

CHURCH NAME & NUMBER —

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Park Forest, IL 60466

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the Pillar

St. Irenaeus Parish, Park Forest, Illinois
July 11, 2010 Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Who is
my
neighbor?



Ramblings

You may have noticed that we are not singing the Gloria during mass and that the response to the petitions has been shortened to a one line prayer-response. Some have asked why? Some have expressed their approval that this makes mass shorter. And still others do not understand why the Gloria is not being sung. All good and reasonable questions. I hope the following might help shed some light on the subject.

"What is Ordinary Time? How is it different from the other seasons of the liturgical year?" According to the Sacramentary, this is a time "devoted to the mystery of Christ in all its aspects" (#43). So, for 33 or 34 Sundays we are to wrap our arms around ALL aspects of this awesome mystery of the Divine merger with our humanity?

How do we begin "to remember, to celebrate, to believe" all aspects of the Divine Mystery? What do we do on these 33 or 34 Sundays? We do what the Baptized have done for some 2000 years; that which was handed down to us: namely, we tell our story, we pray our great prayer of thanksgiving and we share the meal. How is it that we dare to enter into this sacred experience?

The American Bishops have reminded us that "the most powerful experience of the sacred is found in the celebration and in the persons celebrating, that is, it is found in the action of the assembly; the living words, the living gestures, the living sacrifice, the living meal." Only a priestly people, one in Christ, reborn in the waters of Baptism, may dare to enter this sacred experience. Ordinary Time asks the question: Do we live what we celebrate in the Eucharist? Do we believe in and live as those Baptized in Christ?

Ordinary Time is blest time indeed! For ours is the task to join with all the church delving deeper into all the aspects of the "Christ Mystery." It means seriously pondering how well we live out on a daily basis our Baptismal promises and the pouring out of our very selves for the sake of others. Did Christ not challenge us to live as he did, living in our midst as One who serves? Are not our ordinary days filled with countless moments to live what we celebrate in the Eucharist, the pouring out of ourselves for the sake of others, in our homes, our neighborhoods, in offices, at the computer, on the farm, in our schools, on the roadway, at picnics, and even in our sleep? No room for slackers: this day in and day out stuff of our ordinary days is heavy but blest duty! Just seriously try it for one day.

Ordinary Time is anything but ordinary! Sunday after Sunday we have the opportunity to delve deeply into the ministry of Jesus, healing, teaching, and proclaiming the Kingdom, as Mark's Gospel unfolds. And on weekdays, there are literally dozens of memorials, feasts, and solemnities of the saints: holy men and women of every time and place, the "cloud of witnesses" that spurs us on-even in the lazy days of summer.

So Ordinary time is not so ordinary. It is a time to set aside the "solemnity" of the rest of the liturgical year and to help us to focus on Jesus, the Kingdom and help us to live as disciples of that kingdom. May we continue with the journey with Jesus in this time of kingdom building and healing!

Happy Summer Fr Terry

SAVE THE DATE

Mark your calendars now for Thursday, July 22. That evening at 7:30 St. Irenaeus will have a liturgy honoring St. Mary Magdalene. Everyone is invited. Anyone in the parish who is interested in being part of the special service can call Therese Goodrich at 748-7672.



St.
Mary Magdalene

Shoes for Haiti



For the next month we will be collecting SHOES FOR HAITI. Mr. Robert Murphy of Resource Plastics in Blue Island is collecting shoes which will make their way to Haiti. It is as simple as this. Bring your shoes and place them in the receptacles provided in the vesti-



bule of the church. Shoes for adults and children are welcome, they should be wearable and in good condition. Mr. Glenn Benjamin will gather the donations and deliver them to Mr. Robert Murphy at Resource Plastics in Blue Island. Thank you for your generosity. The collection will continue until the end of July.



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Dear Father Terry and Parishioners,

I want to thank you so much for the wonderful baby care items and monetary donation of \$569.00 to the Courage Program. All of us at Courage appreciate your concern for these Moms and children as expressed in your generosity. Just know that what you do to support this Ministry really counts-and we never take it for granted.

Summer will pass by quickly, and we are already planning our annual golf outing in October. Yesterday I received large bags of stuffed animals-so I started sorting for Christmas! It's never boring around here...

We continue to pray for your faith community. May it be blessed abundantly.

Sincerely,

Sister Nancy and the Courage Volunteers

Resurrection Choir



Peace be with you! The Office of Music Ministry here at Saint Irenaeus is considering the formation of a Resurrection Choir. This group would be dedicated to singing for Home Going Masses here at Saint Irenaeus, if requested to do so. One would not have to know how to read notes, although that would be helpful. However, one would need to be able to "carry a tune" and be available for limited rehearsals and for Masses in the mornings, from Monday through Saturdays. If this would interest you, please leave your name and contact information at the parish house. God bless you.

Robert Neal

"A Living Circle of Womansong ...Inspired by the Music of Hildegard of Bingen"

Date: July 16-18 Time: 7pm (Friday)-11am (Sunday)

Fee: \$225 (includes overnights and all meals) Commuter: \$125 (includes all meals)
After visiting St. Hildegard's Abbey in the Rhineland of Germany ten years ago, Susan Lincoln has offered unique opportunities for women to come together in a sacred circle to find, claim, and free their voices as they sing together a variety of songs from the heart, including much of Hildegard's music. You don't need to be an experienced singer. Just bring your willing heart - Hildegard and Susan will do the rest!

Facilitator: Susan Lincoln

(Visit www.SusanLincoln.com to learn more about her)

"Mary of Magdala/Clare of Assisi"

Dates/Times: July 21 7-9pm or July 22 9:30-11:30am Fee: \$20

We celebrate the feasts of these courageous and faith-filled women during Summer time, when all is alive in God's good earth. We will discern their journey and walk reverently with them as we mirror our own paths in relation to them. Clare kept "a vacancy for God" ...how do we do this? Mary of Magdala was the first to announce the resurrection...how do we mirror this Hope with our lives?

Facilitator: Marianne Saieg, OSF

"The Council of Beings"

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

In The Canticle of the Creatures, Francis of Assisi showed us a way of respecting the relationship we have with the rest of creation, as he addressed sun and moon, wind and fire as his brothers and sisters. This program will challenge us to think about how we are keeping his vision alive as it focuses on "Who will speak for the small but beautiful members of creation who are our brothers and sisters, and what kind of life do we share together?" Facilitator: Paul Bernadette Bounck, CSJ

"THE PORT"

9263 West St. Francis Road, Frankfort IL

815-464-3880 www.portforprayer.org

Reflections on Today's Readings July 11 Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Deuteronomy 30:10-14.

Near the end of the Book of Deuteronomy, or Second Law, Moses holds a seminar. Remembering, perhaps, the weakness of the Chosen People to the lure of idolatry, he reminds them what happens to people who keep God's law and, conversely, what happens to those who do not. In today's reading he tells the Israelites that God's law is not some mysterious thing that they need to mount great searches to find. It is written in our hearts. This "Law" that is written in our hearts gives us an inherent knowledge of right and wrong. We get into difficulty when we try to extend the limits of our sense of right and wrong by rationalizing our decisions for action to justify what we want to do.

Psalm 69:14, 17, 30-31, 33-34, 36, 37.

"Turn to the Lord in your need and you will live."

2nd Reading: Colossians 1:15-20.

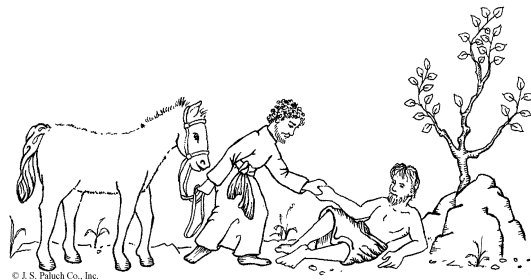
The first reading on Trinity Sunday tells of Wisdom being "poured forth, at the first, before the earth." Paul's letter to the Colossians includes this hymn celebrating Christ, who "is before all else that is." Wisdom is personified in Christ and he will "reconcile everything in his person."

Gospel: Luke 10:25-37.

There are several Scripture stories that most of us know very well. The Samaritan Woman at the Well, The Wedding Feast at Cana, The Prodigal Son and today's story: The Good Samaritan. So well known is this story that it has even moved outside religious circles into the secular world. A modern day "Good Samaritan" is anyone who comes to the aid of a person in distress. There is even a "Good Samaritan" Law that has been enacted in every state. This law prevents a rescuer who has voluntarily stepped forward to help a victim in distress from being sued for "wrongdoing."

The story of the Good Samaritan plays on the well-known antipathy between the Jewish people and their Samaritan neighbors to the North. As Jesus narrates the story, he lays a clever trap. He presents to His Apostles a man, a heroic figure, a paradigm of Christian action. This man stopped to assist an injured man when everyone else, even priests and Levites, ignored him. The Samaritan didn't just tend to the man's wounds and leave but took him to an Inn and left him in the care of the Innkeeper. He even followed up, promising the Innkeeper to pay for any additional care the man should need. By the end of the story the Apostles were probably nodding their heads in approval, each one imagining himself in the hero's role. Then Jesus sprung the trap: the man He presented to them as a hero, the paradigm of Christian action, was a Samaritan. To have a hated Samaritan presented to them as a paradigm of Christian action would have been a bitter pill for them to swallow. As we read about the Samaritans, we need to take care that these people of the Northern Kingdom do not become stereotyped in our thinking. There were many people in Samaria who remained faithful to God through all their suffering.

The second reading and the Gospel follow the logic that Moses set forth in the first reading from Deuteronomy. The path to Salvation is clear. It lies in Christ's message: Love one another as God has loved you. The Apostles had no problem discerning who did the right thing in the Good Samaritan story. Their stereotype of the Samaritans distorted their sense of right and wrong. They rejected the goodness of his actions because of what he was. How many times have we rejected a proposed course of action, not on its merits, but because of who proposed it? We let our stereotypes of people deceive us into thinking that only we "good" people can do good things.



Mass Intentions For The Week

Monday, July 12

8:00 Rita Requa & Family
Paul Slowiak req by
Sandra Turner

Tuesday, July 13

St. Henry

8:00 Norma McClain req by
Charles & Theresa Cassidy

Wednesday, July 14

Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha

8:00 Deceased Members of the Guthrie,
Jordan & O'Connor Families
Chuck Differding

Thursday, July 15

St. Bonaventure

8:00 Communion Service

Friday, July 16

Our Lady of Mount Carmel

8:00 Communion Service

Saturday, July 17

Blessed Virgin Mary

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

5:00 Barney Panka
Dorothy Knapik

Sunday, July 18

8:30 David Newhuis req by
Rosemary & Children
Al & Madeline Kokklenberg req by
Mary Lou Francesconi
10:30 Bill & Audrey Bigelow & Family
David Godfrey req by
The Family

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, July 17 5:00 pm

Lectors

Loren Bowns, Sam Bowns, Bob Carreras

Extraordinary Ministers/Eucharist

Eileen Rose, Barbara Principali,
Marilyn Carroll, Jan Pattyn, Merle Arr,
Dolly Mikolajczyk, Bon Steiert

Cantor

Cathy Williams

Altar Servers

Myles Greska, Michael Rosenquist

Sunday, July 18 8:30 am

Lectors

Gerry Berish, Eleanor Burns, Deanna Martin

Extraordinary Ministers/Eucharist

Dennis Condon, Richard Thomas,
Pat O'Connor, Chrys Rudnik,
Carol McCullough, Laura Hennessy

Cantor

Melva LeBlanc

Altar Servers

Jack Osmolski, Karen Ertl

Sunday, July 18 10:30 am

Lectors

Adaugo Ugonna, Mike Gonzalez,
Denise Douglas

Extraordinary Ministers/Eucharist

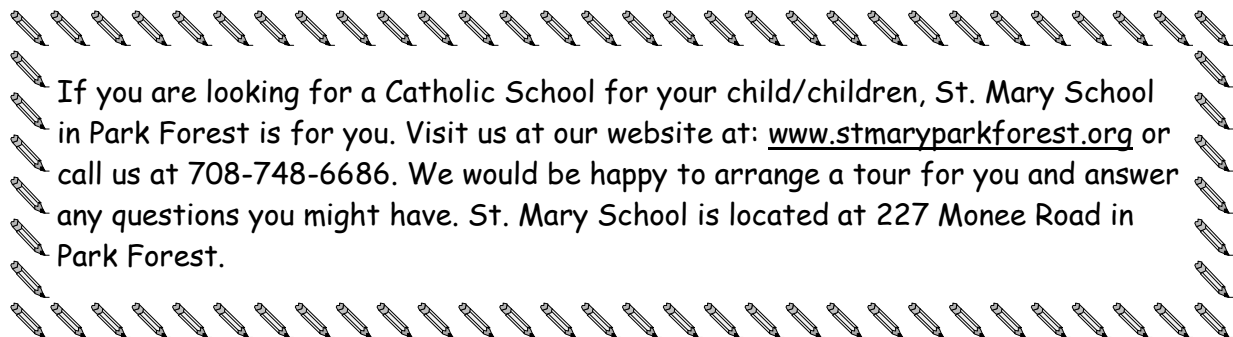
Connie Rice, Doris Foster, Raye Warkenthien,
Vincent Oganwu, Valeria Wolff,
Kathy Anderson, Rita Oganwu

Cantor

Marianne Velut

Altar Servers

Elysis Sawyers, Stephanie Sagun,
Vincent Oganwu Jr.

 If you are looking for a Catholic School for your child/children, St. Mary School in Park Forest is for you. Visit us at our website at: www.stmaryparkforest.org or call us at 708-748-6686. We would be happy to arrange a tour for you and answer any questions you might have. St. Mary School is located at 227 Monee Road in Park Forest.

Church Stewardship

Budget Information - 1

Budget Information **\$4,650.00**

July 4 Collection \$5,656.00

Thank you to the 156 families who used their stewardship envelopes last weekend.

Money collected\envelopes \$4,983.00

Loose Money \$673.00

Budget Year to Date \$4,650.00

Actual Income Year to Date \$5,656.00

10/11 Budget Surplus **\$1,006.00**

Maintenance Fund July 4 **\$1,319.00**

Maintenance Fund YTD **\$1,319.00**

Collections Prior Fiscal Yrs. **\$358,390.00**

Total Collections **\$359,709.00**

Total Expenditures **\$321,232.33**

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
Michelle Helson
Director of Religious Education

Web-site www.stirenaeuschurch.com
E-Mail stirenaeus@archchicago.org

Mailing address:
78 Cherry St. Park Forest, IL 60466

Parish Office Hours:
Monday-Friday: 9:00 am-5:00 pm,
closed from 12pm-1:00pm

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.