

# St. Patrick Parish IN FOCUS

www.stpatuurbana.org

March 2017

## Plenty of Time!

Sometimes the forty days of Lent seem to be too much. If we look upon Lent simply as a season of self-denial, it could easily seem like a burden, something to get through because it's somehow good for us. But there are other ways to look at it.

If you focus on giving service to others during Lent, the 40 days could give you plenty of time to try something new and see if God might be calling you to serve in this way. How would you know? If you are meeting a real need, if you have the skills needed or can learn them, if you can serve with love and joy, these are all good signs! And if one kind of service doesn't work out, there may still be time to try another.

If you focus on deepening your life of prayer, 40 days could give you time to read and reflect on a book. They would give you time to find a way to change your daily routine, making more time for prayer. If you want to pray as a family, they give time for everyone to get comfortable with a new routine and learn habits of openness with one another and praise of God.

If you focus on changing a



habit or attitude that leads you away from God, 40 days is sufficient time to establish a better way of living. You might try starting the day by telling God what you're going to try to change that day and ask for his help. Sometime during the day, take a look at how you're doing, apologize if necessary, and thank God for his love and mercy. And at night, look again at how you did and thank God for his help through the day.

Lent is not a burden, but a luxury. It is God's gift to us, the gift of one who knows us better than we know ourselves. God knows our needs, our strengths, and our weaknesses because he gave them to us. God gives us the traditions of fasting, prayer, and almsgiving because these are things that can help to make us into the persons that he meant us to be. God gives us plenty of time – forty whole days! – to grow closer to him as individuals, as family, and as community.

## Who Are the Homeless in Our Community?

On Sunday, January 29, a panel of local pastors, service providers, administrators, and government agencies came together at St. Patrick's to address the question, "Who are the homeless in Champaign, Urbana, and Champaign County?" The panel included an impressive selection of experts who collectively have great insight and experience working to alleviate homelessness in our community.

Organized by the Peace and Justice Ministry at St. Patrick's, the program was facilitated by Cathy Strick. On the panel were Pastor Marc Brown of the Savoy United Methodist Church; Pastor Sheryl Palmer of Faith United Methodist Church of Champaign; Kim Stanhope of Austin's Place at First United Methodist Church of Champaign; Barb Davies of the Canteen Run; David Powers of the Catholic Worker House; Rob Dalhouse of CU At Home and the Phoenix Center; Sue Wittmer, formerly of the TIMES Center; Kerri Spear, Director of Neighborhood Services, City of Champaign; Sister Karen Carlson of Presence Covenant Medical Center; Lisa Benson of the Champaign County Regional

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## Holy Cross Happenings

The lively spring semester has already seen quite a few notable events. The **National Geographic Geography Bee** took place on Thursday, January 26. St. Patrick's parishioners who made it to the competition were Anna Loftus, Elizabeth Tullos, and Phillip Withers-Sickles (4th grade); Ian Peters (5th grade); Lukas Perdekamp, Sylvia Withers-Sickles (6th grade); Maddy McCoy (7th grade); and Will Moore (8th grade). Congratulations to Nora Kelley (daughter of Holy Cross's own Mrs. Kelley), the winner of this year's Bee!

The third annual Holy Cross/St. Patrick's **Spaghetti Supper** kicked off Catholic Schools Week on Saturday, January 28. For the first time two seatings were held—one at 6:00 p.m. and one at 7:00 p.m.—to accommodate parishioners coming from Saturday night Mass at both churches. Also a first—desserts and after-dinner drinks were served in Trinity Hall to give everyone a little more elbow space.

**Scout Sunday** took place on Sunday, February 12; several St. Patrick's/Holy Cross Boy and Girl Scouts were recognized and earned religious awards.

The **sock hop** that ended Catholic Schools Week is already in the books, as is the **Preschool and Kindergarten Information Night**. If you're interested in having a child in pre-kindergarten or grades 1-8 attend

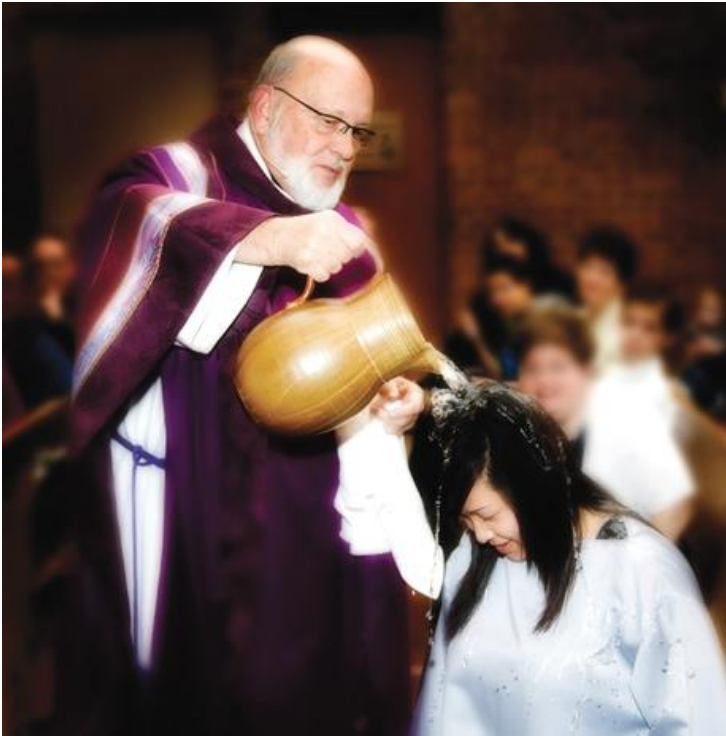
**Happenings** continued on page 9

### Second Quarter Honor Roll

<i>Highest Honors</i>	<i>High Honors</i>	<i>Honors</i>
Ian Peters	Josh Loftus	Zach Lewis
Lukas Perdekamp	Marissa Altaner	Cole Saunders
Emily Leininger	Kate McMillan	Jay Saunders
Ellen Loftus	Jasmine Waite	Elizabeth Stubbers
Maddy McCoy	Brandon Hood	Janey Thomas
Kaleb Leininger	Kylie Hopper	Parker Moore
	Joyson Kakinga	Sam Ramey
	Will Moore	Aiden Beckett
		Calum Beckett



## How Does an Adult Come to the Church?



son is not baptized again.)

The *Catechumenate* focuses on Catholic belief and practice. The catechumens learn about the sacraments and go deeper into prayer practices. At the Rite of Election catechumens who are ready declare their

intention to come into full communion with the Church. They sign their names in the Book of the Elect, and we pray for them at Mass each week. During Lent, catechumens experience the Scrutinies at Mass. Though it sounds frightening, it is actually a prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to examine their hearts, minds, and souls, to protect them from evil and free them from sin (prayers we also need for ourselves).

St. Mary and St. Patrick parishes work together through the RCIA process. Parishioners form a team to pray and teach – in English, Spanish, and Korean as needed. Classes usually begin in September and meet weekly through Easter.

Inquirers may come because a fiancé or spouse is Catholic, or perhaps they have witnessed the joy and peace of a friend's faith. Some arrive not really

knowing anyone Catholic, but having felt that pull of the Holy Spirit drawing them to the Church. Hearing and honoring the stories of their call and journeying with them is a great privilege for the team. It is inspiring and affirming to see adults spending time and energy in prayer and discernment about their faith.

As Lent begins, listen to see if God is calling you to be a sponsor; it's a wonderful occasion for renewed faith, an opportunity to share your love for God, and to learn more from an adult perspective. Please keep our catechumens and candidates in your prayers. Reflect on the call they have received and on your own call to be a light for the world. Welcome them at Easter and afterwards, and invite them to join in parish events; help them to become a real participant in parish life.

Would you be Catholic today if you had not been raised in the faith? What would bring you to the Catholic faith? What would it take to hear that prompting of the Holy Spirit? What concerns might you have? Each year adults come into the Church through the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA).

The rite includes several phases: *Inquiry* is a time to bring questions and discuss some of the basics of Christianity – who is Jesus, what is the Trinity? After the Inquiry phase, unbaptized inquirers become *catechumens* through the Rite of Acceptance – a prayer service that may also include the Rite of Welcoming for those who are already baptized. (The Church recognizes one baptism. If a person was baptized using the triune formula – “in the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit” – the per-

You are in  
God  
And always  
have been.  
All is in God.  
All is well.

## Who Are the Homeless from page 1

Planning Commission; and Jason Greenly of Courage Connection.

More than fifty folks settled into comfortable chairs in Trinity Hall, cradling cups of piping hot coffee, and balancing a selection of fruit and a pastry on one knee while they listened to the discussion and prepared to ask questions. The program had been advertised with the promise to stimulate “conversations around our fears, curiosities, and misconceptions about what it is like to provide care for homeless people.” The panel delivered on this promise and a feeling that Jesus was, there in the hall, speaking directly to the audience, was palpable.

So who are our “neighbors without an address”? All of the panelists agreed that they are just like the rest of us. The difference is that their particular struggles or obstacles have led to them losing or being unable to find a home. Mental illness and addiction are big factors in homelessness, as are domestic violence, poor health, disability, family disputes, job loss, low wages, and lack of affordable housing. Some homeless people don’t appear to be homeless because they are “couch-surfing” or being given temporary shelter by family or friends.

The Champaign County Continuum of Care is a consortium of agencies and governmental units committed to ending homeless in Champaign County. According to their survey dated January 28, 2016; 188 persons (including 30 children) in 146 households were home-



less in Champaign County. Of that number, 170 were sheltered while 18 were unsheltered. Of those surveyed, at least 5 individuals were classified as chronically homeless (i.e., homeless for over one year or 4 or more times in 3 years and having a disabling condition;

at least 23 persons were identified as having severe mental illness, 28 with substance abuse disorder, 2 with HIV/AIDS; 31

**Homeless** continued on page 5



*Panelist Jason Greenly answers an audience member's question.*



*Pastor Sheryl Palmer talks about her church hosting the men's winter shelter*

**Homeless** continued...



Panelist Lisa Benson talks with parishioner Jim Mayer

persons identified as victims of domestic violence; and 18 single men were identified as veterans.

So it would seem that that when Jesus was asking the audience to be his hands and his feet in Champaign County and minister to the poor, the unfortunate, the lonely, and the homeless, he did mean the 188 identified in this government statistic. The selfless people and organizations on the panel were also in that hall to offer us their hearts and eyes and ears to identify those neighbors whom we should love as ourselves.

For those interested in helping our “neighbors without an address,” the parish website, [stpaturbana.org](http://stpaturbana.org), has links to local organizations. There are also flyers in the bulletin and in the parish center with information on several volunteer opportunities. You can also contact pastoral associate Jim Urban at 367-2665 or [jim.urban@stpaturbana.org](mailto:jim.urban@stpaturbana.org) for information about the Peace and Justice Ministry’s group exploring these issues.

**St. Thomas More Minute**

The last week of January was Catholic Schools Week: students invited their parents for a pizza lunch, and the Parents Association treated the teachers and staff to a wonderful breakfast. We also found out that our 11th/12th grade AP English teacher, Krista Hinkley, received the Distinguished Teacher Award from the Diocese of Peoria and Dr. Howell, who teaches religion, was featured in the National Catholic Register.

On the last day of Catholic Schools Week, our seniors observed a Day of Service at such varied places as the Champaign

County Nursing Home, the Daily Bread Soup Kitchen, and the Crisis Nursery. In mid-January, a group of our students, along with Father Hoelscher, attended the March for Life in Washington, D.C. The fall list of Honors students included many of the twenty-two students from St Patrick’s Parish.

Please add to your calendar the dates March 9, 10, and 11 for STM’s spring musical, “Starmites”!

Several St. Patrick’s parishioners helped out at the CU at Home One Winter Night fundraiser on February 3.



**Q: Why do priests wear green in Ordinary Time?**

A: In the earliest Church, priests probably wore white year round. The original vesture for Mass was simply the formal attire of Roman gentlemen, which was white. As Christianity spread, the vestments worn by priests gradually grew more elaborate. The liturgical year developed, and colors came to be associated with different feasts and seasons. The colors varied with the culture, the availability of colored dyes, and local tradition.

It wasn’t until the early thirteenth century that Pope Innocent III established four official liturgical colors: green, white, red, and black. Rose and violet (or purple) were added in the sixteenth century. With the Second Vatican Council, these colors were retained.

As for green in Ordinary Time, or the season outside Advent, Lent, Christmas, and Easter seasons: This is a time when the Church focuses on the life and ministry of Jesus. The season celebrates the mysteries of Christ’s life and death and looks forward to the salvation and eternal life that he brings. Green represents hope, like the hope we feel when we see the first buds in springtime.

## You Are Invited to Share Your Musical Talents This Lent

St. Patrick's parishioners and their musical friends are invited to take part in a special Lenten musical event. On Saturday, April 1, at 7:30 p.m., at St Patrick's, there will be a performance of Gabriel Fauré's Requiem, Op. 48, accompanied by chamber orchestra and organ.

Before the performance, Dr. Chester Alwes, retired professor of choral music from the University of Illinois and current Music Director of the BACH (Baroque Artists of Champaign-Urbana) Choir, will offer a lecture.

St. Patrick's Musical Director, Frank Gallo, notes that he had the pleasure of studying and conducting the Fauré Requiem under the guidance of Grammy Award-winning conductor Robert Shafer. Maestro Shafer was a student of the preeminent 20th-century French pedagogue Nadia Boulanger, who was a student of Fauré's.

Rehearsals will be held every Sunday from 2-4 p.m., at St. Patrick's, beginning on Sunday, February 26 through Sunday,



*Dr. Chester Alwes*

March 26. There will also be a dress rehearsal on Friday, March 31, from 7-9:30 p.m. At the first rehearsal, scores will be available for purchase at \$10.00. The version being used is the 1893 version, edited by John Rutter and published by Oxford. If you would like to participate, please, as soon as possible, contact Frank Gallo at [franklin.gallo@stpaturbana.org](mailto:franklin.gallo@stpaturbana.org) with your name and voice part.

Be sure to mark your calendar for what promises to be a wonderful event.



*Gabriel Fauré*  
Source: Wikipedia

## What Is a Cursillo?

Cursillo is a Christian lay movement, open to all faiths; it started in the late Forties in Spain and came to the Diocese of Peoria in 1964. Cursillo in Spanish means "a short course"; a Cursillo weekend is a short course in Christianity.



Cursillo is designed to help a person come closer to Christ through a set of talks given by 10 laypeople and 5 clergy on such subjects as study, action, leadership, and more. The 5 lessons by clergy are about grace. Suggestions and guidelines are given to help a person get closer to Christ through one's friends and teammates. The weekends last from Thursday night until early Sunday evening.

Dick Baxley made his Cursillo weekend in 1992. He said, "It opened my eyes so that I became more involved in my parish, my community, and my own self-awareness of needing to get closer to Christ." Baxley observed that most people find Cursillo weekends very moving, and that they make long-lasting friendships with their fellow Cursillistas. Besides the group lessons, there is daily Mass as well as a lot of fun, fellowship, and great food.

Fr. Joe Hogan has welcomed

**Cursillo** continued on page 11

## Journey to PASCHA in the Orthodox Church

How similar are Orthodox and Catholic traditions for Lent? St. Jeanne Jugan Seniors learned about the spirituality of Pascha (Passover) in the Orthodox Church from Fr. James Ellison of St. Nicholas Antioch Church, Urbana, on February 1.

A beginning understanding is that fasting is more stringent in the Orthodox tradition. During the first week there is to be only one meal each on Wednesday and Friday. On Wednesday, the Orthodox tradition remembers the betrayal of Jesus, and on Friday, the Crucifixion. This is to prepare the members for an easier course during the remainder of Lent. "We set aside the noise of our bodies so we can better prepare for what should be our real life."

As a general guide for the balance of Lent: from Monday through Friday, Orthodox Christians abstain from meat, dairy, fish, wine, and oil. Week-day readings are entirely from Genesis (how we got started and into problems), Isaiah (hope for the future), and Proverbs (how to live).



Holy Week is an intense week of morning, afternoon, and evening traditions. Roman Catholics would recognize and understand the services while noting changes from our traditions. For example, on Holy Thursday, the morning liturgy focuses on the Last Supper and Foot Washing, and the evening service focuses on the Crucifixion.

St. Jeanne Jugan Seniors were left with ways to reflect on

and to enhance our Lenten journey this year. But before they moved on, the group sang Happy Birthday to Howard Erlandson (rumor has it that it was his 39<sup>th</sup>).

The next Seniors' meeting is at Perkins Restaurant (on University Avenue in Urbana) on Wednesday, March 1, at 11:30 a.m. Mike O'Brian will speak on Franciscan Spirituality. All are welcome.

### VOCATION PRAYER

Lord Jesus, when you were presented in the Temple,  
Simeon and Anna, who were privileged to see the day of your coming,  
announced your saving mission.

Bless in a special way those who have consecrated themselves  
to you and to the Church.

May they proclaim the Good News of your coming  
by their very lives, inspiring many others to follow you.

## St. Perpetua and St. Felicity: The Martyred Mothers

The story of St. Perpetua and St. Felicity is unique because Perpetua kept a diary of her time in prison. These writings were so popular that the names of Perpetua and Felicity were included in the early liturgies. Even today in our Mass, their names are invoked with other martyrs in the First Eucharistic Prayer.

Vibia Perpetua lived in Carthage, a part of the Roman Empire in present-day Tunisia. Well-educated and high-spirited, she was 22 years old, married, with a baby son. Felicity was a pregnant slave. Both young women became baptized Christians. However, in 203, Roman Emperor Septimus Severus forbade all imperial subjects from becoming Christians. The women were arrested along with three others. Their catechist, Saturus, had already been imprisoned.

The dark prison was suffocatingly hot. Deacons who ministered to the prisoners paid guards so that Perpetua and Felicity would be moved to a better part of the prison. Perpetua's mother and brother brought her baby son to stay with her. Perpetua wrote in her diary, "My prison suddenly became a palace to me."

Perpetua's father begged her to renounce Christianity. Perpetua pointed to a water jug, asking her father, "See that pot lying there? Can you call it by any other name than what it is?" Her father said no. Perpetua said, "Neither can I call myself by any other name than what I am - a Christian." Her father angrily took her baby son away



from her and left the prison.

Felicity worried that her child would not be born before the day of their execution. It was against Roman law for pregnant women to be executed, and Felicity didn't want her friends to go on their journey without her. Two days before the execution, she went into labor. Prison guards taunted her, saying, "If you think you suffer now, how will you stand it when you face the wild beasts?" Felicity calmly answered, "Now I'm the one who is suffering, but in the arena Another will be in me, suffering for me because

I will be suffering for Him." Her baby girl was adopted and raised by one of the Christian women of Carthage.

On the day of their martyrdom, Perpetua met the eyes of everyone along the way to the arena. She walked "with shining steps as the true wife of Christ, the darling of God." In the arena the men were attacked by bears, leopards, and wild boars. The women were stripped to face a rabid heifer. The crowds were horrified at this sight, so

**Sts. Perpetua and Felicity**  
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## Sts. Perpetua and Felicity

continued...

Perpetua and Felicity were clothed again, and stood side by side as their throats were cut. Perpetua's last words were for her brother, "Stand fast in the faith and love one another."

"The Passion of St. Perpetua, St. Felicity, and Their Companions" is one of the oldest and most notable early Christian texts. It is remembered on March 7 by the Roman Catholic Church, many orthodox churches, and the Anglican and Lutheran Churches. Perpetua and Felicity are the patron saints of mothers and expectant mothers. In this time of turmoil in the world with many refugees seeking safety, we beseech these saints to watch over the displaced mothers and their children.

## Happenings from page 2

Holy Cross next year, you can contact Principal Christina Ellis (217/356-9521) to schedule a tour.

If you plan on having your child attend Holy Cross next year and are in need of financial assistance, the first step is to apply for the John Lancaster Spalding Scholarship available through the Diocese of Peoria (visit [www.cdop.org](http://www.cdop.org) and click on Fi-

nancial Assistance under the Catholic Education tab). You will need to complete the FACTS Grant & Aid Application, which can be done online. **The applications are due Wednesday, March 15.**

Contact the parish office (367-2665) if you have any questions or if you need additional help getting your little one started at Holy Cross.

*Love cannot remain by itself,  
it has no meaning.  
Love has to be put into action,  
and that action is service.*

*—Mother Teresa of Calcutta*

### ***In Focus* needs your help!**



The future of our parish newsletter, *In Focus*, is in your hands. Two of our generous volunteer parishioners have had to resign, one from laying out pages for printing and another from editing.

**Page layout.** Only two volunteers are now available to prepare the newsletter for printing. They really need help from one or two parishioners to page a couple of issues a year. Templates, guidelines, schedules—all would be provided.

**Editing.** Our staff of five copy editors has been reduced to two volunteers who edit *In Focus*, preparing it for page layout. They need help from one or two volunteers to edit a couple of issues a year. We can provide a short list of editing guidelines, our schedules, and some interesting articles for editing on your PC.

**Can you help?** We can put you to work right away—and probably give you your choice of issues to work on! Please contact Denise Green ([dgree1@gmail.com](mailto:dgree1@gmail.com)). And thank you!

# Everyone Wins at the Super Bowl Breakfast

This year St. Patrick's Knights of Columbus tried a new twist to their annual Super Bowl Breakfast, held on February 5. Instead of the traditional rivalry between two teams serving different breakfast entrees, this year's breakfast presented a variety of dishes buffet-style. Parishioners enjoyed getting a chance to try any or all of the delicious choices.



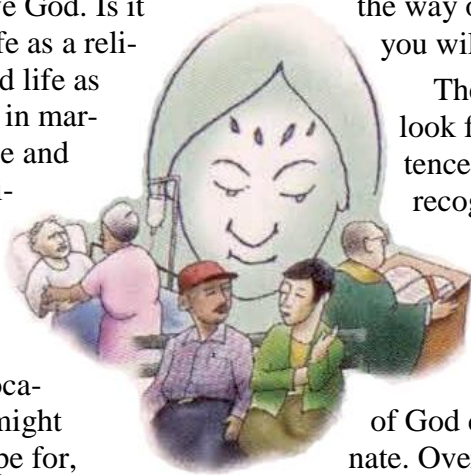
## Do You Have a Vocation?

Well, yes, everyone has a vocation—a calling—to love and serve God. More specifically, we must consider just how we are called to serve God. Is it in consecrated life as a religious, in ordained life as deacon or priest, in married life as spouse and parent, or in dedicated single life?

How are you to discern your calling—your vocation? First, you might ask what you hope for, what you feel called to do, what you are attracted to. The answers are frequently an excellent sign, though not a definitive one, that it is a right direction to follow. You might try to imagine yourself in different futures: which seems right for you?

What do you think will give you a sense of personal fulfillment? Not “Should I be a teacher?” but “Am I called to teach

as a layperson, or as a religious, or as an ordained deacon or priest?” Distinguish between what you may end up doing and the way of life in which you will do it.



There are signs to look for: the persistence of the call, recognition of the call, your personal response to it, an ongoing discernment of the call as the voice of God continues to resonate. Over time, learn to listen with your heart for the quiet call to come closer, to recognize it as the way in which God speaks to your heart.

In the end, your calling is a personal one. Explore the idea of it, how you feel about it, how it fits (or doesn't fit) with who you are or who you want to be. Then find someone to talk with, someone in whom you can freely confide your thoughts,

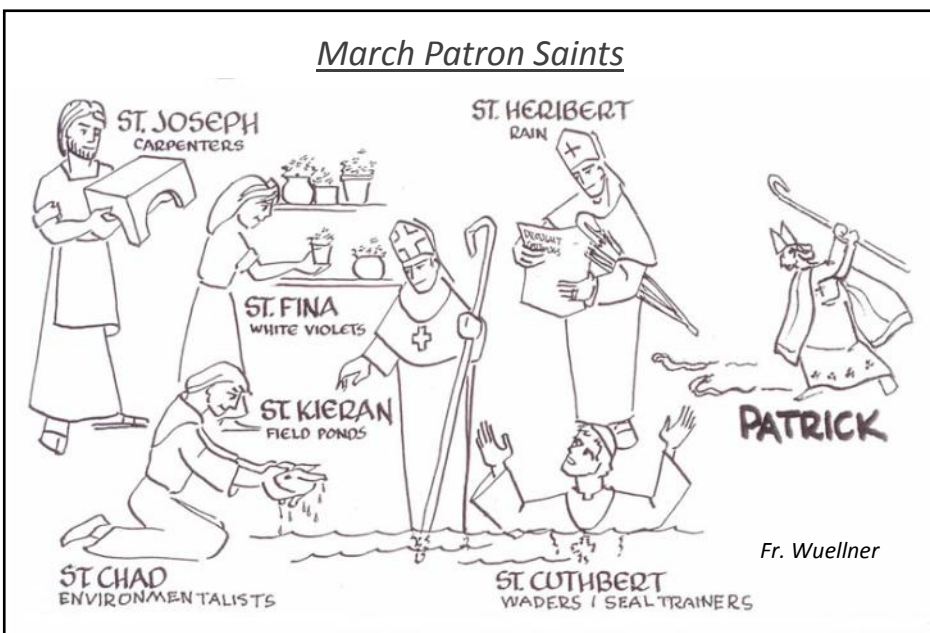
desires, feelings. This might be your parish priest, a parent or other relative, a close friend, a teacher. Ask many questions, but also listen and think long about what you've heard.

Most especially, bring your questions and desires to God and learn to listen to God's response.

### Cursillo from page 6

Cursillo to St. Patrick's. A men's weekend was held at St. Patrick's Feb. 23-26, and a women's weekend is planned for June 8-11. A number of people from the parish have made a Cursillo weekend, but if you would like more information feel free to call Dick Baxley (217/867-2682). You can also find a detailed website with a calendar of events and a newsletter at [www.champaigncursillo.com/FAQ](http://www.champaigncursillo.com/FAQ).

### March Patron Saints



Fr. Wuellner

Be still and know that I am God...

Be still and know that I am...

Be still and know...

Be still...

Be...

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

Lorraine Kim

### Veggie Mini Quiches

6 saltine crackers, finely crushed  
2 T grated Parmesan cheese  
2 c frozen broccoli florets  
1/2 c frozen whole kernel corn  
3/4 c shredded Cheddar cheese  
16-oz carton Egg Beaters

Generously spray 12 regular muffin cups with cooking spray. Mix together cracker crumbs and Parmesan cheese in small bowl; set aside. Place broccoli in medium microwave-able bowl with 1 tablespoon water; cover, microwave on high for 2 minutes; drain well and chop into small pieces. Spoon ingredients



evenly into muffin cups, first the broccoli, then the corn, crumb mixture, and Cheddar cheese. Pour Egg Beaters evenly over filled cups. Bake at 350 degrees for 18-22 minutes, or until puffed and knife inserted in the center comes out clean. Let stand 2 minutes, then run table knife around edges to loosen..

\* \* \*

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

## 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](mailto: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 Dick Baxley, Carol Conaghan, Frances Drone-Silvers, Judy Fierke, Frank Gallo, Denise Green, Elizabeth Hendricks, Lorraine Kim, Rachael McMillan, Eileen Mathy, Mary Lou Menches, Dan Richards, Cathy Salika, Patsy Schmitt, Adam Smith, and Shirley Splittstoesser. Patron Saints by Fr. George Wuellner. This issue was edited by Rick Partin, page layout by Yvona Vlach.



## St. Patrick's Day Party!

Get ready to celebrate our parish patron, the great St. Patrick, on **Sunday, March 12**, with fun, food, and fellowship in the parish hall. Contact Carol Conaghan (217-531-7004 or [carol.conaghan@stpaturbana.org](mailto:carol.conaghan@stpaturbana.org)) to volunteer for setup, baking, or welcoming guests.



The deadline for submitting information, articles, and news items for the next (April) issue of *In Focus* is **March 12**.

## Q&A from page 5

This is the reason the modern Church gives for the wearing of green during Ordinary Time. However, the reason might have had a more practical basis. Ordinary Time is the longest of the liturgical seasons, and green plant dyes would have been one of the most widely available kinds of dyes. The color does bring to mind the tender new shoots of spring and the lush grasses and summer crops that sustain animals and people throughout the year, leading naturally to looking upon green as a sign of hope and life. And so it does.