

# St. Patrick Parish IN FOCUS



www.stpatuurbana.org

September 2019

## The Joy of Sharing

One of the great pleasures of life is sharing what we have with people we love. God has blessed us with many gifts: talents, material things, jobs, relationships, a sense of having a place in the world. And just as God rejoices in blessing us, we have joy in being a blessing to one another.

Even young children know this, as they make a card or gift for a family member or close friend. Their joy in giving is beautiful to see! As we grow, we learn to give almost as a habit, without thinking deeply about it. A parent takes satisfaction in putting a meal on the table every day, providing clean clothes, and making time to be together even when the family isn't 100% appreciative. And even as we age, we have wisdom, stories, and prayer to share. It takes a lot of giving to make a family!

It takes a lot of giving to make a parish family too. There are people to feed (think of the food pantry, funeral meals, and parish cele-

brations), people to clothe (think of the Cellar-to-Garret sale and prayer shawls), and a need to make time to be together (think how many people help with Sunday Mass!). There is a need for our wisdom, stories, and prayer. There is a need to grow in the faith that binds us together. And like all healthy families, we do more than feed ourselves – we reach out to the larger community with our love and sharing.

Some of us do these things as a habit, almost without realizing how much we give and what a difference it makes. Our giving shapes us, making us more like Jesus. It shapes our parish, making the life of Jesus very evident here. It shapes our world, gradually bringing the kingdom of God to its fullness. It's good to reflect on the things we are able to share with others, although we won't completely know the impact we have had. Perhaps when we get to heaven, Jesus will show us how he has woven the threads of our work,

sharing, and prayer into his great tapestry of love and caring that envelops the world.

During September, we will have a chance to think about sharing our time and talents at St. Patrick's. There are

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## Pilgrimage to St. Joseph

St. Patrick Parish includes the towns of St. Joseph and Ogden. We have Religious Education classes in St. Joseph, so the children (and their parents!) don't have to travel to Urbana on a school night. Despite the distance, people from St. Joseph and Ogden are very active at St. Patrick's. The Pilgrimage to St. Joseph on Saturday, September 7, provides an opportunity for us to focus on our parishioners to the east.

The pilgrimage will take place during the day. You can walk, run, or bike the Kickapoo Rail Trail, or you can drive along Route 150, which parallels the trail. Choose a time and a pace that works for you. Pick up the prayer cards along the way and stop for prayer, surrounded by our neighbors, the rich farmland, and the beauty of nature. Do you know anyone who is buried at Mount Olive Cemetery? Do you

**Pilgrimage** continued on pg. 9



## Supplement



Report on CREW's  
Mission Trip Inside!

## 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 (west) side of the church and enter through the Main Street door. Or you can park in the lot on the north side of the building and enter through the handicap-access door to the church. For many events, the door to the parish center is also unlocked and has a handicap-access button to open it.

If you enter the church from the parking lot, you'll be at the right level for the parish center, including the secretary's office, 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 and near the image of the Baptism of Jesus.

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## Fundraiser Brings In More Than \$15,000

Our Chicken Dinner / Silent Auction fundraiser was a huge success. We were able to send over \$15,000 to Vanderbilt University Medical Center, where groundbreaking research is being done. We are still in awe of the generosity of so many parishioners, friends and family, concerned citizens, and local businesses that gave to the cause. We were amazed at the attentiveness of the crowd when Paul spoke about Angela's death, when Dr. Morton spoke about SJS/TEN, and when SJS survivors Ryan and Cris spoke of their personal experiences with SJS and the setbacks they've had since having the disease. It is our prayer that this research will save lives so that no one else has to die like Angela or suffer like the survivors of SJS have.

We want to thank everyone who helped make the Chicken Dinner, SJS/TEN Awareness and Research Fundraiser in memory of Angela Anderson, a success. Thanks to The Women of St. Patrick for all their assistance. Thanks to the Parish Nurses of St. Patrick for co-sponsoring the event. Thanks to Chris and Dave Whippo for co-chairing the event. Thanks to Jon and Dawn McCoy for their advice and assistance. Thanks to Patricia Fowler for helping us get the word out. Thanks to the many volunteers who worked so hard to make it an enjoyable evening for

all. Thanks to all those who helped us sell tickets. Thanks to all who purchased tickets. Thanks to those who donated money because they were not able to attend. Thanks to all the businesses and individuals who donated items to our silent auction and thanks to all who purchased items at the silent auction. Last, but certainly not least, thanks to all who spoke during the SJS/TEN informational program.

The fundraiser is over, but our advocacy to warn people about SJS and other diseases caused by adverse reactions to medication will never end until there is a cure, as will our mission to solicit donations for research. To learn more about Angela's life and death, research at Vanderbilt, or to donate, visit [www.AngelaWanpenAnderson.com](http://www.AngelaWanpenAnderson.com).

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Love in Christ,  
Paul and Wanpen Anderson



## Connecting with God Through Journaling

As Catholics, praying through spoken word and song are part of our weekly liturgy. For those of us who have a love of the written word – or those simply interested in new ways of expressing their prayer – journaling is another wonderful way to connect with our Father.

Ten St. Patrick's parishioners did just that June 29 as they explored how putting words to paper can serve as a means of drawing closer to God during a morning workshop led by Dr. Amy Penne, a professor of English at Parkland



College.

Amy, a member of the Secular Franciscan Order (Third Order of St. Francis, OFS) and a member of Forty Martyrs Parish in Tuscola, gave participants the tools and op-

portunity to write, using stream of consciousness, poetry, and metaphor to delve deeper into thoughts and feelings. Some in the group went further, using colored markers and pencils to add an artistic flair to their prayer.

Amy also touched on “gratitude lists” and writing in response to Bible verses as other ways to use journaling on a daily basis as part of one’s prayer life. She has been invited back to help the Women of St. Patrick deepen their spiritual lives during the annual Lenten retreat next spring.

## From the Business Manager: Update on Parish Buildings



*Karen Barnes, St. Patrick's Business Manager, provides this update on building projects:*

Trinity Hall has had some moisture issues that have been monitored to determine what the causes are and assess possible corrections. It turns out the HVAC system of the expanded church does not function properly for the space. The HVAC system was built for maximum seating capacity in the church, which rarely occurs.

In June the floors in Trinity Hall were constantly wet and there was concern about people slipping and getting hurt. A commercial dehumidifier was purchased to help dry out the space and some ceiling tiles were removed to promote airflow and allow the wettest spots to drip into buckets rather than risk mold developing. This short-term solution works effec-

tively only when Trinity Hall is closed off. The problems are related to heat and humidity, so Trinity Hall should be good all winter. Initial estimates for correcting this situation have been obtained; a request was made for more solid numbers before a decision is made. Corrections should take place in March or April 2020.

In July 2018 the parish started saving a percentage of income from offertory collections in a Repair Contingency Fund. With what has been saved thus far, and projecting this year's savings, based on the initial estimates there should be enough to pay for the corrections to the HVAC.

Some of the other projects from last year are being finished now. All of those were approved by Fr. Luke and budgeted for by the Business Manager and the Finance Council. The security system, made possible by private donations specifically designated for it, is just about ready for implementation. This installation has held up replacement of the broken accessibility door at the southwest entrance to the church, which we

know has been frustrating to those who use that door. However, we didn't want to spend money to repair a door that would be replaced a few months later. By waiting, we have saved a couple thousand dollars! The door has been ordered and will be installed as soon as it arrives.

The cantor's stand, ambry, and desks in the Gathering Space have been paid for by donations to Deacon Zola's memorial.

St. Patrick's is working to be proactive by scheduling regular maintenance and inspections, but sometimes machines break down, sewer lines clog, and trees die. Such things need to be budgeted for so they can be attended to directly as they occur. No special projects are done without the pastor's approval and having been budgeted for by the Business Manager and the Finance Council.

If you have questions or concerns about such parish projects, Karen asks that you not hesitate to contact her (367-2665 or [karen.barnes@stpaturbana.org](mailto:karen.barnes@stpaturbana.org)).

## What Did They Do at VBS All Day? Learned, Prayed, Had Fun!

Fifty-two enthusiastic and eager children ages 4 through 10 participated in St. Patrick's Vacation Bible School the week of June 24-28. Jon McCoy, Director of Religious Education, led the students in a variety of activities designed to enhance their faith through music, lessons, crafts, and games. The theme of this year's program was the Mass, with daily theme words and virtues, saints representing those virtues, crafts and games, and lively songs with memorable lyrics and dance.

Each morning, the children gathered for an opening prayer, a song of the day, a skit presented by high school helpers, and a visual lesson on the virtue and theme. The children then went into sessions with their age groups, which were named to fit the week's theme: Angels (4-5), Saints (6), Kids' Choir (7-8), and Altar Servers (9-10). High school helpers brought the children to their sessions and assisted the leaders.

Eileen Mathy and Mary Kate Arend led a variety of craft projects, including Mass banners, small church figurines, decorated crosses, and t-shirts with Jesus on

the front for the students to color. On Wednesday, they assembled a quick-bread mix in Mason jars to prepare at home. A beautiful tapestry of panels with the children's handprints was assembled for later display.

Faith lessons under the guidance of Paula Sturdyvin and Jeanne Rasmussen focused on the daily saint, theme word, and Bible passage. The children learned that the Mass is a Mystery, a Gift, a Celebration, a Meal, and a Call. They received a saint's card for St. Joan of Arc representing patience, St. Mary representing peace, St. Patrick representing unity, St. Michael the Archangel representing faith, and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton representing generosity. The students also received a packet of flower seeds to grow at home as a demonstration of patience.

Roxanne Munch led the music sessions, with two songs each day from the "Cat. Chat" DVD program. Four of the songs were also used in the daily Mass. The students were "rock stars," playing their "air guitars" to "We Come to You," the song also used for the Gospel Acclamation each day.

They learned to "swing your partner" to the country-style tune called "Hey," a big favorite with all. The final hymn for Mass each day was "Come Live in Me," with hand gestures for the chorus: "Jesus, I adore you./You are love./Come live in me." Portions of the songs also used American Sign Language for "Jesus," "Alleluia," and "Strength."

Two of the high school assistants, Jacob Studer of St. Thomas More and Bebel Mounka of Urbana High School, led the children each day in various board games. They also enjoyed a daily snack provided by Mary Derenne and Mary Tate.

Fr. Anthony Co concluded the morning with a Mass for the children ages 6 through 10, celebrated with the songs learned in the groups, petitions prepared by the children, and readers from among the participants. Frank Gallo provided music for the Mass each day, and Roxanne Munch led the students in song. The high school helpers also served at the Mass.

The fourteen high school students who assisted with registration, dismissal, group activities, and final cleanup were invaluable to the success of the program. Mary Beth Franey of St. Thomas More, Collin Livesay of St. Joseph, and Kate McMillan of Holy Cross assisted the Angels each day. Norah LaMontagne of St. Matthew and Amanda Hummel of St. Thomas More led the Saints. Jack McMillan, Christina Pembele, and Anthony Studer of St. Thomas More and Maddie Bigler of Campus Middle School for Girls led the Kids' Choir. Jasmine Waite and Anthony Hoffman of St. Thomas More and Khalil DeCerbo of Holy Cross led the Altar Servers. Jacob Studer and Bebel Mounka, the leaders of games, complete the group.



## Looking Back on 20 Years of CREW Mission Trips

To celebrate 20 years of CREW Mission Trips, *In Focus* has invited anyone who ever went on a CREW Mission Trip as a teen or chaperon (or both) to share their memories and reflections on their experience. The following is the first – and so far, only – contribution received. Thanks to Pat, Patrick, and Randy for starting us off!

Recently, Pat Justice was able to sit down with Randy Pankau and Patrick Hatch for a short conversation about the 20th anniversary of the CREW mission trip. Randy and Patrick have participated in 18 of the 20 mission trips; in July both they and Pat chaperoned this summer's trip to the Winnebago Reservation in Nebraska.

Below are excerpts from that conversation:

PAT: Thanks for taking the time, gentlemen. So, you guys have been on 18 trips together? Wow.

RANDY: Actually, we've been on 16 of these together. I didn't attend the first couple of trips. Unlike this guy, who went on some, then stopped, then started – trouble committing much, Patrick?

PATRICK: What's also true is that I went on the first and second trips, unlike Randy, who wouldn't take the leap until the trip was established. A real profile in courage, this one.

PAT: Let's try this again: What do you get out of these trips? Why keep coming back?

PATRICK: Because Randy won't stop coming. I won't let him win.

RANDY: Ha, ha. That's right. You try and stop me, Hatch. Victory will be mine.

PAT: Victory? What? Seriously...

RANDY: Social justice in action.

PATRICK: A participant, Cora Freidhof, once said that "these trips allow us to be the best version of ourselves." I think that's true.

RANDY: Seeing the teens, and the adults, find joy in serving others, for no other reason than we are serving them. It's an incredible experience, each and every year.

PATRICK: The first trip Randy and I did together, we were part of a small group that started work each morning at 6 a.m. and finished sometime in the evening, day after day. We still talk about it. Seeing the commitment of everyone involved to get that project done before we left made me almost think Randy wasn't that bad.

RANDY: Burn.

PAT: It's well-known you two actually are quite good friends for this week each year, and have hard time not joking about anything and everyth—

RANDY/PATRICK (in unison): Lies!

PATRICK: Randy wrote his name in permanent marker on my shirt; so for many trips, it's days until people stop calling me, "Randy."

RANDY (laughs): True story. I love that one.

PAT: You know, as I do the math here, with the trip this year you guys have cumulatively spent almost 4 months together doing these things.

[Silence]

RANDY: You're right. Wow. It just hit me. I think I'm friends with Patrick Hatch.

PATRICK: I think you're right. Terrifying.

[Silence]

RANDY: See you for the 21st?

PATRICK: Count on it!

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Have you ever participated in a CREW Mission Trip as a teen or chaperon (or, over the years, both)? We'd love to hear from you. Please contact us at [infocusstpat@gmail.com](mailto:infocusstpat@gmail.com). We hope to print more memories and reflections on past trips in the next few issues.

## Saint Pope Paul VI a Contemporary Pope

Pope Francis has recently declared Pope Paul VI a saint, one whose life many of you will remember from the news of your day. He reigned as pope for fifteen decision-filled years from June 21, 1963, to August 6, 1978.

Saint Pope Paul VI was born Giovanni Battista Montini on September 26, 1897, in Italy. He was the son of a middle-class lawyer. Because of his frail health he was educated at home.

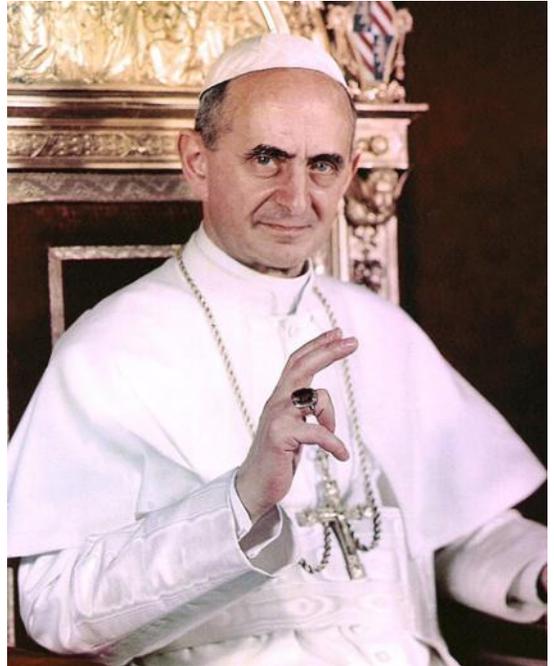
Montini was ordained a priest on May 29, 1920, and sent to Rome for higher studies. He was recruited for the Vatican diplomatic service and began a thirty-year career at the Vatican, occupying posts of increasing importance. In 1954 Pope Pius XII appointed Montini Archbishop of Milan, and in 1958 Pope John XXIII named him a cardinal. He was elected Pope Paul VI on June 21, 1963.

The first session of the Second Vatican Council had just finished when Pope John XXIII died. Pope Paul VI was well prepared to continue the Second Vatican Council and deal with its issues. His life-long diplomatic experience enabled him to be the perfect guide for the three remaining sessions of the Council, which ended on December 8, 1965. He then had the formidable task of implementing the Council's decisions. His actions were governed by his philosophy that the Roman Catholic Church in the 20th century should be a faithful witness to the traditions of the past, except when they were obviously outdated.

In two of his encyclicals Pope Paul VI took a firm stand on religious controversies. In *Sacerdotalis caelibatus*, June 1967, he upheld the retention of priestly celibacy. Then in July 1968, in *Humanae vitae*, he reaffirmed the stand of several of his predecessors by opposing artificial birth control.

He emphasized the importance of solutions to social problems and their impact on world peace; his encyclical *Populorum progressio*, March 26, 1967, was a pointed plea for social justice. He traveled to every continent in the world on apostolic pilgrimages to seek world peace and social justice.

Pope Paul VI also tried to lessen long-standing tensions between the Church of Rome and other churches, even atheists, meeting with different religious leaders throughout the world. He drastically revised the Church's legislations governing marriages between Catholics and those of other faiths and ruled that neither side in a mixed marriage should have to renounce their faith to be married in the Catholic Church.



### Did You Know?

- ♦ The Communications Committee is looking to expand its membership to help with brainstorming for upcoming issues of *In Focus*, writing articles, taking photographs of parish events, editing articles to create a file for page layout, preparing the page layout for an issue to ready it for printing, and communicating with *The Catholic Post* about parish upcoming events. We've lost a couple of members recently, leaving us a little short of resources. Can you help?
- ♦ The large bulletin board you will see on your way to the main hall from the church contains much of current interest – including minutes of the recent Parish Council meeting. Watch for it and take a couple of minutes to read it if you want to know what's being discussed, planned, or taking place at St. Patrick's!

He did away with much of the regal splendor of the papacy. In 1968 he discontinued most of the ceremonial functions of the old Roman nobility at the court and abolished the Palatine Guard and the Noble Guard, leaving the Pontifical Swiss Guard as the sole military order of the Vatican.

Pope Paul VI died on August 6, 1978, at Castel Gandolfo. In 2012 Pope Benedict XVI declared conferred on him the title of Venerable. On October 19, 2014, he was beatified by Pope Francis, after recognition of a miracle attributed to his intercession. Finally, Pope Francis canonized him on October 14, 2018. His feast day is observed on September 26.

Pope Paul VI is an example of God giving the Church a good man for the job at the right time.

## Sharing the Joy of Music and Laughter

“God has done great things for us, filled us with laughter and music.” So runs the refrain of Marty Haugen’s arrangement of Psalm 126—and there is no better description of what being in the St. Patrick’s Adult Choir is like! Every Wednesday evening, the choir meets to rehearse and prepare for the coming weekend. These rehearsals are certainly hard work. Our music director, Frank, constantly challenges us to sing to the best of our collective ability, and the wide range of musical styles and genres we sing require us to work on different skills. One choir member observes, “Frank routinely pushes us in a way that brings out the best in each of us. He introduces us to various musical genres, old and new, lively and sometimes even funky. We get to hear about the historical context of each new song that Frank introduces.”

The other underlying secret to the success of our rehearsals is that we have a lot of fun. Our time together is filled with a stream of steady banter and bad pun competitions. A rehearsal without laughter would feel as bizarre as a rehearsal

without singing. By making choir a space where we can laugh, we also open it up as a space where we can relax and enjoy one another’s company. Not only does this help us tackle our musical challenges with good will and enthusiasm, it also brings us closer together as a community. Our shared joy and laughter unite us as we work to fulfill our shared purpose.

That purpose, of course, is to lead the people of St. Patrick’s in song as we praise God together. Our close-knit community on Wednesday nights is itself intimate and rewarding, but the real joy is bringing the whole congregation into that community with us.

Singing with a church choir is quite unique, because although we rehearse music and sing it in front of an assembly every week, this constitutes a form of prayer rather than performance. You may have heard the saying “when you sing,



you pray twice” (widely attributed to St. Augustine). That is what we strive to do: our laughter, our joy, our community, and our song all blend together to form a prayer. And while sharing our hard work and our music is a beautiful way of praising God, the most rewarding part is when the congregation joins us and we all sing our praise as one.

We are very blessed at St. Patrick’s to have a congregation that sings so well. Just as it does for our choir, the act of singing together draws our whole parish into closer community with one another. It is truly awe-inspiring to be in a position to help facilitate this kind of shared community and prayer through song.

Perhaps the best illustration of this can be found in a moment experienced on Epiphany a couple of years ago. One of the hymns we sang was “The First Nowell,” and as we began, the face of a young girl lit up in delighted recognition, and she began singing along with a huge smile on her face. That is exactly what being a musician at St. Patrick’s is all about. It is our joy to share our laughter and our music with our community. God has truly done great things for us! Choir rehearsals resume on September 4; will you come – maybe for the joy of it?

### VOCATION PRAYER

Loving Father, my heart leads me to you,  
but I'm not always sure how to respond.

I want to bring your message to the world  
as so many before me have done.

Let me know what it is you are calling me to do  
and the life you are asking me to live.

Give me the ability to share with others  
who are in need of the blessings  
with which you have enriched my life.

I desire only to please you, Father!



### Q: Why do we anoint the sick?

A: During his ministry on earth, Jesus had a particular concern for sick people. He healed them not just with a word of power, but also with a human and compassionate touch. The anointing of the sick is one way that the Church continues the ministry of Jesus. Through it, he continues to touch, heal, and comfort.

The Letter of James (5:14) attests that this practice has always been part of ministry: “Is anyone among you sick? He should summon the presbyters of the church, and they should pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the church.”

While the sacrament of anointing is often administered individually, the Church encourages celebrating it within Mass. The communal celebration reminds us that suffering is part of our human condition and may move us to look upon one another with the compassion of Christ, the healer. It also helps us unite our sufferings with Christ’s as we recall his body broken and his blood poured out for us.

This sacrament was once called Extreme Unction (“final anointing”) because it had come to be reserved for the dying. The Second Vatican Council renamed it Anointing of the Sick to describe its appropriate place in the life of the faithful to offer strength and healing in time of serious illness or advancing age.

Does this sacrament heal? Yes. Is the healing physical? That is certainly what we hope for when we celebrate this sacrament, but we approach it praying that the Holy Spirit give strength, peace, and courage to those facing the difficulties of illness and advancing age with faith and hope.

The next Mass at St. Patrick’s during which the Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated is on Tuesday, September 24, at 10:30 a.m. If you are physically or mentally or emotionally ill or experience age-related infirmities, plan to participate in this Mass and receive the sacrament of anointing. If you need transportation, call the parish office (367-2665) and arrangements will be made. If you can, also plan to stay afterward for a modest luncheon and enjoy the camaraderie with others!

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

## RCIA Journey Begins Anew

RCIA (the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) is the process through which adults join the Catholic Church and adult Catholics can complete the Sacraments of Initiation. It’s a journey of learning, prayer, and discernment about what God is calling a person to be. For many, their journey begins long before they start the process at St. Patrick’s.

This year, classes begin on Sept. 11, meeting regularly on Wednesday evenings from 7 to 9 p.m. in the parish center lounge.

It’s important for you as a parishioner to be a part of RCIA – praying for those who wish to follow Christ through the Catholic faith, welcoming inquirers at Mass

and encouraging them to participate in parish events, and being role models of prayer, service, and love. Or perhaps you would like to share a kind of prayer that you find rewarding, or an aspect of service or ministry that brings you closer to God?

RCIA serves as a great look at the Catholic faith from an adult perspective. If your last experience of religious education was in high school, you might want an update!



Consider being a “parish pal” along the journey. You don’t have to “know everything” – just be willing to learn, seek, and grow in faith along with an inquirer. It’s a wonderful way to share your faith and help

others become disciples!

Would you like to be an RCIA “parish pal”? Contact Frances Drone-Silvers (francesds@yahoo.com).

## Explore “an Ecological Conversion”



In his 2015 encyclical on the environment Pope Francis stated, “I hope this encyclical can help us all understand the urgency of the situation (environmental degradation) and face it squarely.” During the month of September, the St. Patrick’s Environmental Stewardship Committee is offering a four-week study of *Laudato Si*. The sessions will begin at 7 p.m. on Monday, September 9, and will continue on the three remaining Mondays of September. No outside preparation will be required for the study. If you would like to participate, contact the parish office (367-2665) to request that a study guide be reserved for you.

In the encyclical Pope Francis calls for an “ecological conversion.” If you would like to explore the “how’s and why’s” of that conversion, join us on Monday evenings in September.

## Seniors Enjoyed Dinner Theater Presentation

Thirteen St. Jeanne Jugan members and a friend attended the June 12 luncheon performance of “Mamma Mia” at the Myer’s Christian Dinner Theater in Hillsboro, Indiana. The performance was very well presented, with a talented and energetic cast and great music. The Seniors group enjoyed the musical

## Pilgrimage continued...



know anyone who worked on the railroads? Remember them, our past as well as our present. Remember St. Joseph himself who, like most fathers, both taught his child and learned from him. Remember your own parents and how they formed you in the faith.

Arrive at Kolb Park at Elm and Sherman in St. Joseph in time for 5 p.m. Mass. (There will not be a 5

p.m. Mass at St. Patrick that day.) Mass will be celebrated in the shelter there, followed by a picnic supper. For those who walked or ran the trail, carpools will be available to bring you home.

The pilgrimage is a wonderful time for us to be together, to prayer together, to get out of our routines, and to remember the scope and reach of our parish family..



and the delicious buffet luncheon.

The theater puts on entertaining shows throughout the year and is

only about an hour and 20-minute drive west of Urbana off I-74.

## Keeping You Informed: The Landscape Plan

You have probably noticed some of the landscaping work being done on the parish campus. Here is an update for you:

The pergola in memory of parishioner and former trustee Ginger Timpone has been completed. (Much appreciation to the Timpone family for this special place for gathering, reflection, and photo taking for special events!) Margy Palmisano created the design, Dave Palmisano built the pergola, Chuck Shaw provided invaluable electrician services, and Deem Landscaping was contracted to do the patio and landscaping work. Notice that the brick in the border matches the brick used for the church.

The two stone benches by the entrance to the church have been secured and will offer a place for parishioners to visit or sit a spell.

As the parish works to replace the recent trees lost, three Kwanzan cherry trees (non-fruit-bearing) have been planted just east of the parish center. Additional landscaping work is needed on the beds there because the beautiful hostas no longer have the shade they need.

All over Champaign County, many perennials and grasses were lost this year with this area's challenging winter weather. This was the same in our parking-lot beds; many plants did not survive, including most of the grasses. With our parking-lot partnership with Carle, Carle will buy, replant, and care for all beds – they just ask that the parish Grounds Committee decide on the plantings. The Grounds Committee has sought input from the city of Urbana landscape department to provide recommendations on good parking-lot plantings. Planting will be done this fall when the weather cools down.



In the works is planning the landscaping for the northwest grassy area as you enter the church, with the intent to create a clear and well-planned front-door welcome to the church.

### The Joy of Sharing continued...

things you can do alone or with your family, things you can do on a regular schedule or as needed, things you can do at home or elsewhere, things you can do in the daytime, evenings, or weekends. Surely something here will challenge you and also fit in with your life's responsibilities.

As you think about what to do, look for balance in your life. Give in a way that stretches you, but don't overextend yourself at the expense of your family, prayer life, or health. And give with joy, the same joy that God has in blessing you!

Do you want to receive information about how you can help on an occasional basis with keeping our grounds looking good? If you contact Phil Davis, chair of the Grounds Committee (sue.phil.davis@gmail.com), he will send you an email when assistance is needed, such as watering or a work morning.

Remember, it takes a village – well, in this case, a parish – to keep our campus green and healthy!

## Newsletter from Susan Nagele

August 2019

To all the good people of St. Pat's,

This month of August is a month of celebrations for Maryknoll Lay Missioners!

I have recently returned from our center at Maryknoll, New York. It has been 35 years since I walked through the door in 1984 to begin this journey as a lay missionary in Tanzania, then Sudan, then Kenya, and now at home in the USA! When I first went overseas, I was given the address of a woman who had lived in Tanzania for 22 years, just in case I wanted to get in touch with her. At the time, I marveled that anyone could stay for that long. Now I can see that time flies when we're on the right track! We had a wonderful celebration together.

In April I wrote a piece on immigration for the Catholic Volunteer Network competition and received an Honorable Mention. It was also printed in *The Catholic Post* and can be found at the following link: <https://www.mkmlm.org/blog/what-the-heart-sees/>

Our lay missionary lawyer, Heidi Cerneka, continues with immigration law in El Paso, Texas, and Coralais Salvador, with whom I worked in Kenya, will join her next year to serve the day-to-day needs of immigrants.

On August 15, Maryknoll Lay Missioners will celebrate 25 years as an Association within the Maryknoll family of Fathers and Brothers (Maryknoll Society) and Sisters (Maryknoll Congregation).

Our 2018 financial report for Maryknoll Lay Missioners is at the following link (with lots of interesting pictures): <https://www.mkmlm.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/2018-Annual-Report.pdf>

After working in Sudan for twelve years, I have a great devotion to St. Bakhita, whose beautiful banner adorns our church's meditation chapel. There is a new book entitled *BAKHITA: A Novel of the Saint of Sudan*, by Véronique Olmi, translated by Adriana Hunter. It is reviewed at the following link: <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/05/04/books/review/bakhita-veronique-olmi-roman-catholic-saint.html>

I have read this book, which is available in the Urbana Free Library. The author uses the facts of her research to construct a novel that portrays the details of how some of Bakhita's life must have evolved. I warn you, the first half of the book is difficult to read; I often had to put it down because of the violence that is described. But I know that the truth about the woman whose image resides in our church is the same truth that some of our brothers and sisters still live daily. St. Bakhita is the patroness of Sudan and the survivors of human trafficking. I encourage you to read the book.

With gratitude for your support in Mission,

*Susan Nagele*

*We are grateful for your prayers and financial support. If you would like to know more about Maryknoll Lay Missioners, log onto our website ([www.mkmlm.org](http://www.mkmlm.org)) or call toll free 1-800-867-2980.*



*Heidi Cerneka, Maryknoll Lay Missioner Lawyer on Immigration, El Paso, Texas*



*Heidi Cerneka, Maryknoll Lay Missioner, with Ugandan refugee, whose immigration case was successful*



*Founding of Maryknoll Lay Missioners, August 15, 1994*



*Susan Nagele with Maryknoll Lay Missioners Jubilee Class of 1984*

## Who Are the Young Professionals?

You've seen them mentioned in St. Patrick's weekly bulletin. This is a vibrant and growing group of young professionals, ages 21 to 40, that welcomes all young adults in the Urbana, Champaign, and neighboring towns to participate in their group, Champaign-Urbana Catholic Young Professionals.

Currently, about thirty-five participants from a range of professions, including education, technology, agriculture, and finance, as well as graduate students and doctoral candidates, have found a community of sharing and friendship in their shared values and faith. Participants are welcome from all professions and educational backgrounds.

The three pillars of the group are Faith Formation, Service, and Community. The monthly activities are designed to build on these pillars while providing joyful connections with others. Community activities have included a monthly potluck in St. Patrick's parish hall, game nights, movie nights, and other social activities.

Faith Formation has included speakers, a holy hour, rosary



walks, recollection (adoration, reflection, and confession), and a women's "Blessed Is She" study. Service activities have included cooking and hosting dinner for Totus Tuus, providing a DVD drive for Fr. Anthony Co's mission trip to Jamaica, and a quarterly visit to the Daily Bread Soup Kitchen in downtown Champaign. Members held a going-away party for Fr. Luke at Riggs outdoor brewery.

The group currently has a coordinator, Pamela Rose Suresca, who

worked to form the organization with Fr. Luke in 2017. A more formal structure is in the works with the goal of a leadership board made up of one young professional for each pillar and three board members at large.

As stated in their Vision Statement, "Champaign-Urbana Young Professionals seeks to create an authentic community in pursuit of Jesus Christ and His Church." The group hopes to fulfill this vision with its mission of "growing our faith through formation and prayer, and discipleship through service and virtuous friendships."

Finding other people outside of personal friends and work colleagues that share the same values and faith is not always easy. It is through the group that participants are nourished to go out and share the Gospel through their lives.

Questions? The coordinator may be reached at [pamela.rose.suresca@gmail.com](mailto:pamela.rose.suresca@gmail.com) or [cucatholicyoungprofessionals@gmail.com](mailto:cucatholicyoungprofessionals@gmail.com). Watch St. Patrick's weekly bulletin for upcoming activities – and bring a friend!

## The LGBTQ+ Ministry Served Up Ice Cream and Fellowship

After 5:00 Mass on Saturday, June 29, the St. Patrick LGBTQ+ Ministry invited all parishioners to an ice cream social on the patio in front of the church. It was a beautiful summer evening for ice cream and conversation. Those interested in the ministry could sign up, and copies of Fr. James Martin's book, *Building a Bridge: How the Catholic Church and the LGBT Community Can Enter into a Relationship of Respect, Compassion, and Sensitivity*, were available for free, as were lapel pins and car magnets.

The LGBTQ+ Ministry formed last fall as an outgrowth of study of Fr. Martin's book, followed by Fr. Martin speaking at St. Patrick's via Skype. The group is working to make our parish a welcoming place for our Catholic LGBTQ+ brothers and sisters and their families. They plan more all-parish social events in the future — watch the bulletin for details.

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*If you are LGBT, or the family members of someone who is LGBT, and you would like an ally to accompany you on your faith journey, please call or text Lorraine Kim (217-721-3489).*



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

**Joyce Wagner**

**Mixed Vegetable Salad**

- 1 can red beans
- 1 can peas
- 1 can green beans
- 1 can corn
- 1/2 t salt
- 2 stalks celery, diced
- 2 T chopped onion

*Dressing:*

- 1/2 c vinegar
- 1/4 c oil
- 1-1/4 c sugar



Drain canned veggies and mix with salt, celery, and onion. For the dressing, bring the three ingredients to a boil, and when cool, mix with veggies.

\* \* \*

*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!*

SO MANY  
TREASURES,  
SO MANY GREAT  
BARGAINS!

*Anna Connor addresses volunteers on opening night*



*Cellar-to-Garret volunteers were indispensable*

**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 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. Bylines are generally omitted.

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**Articles, information, and photos** for this issue were provided by Paul and Wanpen Anderson, Karen Barnes, Carol Bosley, Frances Drone-Silvers, Judy Fierke, Denise Green, Patrick Hatch, Elizabeth Hendricks, Pat Justice, Lorraine Kim, Mary Lou Menches, Roxanne Munch, Susan Nagele, Katie O'Toole, Randy Pankau, Sarah Grosse Perdekamp, Cathy Salika, Sue Schreiber, Adam Smith, Susan Sondag, Jim Urban, and Joyce Wagner. Patron Saints by Fr. George Wuellner. This issue was edited by Mary Lou Menches, page layout by Yvona Vlach.



The deadline for submitting information, articles, and news items for the next (October) issue of *In Focus* is Sunday, **September 8.**

## Supplement

# CREW ON MISSION 2019

WE WORKED, PLAYED, PRAYED

By Sarah Grosse Perdekamp

The Mission Trip, this year, marked the 20th anniversary of St. Patrick's teen service trips. It began bright and early, at 6:00 a.m. on Sunday, July 14, when 28 people packed into 6 cars and 1 trailer to make the trek to the St. Augustine Indian Mission School and Church in Winnebago, Nebraska.

The participants this year were teens from seven different high schools: Justin Smith, Johnson Nguyen, Noelle Schacht, Karlee Feinen, Erinn Miller, Alyssa Pankau, Josiah Freedman, Nadine Trapp, Bailey McMahan, Daniel Caughlin, Amelia Case, Sydney McMahan, Cecily Dallas, Emily Hardimon, and Sarah Grosse Perdekamp. Also coming along were mission trip graduates Kayley Schacht and Molly Smith, and chaperons Randy Pankau, Patrick Hatch, Adam Smith, Lesley Schacht, Chris Freidhof, Pat Justice, Cora Rink, Marty Sierra-Perry, Morene Christman, Beth Caughlin, and J.R. Palmisano.

Once we arrived, Adam collected all of our cellphones and other electronics, and the group set up air mattresses and sleeping bags in the two classrooms we'd be using throughout the week. Afterward, we participated in our first team-building activity, using twenty uncooked spaghetti noodles and masking tape to build the tallest structure possible that could support a marshmallow at the top.

The teens were given paper bags to write their names on and decorate. Crewmates throughout the week wrote affirmations of support and kind words, and placed them in the bags. On the ride back to Urbana they had the opportunity to read the affirmations.

A typical day began at 6:00 a.m. for the home crew, who was responsible for the needs of the group. The work assignments would be announced, letting the students know if it was a jeans or shorts day, because several jobs required long pants. There were several different job assignments, including some that were around the St. Augustine Mission.

On Monday, a work crew started staining three ramps, one bridge, and a deck leading towards the outdoor classroom on the grounds of the mission. The home crew worked on weeding the perimeter of the road around the church to prepare it for the new asphalt job. They also painted the cabinets inside the church cafeteria, giving it a fresh look.

Other jobs throughout the week included weeding at the Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Worship Center, cleaning gutters, repairing walls and painting the interior of a local home in Winnebago, and painting the windows at St Joseph's Church in Walthill, Nebraska. The Winnebago tribe had its



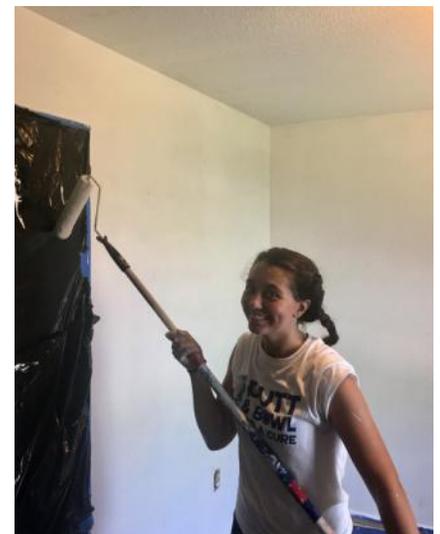
annual Homecoming Powwow celebration in late July, so the group arrived just in time to spruce up some of the buildings, like the Boys and Girls Club, before the festivities began.

In the evenings, many of the teens colored or played card games while waiting for the home crew to prepare dinner. The home crew led the rest of the group in prayer, and sometimes in song, before dinner was served.

Following the meal, the group observed Quiet Hour, a time of reflection. The students could pray, read, color, write affirmations, or even sleep during this time. Following Quiet Hour, the home crew would have prepared a group activity. These included a wide variety of games, such as an activity where teams drew three cards from a bag: a person, place, and a bible story, and then had to act these out for their audience, in order to have them guess what words had been on those three cards. The games were always fun and extremely creative.

Every night the students would gather for evening prayer, and also learn about other service opportunities in the Champaign-Urbana

**CREW Mission Trip** continued on pg. 16



community.

On Wednesday the group met Pierre, an Omaha (Umo<sup>ho</sup>) member from the nearby Omaha Reservation. He invited the group to join him and his family for an Omaha religious ritual, in a sweat lodge. During the ritual, the tribe members sacrifice comfort in order to offer up their prayers and keep themselves and their families safe. The teens learned that the Omaha religion involves a lot of self-sacrifice and that it is most important to put others first. Although, as Kayley said, “it made (her) reconsider how (she) defines heat,” it was a truly remarkable experience. This year’s mission trip allowed the students not only to serve a community in the Lord’s name, but also enabled them to experience an entirely different culture.

Participation in the mission trip requires some service in the Champaign-Urbana community during the school year, fundraising through Christmas wreath selling and leaf raking, and a spring service auction. There is also a fee for the trip which is determined after fundraising is over. If you would like more information or want to join the mission trip for summer 2020, please send an email to [missiontrip@stpaturbana.org](mailto:missiontrip@stpaturbana.org).

