

St. Patrick Parish IN FOCUS

www.stpaturbana.org

September 2016

It's good to be here!

If you're new to St. Patrick's, welcome!

If you've been away for the summer, welcome back!

If you've been here all your life, we're glad you're here!

St. Patrick's is made of people from many nations, many different experiences. We are people of many different talents and skills. We are people of different temperaments and needs.

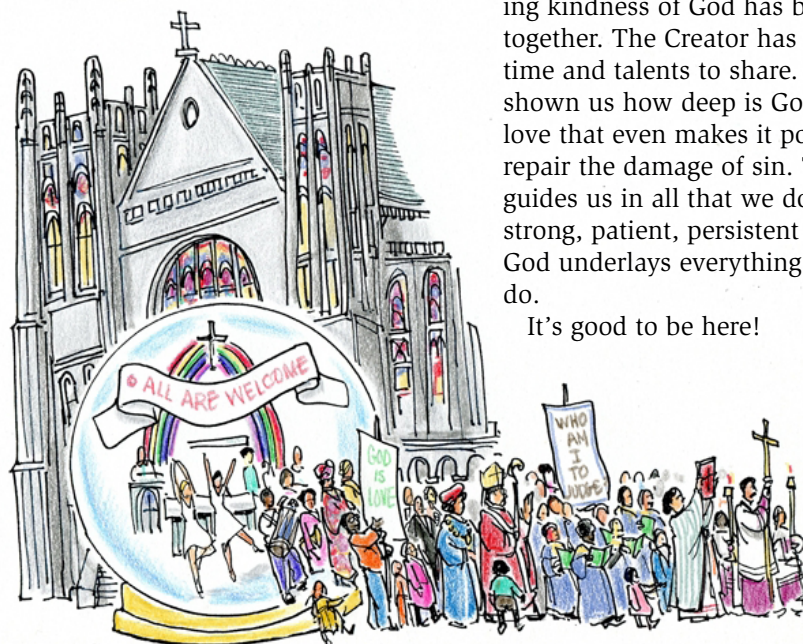
We are bound together by our love of God, our desire to respond to his love, our appreciation for this unique community, our need to be supported in our faith, and our desire to live out our faith together. We are bound together by God, who knows the gifts we have to share and where they are needed, and who knows how the gifts of others can fill our needs.

Please be as active at St. Patrick's as you can. Participate fully in our shared worship. Try out one of the many opportunities to serve others and grow in your faith. If you are homebound, please pray for us all! And let us know your needs so we can bring the Lord to you in Holy Communion. If you have a busy family life, look for a time to serve as a family—what better way to teach your children to live out their faith! Are you alone or lonely? Shared service is a wonderful way to meet people. Are you overextended and exhausted? Find here a chance for the refreshment of quiet reflection.

We are all St. Patrick's, every one of us. We are strongest as a parish when we are all present and active.

But we are not simply relying on ourselves and one another. The loving kindness of God has brought us together. The Creator has given us time and talents to share. Jesus has shown us how deep is God's love, love that even makes it possible to repair the damage of sin. The Spirit guides us in all that we do. The strong, patient, persistent love of God underlays everything that we do.

It's good to be here!



Supplement



Report on CREW's
Mission Trip Inside!

Come break bread with our neighbors in need at the SVDP Friends Dinner

We at St. Patrick Church are blessed to be able to serve our neighbors in need of food assistance with our St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry. Some years ago, Food Pantry Coordinator Ellen Abell and Chris Whippo, who was then a board member of the Women of St. Patrick, started talking about how they and other volunteers often felt they never got to know the people they served or had very long conversations with them. The idea came to them to have a dinner that would be an opportunity for food pantry clients and St. Patrick's parishioners to break bread together.

Chris took the idea to Father Joe, who needed little persuasion to approve it. He showed Chris a poster he has that depicts the luxurious Christmas Lunch held for the poor and homeless each year in the Basilica of Santa Maria in Trastevere, Rome. Thanks to the hard work of Ellen, Chris, Mary Long, the Women

see **SVDP Dinner** on page 8

From Father John Huy Pham:

Hello, everyone!

I thank God that I was born into a family of traditional Christian faith with three sisters and two brothers. I am fifth of six siblings. I am aware of my Christian vocation as a journey; the journey of faith where my vocation derives from the Eucharistic celebration that I receive each day in my life. The Eucharist helps me to draw spiritual strength, and the Eucharistic celebration nurtures my vocation to the priesthood.

I would like to introduce myself for everyone to know who I am and where I come from. I am from the Archdiocese of Hue, Vietnam. This is my home town, where I was born on February 20, 1974. After graduating from high school, I went to the University of Hue to study French for three years. I then entered Major Seminary at Kim Long Hue, Vietnam. At the Seminary, I finished three years of philosophy and four years of theology. On December 3, 2002, I was ordained a priest and was assigned to Phu Cam Cathedral as parochial vicar for three years.

Bishop Stephen Thê Nguyễn then wanted me to continue my studies. As a result, I was sent to the United States to study English and Moral Theology at the Catholic University of America for one year. My purpose was also to complete a master's degree in the area of pastoral ministry. With the need in the diocese and through the bishop's command, Bishop Daniel Jenky has allowed me to serve in his Diocese of Peoria, Illinois. He sent me to Holy Family Parish in Lincoln, Illinois, for four years and to Holy Trinity Parish in Bloomington, Illinois, for one year.

I have always wanted to continue learning about American customs, traditions, and way of life. Therefore, my journey of transition took me to California in 2011. I served at St. Joseph the Worker Parish, and I had begun the process of studying at the Saint Francis School of Theology at Berkeley University in the fall semester of 2012. My desire was and is to serve God and to grow in Christ with the people in that place. I achieved my goal in graduating on May, 17, 2014, with a master's degree in Intercultural Theology. At that time, I went back to Holy Family Church to serve the people in Logan County, Illinois, including St. Patrick's Church in Elkhart, Illinois, St. Augustine's in Mount Pulaski, Illinois, and St. Mary's Church in Atlanta, Illinois.

I am in the process of fulfilling a Certification of Retreat and a master's in Spiritual Direction at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska, next year. I am so happy to be with everyone in the local parishes. I would like to say that it is important for me to focus my serving and study in this area of Spiritual Direction and to achieve this goal. I ask that with your kindness and generosity, you all help me fulfill my great task. I also hope to become a member of our big family of St. Patrick's and St. Mary's Church. Please give me a chance to love and serve you as Jesus has done for us.



*Sincerely in Jesus Christ,
Fr. John Huy Pham*

News from the Peace and Justice Interfaith Outreach Committee

The Peace and Justice Interfaith Outreach Committee of St. Patrick's focuses on supporting programs and efforts that assist individuals to escape the consequences of poverty and social marginalization, such as hunger, homelessness, and unemployment, and that measure success when the individual served acquires decent full-time employment or education, and economic and social independence.

Currently the Outreach Committee of St. Patrick's is focusing its work in three areas: refugees, homelessness and re-entry. If you are interested in getting involved in these issues, contact Jim Urban (217-367-2665 or jim.urban@staturbana.org) or Luis Cuza (217-954-1956 or luis@cuza.us).

Mentors needed for Champaign elementary schools

Thirty-five minutes once a week and you can change the life of a child by becoming a CU One to One Mentor. Spend 35 minutes once a week with a child in need of an adult who will be a friend to them. Mentor pairs meet only during the schoolday, during the school year. Information and training for new mentors takes place at either of two sessions: Wednesday, September 14, or Tuesday, October 4. Training lasts less than two hours. New mentors must attend only one of these sessions.

There also are many fun volunteer opportunities in the schools. Teachers need help with helping students to read, making copies, tutoring—whatever you are interested in, there's a volunteer spot for you!

For more information or if you have questions, please call or email parishioner Paula Partin (partinpa@champaignschools.org or 351-3801).

We have a new music director: Welcome, Frank Gallo!

From Monessen, PA to Hungary, to Chicago, to New Jersey, to Urbana, IL--with several other stops along the way--the path that brought Frank Gallo to serve as our music director covers a lot of ground. Many of us got to meet him at Mass at the end of July, but read on for more detail about his favorite instrument, his vision for our music program, and how he plans to "put down roots" in the future. For even more information, including listings of his publications and recordings, see Frank's website, franklingallo.com.



Can you briefly tell us about the path that led you to St. Patrick's?

I started looking for employment after my wife Donna accepted a position as an Assistant Professor of Music Education at the University of Illinois. I googled "Church jobs in Champaign Urbana," and the first posting that I saw was for the Director of Music position here at St. Pat's. The rest is history!

Now for a little more detail about one specific thing: Was there a moment (or maybe a couple of moments) that you knew music would become your career?

It was in my junior year of high school. Although I had studied the piano and trumpet throughout my childhood,

singing is what came most naturally. I was an untrained singer at age 15, but I auditioned for the state chorus festival in Pennsylvania anyway, and I was accepted. After that, I started to study voice privately and shortly thereafter decided to major in Music Education with voice as my instrument.

Do you have any dreams or visions for the future of our music program?

In my short time here at St. Pat's I have already discovered that this is a very vibrant parish where music plays a central role in worship. During my tenure, I will continue the many musical traditions of St. Pat's, and create a few of our own.

How do you achieve balance in your work/home life when music is woven into nearly every part of a church's week?

Hobbies that are still creative but are not musically related are very important to me. My wife and I love to cook and try new cuisine from around the world. Additionally, next year I plan on starting my first vegetable garden and jarring sauce for the first time next fall. I grew up eating homemade tomato sauce, and I hope to continue that family tradition.

Finally, who's at home cheering you on?

My wife of 11 years, Donna Gallo. We met in the early 2000s when studying in Hungary at the Zoltán Kodály Institute of Music. In addition to my wife, my very supportive parents, Joe and Mary Ann, live in Pittsburgh, and my wife's mom, Sue, is in Fort Wayne, Indiana. My family members are my eternal cheering section!

Catholic Radio: 95.7 FM in Champaign

Tune in to hear Catholic radio's EWTN programming on local WLHF 95.7 FM. (WL are assigned letters, HF stands for Holy Family.) Programming is as diverse as call-in talk shows, interviews with experts, evening rosary, morning Mass, where to get books or recordings on topics, news from Rome, world news, and more. All programming will keep you in tune with the Catholic perspective.

Perhaps you have a question, but have been too shy to ask in person. Well, during call-in talk show time, pick up the phone, have your question or concern ready, and prepare to be both instructed and challenged by the Catholic experts who give answers and counseling to those who inquire.

"You can do the impossible with

God," said Peggy Price, who started Champaign's first Catholic radio sta-



Peggy Price (seated), along with Joan Caldwell and Judy Weber-Jones, who helped her to start up Catholic Radio in C-U and who continues on the board.

tion a few years ago. When she first felt God asking her to start the station Price said, "I told him that was a silly idea for an older woman in a wheelchair with no money." God persisted. Peggy Price persisted. As the saying goes, "the rest is history," and Champaign-Urbana now has Catholic radio.

Peggy Price will discuss the challenges, details, and rewards of having started the Catholic radio station at 95.7 FM, which aired locally a year ago. Peggy, a member of St. Matthew Parish, Champaign, will talk with the St. Jeanne Jugan Seniors group on Wednesday, September 7, at Perkins Restaurant (University Ave., Urbana). Lunch is at 11:30 a.m.; Peggy will speak at 12:30 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

“Make a joyful noise...”

Welcome to the newly expanded St Patrick’s, now in its Year of Re-Dedication! If you are new to the parish, just visiting, or a parishioner who still has unanswered questions, read on!



That’s a lot of steps!

True. But there is a spacious elevator for those who prefer it or cannot manage the indoor staircase. It is located near the foot of the steps on your right, tucked around the corner from the Holy Water crock. When you enter the main doors of the building from the parking lot, you are on the lower section of the gathering space. The elevator will take you to the upper level of the gathering space, where you can enter the church, or take you down to the lower-level lobby, where you can enter the new Trinity Hall. Plans for the lower-level lobby include a sitting area in the center surrounded by a historical display of our parish’s development from its founding in 1903. Men’s and women’s restrooms and a kitchenette are also located off the lobby area.

We are also adding furnishings to the gathering space and adjacent spaces in the parish center. Please have a seat with friends and get to know the people in this community!

Families are always welcome!

We are a family-friendly parish community. Some of our families are on their third generation here at St Patrick’s, and each year we welcome many new families. Our 10 a.m. Sunday morning Mass on the first and second weekends of the month is a Children’s Mass. Children take leadership roles in hospitality, in music, and at the ambo for the readings. They are invited to sit on the sanctuary steps at the beginning of Mass and to join the presiding priest around the altar for the Eucharistic Prayer.

For families with very young children who need more room to wander than the pew offers, our new family room off the upper gathering space offers a safe and comfortable place for them to play, and you will be able to follow the sounds and sights of the liturgical action occurring in the sanctuary.

Make a joyful noise...

Here at St Patrick’s we have a tradition of singing our hearts out. It’s part of our “full, conscious, and active participation” in the liturgy. As the psalmist points out, we do

love to “make a joyful noise,” so pick up one of our brand new hymnals and sing along!

If that’s not enough to satisfy your musical aptitude, check out joining one of our choirs. Choir members are no longer hidden in the choir loft. They have come downstairs and are seated to the left of the sanctuary with new organist and choir director Frank Gallo. His contact information is in the ministry booklet. Be sure you pick up a copy so you and St Patrick’s can become better acquainted!

And don’t be a stranger to Sunday noon Mass. If you’re lucky you’ll get to hear our amazing Congolese choir!



How the Communion procession works

Besides the two long banks of pews that run on either side of the main aisle, there are also two banks of pews near the front of the church to the far left and far right. People sitting in those areas are first to approach for the reception of Communion. Then ushers move to the main aisle to invite those in the center pews to approach for reception of the Body and Precious Blood of our Lord.

Communion is offered under both species at all Masses. If you are not Catholic or will not be receiving Communion, we ask that you still be part of the procession. Simply cross your arms touching the opposite shoulders when you approach one of the ministers of Communion and you will receive a special blessing.

You are special

...in so many ways! But if you are special because you observe a gluten-free diet, you are still able to receive the Eucharist—in the form of a gluten-free host. Simply stop by the vesting sacristy (located off the upper level of the gathering space) before Mass and let the priest know how many of your family will need a gluten-free host. They are kept in a separate bowl and consecrated at the Mass. You will need to be in the priest’s Communion line to receive them.

Accessibility

...is very important to us. Our original church building created an intimate environment for liturgical celebra-

continued on next page

Make a joyful noise...

from page 4

tions, but it was not user-friendly for parishioners who were elderly or needed accessible accommodation. Due to the expansion, we are now able to offer the following:

- a large accessible restroom off the foyer at the Main Street (south) entrance to the church;
- more space in the first row of pews for those who need to have Communion brought to them;
- and shorter pews throughout the body of the church, allowing extra room for large-wheeled walkers, wheelchairs, and scooters. Ask any usher to point these out to you.

Our choir area, sanctuary, and devotional area are now easily accessible so that no one is unable to serve as a musician, choir member, lector, Eucharistic minister, or altar server. If you look to the right of the sanctuary, against the wall near the steps is a railing for those who need a little extra support and assistance. Behind the organ to the left of the sanctuary is another railing as well as a ramp for those who cannot take steps or who use a wheeled vehicle. Eliminating floor carpeting makes wheeled travel much easier. Keep your eyes on Deacon David Zola each weekend as he demonstrates these features for you.

The Devotional Area (or Where's the Marian Shrine?)

Since Catholics are known for their special devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, most churches reserve a special area for individuals to pray before her statue. With the expansion of our church and the need to move the sanctuary from its north location to the west wall of the new space,



we were left with the large former sanctuary area available to us. It was decided to expand the use of this space to include not only Our Lady, Queen and Hope of All Nations, but to include some special saints whose lives could be wonderful models for our parishioners: St. Francis, St. Josephine Bakhita, Blessed Bishop Oscar Romero, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, St. Andrew Kim, and the first family of saints—St. Therese, known as the Little Flower, and her parents, Louis and Zelig Martin. On the wall just around the corner is a statue of the Holy Family. Although there is a single small step up to enter this area, if you look to the

right of the Holy Family statue you'll see an access ramp (the children refer to it as "the tunnel"). The devotional area is equally welcoming to individuals or groups of people coming to pray or to light a votive candle.

So many votive candles

Did you notice a lot more "fire power" lately in the devotional area? We recently added two more votive candle stands so that there would be enough candles available for those who wish to accompany their prayer with lighting a



candle. Traditionally we have asked for a \$2.00 donation for each candle, which doesn't quite cover the actual cost. If you can increase your donation, it will be appreciated. If you don't have \$2, leave what you can—we believe it will all balance out in the end.

Where is the confessional?

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) is offered on Saturdays beginning at 4 p.m. until shortly before the 5 p.m. Mass. You will find the line forming near the baptismal font as you enter the church. The Reconciliation Room is on your right. When someone is with the priest in the room, the light outside the door is red. When the light is green, you are free to enter. Inside the Reconciliation Room you can choose to kneel behind the screen or walk around it if you prefer speaking with the priest face-to-face. When the Sacrament of Reconciliation is not being offered, the room can accommodate spiritual direction or simply become a place to privately speak with a priest.

Why does the ministry booklet have so many pages?

Which do you think is the correct answer?

A) Because we included introductions and photos of the parish staff and Parish Council so parishioners could easily recognize them.

B) Because we have more than 70 areas of active ministry, including descriptions and contact information for leaders in each area.

C) Because we want to offer opportunities for service for all the parishioners in our St. Patrick's community.

D) All of the above.

The answer is indeed D. Don't offer a litany of excuses,

continued on next page

Make a joyful noise... from page 5

get involved! We want to get to know you. You may be just the person sent to lead us closer to the Kingdom of God. Thank you for answering the call!

This is your Church

A rich fabric of diversity is woven into our parish community, and yet all of us enter these doors as members of the



one Body of Christ. We are dedicated to the religious education of our children, reception of the sacraments, issues of

peace and justice in our community and our world, and caring for each other.

Feel free to approach our priests with questions of faith. Prayerfully consider the opportunity of working with a spiritual director. We are all heading for heaven, but there are many different paths and forks in the road.

Most importantly, talk to a priest about returning to the Catholic faith if you have been away for a while. It's really easier than you think: welcome home!

P.S.: Did you know...

During the nine-month construction of our church addition—that's right, it took only nine months—the parish went on "sabbatical" from many ministries. Instead of meeting regularly in the parish center, parishioners formed small groups and met in one another's homes to discuss Pope Francis' book *The Joy of the Gospel*.

Our sabbatical evolved into our "Sabbath Renewal" For many parishioners it was time to make a leap in faith and to discover that evangelization is for everyone. Our baptismal call demands that we share the Good News. Go ahead, ask someone about it.

Welcome to St. Patrick's Church. We hope you find here a life of vibrant prayer, worship, and service to God. If there is anything we can do to help you grow closer to God, let us know.

The Parish Council

Joe Hinchliffe, President, jjhinch@sbcglobal.net

Kathy Cimasky, Vice President

Jack Parisi, Secretary

Bruce Rogers, Trustee

Virginia Timpone, Trustee

Janet Althaus, Liaison - Faith Development, 778-7357

Craig Goad, Liaison -- Parish Community Life, 649-7222

Kais Mbuyi, Liaison - Stewardship, 418-9179

Rachel McMillan, Liaison - Spiritual Enrichment, 402-5005

Katie O'Toole, Liaison - Worship, 585-358-8004

Theresa Williams, Liaison - Faith Development, 493-5941

Gary Wszalek, Liaison - Peace and Justice, 337-7961

Vocation Prayer

Loving Father, help me to live out my mission in the Church. Help me to know and accept my vocation in life, how best I may serve you in your people. Give those of us whom you call to live lives dedicated to you as ordained ministers or religious the grace to respond generously and to persevere faithfully. I love you and want only to live each day of my life with you.

Welcome, Carol Conaghan!

The selection of our new Pastoral Associate, Carol Conaghan, was seemingly inspired by the Holy Spirit. Recently Carol went to Mass at St. Patrick while visiting a friend at the University. Because Carol was looking for work at a parish community and was impressed with St. Patrick, she felt moved to send Father Joe her résumé in case a position opened. The rest, as they say, is history.

Carol Conaghan grew up in Palatine, Illinois, with her parents and sister, Kathleen, and a Shih Tzu named Frankie. Both girls attended Catholic universities: Kathleen went to Dominican University in River Forest, Illinois, and Carol went to St. Mary in South Bend, Indiana. Carol graduated from St. Mary in 2011 with a B.A. in religious studies. Carol received her Master of Divinity from the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana, in 2016. It was a three-year program of theology and laic ministry. She attended classes with young men who were preparing for the priesthood.

Carol has had a wide variety of ministry experiences. Her first job was in campus ministry at Notre Dame for the year following her graduation from St. Mary. During that year she led small groups preparing for Confirmation; she taught vacation Bible school; she worked with diverse cultural and minority groups; and she worked with Christian groups made up of

both Catholics and Protestants. Then Carol moved to Glendale, Arizona, from 2012-2013, to be Director of Volunteers at Maggie's Place, a hospitality home named after Mary Magdalene, for expectant mothers and their babies.



As a youth, Carol studied dance for ten years, concentrating on ballet. She still does dance fitness for exercise. She likes to travel; especially memorable was a trip to Rome with Notre Dame students to celebrate the Easter Triduum. She enjoys reading and has read all the Harry Potter books; she just got the new book based

on the play "Harry Potter and the Cursed Child." Her most inspiring books are written by Father Daniel Groody, C.S.C., who was also her teacher at Notre Dame. He writes about immigration and faith.

Carol is excited to live in a college town in Illinois because she will be nearer her parents, who still live in Palatine. She is eager to use her full-size kitchen to make gluten-free meals in her new apartment in Urbana. She is excited about shopping at the Farmers' Market and attending performances at the Krannert Center. But she is most excited to work in a parish community. She believes the parish is the center of faith life, the local sign of the universal Church. And Carol can't wait to meet all of you!

Will you pray for those who ask?

"Please pray for Tom, who is to start chemotherapy for his Stage-4 cancer next week."

"Please pray for a friend undergoing treatment for depression after the death of her son."

"Please pray for Betty, who is moving to a new job in a new city, that she settle and make new friends quickly."

"Please pray for John, who is to take his final oral exams tomorrow after years of study."

"Please pray for my niece, who will have her first baby soon."

Requests such as these, and many others like them, come to the parish office and to individuals on the Prayer Chain several times a week and are forwarded promptly (by email or telephone, as desired) to parishioners who have agreed to remember them in prayer, our "prayers," as we call them.

Will you join them? There are no meetings to attend. There is no prescribed prayer or time for prayer—some say a quick prayer upon receiving each request, others pray the rosary at the end of the day for all those who have asked for prayer.

If you will, please contact Mary Lou Menches (344-1125 or mmenches@illinois.edu) and ask to become a part of St. Patrick's Prayer Chain.



Did you know?

If you've missed an issue of In Focus, you may be able to find one on the bookshelf at the Main St. entrance of the church. A few back issues are kept there for just such a need.

Yes, we are permitted to use the numbered parking spaces in the new, expanded parking lot—after 5:00 p.m. any evening and during weekend Masses.

SVDP Dinner from page 1

of St. Patrick, other parish ministries, and many volunteers, the first Friends of the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry Dinner was held in January 2010. At that and subsequent dinners, volunteers and guests connected and shared experiences as well as a wonderful meal.

There was no dinner last year because of church construction, but this year the Friends of the SVDP Food Pantry Dinner will be held on Wednesday, September 21, in the parish center main hall. Many volunteers are needed to make this event a success! Friends Dinner co-chairs Elizabeth Hendricks and Denise Freidhof hope that everyone in the parish can become involved in some way. People are needed for planning, preparation, issuing invitations, and making phone calls; for setting up, greeting, serving, and being table hosts to the guests at the dinner; for donating food they have cooked, baked, or bought; for clean-up afterward; and for praying that we can share a good dinner with our guests and show them the hospitality of our parish.

Here are some comments volunteers at past dinners have made:

"The guests come from all sorts of backgrounds and circumstances. But by the grace of God, any one of us could be in the need of what SVDP food pantry offers. It makes me even more appreciative of what I have."

"I talked about parenting challenges and joys with a woman at my table. Parenting is hard enough; I can't imagine how difficult it is when you're not sure you have enough food to feed your children."

"I reflected how in order to feed a soul you first need to feed the body."

If you would like to volunteer, see the bulletin for the most up-to-date information and links to volunteer sign-ups. If you have questions, you can contact Denise Freidhof (217-621-4059) or Elizabeth Hendricks (elihen@att.net).



Q: How can I learn about the history of St. Patrick's Parish?

A: To begin, you might check the resources of our parish library. There you will find a book called *In Celebration of Parish Families*, a compilation of the stories told by a great number of our parishioners about their backgrounds, their ancestries, their ways of revealing their love for their parish. This book makes fabulous reading and will quickly introduce you to many of our parish families and to the history of St. Patrick's. It was published in 2001 as one of several celebrations of St. Patrick's centennial, 1901-2001.

The Pictorial Directory that was published in 2002, also in celebration of our centennial, presents highlights of each decade in that hundred-year history, told in photos, song lyrics, and words that reveal us as a parish family, a people "who remember, celebrate, and believe." It too can be found in the parish library.

The last of the books that was to be published as a part of the centennial celebration was the history of the parish, which as of this writing cannot be confirmed. But there is a brief paperback history of the parish published by St. Patrick's Parish History Committee, Parish History, St. Patrick Catholic Church, 1901-1978.

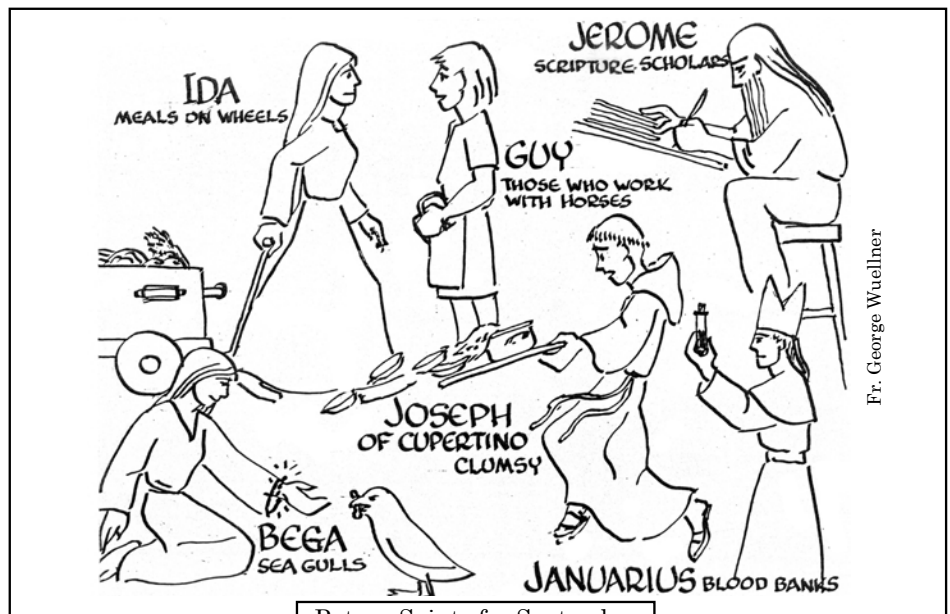
It includes fascinating accounts and photographs of the early decades of St. Patrick's Parish, the result of "patient and laborious searching in old books, microfilms of newspapers, and the collection of material from personal communications . . . in a sincere attempt to tell the parish story up to the present time [1978]." (Preface)

One more publication that may be of interest is the *Centennial Journal: An Account of the Events Celebrating the Centennial of St. Patrick's Parish*. From the opening ceremonies on May 20, 2001, through the blessing of the contents to be placed in the cornerstone on October 25, 2003, it is itself a significant part of our parish history even as it recounts many aspects of our story from its beginnings.

Of course, you could learn quite a lot about the history of St. Patrick's simply by talking with long-time parishioners themselves—descendants of the founding families of the parish, folks who remember the days of the frame house next door to the church that served as a rectory, and the smaller house next to that where the housekeeper/cook lived. There are many fascinating tales to be told, if you just ask!

* * *

Questions about Catholic practice or Catholic teaching may be sent to the Communications Committee in care of the parish office—or just ask one of us!



Patron Saints for September

Reflections on Centering Prayer

By David Sandel

Mother Angelica famously said about prayer, “You can always go to New York by way of California, which is what most of do in our prayer lives.” She also said you can go on roller skates or jet. Her “jet” of prayer was what she called the “prayer of the sacred moment,” which she thought was best accomplished through meditation.

At 7 p.m. on Monday nights a group gathers at St. Patrick’s for centering prayer, which is what Mother Angelica calls meditation. This opportunity for centering prayer has been offered at St. Patrick’s for many, many years—33 years or more. It is a sweet, hour-long experience of settling into the present moment.

Fr. Thomas Keating wrote about centering prayer in his book *Open Mind, Open Heart*. Opening your mind and heart is a skill learned best by repetition. Rather than focusing on a prayer idea, during centering we release each thought as it arises and return to quiet. It is good to spend time with others doing this, because the quiet is catching.

The group meets in the prayer chapel at the north end of the church, opposite the Main Street entrance. We begin with what is called “lectio divina,” reflecting on a passage from the following Sunday’s readings. We read it several times, sharing short thoughts and prayers about what we perceive as God’s personal invitation to us through the passage.

Afterward we stand and walk slowly around the prayer chapel in what is called a meditative or prayer walk, releas-

ing the tension in our bodies in preparation for centering. When we sit again, we are quiet together for twenty minutes—“sitting with God,” as Sr. Audrey Cleary once described it, aware of God’s presence and open to whatever God asks of us.

At first it is “dis”-quieting to sit without speaking, either aloud or in our thoughts, for an extended time. Then it becomes more comfortable. And gradually this silence threads its way into our everyday lives. The car radio is off rather than on. The television sits unnoticed. And Jesus’ admonition not to worry about tomorrow comes to be the way we more easily embrace as our own way to live.

We pray personally, and we pray pastorally. Centering prayer is personal preparation for our own pastoral prayer. After the twenty minutes of silence we stand, hold hands, and pray the Our Father.

Then we each offer our own supplications for our loved ones, for those around us, for the world. “Lord, hear our prayer.”

After these prayers it is good to speak again with one another, perhaps focusing on a paragraph or two from Henri Nouwen or another writer, which we read and discuss for a few minutes, sharing stories from our own lives.

This mix of personal prayer, pastoral prayer, and fellowship is wonderful. It blesses, edifies, and touches our souls. We are made larger by our experience. We leave refreshed and alive. It is a good thing, this centering prayer. Come and see.

*Heavenly Father
Open my heart to the
Silent Presence of the
Spirit of your Son.
Lead me into that
Mysterious silence
Where your Love is
Revealed to all who call
Come Lord Jesus.*

Cellar-to-Garret Sale returns

After a one-year hiatus due to the church renovation, the Women of St. Patrick’s Cellar-to-Garret Sale returned with gusto August 11-13. Bernadette Nelson and Janet Althausser served as this year’s co-chairs. What does it take for a parish to run such a large “garage sale”? Here’s what the organizers had to say:

First things first: how much did the parish make on this year’s sale? We will not know exactly how much was made this year until all expenses have been paid; however, the tentative amount as of today is \$7,100.

Why was there no furniture at this year’s sale, or did I just miss it? Due to the renovation, the parish no longer has access to the garage to store larger donated items such as furniture, bikes, larger electronics, exercise equipment, etc. So we were unable to include those items in the sale.



I understand there is a long history of the Women of St. Patrick’s putting on this sale each year. What are some of the projects past sales have funded? Do we yet know if the 2016 proceeds have been earmarked for any specific projects? Past parish projects funded by the Cellar-to-Garret sale have included tables and chairs for Trinity Hall and the remodeling of the kitchen. Also, some of the proceeds have gone to Susan Nagele’s work with the Lay Maryknoll Missionaries, the church renovation, the Food Pantry, and the WSP funeral luncheons. At this time we do not know how the 2016 proceeds will be used. That decision is made by the WSP Board with input from the Women of St. Patrick’s.

There is always an unbelievable array of items donated. What was the most interesting item donated this year? Hmmm...that is a good question. Several people showed much interest in a Marilyn

see **Cellar-to-Garrett** on page 10

Cellar-to-Garrett from page 9

Monroe poster. As well, there was a set of copper pans hanging in the Better Room (for newbies – items “too good” for the general sales floor), that generated quite of bit of chatter.

An interesting note is that there always seems to be some mystery items each year—items no one seems to be able to identify or how they’re to be used—and this year did not disappoint the sorters. So it can be a challenge to decide on which sale table to place the items! One item this year was a long mesh tube sewed at both ends with a slit along the middle of one long edge. Another mystery item, whose mystery was finally solved, was a bag of pew hangers (to hang bows on).



What do you think is the hardest task for co-chairs in managing such a large, multi-day sale? It can be hard not quite knowing exactly what is expected of the co-chairs and breaking down the many components of managing the process. However, we had so much support from Katie Leininger, a past co-chair, who was always available to answer our questions and to share important information from previous years.

Walking into the parish center on Monday morning the week of the sale and seeing the hundreds and hundreds of boxes to be unpacked and sorted through, and then returning on Saturday afternoon to a parish center that shows no trace of the organized chaos that just occurred over the past six days—how does this happen?

We had phenomenal committee chairs who took responsibility for their portion of the work and assured that their area ran smoothly. Committee chairs: Publicity, Jill Blanck and Linda Weber; Set-up, Ruth Ann Kingery and Sally Czapar; Tear-down, Bonnie Ellis and Ruth Ann Kingery; Refreshments and Meals, Patricia Fowler and John Rinkenberger (who did a marvelous job of keeping volunteers fed with delicious meals during the final week with food items donated by many parishioners). Mary Lou Menches and Mary Karten did a great job of calling and emailing our volunteers. Anna Conner, Treasurer of WSP, was an invaluable resource and offered important counsel along the way. And WSP Chair Donna Rinkenberger provided overall support in many areas of the entire sale—much gratitude to her.

Most of all, we wish to acknowledge the support of



WSP and the entire parish. We had amazing support of the WSP Board and its membership. Additionally, parishioners across the parish would come by and volunteer—men and women alike—helping with setting up, sorting, pricing, cashiering, bringing food, tearing down. Finally one must not forget the most critical role parishioners serve in donating items for the sale. Bottom line—there would be no rich history of Cellar-to-Garret sales if St. Patrick’s parishioners were

not willing to save, pack up, and bring in thousands of items each year.

There is so much work that must be done. Can you share what is satisfying about co-chairing the sale (other than its being over!)? A most satisfying part is working with the other women who were volunteering. While we have seen so many of them before in church, we did not really know some of their names or have talked with them before. There are some amazing women in our church! Working together with them on the sale was a wonderful bonding experience and fellowship. Our church is rich with people who want to serve the Lord and the community.

I recall an altar announcement one Sunday about the sale, during which the priest said Cellar-to-Garret is not only a fundraiser, it is also a social justice program for the parish. How is that so? Yes, the sale is not only a WSP event to raise money to be used on special parish projects, it also serves as a service to our greater community. We price things to move, and to be affordable to low-income people. Many in the community enjoy the opportunity to shop and provide for themselves and their families at a price they can afford. Because of the many types of donations by parishioners, there are not only the basic necessities for home and clothing available but also many pretty odds and ends that people can take back to their homes and enjoy.

We are proud that the Women of St. Patrick has not changed its basic pricing in several years—truly showing its commitment to serving community members in need. We advertise our sale by sending fliers to organizations who serve many in need: e.g., food pantries, Salt and Light, and other churches that serve the poor. WSP also invites representatives from such organizations to shop for free during the last part of the bag sale on Saturday. At the end of the sale, the bulk of our leftovers was picked up by Salt and Light and Habitat for Humanity and will be used to benefit the community. Serving the



Continued on next page

Cellar-to-Garrett

from page 10

community in this way is a beautiful way to evangelize the love in our parish community.



The Urbana High School freshman football team and their coach were of great assistance with set-up and tear-down!

Children and teens enjoy Totus Tuus

From July 25 through 27, 54 children and 29 teens at St. Patrick participated in the Totus Tuus program. The main focus for the week was prayer and the Glorious

Mysteries of the rosary. Those in the daytime children's program went to Mass every day at 11:15 a.m. The evening junior high/high school program had an adoration/reconciliation service on Tuesday night of that week. The Totus Tuus team of Tony, Antonia, Bonnie, and Daniel led the children and teens in a number of activities throughout the week.



in our parish library

Throughout history there have been many heroes and martyrs. As we remember the victims of the September 11 attacks on the Twin Towers, let us also remember those who have sacrificed their lives for the freedom of religion around the world. Without their bravery and sacrifice we would not have the liberties we enjoy today.

The Power and the Glory, by Graham Greene. In rural Southern Mexico, the Red Shirts, a pseudo-military group, have taken control. God isn't allowed, and priests have been singled out and killed. But there's one little worldly "whiskey priest" on the run. In the introduction, John Updike calls the book Graham Greene's masterpiece. "The energy and grandeur of his finest novel derive from the...will toward compassion, an ideal communism even more Christian than Communist." (Fic Gre)

Luke: New Testament 5, by Eugene LaVerdiere. Father LaVerdiere examines the New Testament's message on the Eucharist and how it provides an important resource for the gospel stories of Jesus' life, ministry, passion, and resurrection, and for the Church's life and development. The New Testament views the beginnings of both Church and Eucharist when the risen Lord appeared to the disciples at meals soon after his passion, death, and resurrection. The author also explores the ongoing development of Eucharistic theology and practice up to the mid-second century, ending with Justin Martyr, the first to describe the Eucharist to people with no personal experience of it. (225 Lav)

The Martyred Christian: 160 Readings, by Dietrich Bonhoeffer. A collection of the author's stories, useful for devotional reading, a rich witness to Bonhoeffer's mind and steadfast, loving spirit. It is a sampler challenging a strong nudge to read Bonhoeffer's works straight through. (230.04 Bon)

Jesus Freaks: dc Talks and the Voice of the Martyrs. This volume opens our eyes to the persecution of Christians worldwide. Jesus Freaks is a companion volume to dc Talk's album of the same name. It's a wake-up call to prayer and to lives of unashamed faith, offering stories of martyrs past and present. It was written especially for teenagers, with an easy-to-read format, timeless scripture, poignant quotes. (230.04 Bet)

Concilium: Rethinking Martyrdom. This reference book, to be used only in the library, focuses on the concept of martyrdom. Contributing authors include leading Catholic scholars like Hans Kung, Gregory Baum, and Edward Schillebeeckx. Editors of the review belong to the international "who's who" in the world of contemporary theology. This book reflects a deep knowledge and scholarship presented in a highly readable style, and offers a range of viewpoints from leading thinkers worldwide.

Seniors learn about building bridges between Christians and Muslims

The Society of St. Jeanne Jugan Seniors met on July 13 at Pizza M for lunch and to listen to Darla Wilson talk about Muslim-Christian relationships. Darla is the Central



Darla Wilson speaking about Muslim-Christian relationships

Illinois Area Coordinator of the Crescent Project, which helps equip people for building bridges between Christians and Muslims.

Darla had a list of ten true/false questions about Islam that the group answered and she based her presentation on those answers. Everyone agreed that when our faith is questioned, the usual response is defensiveness and maybe anger. The same would be true for a person who is Muslim. Instead of defensiveness, we should follow the advice given in 1 Peter 3:14-15 to always be prepared to give an answer with compassion and kindness.

The Bridges program teaches about Muslim beliefs and practices showing similarities and differences between the two religions and how to build on them. We need to be able to articu-

late our beliefs and be prepared to share them. At the University of Illinois there are about 1,000 Muslim students plus their families. We can begin by just being a friend, sharing a meal, being a good neighbor, and welcoming them into our homes.

While most people had six or seven correct answers to the quiz, one member of the group was able to answer nine of the ten questions correctly. She shared that while she is Catholic, her husband converted to Islam 35 years ago and that they respect each other's beliefs and openly discuss their views on both religions.

Darla plans to have classes in the fall on the Bridges Program, which will be open to anyone who is interested. She can be reached at dwilson@crescentproject.org or 217-390-9439

Seniors group makes pilgrimage to Terre Haute

Eight members of the St. Jeanne Jugan Seniors group of St. Patrick's made a pilgrimage to Terre Haute, Indiana, to visit the Shrine of St. Mother Guerin and the Carmel of Terre Haute.

A lovely June 30 saw the group heading down to the Motherhouse of the Sisters of Providence, the home of the Shrine of Mother Guerin. In 1840 Mother Guerin and some sisters came from France to open an Academy for the education of the young, in a time when 7 of 10 people in Indiana were illiterate. This was a harsh frontier life.

Now there is a beautiful campus for the Sisters of Providence, who continue the Apostolate of Education. The group visited an Adoration chapel, the beautiful church, and the cemetery. A particular high point was the praying at the casket of Mother Guerin in her shrine. They also visited the chapel to St. Anne, patroness of Breton (French) sailors.

Next stop was the Carmelite monastery, a few minutes south of bustling downtown Terre Haute. Here, in

contrast, was a place of silence and prayer. The group entered the parlor and greeted by all 19 of the sisters, dressed in full Carmelite habits. The Mother Superior and the other nuns, who come from as far away as China, answered questions about their life of contemplative prayer. Of particular interest was the upcoming canonization of Blessed Elizabeth of the Trinity, a contemporary of St.

Therese, the Little Flower. The community interacts with the laity four times a year in observance of different novenas, such as the novena to Mary, Mother of Mercy. The sisters range from postulants to novices to sisters who have come from ancient Carmels in Great Britain.

Afterward the group went to the little chapel to pray. All agreed that it was a day well spent!



Seniors group hears some hopeful advice for talking about cancer

“Cancer Out of the Closet” was the topic presented to the St. Jeanne Jugan Seniors group at the August meeting. Pat Brown and Mary Ann Keith, both retired Unit 4 teachers and both cancer survivors, sent the message out through their personal radio station WHIP (Where Hope Is Possible). Their premise is that talking about cancer is an important aid in dealing with the disease. From the point of diagnosis, admittedly a scary time for the victim and the family, talking with the doctors and gathering information and sharing it with the family is a beginning in getting cancer out of the closet.

Using an interview format, the radio host asked her guest how to approach talking with a cancer patient.

The answer is to listen to the person, realizing that there are unique ways of dealing with cancer. Some people do it with humor, but some might not be ready for that approach. Really listening and letting the patient talk will let you know how getting cancer out of the closet will work for that individual. However it works is all right and is much better than trying to pretend it doesn't change

your life.

Using their own experiences as an example, the presenters acknowledged that there are inconveniences that make it more difficult to carry on with life before cancer, but you make adjustments. It was clear from their anecdotal references that WHIP, “Where Hope Is Possible,” conveys the message that optimism and lightheartedness get cancer out of the closet.

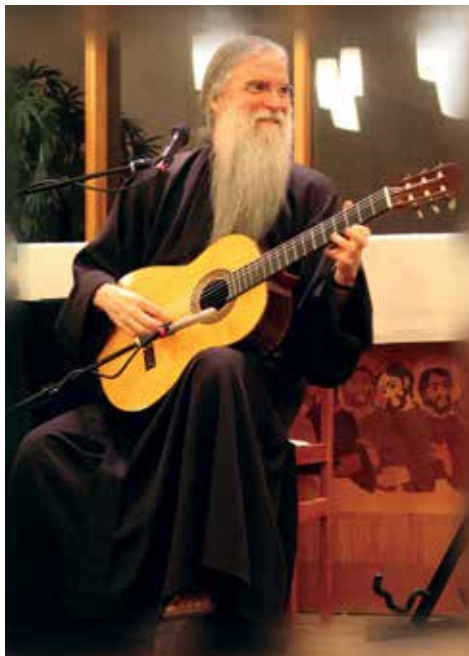


Grammy award-winning Christian music legend coming to St. Patrick's for a parish mission

As we continue the celebration of our Year of Rededication, St. Patrick's is offering a very special Parish Mission this October.

Christian music legend, best-selling author, and TV host, John Michael Talbot, is coming to St. Patrick's for two very special evenings of “Healing and Hope through Spoken Word and Spoken Song” on Sunday-Monday, October 16-17. Both evenings begin at 7 p.m. Tickets are not required. A Love Offering will be received to support the ministries of John Michael Talbot and the Brothers and Sisters of Charity.

Talbot's ministry began over 40 years ago with a vision. “God gave me a vision of itinerant ministry walking on foot from parish to



parish in a time of great need in our culture. I believe that our current ministry is fulfilling that vision. We are rebuilding the church one parish at a time, and renewing hearts one life at a time!”

The path our Lord has guided John Michael on throughout his life has uniquely prepared him for this time in the Church. After responding to the Lord's call, God used John Michael to bless millions of lives through his unique, multi-faceted ministry.

John Michael Talbot is one of the pioneering artists of what has become known as Contemporary Christian Music. He is recognized as Catholic music's most popular artist, with platinum sales and compositions published in hymnals throughout the world. He is currently on tour promoting his 55th

album, “The Inner Room,” which is scheduled to be released on September 23.

A respected author, John Michael Talbot's 29th book, *Monk Dynasty*, was published in February of this year. He is seen weekly as host of the popular TV series “All Things Are Possible,” and is a frequent guest on faith and diocesan networks around the world.

John Michael leads his very active ministry from the Little Portion Hermitage in Arkansas and St. Clare Monastery in Texas, where he is the founder and Minister General of the Brothers and Sisters of Charity. His artistic and humanitarian efforts have been recognized with awards from the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences, the Gospel Music Association, Mercy Corps, and the Mother Teresa award.

Today, John Michael Talbot is one of the most active evangelists traveling throughout the world inspiring and renewing the faith of Christians of all denominations through sacred music, inspired teaching, and motivational speaking. Like a modern St. Francis, he is rebuilding God's Church “one parish at a time, and renewing hearts one life at a time.”

Mark your calendars and plan to attend this very special parish mission!

St. Patrick's Vivo and CREW advisor becomes FOCUS missionary

Toby Ogunniya has joined the Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS) mission team. Born in Nigeria and raised in Atlanta, Georgia, Toby came to Urbana to attend the University of Illinois. Toby had a religious awakening and participated in the RCIA process at the Newman Center. He became a Catholic on Easter Vigil 2015.

Former St. Patrick's priest Father Phelps recruited Toby and other U of I students to help with Vivo and CREW religious education. Toby remembers happily assisting with classes and games at St. Pat's. He also saw Pope Francis during his 2015 trip to the U.S. as part of the Pope's outreach to youth.

After graduation in May 2016, Toby spent the summer at FOCUS lay missionary training. He started his assignment at the University of Wisconsin at Madison's Newman Center on August 15. Toby sees his role as a friend, a mentor, and a disciple for college students. FOCUS volunteers are close in age to most traditional college students and can offer advice and companionship. FOCUS missionaries can model a healthy and spiritual college experience. Toby plans to share the hope of the Gospels, read scripture with, pray with, and help other college students.

Toby welcomes any support for his mission by prayer and donations. Offerings can be made through www.focus.org/missionaries/toby-ogunniya website, or by contacting FOCUS at 303-962-5750, donations@focus.org, or by mail at P.O. Box 18710, Golden, CO 80402-9809. Contributions will help cover Toby's living expenses and provide scholarships for students to attend Roman Catholic conferences.



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 infocusst-pats@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.

Editorial board: Judy Fierke, 352-7670 (j-fierke@comcast.net); Denise Green, 553-7110 (dgree1@gmail.com); Elizabeth Hendricks, 328-2184 (elihen@att.net); Mary Lou Menches, 344-11253 (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, 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 Althaus, Clare Barkley, Helen Barrymore, Carol Bosley, Carol Conaghan, Luis Cuza, Judy Fierke, Frank Gallo, Denise Green, Elizabeth Hendricks, Mary Karten, Ruth Ann Kingery, Mary Long, Pat Mayer, Jon McCoy, Rachael McMillan, Mary Lou Menches, Bernadette Nelson, Father John Huy Pham, Megan Raab, Dan Richards, Donna Rinkenberger, Cathy Salika, David Sandel, Adam Smith, Shirley Splittstoesser, Linda Weber, 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 . . . Helen Barrymore

Zucchini Chips

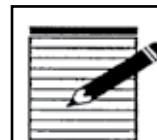
- 1/4 c Italian-seasoned bread crumbs
- 1/4 c grated Parmesan cheese
- 1/4 t garlic powder
- 1/4 t salt
- 1/8 t black pepper
- 2 T milk
- 2 small zucchini



Cut zucchini into 1/4 in. slices. In a medium bowl combine bread crumbs, Parmesan cheese, garlic powder, salt, and pepper. Place milk in a shallow bowl. Dip zucchini slices in milk, then coat with bread crumb mixture. Arrange slices on wire rack coated with cooking spray and placed on a baking sheet. Bake at 425 for 20-25 minutes, or until browned and crisp.

* * *

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!



Deadline for submission of information, articles and news items for the next issue of *In Focus* is **October 11**.

CREW ON MISSION 2016

Supplement

CREW on Mission in C-U

By Adam Smith



You've heard about CREW for years and have funded their mission trip by purchasing Christmas wreaths and by arranging to have them rake your leaves. But do you know what CREW stands for? It's Christ Renews Everyone's World. Sometimes that "World" can be found right here at home.

This summer the CREW Mission Trip stayed in town. Our motto this year was "Act Justly. Love Mercy. Walk Humbly." (Micah 6:8) The mission trip participants moved into the Blessed Mary and St. Joseph classrooms at St. Patrick's on July 18 and moved out on July 22. Their daily schedule: awake at 6:30 a.m., Mass at 7 a.m., cook breakfast and make lunches, mission work in the community from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., work in the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry until 5:30 p.m., cook dinner,

reflection from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., play Wii, and lights out at 10 p.m.

On Monday, July 19, we worked at St. Patrick's and St. Mary's finishing some painting and general clean-up.

Tuesday, we started our work for CU at Home, whose mission is to "engage and mobilize our community to house and support the most vulnerable homeless on their journey of healing and restoration." One of their transition homes was recently vacated, and our task was to thoroughly clean and renew the

house and yard for its next occupants, including the installation of a new front door. Once the day's work at the house was done, the teens worked in the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry.

For Wednesday we continued our work at the house but in the afternoon half of our teens spent time at the Phoenix Center, a homeless drop-in center on Green Street in Champaign. The teens visited with the homeless, played cards, and played some music.





On Thursday, a group of teens painted walls in the Phoenix Center while the other group finished up at the house before spending the rest of the afternoon at the Phoenix Center. Friday was our “fun day,” which we spent on the beach at Lake Michigan.

The teens on the mission trip were Lucas Simpson, Sarah Perdekamp, Kayley Schacht, Paul Nguyen, Maris Wszalek, Kyle Rasmussen, Robert Stavins, and Josiah Freedman, representing three high schools:

Urbana, St. Thomas More, and Uni. The chaperons were Randy Pankau, Patrick Hatch, Carlos Villanueva, and Adam Smith. The nightly Reflection was organized by Jordan Magold, and all of the behind-the-scenes work for the week was done by Stephanie Smith.

The entire mission trip crew could not have made it through the week without the prayers and support of all of St. Patrick’s! We enjoyed the candy that Pat Justice gave us and the dessert that the Freidhofs

brought us. We thank you for supporting our mission to empower the CREW Mission Trip participants to live as Disciples of Christ through serving others!

