

St. Patrick Parish IN FOCUS



www.stpatuurbana.org

June 20 2022

Transitions



The month of June is a time of transitions for many of us. Some are moving on to new schools or jobs. Some are moving to new towns or even countries. Some are preparing to enter into marriage. If you're not

making a transition yourself this year, perhaps remembering what it was like will enable you to offer support to someone who is.

One act that can help with transitions is staying in touch with a Catholic faith community. There you'll find friendships and knowledge about your new area. You'll be giving your faith a chance to grow in tandem with other growth in your life and experience. You'll find ways to help the larger world, outside of your immediate concerns, where people need food, water, shelter, safety, and justice. And in its rhythm of prayer, you'll find something familiar and, at times, inspiring.

A faith community is a tangible part of the Body of Christ, the place where Jesus is present in Word and Sacrament. Whenever you find yourself, however difficult it is to find your way, whatever mistakes you have made, always remember that Jesus is with us. He knows us better than we know ourselves. He knows where we need to grow and what we need to grow out of. He loves us better than we love ourselves. He loves us always.

The saints, too, are part of the Body of Christ. If you'd like to invite one of the saints to accompany you and pray for you during your time of transition, how about St. Aloysius Gonzaga? He is the patron saint of students. Born in the 16th century, his noble family hoped he would take to life in the military or at court. He tried both but decided that he really wanted to be a Jesuit missionary. His studies were interrupted by a wave of the plague in Rome, and he died serving the sick, at the age of 23. His feast day is June 21.

God so deeply wants to be with us that he is present to us in many ways. Blessed be God, who is with us always!

Our Parish Council needs YOU!

Do you remember the poster from World War II where Uncle Sam insists "I want YOU!"? Well, substitute a photo of St. Patrick for Uncle Sam and "Parish Council" for "U.S. Army" and you've got it!

Every year the Parish Council needs parishioners to fill vacancies on the Council as members rotate off after completion of their three-year terms.

Think about it: what are you doing for your parish that is as significant to the future well-being of the parish or the local community?

What else do you need to know? Meetings, which take place from 7 to 8:30 p.m., are held once a month, usually on the second Wednesday, chaired by the Council president from an agenda prepared at an executive meeting of Council officers, parish trustees, and the pastor.

How are new members chosen? Parishioners who have shown a special interest in the parish through ministries of one kind or another, who have shown leadership and communication abilities, or who simply want to help the parish in any way they can are asked to submit their names for consideration. It's as simple as that.

If it feels right to you, give your name and telephone number and/or your email address to Mary Tate, indicating that you'd like to serve on the Council. She will get back to you via phone or email. Now a member of the parish staff, Mary is the recently retired president of the Council and therefore is well positioned to answer any questions you may have.

I WANT YOU

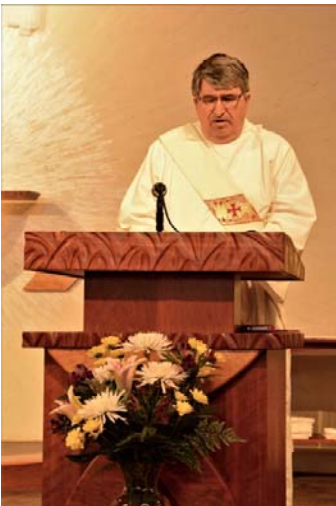


for the Parish Council
ENLIST NOW

1st Communion, a simple and festive step in faith

For the seven sacraments, the Church has a special rite that tells the priest, bishop, and participants what to say and do. For First Holy Communion Mass and at every Mass, we celebrate the Communion Rite, where the greatness and grace is in the reception of the Body and Blood of Christ consecrated from simple bread and wine. We simply do what we do at Mass every day and our children “simply” receive from God what God provides at every Mass. And yet, First Holy Communion is one of many of a child’s first steps, all of which give joy to those who watch the child grow. So, this day is as ordinary as daily bread, consecrated and as festive as a fine wine, blest and poured out. In this year when our bishop is calling for renewed fervor for the Holy Eucharist, may all of us, Children of God, see that it is not so much simple as it is simply a Rite celebrated every single day because it is so special.

- Preston Wayne Thomas Ahart
- Abigail Barnhart
- June Harper Buckley
- Emmett Warren Dalhaus
- Reagan Grace Freres
- Rhett Heuer
- Elise Kathryn Hoffmann
- Anna Teresa Kaap
- Janie Rose Learned
- Jax Ryan Learned
- Aurelio Martinez
- Jose Martinez
- Sebastian Martinez
- Ethan Gabriel Mendiola-Hamilton
- Noella Nzeza
- Jacob Risley
- Katelyn Risley
- Kole Sanchez
- Cayden Jay Scherbring





Q: What’s the difference between a parish administrator and a pastor?

A: Generally speaking, there isn’t much of a difference between pastor and administrator, as far as day-to-day duties. Canon Law notes that “a parochial administrator is bound by the same duties and possesses the same rights as a pastor unless the diocesan bishop establishes otherwise” (Can. 540 §1). The statutes of the

Diocese of Peoria also note that an administrator “should follow the principle of ‘nihil innovetur’ in the sense of Canon 428. He should not seek to change the established practices or traditions of a parish or mission, nor take any action which can prejudice the rights of the succeeding pastor or harm parish goods (Can. 540 §2).”

Canon Law also notes that bishops generally have greater flexibility in assigning a priest with a designation of administrator. Sometimes the administrator title will be given to a priest who is new to the role of pastor, for example, and then later will have the title changed to pastor after the priest has had some experience in the role.

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*Got questions about the new church? Send them to infocusstpats@gmail.com and we’ll try to answer them in future issues of *In Focus*.*

How can I make a return to the Lord for all God has done for me?

I will take up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

Three parishioners honored for their service

Three women from St Patrick’s were honored for their service by the Peoria Diocesan Council of Catholic Women. The award ceremony was held in Peoria on April 29.

Marie Horn was recognized for her work as a parish nurse, usher, EM, and with the food pantry.

Mary Long is retired from the parish staff, although she filled in for a year just recently. She also serves as a spiritual director, facilitator of spiritual programs, and EM. Diane Wilhelm works in many areas of liturgical ministry and at the food pantry. Congratulations to you all!



Diane



Marie



Mary

Totus Tuus returns!

Totus Tuus will be back this summer at St. Patrick’s. The children’s program, for youngsters entering first through sixth grades, will take place from Monday to Friday, July 11-15, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. each day. The program for junior-high and high-school students will be held 7-9 p.m., each evening, from Sunday to Thursday, July 10-14.

The program is led by two male college-aged men, possibly a seminarian, and two college-aged women from the Diocese of Peoria. Watch the weekly bulletin for more information and registration.



CREW Mission Trip serving our local community

Please pray for our young people in CREW. They will be participating in the Catholic Heart Workcamp (CHW) during the week of June 12-18, working on projects in the Urbana-Champaign area. CHW facilitates mission trips for young people throughout the U.S., providing opportunities for service, prayer, and camaraderie. We’ll hear more about the projects that CREW worked on when they return.



The deadline for submitting information, articles, and news items for the next issue of *In Focus* is **Sunday, June 5.**

A (K)night to remember



After two years and several cancelled attempts during Covid, the Knights of Columbus and the Cath'lic Boys finally got to feed and entertain the Ladies of St. Patrick's Parish. On Saturday, April 30, "Ladies Knight Out," a thirty-year tradition, was presented.

St. Brigid Hall looked lovely with burgundy tablecloths, sparkling dinnerware, and stemmed wine glasses. There were candles and roses on every table. The hall was decorated with strings of twinkling Italian lights. Every guest was handed a long-stem rose and a raffle ticket on entering the hall.

The gentlemanly Knights went out of their way to attend to their guests. They offered everyone a glass of red or white wine, and they circulated to refill the glasses as called for. The guests munched on crackers and cheeses and nuts while sipping wine and conversing

at their tables. Soon everyone was presented a salad and bowls of various dressings. Then the Knights whisked about, removing salad bowls and delivering plates of steak or chicken breast, with baked potato and a melange of Asian vegetables.

While guests savored the rich cheesecake dessert, the winning raffle tickets were announced and the prizes brought to the lucky winners.

At 7 o'clock, what everyone was waiting for, the entertainment portion of the evening, began. Guests abandoned their tables for chairs set up in front of the stage. Then the Cath'lic Boys presented their skits, entitled "Any Dream Will Do," accompanied by their musicians.

Since the skits were performed with songs based on dreaming, the

Cath'lic Boys appeared wearing pajamas and carrying stuffed animals. Soon they stripped off their pj's to reveal white dress shirts with bow ties and black slacks. Jim Mayer led the singers with "Hello Ladies (Dolly)." In the next skit he danced with guests in the audience to "Way down South in Effingham." Then the Bosely brothers, with guitar, sang "Sleepy Jean." When they sang "homecoming queen," out came Gary Wszalek in a slinky, backless gown, causing many squeals in the audience. Father Anthony joined the Boys for a skit on the Chicago Bears and again later in "O Happy Days."

The ensuing drama, a thunder and lightning storm, began just as the audience ran for their cars, an exciting ending to an exhilarating evening.



A father's prayer

Lord, I need your special care. Like your earthly father,
Joseph, I want to do God's will,
even if I may not always understand.

Make me gentle and selfless in the care of my family and
children; help me guide them in the toils and troubles, the
happiness, and wonders of this life. Make me strong in love and
forgiveness for those you entrust to my care.

No one can do all this rightly, Lord, without your constant
help. Be with me always, and when my work here is done, may
I come to you in heaven, and all my family with me. Amen.

Safe Branch

A seed floats on the wind.

Settling, it sinks in, snuggles into
the earth and begins to grow.

The bird flies to the branch.

Landing, it begins to sing.

God, may I be a safe place
where goodness may take root,
a beautiful song unfold,
another person, maybe
even a stranger, become free.

—Steve Garnass-Holmes



**St. Patrick
Easter Vigil
2022**



Food for the hungry

Once again, members of the local Catholic community are busy at the organic gardens at Meadowbrook Park, tilling and weeding and planting seeds. Rented, supplied, and maintained by donations from gardeners who tend the plants throughout the spring and summer, last year's garden yielded more than 250 pounds of vegetables for the Saint Vincent de Paul food pantry at St. Patrick's.

This year's crops include more than 36 tomato plants, as well as lettuce, kale, Swiss chard, green beans, sweet peas, sweet and hot pepper plants. Eggplants and squash may fill in the gaps if space allows.

Precious memories of First Holy Communion

At the Last Supper, Jesus drew together much of his teaching and united them in the institution of the Eucharist. He and the apostles celebrated their "First Communion" the evening before his crucifixion. In early centuries, Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist were celebrated together, and infants, children, and adults received all three sacraments at the same time, frequently during what is now known as the Easter Vigil. For the infant, the priest would dip a finger or thumb into the Precious Blood and place a drop on the infant's tongue.

Practices varied for receiving the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist) as the centuries progressed. In 1910, the Sacred Congregation for the Discipline of the Sacraments said that the age of discretion should be around seven years of age. Pope Pius X (1903-1914) approved and published the decree.

Recently some St. Patrick's parishioners shared their First Communion memories:

Leslie Schacht remembers the gifts she received: a rosary and a small wooden cross with a metal circle that read "First Holy Communion." She and her husband Marshall were married and had two daughters before Marshall went through the RCIA program and on to his First Communion. He says that it brought him peace to finally be able to join his family in receiving Communion.

Ten-year-old Gage Tranel says he liked receiving the Body of Jesus. He remembers wearing an orange top with green pants and Sketchers while the other boys wore dress-up suits. His brother Luke, 14, remembers that the host tasted like bread, and that both he and the boys in his class wore casual clothes. The brothers each received First Communion from Fr. Luke Spannagel.

Rose, 8, was part of the 2021 First Communion class. Because of Covid-19, they wore masks in their photo.

Rose's white dress had been bought for her to wear as a flower girl in a wedding that was canceled due to the pandemic. She remembers the celebrations after the Mass: going with her family to Subway and then a park, and days later her Communion class had pizza on the church lawn.

Anna Tranel, 20, received her First Communion in 7th grade. She and her older brother were prepared together. Instead of a special ceremony, they joined the Communion line during a Sunday Mass. When they reached Fr. Joe Hogan, he asked, "What are you two doing here?" Smiling, he asked them to turn around and introduce themselves to the parishioners.

The children's father, Pat Tranel, had a more traditional First Communion. He remembers having to process with his hands in prayer, right thumb over the left. He had seen the host only from afar and thought it was a white jelly bean. He was a little surprised when he experienced the real taste.

Mary Lou Menches remembers thinking her First Communion host tasted a bit like cardboard. Her younger sister escorted Mary Lou in the procession into and out of the church, and led her to the communion railing and then back to her pew. Mary Lou received a First Communion prayerbook and a white rosary from her godmother and a lovely crocheted handkerchief from her aunt.

Elizabeth Chippewa was 8 when she received her First Communion. She said the taste was awesome! Afterwards, "I felt more like an adult," she remembers. There was a family celebration and she was given a Yorkie puppy named Penny.

Marty Sierra-Perry received her First Communion at St. John's in Peoria. The girls lined up on one side and the boys on the other as

they came down the aisle to kneel at the communion rail.

Steve Beckett converted to Catholicism after marriage. When he went up for his First Communion, his oldest son, Chad, was acting up, and the priest said Steve could receive Communion when Chad settled down. Fortunately, Chad cooperated and all went well!

Barbara Beckett taught 2nd grade at Holy Cross school and remembers preparing her students to receive their First Communion. Monsignor Hallin took them to see the monstrance and other articles used during Mass. They were allowed to taste the unconsecrated host and take a sip of unconsecrated wine. Fr. Willard taught the children the word "transubstantiation." During the First Communion ceremony, when he asked if they knew the term for when the bread and wine become the true Body and Blood of Christ even though their appearance doesn't change, all of them called out, "Transubstantiation!"

Judy Lubben still has her First Communion dress and veil. She remembers standing on the church steps in chilly weather, freezing! A rather strict nun prepared her class, and Judy's brother says Judy got a ruler across her knuckles more than once.

When Susie McArthur received her First Communion at St. Patrick's in 1957, all the girls had the same veil, white purse, prayer book, white rosary, white gloves, white socks, and white patent leather shoes. The children sat in the first rows before coming up to kneel at the communion rail, where Fr. J. Walter McGinn gave them Communion.

Anyone can receive their First Communion with the approval of their pastor, at any time of year. Because of the Eucharist's close

(Continued on next page)

Precious Memories

(from previous page)

connection to the Easter Season, First Communion is most often celebrated soon after Easter. This year at St. Patrick's it was celebrated on Saturday, May 7.



First Communicant Mary Lou Menches, accompanied by her "angel" sister Barbara, May 1941.

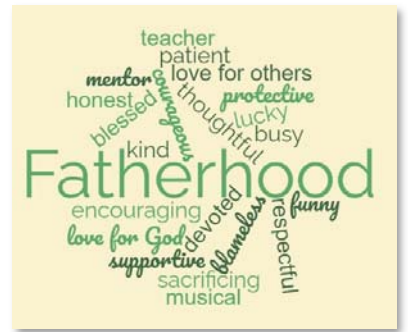


Susie McArthur shares this fashion photo of her First Communion dress, 1957.

Many of us fondly remember our former Music Director, Laura Theby, now Laura Cooman.



Laura and her husband, Colby, have just been blessed with their first child, and she sent this photo to share. Meet Felix Edward Cooman, born Friday, March 18, 2022, at 5:57 a.m. **Congratulations to the Cooman family!**

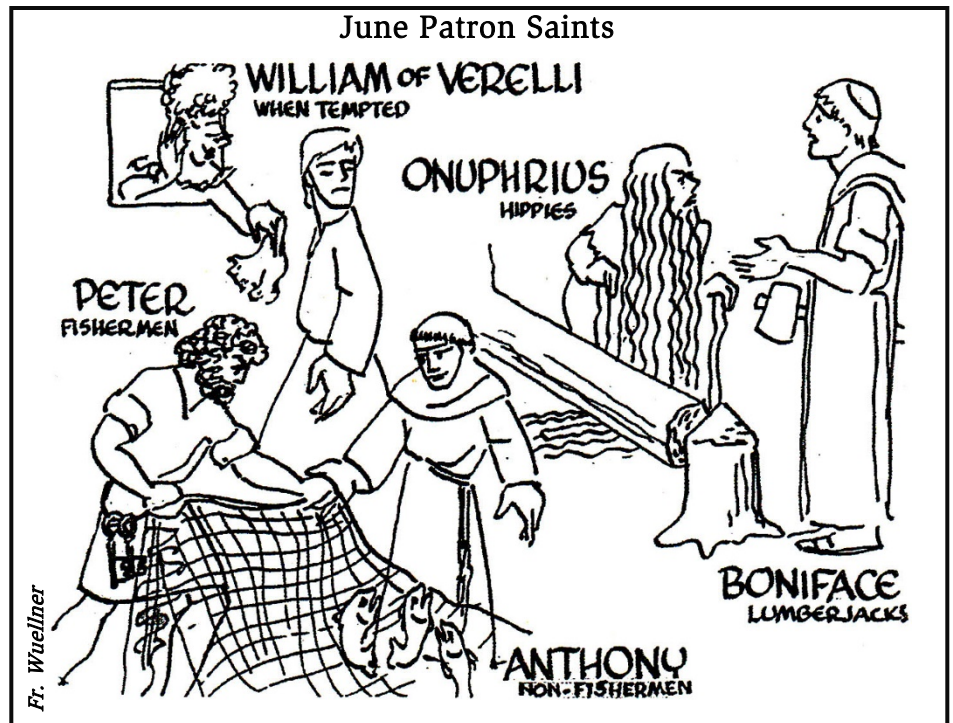


Music Director Frank Gallo shares some thoughts about his first twenty months of fatherhood.

Vocation Prayer

Loving Father, the scripture readings in recent weeks have focused on Jesus' appearances to his followers and friends with words of comfort and reassurance. For me these words provide reassurance and a sense of what he wants of me: "Go, share the good news, reveal me to those who don't yet know me. Let love be the way." Father, I'm ready, help me to see how I can carry this out. I'm no longer young, but what years I have I give to you to use in whatever way you deem best. With love I give them to you....

June Patron Saints



How unconscious bias affects health care

The next-to-last session of “Sharing Stories,” the parish anti-racism program, addressed racial disparities in healthcare. Participants watched two excerpts from a new documentary called, “The Color of Care,” executive produced by Oprah Winfrey for the Smithsonian Channel. (It’s available to watch on Youtube.)

Although many healthcare practitioners may strive to treat all patients equally, data shows that even controlling for other factors, outcomes for patients of color are worse than for white patients. This is because many of the racial biases and assumptions made by the physicians whose research and development contributed to our medical knowledge have been “baked in” and are now such an integral part of standard medicine that they are seldom noticed or questioned. Some examples are that Black patients are still often assumed to experience far less pain than white patients; and some algorithms for diagnosing illnesses such as severe chronic kidney disease contain “racial multipliers” that cause a large percentage of Black patients to not be diagnosed until their disease is dangerously advanced.

After the film excerpts, Chaundra Bishop, who is the Illinois Department of Public Health Regional Health Officer for Champaign and surrounding counties, talked about what health and healthcare issues are of concern in the local Black and BIPOC community, and shared some of her personal experiences in healthcare. A lively Q&A and discussion followed, thanks in part to the presence of several nurses among the participants who had a number of relevant questions and also shared their own observations and experiences of bias in healthcare.

The last session for this year’s program is on Thursday, June 2, from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome, whether you’ve attended previous sessions or not. There will be discussion, prayer, and reflection, as well as a chance for participants to share their ideas about how they feel called to move forward in combatting racial injustice, and what programs they would like to see next fall. If you would like to be added to the email list to receive a reminder, a resource list, or links to videos of some previous sessions, or if you have questions, please contact [Stan Yanchus \(family4yanchus@comcast.net\)](mailto:family4yanchus@comcast.net) or [Elizabeth Hendricks \(elizabethwhalend@gmail.com\)](mailto:ElizabethHendricks@gmail.com).

Can you help *In Focus* happen?

Many people contribute their time and talents to help *In Focus* come out each month. We’re happy to have all kinds of help, but we have two special needs right now.

Page Layout: Three or four times a year, you would receive files of edited articles and photos, lay them out using whatever software you prefer, and create a pdf.

Committee Member: We meet monthly (virtually, for now) to brainstorm articles for the next issue. Meetings are usually held on the fourth Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Interested?

Contact Cathy Salika at 367-7861 or csalika@illinois.edu.



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 infocusstps@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.

Editorial board: Sofia Dunets, 217-848-0719 (sdunets@illinois.edu); Judy Fierke, 352-7670 (j-fierke@comcast.net); Denise Green, 553-7110 (dgree1@gmail.com); Elizabeth Hendricks, 328-2184 (elizabethwhalend@gmail.com); Mary Lou Menches, 344-1125 (mmenches@illinois.edu); Cathy Salika, 367-7861 (csalika@illinois.edu).

Associates: John Colombo, Rachael McMillan, Rick Partin, Shirley Splittstoesser, Jim Urban, and Jerry Walsh.

Articles, information, and photos for this issue were provided by Laura Coon, Judy Fierke, Frank Gallo, Denise Green, Elizabeth Hendricks, Susie McArthur, Mary Maglione, Pat Mayer, Mary Lou Menches, Sam Reese, Cathy Salika, Shirley Splittstoesser, Mary Tate, and Mary Twigg. Patron Saints by Fr. George Wuellner. This issue was edited by Rick Partin, with page layout prepared by Jim Urban.

The deadline for submitting articles and news items for the next (July-August) issue of *In Focus* is **Sunday, June 5**.

Quick fixin’s from the kitchen of . . .

Mary Maglione

Red, White, and Blue Fruit Salad

- 2 t lemon juice
- 1 c water
- 1 apple, peeled and cut into half- inch pieces
- 1/4 c fat-free Greek yogurt
- 1 T honey
- 1 t lime juice
- 2 c (8 oz) strawberries, sliced
- 1/2 c (3 oz) blueberries
- 1/2 c (3 oz) raspberries

In a small bowl, combine lemon juice and water. Stir in apple; set aside. In another



small bowl, mix yogurt, honey, and lime juice until combined. Drain apples and place in a large bowl. Add strawberries, blueberries, and raspberries. Add yogurt mixture and toss until evenly coated. Serve immediately or refrigerate.

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If you have a recipe you’d like to share, please send it to Mary Lou Menches (344-1125,