

CHURCH NAME & NUMBER —

St. Irenaeus #485
78 Cherry Street
Park Forest, IL 60466

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the Pillar

St. Irenaeus Parish, Park Forest, Illinois

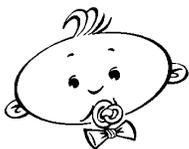
April 25, 2010 Fourth Sunday of Easter



BABY SHOWER

Parish Life Commission will once again sponsor
The Project Courage Baby Shower

On Mother's Day weekend
May 8 & 9 and 15 & 16



Here's your opportunity to support a mother and baby. Here's your opportunity to stand in solidarity with a fellow Catholic and Christian who is on the same faith journey. Your prayers for healthy, happy babies are expected. The following items would be greatly appreciated by Project Courage: pacifiers, rattles, baby bath towels and wash cloths, crib sheets, baby bottles and sippy cups, baby wipes, disposable diapers and diaper bags, but any baby items will be graciously accepted. Monetary donations are also appreciated. Also prayers for the work of the Project Courage are requested. And a note of gratitude to the organization for their important work might be appropriate as well.

Catholic Charities processes **Public Benefits Outreach and Enrollment** at the South Holland office every day (contact information below). Anyone who wishes to apply for: food stamps, the **WIC** Program, **LIHEAP** (*Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program*), All Kids Health Insurance, **TANF** and Family Care Health Insurance can do so Monday through Friday between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago
16100 Seton Drive
South Holland, IL 60473
Office (708) 333-8379
Fax (708) 333-9519
www.catholiccharities.net

Please pass this information on to those who might need it!

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

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

On this day before Mother’s Day, give yourself the gift of time to see again the “Holy Ground of Mothering”, where roots and wings have a way of growing even in the midst of bumpy roads and muddy places-and where God has a way of speaking even in the midst of crowded schedules and juggling acts.

Facilitator: Mary Ruth Broz, RSM

“Contemplative Photography”

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

The digital age enables us to take photos, view them, delete, print and/or send them to others instantly. In this session, we will instead use digital cameras to slow our pace, reframe our lives, reimagine our world, and cultivate our receptivity. This is not a “how-to session on “perfect” pictures, but rather an opportunity to view photography as ‘receiving’ rather than ‘taking’ ...and reawaken our sense of wonder and mystery as we also have time to walk the grounds and experience prayer through our cameras. Bring your digital camera!

Facilitator: Colette Wisnewski

“A Day to Plant”

Date: June 7 Time: 9:30am-1pm Free Will Offering

On this day of prayer and work, we will explore together the spiritual nature of gardening, reflect on the many blessings of this practice, and then go outside to till the soil on the Port and plant flowers to welcome all who come to pray on these holy grounds. Participants are asked to bring a perennial (mostly shade-loving) to plant in our garden. (Please bring your own gloves and tools for planting). Lunch will be provided.

Facilitator: Colette Wisnewski

“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.

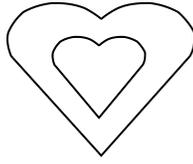


*“I have made you a light to the Gentiles,
that you may be an instrument of salvation
to the ends of the earth.”*

-Acts 13:47b

St. Irenaeus Church is very happy to welcome the following parishioners into our family:

The Asamoah-Lamprey Family
Sam
Geraldine
Jonathan



Willa Mae Collier



**PANTRY
NEEDS**

**FIRST WEEKEND
OF THE MONTH
FOOD PROJECT
MAY- 1-2**

Thank you for your generosity last month to the Food Project.

When you do your family's shopping this week, please remember the less fortunate who are unable to provide for enough food to supply even their most basic needs. Dry goods are always welcomed, as are canned fruits, meats, soups and vegetables. Thank you for whatever you can do.

SOUTH SUBURBAN CHORALE

presents

AMERICAN SONGBOOK

Albert M. Jackson, Director
Marilyn Bourgeois, Piano

Sunday, May 2, 2010 4:00 pm

Kindig Performing Arts Center
South Suburban College
15800 S. State St.
South Holland, IL

Free admission



© NCCV

Religious Education News

First Communion Jesus Day: Date: Saturday, April 24th Place: St. Irenaeus room Time: 9:30 a.m.-12 noon. This morning is for those preparing to receive their First Communion on Sunday, May 2nd at the 10:30 a.m. Mass.

Reconciliation Service for Older students: Wednesday, April 28th Time: 7:00 p.m. Parents will be able to also receive the sacrament of Reconciliation also.

First Communion is Sunday, May 2nd at the 10:30 a.m. Mass. May Crowning is Sunday, May 9th after the 10:30 a.m. Mass. The Liturgy committee decided that the May Crowning will be outside the 10:30 a.m. Mass.

April 25th World Day of Prayer for Vocations. We need to pray for vocations whether it be priest, deacon, religious life, married and single life. We ask the Lord to help us find our vocation in life and guide us to choose the right path in serving you. Taken from Dear God, Open My Heart-a collection of children's vocation prayers.

Prayer for Vocations

Generous God,
You show us the way that leads to everlasting life.
Through baptism you have called us
to proclaim the Good News.

Bless and strengthen those
who have made a commitment
of service in the Church.
Guide and give wisdom
to those discerning their vocation.
Enrich our Church with dedicated
married and single people,
with deacons, priests,
and with people in consecrated life.

Filled with you Holy Spirit we ask this
blessing that we, your people, may follow
Jesus, our Good Shepherd, now and always.
Amen.

2009 NCCV

Sr. Mary Anne

Reflections on Today's Readings April 25 Fourth Sunday of Easter

1st Reading: Acts 13:14, 43-52.

Paul and Barnabas travel to Antioch in Pisidia where they find sympathetic listeners among the Jews and "God-fearers" in the Synagogue. "God-fearers" were Gentiles who were attracted to the Judaism. Though "God-fearers" were not willing to become converts and, therefore, could not participate fully in the services, they were welcome in the Synagogue. The "God-fearers" were especially moved by Paul's message. They spread the word about him and his message. On the following Sabbath, nearly the whole town turns out. The Jewish leaders, surprised at the enthusiastic response to Paul's message, become jealous, and speak out abusively against him, his message and the Gentiles. Though Paul "turned to the Gentiles," we should not conclude that he turned his back on the Jewish people. In his letter to the Romans (11:1), he asks, rhetorically, "Has God rejected his people?" Then answers, "Of course not! For I too am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin." Paul spoke of the Gentiles as a wild branch grafted onto the natural vine from which the Jewish people were broken off. He was proud of his Jewish heritage. He always retained the hope, if not the conviction, that the Jewish people would eventually be brought into the fold. "For if (the Gentiles) were cut from what is by nature a wild olive tree, and grafted, contrary to nature, into a cultivated one, how much more will (the Jews) who belong to it by nature be grafted back into their own olive tree" (Romans 11:24).

Psalm 100:1-2, 3, 5.

"We are his people, the sheep of his flock. "The Psalmist sings with joy because the "Lord is God; he made us, his we are."

2nd Reading: Revelation 7:9, 14b-17.

John of Patmos, continuing his opening vision, has now been brought up into heaven. He sees before him all the martyrs who stand, dressed in white robes, before the throne of heaven. Before them stands the Lamb, the Risen Christ. Through His death and Resurrection, Christ has defeated death and brought them to salvation.

John wrote to the Christian people who were suffering under Roman persecution. His message was one of encouragement. He urged them to persevere during their time of trial. Their salvation has already be assured by Christ's sacrifice. Their suffering may continue, but their fidelity to Christ will bring them the happiness of everlasting life in heaven with Christ.

Gospel: John 10:27-30.

"My sheep know my voice. I know them and they follow me." "Shepherd King" was a familiar title in the ancient Mid-East. It was used for a king who truly cared for his subjects. John uses the term to describe Jesus and the metaphor is most appropriate. The sheep do know the shepherd's voice. They recognize him as one with authority; one who cares for them; one who will lead them along the right paths. He will lead them to green pastures and clear water.

We are nearing the end of John's story of the ministry of Jesus. He speaks in the context of the Feast of the Dedication in which the Jewish people celebrated the presence of God in his Temple. To them, to go to the Temple was to approach God. Now, here is Jesus within the Temple, preaching that the way to eternal life is through Him.

We know Jesus as our Good Shepherd. We know His voice because it is Truth. He provides us with all our needs; with the bread of life and the waters of redemption. We have washed our robes white in the blood of His sacrifice and will stand one day in His presence to see Him face to face. We trust Him, knowing that He is the Bread of Life; that to follow Him is to find the way to eternal life.



Mass Intentions For The Week

Monday, April 26

8:00 Leonard & Susan Sauter & Family

Tuesday, April 27

8:00 Bob & Virginia Hart req by
Don & Judy Korte

Wednesday, April 28

**St. Louis Mary de Montfort; St. Peter
Chanel**

8:00 Fr. Dan O’Sullivan req by
Don & Judy Korte

Thursday, April 29

St. Catherine of Siena

8:00 Communion Service

Friday, April 30

St. Pius V

8:00 Communion Service

Saturday, May 1

St. Joseph the Worker

8:00 Communion Service

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

5:00 Rich Zaworski req by
The Family

Sunday, May 2

8:30 Jacques Marra req by
Antonio Marra

10:30 Norma McClain req by
Reno & Betty Lou Masotti

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, May 1 5:00 pm

Lectors

Loren Bowns, Merle Arr, Bob Carreras

Extraordinary Ministers/Eucharist

Marilyn Carroll, Barbara Principali,
Richard Marvin, Sally Fortune, Bob Steiert,
Dolly Mikolajczyk, Eileen Rose

Cantor

Faye Predny

Altar Servers

Michael Rosenquist, Myles Greska

Sunday, May 2 8:30 am

Lectors

Sara Veldhuizen, Chrys Rudnik, Chris Blue

Extraordinary Ministers/Eucharist

Deanna Martin, Laura Hennessy,
Carol McCullough, Gerry Berish,
Dennis Condon, Pat McCartan, Pat O’Connor

Cantor

Helen Silvia

Altar Servers

Jack Osmolski, Kevin Headly

Sunday, May 2 10:30 am

Lectors

Brenda Harris, Raye Warkenthien,
Adele Perkins

Extraordinary Ministers/Eucharist

Linda Marron, Kathy Anderson, Dave Perkins,
Gary Marron, Virginia Piechocki,
Rita Oganwu, Vincent Oganwu

Cantor

Phil Schwartz

Altar Servers

Vincent Oganwu Jr., Stephanie Sagun

HUNGER WALK

Dust off those walking shoes and take a stroll through the neighborhoods of Homewood and Flossmoor while at the same time raising funds for Respond Now, Rich Township Food Pantry and South Sub. PADS.

When: April 25th (1:00 registration, 2:00 walk)

Where: St. Paul Comm. Church 18200 Dixie Hwy. Homewood

There will be a 2 mile trail and a 6 mile trail, both will be well marked and monitored.

If you cannot walk but want to donate or want further info, please contact Dennis Condon 481-6078.

Church Stewardship

Budget Information - 41

Budget Information \$4,650.00

April 18 Collection \$4,543.58

Thank you to the 150 families who used their stewardship envelopes last weekend.

Money collected\envelopes \$3,916.00

Loose Money \$627.58

Budget Year to Date \$190,650.00

Actual Income Year to Date \$179,277.84

09/10 Budget Shortage (\$11,372.16)

Maintenance Fund April 18 \$617.00

Maintenance Fund YTD \$26,756.00

Collections Prior Fiscal Yrs. \$325,363.00

Total Collections \$352,119.00

Total Expenditures \$295,987.83

Easter Budget \$13,000.00

Easter YTD \$12,307.00

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.