

# St. Patrick Parish IN FOCUS

www.stpaturbana.org

September 2018

## Prayer is like . . . drawing breath

Is it hard to breathe in? Sometimes yes, if you have asthma, a cold, or another illness. But most of the time it's hard not to take a breath. And you've been doing it every day of your life!

Prayer is like that. Sometimes something stops up your head or your heart. It might be fear, or distraction, or tension, or worry. Or it could be that you just don't make the time to pray, to practice it, to be ready to go along with the many different ways that God might lead you in your prayer. Sometimes it is very hard to pray, even for great saints. It's always okay to ask for help, from God and from someone else you trust.

It can be hard not to pray. Prayer can be our deepest joy, our greatest desire, because in prayer we spend time with the One who loves us completely and knows us through and through. Sometimes we know our need for God and turn to God with confidence. Sometimes we lift

up to God the needs of people who are close to us or the needs of the world, trusting God to do what we cannot. Sometimes we simply enjoy the quiet pleasure of God's company. Sometimes we are full of awe that spills over into praise.



It's hard not to pray because, as the saying goes, "Actions speak louder than words." Everything that we do speaks to God about our relationship with him. Many times we're not paying attention to what our actions are saying, but being kind to someone because God is kind to you, or using your creativity knowing that the Creator blessed you with it, or working hard with the strength given to you by the Mighty One, or resting because God wants you to rest – these are all a part of the dialog of loving prayer between God and you.

Prayer is the everyday stuff of our life with God. It is hard not to pray because the presence of God makes the difficult things of this life – sickness, tragedy, betrayal, death – more bearable. Often prayer eases suffering, often it gives us purpose, always God is with us. The presence of God in our lives makes the beauty of the world, of friendships, of all the good things in this life even more beautiful. It deepens the joy that God wants us to have. Prayer prepares us to live with God, now and forever!

## Find many ways to serve at the Opportunity Fair

*For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.*

—Matthew 25:36-7

Do you feel called to help care for the homeless, the hungry, the elderly, the migrant, the prisoner, the family in crisis, the environment, but don't know how or where to start? St. Patrick's Peace and Justice Ministry's Opportunity Fair will help you learn about and connect with



a number of organizations in the parish and the local community that need volunteers.

Whether you are looking for hands-on service or prefer to offer behind-the-scenes support, there are many ways for you to serve those in need. Representatives and information will be available from local organizations including Faith in Place, Salt & Light, empty tomb, Books to Prisoners, Wesley Food Pantry, Crisis Nursery, C-U At Home, CU FAIR, Courage Connection, Austin's Place, Illini Christian Ministries, and others. In addition, St. Patrick's

see **Opportunity Fair** on page 4

Supplement



Report on CREW's  
Mission Trip Inside!

## "I Wanna Say Yes" just like Mary did

About 65 children (ages 4 through 10) attended Vacation Bible School at St. Patrick's during the week of July 25 through the 29. The theme this year was "Cool Kingdom Party: Mary Leads Us Closer to Jesus"; the focus was on Mary and how she said yes to God. In fact, one of the songs that the children frequently sang during Vacation Bible School was "I Wanna Say Yes," which focused on how Mary said yes to God when he asked her to be the mother of Jesus.

Each day began with a gathering in the main hall of the parish center where we would sing one of the songs that the children were to learn that day. After the song, the teens who were helping with Vacation Bible School performed a skit. Finally, the gathering ended with a demonstration that highlighted a virtue of the day. In addition to the virtue of the day, the opening activities and each station also had a theme of the day that was highlighted.

After the gathering in the main hall, the children went to different stations for 20 minutes each. The stations were the Faith Station, which included a Bible story about Mary and a saint of the day; the Craft Station, where the children made treasure chests, crowns, and Yes banners; the Music Station, where they learned "I Wanna Say Yes" and other songs; a Game Station, where they participated in relay races and played with hula hoops and a giant Jenga set; and finally, the Snack station, where they refueled for their next adventure. The day concluded with Mass before they went home to show their parents what they learned that day.

Thank you to all of the teens and adults who helped make our Vacation Bible School such a wonderful experience for our children! Also, thanks to all of the parents who sent their children to participate in our VBS this year.

Just a reminder: religious education starts again in September. Religious education is for children as young as 4 years of age and all through high school. We look forward to seeing your child or teen in the fall!



## St. Jeanne Jugan group enjoyed a summer of outings

A group of St. Jeanne Jugan seniors and friends enjoyed a delicious home-cooked buffet on Wednesday,

June 20, at the Myer's Christian Dinner Theater in Hillsboro, Indiana, followed by a light-hearted matinee

performance of the romantic musical "She Loves Me" by a very talented and professional cast.



*Ginny Conron, Margaret Bronson, Donna Dalbey, Freda DeCerbo, Chuck Milewski, Cheryl Milewski, Dorothea Smith, Nancy Haessly, Velma Gadbury*

If you joined the group for lunch on July 10 at Attie's Bar and Grill, you heard an interesting presentation by Greta Henry, Director of the Champaign Ministries for Living Alternatives, Pregnancy Resource Center, about the center's mission and activities.

And on August 14, Chris Curtis, son of Paul Curtis of Curtis Orchard, shared information and experiences involving his Civil War hobby.



## Parish Council News

Creating a new parish mission statement was quite a process – but one that was clearly led by the Spirit! By the numbers:

1. 470 surveys
2. 200+ pages of research from ministry groups, Parish Council members, staff members, parishioners
3. 10 months' work
4. 6 drafts
5. 1 mission statement

During the Parish Council's retreat in August 2017, Fr. Luke suggested that the Council update St. Patrick's mission statement. He commented that we needed to figure out who we are, what we want to do, and why we want to do it – in other words, create a new mission statement. The mission statement had last been updated in 1992.

The development process, which lasted ten months, was done in three phases. The first consisted of extensive research and the synthesis of the research. In the fall, the Council distributed a survey to the whole parish to determine who we are as a parish. It was important for everyone to have a voice in this process!

The Council members then reflected on the parish, discussing its strengths and weaknesses and what we wanted and did not want the parish to be. Last winter, the Parish Council gave questionnaires to ministry groups, asking them to reflect on the group's mission and to make suggestions about St. Patrick's mission. The reflection, questionnaires, and interviews generated more than 200 pages of research.

The final step in this phase was finding common threads among the input received from the many ministry groups and parishioners, which identified St. Patrick's as a welcoming, diverse parish with purposes of sharing Christ's love, serving others, and nurturing faith.

The second phase consisted of a day-long workshop for Council members facilitated by parishioner Jenn LaMontagne, who guided us through several exercises to brainstorm potential mission statements. She started by having us discuss what we do, why we do it, and what we value.



She asked each of us to tell a story of what it looks like when we are doing our best work, and identify the specific cause, action, and impact in the story. The following cause, actions, and impacts were frequently mentioned:

- Cause:* People want to grow in relationship with God and with others
- Action:* discipleship in action  
living Christ's love in the real world  
encounter thru the sacraments  
sharing life in Christ  
accepting: loving for who God made others/you to be  
modeling Christ
- Impact:* growing in faith, community love  
changing (whole person, physically, psych, socially, spiritually)  
joyful community  
generosity/giving back  
freedom in our identity in Christ  
outpouring of grace

After this exercise, Jenn divided the Council members into groups, each group to compose a mission statement. The statement had to include the people the parish wanted to reach, the action to be taken, and the result desired through the action.

In phase three, the Council developed six potential mission statements. All six statements had significant overlap. All six had the same people, actions, and impacts, but were merely phrased differently. It was gratifying to see that we all identified the same things as the heart of St. Patrick's parish. All of the mission statements mentioned in some way the importance of helping people grow closer to God through sacraments and living the life of Christ.

Finally, the Council members voted, choosing the following as the wording of a new parish mission statement:

**Growing God's family by living the love of Christ through sacraments, service, and a joyful, welcoming community.**

## Meet our new Parish Trustees

Fr. Luke recently appointed two parishioners, George Fahey and Pat Justice, to serve as parish trustees. Parish trustees serve a term of five years and are ex-officio voting members of the Parish Council. In Focus interviewed our trustees to get their thoughts on their new roles.

When asked what he sees as the role of a trustee, George answered: "Technically, the trustee moni-

tors parish activities, broadly defined, and is responsible for signing off on documents of importance, many having to do with financial matters." He added, "Having known many of the parish trustees over the years, my observation is that the activities of a trustee are guided in large part by the

see **New Trustees** on page 4



George Fahey



Pat Justice

## New Trustees

from page 3

pastor.”

Pat’s interpretation of her responsibilities is “to serve our pastor and parishioners by listening, advising, and praying. The key is to be open-minded, curious, flexible, and at times nimble.”

Fr. Luke was asked to give his thoughts regarding his selection of the new trustees. Interestingly, without knowing their unique responses to the question about the responsibilities of a trustee, he identified in Pat and George “a balance of the practical and spiritual, which I think will benefit our parish greatly in the future.” He cited Pat’s work with both the pastoral care team at OSF Hospital and St. Patrick’s youth ministry when describing her “tender heart for those in difficult situations and a great awareness of how individuals are affected.” Father cited George’s work with our consolation ministry and outreach to the home-

bound as experience that will serve him well in his role as trustee, as well as his “great lived history here in our parish.”

Both Pat and George have been members of St. Patrick Church for a good number of years – 42 for George, 33 for Pat – and both previously served on the Parish Council as elected members in the 1980s.

In their new roles as trustees, Pat and George hope to be of service to both the pastor and the people of St. Patrick’s. George stated, “As trustee, I first and foremost will be a source of encouragement to the pastor, the parish staff, the Parish Council, the many committees and groups within the parish, and all of our parishioners in general. I’m hopeful that people will feel comfortable discussing issues with me that I can then take up the line to the pastor, staff, etc.” He added: “It is a real honor to be a parish trustee, and I feel blessed to have been asked to serve.”

Likewise, Pat said that her goals are “to be available and approach-

able...and to have strength, courage, wisdom, and compassion.” She summarized her thoughts on being selected as a trustee by saying, “St. Pat’s has supported my family in many ways over the past three-plus decades. It is a privilege to serve as a trustee and to be given an opportunity to ‘give back’ to our parish community, which has enriched my life in so many ways.”

## Opportunity Fair

from page 1

St. Vincent de Paul Society will offer information about new opportunities being developed.

The Opportunity Fair will held in the main hall of the parish center after 5:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday, September 8, and after all Masses on Sunday, September 9. Check the bulletin for a full list of participating organizations. Find out how you can answer the call to serve!

## The Bread Monk is coming!

What do baking bread and having a healthy spiritual life have in common? How do the steps of baking bread – stirring, kneading, resting/raising, shaping, baking – correlate with deepening our spiritual selves?

Come join the Women of St. Patrick on October 6, when Fr. Dominic Garramone, “the Bread Monk,” comes to St. Patrick’s to lead us on a baking adventure and teach us how to see baking as a blessing.

Fr. Dom is a Benedictine monk of St. Bede Abbey in Peru, Illinois, a teacher at St. Bede Academy, an author and creator of the PBS show “Breaking Bread with Fr. Dominic.” His books include *Bake and*



*Be Blessed, The Breadhead Bible:*

*Fr. Dominic’s Favorite Recipes, and Thursday Night Pizza: Fr. Dominic’s Favorite Pizza Recipes* – among others. He will share the tips and tricks

of baking bread in a joyful, playful, skillful way. Along the way, if we are listening carefully, we will hear some words of spiritual wisdom as well.

The main hall of the parish center will be filled with love, laughter, and the savory fragrance of baking bread with Fr. Dom. Fr. Dom encourages us to

bring our children, parents, grandparents, sisters, brothers, and friends to spend this time together. There

will be prizes for some lucky folks and fun for all.

There is no charge to attend this lively and enriching program. However, Fr. Dom will have a basket out for free-will offerings. The offerings from our morning will be “paid forward” to fund his next presentation in another parish around the diocese or the state.

Because we need to arrange for adequate seating and a method for awarding prizes, those who plan to attend will be asked to pick up a free ticket, available in September. Watch the bulletin for details and plan to come on October 6. Doors will open at 9:30 a.m., and the program will begin at 10:00.

Fr. Dom will preside at our 8:00 a.m. Saturday Mass for anyone who would like to start the morning with the sacred liturgy. Come one, come all. Taste and see that the Lord – and Fr. Dom’s bread – are indeed good!

## Catholic Heart Work Camp came to work, and did they ever!

During the week of June 18, a team of five Catholic teens visited St. Patrick's to help with several projects around the parish. These teens were part of a larger group of 230 teens and adults from all over the nation who were participating in the Catholic Heart Work Camp that visited the Champaign-Urbana area. Just to give you an idea of the popularity of Catholic Heart Work Camps, over 10,000 teens will participate at 40 different locations throughout the United States this summer.

Each team worked at various sites around the area, which included parishes, homes of residents of limited means, and social service agency sites, and then gathered at the High School of St. Thomas More once their work-day was finished.

The team that visited St. Patrick's was made up of the following teens who will be college freshmen in the fall: Calvin Alexander Davis (Atlanta, Georgia); Alex Strobel (Nashville, Tennessee); McKenna Wilson (Cleveland, Ohio); Emily MacKennon (Detroit, Michigan); and Will Esenboch (Lexington, Kentucky).

Each group had an adult supervisor at their work sites. Our team's adult was Al Madden, a U of I graduate who currently resides in Arlington Heights, Illinois. The team was also helped by seminarian Daniel Delgado and led by parishioner Craig Goad, who helped the Catholic Heart team complete several projects here.

At the parish, the Catholic Heart team's first project was painting the light poles along the sidewalk between the south entrance of the church and the parish center. The teens also cleaned and helped with some much needed reorganizing. They tidied up our food pantry and moved several boxes of documents from the church basement for shredding. To help reorganize our storage area in Trinity Hall, the teens put together several shelving units and then neatly arranged the items in the closet.

The team also visited the new parish rectory, where they pulled weeds and mulched the flowerbeds. In addition, they constructed an 8x12-foot patio, tilling and leveling the



ground, laying the pavers, and filling the spaces between the pavers with sand. They also made the rectory more welcoming by painting the trim on the front door.

St. Patrick's is very grateful to the team for all of their hard work. A special thanks to Craig Goad for serving as parish liaison and working with the teens during the week.

For more information about the Catholic Heart Work Camp, you can visit their website at [heartworkcamp.com](http://heartworkcamp.com).

## A message from our Parish Nurses

The mission of Parish Nursing is the integration of the practice of faith with the practice of nursing to promote wellness in body, mind, and spirit. Current parish nurses for St. Patrick's are Roxanne Lowry, Phyllis Rogers, Marie Horn, Diane Cousert, Teresa Krassa, Nancy Roth, Carla Kurtz, Teresa Hoye, and Barb Schurter. All Parish Nurses are registered nurses (RNs) who have completed additional training in parish nursing.

One of our Parish Nurse offerings is the monthly blood pressure



screening. They are available at this time not only to check your blood pressure, but also to answer questions or discuss any health issues you may be experiencing. They also enjoy getting to know our parishioners, so feel free to stop by and introduce yourself! Also keep an eye out for information, coming soon,

about the annual health fair sponsored by the Parish Nurses.

As health counselors and educators, community resource liaisons and facilitators, our Parish Nurses are here to assist parishioners to

become more aware of their health and to move towards a fuller sense of wholeness. You may contact them at any time by calling 367-2665, extension 130, and leaving a message. They check their messages regularly and will return your call to answer questions, discuss your concerns, or arrange a visit.

If you are experiencing an emergency situation, please call 911. The Parish Nurses are not meant to replace or duplicate health care you already receive, but rather to complement it through advocacy, bonding, and prayer.



## Register to vote!

The Peace and Justice Ministry will be holding a Voter Registration Drive in the Gathering Space of the church after each Mass during the weekend of September 15 and 16. There will also be a table set up in Coffee Shop that Sunday.

This drive is open to parishioners as well as the general public. If you are not registered to vote, you are encouraged to stop by and register. A special invitation has been extended to our neighbor churches as well.

This is a perfect opportunity to encourage the 18-year-old or older in your family to become a registered voter. The process takes just a few minutes and is non-intimidating.

If you know a new citizen in the community who might see registering to vote as a daunting task, please invite them to come to the Gathering Space after any of the Masses to register to vote. Friendly parishioners will guide them through the simple process.

Parishioner Jean-Phillippe Mathy became a U.S. citizen in March



*Isaiah Unander at 18, the first time he was able to vote.*

2012. The first time he voted in a U.S. election was in the November 2012 election. Jean-Phillippe recalls, "My wife Eileen and I went together. There was a long line of people waiting to vote. I knew some of

them. They were all very patient. The atmosphere seemed to me very solemn and important. There was a sense that I was part of a larger whole – it made my naturalization eight months earlier really concrete and tangible."

Jean-Phillippe continued to reflect on the importance of voting: "Politics have a big impact on the way we experience our lives, and the future we create for our children and grandchildren, and for other people as well. Voting gives us an opportunity to participate in deciding what kind of society we want to live in."



*Jean-Phillippe Mathy is sworn in as a U.S. citizen in 2012.*

### Vocation Prayer

Loving Father, I would do wonderful things for you, give my life for you. But you ask instead for a life of service. Father, I will follow where you lead, listen for your guidance in how to live, look for you in those I serve, share with others the gifts you've given me. All I ask is for your presence as I try to follow where you lead. I love you, Father – stay with me!

## First we pray: a new approach to Time and Talent recruitment

Every August St. Patrick's kicks off ministry and committee activity with the Time & Talent recruitment. This year we will start by introducing the



new Parish Mission Statement and a commitment to increase prayer in our lives.

Father Luke will preach on prayer in

his mid-August homilies. All parishioners will be invited to experience a variety of devotional and meditation methods on August 22 at 7 p.m. and on August 25 at 9 a.m. During the August 25-26 Masses parishioners will be invited to make a pledge of their prayer commitments.

As the Parish Mission Statement says, we strive to "grow God's family by living the love of Christ through sacraments, service, and a joyful, welcoming community." After parishioners have been encouraged to grow spiritually through prayer, they will be encouraged to grow in their service through Time and Talent signups. A new approach will be used this year: Worship, Stewardship, Faith & Spiritual Development, Peace & Justice, and Parish Community Life groups will be featured in successive weeks in our weekly bulletins, in presentations at Mass, and at immediate signups in the Gathering Space after each Mass.

Look for specifics in the weekly bulletins and on the parish website at <https://stpaturbana.weebly.com/get-involved.html> for information about ministry teams and parish committees.

Everyone is invited to participate, to grow in Faith and a life of service at St. Patrick's!

## Getting around St. Patrick's

Welcome to St. Patrick's! Here are some tips to help you find your way around.

### Handicapped Access

You can park on the Busey Street side of the church and enter through the Main Street door. Or you can park in the lot on the north side of the buildings and enter through the handicap door to the church. For many events, the door to the parish center is also unlocked and has a handicap button to open it.

If you enter the church from the parking lot, you'll be at the right level for the parish center, the location of staff offices, meeting spaces, and the main hall. You'll see a wide staircase leading up to the church. Off to the right is an elevator, which will take you up to the church or down to Trinity Hall.

In the church, if you sit in the front pew, the Communion ministers will come to you. There is room for wheelchairs near the front of each section of pews, near the back, and along the side aisles. An usher will be happy to help you find a place.

### Meeting Spaces

There are two large meeting spaces. Trinity Hall is located below the church. You can get there via stairs or the elevator. The main hall is in the heart of the parish center, past the secretary's office and the kitchen.

The Trinity Hall foyer is below the church, just outside Trinity Hall itself.

There are six classrooms, named for saints. St. Mary and St. Joseph are at the east end of the main hall. Sts. Mathew, Mark, Luke, and John are in the hallway to the north of the main hall.

The Lounge is located in the parish center near the secretary's office.

### Other Important Locations

The Gathering Space is at the bottom of the stairs that lead up to the church.

Defibrillators are available for cardiac emergencies. One is in the church, near the organ. The other is in the main hall, along the north wall.

A supply of holy water is available in the church, to the right of the sanctuary, near the image of the Baptism of Jesus.

Want to receive *In Focus* by email?

Join our email list to receive a monthly notification when a new issue of *In Focus* is published, with a link to it on the parish website (stpaturbana.org). Go to <http://eepurl.com/duJdY1> and sign up – it's that easy! You can also find on the parish website all issues of the newsletter that have been published during the current year.

## Break bread with our neighbors at the Friends Dinner

The Friends of the SVDP Food Pantry Dinner (also called the Friends Dinner) was created so that food pantry volunteers and other parishioners can share a meal with our neighbors who use the food pantry and get to know them better. The first dinner was held in 2010 and over the years both guests and volunteers have greatly enjoyed the food and fellowship of the dinners. Past volunteers have written of their experiences:

*I think I just made a bunch of new friends!*

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

*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 realized how much I take for granted at every meal that I set before myself daily. It was a gift from the Holy Spirit to see how being fed from kindness differs from being fed from hunger.*



The 2018 Friends Dinner will be held on Tuesday, September 25. Doors will open to guests at 5:00 p.m. and dinner will be served until 6:30 p.m. Dinner organizers Denise Freidhof and Elizabeth Hendricks hope everyone in the parish will consider taking part in this event. There are many volunteer opportunities available, including making reminder telephone calls ahead of the dinner, setting up, greeting guests, hosting at tables, serving food and drink, cleaning up, and, of course, bringing the food! Fried chicken and ham will be provided but the rest of the dishes are donated by generous parishioners.

Sign-ups for volunteering and providing food will begin in early September. Watch the bulletin and ministry emails for more information and links to on-line signups. If you have questions, you can email Elizabeth (elizabethwalhend@gmail.com).

Come to meet some of the people our parish is blessed to serve!



**Q: What is intinction? My dictionary says it has something to do with receiving Holy Communion under both forms. Don't we already do that?**

**A:** The dictionary has it right, intinction refers to the practice of dipping a consecrated host into the Precious Blood and giving it to the communicant. But it's a little more complicated than that.

As the *General Instruction for the Roman Missal* states, "If Communion from the chalice is carried out by intinction, each communicant, holding a communion-plate under the chin, approaches the priest who holds a vessel with the sacred particles, a minister standing at his side and holding the chalice. The priest takes a host, dips it partly into the chalice and, showing it, says *Corpus et Sanguis Christi [The Body and Blood of Christ]*. The communicant responds Amen, receives the Sacrament in the mouth from the priest, and then withdraws."

It goes on to say, "If Communion is carried out by intinction, the hosts should be neither too thin nor too small, but rather a little thicker than usual, so that after being dipped partly into the Blood of Christ they can still easily be distributed to each communicant."

Basically, the practice of intinction is receiving Holy Communion under both forms at the same time. This practice is permitted by the Church (in fact, it's fairly common among the Eastern Catholic Churches). Why, then, is it not more common here?

As you might expect, there are some very practical reasons. The process is a little complicated: a couple of people are needed to hold things, and a great deal of care is taken to be reverent to our Lord. Some parishes regularly use the patens (plates with a handle that the servers hold to catch any particles of the host that might fall) to help ensure reverence. In the case of intinction, these plates are used to

catch any drops of our Lord's Precious Blood that might fall.

Of course, just as every particle of the host is Jesus, so too every drop of the Precious Blood is Christ, full and complete, Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity. With every person that receives Communion in this way there is a risk of a drop of Precious blood falling to the floor – a very important spiritual and practical concern!

There are other practical concerns: With intinction, people would be able to receive Communion only on the tongue, and all people would always receive Communion in this way (unless the person somehow indicates to the priest which of the forms he wishes to receive). Because of these practical concerns, receiving Communion in this way is rare in our part of the world.

Another reason this is rare is to avoid a common error – the practice of self-intinction, where the person himself dips the host in the chalice. Although the instruction above says the *priest* administers Communion in this way, there are some places where the *communicants* themselves erroneously practice self-intinction.

To address this confusion, in 2004 the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments wrote, in *Redemptionis Sacramentum*, "The norms of the Roman Missal admit the principle that in cases where Communion is administered under both kinds, the Blood of the Lord may be received either by drinking from the chalice directly,

or by intinction.... If [intinction] is employed, however, hosts should be used which are neither too thin nor too small, and the communicant should receive the Sacrament from the Priest only on the tongue." Continuing, "The communicant must not be permitted to intinct the host himself in the chalice, nor to receive the intincted host in the hand."

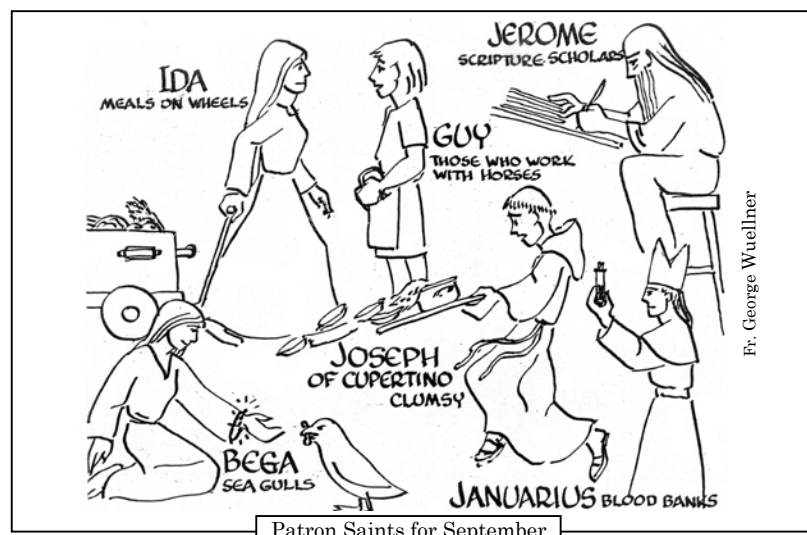
As you might expect, there is spiritual reasoning behind this. As Fr. Stanley Deptula, director of the Office of Divine Worship for the Diocese of Peoria notes, "We ALL receive Sacraments – they are never just out there for our taking. Self-intincting would be similar to just leaving the chalice on the altar and saying 'help yourself' or just having a bucket of water and inviting people to baptize themselves. The action of self-intincting is, basically, self-communicating. Only a priest gives himself Communion – because he has first received the Sacrament of Holy Orders from the Church."

This is why we always speak of the Sacraments as receiving them. The Sacraments are gifts from the Lord given to us for our spiritual benefit; the proper way of experiencing these gifts is not by taking them but by receiving them.

—Fr. Luke

\* \* \*

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



Patron Saints for September



## "Through this holy anointing..."

Dedicating a special Mass to the celebration of the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, followed by a simple soup lunch, has become a semiannual tradition at St. Patrick over the past several years. This fall the anointing will take place on September 11 at 10:30 a.m.



Placing the Sacrament in the context of a Mass dedicated to praying together for healing and comfort surrounds the anointing itself with an atmosphere that focuses on this specific purpose. The anointing is offered for all those in need of healing of mind, body, or spirit, for those with current or chronic physical or mental illness, impending surgery, or infirmities of old age. It may be received as often as necessary.

The oil used, the Oil of the Infirm, is blessed by the bishop each year at the Chrism Mass, which takes place in Peoria early in Holy Week. With each person to be anointed, Fr. Luke spends a moment in quiet prayer, placing his hands gently on the person's head. Then he dips his thumb in the oil to make the Sign of the Cross on the forehead while saying, "Through this holy anointing, may the Lord in his love and mercy help you with the grace of the Holy Spirit." The person then extends both hands slightly with palms up, and Father makes the Sign of the Cross on each palm with the holy oil while praying, "May the Lord who frees you from sin save you and raise you up."

Parishioners from the Ministry of Consolation stand with each recipient during the anointing, silently adding their prayers to those of the priest. Others present in church also add their prayers and lift their voices in song while the anointing takes place.

Do physical healings take place as a result of the anointing? They sometimes do, but more often the grace of the Sacrament comes in the form of peace, joy, and the strength to endure.

All who feel need of this Sacrament are encouraged to come for the Mass and stay for the fellowship that follows.

## St. Patrick Parish IN FOCUS

**St. Patrick's Parish In Focus** is published on the last weekend of the month in Urbana, Illinois. 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](mailto: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. Bylines are generally omitted.

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**Articles, information and photos** for this issue were provided by Mardia Bishop, Carol Bosley, Denise Green, Elizabeth Hendricks, Rosemary Laughlin, Mary Long, Jon McCoy, Rachael McMillan, Eileen Mathy, Mary Lou Menches, Chuck Milewski, Nancy Olson, Nancy Roth, Cathy Salika, Adam Smith, Fr. Luke Spannagel, and Cecelia Weir. Patron Saints by Fr. George Wuellner. This issue was edited by Mary Lou Menches, page layout by John Colombo.

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

#### Sky Lemon Pie

- 1 qt vanilla ice cream
- 1 6-oz can lemonade concentrate
- 1 baked or graham cracker pie shell
- 1 Hershey bar



Soften ice cream, add thawed lemonade concentrate. Stir until blended. Pour into baked or graham cracker pie shell. Freeze. Just before serving, shred chocolate bar over top. Cut into wedges. Very good and easy!

\* \* \*

*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!*



Deadline for submission of information, articles and news items for the next issue of *In Focus* is **September 9**.

# CREW ON MISSION 2018

*Supplement*

This year the Mission Trip returned to Young People Who Care (YPWC) Ministries, run by the Anawim Community in Frenchville, Pennsylvania. Eighteen teens made the trip: Sarah Acklin, Jakob Arend, Sam Arend, Brooke Berry, Katelyn Berry, Ellie D'Andria, Sophie Dowling, Karlee Feinen, Josiah Freedman, Luke Herzog, Erinn Miller, Johnson Nguyen, Paul Nguyen, Alyssa Pankau, Kayley Schacht, Noelle Schacht, Justin Smith, Nadine Trapp.

The teens were accompanied by seven chaperons: Patrick Hatch, Randy Pankau, Lesley Schacht, Adam Smith, Chris Freidhof, Denise Freidhof, Pat Justice, and Cora Rink. They were students from Urbana HS, St. Joseph-Ogden HS, Central HS, Centennial HS, and the HS of St.

Thomas More.

Frenchville is about nine hours east of Champaign in the Pennsylvania Appalachians. The mission-trippers went to Mass at St. Patrick's on Saturday, July 14, and left on Sunday morning bright and early at 6:00 a.m. They spent four full days working throughout the Clearfield County area. A typical day started off with breakfast made by the home group, morning prayer, job assignments, work, dinner, quiet hour, recreation, and evening prayer.

One of the highlights this year was celebrating Mass on top of the mountain behind the Anawim Community. On the morning of July 20, they enjoyed a day of fun and rollercoasters at Cedar Point amusement park in Sandusky, Ohio, before

heading for home.

The St. Patrick's group joined members of two other parishes, one from New York State and one from Pennsylvania, patching roofs, installing new porch shingles, visiting with nursing home residents, painting a gazebo, cleaning out lots of old items at the Good Samaritan Center Furniture Center warehouse, repairing cow pens for a retired deacon who is also a farmer, building new steps, cleaning houses for the homebound, and picking lots of blueberries that the sisters of the Anawim Community would turn into preserves and sell to support their ministries.

Two of the teens have written about their experiences during this trip.





Sam Arend described some of the work he did during this, his third Mission Trip. On Monday, he worked doing odd jobs around the YPWC grounds and sorting blueberries. Tuesday, at a place known as the Good Samaritan, he worked alongside teenagers from other places. “Our main task was breaking up old furniture in preparation for burning. The valuable bits of furniture are beautifully restored and later sold to benefit their homeless shelter.”

Sam writes that a highlight of his trip was “helping an old and forgetful woman by the name of Cathy. Charlie (the youth coordinator at YPWC) and I helped Cathy move her mattresses and bed frame around to her liking. The job was the easiest and quickest I did all week, but the most rewarding. As I prepared to



“Over the course of the week, I made numerous friends and met awesome people who had decided to spend a week helping others.

Through basketball, volleyball, a river swim, Euchre, and board games like Blokus, I bonded and made memories with teens from other parishes but also some from my own that I hadn’t previously gotten to know.”

Of the work, Jakob says, “Over the course of the week I worked just about every job there was, from painting to cleaning moss, hauling logs, and installing a new window. I felt that I got just as much

out of the experience as the people I was helping did. One experience that especially stuck with me was helping Deacon Bob, a man who must have been eighty-something yet still managed to use a chainsaw like I’d never seen before. After I had hauled about ten trees he’d felled, we sat down for some soup that his wife, Dot, had prepared for us. While sitting and talking with them over lunch. I became aware that they

needed company just as much as they needed physical help around their farm, reminding me that there are a lot more ways to help someone than just providing them with physical assistance.”

Ultimately, what did our teens get out of this Mission Trip? Sam says, “I believe I grew spiritually on this trip in ways I had not experienced before. I found the mountains, trees, and overall scenery to be very peaceful. Especially during quiet hour each day I liked to sit outside and observe life around me, taking everything in. I was able to pray at times like this far more easily and more naturally than previously. This culminated on Wednesday evening when, behind our bunkhouse on a clear and perfect night, the Milky

Way was easily visible to the naked eye and God seemed very close at hand.”

Jakob says, “Putting others’ needs before my own is the quickest way I’ve found to come closer to Jesus. Getting my focus off of myself enables me to focus more on God and on God’s love for the poor. Additionally, through morning prayer, quiet hour reflection, and planning night prayer, I became more interested in exploring my own faith. Over the course of



leave, Charlie and Cathy stayed to talk for a while, with Cathy preparing a drink for us. I chose to accept Cathy’s gift of a glass of iced tea, despite not being thirsty. Once I had accepted her gift, it became evident in her eyes that my acceptance had helped her to relax. Her speech toward me became much more clear and free-flowing, and I understood that I had for the first time been recognized as a friend and was no longer a stranger in her home. It was a humbling experience.”

Jakob Arend, on his second Mission trip to YPWC, enjoyed catching up with people he had met last year and getting to know new people.





the week, I began to see God in the woods where we stayed, the people I served, and the people I worked with.”

If you feel the call to experience the mission trip, either as a teen or chaperon, please send an email to Adam Smith (missiontrip@stpaturbana.org). Planning and work for Mission Trip 2019, to the Winnebago Reservation in Nebraska the week of July 15-21, 2019, starts in September!

