



# St. Patrick Parish

## Church

## Matters

NEWS ENCOURAGING FAITH, FAMILY AND FRIENDS

[www.stpatsfarm.com](http://www.stpatsfarm.com)

FALL 2018

### IN THIS ISSUE:

Spotlight on Monica Blum  
Contact Response Cards  
page 2

Ministry Minute:  
Youth Choir  
Parish Council  
Nominations  
page 3

Education News:  
ELM  
Showboat Jackson  
page 4

Education News:  
RCIA  
GIFT 2018-2019

page 5

Save the Date  
page 6

Campaign Prayer  
Catholicism  
page 7

Rérédos  
page 8

## Remembering Our Past, Building Our Future Together

by *Bev Montresor*

After over 30 years, St. Patrick will undergo a much anticipated facility upgrade to address the needs parishioners have identified in various surveys. Thanks to Father Barry's dedication and hard work, much has recently been accomplished. There is finally a realistic plan, a beautiful architectural design and all of the necessary approvals to move forward with construction. Now it is our turn

to step up and support this exciting endeavor with our prayers, time, talents and our treasures.

Over the last few weeks you have heard a lot about the Capital Campaign that began Sept. 22nd and will conclude during the first week of December. You will continue to receive information from the bulletin, pulpit announcements, mailings, phone calls, and receptions. Please take the time to become familiar with the expansion plans and the vision for the future of our parish.

The Archdiocese requires that capital campaigns are professionally managed and that makes good sense because a capital campaign is a full time effort for several weeks requiring specialized expertise and focus. Guidance In Giving, Inc. has



**Stephen Babcock**

been hired to manage our capital campaign. Guidance In Giving, Inc. has over 35 years of experience providing service solely to Catholic parishes, dioceses and schools nationwide. They have helped parishes as close as West Hartford (St. Thomas the Apostle), as far away as Divine Mercy in Sacramento, and everywhere in between. Guidance In Giving, Inc. has

designed a campaign plan, rooted in Stewardship, that encourages parishioners to share their time, talent and treasure.

Stephen A. Babcock, Executive Vice President, Parish Division, will be our leader. Stephen is originally from Oswego, NY, and resides on Long Island. He joined Guidance In Giving, Inc. in 1997. Since joining, he has been involved in conducting a wide array of development efforts throughout the United States including capital campaigns, feasibility/planning studies, annual appeals, and development audits, etc. He spent his first seven years with the company working primarily in the diocesan division spending time in Charleston, Fargo, Houston, (Cont. page 6)

# Spotlight on Monica Blum, PAC Chairperson

by Maureen Sposato

Monica Blum has been a familiar face around St. Patrick for many years. Currently chairperson of the Pastoral Advisory Council, she also served as a catechist for seven years, served meals at the House of Bread and Immaculate Conception Shelters and volunteered on various other committees.

Born and raised in Pennsylvania, she is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh with a degree in math. Monica and her husband Michael moved to Farmington and joined St. Patrick parish over 30 years ago. They have a son Steven, who is married and has a young son, Desmond. Monica retired several years ago after working for over 40 years in the insurance industry in Hartford. "Since I retired, I knew I had more time to volunteer so I ran for the Parish Council. As a member of the Parish Council, I chaired the Oktoberfest 2016. Chairing this event enabled me to meet many parishioners - both those who volunteered for the event and those who attended it," she said. "I have a strong appreciation for the many volunteers at St. Patrick who go about doing what needs to be done without much fanfare. Volunteers allow ministries to thrive at our parish. It takes the support of many people for an organization to accomplish its



**Monica Blum**

goals," she added.

She sees challenges for the Council in the next few months that are connected to the new church addition. "We need to help all parishioners understand the benefits of the expansion and how it will positively impact them. We also need to ensure that many of the normal activities of the church continue without interruption," she explained. As for the benefits, there is something for everyone in the expansion. Just a few items, not in any specific order are - a new and expanded meeting place which would allow close to 200 people to gather, classrooms which will allow for CCD or GIFT to be held in our church, new bathrooms accessible by people with mobility issues, parking in a

parking lot that will allow people to come and go rather than the current row parking (there will no longer be Main Street parking which poses challenges to the parkers and those driving by), an elevator from the ground floor to the first floor, and a gathering area with a baptismal font when coming into the church from the parking lot side. "A very important point to me is that the architecture of the expansion fits with the existing architecture of our church," she said.



## Contact Response Cards

Father Barry would like to thank all the Parishioners who filled out the cards to update their contact information. We had cards in the church pews, in the bulletin and on the website. We are very grateful to all the parishioners that took the time to update their information. Much of our information was outdated and the office staff worked hard all summer to correct our records. We recently held a drawing and pulled names from all the cards that were completed. A very big congratulations to our winners:

C. Mitchell Gilbert of Farmington  
Tom Gleifert of Farmington  
Jaroslaw Czyz of Unionville.

Please contact the Parish Office to pick up your prizes.

# Ministry Minute: Youth Choir

by Maureen Sposato

**M**ake social connections with other parish youth, and build confidence singing in front of the congregation! Director of Music Mike Carney is recruiting more members for the youth choir. The group sings at the 9:30 Sunday Mass and rehearses before the Mass from 9:00 – 9:20 am. Open

to all kids between 5th grade and college, participants receive professional vocal instruction and learn music that will support them in their parish life. For more information, see Mike Carney at church or email him at [mikecarneymusic@gmail.com](mailto:mikecarneymusic@gmail.com).



**Photo (L-R): Hayden, Jane, Katie, Leah, Dylan, Rhythm, Mike, Lehan, Claire, Jim.  
Not Pictured: Ben, Peter, Maddie, Diana**

## Parish Council Nominations

We are currently seeking nominations for candidates for the Parish Council Election. The terms for 4 Parish Council members will end in January.

This is your opportunity to consider nominating friends, neighbors or yourself to fill these positions on the Parish Council. What is involved in this process? How long is the “term” on the Parish Council? What are the qualifications necessary to be nominated? What is your role?

The answers to your questions are as follows:

- The term on the Parish Council is 3 years. The Council meets once a month on the First Tuesday of the month, except for June, July and August. During the summer months it meets only if necessary.
- The qualifications are simple: Be an adult who is interested in supporting St. Patrick Church.
- Your role is to assist your Parish and to help shape what goes on in the Parish. The Parish Council members assist and advise the pastor with church matters and serve as a liaison between the laity and the Pastor.

This is your time to become involved and have a “voice” as we strive to implement programs for the use of the new addition to our church. Parishioners who have served on the Parish Council may return as long as it is a year since their term ended.

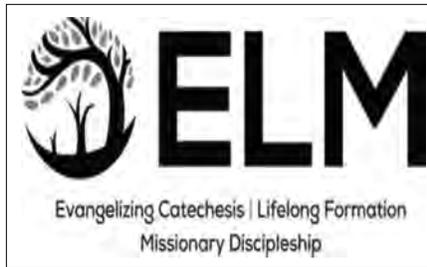
Please think of people you consider good candidates for this very important role in Parish life.

If you would like to become a candidate or nominate someone you know, please contact Monica Blum, Parish Council Chairperson at [monicaprokop@comcast.net](mailto:monicaprokop@comcast.net) or the Parish Office at [office@stpatsfarm.org](mailto:office@stpatsfarm.org) telephone 860.677.2639.



# Education News: ELM – Energizing Catechesis Lifelong Formation | Missionary Discipleship

We would like to thank the 213 Parishioners that put the time into filling out our Survey. The ELM Team will be looking over all the comments and answers to the survey in order to implement programs that our parishioners would like in the future. The ELM committee continues to work towards the goal of keeping St. Patrick Church the vibrant, Catholic community that it is. The information has been very helpful in showing us the best way to keep the members of our parish informed and we will



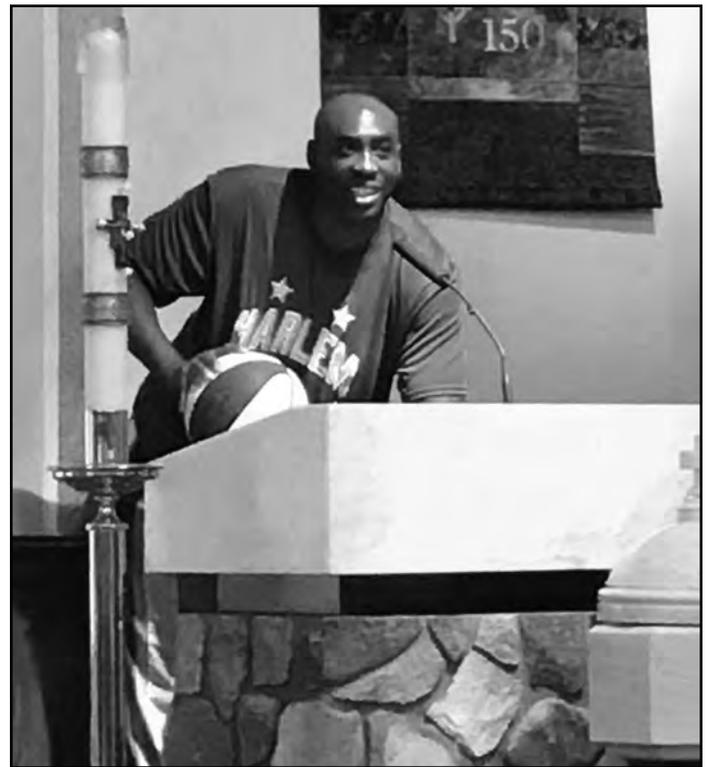
continue to strive to serve our community in the best ways possible. We were thrilled to read that over 75% of the people who responded answered that they were extremely satisfied with St. Patrick Church. It is our goal to continue to provide our community with the best programs, ministries, religious education, faith formation, and liturgy as we grow and look toward the future of evangelization. If you did not receive a survey and would like the opportunity to fill one out, please contact the Parish Office.



## Showboat Jackson

The Harlem Globetrotter's Showboat Jackson spoke at St. Patrick on July 22nd, sharing his message of hope and resilience for children to stay in school, make good choices, and

do good for others. He posed with kids and sold basketballs and tee shirts after Mass to benefit his cause.



	<p><i>Church Matters</i> Fall 2018</p>	<p><b>Editor:</b> Maureen Sposato</p>	<p><b>Reporters:</b> Eileen Dignazio Bev Montresor Sue Petrucci Maureen Sposato</p>	<p><b>Photography:</b> Maureen Sposato <b>Design and Layout:</b> Katherine Sposato Johnson</p>	<p><b>Printing:</b> Garrett Printing &amp; Graphics Bristol, CT</p>
--	--	---	---	--	---

♻️ printed on recycled paper

# Education News: RCIA

## Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

The process of initiating new members into the parish community is an integral part of what it means for a parish to be a welcoming community. We are beginning the RCIA process here at St. Patrick's and would welcome anyone who is not Catholic to come and be a part of this time of discovering what it means to be Catholic. All are in-

vited to meet with the RCIA team after the 11:30 Mass on Sundays in the Office Building to discuss coming to faith in the Catholic Church. For more information, contact Eileen Dignazio, [Eileen@stpatsfarm.org](mailto:Eileen@stpatsfarm.org) or call the office: 860-677-2639.



### GIFT 2018-2019



**Theme: "Morality in Today's World"**  
**Mark your Calendars for these GIFT sessions.**



**Don't miss any of these sessions, which all will have great guest speakers!**

**November 9-11** "Respect for all Life: End of Life Issues; Human Trafficking; & Mental Health Issues. A three-person panel will address these issues. Sr. Amara Salata, Assistant Program Coordinator for the Archdiocesan Pro-Life Office; Deacon Adam Michael, Leader of Wellness Ministry at St. George Church in Guilford; and Members of the Archdiocesan Human Trafficking Task Force.

**January 25-27** "What do you do when no one is watching? Truthfulness, Honesty and Integrity." The guest speaker is Deacon Art Miller. Deacon Art does not need a formal introduction, since so many parishioners of St. Patrick have loved his previous talks. Come listen and learn....

**March 1-3** "Forgiveness: Are you able to forgive even if the crime is a murder of a loved one?" How to move on and find true forgiveness. Speaker: Audrey Carlson, Founder of the Hartford Happiness Club.

For Questions: Contact Eileen Dignazio, Director of Religious Education at 860-676-0253 Or [Eileen@stpatsfarm.org](mailto:Eileen@stpatsfarm.org).

**New Parishioners:**

Mr. & Mrs. Greg Sieklicki  
 Kevin Tierney  
 Denise Lewis  
 Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey King  
 Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Tilley, Jr.  
 Mrs. Debra Gilbert  
 Mr. & Mrs Patsy Nocera  
 Mr. & Mrs. Peter Zarella  
 Michael Dirrigl

Mr. Jeff Garibaldi & Ms. Morgan Pellecchia  
 Dr. Maria Frank  
 Mrs. Monique Cornell  
 Dr. & Mrs. William Rabitaille  
 Mr. & Mrs. David Ciriello  
 Marie Arjelyn Domingo  
 Mr. & Mrs. Carmen Nigro  
 Blake Torrance  
 Megan Wollschlager & Evan Desrochers

**Baptisms:**

Seth A. Gallagher  
 Kaylee A. Kowalczyk  
 Abigail E. Hintz  
 Caroline J. King  
 Lily L. King  
 Miko J. Pasakaluk  
 Rex D. Adamek  
 Jack T. Farrell  
 Emilio J. LaRosa

Cecilia E. Zarella  
 Adam J. Cornell



# SAVE THE DATE

## INTERNATIONAL BAZAAR

NOVEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup> & 18<sup>TH</sup>

St. Patrick Church will host its 14th annual International Bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 17th from 9AM to 6PM in the church hall and after all of the masses on Sunday, Nov. 18th. A light lunch will be offered on Saturday. We will be featuring Fair Trade coffee, olive oil, metal work, ceramics, ornaments, and clothing from Uganda, Catholic Relief Services, Haiti, Peru, Guatemala and more!

The Bazaar offers us an opportunity to more fully integrate our principles with our purchasing patterns. By purchasing fairly traded foods and handcrafts we are making a conscious choice to buy from poor people in a way that promises to help lift them out of poverty.

*For more information contact Sue Petruzzi at [s.petruzzi@comcast.net](mailto:s.petruzzi@comcast.net)*

### PLEASE COME AND SHOP FOR A GOOD CAUSE!

*Our faith asks us to respect the dignity of work, God's people and His creation. Understanding the impact of our purchases and consumption helps ensure our choices don't harm others or the environment.*



## Remembering Our Past, Building Our Future Together (Continued from page 1)

Norwich, CT, San Diego, Savannah, St. Augustine, St. Petersburg, Wheeling-Charleston, WV and Youngstown, OH. Since 2004, Steve has served in the parish division, in sales, supervision and operations of development efforts in Catholic churches throughout the Northeast, Midwest and Southern United States. Steve is a 1996 graduate of Siena College in Loudonville, NY. He and his wife Tara were married in 2001 and have four children, Callaghan, Quinn, Leah and Daniel.

When I interviewed Stephen recently, I was impressed by his openness, enthusiasm and obvious love for his work and family. He understands our parish, its history, its needs and its vision for the future. He has a deep concern for informing and educating every parishioner. He emphasized how important it is for everyone to know why and how things are being done. He spoke about the upcoming receptions aimed at informing everyone of our plans. There will be a 3D model that will really bring plans to life so that you can actually see the results. Listening to Stephen I felt more comfortable about attending an upcoming reception. There is no fear of being hand-cuffed and pressured to make a quick decision on my

pledge. The receptions will really be about educating, answering questions, and sending you away with information to think about so that you may determine what your sacrificial gift will be. We need to do this together. Every gift is important. Stephen made an interesting statement: "Equal sacrifice does not mean equal amounts". It is time to contemplate what a sacrificial amount means to you.

Even though we are working with an outside firm, the parish is still taking a leadership role in this campaign. Father Barry has created a Campaign Committee made up of a diverse group of parishioners, including Gerry and Dorothy Haviland: Co-Chairs; Jean Poulin: Recruitment; Pat Moran: Receptions; and Dave Edwards: Follow-up.

Please approach these individuals for information or to discuss any questions you might have. Most importantly, please take the time to review the information provided to you, pray the Campaign Prayer and attend a reception so that you can hear firsthand what is happening. Only then will we be able to "Build Our Future Together".

## Some reasons to shop Fair Trade:

1. Fair Trade benefits small-scale producers
2. Fair Trade means a living wage for workers
3. Fair Trade is better for people and the planet
4. Fair Trade helps protect children
5. Fair Trade empowers women and girls
6. Fair Trade helps raise awareness of trade justice
7. Fair Trade means partnership – not exploitation



Remembering Our Past,  
**Building Our  
Future Together**  
ST. PATRICK CHURCH CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

### CAMPAIGN PRAYER

**HEAVENLY FATHER**

We glorify you and we thank you  
for all the many blessings you bestow on us  
as members of the one Body of Christ your Son.

By the power of the Holy Spirit  
inspire us with a vision of the future  
of St. Patrick Parish,  
one filled with hope, confidence and trust,  
a vision that we pledge to support  
for re-igniting our faith  
and the faith of those  
who will come after us.

Give us the grace to live fully  
our Christian calling,  
to strengthen the life of our parish,  
to impart and deepen  
the faith among all age groups,  
especially our youth,  
to expand our charitable outreach  
in the name of Christ,  
and to plan wisely for the future.

We make our prayer through Christ our Lord.

~AMEN



# CATHOLICISM

*Journey Around the World and Deep into the Faith*

**COMING SOON AT  
ST. PATRICK CHURCH**  
(10-PART SERIES)

EXPERIENCE THE CATHOLIC FAITH AS YOU'VE NEVER  
SEEN BEFORE

THURSDAYS  
FROM OCTOBER 4 – DECEMBER 13  
9:15AM OR 7:00PM

Visit [www.stpatsfarm.org](http://www.stpatsfarm.org) to register



You shop. **Amazon gives.**

Support **St Patrick R C Church** by starting your shopping at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com).

Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to St. Patrick Church if you select our church as your charitable organization.

AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service.



Easy Steps:

- Scan the barcode on the left or visit [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)
- Select **St Patrick R C Church** as your charitable organization.
- Start using [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) for purchases.

Scan me

If there is any questions, please call the parish office at 860-677-2639 or email [office@stpatsfarm.org](mailto:office@stpatsfarm.org).



*Church Matters*

110 Main Street  
P.O. Box 523  
Farmington, CT 06034-0523

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

NON PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
FARMINGTON, CT  
06034  
PERMIT NO. 25

## Rérédos *by Maureen Sposato*

*“The comforter which is the Holy Spirit:  
He will teach you all things.”*

The magnificent altar piece on the wall near the south door of St. Patrick Church is called a rérédos. Once behind the altar of Trinity Episcopal Church in Waterbury, the rérédos and the altar were donated to Trinity in 1884 by R.E Hitchcock, the first senior warden of the church, in memory of his wife.

The former church is now called McGivney Hall and is owned by the Immaculate Conception Basilica in Waterbury. Because it is no longer in use as a church, the building is being torn down, and Fr. Barry arranged for St. Patrick to receive the altar piece and several stained glass windows which will be used in the new addition. “It nicely balances with the organ on the wall,” he said during Mass recently.

