

CHURCH NAME & NUMBER —

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

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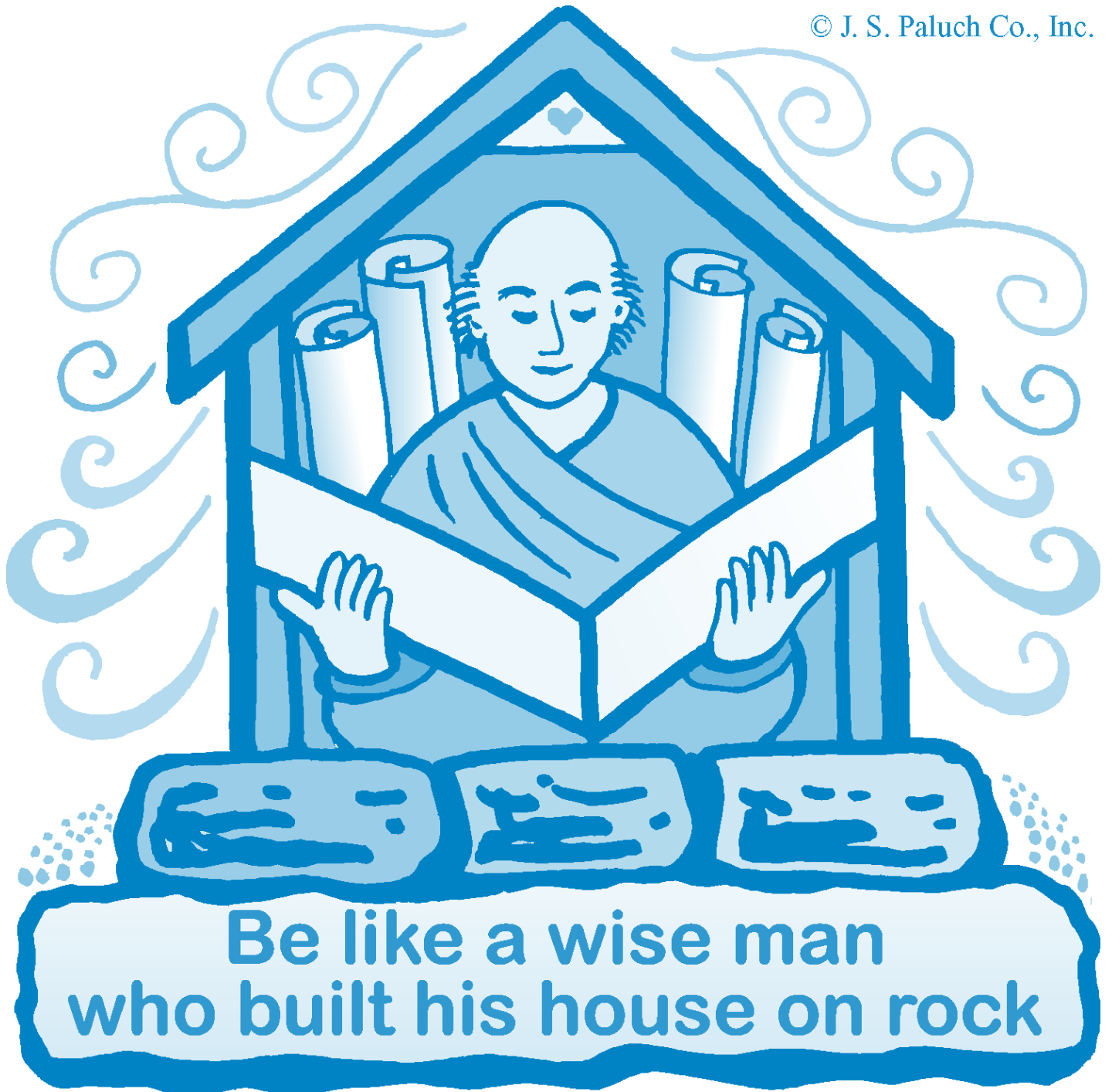


the Pillar

St. Irenaeus Parish, Park Forest, Illinois

March 6, 2011 Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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The Lenten Journey - Prayer, Fasting & Almsgiving

"Lent 4.5 honors the good intentions Christians have to do something extra during Lent. It focuses on a journey of conversion that opens the heart to caring for God's creation, embracing Gospel justice and nurturing spiritual fulfillment through the practice of Christian simplicity. Caring for the Earth, promoting justice and living more simply are essential for anyone following in the footsteps of Jesus today."

As we approach Ash Wednesday, this coming Wednesday, March 9, our faith community begins a journey, a journey of faith and simplicity. A journey we have taken many times over the years that has continually brought us into the very heart of God. As we undertake this pilgrimage once again this year we do so with renewed appreciation for one another and the gifts with which we have been blessed, both individually and collectively as the People of God here at St. Irenaeus. We recognize how God our Creator has worked in our lives and we are grateful! We realize how God our Creator sustains us in our lives together as a faith community and together as a global community of humanity and we are grateful!

And so we approach Lent/Easter 2011 with a sense of gratitude for all that our Creator has lavished and gifted us!

Our journey is ongoing and ever evolving. Lent 4.5 offers us that opportunity in the following ways:

- by offering creative new ways of observing the traditional Lenten disciplines of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving that can make a difference in the inequities of our world.
- fostering a conversion of heart – *metanoia* – by leading Christians into a deeper baptismal commitment to Walking in the footsteps of Jesus and Becoming Stewards of Creation and living in right relationship with God, creation, and the entire human family.

I hope you will consider participating in Lent 4.5 to the extent you are able. Faith Sharing groups are forming, bulletin inserts for your own personal reflection and the online information at www.lent45.org. If you will be participating in a Faith Sharing group please bring the weekly bulletin insert with you to your group meeting as that will be the basis for sharing. And if you are able to, we would ask for a \$5.00 offering to help cover the costs of the Lenten materials for the faith sharing groups.

Peace
Fr. Terry

PS:

A couple of weekends ago an anonymous parishioner dropped a plain white envelop into the collection basket. Upon opening it one of the counters found eleven one hundred dollar bills! What a great surprise! Many thanks to the generous parishioner!



Spring Fling for St. Irenaeus Parish Seniors (ages 60+)
Sponsored by the Religious Education Students

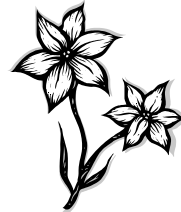
All seniors, of the parish, are invited to be our guests at a special Spring Fling Luncheon on **Sunday, March 20th** immediately **following the 10:30 am mass until 2:00 pm**. Lunch will be provided by the Religious Education students, in room 8 of the R.E. center, at no cost to those parishioners, age 60 and over. Please RSVP by returning this form in the offertory collection basket or by calling the parish office at 708.748.6891 before March 13, 2011.

Spring Fling Luncheon RSVP

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Number attending: _____



The fledgling Baptismal Prep Program is looking for someone(s) who would be able to make themselves available one mass a month, to take close-up photographs of infant and small children baptisms. The ideal person would only need to have a love (and eye!) for capturing the moment unobtrusively and then working with staff to assure that a 5x7 photo is produced for the family in a timely fashion. The Baptismal Prep Program will assume the cost for the prints. If you, or anyone you know, might be interested, please call "Sam" Bowns at the rectory.



*I baptize you in the name
of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit*

St. Lawrence O'Toole Parish
4101 Saint Lawrence Ave., Matteson, IL 60443
Monday, March 7, 2011 7-8:30 p.m.

Spiritual Practices for Busy Christians

In the midst of our busy lives and the abundance of messages bombarding us daily, how do we take the time to nourish our own spiritual inner core? In what ways are we in need of refreshment and renewal, so that we can do the work to which God calls us? Spiritual Wisdom figures from our Catholic tradition can offer us some advice as we continue to be "Disciples in Training". Come join us for an evening of renewal and enlightenment as well as some good practical tips for developing your own spiritual practice plan.

Presenter: Dr C. Vanessa White, PhD



"A Labyrinth Walk:
Celebrating the Spring Equinox"

Dates: March 22 Time: 7-9pm Fee \$10

Remembering our ancestors of old, we will gather at the Labyrinth (or inside at the Port if weather dictates!) on this Sacred Feast when Winter officially turns into Spring and daylight and darkness once again find their balance. As a way of recognizing our connection with all of creation, we will celebrate the resurrection of the earth with fire, prayer, and song, honoring the mystery of new life pushing up through hard ground, and praying for that same kind of courage as we walk the twists and turns of our journeys.

Facilitator: Mary Ruth Broz, RSM

"THE PORT"

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

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.
- 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.

*Ash Wednesday,
March 9th
Schedule of
Service*



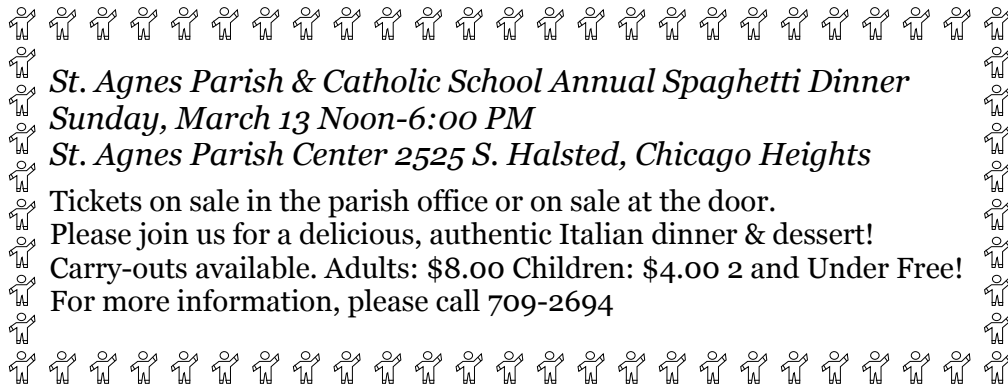
*6:30 a.m. Communion Service
8:00 Morning Liturgy
4:00 Liturgy of the Word
7:00 Evening Liturgy
(Distribution of Ashes at all services)*

“MANNA FROM HEAVEN”
REMEMBER TO GET YOUR
GAS and GROCERY Cards EVERY WEEK

We have many available with no waiting.

Need some more ideas.....

- INTERNET SHOPPING - NEVER LEAVE HOME** Amazon.com, ChicagoBears.Com, Edine, Fandango, Harry & David, HSN, iTunes, Lands End, L.L. Bean, Overstock.com, Plow & Hearth, Restaurants.com
- TRAVEL/LEISURE** American Airlines, Best Western, Choice Hotels, Disney, Hyatt Hotels, Marriott, Mt. Olympus/Treasure Island, Travelocity
- FOR THE HOME, DEPARTMENT STORES** Ace Hardware, Bed Bath & Beyond, Carson's, The Container Store, Crate & Barrel, Home Depot, JCPenney, Joann Fabrics, Kmart, Kohl's, Lord & Taylor, Lowe's, Macy's, Menard's, Pottery Barn, Restoration Hardware, Sears, TJMaxx/Homegoods, Yankee Candle
- FOR YOUR FAVORITE TEACHER OR COACH** Barnes & Noble \$10 Teacher Card, Bass Pro Sports, Borders Books, Delta Sonic Carwash, Dick's Sporting Goods, Footlocker, Nike, Panera
- GIFTS FOR HIM** Bass Pro, Best Buy, Brunswick Zone, Dick's Sporting Goods, Eddie Bauer, Guitar Center, Land's End, Men's Wearhouse, Nike, Omaha Steaks, Sports Authority
- GIFTS FOR HER** Bath & Bodyworks, Catherine's, Claire's, Fannie May, Fashion Bug, Hallmark, J Jill, L.L. Bean, Mario Tricoci, Michael's Crafts, Motherworks, Regis Salon, Rocky Mountain Chocolates, Sally Beauty Salon, Sephora, Talbots, Ulta Cosmetics
- FOR TEENS** AMC, American Eagle, Banana Republic, Billboard, Brunswick, Claire's, Classic Cinema, Dots, Dave & Busters, eSkape, Express, Fashion Bug, Foot Locker, Gamestop, Gap, Guitar Center, iTunes, Nike, Old Navy, Plato's Closet, SuperCuts, Ulta cosmetics



St. Agnes Parish & Catholic School Annual Spaghetti Dinner
Sunday, March 13 Noon-6:00 PM
St. Agnes Parish Center 2525 S. Halsted, Chicago Heights
 Tickets on sale in the parish office or on sale at the door.
 Please join us for a delicious, authentic Italian dinner & dessert!
 Carry-outs available. Adults: \$8.00 Children: \$4.00 2 and Under Free!
 For more information, please call 709-2694

March 6, 2011
9th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Everyone who listens to these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock.” - Matthew 7:24

Our Lord gives us two distinct commands today. We must listen and we must act. We listen when we participate in Mass. We act when we participate in the ministry of the parish. We need to do both for a strong foundation. Participating more fully in the liturgy and life of the parish may require some changes on our part. We may have to move away from our current lifestyle so that we can move closer to God.

Mass Intentions For The Week

Monday, March 7

Ss. Perpetua and Felicity

8:00 Patricia McCartan & Arlene Zibrida
req by Pat McCartan

Tuesday, March 8

St. John of God

8:00 Chuck Differding req by
Georgiana & Joanne Delehanty

Wednesday, March 9

8:00 Parishioners of St. Irenaeus
7:00pm Parishioners of St. Irenaeus

Thursday, March 10

8:00 Communion Service

Friday, March 11

8:00 Communion Service

Saturday, March 12

5:00 Chuck Differding req by
Frank & Eleanore Burns
Perry & Barbara Worthan req by
Doug & Dorothy Worthan

Sunday, March 13

8:30 The Kogler & Newhuis Families req by
Rosemary & Family
Anna Collier req by
The Doty Family
10:30 Victor M. Lemoine req by
The Family
Kenneth & Jennie Kling req by
The Benitez Family

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, March 12 5:00 am

Lectors

Mary Jane Riopelle, Loren Bowns,
Sam Bowns

Extraordinary Ministers/Eucharist

Eileen Rose, Bob Steiert, Joe Augustyn, Laurie
Miller, Sally Fortune, Barbara Principali,
Dolly Mikolajczyk

Cantor

Faye Predny

Altar Servers

Mike Powers, Myles Greska

Sunday, March 13 8:30 am

Lectors

Jack Osmolski, Mary Schmittgens,
Gene Schmittgens

Extraordinary Ministers/Eucharist

Gerry Berish, Chrys Rudnik, Dennis Condon,
Laura Hennessy, Richard Thomas,
Carol McCullough, Kathy Murphy

Cantor

Marianne Velut

Altar Servers

Michael Rosenquist, Kevin Headly, Karen Ertl

Sunday, March 13 10:30 am

Lectors

Mike Gonzalez, Marilyn Bourgeois,
Arthur Bourgeois

Extraordinary Ministers/Eucharist

Connie Rice, Linda Marron, Rita Oganwu,
Vincent Oganwu, Sevena Merchant,
Gary Marron

Cantor

Melva LeBlanc

Altar Servers

Stephanie Sagun, Michael Adami,
Vincent Adami

On Tuesday, March 8, 2011 at 7:00 pm the Knights of Columbus will sponsor a *Mardi Gras* Dinner-Dance at the Chicago Heights Country Club. Tickets are \$30 each and can be obtained from any Knight after Mass or call Tony Brunson at 708-574-3205.

The Parish Office will be happy to send you a statement of your 2010 contributions for tax purpose. Please call the office @ 748-6891 if you would like a copy. Thank you for your generosity last year.

Church Stewardship

Budget Information - 35

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| | \$4,650.00 |
| February 27 Collection | \$4,495.00 |
| Thank you to the 141 families who used their stewardship envelopes last weekend. | |
| Money collected\envelopes | \$3,528.00 |
| Loose Money | \$967.00 |
| Budget Year to Date | \$162,750.00 |
| Actual Income Year to Date | \$168,449.16 |
| 10/11 Budget Surplus | \$5,699.16 |
| Maintenance Fund Feb. 27 | \$247.00 |
| Maintenance Fund YTD | \$21,204.00 |
| Collections Prior Fiscal Yrs. | \$358,390.00 |
| Total Collections | \$379,594.00 |
| 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
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.