

CHURCH NAME & NUMBER —

St. Irenaeus #485
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the Pillar

St. Irenaeus Parish, Park Forest, Illinois

October 3, 2010 Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time



Ramblings

Once again I would like to thank you for your prayerful consideration of the Planned Offertory Program these last three weekends. Stewardship of TIME, TALENT and Treasure is a way for all of us to make a return to God for all the good God has blest us with. In the true spirit of St Irenaeus, folks are already responding to the call to share TIME, TALENT and TREASURE. Let us continue to build the kingdom here at St Irenaeus.

I am truly grateful to you all for your generosity, may that generosity continue to bless this faith community with love, peace and prosperity!

Today we will have a second collection for the Seminaries of the Archdiocese . It was to be held last week, but due to the Stewardship appeal it was postponed to this weekend. I had the opportunity to be on the formation faculty at Mundelein Seminary for three years and it was an honor and a privilege to journey with the candidates for priesthood. Your prayers are also needed to support those discerning their call to priesthood. Thank you for your support. Below is a letter from the Cardinal about the Seminary collection.

Peace
Fr. Terry

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of the Archbishop



Post Office Box 1979
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979

September 25-26, 2010

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This weekend, we celebrate Seminary Sunday in the parishes of the Archdiocese of Chicago. On this occasion, we honor the ministry of the many priests who serve you so faithfully each day, as well as those who are preparing to serve you with that same charity in the future.

Here in the Archdiocese of Chicago, Mundelein Seminary is a place where vocations to the priesthood are discerned and strengthened. Each year, as I ordain the graduates of Mundelein Seminary to the priesthood of Jesus Christ, I do so with confidence that they have been formed for fidelity and service. The best example of the work of the seminary is reflected in the quiet and compassionate ministry of your pastor and parish priests as, each day, they live out their ordination commitment to bring Christ to you in word and sacrament. I thank them for their good example and you for your prayers and financial contributions which provide our future priests with the education and environment they need to "prepare well" to serve God's faithful. I ask you to pray for those whom God is now calling to the ordained priesthood from among our families and friends. Talk to young men you know whom you judge would be good priests; encourage them to explore the possibility of priesthood.

I ask you to especially remember your bishops and parish priests each day in prayer. You and your intentions are in my own prayers. Thank you and may God bless you.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Francis Cardinal George".

Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.
Archbishop of Chicago



South Suburban Adult Faith Formation Series

St. Agnes Parish

1501 Chicago Road, Chicago Heights, IL 60411

Monday, October 4, 2010 7-8:30 p.m.

Bible and Migration: Implications for Today

A central theme in the Old Testament is migration. Hear what the Bible has to say about migrants and why they are an important focus in sacred Scripture.

Consider the church's official document on the subject and how Christians today might respond to the challenges at our border .

Presenter: Van Thanh Nguyen, SVD



The Religious Education office is in need of volunteers on Sunday mornings, 9:00 am – 10:30 am, to assist with general office work while classes are in session. The office is also in need of someone fluent in Spanish & English, to help with parent questions and form translation. Please consider sharing your time & talent in this vital ministry. Contact Michelle Helson (708-748-7991) with any question or to volunteer.

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

“Images of God: Ways of Being Church & Those Who Show Us The Way”

Date: October 18

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

As we navigate through our lives we encounter different images and symbols that point us to a larger reality. As we weave the threads of our lives with our world and the universe we bump into various images that attempt to capture the mystery we call God. Come and spend time together discovering what some of those images have been in the lives of Dorothy Day, Mary Oliver, Denise Levertov, and Oscar Romero.

Facilitator: Father Terry Johnson

“THE PORT”

9263 West St. Francis Road, Frankfort IL
815-464-3880 www.portforprayer.org

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 @ 6:15 p.m. Room 3
Religious Education Building
(Enter through the door at far south end of 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
October 3 Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4.

“The rash man has no integrity; but the just man, because of his faith, shall live.” Habakkuk (606-597 BC) prophesied in Judah in the period after the fall of the Northern Kingdom and before the fall of the Southern Kingdom. He decries the same conditions that provoked Amos: idolatry, oppression of the poor and material excess. Habakkuk challenges God, demanding to know how long he will allow these conditions to exist. God answers that He is preparing to chastise Judah in His own time. The fall of the Southern Kingdom and the exile to Babylon soon followed.

Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9.

“If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.” The Psalmist sings in supplication to his people that they may open their hearts to the Lord and hear Him when He calls.

2nd Reading: 2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14.

“Guard the rich deposit of faith with the help of the Holy Spirit who dwells within us.” Paul counsels Timothy, a timid and hesitant successor. He exhorts Timothy to rely on the Holy Spirit which he received when Paul laid his hands on him at his ordination. The Holy Spirit will sustain him through the hardships to come and will help him keep the flame of faith burning for the generations to come.

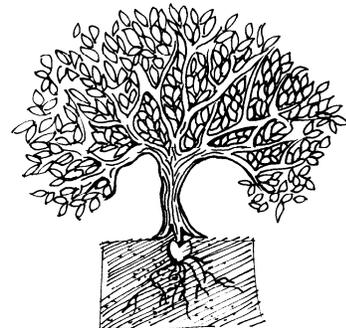
Gospel: Luke 17:5-10.

“We are useless servants. We have done no more than our duty.” Jesus has just told the apostles that they must have unlimited forgiveness for those who sin against them. Their reaction is to ask Him to increase their faith. Christ opens great possibilities for them: “If you had faith the size of a mustard seed.....” The mustard seed is very, very small -- the smallest of all seeds. The implication is clear: a mustard-seed’s-worth of faith could be deemed the least amount of faith a person could have. Even so, with just that much faith they could do seemingly impossible things.

Living faith empowers us to follow Christ along difficult paths, humbling ourselves, if need be, to see His face in the least of His people and do for them what we would do for Him. We deserve nothing, neither does God owe us anything. Every thing we have is a gift, freely given us by Him. Above all, we cannot dictate the time in which God will act. He acts in His time, not ours. He makes this clear when He answers Habakkuk’s challenge, saying that He is abundantly aware of the problems in Israel and will address them in His own time.

Paul tells Timothy, the Holy Spirit will sustain him as he “guards the rich deposit of faith.” In Luke’s Gospel, the apostles likewise want Christ to inject them with more faith as a solution to their problems. We must not expect God to remove all obstacles for us but have patience. Habakkuk adjures us, “...the vision still has its time, presses on to fulfillment, and will not disappoint; If it delays, wait for it, it will surely come.”

It’s not really that God needs to remove all the roadblocks from our path. In faith and with trust in God, we can do some of the heavy lifting ourselves. As Saint Augustine once opined, “Without God, I can’t; without me, God won’t.” It is just that we need to open ourselves to His grace that dwells within us and allow it to lead us along the right paths. How powerful the decision to lay our burdens on the Lord! How wise the decision to summon up the patience to wait for Him to act in His own time!



Increase Our Faith Increase

Our Faith Increase Our Faith

Mass Intentions For The Week

Monday, October 4

St. Francis of Assisi

8:00 The Karpel Family

Tuesday, October 5

8:00 Norma McClain req by
Sr. Mary Anne Yanz O.P.

Wednesday, October 6

St. Bruno; Blessed Marie-Rose Durocher

8:00 The Brightmore Family

Thursday, October 7

Our Lady of the Rosary

8:00 Communion Service

Friday, October 8

8:00 Communion Service

Saturday, October 9

**St. Denis and His Companions; St. John
Leonardi; Blessed Virgin Mary**

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

5:00 Angelo Principali req by
Frank & Eleanore Burns
Mary Ann Pagarek

Sunday, October 10

8:30 David Newhuis req by
Rosemary & Children
The Fratto Family req by
Connie Menza

10:30 Jeanne & Ted Goehler req by
The Goehler Family

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, October 9 5:00 pm

Lectors

Mary Jane Riopelle, Merle Arr, Bob Carreras

Extraordinary Ministers/Eucharist

Barbara Principali, Bob Steiert,
Dolly Mikolajczyk, Beverly Helm,
Sally Fortune, Laurie Miller, Jim Silvia

Cantor

Faye Predny

Altar Servers

Mike Powers, Myles Greska

Sunday, October 10 8:30 am

Lectors

Harlan Smith, Eleanor Burns, Chris Blue

Extraordinary Ministers/Eucharist

Carol McCullough, Sara Veldhuizen,
Jim Francesconi, Chrys Rudnik,
Laura Hennessy, Dennis Condon,
Kathy Murphy

Cantor

Marianne Velut

Altar Servers

Kevin Headly, Karen Ertl

Sunday, October 10 10:30 am

Lectors

Phil Schwartz, Terry Townsend, Mike Gonzalez

Extraordinary Ministers/Eucharist

Denise Douglas, Valeria Wolff, Sandy Winder,
Pat Benjamin, Deanna Martin, Rita Oganwu,
Connie Rice

Cantor

Melva LaBlanc

Altar Servers

Elysia Sawyers, Gary Marron, Linda Marron



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

*Charlie Buckman
Debra Kasseroler*

We Need Your Help!

- It's that time of year when we need your help to make our Spaghetti Dinner on October 24th a success. We need servers, set up crew, clean up crew, kitchen workers and dessert makers. Call the rectory, 748-6891 to volunteer your time. The shifts will be from 2-4 and from 4-6. You'll enjoy the camaraderie. Dessert makers please call Judy Korte 748-4624 to let her know what you will bring.

Church Stewardship

Budget Information - Wk 13

Budget Information \$4,650.00

September 26 Collection \$4,235.00

Thank you to the 137 families who used their stewardship envelopes last weekend.

Money collected\envelopes \$3,563.00

Loose Money \$672.00

Budget Year to Date \$60,450.00

Actual Income Year to Date \$57,321.05

10/11 Budget Shortage (\$3,128.95)

Maintenance Fund Sept. 26 \$467.00

Maintenance Fund YTD \$8,462.00

Collections Prior Fiscal Yrs. \$358,390.00

Total Collections \$366,852.00

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.