

CHURCH NAME & NUMBER —

St. Irenaeus #485
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Park Forest, IL 60466

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the Pillar

St. Irenaeus Parish, Park Forest, Illinois

March 7, 2010 Third Sunday of Lent



*The place
where you
stand is
HOLY
GROUND*

Through Our Journey with Christ
We Become a New Creation

**Afternoon of Reflection for
Liturgical Ministers**

Presented by Sheila McLaughlin,
Director, Bernardin Center at
Catholic Theological Union.

Sheila is the former Director
of the Office for Divine Worship,
Archdiocese of Chicago.

Sunday March 14, 2010
1:00 P.M.-3:00 P.M.
Religious Education Center
St. Irenaeus Room

Sponsored by the St. Irenaeus Liturgy Team

**Lenten
Bookmarks**

Hanging from the
branches in the
center of church
are bookmarks for
each Sunday in
Lent, with a
different message
each week related
to our Lenten
journey with Christ.
Please help
yourself.

Lenten Services at St. Irenaeus Parish

Fridays, March 12, 19, 26
7:00 PM **Stations of the Cross**
(led by different Commissions of the Parish Council)

Sunday, March 14, 2010
Afternoon of Reflection for Liturgical Ministers
(all parishioners are invited)

Sunday, March 28, 2010
2:00 PM **Parish Reconciliation Service**

Lenten Faith Sharing Groups
Call the Parish Office, 708-748-6891, for details

Witnesses of Faith

Sponsored by St. Irenaeus Adult Faith Formation Committee

St. Irenaeus Catholic Church

Religious Education Center Room 8 7:00-8:30 pm

Archbishop Oscar Romero
Monday March 15, 2010
Fr. Terry Johnson

Thomas Merton
Monday April 19, 2010
Mr. George Stapleton

Each Presentation will conclude with refreshments and fellowship.

A free will offering will be taken to help offset the stipends for the speakers.

RSVP to Terri Cardin at St Irenaeus Parish Office by the Wednesday prior to the session you will be attending, or if you need a ride 708.748.6891

The Saint Irenaeus PADS site still is in need of assistance

St. I's PADS site has seven nights left in this season and we are still in need of volunteers. The 1st. Thursday of each month needs 2 volunteers for the 6 PM to 11:00 PM shift and 1 volunteer for the 11PM to 3AM shift. We still need a list of back up volunteers for all the weeks and shift. We also are still in need of inexpensive hand towels and wash clothes plus travel size deodorant. A special thank you from the guests of PADS to all that have already donated their time, talents, supplies and money. Should you have any questions please call the rectory 748-6891.

Religious Education News

Reconciliation: Nine students received the sacrament of Reconciliation on Sunday, Feb. 28th. The students were Kai Adami, Kolbe Gilmore, Kennedy Gilmore, Andrew Grzeskowiak, Isabel Grzeskowiak, Oryon Sawyers, Ora Sawyers, Alex Perez and Raul Rosas. Thank you to Vickie Merlo and the parents who prepared them for this sacrament. Thank you also to Fr. Terry, Helen Silvia and Mr. Robert Neal for their part in the Reconciliation service.

First Communion Parent Meeting: Date: Monday, March 8th Time: 7 p.m. Place: St. Irenaeus room at least one parent from each family should be present at this meeting. This meeting is for parents who have a daughter/son in Vickie Merlo's class.

Sacrament Meeting for Parents of older students (Grades 4-High school): Date: Sacrament Meeting for Parents of older students (Grades 4-High school): Date: Tuesday, March 16th Time: 7 p.m. Place: St. Irenaeus room At least one parent from each family should be present for this meeting.

Congratulations to the Confirmation candidates! All candidates were present at a meeting recently with the parent or sponsor. Lois DeFelice did a very nice presentation for the group and she had the students involved. Thank you to Ed Carriel and Kim Safran who work with the Confirmation candidates.

Sr. Mary Anne

Knights of Columbus Fish Fry

3/12, 3/19, 3/26

Location: St. Irenaeus Gym

Time: 5:00-7:30 PM

All you can eat Fish Dinners

Cost: Fish Dinner Adults \$8.00

Children (under 10) \$4.00

Macaroni & Cheese Dinners

Adults \$5.00 Children (under 10) \$4.00

Shrimp & Combo Dinners Are Not All You Can Eat (Only Fish)

Six Piece Shrimp Dinner \$8.00

Combo Dinner

2 Fish and 3 Piece Shrimp \$10.00

Dinners include: Macaroni & Cheese,

Green Beans, Cole Slaw,

Bread & Butter, Dessert, Coffee & Tea

Carry outs will be available

Drinks Available at bar;

Beer & Wine, \$2; Pop & Water, \$1

A Film and Discussion on the Life of Archbishop Oscar Romero”

Date: March 22 Time: 7-9 pm Fee: \$15

Facilitators: Father Terry Johnson and
Mary Ruth Broz, RSM

“The Lenten Journey: Connecting the Threads of Women’s Lives”

Both the Wisdom Tradition in scripture and the ancient art of weaving provide strong and powerful images for us as we make our way through this Lenten Season, connecting what has been separated for too long. Together we will listen for what both can teach us about the long haul of faithfulness and a God who sits with us as the tapestry of each of our lives unfolds. You are invited to attend one, two, or all three sessions of this Lenten series.

“Tangled Threads and Knotted Places.....Life, Death, Life Again”

Date: March 15 Time: 9:30-Noon Fee: \$20

“A Tapestry Unfolding: Becoming Women of Wisdom”

Date: March 29 Time 9:30 am-Noon Fee: \$20

Week of Fire: The Spirituality of Holy Week”

Date: March 26-28 Time: 7 pm (Friday)-11 am (Sunday) Fee: \$225 (includes 2 overnight stays and all meals)
\$125 (commuter-includes all meals)

“ A Retreat in Everyday Life: Connecting the Sacred and the Ordinary”

Dates: March 15-29; group sessions (15th and 29th) Time: 7-9 pm

Fee: \$150 (includes all materials and 5 spiritual direction appointments)

Spiritual Directors/Facilitators: Mary Ruth Broz, RSM; Norma Jenssen, OSF; Father Terry Johnson

“THE PORT”

9263 West St. Francis Road, Frankfort IL

815-464-3880 www.portforprayer.org

Peace & Justice

The following Family Pledge of Nonviolence is from the Institute for Peace and Justice, www.iip-ppi.org

Making peace must start within ourselves and in our family. Each of us...commit ourselves as best we can to become nonviolent and peaceable people:

To Respect Self and Others: To respect myself, to affirm others and to avoid uncaring criticism, hateful words, physical attacks and self-destructive behavior.

To Communicate Better: To share my feelings honestly, to look for safe ways to express my anger, and to work at solving problems peacefully.

To Listen: To listen carefully to one another, especially those who disagree with me, and to consider others' feelings and needs rather than insist on having my own way.

To Forgive: To apologize and make amends when I have hurt another, to forgive others, and to keep from holding grudges.

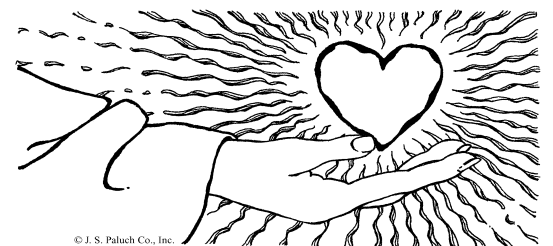
To Respect Nature: To treat the environment and all living things, including our pets, with respect and care.

To Play Creatively: To select entertainment and toys that support our family's values and to avoid entertainment that makes violence look exciting, funny or acceptable.

To Be Courageous: To challenge violence in all its forms whenever I encounter it, whether at home, at school, at work, or in the community, and to stand with others who are treated unfairly.



In the 1950's Girl Scout Sunday or Girl Scout Sabbath was a time for girls to attend their house of worship and be recognized as a Girl Scout. Girl Scout all of the world will celebrate Girl Scout week March 7 through March 13th. St. Irenaeus will celebrate on March 13th at the 5:00 p.m. mass. Scouts of all ages, current and past, boy scouts and girl scouts come to meet and recognize the importance of scouting in the education and development of our youth. For more information on Girls Scouts Contact: Helen Funk 780-747-3536



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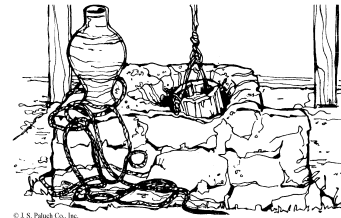
Reflections on Today's Readings March 7 Third Sunday of Lent

1st Reading: Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15.

In the desert, Moses noticed a burning bush which, strangely, was not consumed by the fire. As he approached it, God spoke, telling him to remove his sandals for he was on "holy ground." Then God told Moses that He planned to have him lead the Israelites out of bondage in Egypt to a land flowing with milk and honey. Moses asked the obvious question, "Who shall I tell them sent me?" God answered as he had answered everyone since Abraham: "The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob, has sent me to you." Moses, realizing the people would want a name, persisted, asked what name he should tell the people. God answered, "I AM." Not "I WAS" or "I WILL BE," but a "from the beginning and into eternity, "I AM." The Exodus became the defining experience of the Jewish nation - a partial fulfillment of God's covenant with Abraham that, after enduring 400 years of bondage, his people would leave Egypt with great wealth.

Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-11.

"Merciful and gracious is the Lord, slow to anger and abounding in kindness." The Psalmist sings of the Lord's patience and kindness which was tried and tested repeatedly by the Israelites.



2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12.

"All drank the same spiritual drink; they drank from the rock that was following them - and the rock was Christ." Paul speaks to the Corinthians about the Exodus experience of their ancestors, recalling for them God's saving power. The Israelites' passage through the waters of the Red Sea out of the bondage of Egyptian slavery is relived in the Corinthians' passage through their baptisms out of the bondage of sin. Christ was there in the desert with the Israelites in the rock which provided them with life-giving water. Through all of this, their ancestors grumbled and many of them were struck down by avenging angels.

Gospel: Luke 13:1-9.

Only Luke uses the two stories of the Galileans who were killed, some by Pilate and some by a falling tower in Siloam. Jesus tells his listeners that the ones who were killed were probably no worse nor any better than any other Galileans, thus breaking the traditional Jewish belief in the "causal effect" relationship between sin and punishment. Jesus used the story to emphasize an oft-issued warning: they do not know when their lives will be demanded of them, therefore they must keep themselves reconciled with God at all times. The parable of the fig tree advances the truth that, while God is merciful and full of kindness, he does expect us to be fruitful.

God avoided telling Moses much about Himself, including the name by which people would know Him. God is infinite in nature. There is so much to know about Him and yet we know so little. He wants us to be His Apostles, to send us forth in His name to spread the Good News of His kingdom. But how can we spread the Good News of His kingdom if we don't know Him? As the Apostle Paul said, "But how can they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how can they believe in him of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone to preach? And how can people preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring (the) good news!" (Romans 10:14-15) God is patient with us as He was with the fig tree, giving us His unremitting love and nourishing us with His grace, but He expects us to be fruitful. The fruitfulness of the fig tree depends on the fertility of the soil, the rains, and the skill of the gardener, but we have the power to prepare ourselves to be fruitful Apostles. Our knowledge comes from the Scriptures; our resolve to go forth comes from prayer.

Mass Intentions For The Week

Monday, March 8

St. John of God

8:00 Dolores Rauen req by
The Cave Family

Tuesday, March 9

St. Frances of Rome

8:00 Dick Niendorf req By
The Niendorf Family

Wednesday, March 10

8:00 Maude Shander req by
Al Hansen

Thursday, March 11

8:00 Communion Service

Friday, March 12

8:00 Communion Service

Saturday, March 13

8:00 Communion Service

4:00-4:45 **Reconciliation**

5:00 John Cosgrove req by
The Family

Sunday, March 14

8:30 Deceased members of the Kogler &
Newhuis Family req by
Rosemary & Children

10:30 Gloria Ann Shander req by
Al Hansen

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, March 6 5:00 pm

Lectors

Bob Carreras, Tim Blumenthal,
Mary Jane Riopelle

Extraordinary Ministers/Eucharist

Merle Arr, Dolly Mikolajczyk, Beverly Helm,
Sally Fortune, Eileen Rose, Joe Augustyn,
Richard Marvin

Cantor

Cathy Williams

Altar Servers

Mike Powers, Kendrick Gilmore

Sunday, March 7 8:30 am

Lectors

Chris Blue, Gerry Berish, Mary Schmittgens

Extraordinary Ministers/Eucharist

Carol McCullough, Dennis Condon,
Richard Thomas, Laura Hennessy,
Pat McCartin, Pat O'Connor, Jim Silvia

Cantor

Faye Predny

Altar Servers

Jack Osmolski, Karen Ertl

Sunday, March 7 10:30 am

Lectors

Bill Carreras, Barb Ostroski, Adaugo Ugonna

Extraordinary Ministers/Eucharist

Sevena Merchant, Virginia Piechocki,
Dave Perkins, Valeria Wolff, Doris Foster,
Sandy Winder, Lyn Schober

Cantor

Phil Schwartz

Altar Servers

Stephanie Sagun, Virginia Differding,
Moira Differding



The Church of the Holy Family and the Park Forest Association of Churches presents their Annual Choir Fest on Sunday, March 21, 2010, at 2:00 P.M. The host will be the Episcopal Church of the Holy Family, located at 102 Marquette Street, Park Forest, IL. The facility is wheel-chair accessible.

The participating church choirs are Calvary United Protestant - St. Paul's Good Shepherd Churches, Faith United Protestant Church, First Baptist Church of Park Forest, Grace United Protestant Church, St. Irenaeus Catholic Church, and The Episcopal Church of the Holy Family.

Light refreshments will follow the program. For further information or directions please call 708-748-1100.

Church Stewardship

Budget Information - 35

Budget Information \$4,650.00

February 28 Collection \$4,670.00

Thank you to the 154 families who used their stewardship envelopes last weekend.

Money collected\envelopes \$3,943.00

Loose Money \$727.00

Budget Year to Date \$162,750.00

Actual Income Year to Date \$152,316.31

09/10 Budget Shortage (\$10,433.69)

Maintenance Fund Feb. 28 \$298.00

Maintenance Fund YTD \$21,625.00

Collections Prior Fiscal Yrs. \$325,363.00

Total Collections \$346,988.00

Total Expenditures \$295,987.83

Hotlines:

COURAGE

*For single mothers and
unplanned pregnancies
708-636-8001*

*Catholic Charities Family Shelter
312-655-7700*

*Senior Services
708-596-2222*

*Crisis Center for South Suburbs
708-429-7233*

*Grief Support Center for New
Beginnings
708-985-3010*

*So. Sub. Family Shelter Domestic
Violence
708-335-3028*

*So. Sub. Council on Alcoholism
and Substance Abuse
708-647-3333*

Ministry of Care & Anointing of the Sick

Please call the rectory if you, or someone you know, is unable to join us for Eucharist. Our ministers of care visit parishioners at home and in the hospital or nursing home. Arrangements can be made for the celebration of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

The Sacrament of Marriage

Couples planning to marry must call the rectory at least six months prior to their desired wedding date. All couples must attend a Pre-Cana Conference.

Need prayers?

*Call the St.
Irenaeus Health
Ministry Prayer
Line at 747-0974
with your requests*

The Sacrament of Baptism

We celebrate the sacrament of baptism on the fourth Sunday of each month at 1:00 p.m. Parents must attend a baptism preparation session. These sessions are held on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Rectory. Please call the rectory to make arrangements.

St. Irenaeus Ministerial Staff

Rectory Phone: 748-6891

***Religious Education Center Phone:
748-7997***

Rev. Terry Johnson, Pastor
Deanna Martin, Lay Minister
Robert Neal,
Director of Music Ministry
Terri Cardin, Parish Secretary
Sr. Mary Anne Yanz, O.P.
Director of Religious Education

Web-site www.stirenaeuschurch.com

E-Mail stirenaeus@archchicago.org

Bulletin Submissions

Articles are due by 10 AM on Fridays 8 days prior to publication date. Electronic submissions are preferred – email to stirenaeus@archchicago.org. Please include “Bulletin article” in the subject line. Questions? Call Terri Cardin at 708-748-6891 between the hours of 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM.