

# St. Patrick Parish IN FOCUS



www.stpatuurbana.org

March 2019

## Will You Take a Walk This Lent?

**H**ave you ever gone for a walk, just to clear your head? Maybe you were having trouble deciding how to solve a problem. Maybe you had a difficult decision to make. Taking a walk gives you a chance to get out of your mental ruts, to find a new way of looking at things. A little fresh air, sunshine, and exercise helps, too. It can be refreshing, invigorating. If you go with a friend, it can be a time to deepen your friendship. It's a healthy activity to go for a walk once in a while—spiritually, physically, mentally, and it can help relationships.

The season of Lent is like taking a walk. Sometimes it's a journey that takes you to some place completely new. But, more often, it ends with your return home, ready to take up your everyday

tasks refreshed and with new perspective. It's a healthy process, and one from which we can benefit repeatedly.

Sometimes we think of Lent as a journey to draw closer to God, but that's a journey so long that we couldn't complete it in a thousand lifetimes. Fortunately, we don't have to. As St. Patrick wrote, "Christ is with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me." Jesus isn't our destination; he has come to be our companion on the way. You might enjoy his company by spending more time with him in prayer. You might discuss a problem with him. Knowing that he is with you and relying on his help will make your relationship with him grow deeper.

What route will you take on this walk? What will give you a change

**Take a Walk** continued on pg. 6



## Women of St. Patrick Offer a Women's Retreat for Lent

Women of St. Patrick



On Saturday, March 30, the Women of St. Patrick will gather for the annual Women's Lent Retreat. This will be a day for thoughtful reflection as well as prayer and fellowship with other women of the parish. If you have been longing to make a retreat, this may be a great option that doesn't involve travel or an overnight stay.

Our retreat director will be Sr. Bobbi Bussan, OSB. Sr. Bobbi is a Benedictine from St. Mary Monastery in Rock Island (formerly Nauvoo), where she serves as director of the Benet House Retreat Center. She will help us learn new ways to increase and deepen our prayer life, as Fr. Luke has urged that we do.

The day will begin with a continental breakfast at 8:30 a.m., allowing those who wish to do so to attend morning Mass before the retreat begins. The first presentation will be at 9 a.m.; all presentations will be in the main hall of the parish center, with other rooms open for reading, creating art, journaling, or praying. The fee for the day will be \$10 and will cover materials, continental breakfast, and lunch. Scholarships are available.

**Women's Retreat** continued on pg. 9

## “Through This Holy Anointing”



A special Mass with anointing, followed by a simple soup lunch, has become a tradition at St. Patrick's during the past several years. The Lenten Mass with the Anointing of the Sick will take place this year on Tuesday, March 12, at 10:30 a.m.

Placing this sacrament in the context of a Mass dedicated to praying for healing and comfort surrounds the anointing itself with an atmosphere that focuses on this specific purpose. The Mass is offered for all those in need of healing mind, body, or spirit.

The sacrament of anointing is open to all with current or chronic physical or mental illness, impending surgery, or infirmities of old age, and can be received as often as necessary. Each recipient benefits from sacramental graces and strength to encourage healing. The Oil of the Infirm used in anointing is blessed by the bishop each year at the Chrism Mass, which is celebrated at St. Mary Cathedral in Peoria early in Holy Week.

As each person comes forward to receive the sacrament of anointing, Fr. Luke spends a moment in quiet prayer for the person, laying his hands gently on his or her head. Then he dips his thumb in the oil to make the Sign of the Cross on the person's 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

**Holy Anointing** continued on page 9

## St. Patrick's Joined Others in the Vigil for Life

Three Hierarchs Greek Orthodox Church hosted the 30th Annual Community Ecumenical Memorial Prayer Vigil for Life on Jan. 22. St. Patrick's joined many area churches in celebrating the theme of “Every Life is God's Gift.”

Hymns, scripture readings, and prayer led to a presentation by Laura Paulus, executive director and house mother of the Martha & Mary Maternity House in Niles, IL. She spoke about their ministry to girls and women who face unplanned pregnancies and the sad aftermath of abortions. A candlelight and rose procession with intercessory prayers continued the evening service, framed by the lovely mosaics, icons, and the sanctuary of the Orthodox church.

Our pastor, Fr. Luke, and other area clergy took turns leading the intercessory prayers. The moving hymn by Dan Schutte, “Here I Am, Lord,” ended the service. Three



Hierarchs provided refreshments and fellowship for all who came on the icy winter's night.

The Orthodox congregation prepared a special icon for the Prayer Vigil of the Virgin Mary, Mother of God and Helper in Childbirth. The icon was decorated with red and white carnations and showed a pregnant Mary reverently gesturing around her womb, and its radiant holy presence. Jesus' mother prays as a mother for all mothers and their precious children.

## Girl Scouts Receive Awards

Eight of our young people who are involved in Girl Scouts received an award at St. Patrick's 10 a.m. Mass on Feb. 3. To earn the pin, “My Promise, My Faith,” they were to make connections between their Catholic faith and Girl Scout principles and values. They partnered with adult Catholic women who guided them through the steps to make these connections. Holy Cross DRE Gloria Fellers, the DRA from Holy Cross, and Erin Taylor, a teacher and parent from St. Matthews, filled that role, along with Stephanie Rank, their troop leader. Congratulations to everyone who earned this award! *Daisy*

*Scouts:* Gigi Zwilling and Alice Wither-Sickles, *Brownie Scouts:* Grace Arend, Eireann Byard, Sarah Surratt, and Elizabeth Wither-Sickles, and *Junior Scouts:* Emily Surratt and Eilla Pope.



# New Sacred Vessels Set Honors Deacon David Zola

Since mid-January, St. Patrick’s Masses and Communion services have featured a new matching set of chalice, paten, and ciborium. A chalice holds the wine for the Eucharist. The paten is a plate on which the large host for consecration rests. A ciborium looks much like a chalice but larger and with a lid and sometimes a veil-like cloth covering. It holds the Body of Christ in the tabernacle. By canon law and tradition, the sacred vessels are made of precious metals.

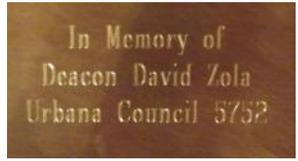
The Urbana Council 5752 Knights of Columbus donated the set in honor of the late Deacon David Zola.

Father Luke had suggested the Knights consider purchasing the items since the church did not directly own such a matching set. And the Illini Knights of Columbus had donated a set to St. John’s Catholic Chapel while Fr. Luke served there.

The graceful set features a grapes-and-wheat design and the Knights emblem. The vessels are 24k gold plated and highly polished, with contrasting embossed



Paten



Inscription



Chalice



Ciborium

decorations. The inscription on the bottom of each piece honors Deacon David. The Urbana Knights Council chose a special way to

honor their fallen Brother and keep him at the heart of his ministry: the Mass and the Body and Blood of Christ.

## What is your vocation?

Do you have a vocation? Of course you do! But how can you know what that is? Spiritual writer Henri Nouwen offers some sage advice:

*The Lord always reveals himself to you where and when you are most fully present. In your prayer, try to present your anxieties, struggles, and fears to him, and let him show you the way to follow him. More important than anything else is to follow the Lord. The rest is secondary. If you follow him, you can follow as a priest, as a lay minister, as a single person, or as a married person; but what really counts is that he is the center.*

# “Cluckin’ for Catholic Education” Was a Good Time for a Good Cause

On a cold winter night 354 people from St. Patrick and Holy Cross came together to enjoy a delicious chicken dinner and to support Cath-

olic Education. Diners were able to dine in, carry out, or drive through. Proceeds went the education fund for both parishes. Many thanks to

all the hard workers who made it possible and to all the supporters who came to enjoy the food and fellowship!

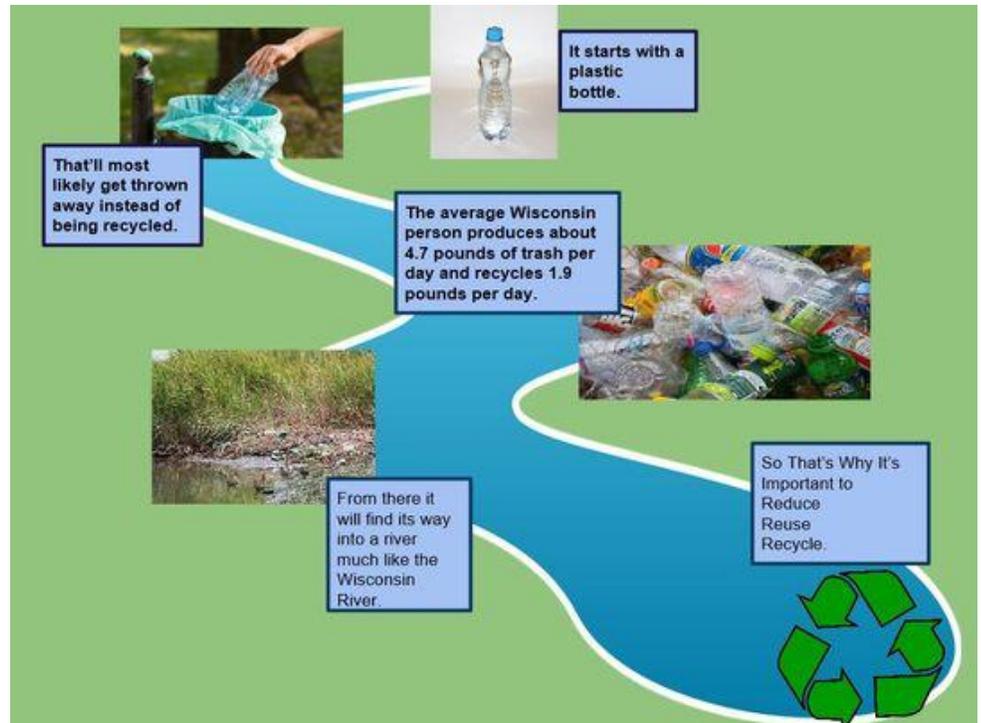


## Holy Cross Students Take the National Geographic GeoChallenge

Did you know that Holy Cross Middle School students are competing in this year's National Geographic's GeoChallenge? Under the leadership of Mrs. Judy Crull, their science teacher, thirty-nine Holy Cross middle school students from fifth through eighth grade formed eight teams to work on this project.

This year's GeoChallenge project is "Tackle Plastic." Students were required to design a solution that eliminates or prevents plastic pollution in any waterway in the world, or some means to bring awareness to this urgent problem in a specific region. Each Holy Cross team, composed of four to six students from the different grade levels, chose a different waterway in the United States. They researched their chosen waterway and determined its source and where it emptied into a larger body of water. They also had to research to see what factories, towns, colleges, or restaurants could be contributing to the pollution in that area. Students then had to create their own map showing the waterway, surrounding cities or states, where it began, and where it ended. The project concluded with students creating a four-minute video showing and discussing their map and their chosen solution.

Here is an example from one of the Holy Cross projects. The team called itself The Plastic Chiefs. They chose the Hanapepe River in the Hawaiian Islands because it was polluted with plastic fishing lines and plastic lures. The team's solution was to have the fishermen trade their plastic line for a biodegradable line and trade their plastic lures for live bait. The team created posters to hang in the harbor; each poster informed the local fishermen about the specifics of the changes recommended.



Some teams created physical solutions to the plastic problem in their chosen waterway that included organizing beach clean-up days or contacting local restaurants and giving them information as to why they shouldn't automatically provide plasticware in their to-go orders.

Other teams chose to focus on bringing awareness to the plastic problem by creating a campaign with comics and posters, bumper stickers, an infographic (see the illustration), or a website ([www.saveourworldgeochallenge.weebly.com](http://www.saveourworldgeochallenge.weebly.com)).

All projects were submitted to National Geographic and results will be announced mid-February, when qualifying teams are chosen for the sixteen regional competitions. Then on March 29, regional competitions will be held. Finally, from May 19-22, the national finals will be held in Washington, DC.

Regardless of the outcome, each student has come away with a better understanding of the plastic

problem in our world. They have learned of the impact that one small area can have on the rest of the Earth. Most importantly, they have learned that no matter what age you are, you can create a positive change for the rest of humanity.



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

## Keeping Up with the Peace and Justice Ministry

The Peace and Justice Ministry has been busy this winter, planning programs and educational opportunities to address needs in our parish and surrounding community.

Fr. Luke has been open to parishioners' concerns about the clergy sexual abuse crisis and is available to assist anyone struggling with it, so in December members of the Peace and Justice Coalition met with him to talk about those concerns. That meeting began a discussion of how we might move forward with efforts to heal and to address potential changes that will allow us to be a healthier body of believers, priests and laity alike.

From that meeting came plans for "The Crisis in the Church: An Evening of Dialogue," which will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 26, from 7 to 9 p.m., in the main hall of the parish center. The goal is to create a safe place for informed and constructive conversation, so those attending are asked to have already read several articles provided by the organizers. The group discussion will be led by parishioner Matt Kuenning, an attorney who has taught philosophy at universities including Fordham and the University of Illinois. You can sign up for the discussion and access the articles on the parish website ([www.stpaturbana.org](http://www.stpaturbana.org)) or call the parish office (367-2665).

Other Peace and Justice Ministry activities:

The Peace and Justice Education group is planning a year of programs focused on issues facing women here and around the world. It begins in March with a survey of parish women, and a program about Women and Girls and Education. Each month a different topic will be explored, including Women in the Church, Women

and Healthcare, and Domestic Violence. Watch the weekly bulletin and *In Focus* for information about speakers and other programs.

On Feb. 23, the LGBT Ministry welcomed Deacon Mark Armentamentos to give his talk, "CCC and LGBT" to interested parishioners. (CCC stands for the Catechism of the Catholic Church.) Deacon Armentamentos is one of the co-founders of the LGBT Ministry at St. Jude parish in New Lenox, IL.

The group working with new local immigrant families could use more volunteers to help our new neighbors learn their way around, particularly in areas such as navigating the transportation system.



Would you be interested in helping? Contact Luis Cuza ([luis@cuza.us](mailto:luis@cuza.us)) for more information.

Sometime in March, the Environmental Stewardship Ministry will present the film "Before the Flood," followed by discussion.

**Peace and Justice** continued on page 7

## Groups Are Raising Funds to Refurbish St. Patrick's Statue

Recently, thanks to the generosity of a parishioner, our beautiful statue of the Blessed Mother was refurbished. On the feast of the Immaculate Conception, Fr. Luke rededicated it with a blessing. Her statue and that of St. Patrick are original to the church and much beloved. Despite being touched up by parishioner Nick Britsky several years ago, they both had begun to show their age and were in need of some tending loving care. Now that our Blessed Mother's statue is restored to its original beauty, it is time to give St. Patrick's statue some much-needed attention.

The Knights of Columbus and the Women of St. Patrick are teaming up to raise the funds for sending the St. Patrick statue to Daprato Rigali Studios in Chicago for refurbishing and repair. The cost, including transportation to and from the studio, is \$5,200. The Knights and

the Women of St. Patrick invite the entire parish to join in the project to help restore our patron saint's statue.

On Saturday, March 16, and Sunday, March 17, someone from both groups will be at the doors of the church after Mass to accept your donation for the "St. Patrick Restoration Fund." What a great day to start the campaign – the Feast of St. Patrick! All gifts of any size will be greatly appreciated.

Once the donations have been gathered and a final tally made, the Knights and WSP will make up any deficit so that the restoration

project can begin in a timely manner. When the statue is restored and returned, we will have a blessing ceremony to rededicate it in honor of our patron saint.

This very worthy project is one that all parishioners will want to support!



## Joseph, Husband of Mary

The Bible pays Joseph the highest compliment: he was a “just” man. The quality meant a lot more than faithfulness in paying debts! When the Bible speaks of God “justifying” someone, it means that God so transforms a person that the individual shares somehow in God’s own holiness. By saying that Joseph was “just,” the Bible means that he was completely open to all that God wanted to do for him. He became holy by opening himself totally to God.

The rest we can easily surmise. Think of the kind of love with which he wooed and won Mary, and the depth of the love they shared during their married life.

It is no contradiction of Joseph’s holiness that he decided to divorce Mary when she was found to be with child before they had lived together as husband and wife. The important words in the Bible are that he planned to do this “quietly” because he was “a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame” (Matt. 1:19).

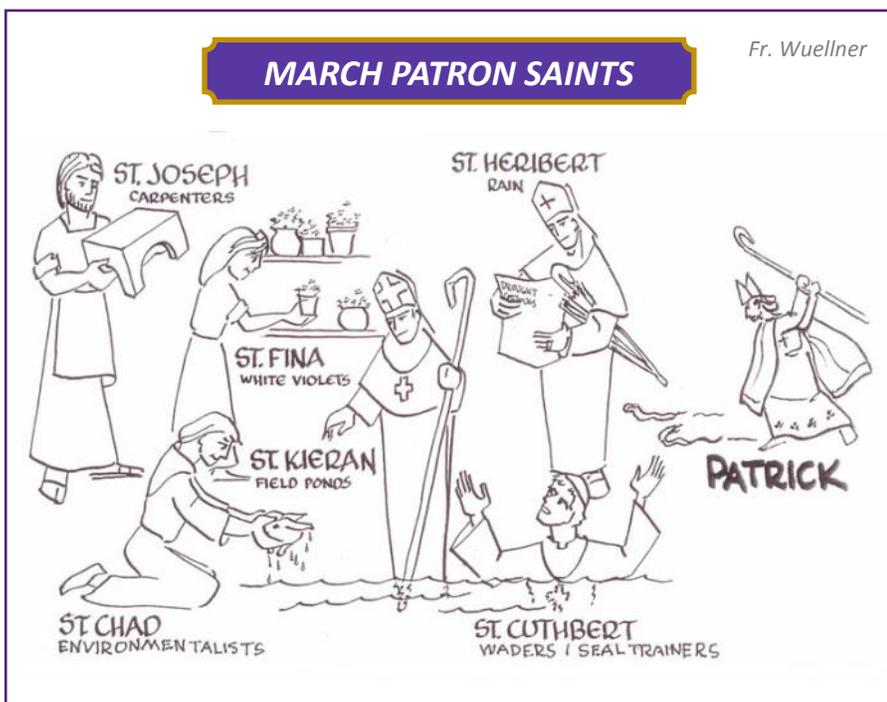
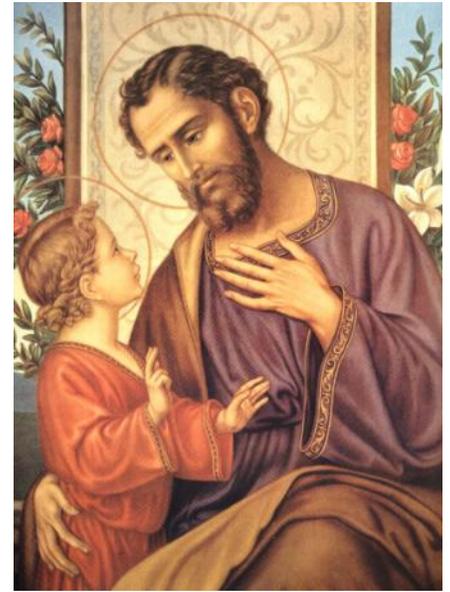
The just man was simply, joyfully, wholeheartedly obedient to God – in marrying Mary, in naming Jesus, in shepherding the precious pair to Egypt, in bringing them to Nazareth, in the undetermined length of time that he provided for them during years of quiet faith and courage.

The Bible tells us nothing of Joseph in the years after the return to Nazareth except for the probably harrowing search for the young Jesus and finding him at last, teaching his elders in the Temple. The holiest family was like every other family, the circumstances of their family life were like those of every family, so that when Jesus’ mysterious nature became manifest, people just couldn’t believe that he came from such humble beginnings.

What can we make of all this for ourselves? Are we open to all that God wants of us, of all that our loving Father wants to do for us? Are we joyfully, wholeheartedly, obedient to our loving Father in the circumstances of our daily lives? Joseph models for us a life of openness to God and to all that God wants for us, in the unremarked comings and goings of our lives.

Saint Joseph is the patron saint of the Universal Church and as such is mentioned in the canon of every Mass. His feast is celebrated on March 19, and he is remembered again as St. Joseph the Worker on May 1. Because tradition describes him as dying in the arms of Mary and Jesus, he is invoked as the patron saint of a happy death. Because he was a man who worked with his hands, he is the patron saint of workers, especially carpenters. He is the patron saint of fathers and immigrants.

Saint Joseph, pray for us!



## Take a Walk continued...

of pace, a chance to stretch, or a new perspective? Will you fast so that you have more to share with those in need? Will you fast from occurrences that add noise and busyness to your life, but not richness? Will you give of your time to be of service to others, so that you know them as brothers and sisters and as companions on your walk? Will you use your time to read or listen to something that can help you see the holiness of life and of the world around you? Will you seek out Reconciliation or wise advice that can help you to respond to God more fully?

Consult your companion, Jesus, about the route. Choose one that will refresh you, give you a new perspective, and strengthen your relationship with him or with others. Enjoy the fresh air and sunshine along the way. And return home, happy that you took a walk.

## Super Bowl Sunday Breakfast – A Meeting of the Patriot and Rams Clans

U.S. football fans recently witnessed the 53rd Super Bowl. The Green Bay Packers whipped the Kansas City Chiefs 35-10 in the inaugural “AFL–NFL Championship Game,” played on Jan. 15, 1967. (Although the media began calling the game the Super Bowl in July 1966, the title “Super Bowl” became official beginning with the third annual game.)

Since 1969 this championship game has become universally known as the Super Bowl, and when played each year on Super Bowl Sunday it’s become the most watched American television program in history. It is also notably the second largest day for U.S. food consumption, after Thanksgiving Day.

In 1999 the Knights of Columbus Urbana Council 5752 established its own Super Bowl Sunday Breakfast. That first breakfast was prepared by Jim Risotti and Steve Beckett, and consisted of omelets, biscuits, and gravy. This year, as usual, there was an expanded menu put together by Chef Tom Costello and offered to parishioners for a free-will donation. Thanks to the generosity of parishioners, the



The victorious captain of the Omelets team, Jim Risatti, right, accepts the congratulations of Steve Beckett, captain of the Biscuits & Gravy team, after the second annual Urbana Knights of Columbus Super Bowl Breakfast on Jan. 28. In his left hand, Beckett holds the Vince Lombardi Trophy, a giant donut that went to the winner of this year’s game. Risatti’s team won for the second consecutive year, this time by a score of 125-72.

Knights are able to raise funds to support their Father Martell Scholarships.

On Sunday, Feb. 3, approximately 130 parishioners were served by 15-20 Knights, with help from students, CREW members, and parish volunteers. It was a great gathering, with the New England Patriots Clan feasting and

mingling with the Los Angeles Rams Clan, happily oblivious to what the final score would turn out to be: Patriots 13, Rams 3.

If you missed the Super Bowl Sunday Breakfast 2019 make sure you mark your 2020 calendar for the Knights of Columbus Super Bowl Breakfast next year, on Sunday, Feb. 2, 2020!

During Catholic Schools Week, Dr. Susan Nagele came to Holy Cross School to talk to



*the 4th through 8th graders about her mission work in Africa. The students were fascinated by her stories, and she may have planted a few seeds in some hearts!*

### Peace and Justice continued...

The film focuses on worldwide climate change and includes an appearance by Pope Francis. Watch the weekly bulletin for the date and time.

After the noon Mass on Sunday, March 17, members of the Peace and Justice Ministry will serve a St. Patrick’s Day lunch, including corned beef, Guinness stew, cabbage, and Irish soda bread – as well as a potluck of side dishes and desserts.



**Q: Father Luke, why should we be doing penance (prayer and fasting) in reparation for the sins of priests and others who have sexually abused children?**

A: I have to admit, my first reaction was very similar. In fact, some priests I know continue to feel that way – they didn't hurt anyone so they don't want the burden of "making up for it." Generally speaking, we may tend to

think as individuals, and in the case of abuse we make think as individuals who don't have personal responsibility. However, as a family in Christ, there is more to how we are bonded together and more to what we can do for Christ and his people.

I was recently talking with a young wife and mother in Colorado who, along with her husband and family, is offering regular sacrifices and prayer for reparation. I thought she said it so simply and beautifully: "We are sad, just like we know everyone is, especially Jesus, and our family wants to do what we can to comfort the heart of Jesus." She went on to say, "Jesus, the Church, faithful clergy, and faithful lay people are all hurt by the sins of each and every member of the body, and especially those of all clergy.... The abused need our prayers, the clergy need our prayers, and Jesus deserves the consolation of our prayers."

We know how much Jesus loves us – he gave everything for us on the cross. We know that he suffered greatly bearing the weight of our sins, and we know that sins bring him sorrow and pain. In truth, when an innocent victim is hurt, Jesus suffers both the sorrow of the sin and the sorrow of suffering with the innocent. He has told us that he identifies with his people – he is the Good Shepherd who is perfectly united with his flock.

That oneness with Jesus, that unity we have with him as the Body of Christ, the bond we have with the Communion of Saints enables us to make offerings in unity. We can offer sacrifices and prayers for others, just as Jesus offered himself for us. Reparation is a gift to God, not just a service to particular sinners.

We know our offerings don't take away past hurts; we know they don't undo past sins. We aren't somehow shouldering the blame of others to take away their consequences. We are doing what we can to pray for victims and to soothe the heart of Jesus, who loves us so much that he suffers with his people. So when we offer prayers and sacrifices of reparation, we are doing it because we want to do good and bring comfort to the heart of Jesus. We offer reparation because we can; as the Body of Christ we offer for one another and to our God, who loves us so perfectly.

I first decided to offer a night of prayer for abuse victims because I wanted to offer my best prayer for those who are hurting. Several people who have been abused (including some who suffered abuse not through clergy but in other relationships) told me how meaningful and even healing the night of prayer is. Knowing that it was helpful to some who have suffered, I decided I wanted to continue offering, and to invite others to join me.

I decided that offering a day of fasting and prayer each month would be my offering, and that I would extend an open invitation to anyone who wants to join me. As of now, I'm looking at the first Friday of each month for this. For those who wish to join me, my schedule will be printed in the bulletin – the times will shift a bit based on our schedule here at the parish (sometimes the prayer will be in the morning, sometimes, afternoon, sometimes evening).

We are in the midst of challenging times, both inside and outside our Church. As Christian people, we rely on the love of Jesus, and we are confident in the power of that love. One of our best consolations in the midst of sorrow and pain is to know that Jesus is alongside us. We trust in his love, which is able to overcome anything that would separate us from God and from each other. He strengthens us each day; he gives us the grace we need to live in his love.

May God's blessing for healing and strength be this day with all who have been hurt by clergy and by failures in leadership in our Church. May the sacrifices and prayers we offer be a witness of our unity in Christ, and a consolation to hearts that are hurting, especially the heart of our God, who loves us so much. Amen.!

\* \* \*

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

**VOCATION  
PRAYER**

Father,  
I know you love me  
and have plans for me,  
but sometimes  
I am overwhelmed  
by the thought  
of the choices  
to be made.  
Help me to listen  
for your call,  
a call to a lifestyle  
that will let me love  
as only I can,  
and that will let me  
serve others  
with the special gifts  
you have given me.

## The Parish Council Seeks New Members



Do you want to grow closer to God, to learn how our

parish works, to make decisions that impact our parish? Then our Parish Council is looking for you!

The Parish Council serves as an advisory board to our pastor, Father Luke. The term of membership is three years. The time commitment includes meeting once a month, representing the Parish Council for one weekend Mass a month, and working on a few projects outside of the meetings that are as time-consuming as you want them to be.

In the past year the Council's projects have included developing a new parish mission statement, strengthening communication with parishioners through venues such as In Focus, Pew Ponderings, and Family Room conversations, conducting a review of the music ministry, and creating opportunities for parishioners to strengthen their prayer lives.

Projects for the coming year include examining security needs, creating ways to make our parish more welcoming, reviewing our sacramental schedule, and assisting in the creation of a Council for junior and senior high school students.

This is what current members say about serving on the Parish Council:

"My faith has been deepened by seeing the needs of the Church and wanting to give of myself more to help others grow in their faith."

"Getting to know this group of exceptional, faithful, hardworking people and to be a part of the workings of the church"

"Being available after Masses

to listen to parishioners"

"My faith has grown every time the Council meets through our opening prayer and thinking about what I feel about our church. It makes me feel closer to our church family."

"This is a way to help our St. Patrick community to continue to grow in love and faith, as well as helping our own faith to grow."

"It is one way that we can give back to our faith community that provides so much to us. Being on PC allows us to use the talents and skills that God has given us to make sure that the mission of the parish is not just words on paper. It is a privilege to serve on the PC."

"I've come to understand more fully the discernment, reflection, and prayer that actually goes into decisions on programs, practices, and policy."

Being a member of the Parish Council is an incredibly rewarding experience. We are hoping that next year's Council will reflect even better the diversity of our parish family. Please contact Jack Parisi (marketing4u@comcast.net) or Mardia Bishop (mardiabishop@comcast.net) by April 2 if you are interested in serving your parish as a Parish Council member. Your opinions and service matter!

## Women's Retreat continued...

The day will wrap up at 3 p.m.

Registration will be taken via email (womenofstpatrik@gmail.com) or by calling Nancy Olson (359-6424) and will be accepted until Wednesday, March 27. The same contacts can be used to request a scholarship for the day.

All women of the parish are invited to participate in this day of spiritual refreshment during our Lenten journey.

## Holy Anointing continued...

both hands slightly with palms up, and Father makes the Sign of the Cross on each palm, using the holy oil, while praying, "May the Lord who frees you from sin save you and raise you up."

Fellow parishioners stand with each recipient during the reception of the sacrament, silently adding their prayers to those of the priest. Others present in the church add their prayers and lift their voices in song while the anointing takes place.

Do physical healings take place as a result? The answer is that they sometimes do. Fr. Luke learned of one after the anointing last fall. More often, however, the grace of the sacrament comes in the form of a sense of peace, joy, and the strength to endure.

All who feel need of this sacrament are encouraged to come for the Mass and to stay afterward for the fellowship and soup lunch.



Do you recognize these two brothers? They were parishioners of St. Patrick's when this photo was taken around 50 years ago. They are still parishioners. See page 12 for answer!

## What Is Involved with Music Ministry?

You have probably heard the expression “He who sings, prays twice.” Indeed, singing is a wonderful way for us to praise God with others in St. Patrick’s faith community. Yet this expression simplifies the many responsibilities of music ministry.

This spring, the Parish Council is focusing on the parish’s music ministry. Last year, with extensive input from parishioners, we developed a mission statement, and we want to make sure that what we do and why we do it aligns with who we are and who we want to be so that we can make a stronger impact on our parishioners and the community at large. Since music ministry is the most widely experienced, we want to begin the review of our ministries with a focus on music.

Both Frank Gallo, our music director, and Fr. Luke requested the review, asking the Council to look at what our parishioners want in music and whether or not what our parish does musically adheres to proper liturgical guidelines and norms, thereby helping Frank Gallo prioritize goals.

In February, parishioners had the opportunity to provide input about the music via a survey. As we continue our review, we want everyone to get an idea of the responsibilities of music ministry. Because it involves more than just singing, we have asked Frank Gallo to elaborate. Here are his responses to the questions we asked:



### What are the primary duties of a music minister?

- o Ensure appropriate music for all parish liturgical services
- o Develop assembly repertoire/weekly music selections
- o Prepare and rehearse music for parish musicians
- o Participate as a member of the parish staff
- o Participate in the activities of the Liturgy Committee
- o Prepare and administer the music budget
- o Create weekly/seasonal worship aids

### How do you select the music for Mass?

First I study the scriptures for the Mass to discern the theme(s). Then, in selecting music, I choose music that adheres to the theme(s), and I strive to blend styles and genres of music to appeal to all parishioners. Music is chosen primarily from these:

- o Catholic Contemporary (i.e., *On Eagle’s Wings, Shepherd Me, O God*)
- o Traditional Eurocentric (i.e., *O Sacred Head, For All the Saints*)
- o African-American (i.e., *Go, Tell It on the Mountain, Precious Lord, Take My Hand*)
- o Ancient (i.e., *Pange lingua, Agnus Dei*)

I strive to provide the diversity and musical excellence that supports the worship of our congregation. The diversity of people who worship at St. Patrick creates challenges. Can the same liturgical music be an authentic expression for a grade-school girl, her college-age brother, their married sister with her young family, their parents and grandparents, as well as our unique immigrant populations? Can it satisfy the theologically and musically educated along with those lacking in training? Can it please those who seek a more informal style of celebration?

When choosing music, I consider the general makeup of our community and understand that living and worshiping in any community demands that we must be willing to share likes and dislikes with others whose ideas and experiences may be quite unlike our own.

### How many hours do you spend planning the music?

It takes me an average of about an hour per Mass, but significantly more for certain seasons and major feast days (i.e., Christmas, Easter). For these, I plan music many weeks in advance to make sure that the styles of music selected are balanced, new music is repeated, congregational favorites are included, and all music needed is included in the worship aids.

Preparing the music for each weekend takes quite a bit more time through studying the different parts for the choir, finding and scanning all of the music for the instrumentalists, and practicing on the piano and organ.

### What is a typical non-Sunday workday like for you?

Each day is a little different, but a typical Tuesday, for example, begins with preparing the music for all of the cantors, choirs, and instrumentalists for the coming weekend. Music for a given Sunday is chosen in advance, but prepared during that week. I scan all of the music that is not found in the hymnal for the cantors and instrumentalists, create PDF documents, and email the PDFs. This process usually takes most of the morning. Then I start answering emails from parishioners, musicians, members of the Worship Ministries Committee, community members, and others.

In the afternoon, I often focus my attention on larger projects. At the moment, I am spending a great deal of time creating a permanent worship aid (similar to the one we used during Advent/Christmas) that the congregation will use for Lent.



### What kind of church music are you most passionate about?

I grew up in Monessen, a small steel town just south of Pittsburgh. In this town, music making was alive! I grew up attending St. Cajetan, the Italian Catholic church. When I was just nine years old, I joined our adult choir with my parents. My dad and our choir director, Pasquale, taught me many Gregorian chants and traditional Italian Christmas carols that I remember to this day. These foundational experiences have greatly influenced the types of music I am most passionate about.

I love the sounds of ancient and modern choral music. The act of recreating music from more than 1000 years ago and applying it to meaningful worship at St. Patrick is a thrilling and inspiring experience for me. I love to listen to, study, teach, and sing Gregorian chant.

I also love the music of Renaissance master composers like Josquin des Prez and Palestrina. The choral music they wrote for the Church were settings of the Mass Ordinary (i.e., Kyrie, Gloria) and the Mass Propers, those texts you hear at Mass that change each week.

I have a great appreciation for the singing of traditional hymns (i.e., *Now Thank We All Our God, Alleluia, Sing to Jesus*)

### Could you provide some numbers for us? How many choirs/instrumentalists are there at St. Patrick's, and how many members are in each choir?

There are four music groups for which I am directly responsible:

- o Adult Choir: 15-20 members at Sunday liturgies and feast days
- o Funeral Schola: 5-15 members at funeral liturgies
- o Saturday Instrumental Ensemble: 4-6 members, twice a month at Saturday liturgies and feast days
- o Sunday Instrumental Ensemble: 2-3 members, twice a month at Sunday liturgies and feast days

There are three music groups for which I am indirectly responsible: the Children's Liturgy Ensemble, the Bell Choir, and the Congolese Choir.



### How does the music ministry fulfill our mission: Growing God's family through sacraments, service, and a joyful, welcoming community?

Among the many signs and symbols used by the Church to celebrate our faith, music is of preeminent importance. Music should assist the assembled believers to express and share their faith. It should heighten the scriptural readings so that they speak more fully. The quality of joy and enthusiasm that music adds to community worship cannot be gained in any other way. Music imparts a sense of unity to the congregation and sets the appropriate tone for a particular celebration.

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

Rosemary Laughlin

### Eggplant-Mushroom Casserole

1-2 eggplants  
1 egg, beaten  
1/4-1/3 c flour  
1 green pepper, chopped  
1 large can mushrooms, drained  
2 small tomatoes, sliced  
1/2 c spaghetti sauce  
shredded cheese

Toss eggplant pieces in the beaten egg and shake flour over them; toss mixture in a plastic sack until absorbed. Fry in a hot skillet with canola oil until browned. Add green pepper, mushrooms, and tomato, and cook until green pepper is softened a bit. Add



spaghetti sauce (I use Prego Traditional Style). Put all in casserole dish and spread shredded cheese (I use Mozzarella or 6-Cheese Italian Blend) generously over top. Reheat in 350° oven. When cheese has melted and ingredients are warmed, garnish with a little green pepper and a spiral of tomato slices.

\* \* \*

*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!*

## Did You Know?

- Did you have a great time and great food at the K of C's pancake breakfast in December? Well, on March 31 they expect to treat you to another gastronomical experience with pancakes, fruit, and more. As always, the proceeds from your free-will offerings will be used to increase the Fr. Charles Martell Scholarships awarded to graduating high school seniors who apply. Y'all come!
- Many thanks to the generous person or persons who have been creating order in the church pews after the noon Mass! It's a pleasure to walk in on Monday morning to find left-behind papers removed and the hymnals in their places, right-side up, with ribbons tucked in and facing outward! A thousand blessings be on you!

### 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/dUdY1> 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.

## 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 Mardia Bishop, Carol Bosley, Rose Costello, Judy Fierke, Denise Green, Elizabeth Hendricks, Lorraine Kim, Matt Keuning, Rosemary Laughlin, Eileen Mathy, Mary Lou Menches, Nancy Olson, Beth Rogers, Stephanie Rank, Cathy Salika, Patsy Schmitt, Fr. Luke Spannagel, and Mary Tate. Patron Saints by Fr. George Wueller. This issue was edited by Rick Partin, page layout by Yvona Vlach.



The deadline for submitting information, articles, and news items for the next (April) issue of *In Focus* is **March 3**.

### Answer from page 9:

*This photo is of Tom Shaw with his older brother, Chuck. Tom was about 5 or 6 years old, and Chuck was 15 or 16. Tom's neck was so strong that he could hang on Chuck's arm for several minutes! Tom was captain of the Urbana High School wrestling team. He rarely lost a match and never was pinned.*