

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

August 15, 2010 The Feast of the Assumption

*My soul proclaims the
greatness of the
Lord*



Ramblings

Last weekend and again this weekend registration for our Religious Education Program is taking place. This is an incredibly important ministry here at St Irenaeus as it is in all parishes. It is the way we pass on the faith to our young people. It is the way we support all our families as we journey together in faith. As we prepare to begin another season of learning and growing in faith we are again offered another opportunity to live our commitment to discipleship in our community. I wonder what it would be like for all of us to extend an invitation to our family, friends and neighbors to consider becoming a part of our faith formation programs here at St. Irenaeus. Perhaps you know a neighbor who has been searching for more in their lives or a family member struggling with faith questions or a friend who has asked you “why do you believe in God?” We can all make difference in the lives of those around us just by listening. If it is appropriate we can offer to them what has been a blessing for us...OUR FAITH! While Catholics Returning Home is formally over, the work of welcoming and inviting continues all the time.

Our RCIA, the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults has been a source of many blessings and much strength for the parish in the 17 years it has been ministering to those who come to us requesting baptism or full communion in the church. Again if you know family, friends or neighbors who are thinking of becoming Catholic, please extend an invitation to them. Details can be found in the bulletin.

And again a hearty thank you to all who continue to offer their time, talent and treasure here at St Irenaeus. Our faith community has been blessed in many ways, most especially in the vibrant faith shown each and every week, day in and day out as we keep the faith and share it with the world! God has truly blessed us!

Peace

Fr Terry



Religious Education Registration



Registration for the Religious Education Program, pre-school through 9th grades, is on going in the R.E. office Sundays after mass or Tuesdays & Thursdays from 1:00 – 6:00 pm. Please contact Michelle Helson at (708) 748-7997 for more information.

All are welcome to attend the religious education program's open house on Sunday, August 29th after both masses.

Volunteers Needed:

We are in need of catechists for 1st & 8th grades as well as in our pre-school program. Please consider sharing your time & talent in this program. Materials and training will be provided to prepare you for this rewarding opportunity. Please contact Michelle Helson at (708) 748-7997 for more information.



RCIA

If you or an adult you know is interested in becoming a fully initiated Catholic.

~want to deepen your faith through a learning and sharing experience.

~have been away from the Church but would like to return.

~have been baptized but never received religious instruction in the Catholic faith.

~have never been baptized.

~have never been confirmed.



We have an opportunity for you or someone you know. Starting September 13th, here at St. Irenaeus, **RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)** meets at 7:30 on Monday evenings through Pentecost. Call the rectory 748-6891.

August 15, 2010

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin

"The Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name."

- Luke 1:49

In Mary's Magnificat prayer she reminds us of the very foundation for stewardship. The Lord has done great things for all of us. Every single thing we have is a gift from God. He has blessed us abundantly – in little ways and in great ways. So when we are called upon to share some of our gifts with the world we should remember the lesson of the Blessed Virgin. We should say, "Yes," trusting that God is good and He will take care of us. He does great things for us!



SPRED

SPRED is a unique program of religious faith development for children, teenagers, young adults, and adults who are intelligently challenged. It is not a typical religious education program, but one of growing in faith within a small group. It is an opportunity for people to come together to share the stories of their life so as to become more aware of God's presence. The sessions conclude with the sharing of food and drink around a beautifully set table. There are 24 gatherings in a September to May year. Our Tuesday/Thursday SPRED group is in need of a parish co-chairperson and catechists. We also want to know of any parishioners who could benefit from SPRED, no matter their age or level of ability. Parents and interested people may call Denise Carriel at 708-231-6016. No experience is necessary just a willingness to become someone's friend and to grow in your own faith.

St. Irenaeus Church Ladies Rummage Sale

Saturday, September 11, 2010

In the RE Center gym and on the Porch

8AM until 2PM, Rain or Shine

21 indoor spaces @\$15

16 outdoor spaces @\$8

Rent a space to sell your stuff

or

Bring your friends for a day of
browsing, buying, bargains and fun.

Refreshments for sale.

Proceeds benefit St. Irenaeus
Church.

Call 748-6891 for an application.



Dear Parishioners of St. Irenaeus Parish,

It was such a nice surprise on a Monday morning to receive a check for \$274.00 representing the collection from Mary Magdala Celebration. Your continue concern and personal support means a lot. We are putting it to good use, as it will help provide diapers and other basic needs for these moms.

Time is passing quickly. We are making plans for the October golf outing and I have taken the first step in organizing Christmas.

I wish your faith community many blessings. You're in our prayers for all your kindness.

Sincerely,

Sister Nancy Swanson, RSM

Director, Courage Program

Reflections on Today's Readings August 15 The Feast of the Assumption

1st Reading: Revelation 11:19; 12:1-6, 10.

"Now have salvation and power come, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Anointed One." John of Patmos, author of the Book of Revelation, links his vision of the Ark of the Covenant with that of Mary the Mother of God. "The Ark of the Covenant" is one of the many titles by which Mary is known and honored. The image of her body as the Ark bearing Jesus, the new covenant, is a most powerful metaphor. The underlying assumption in the Book of Revelation is that salvation is already won for us in heaven. Satan was defeated and driven to Earth by Michael the Archangel leading the forces of Heaven. We still have the matter of the daily struggle of life in the world to contend with but Jesus has already defeated the forces of evil through his death on the Cross, his Resurrection and his Ascension to glory at the right hand of the Father. If we share in His death through baptism, we also are raised up to eternal life with him in His Resurrection.

Psalm 45:10, 11, 12, 16.

"The queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in gold."

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:20-27.

"Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep." Through his death and Resurrection, Christ, the new Adam, redeems us from the sin of the first man. We will be raised when Christ comes again in glory.

Gospel: Luke 1:39-56.

We heard the first part of the Gospel for today's celebration of the Assumption on December 9, 2009, the Fourth Sunday of Advent. Then, our watchful waiting was rewarded with the promise of fulfillment as the Angel Gabriel visited Mary and proclaimed her "Full of Grace." Today, we relive that moment and then prolong it to hear Mary offer in response, the Magnificat, her great hymn of praise. Our Lord radiated His presence from within Mary's body. Elizabeth and the child within her womb who would become John the Baptist, the Herald of Jesus, felt this presence. John leapt for joy in Elizabeth's womb as Elizabeth greeted Mary with the blessing that we repeat today in the Rosary: "Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb." Mary, the lowly handmaid of the Lord, who had responded obediently to the Angel Gabriel's announcement that she was to bear the Son of God, would never exhibit pride. But she realized the significance of her being selected from among all women to be the "Ark of the Covenant," as she responded to Elizabeth's blessing: "For He has looked upon his handmaid's lowliness; behold, from now on will all ages call me blessed. The Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name."



Much later, in Luke's Gospel, a Jewish woman in the crowd following Jesus on His journey to Jerusalem, felt the power that radiated from Jesus' presence and was moved to echo Elizabeth's blessing: "Blessed is the womb that carried you and the breasts at which you nursed." Her blessing conveyed to Jesus and to Mary the respect of a mother who would have given anything to have had the honor that Mary had to be the Mother of such a Son. The words of an old hymn proclaim, "What a friend we have in Jesus; all our sins and griefs to bear." Having such a friend, one who would lay down His life for us, who would become what we are, human, in order that we might become what he is, divine, it follows naturally that we would want to honor His mother in a special way.

Mass Intentions For The Week

Monday, August 16

St. Stephen of Hungary

8:00 Carmen Bullington
Vangie Derrig req by
The Derrig Family

Tuesday, August 17

8:00 Patricia O'Connor
Ilse Mesick req by
The Lindecker & Mesick Family

Wednesday, August 18

8:00 Dan McCartan req by
The McCartan Family

Thursday, August 19

St. John Eudes

8:00 Communion Service

Friday, August 20

St. Bernard

8:00 Communion Service

Saturday, August 21

St. Pius X

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

5:00 Elizabeth Molyneaux req by
Dorothy Worthan
Florence Faul req by
Doug & Dorothy Worthan

Sunday, August 22

8:30 David Newhuis 3rd Anniversary of
Death req by
Rosemary & Children
Chris Predny req by
Mom & Dad
10:30 Tiyole Contl req by
Antonio Marra
Frank Wessely req by
The Family

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, August 21 5:00 pm

Lectors

Sam Bowns, Loren Bowns, Jan Pattyn

Extraordinary Ministers/Eucharist

Richard Marvin, Bob Steiert, Merle Arr,
Sally Fortune, Marilyn Carroll,
Barbara Principali, Eileen Rose

Cantor

Faye Predny

Altar Servers

Michael Rosenquist, Myles Greska

Sunday, August 22 8:30 am

Lectors

Dolly Mikolajczyk, Chris Blue,
Sara Veldhuizen

Extraordinary Ministers/Eucharist

Pat O'Connor, Chrys Rudnik, Laura Hennessy,
Deanna Martin, Dennis Condon, Gerry Berish,
Kathy Murphy

Cantor

Marianne Velut

Altar Servers

Karen Ertl, Jack Osmolski

Sunday, August 22 10:30 am

Lectors

Adaugo, Vanessa White, Adele Perkins

Extraordinary Ministers/Eucharist

Raye Warkenthien, Connie Rice,
Vincent Oganwu, Sandy Winder, Doris Foster,
Dave Perkins, Valeria Wolff

Cantor

Cathy Williams

Altar Servers

Vincent Oganwu Jr., Virginia Differding,
Moira Differding

A TASTE OF ST. IRENAEUS

Sunday, September 26, 2010

Noon - 2:00 p.m.



Mark your calendars for the 6th TASTE OF ST. IRENAEUS. For any "newcomers", a "TASTE" is not a potluck supper. Like the event held in downtown Chicago, it's a sampling of many kinds of food. Our parish family is composed of many ethnic backgrounds (Polish, Italian, African American, German, Irish), to name just a few. I'm sure there is a favorite family recipe that's traditional and unique to your nationality. Here's a chance to bring that dish and "share" a "taste" of it with other parishioners; and by the same token, you'll have an opportunity to taste other ethnic dishes. See next week's bulletin for information on the contact chairperson for the ethnic tables.

Church Stewardship

Budget Information - Wk 6

Budget Information \$4,650.00

August 8 Collection \$4,820.00

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

Money collected\envelopes \$4,269.00

Loose Money \$551.00

Budget Year to Date \$27,900.00

Actual Income Year to Date \$26,671.17

10/11 Budget Shortage (\$1,228.83)

Maintenance Fund August 8 \$551.00

Maintenance Fund YTD \$4,272.00

Collections Prior Fiscal Yrs. \$358,390.00

Total Collections \$362,662.00

Total Expenditures \$321,232.33

Mission Appeal \$2,080.00

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. 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

Loren & Sam Bowns, Deacon couple

Deanna Martin, Lay Minister

Robert Neal, Director of Music Ministry

Terri Cardin, Parish Secretary

Michelle Helson

Coordinator of Religious Education

Web-site www.stirenauschurch.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.