myself need to hear.

It's said, perhaps jokingly, that priests pass their time in purgatory by listening to their own homilies,

so I try to say things that I wouldn't mind hearing again one day! Additionally, as you suggested, prayer is the first thing I do when preparing my homilies, Sunday to Sunday. That's really the most important thing.

Aside from that, on a daily basis I do a substantial amount of reading/study, and with every book I read I take notes which I then compile into a document organized according to themes, so when I prepare homilies I come up with the main theme, and then I look at my document to see if anything from my previous study can add to the theme I've already selected. This seems to help me in reinforcing an idea, pointing me in a certain direction, or providing insights from the saints or the Church's Tradition. If I were relying only on myself to come up with homilies, I doubt they'd be very good.

In regards to prayer, I always ask three friends to aid me; my guardian angel, our mother Mary, and the Holy Spirit. If you ever thought any of my homilies were good, I give the credit to these friends. On the other hand, if you ever walked away thinking, "that homily wasn't any good," well, maybe it was my fault for not letting my angel, Mary, and the Spirit lead me as much as I should have.

***Any parting thoughts you'd like to share with us?***

This isn't really a good-bye but a farewell. We'll be separated, but not by much—Bloomington is really close to Shampoo-Banana, er, I mean Champaign-Urbana, and regardless, we're all one in the Body of Christ, so when we offer the Holy Eucharist, we're all united as one in the Lord Jesus.

Thanks to everyone!



**Q: What's changing on the parish grounds?**

**A:** You may have already noticed some of the changes in the plantings around our church and parish center on your way to Mass or the parish office. For instance, the overgrown hedge along the parking lot sidewalk has been removed. There remain two rose bushes, which will anchor a future strip of grass to present a cleaner and safer appearance.

Carle has generously planted all the islands in the parking lot and the entire perimeter of the lot. There are flowering trees and Stelladora lilies in the islands. Around the perimeter of the lot are over 200 ornamental grasses interspersed with flowering perennials, including peonies and roses. Carle will also water, weed, and replace plantings as needed.

Have you noticed the huge rocks in two islands in the parking lot at the east entrance off Coler Street? These were donated and put in place by Roy Douglas, a parishioner and local farmer.

The Women of St. Patrick are also beautifying the grounds. They have ordered two granite benches to be placed at the east entrance of the church. They are also planning a rock garden on the south side of the parish center, outside Father Hogan's office. Large stones placed there by participants in Mary Hogan's mini-retreats hold out promise of beauty yet to come. Since this is a shady area where it is difficult for plants to grow, the WSP have placed a sign there reading "The Promised Land!"

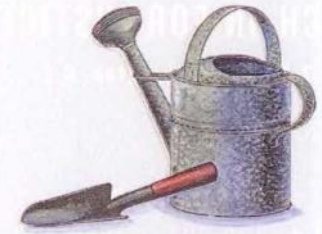
Near the church, also on the south side, are four redbud trees and two flowering trees. Behind the large St. Patrick sign at the corner of Main and Coler are two new evergreen trees.

North of the east entrance to the church, in the new grass between the church and the new bicycle racks, are two redbuds, a maple, and a flowering tree. Nearby and closer to the right side of the east entrance will be a hemlock and a dogwood tree. On the other side of the entrance will be boxwood bushes and hydrangeas.

Our church grounds will be blooming with a whole spectrum of colors in spring, summer, and fall!

\* \* \*

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



*God is in the lawn work.*



*God is in the laundry.*



*God is in the dishes.*



*God is in the tulips.*

*God is in today.*

*Listen to the Holy Spirit in your life, then imagine the future in prayer. What you dream, believe in it, lean into it, wait for it—but also work for it. It will happen, as surely as God's kingdom is coming. Bear fruit in season and out of season, in joy and in sorrow. God's will has been sown into your hopes and dreams, and in God's own time, they will come true.*

— Pat Marrin



## in our parish library

As a follow-up to June's observance of Father's Day, a time we set aside to express our love for our fathers and our Father in heaven, we might also recognize and appreciate the Fathers of the Church and those we call Father today: our priests, bishops, and the pope. These might get you started:

***The Angels and Their Mission According to the Fathers of the Church***, by Jean Danielou. The author submerges us in the first Christian reflections on God's heavenly hosts, beginning in the pages of Scripture and stretching through the fifth century. These reflections focus not on the angels' natures but rather on their saving mission to us, a topic far more theologically satisfying. 235.6 Dan

***Desert Wisdom: Sayings from the Desert Fathers***, by Yushi Nomura. Each Christian who seeks God through prayer is continuing a tradition that began with the Desert Fathers and Mothers of the fourth and fifth century, simple peasants whose spiritual progress was marked by inner peace, self-control, poverty, patience, humility, and hospitality. Desert Wisdom contains some hundred "sayings" of the Desert Fathers, each accompanied by playful illustrations by Japanese artist Yushi Nomura. The simple truths of Desert Wisdom remain as fresh and vital to us today as they were to the disciples who first heard and recorded them. 248 Nom

***The Spirituality of the New Testament and the Fathers***, by Louis Boyer. This work (all 3 volumes) covers the history of Christian spirituality in a very well-organized fashion. It is a great read for anyone who wants to give this subject serious study. 248.2 Boy

***The Return of the Prodigal Son: Meditations of Fathers***, by Henri J. M. Nouwen. Henri Nouwen presents his experience with the famous painting by Rembrandt entitled "The Return of the Prodigal Son." Three stages correlate to the three main characters in the painting of the Biblical story of the prodigal son. A relatively simple read, the book yet maintains Nouwen's intimate insight and personal journey of exploration of spiritual homecoming. 248 Nou

***12 Council Fathers***, by Walter Abbott. This book presents Abbott's interviews of twelve of the most important figures then leading the Vatican Council. 262.5 Abb

These books do not even begin to cover the material related to Our Father and the Fathers of the Church. To locate these books and to find *many* more, visit the library on Sunday after Mass. During the week, ask Patricia in the parish office for a key to the library. As always, if you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Megan Raab, our parish librarian (369-0454 or raab41987@gmail.com).

### Vocation Prayer

Dearest God,  
we praise you for the beauty  
of your creation and your  
many gifts that surround us.  
During these summer days,  
bless us with an enduring  
sense of your presence  
and protection.  
Inspire our young people,  
so eager to help others,  
to see you in those in need  
and to consider  
how best to serve you.  
Give all of us the grace  
to be aware of the needs  
of others and to help  
as best we can.

What pains me these days  
is my inability  
to reach back into my years  
and touch the child I was.  
And yet,  
loving, living, stirring  
deep within my soul  
that child lives on.  
There are days  
when my adult ways  
turn tasteless in my mouth

and the child of long ago  
starts pressing on my soul.  
On days like that  
I long to touch the child again,  
let her take me by the hand  
and lead me down a path  
that shows me all the things  
I've stopped seeing  
because I've grown too tall.

—Macrina Wiederkehr, OSB

## Holy Cross Happenings

Ten St. Patrick's parishioners graduated from Holy Cross Elementary School this May. Lisa Altaner, Austin Ford, Abby Goad, Luke Herzog, Josie Kuenning, Rachel Loftus, Morgan Saunders, Justin Smith, Mikala Turner, and Connor Whittington will go on to high school with a solid foundation in our Catholic faith as well as the love and support of both their St. Pat's and Holy Cross families.

Many achieved academic distinction in the final quarter. Receiving *Honors*: Aidan Beckett, Luke Herzog, Kylie Hopper, Kaleb Leininger, Addy McLeod, Morgan Saunders, Rohan Thope, and Mikala Turner. Achieving *High Honors*: Lisa Altaner, Austin Ford, Lukas Grosse-Perdekamp, Brandon Hood, Maddy McCoy, Ellen Loftus, and Joyson Kakinga. And awarded *Highest Honors*: Rachel Loftus, Justin Smith, and Jasmine Waite. *Congratulations, one and all!*

Some of these accomplished young men and women capped off their elementary years by receiving the following awards:

- † On the Honor Roll at least once during the year: Josie



Kuenning, Morgan Saunders, Mikala Turner

- † Honors or better all year: Lisa Altaner, Luke Herzog, Austin Ford
- † Highest Honors all year: Rachel Loftus, Justin Smith
- † Cooperation Award: Lisa Altaner, Austin Ford, Morgan Saunders, Justin Smith, Mikala Turner
- † Art Award: Rachel Loftus, Josie Kuenning
- † Athena Award, Citizenship Award, Religion Spirit of the Faith Award, and Presidential Educational Award: Rachel Loftus

In addition, two of our students—Morgan Saunders and Kylie Hopper—competed at the IESA

State Championship for Track and Field. Morgan came in 40th for the 8A Girls 800 Meter Run; Kylie came in 20th for the 7A Girls 200 Meter Dash and 9th for the 7A Girls Long Jump.

If you and your family would like to put your running skills to the test and support Holy Cross School, now's the time to sign up for the Crusader 5K Run/Walk. It will be held Saturday, August 13, at the High School of St. Thomas More (the race kicks off at 7:30 a.m. with a free fun run for kids 9 and under at 8:45). Visit [www.crusader5K.weebly.com](http://www.crusader5K.weebly.com) for more information or to register.

Interested in checking out Holy Cross for your child's education? Contact Principal Chris Ellis (356-9521 or [cellis@holycrosselem.org](mailto:cellis@holycrosselem.org)) for information. If your family is in need of financial assistance, call St. Patrick's parish office (367-2665) to learn how to start the process.

## What better way from page 1

Communion to the homebound and to assisted-living residences.

- Volunteers carrying Communion to Catholics at Carle are trained by Mary Karten, Kevin Martindale, or Kathy Jobin.

Please discern whether God is calling you to serve the sick and/or elderly of our parish in this significant way. *The need is great.* If you are not available to participate just now, invite someone you know. Your involvement in this ministry will net you more grace than you can ever imagine.

You can e-mail Mary Karten ([mlkarten@hotmail.com](mailto:mlkarten@hotmail.com)) or call her (898-0938) for more information or to volunteer.



## Help the Food Pantry Garden grow

The St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry Garden is off to a good start. According to garden steward April Jessee, this season the garden will provide squash, tomatoes, peppers, eggplant, and brussel sprouts to our parish's SVDP Food Pantry. This is a wonderful ministry for those who enjoy gardening and who want to help provide our neighbors in need with some

healthy fresh produce.

Volunteers are always needed to help with weeding and other tasks. If you don't or can't garden, you could help by providing a bale of straw—something often needed throughout the season. Contact Jim Urban (367-2665 or jim.urban@stpaturbana.org) or April (april.jessee@gmail.com) if you can help.



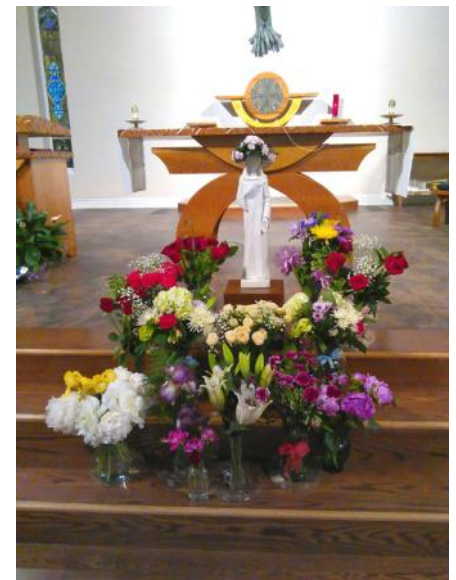
## A celebration of Mary

On May 24 the Women of St. Patrick sponsored an Evening in Praise of Mary in the church. A small statue of Mary lent by Father Mullen (pastor emeritus of Holy Cross) for the occasion stood at the top of the altar steps, crowned with a lovely wreath of flowers made by parish secretary Patricia Fowler. Many brought flowers to place before the statue. Some women later reflected that it brought to mind the May crownings they had participated in in their youth.

The service included both scriptural and secular readings. As well as two readings from Luke, there was an excerpt from *Mary, Shadow of Grace*, by Megan McKenna, and one from *Redemptionis Mater*, by St. Pope John Paul II. With Laura Theby on organ and piano, cantor Vera Mainz led the singing of hymns to Mary, as well as singing a beautiful solo, "O Sanctissima."

Nancy Olson, the WSP Chair of Spirituality, organized the service and led those present in prayers that included the Hail Mary, the Litany of Loretto, and the New Testament Litany of Mary.

It was a lovely way to praise and reflect on our Mother Mary.



### Help! Cellar-to-Garrett Sale only a "maybe" this year

Have you been looking forward to the Cellar-to-Garret Sale, with its immense collection of low-priced treasures? Or have you been gathering items you no longer find useful to donate to the sale? Well, without volunteers to coordinate the various aspects of the Cellar-to-Garret Sale, the organizers expect to cancel it this year.

Coordinator positions to be filled: overall sale co-chair (with Janet Althaus), setup, volunteer comforts, volunteer assignments, publicity, clean-up, and financial. Descriptions of what these positions entail can be found in the June issue of *In Focus*.

If you can help, send an email immediately to womenofstpatrick@gmail.com or call Donna Rinckenberger (217/220-0301). The deadline set for this decision is June 27—although if volunteers start signing up right away...

## Food, fun, and fellowship at the Sister Parish Picnic

One of the great joys of a sister parish relationship is getting to know the people who make up the parishes. At St. Patrick's and St. Mary's we are blessed to embrace people from many countries and ethnicities, people from Korea, Guatemala, Congo, the Philippines, Mexico, France, the Czech Republic, Nigeria, Brazil, Vietnam, and several other countries. Our families have immigrated from Asia, Europe, Central and South America, Africa, and Australia. Yet we are all one family in the Body of Christ.

The annual St. Patrick-St. Mary parish picnic at the Champaign County Fairgrounds gives us a chance to meet and get to know our brothers and sisters in faith. We may



know the folks who sit around us at Mass, or know by sight those we pass coming and going at the parish center, but we probably don't know the majority of our fellow parishioners or sister parishioners. The picnic gives us the opportunity to get to know more of them and to deepen friendships. As a bonus, we can eat some really wonderful food from a variety of cultures that we might otherwise never have the chance to try!

Temperatures in the 90s couldn't stop the fun at this year's picnic. Kessler Hall provided an air-conditioned respite and the tables

quickly filled. The Knights of Columbus braved the heat to grill hamburgers and hot dogs. The long



food tables soon filled with hot and cold foods to tempt any palate.

There were egg rolls and pot stickers, tamales, and a wide variety of fruits and salads. Cakes, cookies, brownies, and even ice cream rounded out the meal on a sweet note. The smell of popcorn wafted in from outside and soon people had paper cones of the treat to eat while listening to the musical offerings of the day.

The Coro el Rosario from St. Mary's started off the musical en-



tertainment under the trees with songs in their native Spanish.

Dressed in black pants and black vests embroidered in red and white, they were a treat for the eyes as well as our ears. Chairs were set up outside and the overhead door to the hall was opened so that people could sit inside and enjoy the music. The Coro was followed by the St. Patrick's musicians who had provided music for children's liturgies. Songs of praise filled the air!

Children enjoyed games and a bounce house. People circulated with papers designed to help meet others by filling in squares describing activities. They looked for someone to sign the square for "walks or bikes to work," "can say the Lord's Prayer in 3 languages," "is a gardener," and many others. Questions flew, signatures were collected, and acquaintances were made. For those wanting a celebrity "selfie" there was a photo opportunity with Pope Francis (in his cardboard form). Food, fun, and friendship were the order of the day.

The Sister Parish Picnic proved, once again, the truth of the words we often sing at Mass: "We are many parts, we are all one body!"

**Choose from 12 picnic photos at [https://www.flickr.com/photos/24776861@N02/?](https://www.flickr.com/photos/24776861@N02/)**



## To my dear St. Patrick parish family



I wanted to write to all of you to update you on my life, and to let you know that I am (with tears and rending of garments)

leaving my job as pastoral associate here at St. Pat's.

Around a year ago, my husband Thomas took a job in Kalamazoo, Mich., and we decided that he would live there while the kids and I remained here in Champaign for a year, so that our second son could graduate high school. For a time we thought the family would remain here longer, perhaps for another year, especially since my husband accepted a new job in the south suburbs of Chicago. But we just can't do it. We have been miserable living apart. As much as I love all my dear friends, as much as I love Champaign, and as tied and woven into the fabric of St. Pat's as I feel, all of it pales in comparison to the love I have for my husband. Neither of us wants to live apart for another year, and our children feel the same.

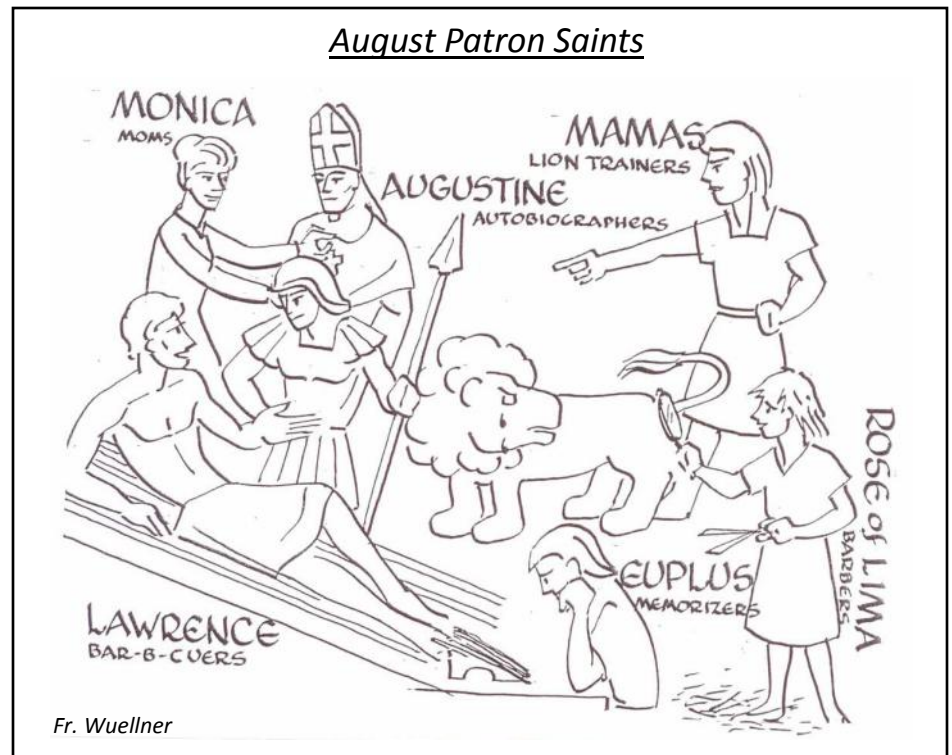
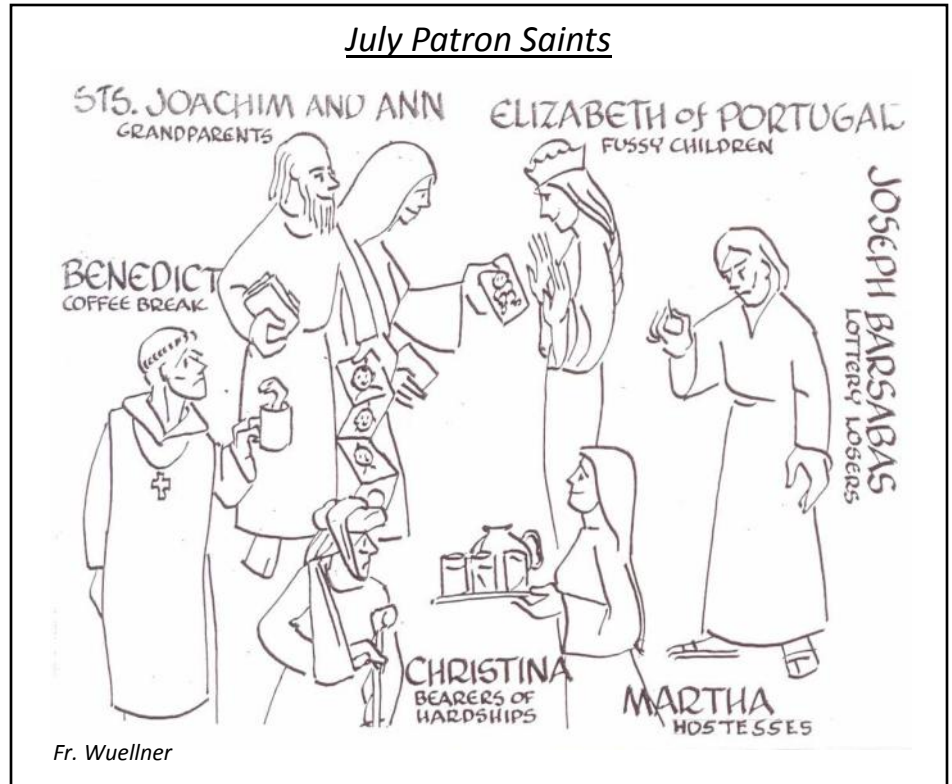
So we are going to move as a family before school starts in the Fall. The numerous changes in our plans, the stress of all of it, and the serious health concerns of my mother-in-law have necessitated my taking a lot of time off work these past two months. I feel I need to apologize for not being as responsive as usual.

Father Joe has not yet hired my replacement, so for the time being you will be without a liaison for Parish Community Life as well as the ministries under Spiritual Enrichment under my auspices. Jim Urban and Jon McCoy will help whenever needed, Patricia Fowler

also. These are wonderful, responsible people, and they will do what they can to support you—in your faith journey, in your ministry leadership, and in many other

ways. Just call Patricia at the parish office and she will connect you with the available staff person to

**Lorraine** continued on page 12



## Meet our new Parish Council members

You may have met one or more of the new members of our Parish Council, perhaps even seen them in action around the parish, but here they introduce themselves with information you may well not know about them. They bring a wealth of experience, a diversity of ways in which they've already served, and a broad range of talents to share. We thank them for their readiness to serve the parish, and pray that they find in the Council a source of spiritual enrichment and growth.

### From Katie O'Toole:



I am a relative newcomer to Urbana, having moved to the area last summer. I am a graduate student at the University of Illinois, pursuing an MA and a PhD in English with a concentration in Medieval Studies. In my former parishes in my home state of New York, I have been involved in choir, I've been a cantor and lector, and I've served in youth and parish council ministries.

I am very eager and excited to share my perspectives and experiences in the service of my new parish! I currently sing in the choir at St. Patrick's, and I look forward to becoming more involved in the various ministries here.

### From Janet Susanna Althaus:



I have four sisters and three brothers, and we all grew up on a small farm in Hillsboro, Mo., just southwest of St. Louis. In 1974 I graduated from high school with a full two-year scholarship and attended the local Jefferson Community College. In 1978 I graduated with an Associate of Science degree, passed the Radiology Registry, and became a Registered Radiologic Technologist. I was the first woman in our family to graduate with a college degree! I have worked as an RT for almost 40 years and have worked at Carle Foundation Hospital for 34 of those years. I presently am working in the Mills Breast Imaging Dept. in the Cancer Center at Carle.

My husband, John, and I have been married for nearly 39 years. We have three wonderful children and two grandchildren. John and I moved to Urbana in 1982 and started attending St. Patrick's at that time. I taught Sunday school for 23 years and served as Altar Server Coordinator for 6 years. I have been a lector and a Eucharistic minister, and have been a member of the choir now for 4 years (John for 5 years). I am a board member of the Women of St. Patrick and a part of the quilting group, which I enjoy. I

also enjoy knitting, sewing, and photography. We love to go tent camping and fishing and spending time with our children and grandchildren.

I am excited about this new chapter in my church life. I will be working with the Ministry of Faith Development. As a member of the Parish Council, I look forward to serving the needs of the Church and the opportunity to serve the people of the parish.

### From Kais Kanyinda Mbuyi:



I was born in Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in Kinshasa on May 27, 1986, where I graduated from high school in 2004. I attempted university for couple semesters before I traveled to the U.S.

Since 2012 I have been in Champaign. I joined the Holy Cross choir for three years. On the same year I started to go to the College at Parkland in Mathematics major. I'm now a student at Illinois State University (ISU) in Mathematics – Statistics; it's my first year there. Also, I'm working at Flex-N-Gate.

## Presenting the 2016-17 Parish Council

Every spring, upon completion of their three-year terms, three (or four) members of the Parish Council rotate off, creating vacancies to be filled by new members. This year three new members were chosen to fill vacancies created by retiring members. Their names, selected blindly from those of a group of volunteers, are Janet Althaus, Kais Mbuyi, and Katie O'Toole. (You can find their self-introductions elsewhere in this issue of *In Focus*.)

Our thanks to outgoing members Ken Horn, Solange Masweka, and Mary Derrene in gratitude for their years of service to St. Patrick's on the Parish Council.

At the May Council meeting the new members were seated and officers for the coming year were acknowledged: Joe Hinchliffe, president; Kathy Cimasky, vice-president, and Jack Parisi, secretary.

The Parish Council meets on the third Thursday of most months, with the agenda set by Council officers in conjunction with the parish trustees and the pastor. Members may serve occasionally on ad hoc committees as the need arises.

All members except the officers also serve on ministry leadership teams for the six key ministry areas of the parish. This helps to keep the Council and staff abreast of concerns, issues, and activities of parishioners in St. Patrick's several ministries. Here are the ten elected members and three ex-officio members (the pastor and trustees) who make up St. Patrick's Parish Council for 2016-17. All will be grateful for your interest, communication on matters of concern, and (especially) your prayerful support.



Fr. Joe Hogan  
Pastor



Joe Hinchliffe  
2014-17 president



Craig Goad  
2014-17



Theresa Williams  
2014-17



Rachael McMillan  
2015-18



Kathy Cimasky  
2015-18, vice-president



Gary Wszalek  
2015-18



Janet Althaus  
2016-2019



Kais Mbuyi  
2016-2019



Jack Parisi  
2015-18, secretary



Katie O'Toole  
2016-2019



Bruce Rogers  
2011-16, trustee



Ginger Timpone  
2008-13, trustee

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

Frances Warner

### Summer Harvest Tomatoes

3 large tomatoes  
1 large onion  
1 t dried Italian seasoning  
1/2 c vegetable oil  
1/2 c apple cider vinegar  
1/3 c sugar  
1 t salt  
1/4 t black pepper

Core tomatoes and cut into 1-inch chunks. Slice onion very thin and combine with tomatoes and Italian



seasoning; set aside. In a small bowl, whisk together oil, vinegar, sugar, salt, and pepper until sugar is dissolved. Pour over tomato mixture, stir, and cover with plastic wrap. Refrigerate 4-6 hours or overnight.

\* \* \*

*If you have a recipe you'd like to share, please send it to Mary Lou Menches (344-1125, mmenches@illinois.edu). The only requirement is that it is easy and quick to prepare!*

## Lorraine from page 9

help you. Hopefully the position will not remain empty for too long. Please pray for a good pastoral associate!

Ever since I joined the parish, I have been impressed that St. Pat's is a place run by the lay people, as it should be. YOU are the Church! Every one of you! It has been such a privilege to get to know you and to be a part of this faith journey that we all share. Thank you!

I am trying not to leave any loose ends before I leave. I will be in and out of the office, trying to make sure nothing important falls through the cracks, going through emails, and

cleaning out my computer and office. And dumping extra work on my poor colleagues!

Please pray for my family during our coming transition, and I will pray for all of you! About a year ago, during a funeral homily, Father Joe shared some words of St. Francis about the world and God's works being one great tapestry, woven all together, and part of the same huge cloth. I have thought of that and been comforted by it many times. I am leaving you in one respect, but we remain part of the same tapestry.

I wish you peace! Hugs!

— Lorraine

## St. Patrick Parish IN FOCUS

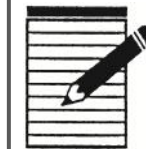
St. Patrick's Parish *In Focus* is published on the last weekend of the month in Urbana, Ill. News items and information may be submitted by mid-month for the next issue. Materials must include the name and telephone number of the person submitting them.

**Please send news items** to info-cusstpats@gmail.com. You may also send them 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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**Associates:** Carol Bosley, John Colombo, Joe and Nancy Costa, Frances Drone-Silvers, Camille Goudeseune, Margery Kane, Mary Karten, Rachael McMillan, Nancy Olson, Rick Partin, Carole Rebeiz, Lucille Salika, Sue Schreiber, Adam and Stephanie Smith, and Jim Urban.

**Articles, information, and photos** for this issue were provided by Janet Althausser, Luis Cuza, Judy Fierke, Denise Green, Elizabeth Hendricks, Joe Hinchliffe, April Jessee, Mary Karten, Lorraine Kim, Kais Kanyinda Mbuyi, Mary Lou Menches, Nancy Olson, Katie O'Toole, Megan Raab, Cathy Salika, Tony Schutz, Jim Urban, Frances Warner, and Peggy Whelan. Patron Saints by Fr. George Wuellner. This issue was edited by Mary Lou Menches, page layout by Yvona Vlach.



The deadline for submitting information, articles, and news items for the next (September) issue of *In Focus* is **August 14**.

## Traveling this summer?

Check [www.Masstimes.org](http://www.Masstimes.org)  
or call 1-858-207-6277.  
To find church locations and  
Mass times, enter the zip code  
for your destination!

