



SPCC Happenings



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Jim Kelleher: Serving St. Patrick's In Many Ways

Often there is a St. Patrick's parishioner who serves the parish humbly and quietly and, as a result, whose selfless deeds are not noticed by most people. Such is the case with Jim Kelleher.

First of all, Jim conducts monthly pre-baptism classes for parents and godparents of children, from newborn to six years old, to be baptized at St. Patrick's. Completing the pre-baptism class is a diocesan requirement.

Second, for the past three years, Jim has been a regular visitor to the prisoners incarcerated in a number of the northern Nevada facilities: Lovelock Correctional Center, Warm Springs Correctional Center, and Northern Nevada Correctional Center. (NNCC) Among his activities at these sites is facilitating a three day course on the topic of alternatives to violence. Approximately 20-25 individuals attend each session.

"The feedback has been amazing," Jim said. He described one NNCC inmate, in prison for 35 years, who expressed his gratefulness for being treated, for once in his imprisonment, as a human being.

Jim, who also delivers to the prisoners rosaries made by St. Pat's Holy Rosary Society and blessed by pastor Father Tony, believes he has a call-

ing, a gift, to serve the Nevada prisoners. "It is a ministry that is not meant for everyone," he observed.

In addition to the above named responsibilities, Jim assists with the parish's RCIA program by facilitating classes on selected subjects (such as Reconciliation), serves as a lector and Eucharistic minister, and has been recently appointed to represent St. Patrick's on the Pastoral Council of the Diocese of Reno, a group whose purpose is the implementation of Synod directives.

Previous service to the parish has included teaching fifth grade, pre-confirmation, and confirmation classes as part of St. Pat's religious education program.

As Jim reflected on his life experiences, he credited his Catholic faith as a source of guidance and inspira-

tion. "God has watched over me and blessed me with insights to share with others," he stated. "God helps me every single day." And he considers the service that he provides as a volunteer in the various ministries as "very rewarding."

Born and raised in Illinois, Jim joined the Marine Corps in 1964 and witnessed military duty in Vietnam. In 1971 he enlisted in the Coast Guard where he helped build ships and from which he retired in 1998 as an electronic warrant officer.

Jim and his wife Kathleen, also an active volunteer at the parish, will celebrate their golden wedding anniversary on June 14 of this year.

Thank you ♥ to Jim for his dedication and congratulations to both Jim and Kathleen! On 50 years of

Sandy Hillery: Candle Caretaker

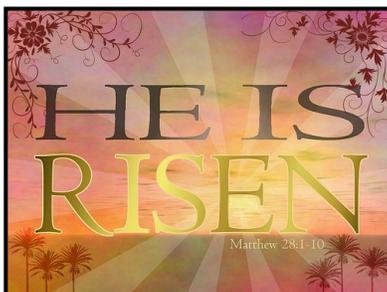
Did you ever wonder who regularly ensures the church candles lit by parishioners get replaced once the wicks burn to the bottom of their containers? St. Patrick's parish angel responsible for this important task is parishioner Sandy Hillery.

Once, and sometimes twice, per week Sandy will check the two votive stands located on either side of the chapel altar in the Rose Room for candles that have burned out, remove them, and insert new ones for parishioners to light. The large white devotional candle, for which a \$3.00 donation is requested, lasts approximately one week, while the small 50 cent votive candles linger for about one day.

Staff in the parish office order the candles and move them to the church where they are stored until needed. Payments by parishioners for lighting individual candles are used to replenish the supply.

Having served as candle caretaker for quite a few years, Sandy occasionally takes the containers into which the candles are inserted to clean or wash them for their continued use.

Thanks ♥ to volunteer Sandy!



*Blessed Easter
to all St. Patrick's
parishioners
and their families*

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RITE OF ELECTION—Individuals enrolled in St. Patrick's RCIA program and their sponsors participated in the Diocese of Reno's Celebration of the Rite of Election and the Call to Continuing Conversion held at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church in Reno on March 10th. The Most Reverend Randolph R. Calvo, Bishop of the Diocese of Reno, presided. Pictured above, preparing for the ceremonies to begin, are, in the front row, Aaron Harroun, Aaron's sponsor Maria Guadalupe Avalos, Jennifer Harroun, Jennifer's sponsor Claire Beaulac, Shannon Jensen, Shannon's sponsor Wendy Jensen, David Parkerson, and David's Sponsor Proxy Daniel Knoll. In the second row are Ashley Lochridge, Ashley's sponsor Judy Carlson, Jonathan Lochridge, Jonathan's sponsor proxy Robert Knoll, Dena Quintana, and Dena's sponsor Renee Thurston. Congratulations and blessings on St. Patrick's RCIA elect!

Scholarship Opportunities Available

Both the Knights of Columbus, Fallon Council 4828, and the Ladies Guild of St. Patrick's are offering scholarships to eligible parishioners.

The Knights will award three scholarships, each amounting to \$500, to St. Patrick's graduating seniors who complete a

scholarship application and fulfill all requirements. Applications, which include the list of requirements, may be obtained from the parish office or are located in the Rose Room of the church. The three winners will be announced at the KofC Graduating Senior breakfast scheduled for Sun., May 12, in the parish hall after the 8 a.m. Mass.

The Ladies Guild is giving a \$300 scholarship to a female parishioner who meets its eligibility standards. Applications, which also list who is eligible, are available in the Rose Room and must be submitted no later than Wed., May 1st.

CALENDAR—CALENDAR—CALENDAR—CALENDAR

April 24—Wed.—6 pm—Parish Council meeting

May 4 & 5—Sat. & Sun.—Knights of Columbus State Convention at St. Pat's

May 5—Sun.—At 11 am Mass—First Communion

May 12—Sun.—After 8 am Mass—K of C Graduating Senior Breakfast—Parish Hall

May 12—Sun.—At 11 a.m. Mass—Confirmation—Potluck luncheon in parish hall follows

May 18 & 19—Sat. & Sun.—Portuguese Festa

June 8 & 9—Sat. & Sun.—K of C Yard Sale—Parish Hall

Also check the parish website at www.stpatricksparish.org for a complete calendar of all activities and additional announcements.

IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO MAKE A PLEDGE COMMITMENT TO ST. PAT'S CURRENT CAPITAL CAMPAIGN, PLEASE REMEMBER TO COMPLETE THE PLEDGE COMMITMENT FORM RECEIVED IN THE MAIL AND RETURN IT TO THE PARISH OFFICE.. THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!