

CHURCH NAME & NUMBER —

St. Irenaeus #485
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Park Forest, IL 60466

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(708) 748-6891

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the Pillar

St. Irenaeus Parish, Park Forest, Illinois

September 26, 2010 Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Father
Abraham,
have
pity
on me

REMEMBER THAT WHEN YOU LEAVE THIS EARTH YOU CAN TAKE NOTHING
WITH YOU THAT YOU HAVE RECEIVED—ONLY WHAT YOU HAVE GIVEN:
A FULL HEART ENRICHED BY HONEST SERVICE, LOVE, SACRIFICE AND
COURAGE. St Francis of Assisi

LIFE. No waiting. Snow angels. Perseverance.
Transformation. Happenstance . Hot cocoa with
marshmallows. A driver's license. **Freedom.**
School supplies. Opportunity. **Faith.** A baby's skin.
Sunshine. Puppies. Education. After-school
snacks. Homecoming. Spring flowers.
Forgiveness. A new box of crayons. Opening
Night. Freshly laundered sheets. **Community.** A
clean bill of health. Second chances.
Celebrations. **Love.** A pedicure. Monday night
football. Wrinkles. **Inspiration.** Reunions.
Dancing. Children laughing. Surrender. A
pumpkin patch. Lemonade stands. Creativity.
Lake Michigan. **Unconditional love.** Diversity.
Family traditions. Happy memories. Wisdom.
Grandparents. Front porch chats. Block parties.
Hope. Health care. Challenging conversation.
Employment. **Enlightenment.** Cubs vs. Sox.
Heat. Moonlight. Those who protect and serve.
The Sacraments. Junior high mixers. Butterflies.
Little League Games. Confidantes. Justice. No
training wheels. Pizza. A new day. Afternoon tea.
Sincerity. A drive in the country. Teamwork.
Free parking. **The sign of peace.** Lake Shore
Drive. A brisk walk. Snow days. The arts.
Perspective. Saturday mornings. Consolation.
Diaper-free. Technology. **ETERNAL LIFE.**



All Creatures Great and Small....

In honor of St. Francis of Assisi, Father Terry Johnson will officiate at the Blessing of the Animals. This will take place on Saturday, October 2, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. It will be held at the front of the church, if it rains, it will be held in the church lobby.

For safety and protection, please have pets on leashes or in carriers. We hope to see you then.

....The Lord God Made them All.

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

*The Santiago Family
Wilson
Gabriela
Rocco*



Next Sunday we celebrate Seminary Sunday. We will have a second collection. Information and envelopes will be available next weekend.



A TASTE OF ST. IRENAEUS

Sunday, September 26, 2010

12:00-2:00 P.M.

In the Gym

Come One Come All NO CHARGE

To A Celebration of Food and Music and Diversity

Bring your family, friends and neighbors

Come TASTE many kinds of food.

ST. IRENAEUS 30TH ANNUAL SPAGHETTI DINNER
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24TH, 2010
SERVING 2:00 TO 6:00 PM
 Buy your tickets after Mass
 And at the rectory & R.E. Center
 Adults-\$8.00 Children under 10-\$3.00



Menu
ALL YOU CAN EAT!
 Spaghetti & Meatballs
 Our Own Special Sauce
 Bread & Butter
 Cole Slaw & Dessert Table
 Drinks available: Beer, Pop & Wine

September 26, 2010

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"My child, remember that you received what was good during your lifetime while Lazarus likewise received what was bad; but now he is comforted here, whereas you are tormented. Moreover, between us and you a great chasm is established..." - Luke 16:25-26

When God created the world He declared that it was good and He gave it to all mankind for us to enjoy. However, over the years we have created a chasm between those who have great gifts and those who do not. In today's Gospel we see that with our own generosity we must bridge that gap between those who have much and those who have little or we may find ourselves on the wrong side of the chasm in the next life.

Nina Council #3602 Ladies Auxiliary

Our Council was reactivated in 2007. Initially, it was formed in the early 50's and was active thru the early 70's. Alice Michalak served as Auxiliary President back then and is now an active, charter member of the current auxiliary.

Our membership consists of 24 women and continues to grow. We meet the second or third Sunday of the month. Our ladies are members of St. Irenaeus, St. Mary's and St. Lawrence O'Toole parishes.

On Sunday, October 3rd, we will gather together at the 10:30 a.m. Mass at St. Irenaeus. We do this annually at one of our home parishes. Refreshments will be served after the Liturgy, and information will be available for all women interested in becoming a member of our Auxiliary.

Come join us on Sunday, October 3rd to celebrate the Eucharist and meet the Ladies of the Nina Council Auxiliary.

JOB CLUB

Two ways to join us at the St. Irenaeus Job Club!
Job Club / Drop In for comradeship and networking with fellow job seekers.

**Wednesdays @ 7 p.m. Room 3
Religious Education Building
(Enter through the main doors of the building.)**

NOTE: Let us know you are coming by Tuesday each week. Email us at pbacon@sbcglobal.net. Type "JOB CLUB" in the subject heading so we don't miss your email.

Job Club / Classroom for assistance with Internet job searches, writing resumes, cover letters, and thank you letters, etc.

**Tuesdays
Time to be determined.
Room 5 (Computer Lab)**

Religious Education Building

NOTE: Call Phyllis Bacon at 708-527-6834 to join the next session.

PADS

The St. Irenaeus PADS co-site managers and our guests wish to thank each of you who has so generously donated needed items and/or has contributed financially this past PADS season. Our site shall re-open this season on Thursday, October 7th and will operate on subsequent Thursdays thru April; the following items are badly needed:



- Hand towels
- Washcloths

White Crew socks (men & women)

Containers marked PADS will be made available in the church for donations and/or donations can be brought to the rectory. NO CLOTHES are needed at this time. As our homeless numbers continue to rise, so does our need for volunteers. Our volunteers treat our "guests" in a friendly, respectful and caring manner; we are in need of new VOLUNTEERS, especially for the 11:00 p.m.-3 a.m. and 3-5, 5-7 a.m. shifts. Please find it in your heart to help us out this season, and thanks to Father Terry for again permitting PADS to continue at St. Irenaeus this season. Please contact Terri Cardin at 748-6891 for further information if needed.

Reflections on Today's Readings
September 26 Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Amos 6:1, 4-7.

"Woe to the complacent in Zion!" The Israelites against whom Amos prophesies are those whose lives are entirely devoted to self-indulgence, pampering themselves with the best of everything money can buy. Their reaction to his prophesies was probably very self-righteous -- "We've worked hard for what we have and deserve to enjoy the things we've earned." Amos would probably agree up to a point. After all, God had Moses lead them to the Promised Land, The Land Of Milk And Honey. What they have forgotten, though, is God's intent for all his people to share in the bounty of the Promised Land. The wealth they squander on self-indulgence was amassed at the expense of the least of God's people; those who have no clothing, no shelter and no food; those to whom the Elite give no consideration or compassion.

Psalm: 146:7, 8-9, 9-10.

"The Lord raises up those that were bowed down."

2nd Reading: 1 Timothy 6:11-16.

"Man of God that you are, seek after integrity, piety, faith, love, steadfastness, and a gentle spirit." Paul exhorts Timothy to live the life of his baptismal promises -- to be true to God, who created us, and to Christ, whose death redeemed us into everlasting life.

Gospel Luke 16:19-31.

Luke's story of the rich man and Lazarus brings to our minds vivid pictures of the lives of both men both here on Earth and after death. The rich man, who had everything while on earth, now lives in torment in the underworld. Lazarus, who lived in torment while on earth, now rests peacefully in the bosom of Abraham. The story makes clear Christ's message of concern for the poor and disadvantaged of the world. Like the Israelites Amos prophesied against, the rich man was probably very satisfied with his life on Earth. He enjoyed his wealth, indulging himself with all the good things his money could buy. And, in his self-righteousness, he thought himself a good man. He never mistreated Lazarus, nor anyone else for that matter. He just never saw Lazarus at his gate, took no note of his misery. The rich man's sin was one of omission rather than commission. Now, in great torment, he appeals to Father Abraham to send Lazarus to comfort him. When Abraham refuses, he asks that Lazarus be sent to his brothers that they might amend their ways and avoid his fate. Abraham again refuses, saying that if they do not listen to Moses (The Pentateuch) and the Prophets (Amos, Hosea, Micah and others), even one raised from the dead could not convince them. Here is another sign that nobody heard or heeded Amos' prophesies.

It is not easy for us to come to grips with the principles of Social Justice. We tend to think that we have earned, and therefore merit, the blessings we have in our earthly lives. Modern day commercials reinforce our belief in our own merit. You've heard them: "You only go around once in life -- live it with gusto" or, "Go ahead, indulge yourself, you deserve it" or, "Our bank helps you manage the most important thing in your life - your money." Such messages appeal to our pride, our vanity, our sense of self-reliance. By contrast, all three readings today, along with last week's readings, remind us that all we have comes from God's generosity. How shall we use our God-given bounty? Do we squander it all on our whimsical self-indulgence here on Earth or to gain the eternal happiness Christ offers us in the place he has prepared for us in heaven?



Church Stewardship

Budget Information - Wk 11

Budget Information \$4,650.00

September 19 Collection \$4,387.50

Thank you to the 143 families who used their stewardship envelopes last weekend.

Money collected\envelopes \$3,557.00

Loose Money \$830.50

Budget Year to Date \$55,800.00

Actual Income Year to Date \$53,086.05

10/11 Budget Shortage (\$2,713.95)

Maintenance Fund Sept. 19 \$368.00

Maintenance Fund YTD \$7,995.00

Collections Prior Fiscal Yrs. \$358,390.00

Total Collections \$366,385.00

Total Expenditures \$321,232.33

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.

The Sacrament of Baptism

We celebrate the sacrament of baptism during the weekend liturgies. Parents are asked to attend a baptism preparation session. Please call the rectory to make arrangements.

Need prayers?

Call the St.

Irenaeus Health

Ministry Prayer

Line at 747-0974

with your requests

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

St. Irenaeus Ministerial Staff

Rectory Phone: 748-6891

Religious Education Center Phone: 748-7997

Rev. Terry Johnson, Pastor

Loren & Sam Bowns, Deacon couple

Michelle Helson

Coordinator of Religious Education

Robert Neal, Director of Music Ministry

Deanna Martin, Lay Minister

Terri Cardin, Parish Secretary

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.

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.