

# St. Patrick Parish IN FOCUS

www.stpaturbana.org

July-Aug. 2022

## Journey with Jesus

Many of us have stayed close to home for the past two years, but are now beginning to think about traveling. There are many reasons to do so. There are



family members we haven't seen in a very long time. There are life events that we haven't yet celebrated with the people most dear to us. We may need rest, to let someone else cook the food and makes the beds, or just a change of scene. We may need a new challenge. We may take a pilgrimage, a journey of faith. These are all wonderful reasons to travel. But, as you make your plans, give a thought to how Jesus fits in with them.

If you pray every day at home, how will you accommodate this in your travel plans? You needn't pray in the same way as at home. In fact, it's probably a good thing to shake up your habits a bit. But make time

somehow, even briefly, to remember God's presence and God's love. Consider including a shrine or religious site in your itinerary, someplace that might spark your prayer when you return home.

If you will be away over a weekend, you'll be keeping the sabbath with another community. What a nice chance to experience the prayer of others, and to allow their customs to enlarge your own! Enjoy it,

and feel in your soul how much bigger and more diverse the Church is than your own parish.

If you are going to visit your extended family, what can you do to make it stronger? Are there old wounds that you can forgive or be forgiven? Are there stories to be shared and truths to be told? Call on Jesus to help you know how to deal with difficult situations. Rely on him to show you who needs your love in a new way.

Perhaps you will be making new friends and encountering new people, people with perspectives and experiences different from yours. Remember that every person

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## Coming in August – the Cellar-to-Garret Sale!

“Super!” “Fantastic!” “Wonderful!” These are just a few of the enthusiastic comments from patrons of the Cellar-to-Garret Sale upon hearing that this popular annual event is returning after having been thwarted by the pandemic for too long.

Sponsored by The Women of St. Patrick, this most successful fundraiser has funded several parish projects, such as the kitchen renovation, dishes and flatware for parish events, furniture for parish offices and the lounge, liturgical vestments and altar linen – and much, much more.



But the sale has more to offer than funds. Each sale brings people together in a common effort to provide at astonishingly low prices

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## Journey

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is a child of God, as you are, even the unhelpful bureaucrat, the haggling shopkeeper, and the person in the next seat. Each one is an opportunity to encounter God on your journey. Each one is an opportunity to show God how you love him.

Jesus walked from one end of Palestine to the other. He knew what it was to travel. He knew its pleasures and its annoyances, its adventure and its inconveniences, its joys and its aches. Invite him to travel with you as an experienced guide and as a close companion.

Go with God!

## Cellar

from page 1

items for those in need of them, not only in our faith community but also in our local community. Even more enriching, new friendships develop and relationships are deepened and reaffirmed both within and without our parish community.

The Cellar-to-Garret (read “garage”) Sale will take place this year August 11-13, following several days of setup in St. Brigid Hall. Many helping hands are needed if it is to be a success. Watch the parish bulletin for when and where to bring your gently used articles – and for the ways you can help.

## St. Katerina Tekakwitha – The Lily of the Mohawks

Kateri Tekakwitha is the first Native American to be recognized as a saint by the Catholic Church. She was born in 1656, in the Mohawk village of Ossernenon, to an Algonquin mother who was captured by the Mohawks and took a Mohawk chief as her husband.

When Kateri was four years old, smallpox ravaged her village. Her mother and father died, as did her younger brother. Kateri’s hearing was seriously impaired and her skin was scarred by the pox. She found the scarring of her face humiliating as a youth and tried to hide her face behind a blanket. Many statues of Kateri show her with a blanket around her shoulders.

Kateri was raised by her uncle, who also was a Mohawk chief. She was a skilled worker, diligent and patient. Many relatives urged her to marry, but she refused. In 1667, Jesuit missionaries spent three days in her uncle’s lodge; Kateri received her first knowledge of Christianity from them. Later she was baptized and pledged to marry only Christ. She became unpopular and some neighbors accused her of sorcery. Since her uncle’s lodge ceased to offer her protection, she escaped with some Christian Indians to Caughnawaga, where she lived with another Christian Indian woman.



Kateri’s sanctity impressed everyone, including the French and missionaries. Self-mortification was common among the Mohawks, and Kateri was no exception – she fasted and put thorns on her sleeping mat. Her health deteriorated, and she died on April 17, 1680, at the age of twenty-four. Devotion to her began immediately. Pilgrims visited her grave in Caughnawaga, where a monument to her memory was built on 1884.

St. Kateri Tekakwitha’s feast day is July 14. She was beatified by Pope John Paul II in 1980 and canonized by Pope Benedict XVI in 2012. She is the patron saint of the environment and ecology, of people in exile, and of Native Americans.

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If you wish to learn the love of God, you have to begin by praying for your enemies.

—Henri Nouwen

# Anti-racism program concludes with a prayer service

The last session of “Sharing Stories around a Table,” the parish program on the sin of racism, was one of reflection. There was a recap of the many wonderful speakers from the Champaign-Urbana community who had



generously shared their stories and knowledge with St. Patrick parishioners, a chance for participants to share what they were taking away from the experience, a powerful video, and a prayer service.

In a ten-minute excerpt from a longer video, Fr. Bryan Massingale, a black Catholic priest, author, and theological scholar who teaches at Fordham University, talked about how we as Catholics can begin the work of dismantling racism. As we learn about the terrible damage done by racism in individuals and institutions, we need to sit in the discomfort we feel. We need to mourn, grieve, and lament. Only

then will we have the courage to do the hard work ahead.

White Catholics can also use their white privilege. “White privilege doesn't mean that white people have always had it easy,” Fr. Massingale says. “Absolutely not! There are a lot of white folks who are struggling in this world. But it does mean that at least your skin color isn't something that you have to struggle against.” He suggests using that privilege to respond to racist jokes or comments, simply saying things like “That’s not funny” or “You might want to rethink that.”

He emphasized that white people pay a high price for racism, betraying our Christian faith. Quoting Pope Francis’s *Fratelli Tutti*, Fr. Massingale said, “We need to have an

examination of conscience, honest truth telling, naming how we've sinned by what we've done and what we've failed to do.” Just as it does with other sins we confess, the healing process requires that we have genuine contrition. Repenting the sin of racism also calls for “a public acknowledgment of responsibility and complicity because giving voice to that is part of the healing process.”

A Prayer Service for Racial Healing in Our Land, written by the USCCB, followed. As part of it, participants made an examination of conscience. They journaled and reflected on their answers, and then were invited to write on a slip of paper a belief or

a sin they had become aware of or an action they repented. Afterward, they burned the slips as they prayed. Their “penance” was to commit themselves to an action they felt God was calling them to.

In the fall a number of short programs will be offered for anyone who wishes to continue – or begin – this journey. In October, there will be a 4-week study of *Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love*, the USCCB’s 2018 pastoral letter against racism. Another group will work to create a potential statement of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for our parish. A book study is planned for November and other studies have been proposed for later in the year. If you are interested in proposing other topics for study and discussion, you might contact the organizers at [stpatpeaceandjustice1901@gmail.com](mailto:stpatpeaceandjustice1901@gmail.com).

Program organizers Lorraine Kim, Stan Yanchus, Mary Long, Kelly Skinner, and Elizabeth Hendricks thank everyone who participated in this program for helping to make it an educational and deeply spiritual experience.

What is the Lord like?  
Who was the Christ?  
How can one be three?  
What is called fact  
will not tell you:  
look deep  
into eyes that have found  
Him  
and see.

Ruth R. Rains

# Holy Cross Happenings

Field trips and musicals and graduation—oh, my! Now officially in the books, the 2021-22 school year



marked a return to normalcy in many wonderful ways. Field Day in particular seemed to encapsulate not only the Holy Cross community's pandemic-driven spirit of flexibility, but also its determination to hold on to what is good. Originally scheduled to return to Hessel Park—its traditional location—for the first time since 2019, a rainy forecast threatened to make it a scaled-down, at-school event. At the last minute, however, a decision was made to move it a day ahead—a date which promised (and delivered!) glorious weather.



A little earlier in the spring, the school musical (*Peter Pan Jr.*, this year's selection) returned to a packed house. Holy Cross School really shines through its annual theatrical production, and this year's was no exception. The tale of the Darling children and their journey to Neverland with Peter Pan was an especially spectacular backdrop for the students' undeniable talent. Some in attendance remembered the last time Holy Cross School put on that same show many years ago,

making the return to in-person theater especially touching for them.

Traditional end-of-year field trips were back on the calendar this year as well. Last year, parent volunteers—who are essential to making field trips happen—couldn't be used. This year, however, kids got the chance to pile into cars and journey off campus grounds for a day of fun building memories with classmates.

The final HCH installment of the school year wouldn't be complete without a big, heartfelt word of congratulations to our parish grads, who closed out their elementary years at Holy Cross: Katrina Kuenning will attend Central High School, Caroline Thomas-Lamb will begin a homeschool program, Marleo Mondebele and Peter Samu will attend The High School of St. Thomas More, and Natalie Pociask will attend Urbana High School in the fall. May the memories of your years at Holy Cross School always be a blessing to you all, and may God guide and bless your every step in the years to come!



Third graders keep a giant ball aloft at Field Day.

To all invested in Holy Cross School, your prayers for and support of the school are invaluable. Keep them coming, and may God bless the 2022-23 school year with more wonderful things!

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*Please contact [rachmcmill@gmail.com](mailto:rachmcmill@gmail.com) if there is anything you'd like to see featured in an upcoming installment of Holy Cross Happenings or if you have any additions or corrections to report.*

*Interested in having your children attend Holy Cross School? Schedule a tour of the school by calling Principal Greg Koerner (217-356-9521). Financial help may be available; contact St. Patrick's parish office (217-367-2665) for details.*

**HOLY CROSS SCHOOL HONOR ROLL,  
4th Quarter, 2021-22**

**Highest Honors**

Sarah Surratt  
Eireann Byard  
Emily Surratt  
Prunella Tembo

**High Honors**

Ursula Tembo  
Grace Arend  
Elizabeth Withers Sickles  
Love Samu  
Marleo Mondebele  
Natalie Pociask  
Peter Samu

**Honors**

Miles Hamby

**Let's hear it for our  
grandparents and the elderly!**

This July we celebrate the second annual Church-wide World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. In 2021 Pope Francis instituted this day of prayer and celebration on the fourth Sunday of July. Mid-summer places this special occasion close to the liturgical memorial of Saints Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus, observed on July 26.

Pope Francis declared on May 3, 2022, that all elderly and grandparents are called to be “artisans of the *revolution of tenderness* in our world!” Through prayer, sharing time together, and our common faith, people of all ages can increase the love of God in our world.

The World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly is an opportunity to proclaim once more, with joy, that the Church wants to celebrate together with all those whom the Lord, in the words of the Bible, has “filled with days.”




Roman Catholic parishes are urged to plan special Masses for the elderly, plant trees, organize events, and encourage new intergenerational ministries to commemorate the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, observed this year on July 24, 2022.

**VIVO's end-of-year fun**

By Frank Rosser

As a closeout for the 2021-22 year of our VIVO religious-education program, the students enjoyed a party. One highlight of the party was a game played in the dark called “Hiding in the Catacombs.” We explained to the middle-schoolers that early Christians often had to hide from persecution, and in Rome that was done in the tunnels beneath the city. If captured, the Christians would be imprisoned and were often sent to the Coliseum to be killed.

The game involved turning off all the lights in Trinity Hall and adjoining rooms. The students were released into the darkness in groups of two, where they had to find and collect Ichthys (  ) symbols, and then find a hiding place.

Roxanne Munch and I acted as the Roman soldiers, who searched for them (by flashlight) and, if we could tag them (not an easy task), we would put them in jail. If a student could evade us and get to the jail (stairwell leading to Trinity Hall), they could release the prisoners.

It was a wild and crazy game, followed by ice cream and cake and some more relaxing board and card games to conclude the evening – and their religious-education school year.

Our thanks to all the students for their energy and interest throughout the year!

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You and I would dance for joy  
were we to know truly that we,  
little people, are chosen,  
blessed, and broken  
to become the bread  
that will multiply itself  
in the giving.

—Henri Nouwen

## Rejoice and be glad!

Our 2022 high-school graduates were recognized at a Mass on May 14 at St. Patrick's, during which scholarships were awarded to assist them as they pursue the next level of their education. Congratulations to each one of you for your achievements; may you be graced by the continued support of parish family and friends as you meet your next challenges!

### High-school graduates and the colleges they plan to attend:

Ella Besson (St. Joseph-Ogden High School; University of Missouri)  
 Vigo Etshitshi (The High School of St. Thomas More; Carthage College)  
 Ashlyn Lannert (St. Joseph-Ogden High School; University of Mississippi)  
 Dawson Magrini (The High School of St. Thomas More; undecided)  
 Madelyn McCoy (The High School of St. Thomas More; Univ of New Mexico)  
 Conrad Miller (St. Joseph-Ogden High School; Iowa State University)  
 Malorie Sarnecki (St. Joseph-Ogden High School; University of Indianapolis)  
 Grace Schmitz (St. Joseph-Ogden High School; University of Illinois)  
 Anna Snyder (St. Joseph-Ogden High School; Eastern Illinois University)  
 Abbie Vessell (The High School of St. Thomas More; Illinois Army National Guard, Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville)

### Vincent O. Greene scholarships:

Through Mr. Greene's generosity, 19 scholarships totaling \$95,000 were awarded this year.

Joseph Acton (Illinois State)  
 Lisa Altaner (U of Illinois)  
 Calum Beckett (Berklee School of Music)  
 Brooke Berry (Northern Illinois U)  
 Karlee Feinen (Salve Regina U)  
 Austin Ford (U of Oregon)  
 Abigail Goad (Southern Illinois U)  
 Emily Goad (Richland Community)  
 Madelyn McCoy (New Mexico)  
 Conrad Miller (Iowa State)  
 Erin Miller (SLU)  
 Erin Minor (U of Illinois)  
 Ketsia Nzeza (U of Illinois)  
 Sarah Perdekamp (Indiana University)  
 Malorie Sarnecki (U of Indianapolis)  
 Jenna Schaefer (U of Illinois)  
 Evan Schmitz (U of Illinois)  
 Grace Schmitz (U of Illinois)  
 Molly Sweeney (Augustana College)

### Jerry McArthur scholarship:

Conrad Miller

### Fr. Charles Martell scholarships:

Vigo Etshitshi Conrad Miller  
 Madelyn McCoy Malorie Sarnecki

### Fr. Luke scholarship:

Kate McMillan (The High School of St. Thomas More)



**Q: The pope has asked us to pray for grandparents and the elderly, which led me to wonder: Who were Jesus' grandparents? I don't find them mentioned in the Bible.**

**A:** It's true that you won't find clues to their identity in the Bible, but like any other baby, Jesus did have grandparents! Tradition tells us that Mary's parents were Anne (or Anna, in Hebrew) and Joachim.

Using sources from Christian tradition and a short text called the "Book of James," we learn that Joachim and Anne were very old and had no children, which led to their being subjected to public reproach. Joachim, remembering that God had blessed Abraham and Sarah with a son in their old age, went off to the desert to fast and pray for forty days. An angel appeared to him and promised that the couple would have a child.

An angel appeared to Anne as well, announcing that she would bear a child "who would be spoken of in all the world." Immediately on his return from the desert, Joachim went to the Temple to offer gifts to the Lord. And nine months later, Anne and Joachim had a daughter, whom they named Mary – but you knew that, didn't you!

The Church honors Grandma Anne and Grandpa Joachim on July 26. Anne is invoked as the patron of grandparents, married women, and childless couples who desire to have children.

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 You do not have to change for God to love you.

—Anthony De Mello

# Memorial Day at St. Mary Cemetery

A warm sun and a fresh breeze blessed the Mass at the cemetery on Memorial Day. Boy Scouts presented the U.S. flag, the chorus from Holy Cross School led the singing of the National Anthem, and the Champaign Police gave a 21-gun salute and played Taps in memory of all who lost their lives in the service of our country.

Fr. Fredi Gomez-Torres from St. Mary Parish presided at Mass, assisted by some of the Knights of Columbus. It was good to be there, surrounded by our ancestors in the faith.



## Vocation Prayer

Loving Father, you know well the person I've become, no doubt far from what you expected of me. Yet here I stand, hoping that you still have a role for me in helping to advance your Kingdom – here where I am planted, and now, with whatever years remain to me. I need your help to see how best I may serve. What would you have me do? I love you, Father – use me however you will.

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

### Lori McDonough

#### Spaghetti Pie

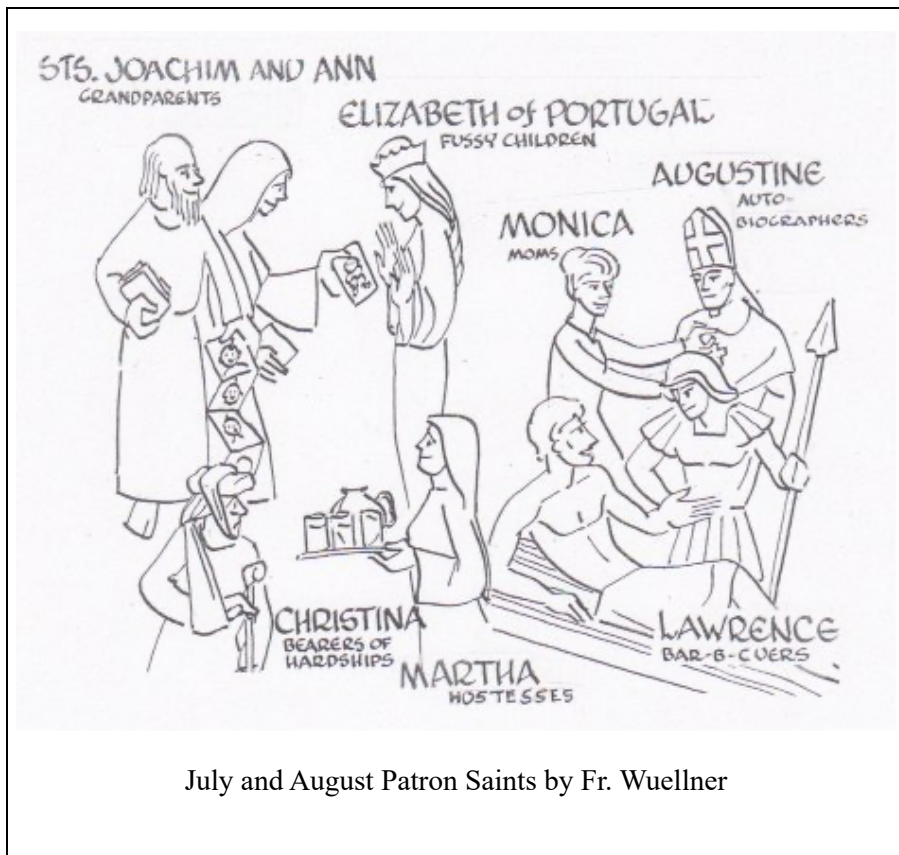
1/2 lb cooked spaghetti  
 2 T olive oil or melted butter  
 2 large eggs, well beaten  
 1/2 c + 2 T grated Parmesan cheese, divided  
 1 c ricotta cheese  
 1 c spaghetti sauce  
 1/2 c (2 oz) shredded mozzarella cheese



In a large bowl, toss spaghetti with olive oil. In a small bowl combine eggs and 1/2 cup Parmesan cheese. Stir into spaghetti, then pour mixture into sprayed or buttered 10-inch pie pan, forming a "crust." Spread ricotta cheese evenly over the crust, but not quite to the edge, and top with spaghetti sauce. Bake at 350°, uncovered, for 25 minutes. Top with mozzarella and bake 5 more minutes, or until cheese melts. Remove from oven and sprinkle with remaining (2T) Parmesan cheese. Cool 10 minutes before slicing into wedges.

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



July and August Patron Saints by Fr. Wuellner



**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 [infocusstpats@gmail.com](mailto:infocusstpats@gmail.com). You may also send them to any Communications Committee member (all are listed with contact information on the last page of this issue. All submissions are subject to review and/or editing by the committee and staff. Bylines are generally omitted.

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The deadline for submitting information, articles, and news items for the next (September) issue of *In Focus* is **Sunday, August 7.**