



October/November
2009

ST. PATRICK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH ~ EST. 1957

Patrick's Pages

Who Am I?

I was baptized a Roman Catholic at St. Barnabus, made my First Communion at Resurrection Church, and was Confirmed an Episcopalian at St. Patrick's.

My family was invited to St. Patrick's by parishioner-neighbors who were aware of my parent's disenchantment with the Roman Catholic rules regarding birth control (enough is enough! said my mom). We came and were hooked. Father Sam was here then, and my parents loved him as much as us kids did.

My siblings and I also loved the older kids who seemed to always take the time to say hi to us, unlike most teenagers who typically could care less about the younger ones. I remember Sam, Eric, Larry, Velma, Diane and so many others...

I remember going to St. Bonaventure in the summer and the "Purple Squirrel"! Do you remember "In the Woods!" "Get a Rash"? I think of those shout-outs from lunch at Bona all the time. Playing shuffleboard in the Rathskellar was fun, too, and it was, for most of us, our first time in a "bar". (No alcohol was served to us, no worries there!). I still have my group photo from the time I spent there, somewhere in an old box in the basement, I'm sure.

I remember when the old hall burned down and the rebuilding of the new one. I was there for the groundbreaking and the dedication of the new building as Hannah Hall, and Mrs. Sam crying when she saw the plaque with her name on it. I remember when we had to run between the raindrops to go into the church from the hall (and vice versa) before the Link was built.

I remember when there was a narthex (is that was it was called?) when you entered the church, before going into the sanctuary. I remember

when the carpet was green and the dossal curtain was red. I remember when I was a member of the folk choir and we'd rehearse at The Tolley's house. I remember when we actually had organists... Mr. Straker, Mrs. Mandeville, Mrs. Fournier and Sarah Hovencamp.

I remember when the men were putting a new roof on the hall and Ray Deuel stepped on a soft spot and his foot came through the ceiling! I remember when Tom McCarty and his crew put the siding on the rectory and the hall. I remember when Kathy Verdaasdonk got us moving on the first part of the parking lot and had the concrete pad from the old hall/church broken up and the gravel put in.

I remember being here when we were searching for a new priest... several times! I was a member of one of the profile committees. I remember when we had to practically re-do every room in the rectory. A lot of painting, staining, talking and laughing happened then! New carpets, floors, tile & countertops also went into the place to spiff it up for the new priest and family.

I remember square dances, potlucks, fish dinners, game nights and
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**St. Patrick's
Newsletter
Mission Statement**

To enhance the mission and ministry of St. Patrick's Church through speaking the truth in Christ's name and telling the stories of the Church and its people in ways that inform, educate and inspire.

**Deadline for
December/January issue:**
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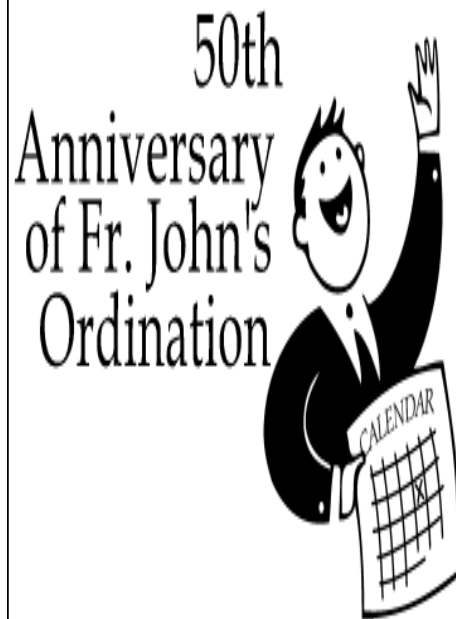
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This publication tries to include something for everyone, therefore if you find a mistake be assured we intentionally published it. It is put there for all the folks that are always looking for a mistake.



Rev. John A. Russell will celebrate his 50th year as a priest on All Saint's Day, November 1. This is a very impressive milestone for one to make.

We will celebrate this event, with Fr. John and his family, on Sunday, October 25 at 4 pm. Rev. J. Michael Garrison, our Bishop, will be the celebrant for the service. A dinner reception will immediately follow the service.

Please help us celebrate with Father John and his family by attending this service...so mark your calendar and save the date!

Advent Approaches

by Dennis Grzywna

It is hard to believe but the season of Advent is rushing towards us. In fact the First Sunday in Advent is November 29.

The Altar Guild would like to invite you to participate in this time of preparation. Any help will be appreciated as each week in Advent we ready St. Patrick's for the celebration of Christmas. Here's how you can help:

November 28

Saturday prior to the First Sunday in Advent

General cleaning, change hangings to blue and set out Advent Wreath

December 6

Saturday prior to the Second Sunday in Advent

Continue general cleaning and set up Christmas tree

December 12

Saturday prior to the Third Sunday in Advent

Prepare and hang wreaths, decorate the top of the Columbarium

December 19

Saturday prior to the Fourth Sunday in Advent

General cleaning, polish the silver, set up the basics for the Nativity scene

December 20

After coffee hour the Fourth Sunday in Advent

Change hangings to white, change out the candles and decorate the Advent wreath, hang bows, arrange the Christmas plants

Please join us in fellowship as we prepare for this joyful season. All are welcome. Contact Dennis Grzywna at 716.897.3420 with any questions and work times.

Reviewing: Get off your Knees & Pray by Sheila Walsh

by Cheryl Ann Hurd

Which of my ideas are from the Bible and which are from the “Church Lady”?

Why is prayer so important?

If prayer really matters to God, why isn't it easier to pray?

If God has already decided what he is going to do, why pray at all?

If God is loving and kind, why doesn't he give me what I want?

Will God help me if I got myself into this mess?

How do I know I am hearing God's voice?

These are just a few of the questions that touched me in Sheila Walsh's book and many that people have asked throughout history. Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. – 1 Thessalonians 5: 16 – 18

God's will and his ways are not always so clear to us mortals. We have trouble seeing and accepting that our desires are not necessarily the will of God. Peter extols Jesus' virtues and greatness throughout the Gospel, and in reading the Bible you can tell that the Jewish people were looking for someone to step up and make life better, for they were the chosen ones. Would we have been better off if Jesus had come then as a triumphant warrior against the oppressed? Has not history shown Kings to be overthrown by the next “best?”

Reflecting back on history, I would want a King who would worry about me, provide me and my loved ones with the things we

need, and some guarantee that it would go on forever. What a tall order! So when I received the news from the doctor that I had Ovarian Cancer, I of course prayed for him to fix it. I soon changed my requests and conversations with God but it didn't change that my first instinct was to ask for things to be my way. Sometimes coming to an understanding of prayer takes time – sometimes it takes effort – and sometimes it comes by surprise.

When Jesus was traveling through Caesarea Philippi, he informs Peter that what he says and wants comes from man not the divine. Can you imagine walking and following the ways of our Lord and having the words “Satan get behind me” shouted at you. Peter was probably shocked that the undying support of his teacher was not what Jesus desired. It is hard to remember that what we know and want are not necessarily the Way of Christ. We are but messengers for Christ and I truly believe that the more we talk (pray) to Jesus we can become more in tune to hearing his word and his will for us and those we touch.

That close friendship will help to guide us on the best path we can take when we truly listen rather than tell him what we want. I cannot imagine anything worse than following Jesus' way and then being told that Satan was steering my desires. The doctor's news just no longer seemed as bad as finding out I would no longer be following Jesus. Peter's story put into perspective for me

what was important. The Love of Christ and the acceptance that at times I would not be on the path Christ desired for me, but he would be there through prayer to guide me back.

I liked when Sheila wrote “When we recognize God is always with us, every breath can be a prayer.” Her book helps to understand and come to an acceptance that prayer is our communication method with the divine. She gives us practical stories from people's lives that we can all relate to; to strengthen our bond and our prayer skills to help us look at things from a perspective of not from me, but from him, that will guide us through our days so we can speak to him one on one with an open heart.

**** Editor's Note: If you would like to borrow this book, please see Cheryl Hurd.**

...Who Am I?

(Continued from page 1)

a whole lot more happening in the hall. I remember the annual parish picnics out at Akron State Park, when the whole parish showed up and we were there all day long!

I remember a lot of the old faces... some have gone on to glory, and others have just moved on. I remember a lot of good times, and some bad times. I remember a lot of laughter and love between the walls of St. Patrick's. I'm glad to have been a part of it for so long.

So. Have you figured it out? Who am I?

Rita Lakin is a veteran of the television writing scene. One of the pioneers of female Hollywood writers, she worked on shows such as *Dr. Kildare*, *Peyton Place*, *Mod Squad* & *Dynasty*. She created her own shows: *The Rookies*, *Flamingo Road* and *Nightingales*. Additionally, Rita wrote many *Movies of the Week* and mini-series such as *Death takes A Holiday*, *Women In Chains*, *Strong Medicine*, and *Voices of the Heart*. She has also written two original theatrical plays, *No Language But a Cry* and *Saturday Night at Grossinger's* (co-authored) which are still being produced. Rita now writes for the reading public and has created a character who is, well, a character!

Meet Gladdy Gold, Florida's Oldest Private Eye! Rita Lakin, the author of this latest round of good, fun reads in the Book Corner, has combined the crazy, comedic, yet inherently knowledgeable Golden Girls with the venerable Miss Marple, to create five timeless characters. Gladdy (the leader only because she is still driving a car!) is 75, Evvie (the second in command because she is Gladdy's beloved younger sister) is 73, Ida (the meanest man-hater in Fort Lauderdale) is 71, Bella (a mouse of a woman who mostly whispers) is 83, and Sophie (who lives for color coordination, right down to her shoes) is 80. These women all live in the same condo complex, Lanai Gardens, in Florida, and are the best of friends. Most of the time.

The first book in the Rita Lakin series is Getting Old is Murder. Gladys Gold, known as Gladdy, is an avid mystery reader. When her best friend, Francie, dies eating chocolate cake the night before her birthday, Gladdy begins to suspect that there is a serial killer on the loose in her Florida retirement community. The handsome young detective in charge won't listen to Gladdy as tries to tell him her the-



ory about Selma (who was the first to die the night before her birthday) and Francie's deaths. Hy Binder, another of the condo residents is a denizen of dirty jokes and is always looking for his opening to tell another one, and crazy old Greta Kronk is doing everything humanly possible to make herself into a suspect. There's also the local real estate schmoozer who always seems to get the contract to sell the deceased's condo, and the girls find enough trails from the various companies who buy the condos back to him, to consider him a suspect. When it comes to catching this culprit—time really is running out. The story is amusing with all the antics of the elder generation as well as senior ro-

mance in bloom.

"NEVER TRUST ANYONE UNDER SEVENTY-FIVE!" That's the motto of the Gladdy Gold Detective Agency. Gladdy and her "gladiators" are building their reputation between canasta games and pool exercises—hunting down everything from lost pocketbooks to missing octogenarians. When a jealous woman sets them after her seemingly wayward husband, and a flasher strikes their retirement complex, two seemingly unrelated cases collide with a third: a series of dastardly murders targeting Florida's wealthiest wives. In Getting Old is the Best Revenge, the girls are hot to figure out who the flasher is, since he could be one of their own neighbors! Then the girls win tickets for a luxury bingo cruise and they hit the jackpot. The ship is carrying not only Florida's fiercest bingo competitors but also a killer—and it's up to Gladdy and her friends to stop him before one of them becomes his next victim....

Gladdy and her friends are back in Getting Old is Criminal - hot on the trail of another killer. While trying to share a romantic rendezvous with her boyfriend Jack, Gladdy is called home, thinking one of her friends is seriously ill, only to find them all alive and well. Jack is not happy with Gladdy's decision to choose her friends over him and decides they need a break. Gladdy and Evvie go undercover at a retirement home to either find a killer or to prove a handsome Romeo innocent. It's possible that this
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retirement-home Romeo is to blame for the mysterious deaths in Florida's most luxurious communities and Gladdy and Evvie go undercover to find out - covering themselves with as many fancy-schmancy airs as possible. But with Gladdy's drama queen sister Evvie playing the role of a Palm Beach flirt, their fun and games turn deadly. For by the time the girls ID their perp, Evvie is in the arms of a killer - and loving it....

Getting Old is to Die For and Gladdy Gold may have gone from dyed-in-the-wool New Yorker to South Florida retiree, but she's loving every minute of it. Between poolside gossip, a hot-to-trot boyfriend, and a booming detective business, life couldn't be sunnier—until a trip back north with her sister Evvie leads to murder and mayhem starring the usual suspects.

Unbeknownst to Gladdy, her fellow detectives are hot on her trail. Sophie, Bella, and Ida no sooner land their tootsies in the Big Apple than trouble promptly finds them. But while the girls go deep undercover, posing as bag ladies to catch a criminal, there's another surprise awaiting Gladdy. Her boyfriend, Jack, is in town too - and he's reopening a forty-seven-year-old cold case: the murder of Gladdy's husband. Unaware of what Jack is doing, Gladdy thinks their relationship is over. Jack hopes it is just beginning - which one of them is right?

Can Gladdy and Jack join forces to solve a decades-old crime - and maybe heal some

wounded hearts in the process?

Readers also get to meet both Gladdy's and Jack's families, which helps develop them even more as characters. The New York scenes are excellently done and I could feel my mouth water at the descriptions of some of the delis Gladdy and Jack went into.

The fifth book in the series, Getting Old is a Disaster, was released this past Spring. I do not have it yet (but am on the lookout for it!), but here is a review from www.librarything.com:

Back from schlepping all over New York City, P.I. Gladdy Gold is happy to be on her Florida turf again. Especially now that she and boyfriend Jack Langford are officially an item. But no sooner have the yenta brigade gotten back to their routine—complete with poolside stretching and kvetching—than a notorious outlaw, a.k.a. the “Grandpa Bandit,” issues Gladdy's detective agency a direct challenge: *Catch me if you can*.

The dapper thief has already knocked over six Fort Lauderdale banks, with no end in sight. It's up to Gladdy and the girls to stop him before he hits the next one. But when a killer hurricane leads to the discovery of a fifty-year-old skeleton, they have to put the bandit on the back burner. With the storm wreaking havoc and a dark mystery swirling around the Lanai Gardens retirement community, Gladdy and the girls are about to confront a ruthless killer determined to bury the past - and them along with it....

One of the things I noticed in the books, is how many common

words or sayings are Yiddish in origin. In every book is Gladdy's Glossary, which helps to understand what these crazy Jewish characters are talking about. A few examples are:

kibitz – someone offering unwanted advice

oy – an exclamation of emotions

putz – penis (insult) (I never knew this one! I just thought it meant jerk or something like that!)

meshugeneh – crazy

bubkes – worthless, nothing

schmuck – penis (insult) tee hee

tchotchkes – little nothings

schlemiel – a loser (my generation will remember this from Laverne & Shirley)

bubbala (bubeleh) – endearing term

dumkupf – dunce

schlep – dragging a load

tush – a baby's bottom

chutzpah – gumption

tuckus – rear end

I have four books in the series and am actively looking for the fifth... so if you'd like to borrow it, just ask!

Capital Projects Benefit from Auction

by CarolLynn Grzywna

On Saturday, November 14, we will hold our annual Theme Tray Auction. All proceeds from this event are used for projects around the church – the big ones – those that we consider “capital projects.”

At this time we have approximately 65 baskets. Our goal is to offer over 200 prizes! We find that people seem more willing to donate and try to win on the day of the auction when we have a lot of prizes. To help achieve this goal, over 100 letters have been mailed to different community vendors and businesses. There are extra letters in the link for you to take to different stores and businesses that you patronize, to request a donation.

An added way to increase our “basket count” is by donating items to “build” a basket. If you

would like to donate towards a basket or two, here are items that complement a good basket: paper supplies, beverages, school supplies, beauty products, snacks, bathroom products, gift wrapping, baking supplies, first aid supplies and books. The Auction team will put the baskets together and you will know that you had a part in making our auction such a success! Simply leave your basket items in the link with a note and they will be collected to form a superb basket. The tickets for these baskets will be sold in sheets (20 chances per sheet) and each sheet will sell for \$5. If anyone purchases 5 sheets, they will receive one sheet free!

In addition to the general baskets, we would like to offer at least five “bigger” or “larger” items up for raffle. If you would

like to contribute to this part of the auction, please see me for details. This second kind of basket is a great addition to the overall auction success. Tickets will be priced as follows: one ticket \$1, 6 tickets for \$5, or 15 tickets for \$10.

Our auction doors will open at 5:30 pm on November 14. The drawings begin at 7 pm. Food and snacks will be sold in the kitchen – so you are encouraged to come early and come hungry!

If you have any questions about our auction or have items to be picked up, please contact CarolLynn Grzywna at mom-mag1027@verizon.net or at telephone number 716.897.3420.

SMART Gets Moving

by Sue Stanislawski

The SMART folks of St. Patrick’s met in July to discuss and plan the Fall program. Soon you will be seeing some different things in the church, link and hall. If you notice something new, ask about it... you might be surprised at the answer you receive.

The members of SMART:

Joe Verdaasdonk
Karen Gengo
Katelyn Koziel
Edmund Grzywna
Wendy Schumacher
Sally Jakielaszek
CarolLynn Grzywna
Sue Stanislawski
Kathy Parkhurst
Dennis Grzywna
Father John

We are always looking for fresh ideas, so please let us know if you’d like to join us or just sit in on a meeting to see what happens. Who knows... you could become SMART, too!



September 27 and October 4 will be eventful days at St. Patrick’s! We’ll be preparing you for the weeks to come and what to expect.

The real fun will begin on October 11 and conclude on November 22 with a general gathering.

All Hallows Welcome!

by Kathy Parkhurst

Come in costume or come as you are! St. Patrick's Halloween Party and Potluck Luncheon will be held Sunday, November 1 after the 10:00 am service. There will be plenty of good food, games and goodies for all.

A sign-up sheet will be posted in the link along with a list of supplies needed. Consider bringing a friend! Help is always needed and most appreciated! See Kathy Parkhurst to volunteer.

Parking Lot Not Quite Paid Off?

by Sue Stanislawski

What? I thought it was all paid for with the addition of two wonderful donations?! Yeah, so did we.

Ed Lorenz, the contractor who did the work, informed us before starting the job that there were several thousand dollars of additional work, along with obtaining several permits, that needed to be done to appease the Town of Cheektowaga. The additional work was the addition of a larger drain pipe into the storm sewer, which would result in the removal of Lake Patrick at the entrance to our driveway after the rain. Ed

told us that there would be a “donation” made to offset the cost and he would need a letter from us, for tax purposes. No problem, we said. However, just before the work was completed, Ed informed us that he had spoken to his accountant about the donation and was told that his company was not set up to be able to do such things. Thus, we need to pay approximately \$5,000 more for the aforementioned work. Ed knows how financially strapped we are as a parish and said he would accept payments for as long as it takes to pay off the bal-

ance. We did pay the initial amount of more than \$30,000 upon completion of the job, and now we need to start paying on the balance. Can you help by putting a bit extra into the Building & Grounds envelope that can be found in your box of pledge envelopes? We would very much like to repay Ed for the kindness he showed us when he provided a reasonable bid to do the work in the first place and for trying to help us in our need, by paying him the balance of the funds we owe, soon. Please pray on how you can help us achieve that goal.

Parking Lot Celebration

by Kathy Parkhurst

Get out the ketchup and the mustard! St. Patrick’s will be holding a hot dog roast and inviting everyone in the community to help us celebrate our new parking lot. It’s a great way to share our many blessings with our neighbors.

In the plans are balloons, face-painting and maybe even a bounce house for the kids. Everyone will receive a hot dog, bag of chips and pop or water. There

is no charge for any of the food or festivities, however, a free-will offering box will be available for those who wish to make a donation. All donations received will go back into our Capital Campaign for our next big project.

The event will be funded by the Outreach committee and everyone’s help is needed to show our neighbors that God is at work at St. Patrick’s! If you can help in any way, see Kathy Parkhurst.

Cookies Provide “Dough” for Outreach

by Kathy Parkhurst

It is almost cookie time! Our annual Christmas Cookie Sale has begun! Orders will be accepted until Sunday, December 6th and will be ready for pick-up on Sunday, December 20. We typically make around 300 dozen cookies each year, so early orders are most appreciated! All proceeds fund our various Outreach projects throughout the year. Order forms can be found in this newsletter as well as in the link.

If you like to get your hands dirty, consider joining the baking process. See CarolLynn Grzywna or Kathy Parkhurst. The fun doesn't start until the flour starts flying!

“Fun”draising for Capital Improvements

by Sally Jakielaszek

In mid-October, catalogs will be available for review and we will start taking orders for Rada Knives. Some members of the parish already own these great knives and have reported that they will be glad to purchase more. The knives make wonderful, useful, and inexpensive gifts. With the holidays approaching,

these would make great gifts! Just be sure to attach a penny to the item so that you don’t sever the friendship! Proceeds from the sale benefit the capital improvements around the church.

For more information, please contact Sally Jakielaszek. God’s blessing to you all.

Up and Running!

by Wendy Schumacher

St. Patrick's Youth Group is geared up for the 2009-2010 academic year! Much thought has been put into the program for the youth of our parish. The planning began when the youth leaders met in early September to plan the entire year. The first thing discussed was how we are going to make Bible Study an integral part of the program. In addition, we discussed the Sunday "timeslots" which was when we met as a group last year, and agreed that they were just not working.

The youthful members will be divided into two groups at the sleepovers, for no more than two hours at a time, and each group will work on their respective Bible lessons. The groups divide our "junior" and "senior" mem-

bers of the youth group. The junior group includes young folks from grades 6 through 9. The senior group includes those teens from grades 10 to 12. With the split Bible and discussion time, the conversations will be geared toward the appropriate age and maturity levels.

The academic schedule was then set for the year. Each month has a theme and that will guide the bible study lessons and some of the activities. This is the anticipated schedule for the year:

September – Forgiveness
October – Saints
November – Eucharist/
Thanksgiving
December – Christmas
January – Epiphany
February – Christian Love

March – Temptation/Lent

April – Easter

May – Pentecost

Katelyn Koziel and Jeremy Rajewski will be the youth leaders for our Junior High-aged youth and Nick Hurd and Mike Gengo will work with the Senior High-aged youth. With four leaders in place, I am free to be a mentor and guide for any and all of the youth and leaders. The leaders are very excited for the youth group this year, and are hoping and praying for well-attended events and support from the parents. Personally, I am so thankful to these leaders for stepping it up this year, and am quite happy to report that we are officially "Up and Running"!

Traveling Through the Bible

by Karen L. Gengo

At our parish, we understand that getting children involved in activities, stories, drama and music are key elements to building community. Each Sunday, children are encouraged to join our 9:45 am Sunday School class which is lead by Ms. Belle Kozak. Children from Pre-K through Fifth Grade are welcome to spend the first part of morning worship learning the lessons of the Bible in an intimate classroom. The class finishes before communion is shared in church so that every-

one from the parish is included in the Great Thanksgiving.

We are excited to introduce a new resource to our program! This school year students will follow "Route 66: A Trip through the 66 Books of the Bible" by Christian Ditchfield. Each week they will "travel" through key verses and stories from the 66 Books of the Bible. The class time begins with warm-up questions and ideas, follows a travel guide and encourages children to "fuel up" by looking for answers

in the Bible. Progress is marked on their own map! In addition children complete a "souvenir scrapbook" to remember their favorite parts of this journey.

Topics to be studied in October:

October 4 - Exodus

October 11 - Leviticus

October 18 - Numbers

October 25 - Deuteronomy

Ms. Belle is looking forward to working with you! Join in each week—you just don't know how far you can go!

Kudos, Matthew!

by Wendy Schumacher

This November, Matthew Seufert will be serving as Rector of Happening #25. Rector is a position that a youth member needs to apply for, and is then selected by the Happening Board to lead a weekend. Matt is personally responsible for choosing a team, assigning roles and making sure that the new candidates have the best experience as possible.

Happening Weekend #25 is November 13 -15 at Camp Pioneer in Angola. Following in the tradition of this life-changing experience for teenagers, a closing ceremony will be held at 3 pm to celebrate the weekend. All are invited to support Matt and all those at the Happening Weekend. For more information please see Wendy Schumacher or EJ Grzywna..

Movie Night Offers Break

by Kathy Parkhurst

Take a break from your Thanksgiving weekend power-shopping and join us on Saturday, November 28 at 7:00 pm for an evening of fellowship and laughs as St. Patrick's Theater proudly presents "Santa Clause 2". As always, there is no cost for this event and popcorn and drinks will be available. Do you know a family who would love a FREE night out? Invite them! All are welcome!

Girl Scouts in the Basement

by Karen L. Gengo

That could be a title to a new novel or movie if you just let your imagination go! However, it's not. As part of our outreach to the community, St. Patrick's offers the use of our basement for Girl Scout Troop 482. They have an open invitation for any girls to join the troop. The girls began this year's term on Wednesday, September 23 from 6:45-8:00, and from there, they meet every other week in the basement.

The troop is Junior and Cadette levels, which is girls from third grade through ninth grade. If anyone would like to join or has questions please feel free to contact troop leader, Carole Hoerner, directly, at 633-6928.

Of particular note for everyone is that the Girl Scout Cookie Sale began on October 3 – if anyone would like to buy cookies and is not given the opportunity directly -- please do not hesitate to contact Carole Hoerner and she will place the order for you.

We are thankful for Carole and the Troop for such a nice partnership. The Troop has consistently provided serving help during our Lenten Dinners and is gracious in their use of our hall.

Offering Thanksgiving to All

By CarolLynn Grzywna

On Sunday November 22, 2009 we will be celebrating Thanksgiving as a church family following the 10 am worship service. Everyone is welcome! Sometimes we need a reminder as to what exactly is "everyone". Simply put, it is you, your immediate family, your extended family; friends and neighbors! Everyone. Got it?

St. Patrick's will provide the turkey and gravy. If you are able to be a cook – the usual dinner accompaniments will come from you! If you are not able to do that – have no fear – we have never run out of food at St. Patrick's!

Please sign up to be a part of this most delicious meal by jotting your name on the sign-up sheet (available in the Link after November 1). With your help either by making food or bringing additional people, our meal will be like going back to the earliest traditions of Thanksgiving.

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact CarolLynn Grzywna at 716.897.3420.

The Woman of Faith Experience

by Cheryl Ann Hurd

This past year our Women of Faith Experience was prayed for by others who are strong in their prayer life. This is provided by the Women of Faith Organization to ready them and all those involved and attending, for the next year's event.

We believe in the power of prayer! Please join us in praying:

- That nothing would stand in the way of the women who need to be at the event

- That each attendee, speaker, and staff member will have a safe trip to and from the event

- That God's loving and peaceful presence will prevail at

the arena

- That the Registration and Will Call processes will go smoothly

- That traffic, parking, lunch distribution, audio/visual equipment, and language translation will operate smoothly, without difficulty or distraction

- That each speaker, special guest, worship leader, volunteer, and staff member will have every need met and be protected physically, emotionally, mentally, and spiritually throughout the weekend – experiencing God's joy and peace – and that all will work graciously together

- That each speaker and special guest will have clarity of thought and ease of communication in sharing their messages

- That each woman will be sensitive to God's voice and responsive to His message for her

- That family and loved ones at home will be safe and happy

If you are interested in seeing what a Women of Faith Experience, sometimes known as WOF, is like please join us in watching "A Grand New Day" video in late October or early November. The date will be published on our "new" website and in the weekly parish bulletins.

Scarves and Hats for Soldiers

by Diane Basinski

As most of you already know, I work with people with developmental disabilities. We have started a project that involves knitting or crocheting hats and scarves to send over to our wonderful "heroes" that are putting their lives on the line for our country. If anyone has the ability or desire to do this fine work, and would like to donate a hat or scarf to send over to our American soldiers, get moving, as we are sending them in the middle of November.

Here are some of the details that we are using to guide the project: OPERATION GRATITUDE. The

knitting and/or crocheting requirements are:

Any pattern may be used, but we recommend keeping the scarves and caps very simple! A basic stitch with a soft yarn and a subtle color is perfect. To ensure your scarf will fit in our package, please adhere to these measurements as closely as possible: 5-7" across and no more than 50" long.

Thank you in advance for any support you can lend to this outreach project. Please see me at church, or send me an e-mail: Rose042556@Yahoo.com.

The Greatest Gift Found in a Shoebox

by Kathy Parkhurst

What is the value of a shoebox? To many children throughout the world, a simple shoebox can be worth more than its weight in gold. Operation Christmas Child (OCC) delivers shoeboxes filled with small gifts to many such children throughout the world. For many, this is the only Christmas that they know.

Included in every shoebox is a booklet, "Greatest Gift of All" that introduces children and their families to Jesus Christ. OCC also offers a follow-up program titled "Operation Christmas Child Discipleship Program" where children are taken on a journey through the Bible. Each child receives his/her own New Testament upon graduation.

As you can see, a simple shoebox, when packed with love, can transform lives. The value is immeasurable!

Schedule:

October 11th - Program begins. Donations of shoeboxes, gifts and shipping costs (\$7/box) accepted.

November 8th - Last day for donations - Packing Party!

November 15 - Blessing of the shoeboxes at both services

November 20 - Delivery of shoeboxes to the drop-off center (Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church)

(Continued on page 11)

St. Patrick's Ministry Schedule

Date	Altar	Sun Lay Reader		Old Testament	Counters	Greeters	
	Guild	8 AM	10 AM			8 AM	10 AM
10/4	Sally/EJ	Sally	Wendy	Kathy	Carol Z/CarolLynn	Sally	Kelly
10/11	Kathy/Katelyn	Katelyn	Kathy	Karen	Karen/Pat	Katelyn	Pat
10/18	Belle/Cheryl R	Cheryl	Cheryl	Kathy	Cheryl/Joe	Cheryl	Belle
10/25	Dennis/CarolLynn	Sally	Dennis	Joe	Dennis/Joe	Sally	Diane
11/1	Sally/EJ	Wendy	Sally	Dennis	Carol Z/Jayne	Wendy	Nick
11/8	Kathy/Katelyn	Kathy	Katelyn	Wendy	Joe/Pat	Kathy	Katelyn
11/15	Belle/Cheryl R	Cheryl	Cheryl	Katelyn	CarolLynn/Jayne	Cheryl	Kelly
11/22	Dennis/CarolLynn	Dennis	Karen	Sally	Joe/Karen	Dennis	Pat
11/26	Dennis/CarolLynn	Thanksgiving	Karen	Dennis	n/a	n/a	Karen
11/29	Sally/EJ	Sally	Wendy	Karen	Karen/Jayne	Sally	Nick
12/6	Kathy/Katelyn	Katelyn	Kathy	Joe	Joe/Carol Z.	Katelyn	Diane
12/13	Belle/Cheryl R	Cheryl	Cheryl	Kathy	CarolLynn/Cheryl	Cheryl	Kelly
12/20	Dennis/CarolLynn	Karen	Dennis	Wendy	Dennis/Pat	Karen	Dennis
12/24	ALL	Wendy (7pm)	Karen (10pm)	Joe/Dennis	n/a	Joe/Wendy	Karen/Sally
12/27	Sally/EJ	Wendy	Sally	Katelyn	Jayne/Carol Z.	Wendy	Katelyn

Mark Your Calendar

October

- 10/4 Game Day & Potluck Lunch, 11:30 am
- 10/8 Communications Meeting, 7 pm
- 10/11 UTO Ingathering Day! Bring in your "blue box"
- 10/11 Operation Christmas Child (OCC) Begins
- 10/11 SMART kicks off fall campaign!
- 10/21 Pre-Convention Meeting, 7 pm
@ St. Peter's, Eggertsville
- 10/24 Youth Event: Bowling, 7 pm
- 10/25 Celebrating Rev. Russell's 50th Anniversary
- 10/30 Convention Begins
- 10/31 Convention Continues

November

- 11/1 Youth Activity: Halloween, 11:30 am
- 11/8 OCC Packing Day: Last Day for Donations
- 11/14 Theme Tray Auction, 5 pm
- 11/15 Blessing of Shoeboxes
- 11/20 Delivery of Shoeboxes to Drop-Off Center
- 11/21 Youth Event: 7pm
- 11/22 Thanksgiving Community Feast, 11:30 am
- 11/26 Thanksgiving Worship, 10 am
- 11/28 Community Movie Night:
Santa Clause 2, 7 pm
- 11/29 Advent Begins

December

- 12/5 Godly Play Christmas Pageant at Cathedral,
TBA
- 12/19 Youth Event: 7 pm
- 12/24 Christmas Eve Services, 7 pm and 10 pm

(...Shoebox from page 10)

There will be a display in the link with gifts suggestions, packing instructions, donation envelopes and informational material on the OCC program. Feel free to take any of the printed materials.

Gifts suggestions: School supplies such as pens, pencils, markers, erasers, writing pads, solar calculators, books; toys such as small cars, dolls, card

games, yo-yo's, stuffed animals, small craft kits; toiletries such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, washcloths, deodorant, combs, brushes; other items such as t-shirts, socks, hats, hard candy, suckers, gum, hair clips, flashlights.

Items not accepted: used or damages items, war-related items, liquids or lotions, chocolate, breakable items, medications or vitamins.

9:45 am—Church School
8:00 am & 10:00 am
Sunday Services

Office Hours
Call for appointment

1395 George Urban Boulevard
Cheektowaga, New York 14225
Phone: 716-684-4206
www.stpatrickswny.org

St. Patrick's
~ Episcopal Church ~
Est. 1957

Church Leadership

Vicar

Rev. John A. Russell

Rector Emeritus

Rev. Abuid S. Sam

Wardens

Sally Jakielaszek
Wendy Schumacher

Clerk

CarollLynn Grzywna

Treasurer

Sue Stanislawski

Vestry

Diane Basinski
Dennis Grzywna
Nicholas Hurd
Belle Kozak
Katelyn Koziel
Pat Rehberg
Sue Stanislawski
Kelly Stutz
Joe Verdaasdonk

Our Mission

We are a
community-
oriented Christian
Church guided
through prayer to
serve God and all
His creation by
demonstrating
God's love and
fostering others
on their journey
by invitation,
service and
encouragement.