

CHURCH NAME & NUMBER —

St. Irenaeus #485  
78 Cherry Street  
Park Forest, IL 60466

PHONE —

(708) 748-6891

CONTACT PERSON —

Terri Cardin

SOFTWARE —

Microsoft Publisher 2002  
Adobe Acrobat 5.0  
Windows XP Professional

PRINTER —

HP LaserJet 1000 Series

TRANSMISSION TIME

Thursday 10:00 AM

NUMBER OF PAGES SENT —

Cover through 7

SUNDAY DATE OF BULLETIN —

November 28, 2010

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS —



# the Pillar

*St. Irenaeus Parish, Park Forest, Illinois*

*November 28, 2010 First Sunday of Advent*

---



**“PATIENCE PEOPLE, AWAIT!”**

# Advent 2010: Patience People Await



In St Paul's letter to James it says "Be patient then brothers and sisters, until the Lord's coming." James tells his community to be patient as they wait for the coming of Christ. Christ has been born into time and we prepare for Christ to be re-birthed into our hearts again this Advent/Christmas season.

The parish theme for Advent/Christmas this year is a **PATIENCE PEOPLE, AWAIT!** Patience is a word that I have trouble with. I know it is virtuous to be patient but it carries with it connotations of idleness and biding one's time because one cannot seem to be motivated to move things along. Yet waiting in patience can lead us to moments of stillness.

It is to this that we are called this season of Advent/Christmas. And there are times of waiting that call us to doing, to find some measure of power to find good work to offer-to ourselves and to others. Advent is a time of stillness amidst the frenetic energy that the season can become when we forget to center ourselves with **PATIENCE PEOPLE, AWAIT!**

Advent/Christmas is also a time to dream, wish, imagine and create a new world of peace. May our liturgical prayer this season create in us all we dream, wish, and imagine for our world, our families and our family of faith here at St. Irenaeus. Our schedule of services is listed below. Please join together as God's holy people who long for Jesus to be re-born in our hearts and our lives! **PATIENCE PEOPLE, AWAIT!**

Please join in the Advent preparation by doing the following as you feel called to respond:

**First Sunday, November 27/28:**  
Feed the hungry. Bring additional food to the stable at Mary's altar.

**Second Sunday, December 4/5:**  
Clothe the cold and naked. Bring mittens, gloves and scarves for people who are cold.

**Third Sunday, December 11/12:**  
Comfort the homeless: our P.A.D.S. ministry needs cash donations, white tube socks, small towels and washcloths, sample sized toiletries.

**Fourth Sunday, December 18/19:** Bring animals to the stable: what animals came to the stable the night Jesus was born? Cows, Oxen, Sheep, Donkeys? Bring your loaned animal for the A&E committee to arrange for the Christmas crèche.

Sunday December 19	Parish Reconciliation Service	2:00 P.M.
Wednesday December 22	Simbang Gabi (Filipino Christmas Novena)	7:00 P.M.
Friday December 24	Family Mass w/Pageant Caroling/Christmas Eve Liturgy	5:00 P.M. 7:30 P.M. /8:00 P.M.
Saturday December 25	*Christmas Mass	9:30 A.M.
Friday December 31	New Years Eve Vigil Liturgy	7:00 P.M.
Saturday January 1*	Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God	9:30 A.M.
Sunday January 2	Epiphany of the Lord	8:30 A.M and 10:30 AM

\*Due to the holiday being on Saturday there will be no 5:00 P.M. Anticipated Mass.

## SIMBANG GABI



On Wednesday, December 22, our Parish will be hosting one of the nine (9) novena nights for Simbang Gabi. Simbang Gabi is a Filipino Catholic tradition to joyfully celebrate the Birthday of Jesus. Here in the Southwest Suburbs, the Novena is held December 15-23, celebrated by nine churches.

We are calling all Filipino-American parishioners and anyone who would like to be involved in this wonderful religious tradition.

Please call the following parishioners for more information:

Del Sagun 708-748-0961/708-908-0525

Cherrie Burger 708-898-4091/708-363-3415

Gemma Maghirang 708-757-0923



## WEDDING BANNS II

ANTON LEWIS  
&  
KATHERINE HELM

**November 28, 2010**

### **1st Sunday of Advent**

*"For you do not know on which day your Lord will come." - Matthew 24:42*

Preparations for the Christmas season remind us how much we all want to be generous. We all want to give good gifts to one another. Yet, often when it comes to giving back to God our response is, "Not yet!" We put off sharing our time, talent and treasure for another day. We say we will give when we have more time or more money. Yet, none of us knows when God will come and ask for an accounting of how we used the gifts entrusted to our care. The start of Advent reminds us not to put off our stewardship. The Lord is coming!

## Live Nativity & Journey to Bethlehem

Saturday, December 4th  
from 4:00 -6:30 PM

Immanuel Lutheran Church,  
Richton Park

(On the Corner of Cicero & Saul Trail)

Sunday, December 5th  
from 5:30-8:00 PM

Celebration Ministries

424 Indianwood Blvd. Park Forest



Anyone interested in assisting with the Children's Liturgy of the Word is invited to attend an informational meeting on Tuesday, November 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the Religious Education Office. The term 'Children's Liturgy of the Word' refers to the practice of children leaving the Sunday assembly during the Liturgy of the Word and gathering elsewhere to celebrate in a way that is more appropriate to their level of understanding. Please consider sharing your time and talent in this ministry.

“The Power of Ritual...  
Bringing Our Faith To Our Ordinary Life Experiences”

Date: December 4 Time: 9:30a.m.-Noon Fee: \$20

Christmas is often a season of rituals that are passed on from generation to generation, but ritual itself is so much more!

During our time together, you will be introduced to helpful resources and learn the simple elements of effective rituals to celebrate, honor, and support one another as we move through important transitions in our lives-whether it be ushering someone into a new decade, giving strength to a friend during a time of illness, or simply helping one another recognize they are not alone as they move through life's changes.

Facilitator: Mary Ruth Broz, RSM

“An Advent Morning:  
The Franciscan Tradition of Greccio”

Date: December 13 Time: 9:30am-Noon Fee: \$20

This morning of reflection will touch on the circumstance, the event, and the implications of the Christmas St. Francis is remembered for over eight hundred years forward through story-telling, prayer, and conversation.

Facilitator: Mary Elizabeth Imler, OSF is the Vice President for Mission Integration at the University of St. Francis in Joliet, IL.

She is a Franciscan scholar and holds a Master's degree from the International Franciscan Institute at St. Bonaventure University, NY. She is a author of the book: *A Franciscan Solitude Experience and the Pilgrim's Journal*. She is a nationally known retreat and pilgrimage leader.

*“THE PORT”*

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

## Reflections on Today's Readings November 28 First Sunday of Advent

### **1st Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5.**

"They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks.....On that day, the root of Jesse, set up as a signal for the nations, the Gentiles shall seek out, for His dwelling shall be glorious." Isaiah describes an idyllic setting where war and strife are no more. The nation of Israel, gathered around the "root of Jesse" in Zion, will draw all peoples to come share their peace.

### **Psalm: 122:1-2, 3-4, (4-5, 6-7), 8-9.**

"I rejoiced when I heard them say: let us go to the house of the Lord." The Psalmist echoes Isaiah, rejoicing at the desire of all peoples to come to Zion.

### **2nd Reading: Romans 13:11-14.**

"You know the time in which we are living. It is now the hour for you to wake from sleep, for our salvation is closer than when we first accepted the faith." To awake from sleep is to avoid the darkness of sin. In the text immediately preceding today's reading, Paul urged believers to stay ready for the return of Christ, "Owe nothing to anyone, except to love one another."

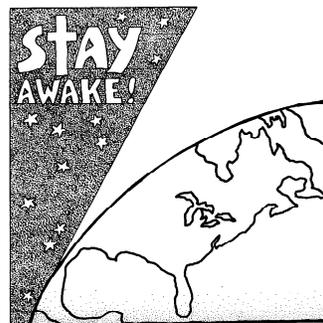
We are so accustomed to light at all hours of the day and night that it is difficult for us to appreciate the metaphors of light and darkness the Biblical writers used to describe life with and without Christ. Even during power failures, we still have some light from battery-powered emergency lanterns and from adjacent areas where the power is still on. Only people operating under special conditions, like sailors on ships at sea under wartime blackout conditions, have a good sense of what real darkness was like to people of Jesus' time. Those people well knew and well understood light and darkness. For them, after the sun went down there was no light except from the moon and the stars. Their understanding was further driven home because, in the desert, when the sun went down, it also got very cold. At sunrise, the light and warmth from the returning sun brought the world to life again. It is no wonder that primitive peoples worshipped the sun as a god.

### **Gospel: Matthew 24:37-44.**

"The Son of Man is coming at the time you least expect." Jesus has foretold the destruction of the Temple and, in answer to a query about when it will happen and what will be the signs, delivers a long discourse on the "end of time." In summary, He cautions, "Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come."

Isaiah's images of the peace and tranquility of Zion make us long for the Messiah. Paul tells us that, if we are to be ready to welcome Christ, the tranquility we seek in Zion must also be our goal in this life. Paul also assures us that Christ is in our midst; that we live in His kingdom now. What we look forward to is not yet defined, nor do we know when the Messiah will return to bring it about. We must have faith that if it comes from God it must be good and, therefore, keep ourselves ready.

Readiness, on the negative side, means avoiding sin, of course, but there is also a positive side to readiness. Paul, who always preached love, tells us that the commandments are summed up thus: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." The Israelites considered this a proper commandment only for the Chosen Ones. Isaiah enlarges their perspective of the Lord's house: "All nations shall stream toward it." Isaiah clearly foresees the Christian ideal: the Lord's house will welcome more than just the Chosen Ones. Christ intends for all nations to share fully in His kingdom. This is the spirit in which we who live in the kingdom should enter the season of watchful waiting for the kingdom to come.



**Mass Intentions For The Week**

**Monday, November 29**

8:00 Norma & Cecilia Sauter & Family  
Ilse Mesick req by  
The Mesick & Lindecker Families

**Tuesday, November 30**

**St. Andrew**

8:00 Angelo Principali req by  
Pat McCartan

**Wednesday, December 1**

8:00 Barbara Cracraft & Family

**Thursday, December 2**

8:00 Communion Service

**Friday, December 3**

**St. Francis Xavier**

8:00 Communion Service

**Saturday, December 4**

**St. John of Damascus**

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

5:00 Becie Kennedy  
Stan Pisani req by  
His Wife & Daughter

**Sunday, December 5**

8:30 Norma McClain req by  
Tony Trunzo

10:30 The Paul Choc Family  
Dorothy Kazel, Maura Clarke, Ita Ford  
& Jean Donovan 30th Anniversary of  
Death req by  
Therese Goodrich

**Liturgical Ministers**

**Saturday, December 4 5:00 pm**

**Lectors**

Bob Carreras, Loren Bowns, Sam Bowns

**Extraordinary Ministers/Eucharist**

Sara Veldhuizen, Marilyn Carroll,  
Sam Bowns, Dolly Mikolajczyk,  
Beverly Helm, Merle Arr, Loren Bowns

**Cantor**

Faye Predny

**Altar Servers**

Myles Greska, Michael Rosenquist

**Sunday, December 5 8:30 am**

**Lectors**

Helen Silvia, Gene Schmittgens,  
Mary Schmittgens

**Extraordinary Ministers/Eucharist**

Chrys Rudnik, Richard Thomas,  
Pat McCartan, Pat O'Connor, Jim Francesconi,  
Dennis Condon, Kathy Murphy

**Cantor**

Marianne Velut

**Altar Servers**

Jack Osmolski, Kevin Headly

**Sunday, December 5 10:30 am**

**Lectors**

Barbara Ostroski, Marilyn Bourgeois,  
Arthur Bourgeois

**Extraordinary Ministers/Eucharist**

David Ostroski, Rita Oganwu, Linda Marron,  
Raye Warkenthien, Dave Perkins,  
Doris Foster, Gary Marron

**Cantor**

Phil Schwartz

**Altar Servers**

Vincent Oganwu Jr., Stephanie Sagun,  
Elysia Sawyers

**St. Irenaeus's Job Club**

Find yourself unemployed, underemployed, or just testing the waters for a career change?  
Join others who are working together to:

- Lend support when the job of looking for a job gets tough.
- Learn new job search skills.
- including strategies for online job searches.
- Network to find job leads.

Date & Time: To Be Determined

Place: Religious Education Center / Room #5 (Computer Lab)

Contact: Phyllis Bacon 708-527-6834 to schedule day and time.

## ***Church Stewardship***

**Budget Information - Not Available**

**Budget Information           \$4,650.00**

November Collection           \$0

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

Money collected\envelopes   \$0

Loose Money                   \$0

Budget Year to Date           \$0

Actual Income Year to Date   \$0

**10/11 Budget Surplus           \$840.87**

**Maintenance Fund Nov.       \$0**

**Maintenance Fund YTD   \$13,126.00**

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

**Total Collections           \$371,516.00**

**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.