

St. Patrick Parish IN FOCUS

www.stpaturbana.org

October 2022

A harvest prayer

Pray for the people who work to feed everyone on our planet!

Pray for the sunshine that our crops need to grow. Pray for rains that come at the right time and in the right amount. Pray for people who live in places with too much rain, or not enough rain. Pray for those whose crops have failed. Pray for researchers and farmers who are learning to deal with a changing



environment. Pray for their wisdom in conserving the land and its resources. Pray for this wisdom for yourself as well.

Pray for safety for our farmers and farm workers as they labor to bring in the crops. Pray for a just income for them. Pray that they find joy and satisfaction in their work. Pray for all who work to process and distribute the earth's produce. Pray that they too have safe working conditions and a just wage. Pray that by the work they do they will come to know God's goodness and care.

Pray for enough food for everyone in the world. Pray for systems that distribute food more efficiently and fairly. Pray that food will be available at prices that people can afford. Pray for those who do not have adequate food and clean water. Pray for aid workers who serve in places where there is not enough food and water. Pray for political leaders who direct the distribution of food. Pray for wisdom for yourself, that you may choose your leaders wisely.

Pray for those who have plenty. Pray for an end to waste and over-consumption. Pray for forgiveness for the times that you have not acted for the good of all.

Pray because God is the source of every good thing.

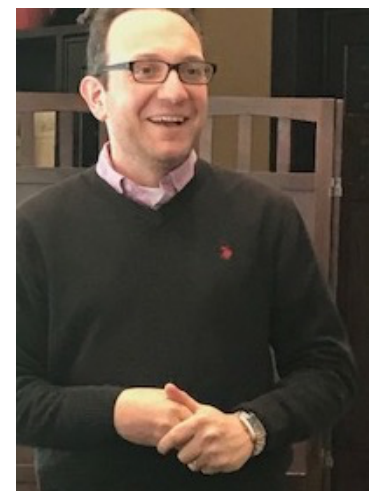
Pray because God gives us the responsibility of using his gifts well. Pray because God fills every hunger, hunger for food, for love, for himself. Pray because God is good! Amen!

See you around, Frank!

Our Music Director, Dr. Frank Gallo, resigned at the end of July this year. In the six years that he has been with us, he has done a lot to nurture our worship of God and the strength of our parish



community through our singing and music-making. He chose hymns and choral works of many ages, cultures, and styles. We are grateful for his dedicated leadership, his thirst for



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Frank

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learning new music, and his enthusiasm for sharing it with us.



Beyond our liturgies, Frank brought us special musical events that gave us different ways to reflect on our faith. Do you remember these?

Dec 4, 2016	Lessons & Carols
Apr 1, 2017	Faure's <i>Requiem</i>
Dec 10, 2017	Lessons & Carols
Mar 3, 2018	Frank's <i>Seven Last Words of Christ</i>
Dec 9, 2018	Lessons & Carols
Nov 3, 2020	Sing-a-thon to Benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

His ability to draw people together and organize them is amazing! These events helped to make St. Patrick's better known in our local community, and to



bring people to our doors who would not otherwise have met us.

Frank worked with musicians of all levels of skill, with kindness, support, and affirmation. He is leaving us to take a job at the University of Illinois, teaching public speaking. This gives him more free time to be with his family on evenings and weekends.

But he is not abandoning music! For several years now, Frank has been teaching music educators how to teach music using the methods of Zoltan Kodaly. The program is located at Lakeland College in Wisconsin. He is now taking administrative responsibility for the Master of Music program there, along with his teaching. And he will continue to direct the Parkland Chamber Singers, a group centered at Parkland College that involves both students and community members in singing choral works.

Since he will still be living in our area, we can hope to see him around occasionally. Meanwhile, we wish him all success in his new endeavors.

Hail and farewell, Fr. Julio!

We thought we'd be introducing Fr. Julio Faes in this issue of *In Focus*, but we're saying goodbye too. Fr. Julio is a priest of the Archdiocese of Parana, Argentina, and he has been serving the Diocese of Peoria in Hispanic ministry since 2019. He came to St. Patrick and St. Mary on June 15 of this year. Many who had the chance to meet him commented on his friendliness and warmth.

Fr. Anthony took administrative responsibility at St. Mary, leaving Fr. Julio to focus on sacramental and community life. In two months, Fr. Julio increased the weekend Mass attendance by the pews-ful. Clearly there was a great need for his gifts! So it's a great disappointment that visa problems have caused him to leave us so soon! We wish him God's blessings and safe travel.



Talented musicians enhance our worship

If you attend the St. Patrick's Saturday Masses, you may have noticed the bright, lyrical sounds of a violin or flute adding to the melodies of our hymns that ring out through our spacious sanctuary. If so, this musical delight is created by members of our Instrumental Ensemble.

The Instrumental Ensemble is one of several ensembles organized and led by Mora Novey, our Interim Director of Music. Usually, the Ensemble plays at the Saturday Mass two times a month, but occasionally plays at Sunday Masses and other services. It has been playing regularly at Masses since 2017.

The Ensemble strives to provide a more contemporary style of accompaniment for our congregational singing. It is designed to provide a full melodic, harmonic, and rhythmic texture to make our hymn singing rich and full. The violin and flute add strength and color to our melodies, as well as often weaving complementary countermelodies into the familiar tunes of our hymns. The piano enriches with confident melodies and robust harmonies as the guitar adds

rhythm and energy with lively picking and strumming. The bass guitar and conga drums synchronize to add depth of sound, maintain the tempo, and enhance energetic rhythms.

The arrangements that the Ensemble plays often convey a contemporary character, drawing from harmonies and rhythms inspired by popular music, gospel, folk, or jazz styles. Some of these come directly from our *Gather* hymnal instrumental editions, but other arrangements are sought

the Ensemble may include Mora Novey, piano and voice; Maria Perdekemp, violin; Matt Reeder and Lisa Altaner, flute; Pat Mayer and Bill Blickhan, guitars; Sam Reese, bass guitar; Susan Reese, percussion; and Mardia Bishop, conga drums. The instrumentalists are joined by a number of our cantors, such as Cathy Salika, Jim Mayer, Maureen Reagan, Luke Perdekemp, and others.

The musicians must be skilled and confident music readers as well as perceptive listeners who

can adjust "in the moment" to the other members of the ensemble. Rehearsal time is short – limited to about 45 minutes before Mass begins. But the Ensemble seems always to come through with a full, rich sound even when under time pressure.

Since February, the Ensemble has benefited from the new sound system installed in the music area of the sanctuary. This system is integrated into the main sound system of the sanctuary, which helps balance and distribute the sound

of the Ensemble to all sitting areas in the church. It also helps the musicians hear themselves and the whole ensemble more clearly and evenly as they perform.

St. Patrick's has long been blessed with talented musicians. The Instrumental Ensemble is just one of our parish's music groups that proclaim the Word with the expressive power that music helps to convey.



from publications like *Revival: Traditional Hymns for Contemporary Ensembles*, by Tony Alonso. Other sources are special publications like *Psalms for the Church Year*, by Marty Haugen, or individual song arrangements such as *I Will Arise*, by John L. Bell.

The membership of the Ensemble can vary according to when individual musicians are available. Regular contributors to

Emmaus Days for two parishioners

Two of our young people, Jesse and Michael Kaap, participated in Emmaus Days this year. They wrote about their experiences for all of us. *Thanks, Jesse and Michael!*

From Jesse:

On Sunday, July 17, I walked into Peoria Notre Dame High School. Little did I know I was about to have the best four days of my life. The mix of fun activities and prayer gave my life a nice rhythm. The frequent times for prayer gave me quite a bit of time to reflect on myself, as well as to spend time with God and to talk with Him.

The activities helped balance out, reflecting inwards and socializing with others. Some activities were physical, like Capture the Flag, tug of war, a water balloon fight, or kickball. Others were mental activities, such as Scattergories, or trivia about the diocese. These activities would earn your team points.

Throughout the week, some activities involved everyone who was there, while others were just with your group. At the beginning of the week, the fifty or so guys there were split into four groups. Each group was under the patronage of a saint. This session, the four saints were St. Francis of Assisi, St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Thorlak (patron saint of Iceland), and St. Joseph Cupertino.

After each activity, the teams would be given points, according to how well they did during the activity. Each member of the winning team at the end of the week was presented with socks. (I have a beautiful pair of socks with St. Therese of Lisieux on them.) This session, St. Francis of Assisi, led by Seminarists Francis Strong and John Paul Stedwill, won the team competition.

On our last day, we had the privilege of attending a Mass presided over by Bishop Louis Tylka.

Even though it was my first time at Emmaus Days, by the time I left, it already felt like home. Would I recommend that other young men check it out? One hundred percent! I had a blast, learned more about my

faith, and met a ton of new people! It definitely changed me and how I look at the world. It was the best experience I've had in my life. Have a good day, everyone, and God bless.

From Michael:

Emmaus Days is a fun way to grow in faith and to meet new people. Participants sleep together with about 25-30 people in a classroom. Normally there are four or five groups with 12-15 guys to a group. Groups earn points by winning activities, being reverent in adoration or prayer, and answering questions correctly.

While all the campers get a token and an Our Lady of Mount Carmel scapular, the winners get a prize as well as a token and scapular. This year's token was a Saint George medal, and this year's prize was Therese of Lisieux socks. Throughout the day, every day, you pray a decade of the rosary so that by the end of the day you have prayed a full rosary.

Emmaus Days are split into four groups. College students go first at the Newman Center on the UIUC campus. High school juniors and seniors also participate in Emmaus Days at the Newman Center. Freshmen and sophomores go to Peoria for Emmaus Days. Seventh- and eighth-graders also go to Peoria. I carpooled to Peoria on the 22nd of July as part of the fourth group. I stayed there until the afternoon of the 24th, when I and two of my friends carpooled for the trip home.

The first day, we separated into teams and each team chose a name. I was in the Blessed Fulton Sheen group. That afternoon, we all competed in a tug of war tournament and then a round of campers versus seminarists. Afterwards, we had a half hour of free time, then we went to adoration and Father Chase gave a talk about his vocational journey.

That evening we were told we were going outside for a water balloon toss, but instead some of the seminarists ambushed us and declared all-out war. After all this we cleaned up the trash, and the teams were awarded points on how many balloon pieces they picked up. Then we headed around the building for dinner. Once finished we went to shower—we showered every morning and every night. (Seems appropriate for a bunch of teenage boys.)

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Left to right: Jesse and Michael Kaap

Emmaus Days

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Then we brushed our teeth and went to bed, and a seminarian prayed with us before lights-out and sleep.

On day two we woke up, prayed, and headed for the showers, after which we brushed our teeth, assembled with our groups, and entered the cafeteria for the Angelus and breakfast. After breakfast we went to the auditorium to listen to some talks given by a couple of the seminarians. Afterwards we went outside for kickball, then to the cafeteria for the Angelus and lunch. We spent the afternoon in a pool for swimming fun followed by an hour of free time. Then we went to the auditorium, where Father Chase gave us a talk about chastity. The next order of business was dinner, adoration, shower, teeth, and bed.

On the third day we awoke, showered, brushed our teeth, suited up, packed, took our things to the cafeteria, and ate breakfast. We joined our families and went to the auditorium for Mass offered by Bishop Louis Tylka. After which the campers were presented with their tokens, and the winners were given their socks.

Adoration helped me lay everything before God, and Emmaus Days helped me create a prayer schedule. I really grew closer to God during Emmaus Days. I had fun in all the activities—except for taking showers. I got to be in a group with the older brother of the child that, through the intercession of venerable Fulton J. Sheen, was resuscitated after being stillborn for 61 minutes. He really helped me to believe that God *does* and *will* listen, that it's not just something parents say to get you to pray by yourself. Emmaus Days can be a very fun and enriching experience, but you have to enter into it and let it be one. I pray: "Lord, help me to want to be who you want me to be."

The best Halloween story ever!

(Can you top this?)

I grew up in a college town. One Halloween our doorbell rang and we opened the door, expecting to see a trick-or-treater. But what was in front of our open door . . . was another door! Like, a full-on wooden door, that had a sign on it that said "Please knock." So we did, and the door swung open to reveal a bunch of college dudes dressed as really old ladies with curlers in their hair who proceeded to coo over our "costumes" and tell us we were "such cute trick-or-treaters!" One even pinched my cheek! Then they gave us candy, closed their door, picked it up, and walked to the next house.

-Chris Frey

Margaret Mary Alacoque: Nun, Mystic, Disciple of the Sacred Heart

Margaret Alacoque was born July 22, 1647, in Burgundy, France, the only daughter to her parents. From an early age she showed an intense love for the Blessed Sacrament, spending time in silence and prayer rather than childhood play. She made her First Communion at the age of nine.



In secret Margaret practiced corporal mortification until she contracted rheumatic fever and was bedridden for four years. She made a vow to the Blessed Virgin Mary to consecrate herself to religious life and was instantly healed. In recognition of her healing, she added the name Mary to her baptismal name of

Margaret. During this time in her life, Margaret Mary had visions of Jesus, which she thought were a normal part of growing up.

Margaret Mary's mother encouraged her to socialize with her brothers and attend dances in hopes of finding a husband. One night, after returning home from a carnival ball, she had a vision of Christ, scourged and bloody. He reproached her for forgetting him, but showed her how full his heart was with love for her. Margaret Mary was moved to fulfill the childhood promise she had made to Mary, his mother. On May 5, 1671, at twenty-four years of age, she entered the Visitation Convent to become a nun.

Margaret Mary became the conduit through whom Jesus Christ revealed his desire for all humankind to worship his sacred heart. In private visions to Margaret Mary, Christ revealed the chief features of this devotion: One should receive Holy Communion on the first Friday of each month, meditate on Jesus' agony in the Garden of Gethsemane during Eucharistic adoration in a Holy Hour on Thursdays, and, finally, celebrate the Feast of the Sacred Heart.

It took many years for Margaret Mary to convince others of the authenticity of her visions. She finally convinced her Mother Superior, but not all the members of her community believed her. She eventually received the support of the community's confessor. In 1686, the

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Parish Council News

St. Patrick's Parish Council is an organization of volunteer parishioners who meet monthly to advise and consult with the pastor on matters concerning the parish. At their meeting in June Father Anthony asked Council members to consider several models of what a Parish Council might be, with respect to the call of Pope Francis for a greater role of the laity.

From these discussions the following Vision Statement has been developed: "Our vision is to make our parishioners and surrounding community feel welcome by championing events that bring people together and spread the joy of the Catholic faith."

This vision statement is in alignment with, and indicates how, the Parish Council seeks to help accomplish the Parish Mission Statement: "Growing God's family by living the love of Christ through sacraments, service, and a joyful welcoming community."

Council members welcome input from parishioners on matters and desires that will further the mission of helping to make the parish a welcoming place. The Council will give all input a proper review as to what can be practically done, and get back to the originator with the result. Two proposals were made at the June meeting: one proposed to hold a parish-wide International Festival, and another proposed that St. Patrick's sponsor a refugee family or individual, either Ukrainian or from the country's southern border.

The idea of an International Festival with the objective of providing a better understanding of the richness and beauty that God manifests in his people worldwide drew immediate interest. Such festivals have been held in past years, but it has been some time since the parish has held one. The festival is planned for October 8 following the 4 p.m. Mass. The decision was also made to have all Masses that week carry a theme of World Peace.

During the summer of 2021 and again in 2022, the Parish Council helped to sponsor the St. Patrick Church Summerfest. These were popular family events, great opportunities for friends to get together after the often-limited connectedness imposed by the pandemic.

The pandemic has been very hard on the Council. At first, of course, members did not meet. Later, as it became apparent that the pandemic was not a passing problem, Council meetings were held virtually, although not monthly. Parish-wide, activities were few and far between and coordination

difficult. But as people understood better what could and could not be done, confidence grew and activity has been returning gradually. Parish groups are coalescing and many seem set and ready to go!

The Parish Council lost several members during the pandemic, members whose three-year terms had expired. At the present time Jesus Sarol, on leave while recovering from open-heart surgery, is president of the Council; Morene Christman serves as recording secretary. Kathy Cimasky renewed her membership on the expiration of her three-year term, as did Richard Keane. Pam Donze De Ley, Jennifer Robert, and Frank Rosser have joined the Council as new members. This leaves four vacancies and two positions (vice-president and secretary) to be filled.

If you are looking for a stimulating role that works for the parish as nothing else can, contact Mary Tate, Ministry Coordinator (mary.tate@stpaturbana.org or 217/367-2665). As a former Council member and president, she could probably answer any questions you may have that might help you decide to volunteer!



Parish Council Members from left: Jesus Sarol, Kathy Cimasky, Richard Keane, Pam Donze de Ley, Frank Rosser

October 2022
 nagelesusan@gmail.com

To all the good people of St. Patrick Parish,

On October 23, 2022 we celebrate World Mission Sunday with the theme “**You Shall Be My Witnesses**” (Acts 1:8). Pope Francis reminds us that each person is called, through Baptism, to witness as members of the Christian community to the ends of the earth, supported by the grace and guidance of the Holy Spirit. The Pope’s entire message can be read at this link:

www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/missions/documents/20220106-giornata-missionaria.html

Maryknoll Lay Missioners (MKLM) continues to provide a vehicle for laity from the Catholic Church to participate along with Sisters, Brothers, and priests as full members of an inclusive, intercultural community focused on cross-cultural mission. They currently support 50 lay missionaries in nine countries throughout Africa, Asia, and the Americas.



Susan Nagele (front right) with her mother and four of her siblings.

In February 2022 an Expanded Mission Assembly of MKLM provided direction for the coming years in mission. Although I am retired and no longer participate in these deliberations, I am excited by the decisions that were made:

Vision: Justice, Compassion, and Dignity for all creation

Mission: Compelled by faith to engage with people across cultures and ethnicities, we live, love, and work with communities on the margins to promote active nonviolence and healing.

Core Values: Simple living, Community, Joy, Humility, and Inclusion

I am particularly excited about the decision to use active non-violence as the cross-cutting focus of all Maryknoll Association ministries. Violence, both in word and in deed, is being normalized in our world. It is the antithesis of how Jesus related to those who disagreed with him and eventually took his life.

St. Patrick Parish has long been actively involved in supporting the Maryknoll Association through your prayers and financial support. I hope that will continue. I invite anyone who is interested to discern a personal vocation to ministry to listen carefully to the promptings of the Holy Spirit and to seriously consider such a call. Feel free to contact me at my email address.

With gratitude as we all continue to follow Jesus.

Susan Nagele

Retired Maryknoll Lay Missioner

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If you would like to know more about Maryknoll Lay Missioners, log on to the website, www.mkmlm.org, or call toll free 1-800-867-2980

Margaret Mary

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monastery began observing the Feast of the Sacred Heart. Two years later a chapel was built at the monastery at Paray-le-Monial to honor the Sacred Heart.

After Margaret Mary’s death on October 17, 1690, the devotion to the Sacred Heart was taken up by the Jesuits. Yet her revelations, spiritual maxims, and her teachings regarding the devotion to the Sacred Heart were subjected to severe examination. Finally, the Sacred Congregation of Rites passed a favorable vote on the heroic virtues of this “servant of God,” and in March 1824 Pope Leo XII pronounced her Venerable.

When Margaret Mary’s tomb was opened in July 1850, two instantaneous cures were recorded. Her incorrupt body now rests above the side altar in the Chapel of the Apparitions, located in the Visitation Monastery in Paray-le-Monial. On September 18, 1864, Pope Pius IX declared her Blessed. On May 13, 1920, she was canonized by Pope Benedict XV; her feast day is October 16.

In his 1928 encyclical *Miserentissimus Redemptor*, Pope Pius XI affirmed the Church’s position regarding the credibility of her visions: Jesus “manifested himself” to Margaret Mary and, “promised her that all those who rendered this honor to His Heart would be endowed with an abundance of heavenly graces.”

Quick Fixin's from the kitchen of . . . Betty Conerty

Country Corn Casserole

2 c corn kernels, cut from corncobs
1 t sugar
1 t vanilla extract
1 t salt
1/4 c black pepper
2 eggs, beaten
1 c milk
1 T butter, melted
2 T cracker crumbs (Ritz or saltines)



Mix all ingredients in a large bowl. Pour into a 1.5-quart ungreased casserole dish and bake at 350 degrees for 40-50 minutes, until set.

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If you have a recipe you'd like to share, please send it to Mary Lou Menches (217 344-1125, mmenches@illinois.edu). The only requirement is that it be easy and quick to prepare!



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. 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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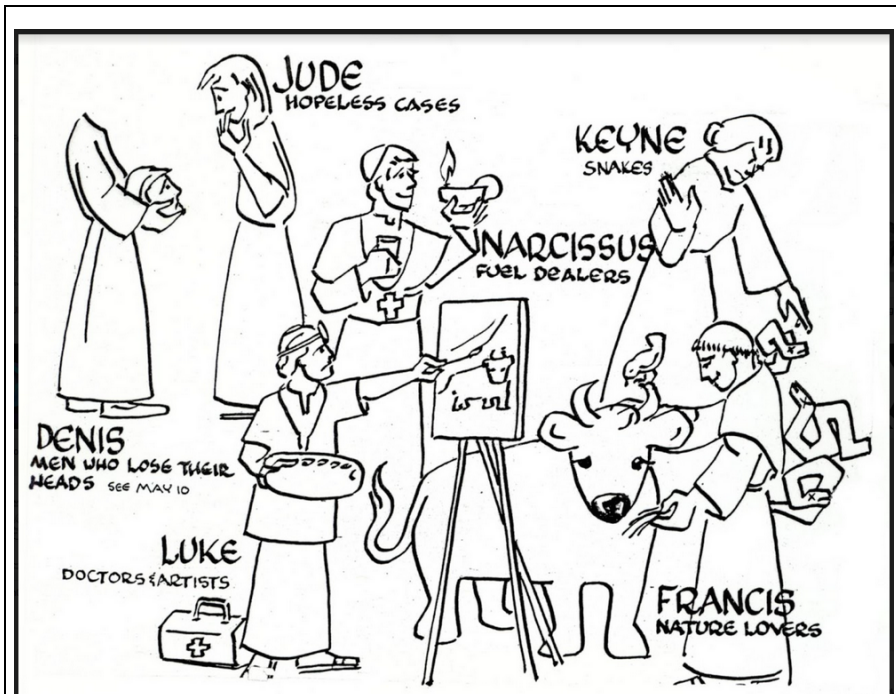
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October Patron Saints by Fr. George Wuellner



The deadline for submitting information, articles, and news items for the next (November) issue of *In Focus* is **Sunday, October 9.**