

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*

*October 31, 2010 Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time*

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## Ramblings

What a wonderful spirit of community and faith filled the gym in the Religious Education center last Sunday as we gathered to share a meal at the 30th annual spaghetti dinner! Time and again I heard what a good way to celebrate who we are as a faith community here at St Irenaeus. It is another reminder of the depth and breadth of the faith of this local community.

Another sign of how blessed we are as a faith community is the report below on the Planned Offertory Program. While the response to the Stewardship program in the concrete increase in the weekly collection for three of the four weeks is important and needed for the parish to continue to meet its budget, it is the fidelity and committed faith that it symbolizes.

And so as we continue the journey into being a Stewardship parish I am truly grateful to all who have given generously from their hearts with TIME, TALENT and TREASURE. It is privilege and honor for me to serve you all as your pastor. St Francis of Assisi tells us: "All belongs to God and we thank God by distributing generously to others the gifts we have received. In this way we act out who we really are: IMAGES OF A GENEROUS GOD!

May we continue to be those images of God in the world!

Peace  
Fr. Terry

### PLANNED OFFERING RENEWAL EVALUATION

In order to properly evaluate the success of your parish's Planned Offering Program, the Department of Stewardship and Development would like a comparison of collections five weeks before and five weeks after the Program.

WEEK	CASH	CHECK	ENVELOPE	TOTAL	INTENTION CARDS
5 8/22/10	\$1,016.00	\$3,113.00	134	\$4,129.00	—
4 8/29/10	\$974.25	\$2,871.00	144	\$3,845.25	—
3 9/5/10	\$710.00	\$4,114.00	136	\$4,824.00	—
2 9/12/10	\$918.40	\$3,413.00	146	\$4,331.40	—
1 9/19/10	\$925.50	\$3,462.00	143	\$4,387.50	—
Commitment					
Sunday					
9/26/10	\$1,041.00	\$3,194.00	137	\$4,235.00	65
1 10/3/10	\$994.00	\$4,838.00	158	\$5,832.00	27
2 10/10/10	\$902.00	\$4,543.00	164	\$5,445.00	5
3 10/17/10	\$928.00	\$3,400.00	155	\$4,328.00	3
4 10/24/10	\$995.66	\$4,271.00	143	\$5,266.66	4



## FIRST WEEKEND OF THE MONTH FOOD PROJECT November 6 & 7

Thank you for your ongoing thoughtfulness and provision for the less fortunate. 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.

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## You are Invited...

to visit one of our Catholic cemeteries on Sunday November 7, for a day of Faith, Prayer, and Remembrance...  
*Cemetery Sunday celebrating All Souls Day*

Please join us - Open House 11am to 3pm  
Prayer Service and Rosary 2 to 2:30pm  
For information call 708-449-6100 or visit [www.CatholicCemeteriesChicago.org](http://www.CatholicCemeteriesChicago.org)  
*We look forward to celebrating with you!*

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**October 31, 2010**

### **31st Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*"And how could a thing remain, unless you willed it; or be preserved, had it not been called forth by you?" - Wisdom 11:25*

These words from the Book of Wisdom, remind us that every single gift, skill, talent or blessing that we have has been called forth for us from God. The incredible abundance that surrounds us is all given to us by our heavenly Father for a reason. These gifts are not given for us to hoard but rather for us to share.

### "Woods Whispers: A Celebration of Art and Faith"

Date: November 7 Time: 2-5 p.m.

Fee: Free will offering

This Sunday we will gather to mark the first anniversary of the rising voice of the Word Weavers-the Port's community of Women Writers. The reception will feature readings of the Word Weavers works, an exhibit of contemplative photography, music and refreshments.

Coordinators: Colette Wisnewski and  
Mary Ellen Michna.

Colette Wisnewski, a writer and retreat leader, is a graduate of Chicago Theological Union, and brings with her an on-going desire to explore the relationship between creativity and spirituality. Mary Ellen Michna, a journalist for 18 years, is a latent poet and story-teller. She has studied writing at Columbia College and the University of Chicago.

### "A Morning of Centering Prayer: Getting to Gratitude"

Date: November 15 Time: 9:30am-Noon Fee: \$20  
It is in "letting go" that we find we have what we need, at least for today! This morning of centering prayer will help to cultivate gratitude by refocusing your energy and attention to the present moment. The time will include a brief review of the elements necessary to centering prayer for those not familiar with this praying, two "sits" or periods of centering prayer, some input on gratefulness, and conversation that will invite you to share your experience and learn from one another.

Facilitator: Father Joe Ruiz is a recently retired parish priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago. His Master's Degree in Psychology provides a richly human base for his life-long commitment to spirituality: spiritual direction, retreat work, teaching and writing. He has been giving retreats and teaching Centering Prayer for over twenty years.

### *"THE PORT"*

9263 West St. Francis Road, Frankfort IL  
815-464-3880 [www.portforprayer.org](http://www.portforprayer.org)

**Reflections on Today's Readings**  
**October 31 Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time**

***1st Reading: Wisdom 11:22-12:2.***

“Indeed, before you the whole universe is as a grain from a balance, or a drop of morning dew come down upon the earth.” You have to think carefully about this simile to grasp its magnificence. Scientists, who have studied the universe for centuries, cannot even begin to understand its scope, much less explain it to us laypeople. Now, if the whole universe is to God as a drop of morning dew come down upon the earth, then how utterly insignificant, in a physical sense, must we individual humans be before God. Yet, that He cares deeply for each of us is a certainty because Isaiah tells us that God “has written our names on the palms of his hands” and Luke tells us that “even the hairs of your head have all been counted.” We are His children. He rebukes us little by little for our sins so that we might amend our lives, believe in Him and grow in our faith. The thought is that no matter how far we stray from His ways, we are still His creation. God is good and all His Creation is good. We are part of God’s Creation, part of God’s essence, full of God’s goodness. We need to open our hearts to the goodness that dwells within us.

***Psalm 145:1-2, 8-11, 13c-14.***

“The Lord is good to all and compassionate toward all his works.” In the original Hebrew, this psalm was constructed in an acrostic pattern. Each verse begins with a letter of the Hebrew alphabet in order. It is a fitting response to the first reading which celebrates the universal scope of God’s love and mercy.

***2nd Reading: 2 Thessalonians 1:11 - 2:2.***

“We always pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling.....” Paul addresses the concern of the Thessalonian community for the imminence of the second coming of Christ. He tells them that if they live their lives in accord with the teachings of Christ which he, Paul, brings to them, they need not worry about being ready to greet Christ when He comes again.

***Gospel: Luke 19:1-10.***

“Zacchaeus, come down quickly, for today I must stay at your house.” In keeping with the theme of the first reading, Zacchaeus is small in stature by comparison with Jesus, so small that he has to climb a tree to get a good look at him. His action earned him the attention of Jesus, perhaps because Jesus thought that any person who made such an effort just to see him must have great faith. Jesus was not put off by the fact that the people thought Zacchaeus’ position as tax collector made him a sinner. Nor was Jesus put off by Zacchaeus’ wealth, though He usually had little to do with the rich. Even though, in the eyes of his peers, Zacchaeus had strayed far from his faith, Jesus saw within him the goodness of God’s creation. Jesus could see in the actions, speech and mannerisms of people that they had great faith. If he saw that they had faith he was willing to take them, bag and baggage, with the knowledge that he could direct that faith into belief. Tax collectors were notoriously greedy and dishonest. As agents for the hated Roman government, they preyed on their own people. Nonetheless, Jesus saw in Zacchaeus a hunger for wealth beyond all the material possessions he had amassed from preying on his people. He asked, both symbolically and in reality, that Zacchaeus come down from his precarious perch in the tree to get his feet and his life on solid ground.



## Mass Intentions For The Week

### Monday, November 1

#### All Saints

8:00 Gloria Carreras req by  
The Family  
Anna May Fischer req by  
Ed & Mary Anne Fischer

### Tuesday, November 2

#### All Souls

8:00 Rose Mary Corrigan  
Anna May Fischer req by  
Ed & Mary Anne Fischer

### Wednesday, November 3

#### St. Martin de Porres

8:00 George Derrig req by  
The Derrig Family  
Robert Rolwing

### Thursday, November 4

#### St. Charles Borromeo

8:00 Communion Service

### Friday, November 5

8:00 Communion Service

### Saturday, November 6

#### Blessed Virgin Mary

#### 4:00-4:45 Reconciliation

5:00 Angelo Principali req by  
Terri Cardin  
Agnes Caruso req by  
Don & Judy Korte

### Sunday, November 7

8:30 The Deceased Members of the Kogler  
& Newhuis Families  
Richard Wetts req by  
Valeria Wolff & Family  
10:30 John Mac Kenzie req by  
The Family  
Joseph Welna req by  
Louise Hosmer & Family



*The Spiritual Life Commission is praying the Rosary Wednesday, November 3rd at 7:00 PM in the chapel. All are welcome.*

## Liturgical Ministers

### Saturday, November 6 5:00 pm

#### Lectors

Mary Jane Riopelle, Sally Fortune,  
Laurie Miller

#### Extraordinary Ministers/Eucharist

Merle Arr, Bob Steiert, Barbara Principali,  
Eileen Rose, Dolly Mikolajczyk,  
Richard Marvin, Marilyn Carroll

#### Cantor

Cathy Williams

#### Altar Servers

Mike Powers, Michael Rosenquist

### Sunday, November 7 8:30 am

#### Lectors

Gerry Berish, Sara Veldhuizen, Harlan Smith

#### Extraordinary Ministers/Eucharist

Laura Hennessy, Dennis Condon,  
Joe Augustyn, Richard Thomas,  
Carol McCullough, Jim Francesconi,  
Pat O'Connor

#### Cantor

Marianne Velut

#### Altar Servers

Jack Osmolski, Kevin Headly

### Sunday, November 7 10:30 am

#### Lectors

Terry Townsend, Mike Gonzalez

#### Extraordinary Ministers/Eucharist

Raye Warkenthien, Connie Rice,  
Denise Douglas, Doris Foster, David Ostroski,  
Deanna Martin, Kathy Anderson

#### Cantor

Phil Schwartz

#### Altar Servers

Vincent Oganwu Jr., Michael Adami,  
Vincent Adami

## ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL PLEDGE REPORT

As of October 20, 2010

PARISH GOAL:	\$15,478.26
AMOUNT PLEDGE:	\$16,474.00
AMOUNT PAID:	\$15,754.00
REMAINING BALANCE:	\$720.00

## ***Church Stewardship***

### **Budget Information - Wk 17**

**Budget Information           \$4,650.00**

October 24 Collection       \$5,266.66

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

Money collected\envelopes \$4,303.00

Loose Money   \$963.66

Budget Year to Date       \$79,050.00

Actual Income Year to Date \$78,192.71

**10/11 Budget Shortage       (\$857.29)**

**Maintenance Fund Oct. 24   \$398.00**

**Maintenance Fund YTD   \$10,968.00**

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

**Total Collections           \$369,358.00**

**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](http://www.stirenaeuschurch.com)

E-Mail [stirenaeus@archchicago.org](mailto: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](mailto: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.