

CHURCH NAME & NUMBER —

St. Irenaeus #485
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the Pillar

St. Irenaeus Parish, Park Forest, Illinois

April 11, 2010 Second Sunday of Easter



Ramblings

“The greatest challenge of our day is how to bring about a revolution of the heart. A revolution which has to start with each one of us. When we begin to take the lowest place, to wash the feet of others, to love our sisters and brothers with that burning love, that passion which leads to the cross, then we can truly say now I have begun! “
Dorothy Day

Today we celebrate the faith community of St. Irenaeus Parish. It's rich history of hospitality and welcome. Its resilience and ability to keep on during good times and bad. It's fidelity to God's command to love one another and to love neighbor as oneself.

We celebrate and hold up all those who have gone before us and we stand on their shoulders as we journey towards the future. We gather as a community of faith which holds fast to our baptismal call to “go and make disciples of all people” as we live and witness to God's love in the world around us. We call to those ancestors and invoke their names as we call forth ministry and leadership in this faith community. We bring together young and old, rich and poor, male and female as one family living in the very heart of God. And it is from the very heart of God that we draw our strength. And for this we give thanks!

And today as this pastor is installed as the sixth pastor of the faith community of St Irenaeus ...some thoughts...

I am truly blest to be here. This community is a beacon of light as a place where God's elegant grace is running rampant and is overflowing in many and varied ways!

I am energized with creativity and life. This community is a source of imagination and openness. It is a place where one can be free to acknowledge God's action and presence in the world in new and exciting ways!

I am humbled as I continue to be invited by you, God's holy people to walk and journey with you and to love you all with the same passion that leads to the cross so that we can truly say now WE have begun!

May this community be a place where all people can gather to meet the God who created them, who loves them and who sustains them with God's grace!

Fr. Terry

A FAITH JOURNEY

It has been three years that I have been on a faith journey. In 2007 I became acquainted with the "Third Order Franciscans" known also as "Secular Franciscans." They are a professed body of lay people that dates back to the time of St. Francis of Assisi about 1200. There were many people who wanted to follow and live the spirit of St. Francis. St. Francis then organized a devout way of life modeled on his that lay people, singled and married, as well as priests could be apart of.

After contacting the St. Fraternity, I was invited to visit with them and attend the meetings as an inquirer to learn more about their order and to discern a possible vocation.

In July 2008 I was accepted as a candidate to the order. In the process of my discernment and formation I discovered so much about St. Francis-his humility, the simplicity of his life, his great love for Jesus and His Blessed Mother, the care he had for the poor and downtrodden, and his love of music and nature. I discovered, too, that I wanted to live the Gospel way of life as St. Francis did, and to grow in my prayer life and personal relationship with Our Lord within the Franciscan community. They have been apart of my faith journey, and I have grown to love them as I do my own family.

My involvement in the Music Ministry, SPRED, and the Ministry of Care at St. Irenaeus has been instrumental in my spiritual development. All my friends here at St. Irenaeus have been apart of my journey, too.

Since I have completed the initial inquiry, discernment and formation process, I am ready to make my commitment to an apostolic life in the world according to the Rule of St. Francis of Assisi. My profession will take place at St. Irenaeus Church on Sunday, April 25, 2010 at the 10:30 a.m. Mass.

Please remember me in your prayers as my faith journey continues to unfold. I will remember all of you in my prayer, too. Peace and All Good!

Love,
Louise Hosmer

*Dads, sons, single guys don't miss
this local event!*

GUY'S NIGHT OUT WITH BISHOP PERRY

**Thursday, April 22, 2010
6:30-8:30 PM**

Check out the Event Lineup:

Hearty Dinner followed by special
guest speakers:

**Mr. Peter Palanca,
Executive VP TASC, Inc.**

Message:

"Being A Dad In Not For Wimps"

**Bishop Joseph N. Perry,
Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago,
Vicariate VI**

Event Location: Holy Ghost Parish,
700E 170th Street, South Holland, IL

Tickets:

\$15.00/person: two or more \$12 each
Call Frank 708-935-2532 or
Deacon John 708-503-9674

Download application:

www.cmcsarchchicago.org

Sign up now!

Hosted by Catholic Men of Chicago
Southland (CMCS)

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

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**

“Centering Prayer: Living and Praying with Heartfulness”

Date: April 24 or 23-24 Time: 9:30 am-4:30 pm

(Optional Friday Evening: 7-9 pm)

Fee: \$55 for Saturday (includes Lunch)

or \$155 Friday-Saturday (includes overnight, both sessions, breakfast and lunch)

Facilitator: Father Joseph Ruiz

“A (Re)Treat: The Spirituality of Motherhood”

Date: May 8 Time: 9:30am-Noon Fee: \$20

Facilitator: Mary Ruth Broz, RSM

“Contemplative Photography”

Date: May 24 Time: 9:30am-Noon Fee: \$20

Facilitator: Colette Wisniewski

“THE PORT”

9263 West St. Francis Road, Frankfort IL

815-464-3880 www.portforprayer.org

Thank you for taking part in our Lenten journey with Catholic Relief Services' Operation Rice Bowl!

Our Operation Rice Bowl journey has ended but working towards global peace and justice for all doesn't have to end. Let us continue to pray for all those who work for justice and for those who benefit from the programs of Catholic Relief Services.

Let us continue to learn how to stay connected with our global family through Catholic Relief Services (www.crs.org.) You may bring the gifts from your Rice Bowl by cash or check. If you write a check, please be sure to write "Operation Rice Bowl" in the memo line. The receptacle for your gifts will remain on the round table in the center of the church until Sunday, April 25.

SPRED

There will be a dinner dance held at the Drury Lane in Oakbrook Terrace on Sunday, April 18, 2010. The proceeds benefit Mamre, Inc., a fundraising arm of SPRED ministry. Mamre supports the work of community religious workers who assist parishes to develop SPRED communities of faith. Our SPRED group enjoys participating in the dinner dance. Some need financial assistance to pay the \$60 ticket price. I am looking for those who would be able to contribute to the cost of a ticket for one of our friends with special needs. If you would like to assist please give me a call at 708-231-6016. I, Denise Carriel am the SPRED chairperson/catechist representing our parish on behalf of those who have developmental disabilities. I also have raffle tickets at \$10 each. The prizes are two \$500 cash awards. If you would like to join our SPRED group at this event or make a donation, please give me a call.

CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME

St. Irenaeus Parish will offer a six-week series entitled

“Catholics Returning Home”

Beginning April 14, 2010 at 7:30 pm in the Religious Education Center, 78 Cherry St., Park Forest Illinois.

The sessions are for non-practicing Catholics who are seeking answers to questions about returning to the Church. If you know someone who has left the Church, please invite them to join us.

For more information please contact: Dorothy Worthan 708-748-4843

Website: www.stirenaeuschurch.com



**WEDDING
BANNS
II
DENNIS YOUNG
&
KIM SAFRON**

Religious Education News

Family Mass: The Family Mass is Sunday, April 18th at the 10:30 a.m. Mass. The Confirmation group and First Communion group will be in procession. Parents of the First Communicants and Confirmation group are asked to bring finger food for after the 10:30 a.m. Mass.

Confirmation Retreat: This will take place at St. Irenaeus Religious Education Center from 1 p.m.-4 p.m. This retreat is in preparation for Confirmation which will be on Sunday, May 23rd at the 10:30 a.m. Mass. There will be some adults confirmed along with our students for Confirmation.

First Communion will be on Sunday, May 2nd at the 10:30 a.m. Mass. The students will have a short retreat morning on Saturday, June 24th from 9:30 a.m.-12 noon. First Communion banners should be brought in that morning. This was the at home family project.

Reconciliation Service: There will be a Reconciliation service for older students for the sacrament of Reconciliation on Wednesday, April 28th at 7 p.m.

Thank you to all who helped with the religious education fundraiser. Thank you to Kathy Murphy, Mary Schmittgens and Ed Carriel who helped with the fundraiser. The Ungonna family won 1st prize and they will get a dinner cooked by me at my apartment. Phallyn Lerner won 2nd prize and she will be given a gift certificate to Outback Steak House. The Jean Mawaya family won Burger King certificates. Thank you one and all!

Sr. Mary Anne

Reflections on Today's Readings April 11 Second Sunday of Easter

1st Reading: Acts 5:12-16.

"Through the hands of the Apostles, many signs and wonders occurred among the people." The Apostles have received the Spirit and have been sent forth by Christ to bring the Good News to all nations. Still a movement within Judaism, they meet regularly near Solomon's Portico. Fearing persecution if they are seen at meetings, people gather with their sick along the routes Peter follows, hoping that a look or touch by Peter might heal them.

Psalm 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24.

Give thanks to the Lord, for his love is everlasting.

2nd Reading: Revelation 1:9-11, 12-13, 17-19.

"Once I was dead, but now I live -- forever and ever." John, banished to the remote island of Patmos, a Roman penal colony, describes his vision of the Risen Lord to seven churches of Asia. Though replete with imagery and symbolic language, Revelation is not to be understood literally. The Book was written during a time of persecution and evokes violent images of the punishment God visits on His persecutors. In reality, Revelation speaks to faith, peace and love. Our clue to understanding the essential message of Revelation is that Jesus appears in John's visions as the Slain Lamb. The presence of the Slain Lamb in heaven affirms the Resurrection -- Jesus has already died for our sins and been raised up by the Father -- our salvation is assured. We have still to contend with the sinfulness that is in the world, but if we die with Christ in the waters of baptism, we know that we will rise to new life in Him.

Gospel: John 20:19-31.

The disciples, especially the Twelve, came to belief in His Resurrection because Christ had appeared to them, stood in their midst and showed them His wounds. Even then, they were overawed that such an event had really happened. Jesus breathes the Spirit on them, gives them the power to forgive sins, and sends them forth, "As the Father has sent me." Even as they go forth, they will begin to review and contemplate the events of Jesus' ministry in light of their newly gained knowledge that He has indeed been raised from the grave. Healings, teachings and other actions that they did not fully understand at the time they witnessed them will become clear in their minds as they contemplate this miraculous event. The Holy Spirit will help them understand and will go forth with them as they spread Jesus' message of salvation throughout their world.

We cannot assure ourselves as the Apostles did by standing in Jesus' presence and investigating His wounds for themselves. We do have the Scripture stories of the Four Evangelists who tell us of Jesus' ministry, His death and Resurrection. We have the Holy Spirit to guide us in our understanding of Scripture. We have God's promise about His Word, "For just as from the heavens the rain and snow come down And do not return there till they have watered the earth, making it fertile and fruitful, Giving seed to him who sows and bread to him who eats, So shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth; It shall not return to me void, but shall do my will, achieving the end for which I sent it" (Isaiah 10-11). We have the tradition of the Catholic Church, born of the experience of those in the Apostolic succession, to teach us, guide us, assure us and help us come to the belief that Jesus really is our Risen Lord.

Finally, we have faith. In our faith, we know that if we die to ourselves through Baptism into His death, we will rise again to new and eternal life with Him in the place he has gone to prepare for us. The very last words in the Bible express our desire, "Amen! Come, Lord Jesus! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all" (Revelation 22:20-21).



Mass Intentions For The Week

Monday, April 12

8:00 Hugh McCartan req by
The McCartan Family

Tuesday, April 13

St. Martin I

8:00 Dick Niendorf req by
Frank & Nancy Jones & Family

Wednesday, April 14

8:00 Jack Delehanty req by
Patrick McCartan

Thursday, April 15

8:00 Communion Service

Friday, April 16

8:00 Communion Service

Saturday, April 17

8:00 Communion Service

4:00-4:45 Reconciliation

5:00 Rev. Andres Turrado req by
Al Hansen

Sunday, April 18

8:30 Eugene F. Korte req by
Don & Judy Korte
Jack Delehanty req by
The Delehanty Family
10:30 Dick Niendorf req by
Jackie Stupeck
Robert E. Sella req by
The Family

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, April 17 5:00 pm

Lectors

Beverly Helm, Marilyn Bourgeois,
Arthur Bourgeois

Extraordinary Ministers/Eucharist

Eileen Rose, Bob Steiert, Merle Arr,
Sally Fortune, Marilyn Carroll, Jim Silvia,
Richard Marvin

Cantor

Cathy Williams

Altar Servers

Myles Greska, Mike Powers

Sunday, April 18 8:30 am

Lectors

Dolly Mikolajczyk, Mary Schmittgens,
Gene Schmittgens

Extraordinary Ministers/Eucharist

Gerry Berish, Pat O'Connor, Chrys Rudnik,
Dennis Condon, Kathy Murphy,
Richard Thomas, Carol McCullough

Cantor

Faye Predny

Altar Servers

Kevin Headly, Jack Osmolski

Sunday, April 18 10:30 am

Lectors

Mike Gonzalez, Terry Townsend,
Phil Schwartz

Extraordinary Ministers/Eucharist

Pat Benjamin, Lyn Schober, Sam Bowns,
Vincent Oganwu, Connie Rice,
Kathy Anderson, Loren Bowns

Cantor

Lori Schwartz

Altar Servers

Gary Marron, Linda Marron

PLEASE SHARE YOUR VIEWS ON THE CATHOLIC FAITH

The Archdiocese of Chicago would like to understand the views of Catholics on a range of topics related to our faith. We would greatly appreciate your involvement in an online survey. Please note that we are interested in hearing from all Catholics, regardless of how often you participate in the life of the Church.

All surveys will be anonymous unless participants themselves choose to provide contact information. To participate in the survey, please go to the Archdiocese of Chicago's website at www.archchicago.org and follow the link to the *Catholic Faith and Practice Survey*.

If you have Catholic friends or family members who you think may not see this announcement, we would greatly appreciate your help in asking them to fill out the survey as well. Part of our effort is to understand teens' views, and we encourage their participation.

The deadline for completing a survey is Friday, April 16.

Church Stewardship

Budget Information - Easter

Budget Information \$13,000.00

April 4 Collection \$11,246.00

Thank you to the 269 families who used their stewardship envelopes last weekend.

Money collected\envelopes \$9,926.00

Loose Money\$1,320.00

Budget Year to Date \$13,000.00

Actual Income Year to Date \$11,246.00

09/10 Budget Shortage (\$1,754.00)

Maintenance Fund April 4 \$1,255.00

Maintenance Fund YTD \$25,457.00

Collections Prior Fiscal Yrs. \$325,363.00

Total Collections \$350,820.00

Total Expenditures \$295,987.83

Holy Thursday \$368.00

Good Friday \$469.00

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

78 Cherry St. Park Forest, IL 60466

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.