

St. Patrick Parish IN FOCUS

www.stpaturbana.org

June 2017

Come, Holy Spirit!

To say that God is Spirit is to bring to mind many images of wind and breath. The Spirit refreshes us like the breeze on a hot day. The Spirit gives us new courage, like the wind that brings the rains after a long drought. The Spirit warms us as the first breath of spring begins a thaw. The Spirit seeps through the smallest cracks in our hearts, carrying its gifts. The Spirit blows away the dust and cobwebs when we're stuck in a rut. The Spirit gently nudges us when we need to make a decision. The Spirit dries our tears. The Spirit is the breath of life.

These images show us that God is at the core of our being, the center of our lives. They show us that God knows us well and gives us what we need, day by day, in whatever situation we find ourselves. They show us that God acts even when we're not completely open and aware of his action. How much more will the Spirit give us if we ask for help? Ask, and see!

Our liturgy celebrates the greatest feasts by singing a sequence, a hymn before the Gospel Alleluia. The sequence for Pentecost, *Veni Sancte Spiritus*, was written in the 13th century, probably by Stephen Langton, who was the (pre-Reformation) Archbishop of Canterbury. Stephen led

during difficult days, in constant conflict with the King and surrounded by tensions in the Church. It's good to know that he called on the Spirit for help in the complexities of his life.

Take a quiet moment to pray with Langton for the coming of the Holy Spirit:

*Holy Spirit, Lord divine,
Come from heights of heav'n and
shine.*

*Come with
blessed radiance
bright!
Come, O Father
of the poor,
Come, whose
treasured gifts
endure,*

*Come, our
heart's unflinching
light!*

*Of consolers,
wisest, best,
And our soul's*

most welcome guest,

Sweet refreshment, sweet repose.

In our labors, rest most sweet,

Pleasant coolness in the heat,

Consolation in our woes.

Light most blessed, shine with grace

In our heart's most secret place,

*Fill your faithful through and
through.*

Left without your presence here,

Life itself would disappear,

Nothing thrives apart from you.

see **Come Holy Spirit!** on page 6



Welcome home!

This year St. Patrick's celebrated four baptisms at the Easter Vigil, and confirmed three others (two from St. Mary's parish). We asked our neophytes to tell us a little about themselves and their journey; here are their responses:

Karen Dina

The birth of my daughter fueled my desire to take a spiritual path and to establish a relationship with God. My husband was raised Catholic, so it was a familiar faith tradition for me to explore on my own. I was attracted to St. Patrick's after reading the website. I was impressed with the Church's commitment to social justice and by Father Joe's use of "LOL" on the website.

I am married to my high school sweetheart of 20 years, Matthew. Together we have a 2-year-old daughter and a 4-year-old poodle. As a family, we like to spend our free time exploring parks and visiting nature sites. I work as an Assistant professor of social work at the UI.

Mike Gottlieb

In 2015 I met Judy Miller, a St. Patrick's parishioner. I was raised Lutheran and had never been in a Catholic church until Judy invited me to attend Mass with her. I went, and I loved it, even joining the choir with her. I felt totally at home at St. Patrick's. Everyone I have met has been welcoming and, more importantly, you can feel the love of Jesus Christ in

see **Welcome home!** on page 6

Children and their families celebrate their First Communion

A sunny, warm spring day greeted twenty-five St. Patrick's children as they gathered on Saturday, May 6. The children, supported by their families, catechists, and friends, received their first Holy Communion.

Fr. Joe Hogan presided at the Mass, assisted by Deacon Cliff Maduzia, Fr. John Pham, several musicians, Religious Education Coordinator Jon McCoy, and other religious education teachers. The children took on roles as lectors, singers, and enthusiastic respondents to Fr. Joe's homily in his favorite Q-and-A form. They joined clergy and altar servers in the processions in and out of the sanctuary. Each child or sibling group made a banner that identified the pew was assigned to each family.

The body and blood of Christ was distributed family by family, with the first communicants at the center of each group. Many families had three or more generations together receiving the Eucharist and blessings, highlighting the multigenerational role of parents and relatives as the primary religious teachers of their youth. And the families set a powerful example of observing faith together.

The happy Mass ended with cake and lemonade in the parish hall. The joyful event was the culmination of many lessons, prayers, and rehearsals. Thank you to all who helped make this special day possible!



O Spirit of God, be with us today and in the days to follow.
Guide us, nurture us, and increase our love and gratitude for you and for all your gifts.

St. Patrick's celebrates our graduates

A graduation Mass was held on May 13 for all graduating 8th- and 12th-graders at St. Patrick's. The Urbana Council of the Knights of Columbus announced the winners of the Father Martell scholarships: Selena Olson, Kyle Rasmussen, Matthew Reeder, Cristofer Garcia Reyes, Martitza Rodriguez, and Hannah Sweeney.

What's next for some of those students graduating from 12th grade?

Jenna Keefer (Urbana High School) will attend the University of Illinois, where she will study Stage Management in the Theater Department in the College of Fine and Applied Arts.

Drayke Lannert (St. Joseph Ogden-High School) will study Environmental Biology at Eastern Illinois University.

Selena Olson (homeschooled) plans to attend either Illinois State University or Parkland College.

Kyle Rasmussen (The High School of Saint Thomas More) plans to study Business at Iowa State University.

Matthew Reeder (University Laboratory School) will attend the University of Illinois, majoring in Music Composition, Flute, and Classics.

Matthew Ramaly (The High School of St. Thomas More) has chosen to attend Creighton University, majoring in Chemistry.

Kayleigh Ritten (Champaign Central High School) will attend Parkland College and is interested in studying Nursing.

Maritza Rodriguez (Urbana High School) will study Nursing at Parkland College.

William Rogers (Urbana High School) will attend the University of Illinois, where he will study Engineering Physics.

Keely Smith (St. Joseph-Ogden High School) will attend Maryville University in St. Louis, where she will study Physical Therapy.

Please pray for all our graduates!



Loving Father, you have blessed me with many gifts. Grant me the wisdom to use them for the glory of your name.
You call "Come, follow me."

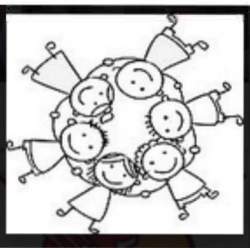
Give me the courage to follow wherever you lead and the generosity to serve in whatever way you ask of me.

Religious Education program hosts end-of-year party

Sunday, April 30, dawned dry, but the ever-present April Showers returned by noon. Therefore, the Religious Education and parish end-of-year celebration was held in the parish hall from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Hamburgers, hot dogs, sides, desserts, and drinks were served after the 10:00 and 12:00 Masses, but the inflatables were cancelled. Children still walked around inside with balloon animals from the balloon artist, and the Kona Ice truck was parked outside near the north entrance to the parish hall.

The Summer Fun Raffle tickets were sold after all the Sunday Masses. Since the Religious Education's pledge to the church expansion was fulfilled last May, they now have a new objective; they will try to raise \$70,000 to buy room dividers for Trinity Hall. Now the whole hall is used no matter what size the user group is. With room dividers, several groups could use Trinity Hall at the same time, and small groups wouldn't be dwarfed by the vast expanse.

Jon McCoy, the director of Children's Religious Education, has some exciting news about Vacation Bible School. It will be called EarthKeepers, based on Pope Francis's encyclical on the Earth's environment. It will cover great Bible stories, the lives of saints, how God taught us not to misuse the Earth, and what Pope Francis wrote in his letter to us. Bible School will meet July 17-21. It will be for children four years old through those entering fifth grade. It will meet every day in the third week of July from 9:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., ending with an 11:30 a.m. Mass open to all parishioners.



Religious Education this fall will begin after Labor Day. Registration will take place at the

end of August. The classes will be held on Sunday mornings from 8:45 to 9:45 a.m. There will be five levels held at St. Patrick's: four-year-olds; kindergarten and first grade; second grade, which entails preparation for First Communion; third and fourth grades; and fifth and sixth grades. There will also be a Confirmation class starting in September for ninth and tenth grades. Religious Education in St. Joseph is held at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday evenings.

Jon McCoy said he can always use parishioners to help with Bible School and Religious Education. If you interested in helping or have any questions, you may contact him (217-367-2665, ext. 132, or jon.mccoy@stpaturbana.org).

St. Patrick's Peace and Justice Ministry is growing in many directions

There is a lot going on in the St. Patrick's Peace and Justice Ministry these days. In April, the group began holding meetings on the third Sunday of each month at 9:00 a.m. in the parish center. The discussion at the first meeting came from Pope Francis's encyclical, *The Joy of the Gospel*. Many of us who studied this encyclical in our Sabbath Renewal small groups may remember that Pope Francis wrote that he wanted ours to be "a Church which is poor and for the poor. They have much to teach us. ... in their difficulties they know the suffering Christ. We need to let ourselves be evangelized by them."



The peace and justice group talked about what this sort of church would look like. They also discussed the format for the ministry. At the May meeting they planned to brainstorm about projects to take on during the upcoming year. According to group member Eileen Mathy, "So far, it is an exciting group with many people involved in various areas of social advocacy and action, with more coming all the time."

Will you be one of them? Watch the bulletin for notices about upcoming meetings or contact pastoral associate Jim Urban (367-2665 or jim.urban@stpaturbana.org).

There are many ways to help with social action, depending on your interests and talents. For example, the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry Garden helps to supply our parish's SVDP Food Pantry with fresh produce to distribute throughout the summer months. They are always looking for volunteers to help with weeding, maintenance, weeding, harvesting, and... did we mention weeding? If you would like to help out, contact garden coordinator April Jessee (april.jessee@gmail.com) or Jim Urban.

Parishioners interested in helping refugees and other migrants in our community have been working with Champaign-Urbana Friends and Allies of Immigrants and Refugees (CU-FAIR), a local group made up of both faith and secular organizations. St. Patrick's hosts some CU-FAIR meetings, including a recent panel on the Sanctuary movement and the creation of a local Welcoming Center. Parishioners participate in helping refugee and migrant families to find housing; acquire clothes, furniture, and household needs; find jobs; improve English language skills; and learn to navigate our community. If you would like to help, contact parishioner Luis Cuza (luis@cuza.us) or Jim Urban.

St. Thomas More: God's servant first

Patron saint of adopted children, lawyers, civil servants, politicians, and difficult marriages: Thomas More was born on February 7, 1478; he died on July 6, 1535, decapitated on order of King Henry VIII. Pope Leo XII beatified him on Dec. 29, 1886, and he was canonized on May 19, 1935, by Pope Pius XI.

Thomas More became a household page to John Morton, Archbishop of Canterbury and Lord Chancellor of England in 1490, at the age of 12. He entered Oxford in 1492 and left to become a lawyer. He was approved in 1502 to practice law.

He immediately began to contemplate another path in life; between 1503 and 1504 he found himself called to a life of simple piety and joined in the spiritual exercises in the Carthusian monastery next door.

In 1505 he married Jane Colt, who died in 1511 leaving him with four young children. He quickly married Alice Harpur-Middleton, a wealthy widow, rumored to be a needed stepmother with one daughter

from her previous marriage. Thomas insisted that his daughters receive the same education as his son.

In 1504 he was elected to Parliament and was known to be very honest and effective in that position. In 1516 he wrote *Utopia*, about a fictional island in the Atlantic with an idealistic life. It remains one of the greatest works of the late Renaissance.

From 1517 on, Henry VIII to a liking to Thomas and gave him posts of ever increasing responsibility. In 1521 he was knighted and given

authority over the northern portion of England on the king's behalf. In 1529 he became Lord Chancellor and showed himself to be a very effective and loyal servant to the King. He worked tirelessly to defend the Catholic faith in England.

Thomas first crossed King Henry in refusing to sign a letter to the Pope requesting Henry's annulment from his wife, Catherine, which Thomas could not condone, but for which Henry was prepared to break away from the Church in Rome. In 1532 Thomas felt King Henry VIII had lost his way as a Catholic. He offered his resignation, citing failing health, which Henry reluctantly accepted, suspecting disloyalty.

Thomas More refused to attend the coronation of Anne Boleyn in 1533, a move the king felt undermined his authority as head of Church and State. King Henry made false claims against Thomas, for

which he was arrested and imprisoned in the Tower of London.

On July 1, 1534, Thomas More faced trial and was convicted by a jury that included Anne Boleyn's father, brother, and uncle. Thomas offered no defense against the contrived charges, which included treason.

Intent upon retaining his authority, the king ordered Thomas to be hanged, drawn, and quartered—an order that was subsequently changed to decapitation. Thomas ascended the scaffold on July 6, 1535, joking to the executioners to help him up the scaffold—he would see himself down. We commemorate his heroic martyrdom on June 22.

Thomas More's last words were: "The king's good servant, but God's first." The motto for nearly all schools named in his honor is "God's servant first."



Leadership and trust in the Lord

by Jason Schreder, Principal,
The High School of St. Thomas More

Happy Easter, and may the joy of Christ Risen be with you and your



family! As we enter into summer at The High School of St. Thomas More, we end the school year. Teams have

finished their seasons, art and music students have put away their brushes and songbooks, teachers and students have wrapped up another year of learning, and our seniors are now preparing for life after high school. For me personally, it is a good reminder to reflect on the past year, on all of the great things the Lord has done at STM, and on where he is directing us for the future.

As a first year principal, I have felt the year go by very fast! Because I became principal and my wife and I welcomed our third child in September, this school year has definitely brought many new challenges and opportunities for me professionally, personally, and spiritually.

Professionally, it has challenged me to grow as a leader in keeping STM focused on living out its mission of teaming up with parents to form our students as Christ's disciples. Personally, it has helped me to focus on my vocation as a husband and father for my wife and three children, ensuring that I am making them my primary vocation in leading them to heaven. Spiritually, God has truly called me out to "deeper waters" in asking me to trust him with even more. I thought I was putting my trust in God with a lot of things in my life, but I have realized

Welcome home!

From page 1

the parish community and in the tireless work of Father Joe. I was born in California and have lived in various places throughout the U.S. I have a Bachelor's degree in Social Work and am currently a teacher's assistant at Cunningham Children's Home.

Kelly Bohlen

My wife, Barb is a life-long Catholic and after many years of marriage, I decided to join the Church.

If you see them at Mass or other parish events, please introduce yourself and welcome them.



Come, Holy Spirit!

from page 1

*Cleanse our soil-ed hearts of sin,
Arid sould refresh within
Wounded lives to health restore.
Bend the stubborn heart and will,
Melt the frozen, warm the chill,
Guide the wayward home once more!*

*On the faithful who are true
And profess their faith in you
In your sev'nfold gifts descend!
Give us virtue's sure reward.
Give us your salvation, Lord.
Give us joys that never end!*

—Translated by Peter Scagnelli ● 1983

Leadership and Trust

from page 5

that I can trust even more.

As someone who wants to tackle everything head on and take charge, God has really called me to step back and realize I cannot do it all on my own, but need to trust in his grace and strength and let Christ guide and help make those burdens of everyday life “sweet and light” (Mt 11:28-30).

With this, it is exciting to see where the Lord is calling me and The High School of St. Thomas More. Next year we will begin year two of our STM Family System. This will help to bring our STM community of students and staff even closer as we build relationships across grade levels, leadership amongst students, fellowship among students and staff, and teamwork through the spirit of humble competition.

All we can do now is put our future in the Lord's hands and trust that he will lead us where we need to be. It is my hope that at STM we can hope to hear the Master say to us “Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master's joy” (Mt 25:24).

Quick fixin's from the kitchen of . . .

Cathy Howey

Pigs in a Blanket

9-12 cabbage leaves	¼ c. chopped onion
1-1/4 lb. ground beef	1 egg
1 t salt	1 qt. tomato juice or sauce
1 c cooked rice	

Remove core of cabbage and put entire head in boiling water. Lift out when leaves are limp, and drain. Mix together ground beef, salt, rice, onion, and egg. Roll this mixture into each cabbage leaf and fasten with toothpicks; lay them side-by-side in greased casserole. When complete, cover with tomato sauce or juice, making sure it covers well—“pigs” absorb juice as they cook. Cover and bake at 350 degrees for 1-1/2 hours.

* * *

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!



St. Jeanne Jugan Seniors hear about two saints who inspire

Jane Walsh, president of Children of Hope and Faith, Inc., spoke to the St. Jeanne Jugan seniors group at their luncheon on May 3. Jane studied biology at the University of Illinois. In the '90s she went through a pivotal reconversion to the Catholic faith. She discovered the Divine Mercy revelations given to St. Faustina Kowalska



by the Lord Jesus. She was active in pro-life work at the time. In 2000 she organized the first Divine Mercy Sunday at Holy Cross church. Following that, her husband entered RCIA. That same year, St. John Paul II made Sister Faustina a canonized saint.

In 2003 Jane organized efforts to help orphans in Tanzania. In 2006 St. Josephine

Bakhita became the patron saint of her charity group, Children of Hope and Faith. St. Bakhita, a former slave who endured horrible mistreatment, became a nun in Italy. She is featured in the Our Saints shrine at St. Patricks. She epitomizes hope, and is a saint for fortitude in suffering. She asks us to “do what the Lord wants.” Jane’s group holds a weekly holy hour for her intercession.

The organization has branched out into working with basic human services: water, solar energy, and healthcare.

Jane follows devotion to two saints, St. Faustina and St. Bakhita. St. Faustina has the core values of belief in God’s mercy through the Eucharist to sinners, and especially to the dying. Also Divine Mercy calls for obedience to God’s will, even in obeying the speed limit—no easy thing to do in Champaign-Urbana!

God has a plan for our lives. Jane likes the line from Jeremiah 29:11: “Plans to give you a future full of hope.

The next meeting of the St. Jeanne Jugan seniors group will be at Perkins Restaurant on July 5. The speaker will be from the Daily Bread Soup Kitchen in Champaign.

Who are the Women of St. Patrick?

We pray together in spiritual reflection.
We have fun together sharing meals and stories.
We serve meals for the diverse groups of St. Patrick.

To join or just to ask a question, please contact Donna Rinkenberger (202-0301).



in our parish library

June marks Father’s Day, a time to love and cherish our fathers on Earth and to renew our faith and enrich our spirituality to our Father in heaven. It is also a time to recognize and appreciate the Fathers of the Church, the Pope, priests, bishops, and other clergy and laymen.

The Angels and Their Mission According to the Fathers of the Church, by Jean Danielou. Danielou submerges us in the first Christian reflections on God’s heavenly hosts, beginning in the pages of Scripture itself and stretching through the fifth century, reflections which focus not on their natures but rather on their saving mission to humankind, a topic far more robust and 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 centuries.

Desert Wisdom contains some hundred “sayings,” each accompanied by playful illustrations by Japanese artist Yushi Nomura. Bridging East and West, the simple truths of *Desert Wisdom* remain as fresh and vital to Christians 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 (in three volumes) covers the history of Christian spirituality in a very thorough and well-organized fashion. It is great for those who want to seriously study the subject. 248.2 Boy.

The Return of the Prodigal Son: Meditations of the Fathers, by Henri Nouwen. Henri Nouwen presents his experience with the Rembrandt’s painting, *The Return of the Prodigal Son*. Three stages correlate to the three main characters in the painting of the biblical story. The book is a relatively simple read while maintaining depth of Nouwen’s intimate insight and personal journey of exploration of spiritual homecoming. 248.Nou.

12 Council Fathers, by Walter Abbott. This book details interviews conducted by Abbott of twelve of the most important figures currently leading the Vatican Council. 262.5 Abb.

These books do not even begin to cover the material related to our heavenly Father and our earthly fathers. To find these materials and many more, visit the library on Sunday after Mass or during the week.

* * *

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.



Q: What is the Church's position on cremation?

A. Cremation was formerly

forbidden by the Church because it was promoted years ago, especially in Europe, by anti-religious and Masonic groups as a flagrant rejection of Christian belief in immortality and the resurrection of the body. (How could God possibly collect all those ashes and smoke together to make us rise again?) It's been a long time now since that argument was raised seriously.

In 1963 the Church declared that cremation is no longer forbidden, provided that no disrespect or contempt for the body or for our faith is intended. In fact, the funeral rites of the Church from the Second Vatican Council explicitly provide for cremation ceremonies.

Church teaching still prefers

traditional burial of the body, but sometimes special factors (e.g., economic, hygienic, etc.) may make cremation the only practical choice. The Church urges that, if at all possible, the body of the deceased person be present for the funeral liturgies, with cremation following. When circumstances require otherwise, however, it is appropriate that the cremated remains be present for the funeral rites and then be buried in a cemetery or mausoleum. They should be treated with the same respect given to the body of the deceased.

Should we ever lose contact with those spiritual realities that confront us in death and in the liturgies of burial, we would lose something quite precious in our lives as Christians.

* * *

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

St. Patrick Parish IN FOCUS

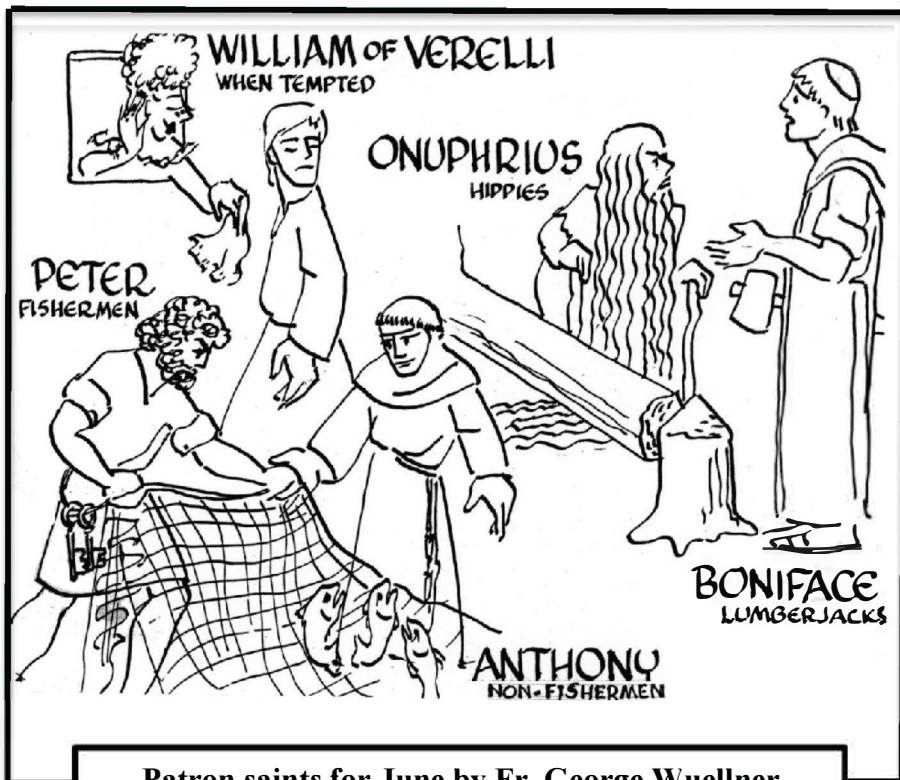
St. Patrick's Parish In Focus is published on the last weekend of the month in Urbana, IL. News items and information may be submitted by mid-month for the next issue. Materials must include the name and telephone number of the person submitting them.

Please send news items to infocusstpats@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, 344-1125 (mmenches@illinois.edu); Cathy Salika, 367-7861 (csalika@illinois.edu); Patsy Schmitt, 607-1594 (patsv.schmitt@gmail.com); and Peggy Whelan, 367-3668 (margaretwhelan@att.net).

Associates: Carol Bosley, John Colombo, Joe and Nancy Costa, Frances Drone-Silvers, Camille Goudeseune, Mary Karten, Rachael McMillan, Nancy Olson, Rick Partin, Carole Rebeiz, Lucille Salika, Sue Schreiber, Shirley Splittstoesser, Adam and Stephanie Smith, and Jim Urban.

Articles, information, and photos for this issue were provided by Frances Drone-Silvers, Judy Fierke, Denise Green, Elizabeth Hendricks, Cathy Howey, Jon McCoy, Mary Lou Menches, Sandi Miller, Nancy Olson, Megan Raab, Dan Richards, Cathy Salika, and Jason Schreder. Patron Saints by Fr. George Wuellner. This issue was edited by Rick Partin, page layout by Shirley Splittstoesser.



Patron saints for June by Fr. George Wuellner



The deadline for submitting articles and news items for the next

(July/August) issue of *In Focus* is **June 11**.