

St. Patrick Parish IN FOCUS

www.stpaturbana.org

October 2011

The spark of God's life enlivens us all

The Living God made us in his image. All human life is sacred, a spark from the flaming sun of God's life. From this reality flow some of the most basic attitudes of our faith.

We reverence human life in all its forms. Young and old, male and female, rich and poor, we reverence every person. This is why we protect the lives of the unborn.

It is why we care for the safety of our children and the security of the elderly. It is why we care

for marriage and sexuality, because God created them to perpetuate his life in the world.

We care for more than mere survival. We care also for the dignity of every human life. Every person who lacks adequate food, water, and shelter is not being treated with the dignity that a human life should have. Every uneducated child, every

unemployed or underemployed worker, every person exploited, every person hindered by prejudice is



not being honored as human life should be honored.

We care that every person has the things that enrich life: love, friendship, faith. We care for those who are isolated by age, disability, or illness of body or



mind. We care for those who have no one to love them and for those who have no one to show them God's love.

The reverence for human life is expressed in our relationships, in how we choose to use our time, talent, and treasure, in our civic life, and in how we pray. It is what enables us to see God in one another, to see that what we do for others we do for him.



St. Patrick's will host ghosts!

Calling all parish pumpkins, black cats, and cool ghouls to St. Patrick's Trunk or Treating event!

On the evening of Sunday, Oct. 30, from 5:30 to 7:30 in the parish



parking lot, you are invited to pop open your car's trunk and deck it out in its Halloween finest. (In case of rain, the decorations and trick-or-treating—but not the cars—will be moved to the parish hall.)

All parish children are encouraged to wear their Halloween costumes for trick-or-treating at each of the decorated car trunks in this safe environment.

Members of Vivo and CREW and other parishioners are invited to host a Trunk-or-Treat station. The trunk may become a witch's cave, a skeleton's boneyard, or whatever fun idea your imagination suggests. Stir up a cauldron of wrapped candies, homemade treats, or little goodies (also wrapped) for trick-or-treaters. Be spooky but not gory, so we don't scare our littlest ones. Beyond that, use your imagination: Mad Scientists, Alien Invaders, Mummy Workshops, Witches' Corners are all great ideas!

see **Ghosts** on page 6

A little poor man named Francis

Francis of Assisi astounded and inspired the Church by taking the Gospel literally—not in a narrow fundamentalist sense, but by actually following all that Jesus said and did, joyfully, without limit and without any self-importance.



One of the earliest known portraits of Francis, painted shortly after his death.

He was born Giovanni Francesco Bernardone to a wealthy cloth merchant at Assisi in Umbria. His mother had him baptized as Giovanni, after John the Baptist; his father added the name Francesco to reflect his ties to France.

Francis enjoyed a pampered youth. He lived his adolescent years as a leader of young people, loving France, attending wild parties, doing well at business—but still wanting more.

He joined in the battle of Assisi against Perugia, where he was taken prisoner. Ransomed after a year, he resumed his former lifestyle and when given the opportunity, he opted to rejoin the battle. On his way to battle, however, he had a vision from God that told him to return home.

Some 25 years later Francis received his “test” from God. Out riding his horse, he came upon a leper; he kissed the leper’s face. When returned, Francis was overcome with joy. On departing, he turned around for one last wave, but the leper had disappeared.

Francis continued displaying his patronage to God, proclaiming God as his Father. This little poor man begged for bricks to rebuild God’s Church and gave away everything he possessed. He had a deep connection with and reverence for nature and animals, creatures of the Lord. He treated everyone as an equal. Then he began to preach. Through his preaching and humility he attracted many followers.

He and his followers lived in poverty. When the bishop expressed dismay at the friars’ hard life, Francis explained that if a man is fasting, he cannot be starved; if he treats coins as pebbles, he cannot be robbed. Francis did not try

to abolish poverty, he tried to make it holy.



On the weekend of November 26-27, the First Sunday of Advent, all parishes in the United States will begin using a new translation of many of the prayers and responses we pray during the Mass.

Pope John Paul II called for all nations to complete the liturgical renewal that began with the work of the Second Vatican Council. Part of this renewal is a new English translation of the book containing the prayers of the Mass, The Roman Missal. As we prepare for these changes of text in the Mass, we have the opportunity to learn more about the Mass itself and why it is the centerpiece of worship for a universal catholic church.

Laura Theby and Mary Karten of the Worship Ministries Team will present a short program explaining which parts of the Mass will undergo some change of text, and why. All parishioners are invited and encouraged to set aside some time to attend one of these sessions in the parish center’s multipurpose room:

October 15, 4:15 p.m.

October 16, 8:45 a.m.

October 16, 10:15 a.m.

October 16, 11:30 a.m.

October 16, 1:00 p.m.

If you can’t attend on that weekend, watch the bulletin for other opportunities. Also, the bishops’ Web site www.usccb.org/romanmissal shows side-by-side comparisons of the current and new texts and traces the history of the new translation. In coming weeks, look for more preparatory articles in the bulletin and our parish Web site.

As you learn more about the new texts, pray with them so that they will become familiar. Study them with a heart and mind that are open to the Holy Spirit who guides us in all things.

When Francis returned to Italy, his followers had grown to 5000 in just ten years. He was pressured to give up his order, for it was perceived as being too harsh. Two years before his death, he received in his body the stigmata, the real and painful wounds of Christ, in his hands, feet, and side. During the last years of his relatively short life (he died at age 44, in 1226) he was half blind and seriously ill.

Francis was poor only that he might be Christ-like. He loved nature as another manifestation of the glory of God. He did great penance (apologizing to “Brother Body” later in life) that he might be totally disciplined for the will of God. His poverty had a sister, humility, by which he meant total dependence on the good God. But the heart of his spirituality was living the Gospel life, summed up in the love of Jesus.

St. Francis is the celebrated founder of all Franciscan communities and the patron saint of ecologists and merchants. The Church commemorates his life on Oct. 4.

Tyra Quinones, secretary with a smile

You may know Tyra Quinones as the woman with the welcoming smile on the other side of the counter in the parish office, or maybe the woman with the friendly voice who answers the parish phone. But what makes her the perfect secretary for St. Patrick? Two contrasting virtues come to mind: pride in doing her best at her job, and humility in response to the staff whose deep love and hard work for the parish fills her with awe.

Tyra begins the workday with a few minutes in the church to listen to God for a reminder of what she should do that day. She gets inspiration from the "Seven Alive Group," those who gather after 7:00 a.m. Mass for coffee in the parish center. She is impressed by the many volunteer parishioners, particularly those who help with the St. Vincent de Paul Society Food Pantry four days a week.

She says she is here to be a servant to the servants of God. She waits to be directed by Fr. Joe, but she is available to assist all the staff and indeed any parishioner.

Tyra prepares the weekly parish bulletin and maintains the e-calendar and sacramental records. Our bulletin has blossomed under her



attention, informing us of coming events and including pictures of recent parish events. Tyra's mother, who was in a nursing home, looked forward to seeing the beautiful pictures in each week's bulletin.

Tyra heard about our parish's secretarial opening when she visited St. Matthew's for the baptism of her godson's son. She had always thought to work for a church after she retired. She had worked as an office manager for nearly ten years, then at the University of Illinois Credit Union, and then for six years at Provena's Community Health Care Credit Union as an administrative assistant.

Tyra is a hometown girl. She graduated from Central High School and attended Eastern Illinois University and the University of Illinois. She and Manny have been married 25 years, with three children. Two of their four grandchildren live here, two in Arizona. She loves spending time with her grandchildren, so, predictably, her vacations are spent visiting them. Tyra enjoys cooking and reading; the last book she read is *The Help*.

Although Tyra attends Sunday Mass at Holy Cross with her husband, she is very active at St.

Patrick. She is a member of the Women of St. Patrick, attends social events here, and is a contributor to St. Patrick's Building Fund. She believes that "Catholic Connected," the diocesan event held each June in the Krannert Center of the Performing Arts, is very important in demonstrating how different churches can work together: instead of "us and them," it emphasizes "us and all of us."

Tyra is very grateful to work here with people who have such love for their parish and the diocese. She is awed by the daily manifestation of this love, especially the caring that Fr. Joe and Fr. Luong bring to their ministries.

If you need assistance, you might want to start with Tyra, who looks up with a smile and is eager to help.

Ministry of Consolation hosts events for bereaved

The month of November will offer opportunities for members of our parish family who have lost loved ones to find comfort in their grief. On Wed. Nov. 2 at 7 p.m., we will come together for the fall Evening of Remembrance. Gathering in remembrance of those who have died and joining with the great throng of souls who make up the Communion of Saints is a fitting celebration of the Feast of All Souls. Through sharing and prayer, the evening will offer support to those grieving the loss of a loved one.

As we approach the holidays, we become acutely aware of absent loved ones. Facing such significant occasions without their physical presence can be hard. On Mon. Nov. 7 at 7 p.m., the Consolation Ministry team will host the Ray of Hope evening to help the bereaved form personal strategies for coping during Christmastime.

Both events are open to all parishioners, their families, and their loved ones.

Did you know?

- Our church has two small restrooms. One is inside the room beside the Marian shrine. The other, in the room at the top of the inside ramp on the east side of the church, is wheelchair accessible.
- In earlier times here, St. Patrick's Day was a county-wide celebration. In 1903, the parade marchers commenced on Neil Street, stopped at St. Patrick's Church, where a Mass was celebrated in honor of St. Patrick, and proceeded to the Hibernian Hall for a reception (was the beer green?) followed by a dance.
- The first St. Patrick's cookbook was published as a fundraiser in 1926. A few highly prized copies can still be found in parishioners' kitchens, used by the good cooks of St. Patrick's.



in our parish library

This month's column provides some book titles and Web pages focusing on the rosary. Praying the rosary is a beloved Catholic custom that links the gospel and contemplative prayer. The books are available for checkout in the parish library.

Web resources

- *Paul's Encyclical on the Rosary during October*, by Pope Paul VI. Call Number: 262.1 Pau. Also at www.papalencyclicals.net/Paul06/p6christ.htm.
- Also see Apostolic Letter : Rosarium Virginis Mariae of The Supreme Pontiff John Paul II to the Bishops, Clergy and Faithful on "The Most Holy Rosary," at <http://tinyurl.com/p23r>.
- Other encyclicals pertaining to the rosary are at: <http://tomsdomain.com/rosary/id19.htm>.
- How to Pray the Rosary: www.rosary-center.org/howto.htm
- Praying the Rosary (Catholic Customs): www.americancatholic.org/features/customs/rosary Includes video for praying the rosary, other prayers, and John Paul II's new Mysteries of Light.
- Step-by-Step Instructions for Praying the Rosary: www.catholic.org/clife/prayers/rosary.php Includes a video "The Mystery of the Holy Rosary."

Books

- *10 Series of Meditations on the Mysteries of the Rosary*, by Rev. John Ferraro. Call Number: 242 Fer.
- *A Bible Rosary for the Deaf*, by Lawrence J Gibson. Call Number: 262.1 Pau.
- *Father Peyton's Rosary Prayer Book*, by Father Patrick Peyton. Call Number: 242 Fat 2011.
- *Feminine Spirituality: Reflections on the Mysteries of the Rosary*, by Rosemary Haughton. Call Number: 242.7 Hau.
- "Hail, Full of Grace": *A Reflection on Our Blessed Mother and Her Holy Rosary*, by Most Reverend Daniel R. Jenky, CSC. Call Number: 232.93 Jen.
- *Praying by Hand: Rediscovering the Rosary as a Way of Prayer*, by M. Basil Pennington. Call Number: 248 Pen.
- *Praying the Rosary*, by David Konstant. Call Number: 248 Kon.
- *The Rosary and Devotion to Mary*, by Andrew J. Gerakas. Call Number: 242.7 Ger.
- *The Rosary in the Home: A Program of Family Prayer Renewal*, by Wal Maggs. Call Number: 248 Mag.
- *The Story of the Rosary*, by Anne Vail. Call Number: 248 Vai.
- *Through the Rosary with Fra Angelico*, by Domenico Marcucci. Call Number: 248 Mar.

* * *

If you need help locating materials in the library, Lori Mestre (365-9004), library team coordinator. She will be pleased to help. The parish library is open weekdays during office hours (ask for a key at the parish office) and on the fourth and fifth Sundays of the month from 8:30 to 10:45 a.m.



Q: In the vestibule of the church there is a book on a lectern. Sometimes I see people writing in it. What is the

book and what are they writing in it?

A: This book is known as the Intentions Book. At weekday Mass it is mentioned during the Prayers of the Faithful: "For the intentions we have marked in our Intentions Book."

People write their intentions for prayers in this book. These may be prayers for general needs, such as for peace, for those suffering from natural disasters, or the safety of travelers, for a bountiful harvest to be shared equitably with all in need.

More often, the intentions are for individuals. You may write the names of family members or friends who have died, marking a small cross in front of each name. You may also write the name of someone who is ill, having surgery, looking for employment, having a baby, going through a rough patch, or anyone for whom you would like to request prayers for any reason.

If you wish to write a name in the Intentions Book, write only the name of the person to be prayed for, not the reason why they need prayers. You wouldn't write your own name unless you want to be prayed for.

Everyone is welcome to write prayer requests in the Intentions Book.

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



Deadline for submission of information, articles and news items for the next issue of *In Focus* is October 16.

Grateful for his calling

Fr. Luong Tran, ordained to the priesthood in Vietnam in 1994, celebrated the anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood with a Mass of thanksgiving at 7 a.m. on Sept. 1. Afterward he continued his celebration with the “Seven Alive” Mass-goers at a special breakfast of cake and fresh fruit. (Cake and fruit? Never mind, it was delicious!) The men’s Thursday morning prayer



group joined in thanking Fr. Luong for his caring priestly ministry to all of us at St. Patrick’s.



How will *you* say “thank you”?

The last Sunday in October has been designated Priesthood Sunday, presenting a special opportunity for us to show gratitude to our priests in conversation and in prayer. This observance is coordinated by the USA Council of Serra International.

How many of us know what has brought our priests to their present calling? It takes a lot of courage and generosity to serve God and his people in their lifelong response to God’s call. They spend their lives showing and teaching us the path to holiness.

Our lives have been molded and blessed by priests. Of the more than 19,000 Catholic parishes in the United States, only 4,000 are served by more than one priest, making St. Patrick’s one of a distinct minority.

Take a moment on this day—but don’t be limited to a single observance!—to pray for our priests, to thank them for their dedicated ministry to us, and to plead with God to call many more to his service.

Who is Sister Barbara?

Sr. Barbara Leonhard, OSF, is the presenter and leader for the retreat sponsored by the Women of St. Patrick Oct. 28-30 (Friday evening through Sunday noon) at Benedict Inn, Beech Grove (near Indianapolis). She has an M.A. in Biblical Studies from the Catholic Theological Union, Chicago, and a Ph.D. in Spirituality from the Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, Calif. Her teaching experience has ranged from grade school to Marian University in Indianapolis to St. Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology. Sr. Barbara has headed up formation ministry both in her Oldenburg (Ind.) Franciscan Community and with the Franciscan Sisters in Papua, New Guinea. She presently teaches in the Spiritual Direction Internship at Benedict Inn, Beech Grove. She is a spiritual director and retreat leader, and has also written homily guides and articles for St. Anthony Messenger Press.



Her hobbies are photography, hiking, growing flowers, bread baking, knitting, and writing poetry. Despite this obvious demonstration of energy, she is a thoughtful, kind, and patient listener!

Please see the weekly bulletin for sign-up information on the retreat.

“Quinceañera”—A celebration of life

The word quinceañera sometimes appears on St. Patrick’s parish calendar of events; it refers to a special event in the life of a young Latina. The word is derived from Spanish: Quince for “15” and anos for “year.” The word quinceañera, then, refers to the fifteen-year-old Latina and to the ceremony that celebrates her fifteenth birthday.

Quinceañera marks the transition from childhood to young womanhood. It has nearly as much preparation as a wedding; the family must set a date for the Mass, select a very special dress, reserve a hall or restaurant for the birthday party, and make many other decisions.

The most important aspect of this festivity is the message about growing up that the parish priest gives to the quinceañera in preparation for her big day. The day begins with a Mass of thanksgiving to God, who has allowed this girl to grow up; it affirms her religious faith, good morals, and the virtues of traditional family values. She arrives at the church accompanied by her parents, godparents, friends, and relatives. It may be the first time she has worn makeup and had her nails and hair professionally done. Her very special dress may be pastel or white with an accent color.

Many traditions are observed during the Mass. The priest blesses the gifts of a Rosary and Bible. The

Scripture readings are proclaimed by members of the family. The quinceañera presents a bouquet of flowers to the Virgin Mary. Sometimes the quinceañera is awarded a tiara as a reminder that she will always be a princess to her family.

After the Mass, everyone proceeds to a hall or restaurant for dinner and a party, given by the quinceañera’s father out of gratitude for his daughter and her initiation into womanhood. The young woman processes on the arm of her father into a room full of waiting guests. For what may be her first public dance, she and her father dance a waltz, after which everyone enjoys dinner.

Following the dinner, the quinceañera is presented with a doll wearing a dress just like hers. This, her last doll, symbolizes that she has left childhood behind. Her father replaces her flat-soled shoes with high heels, symbolizing that she has become a young woman. In large celebrations she may hold court with fourteen damas (girlfriends) and fifteen chamberlans (young men), representing her fifteen years of life.

Since this is a birthday party, there is a birthday cake with presents, and more dancing.

The celebration marks the quinceañera’s entry into young adulthood and manifests a grateful acknowledgment of her heritage.

Ghosts from page 1

The Religious Education folks will provide hot dogs, chips, and drinks. There will be a Halloween game area for the children, and everyone present will vote for “Best Treats,” “Best Theme,” and “Most Creative Trunk.” Each category’s winner will get a \$20 gift card to the Savoy 16 Theater. Of course, Halloween means All Hallows, or All Holy Eve, so the children will receive All Saints prayer cards and other prayer cards.

For an “after” view of All Saints, bring your children to the 10:30 children’s Mass on Sunday, Nov. 6, when some of St. Patrick’s fourth-graders enrolled at Holy Cross School will wear the saint costumes they have created.

Cars must be registered to serve as a Trunk or Treat station in the parish parking lot. To register your car, contact Suzanne D’Andria (344-0398 or suzanne.dandria@stpaturbana.org).

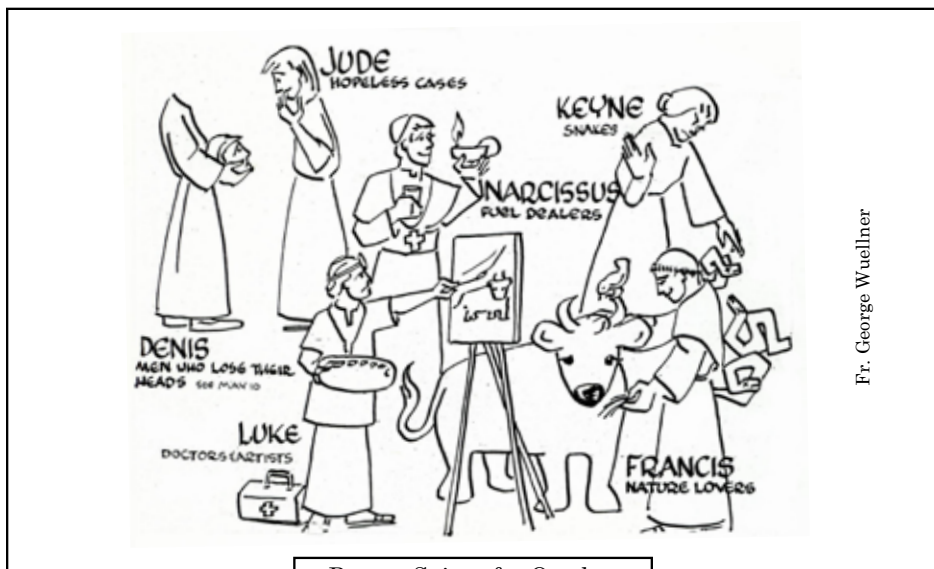
Do come to Trunk or Treat. There will be fun and games for everyone—and a spooky Father Joe may make an appearance! If our parking lot is haunted? Never fear, the ghosts will be friendly

On-the-Job Prayer

Provider God, you know that I need this job. You know how important my paycheck is. But you also know that I don’t always love my work. You know the things that frustrate me, that make me angry, that add to my weariness.

Direct my attention today to what is good about my work. Help me to feel gratitude for the ability to contribute to the output of this place. Keep me from anxiety about my job and the fiction that my work might be better somewhere else.

Thank you, God, for all the opportunities and abilities you have given me; help me to utilize them in my workplace today.



Patron Saints for October

They were a resounding success!

Members of the Bell Choir, the Children's Choir, and their moms got together to give our handbells a thorough cleaning. They removed the handles and clappers, polished the bronze bells with special polish, reassembled them, and adjusted them to ring consistently.



Paul hard at work with the polish

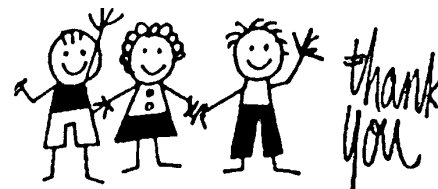
they prepare special pieces for bells alone or for bells with organ. They ring once or twice a month, each time at a different Mass. The Children's Choir often rings the bells, too, when they sing at 5:00 Mass once a month.

St. Patrick's is fortunate to have a set of 40 bells. The Bell Choir adds joy to the assembly's song when they ring, and sometimes

Thanks so much to all who helped: Judy Huelsbusch; Duyen and Paul Nguyen; Selena, Antonio, and Katy Olson; Cathy Salika; and Sue Schreiber.

Special volunteer opportunities

- More Eucharistic ministers are needed to serve at the 7:30 and 10:30 a.m. Masses, and volunteers are sought to help with noon Mass setup. Are you called to Eucharistic ministry, ushering, Mass setup, music ministry? Mary Karten, 898-0938 or mlkarten@hotmail.com
- Are you into scrapbooking? If so, you might enjoy helping to maintain the parish archives, collecting and preserving information of historic and current interest about St. Patrick's parish community. Parish office, 367-2665



Parish groups or individuals can submit entries for this column to the Communications Committee or contact Mary Lou Menches (344-1125 or mmenches@illinois.edu). Provide your name and telephone number or e-mail address with a brief description of the kind of help being sought.



Selena, Antonio, Katy, and "ringleader" Cathy



Judy, Duyen, and Sue removing the handles and clappers

Vocation Prayer



Father, you sent your son to proclaim salvation to everyone. Make us mindful of those who have not yet heard the Gospel, and bless the efforts of all missionaries. Inspire our sons and daughters to respond to your call to discipleship as priests, religious, and lay women and men.

Holy Cross Happenings

At the end of August Holy Cross School welcomed 315 students, kindergarten through eighth grade, including 80 boys and girls from St. Patrick's (about a quarter of the student body).

Holy Cross also welcomed three new teachers. Mr. Kyle Dietz and Miss Bridget Sheen are the new seventh-grade homeroom and math/science teachers, and Mr. Phil Coleman is the new band and music teacher.

September launched the **Centennial Celebration of Holy Cross School during the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross**, Sept. 11-17. Students celebrated the week with many events, which included a Living Rosary, an all-school Mass, Holy Cross Alumni Day with open house, and the ever-popular Hot Dog Day!



Coming Events

- Oct. 22: HC + Halloween Haunted Woods at Kaufman Lake, grades 6-8
- Oct. 29: Halloween Carnival, grades K-5
- Nov. 1: All Saints Day Mass and Celebration
- Nov. 11: Veterans Day Mass and Program
- Nov. 22: Grandparents Day Mass and Program

Quick fixin's from the kitchen of . . . Shirley Splittstoesser

Potato Salad for One or Two

- 1 hardboiled egg
- 1 medium or large potato
- Scant 1/4 t garlic salt
- 1/2 t mustard, yellow or Dijon
- 1 heaping T mayonnaise

Cover egg with water in a pan, cover, and bring to a boil. If using an electric stove, turn off heat and leave pan on the hot burner for 10 minutes. If using a gas stove, simmer for 10 minutes. Then immerse the egg in cold water, crack the shell, and peel.

While the egg is cooking, wash and dry the potato and wrap it in a paper towel. Microwave 3-4 minutes and let cool.

Chop egg and potato, and mix with garlic salt, mustard, and mayonnaise.

Serve immediately or refrigerate for enjoying later.

* * *

If you have a recipe you'd like to share, please send it to Ellen Noonan (403-0979 or eknoon@comcast.net). The only requirement is that it be easy and quick to prepare!



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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 a Communications Committee member, leave them in the committee's mailbox in the parish center, or call a committee member. All submissions are subject to review and/or editing by the committee and staff. By-lines are generally omitted.

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