

St. Patrick Parish IN FOCUS

www.stpatuurbana.org

July/August 2017

Fr. Luke: Growing with God

John 15:16 is a verse that can bring meaning in times of change, reminding us that God is in control: “It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you.”

It’s also a verse that Father Luke Spannagel finds himself turning to often. “This verse was an important part of my discernment for the priesthood—it always reminds me that God has asked me to serve him and his people as a priesthood, and that he provides the gifts needed for that service.”



Fr. Luke and his father.

Father Luke’s first inkling of a calling to the priesthood may have come during his time as an alter server at St. Mary’s in Peotum (Illinois), where he also helped maintain the grounds. The church is close to where he grew up and helped on his family farm.

After graduating from Villa Grove High School in 1994, he attended the University of Illinois where he received his degree in Landscape Architecture. It was in his last year of college, uncertain of what his future would hold, that he asked God for guidance. “Through that time of prayer, I felt a certainty in my heart that God wanted me to serve him as a priest and to help take care of his people in the Diocese of Peoria,” he recalled.

He attended seminary at Mount St. Mary’s in Maryland and was ordained in 2003. He has previously served in small, rural parishes, a very large parish, and on the campuses at Western Illinois University and at St. John’s Catholic Newman Center at the University of Illinois. While at those parishes, he served in positions ranging from vicar to chaplain and adminis-

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When Discards Morph Into Treasure

Call it “Cellar-to-Garret” or “Basement-to-Attic” or whatever conveys the message – it is the annual sale that raises funds for the Women of St. Patrick to use throughout the year to further its mission of Spirituality, Service, and Social.

This time-honored fund-raiser has been a signature event that people in the parish and in the local community look forward to every August. It’s a great place to find just the right clothing, electronic item, book, Christmas decoration, or household or garden need at a spectacularly low price!

Proceeds from the Cellar-to-Garret sale are used for a variety of causes. Some of the funds have been sent to support our parishioner, Dr. Susan Nagele, in her work in Kenya. Various requests, such as purchase of tables and chairs for Trinity Hall or new kitchen equipment, come to the group from the parish staff or in response to a discerned parish need.

Funding is available for speakers, retreat leaders, and others while keeping the cost for participants to a minimum – even free to those who request scholarships. Discussion is currently underway to make it possible for groups outside the parish to re-

Cellar-to-Garret continued on page 4

Godspeed, Father Joe!



You knew something special was about to occur when you saw that the church parking lot was nearly full fifteen minutes before Saturday's, 5:00 p.m. Mass was to begin on June 3. In the church were many musicians accompanying Frank Gallo at the organ and piano. Two of our fine singers, Jim Mayer and Maureen Reagan, were to be the cantors. Father Joe processed up the aisle wearing the flame-colored chasuble of Pentecost.

Mass is always special when celebrated by Father Joe. He enunciates every word in the liturgy as if he is speaking his love to each one of us. The congregation's responses and joyful singing filled the church, returning the love to him.

In Father Joe's soul-stirring homily he first told us that he's not just "lucky," but "blessed" to rub shoulders with us at St. Patrick. He told us that we are the stones of the church, and good, holy things will continue here with Father Luke. Pentecost, he said, is as important a feast as Christmas and Easter. We will never be satisfied until our thirst is slaked by the Holy Spirit, and we reach the Holy Spirit through Jesus.

After Communion, Maureen Reagan sang the well-known Irish Blessing. Its words were put

to a lovely melody by parishioner Matthew Reeder. Maureen's powerfully expressive and beautiful voice brought tears to many eyes. Father Joe was observed brushing his cheek.

When Mass was concluded, the congregation moved to the parish hall for Father's reception. There was much to enjoy: plates of assorted sandwiches, bowls of salads, shrimp and finger foods, and plates of fruits and cheeses, all spread across many tables. There were also tables filled with desserts. Playing on the large screen was a slide show of Father Joe's thirteen years at St. Patrick.



Finally the large crowd was welcomed by the president of the Parish Council, Kathy Cimakasky. She presented Father Joe with a gift bag, and he exclaimed, "It's a puppy dog!" No, it was a brick from the old church and a picture of the new church, which cleverly fit together. Father thanked the crowded hall for helping him to become more of the kind of priest that he wanted to be.

Then Jim Mayer, with eleven other singers and backed by Frank Gallo at the piano, sang two original songs to Father Joe. Jim set new words to the melody of "Oklahoma." The reworded chorus went "Jo (Ok) seph (la) Ho (ho) gan (ma), when we see you marchin' down the aisle and



your homilies can bend our knees, when your words come with a little smile," etc. Then the twelve singers finished with a psalm for Father based on the Chicago Cubs chant, "Father Joe, (go Cubs go) Father Joe. Hey Urbana, what do you say, cheers to Father Joe today."

Father Joe said he had a gift for us...he told Father Luke that St. Patrick's parishioners love long homilies, even longer than the ones he gives at St. John. He also said that Father Luke hates cats and loves cookies. He ended by saying, "God bless you. I'll keep you in my prayers for the rest of my life."

And we will surely keep you in our prayers, Father Joe!



A Bigger Church

If you are traveling this summer, perhaps you will attend Mass at another parish. Maybe it will be very similar to Mass at St. Patrick's. Or maybe you will be in a place where the language, culture, and music are all very different. The deeper your sense of belonging here, the easier it is to forget that we are only part of the picture. It's good to be reminded that we are part of a bigger Church, and that our lives make a difference for everyone who encounters it.

Those reminders are actually all around us. As we welcome our new pastor, Fr. Luke Spannagel, we know that Bishop Jenky sent him to serve us here. As we consider our response to the Annual Diocesan Appeal, we know that our giving has an impact on the health of the Diocese of Peoria. We are part of a bigger Church.

As we listen to the teaching of Pope Francis, we hear a call to extend God's loving care to everyone. He asks us to care for all God's people, the poor, migrants, and the marginalized; the sick, the hurting, and those crushed in spirit. He reminds us to care for the Earth, which sustains us all. To do this, we need to reach out beyond our parish, beyond the Catholic Church, beyond the community of Christians, to every one of God's people.

In a few weeks we will sing this hymn:

*As a fire is meant for burning with a bright and warming flame,
so the Church is meant for mission, giving glory to God's name.
As a green bud in the springtime is a sign of life renewed,
so may we be signs of oneness 'mid Earth's people, many hued.
As the rainbow lights the heavens when a storm is past and gone,
may our lives reflect the radiance of God's new and glorious dawn.*

—Ruth Duck, from *Gather* (#744), © 1992 GIA Publications



Congratulations, Graduates!

The 2017 class of The High School of St. Thomas More graduated on May 21. Included in the class are St. Patrick's parishioners Andrew Mammen, Elie Nyembo, Kyle Rasmussen, and Shelby Turner.



CREW Leaves on Mission Trip



On Sunday, June 25, St. Patrick's CREW teens will leave on their Mission Trip. This summer's trip will take them to Frenchville, Pennsylvania, where they will be staying at the Young People Who Care camp. They will spend their time working throughout the central Appalachia region of Pennsylvania. Please keep all our CREW teens and their chaperons in your prayers!

Cellar-to-Garret from page 1

quest funds from the Women of St. Patrick for causes that align with their mission.

Planning for the sale begins months in advance when two enthusiastic and organized women agree to co-chair the event. Chairpersons are also determined for specific aspects of the sale, including set-up, take-down, food for volunteers, day chairpersons, and others. Regular meetings are held to make sure that all of the components, from advertising to trash hauling, are in order. When the sale date approaches, all is ready and the fun begins!

This year's sale will be held August 10-12 in the main hall of the parish center. Drop-off of items for the sale begins on Mon-

day, July 30, and ends on Sunday, August 6. Many hands are needed during the drop-off period for sorting, folding, and preparing items for sale. During the week of the sale the pricing is done, and finally the doors are opened for eager shoppers!

On Saturday, August 12, shoppers can purchase one or more brown paper bags for \$2.00 each and fill them to the brim – no further charge for what fits in the bag. It's always amazing to see all the things that can be made to fit into one paper shopping bag!

Work schedules and sign-ups will be posted as the sale date draws near. To keep up with plans as they progress, add your

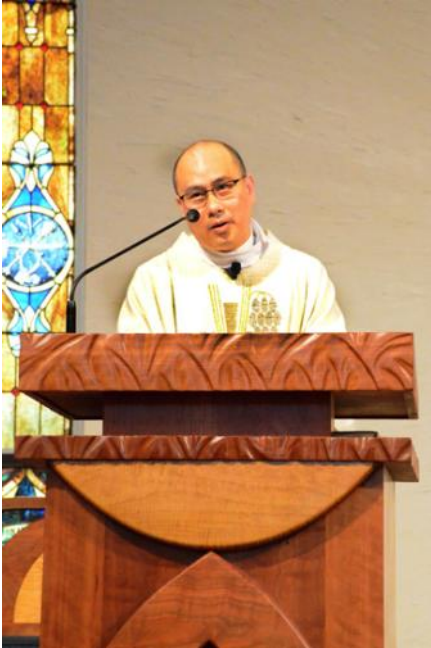
name to the Women of St. Patrick email list by sending an email to womenofstpatrick@gmail.com. Or watch the Sunday bulletin for details!



We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop.

—Mother Teresa of Calcutta

Many Thanks, Fr. John Huy Pham!



- † Thank you for your 10 months of ministry at St. Patrick and St. Mary!
- † Thank you for your warmth and openness!
- † Thank you for coping with English—and many other

languages as well!

- † Thank you for always reminding us to love God and love the people!
- † Thank you for being a person of prayer, and for guiding others in prayer!

As you complete your studies and return to ministry in Lincoln, Illinois, we wish you every grace and blessing!

We let our egos return to dust during Lent; at Easter, God raises us up from the dust. With Pentecost, God calls us to transform the earth. We rise each day a new creation in the Spirit, sent forth to set the world on fire.

—Michael Simone, S.J.



Q: Do Catholics have to name their babies after saints?

A: This time-honored practice goes back hundreds and hundreds of years. Back in the sixteenth century the *Catechism of the Council of Trent* directed that the baptismal name should be taken from some person whose eminent sanctity had been recognized. Actually, naming after saints was a common practice centuries before this in France and

German, and by the thirteenth century, throughout Europe. Small wonder that families emigrating to the New World carried this tradition with them!

This practice certainly provided the child with a saint whose protection could be counted on, someone who could be the child's life-long spiritual guide, someone to look up to, to pray to. Today, however, the *Code of Canon Law* simply says, "Parents, sponsors, and the pastor are to see to it that a name alien to a Christian sense is not given." So Serendipity, Caruso, and so many others are quite okay; parents are free to make their own choices.

It is a great opportunity to name a life, but the greater opportunity is to raise a child to know and love God and to understand that God is at the center of his or her life.

* * *

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

Fr. Luke from page 1

trator.

As for his new role as pastor at St Patrick, it's one he's been hoping to serve. "Ever since my seminary days, I have desired to be a 'pastor,' a 'shepherd of souls'... I'm looking forward to working with our parish family to help hearts grow closer to Christ and to help our parish family continue to grow in unity, understanding of our faith, and zeal in living out our Catholic faith in our community."

He believes his most recent post at the Newman Center on the University of Illinois campus has prepared him for the diverse community St. Patrick encompasses.

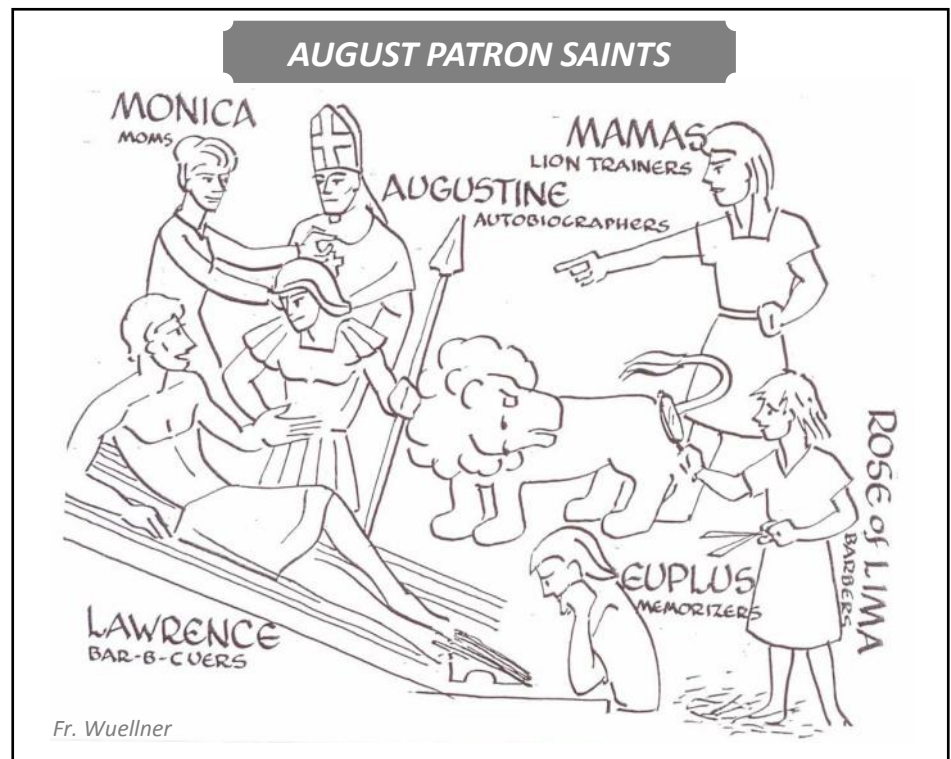
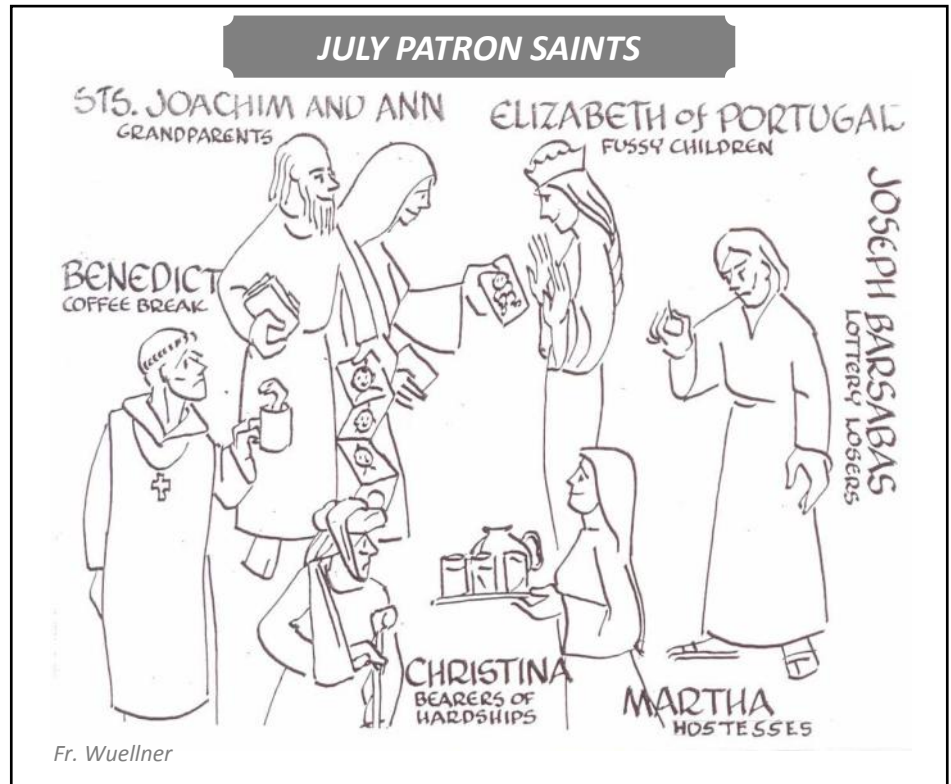
"One of my favorite parts of working on campus has been getting to know so many wonderful people from all around the world," Father Luke said. "I know that St. Patrick's is a faith community with people from many different backgrounds—I look forward to learning about even more cultures during my time [at St Patrick]."

While he transitions into his new role as pastor, he asks for patience. He'd probably appreciate our prayers as well!

Traveling this summer?
Check www.Masstimes.org
or call 1-858-207-6277.
To find church locations and
Mass times, enter the zip
code for your destination.
It's really that easy!

There is no saint without a past and no
sinner without a future.

— Pope Francis



St. John Vianney, Patron Saint of Parish Priests



The St. John Vianney window in our church.

Jean Baptiste Vianney was born near Lyon, France, on May 8, 1786. He came of age in the post-French revolution era, when attending Mass, seeking confession, and receiving other sacraments had to be done in secret and at great personal risk to both lay people and clergy.

John came from a poor family and had little education. He studied for the priesthood at first in secret with his childhood priest, Abbe (or Abbot) Bailey and later at seminaries. Because of illness and his religious beliefs, John hid from the military draft in a remote mountain settlement, where he opened a school for the local children. He was ordained on Aug. 13, 1815.

In his first solo assignment, at the tiny country village of Ars-en-Dombes near Lyon in 1818, John found the community indifferent at best to Catholicism; Sundays in Ars were routinely marked by rowdy parties and dances. He did what all pastors did, visiting families, teach-

ing catechism, and preaching the Gospel as well as he could. He helped start a home for girls and organized food distribution for the poor. His own life of prayer, simplicity, sacrifice, and devotion inspired the community to become a model parish.

John Vianney, the Curé d'Ars [priest of Ars] was best known as a confessor. Thousands of people made pilgrimage to Ars-en-Dombes to seek

him out for his ability to read their hearts and minds in confession.

He died at the age of 73, hearing confessions even on his deathbed, and was canonized on May 31, 1925. On his feast day, August 4 (or any day this summer), you might pause and pray to him to care for our parish priests and for all church workers in new and ongoing assignments.

St. Patrick's Youth Orchestra Plans a Summer Concert

In March, the St. Patrick's Youth Orchestra began its fifth season with a concert celebrating St. Patrick's Day and Women's History Month. The orchestra is now once again revving up for its second event of the year – the annual movie-music-themed summer concert. The concert is planned for Saturday, August 5, and will be highlighting classics like *The Phantom of the Opera* and newer works such as music from the 2014 film *The Theory of Everything*.

SPYO will bring back former alumni as well as welcome new members. All seventh-grade through recently graduated senior musicians from the central Illinois area are invited to play with the orchestra for this concert. The student-run group does not require an audition to join. All those interested in learning more about the group are invited to contact co-directors and young parishioners Renata Herrera and Sarah Grosse-Perdekamp (stpatsyouthorchestra@gmail.com or spyo.org).

The orchestra and the St. Patrick's community hope to see you there!



Holy Cross Happenings

This past spring, eight youngsters from St. Patrick's graduated eighth grade at Holy Cross, bringing quite a slew of achievements with them. Recognized for their help as **altar servers** were Calum Beckett, Emily Goad, and Kylie Hopper. Those honored for participating in Boy/Girl Scouts were Calum, Emily, Jonah Borbely, and Kaleb Leininger. Students who were chosen to receive the **American Citizenship Award** were Calum Beckett, Jonah Borbely, Kylie Hopper, and Will Moore.

The group's academic achievements include making **fourth quarter honor roll** (see list for specific honors achieved): Calum Beckett, Kylie Hopper, Joyson Kakinga, Kaleb Leininger, and Will Moore. Those students who achieved high honors or above for all four quarters of the 2016-2017 school year were Kylie, Joyson, Kaleb, and Will.

Honored as **Accelerated Readers** were Kylie and Joviane Pembele. Also along the academic front, selected to compete in the **Geography Bee** was Will Moore. Participating in **Scholastic Bowl** this year were Joyson Kakinga and Kaleb Leininger.

Holy Cross is known for its wonderful arts programs, and St. Patrick's kids have certainly made their mark in that arena as well. Our graduates who were recognized for sharing their **musical talents** with their school were Calum (chorus), Emily (chorus), Jonah (band/chorus), Kaleb (band), and Joyson Kakinga (chorus). In addition, Joyson (who portrayed the Cheshire Cat) and Emily (costume design) participated in the school's spring

Happenings continued on page 11

4th Quarter Honor Roll, 2016-2017		
Highest Honors	High Honors	Honors
Ian Peters	Natalie Caughlin	Zach Lewis
Jasmine Waite	Josh Loftus	Cole Saunders
Lukas Grosse-Perdekamp	Elizabeth Stubbers	Jay Saunders
Emily Leininger	Marissa Altaner	Janey Thomas
Ellen Loftus	Katherine McMillan	Parker Moore
Brandon Hood	Ava Borbely	Sam Ramey
Maddy McCoy	Hadley Peters	Iviana Harris
	Daniel Caughlin	Aidan Beckett
		Abbie Vessel



Will & Calum



Jovianne



Marissa & Kylie



Joyson, Jonah, & Will



Holly Cross graduates

Who Are the Women of St. Patrick? We Are!

When you hear the name “Women of St. Patrick” what comes to mind? Perhaps you recall a funeral luncheon you attended where the family was lovingly served with a smile and a beautifully presented meal. Or you think of the last time you attended a reception for a special occasion that was handled with efficiency and grace. But the Women of St. Patrick is much more.

We are women who pray together. Whether we are attending a women’s Lenten retreat or praying the rosary, the group finds its base in spiritual reflection. You may have attended an “Ah – Day of Quiet” at the Chiara Center facilitated by the group, or heard a speaker brought in to deepen our awareness of our own spiritual journey. Everything we do begins and ends with love of our Creator and a special love for Mary.

We are women who serve together. Service is one of the three components that make up the heart of the group. We share a meal with those who come to the St. Vincent de Paul pantry in the bi-annual Friends Dinner. Funeral dinners and other parish-wide events find us serving in the kitchen. Our annual Cellar-to-Garret sale is a much-anticipated event that helps both the parish and the greater community with reasonably priced clothing, household goods, books, and more. And you will see us at this summer’s Farmers Market representing St. Patrick’s at the church’s booth.

We are women who have fun together! Whether we are hav-

ing a dinner in or a dinner out, we love to get together to share a meal, make new friends, and share our stories with one another.

Who can be a member of this wonderful group? You can! If you are a woman parishioner over 18, you are already a woman of St. Patrick. There are no dues, no contracts to sign, no handshakes to learn except the hand extended in friendship. You are invited to join in any activity you see in the bulletin, *In Focus*, or via email. If you would like to have your name included in the email list, just send a message to womenofstpatrik@gmail.com, and you will be added.

The current Board of the Women of St. Patrick is also looking for women of faith with energy and ideas to join them. Presently, the Board members are Donna Rinkenberger (Chairwoman), Nancy Olson (Vice-Chair and Spirituality Chair), Janet Althaus (Secretary), Sandy Cuza, Eileen Schmidt, Sue Schreiber, Anna Conner (Treasurer), Bernadette Nelson, Anne Allegretti, and Katie Leininger. Some of these dedicated women are completing their two-year term and would love to hand their spot on to you!

Please contact Donna Rinkenberger (202-0301) if you are considering joining the Board – for more information and a gentle nudge!





in our parish library

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

The Quest for True Freedom, by Jennifer Penn. An intimate portrayal of Thomas Merton, this book journeys into the daily monastic life and Merton's spiritual quest. The book also contains many personal anecdotes and memories from fellow monks. 271 Pen

Catholicism and the American Freedom, by John McGreevy. The author reveals how the individualistic, and often vehemently anti-Catholic, inclinations of Protestant intellectuals shaped the debates over slavery—and how Catholics, although they were the first to acknowledge the moral equality of black people and disavowed segregation of churches even in the South, still had difficulty arguing against the hierarchy and tradition represented by slavery. 282 McG

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

God Lives: From Religious Fear to Spiritual Freedom, by James Kavanaugh. This book was written for those who wonder about sin, hell, the Bible, infallibility of the pope, a personal god, and how to live within the Church when fed historic myths and lies. With eight years of graduate theology, scripture, archeology, and religious philosophy, Kavanaugh writes in the same clear, eloquent, down-to-earth style that has characterized all his work, incorporating the latest of theological and biblical insights. 291 Kav

The God of Freedom and Life: Commentary about the Book of Exodus, by Stephen Binz. The journey of Exodus is the quest for freedom and life. It is the foundation of the Jewish faith and therefore at the heart of the Christian-Judaic heritage. Genuine freedom and fullness of life was the divinely inspired purpose of both Moses and Jesus; both called God's people to journey in faith. This commentary explores what to the Judaic tradition is the perennial event of Exodus, not just a historical but a continuing journey toward God and toward understanding themselves as God's people. 222 Bin

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If you have questions, contact our parish librarian, Megan Raab (raab41987@gmail.com); she will be happy to assist you. The door to the parish library is always open—come and browse to your heart's content!

VOCATION PRAYER

Loving Father, help me to realize that I am called by my baptism
to continue the mission of Jesus by proclaiming the Good News.

And help me to see how and when I might do this!

Bless all of us as we attempt to respond to your call.

Guide those who are discerning your call and give them the support they need.

For we are your people and greatly in need of your help!

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musical production of *Alice in Wonderland, Jr.*

As if all of that wasn't enough, our eighth-graders kept busy with participation in a variety of **sports**, for which they were recognized at the eighth-grade honors ceremony: Calum Beckett (baseball, basketball), Jonah Borbely (cross country, track), Emily Goad (basketball, track), Kylie Hopper (soccer, basketball, volleyball, and track--qualifying for State in the 100m), Joyson Kakinga (baseball, basketball), Kaleb Leininger (cross country, track), and Will Moore (baseball, cross country, basketball, and track).

Congrats to all of our eighth-grade grads, and many blessings as you embark upon your high-school journeys!

And to all of our St. Pat's boys and girls who attend Holy Cross, congratulations on another year of growing and learning. Enjoy your well-earned summer break--see you in August!

* * *

Do you have any events or recognitions you'd like to see covered in a future "Holy Cross Happenings"? Contact Rachael McMillan (rachmcmill@gmail.com) to get them added.

Interested in having your children attend Holy Cross School? Schedule a tour of the school by calling Principal Chris Ellis (356-9521). Financial help may be available; contact St. Patrick's parish office (367-2665) for more details.

Kaleb



Calum



Emily & Jonah



Psalm 129

Discover in the Great Silence
the mystery of who you are,
and be true to your Self.

For wherever you dwell,
there is beauty;
Infinite Love is everywhere.

Know that the beauty hidden
within your soul
is seen by the eyes
of your heart.

Let the still small voice

of the Beloved
guide you by day and
comfort you at night;

Then will you be blessed

and, in turn,
you will be blessing
to the world.

—Nan Merrill
Psalms for Praying

Quick fixin's from the kitchen of...

Sandi Miller

Simple Summer Salad

Watermelon chunks

Cucumbers, with some peel, sliced

Cilantro, chopped

Slivered almonds or chopped walnuts

Mix all ingredients; the amount of each is dependent upon the number of servings desired. This is a beautiful salad that could be served from a punch bowl with a ladle. It can easily be prepared the night before and



refrigerated, but you'll want to add the cilantro just before serving to keep it crispy. No salt needed. Children will enjoy this one.

* * *

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 be easy and quick to prepare!

Come Help Our Garden Grow

On Saturday, June 10, parish volunteers helped to put up the fences, plant, and do some weeding at the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry Garden, located in the organic garden plots at Meadowbrook Park in Urbana. The SVDP Garden's mission is to help supply St. Patrick's

SVDP Food Pantry with fresh produce to distribute to our neighbors in need. If you have a green thumb, an interest in gardening, or simply a will to do some weeding and would like to help, contact pastoral associate Jim Urban (367-2665 or jim.urban@stpaturbana.org).



St. Patrick Parish IN FOCUS

St. Patrick's Parish *In Focus* is published on the last weekend of the month in Urbana, IL. 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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Articles, information, and photos for this issue were provided by Janet Althaus, Carol Bosley, Judy Fierke, Denise Green, Elizabeth Hendricks, Renata Herrera, Kristy Ketcham, Rachael McMillan, Mary Lou Menches, Sandi Miller, Thang Nguyen, Nancy Olson, Megan Raab, Cathy Salika, Jose Schutt-Aine, Adam Smith, Mary Twigg, and Jim Urban. 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 13**.