



the Pillar

St. Irenaeus Parish, Park Forest, Illinois

December 9, 2012 Second Sunday of Advent

Advent Sacramental Reconciliation Service

*St. Irenaeus Church
Sunday December 16, 2012
2:00 P.M.*



*Come together as a Faith Community
To celebrate God's
Generous mercy and forgiveness*

Advent 2012

ADVENT WEEK TWO: WAIT

In today's Gospel John the Baptist relays a challenging message; calling for repentance and lives to be transformed. Those who heard were filled with expectation, waiting for Messiah, and yet ultimately failing to notice his arrival in that humble stable.

This Advent season, may we be filled with expectation, as we celebrate the coming of the greatest gift of all; our Savior Jesus Christ.

LISTEN-WAIT-BE GLAD-PROCLAIM...

As we live into this Advent/Christmas season are an active people, we LISTEN, we WAIT, we are GLAD and we Proclaim how good it is to have the Lord Jesus in our hearts, in our minds and in our spirits! With John the Baptist, Isaiah, Juan Diego, Mary and Elizabeth, we stand in awe of all that our world, our universe proclaims to us as New Life and New Energy is continually brought to birth through all we do to build the kingdom of God among us. May this season of light forever shine in our world and bring peace and justice to all!



Christmas 2012 Schedule of Services



Sunday December 9 Adoration of the Blessed
Sacrament Begins 11:30 A.M.
Benediction 4:00 P.M.

Wednesday December 12 Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe 7:00 P.M.

Sunday December 16 Parish Reconciliation Service 2:00 P.M.

Saturday December 22 Simbang Gabi 5:00 P.M.

Monday December 24 Family Mass w/Pageant 5:00 P.M.
Caroling 7:30 P.M.

Christmas Eve Liturgy 8:00 P.M.

Tuesday December 25 Christmas Mass 9:30 A.M.

Monday December 31 New Years Eve 5:00 P.M.

Tuesday January 1 New Years Day 9:30 A.M.

Sunday January 6 Epiphany of the Lord 8:30 A.M., 10:30 A.M.

Adoration by Paul Turner



Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament draws the worshiper into spiritual communion with God. Whether done on one's own time or at a scheduled service, adoration of the eucharistic presence of Christ fosters our devotion for participation in the Mass.

Jesus instituted the Eucharist for our eating and drinking. Sharing communion at Mass brings us nourishment, healing and sustenance. There is no substitute for participation in the Eucharist; adoration should enhance it, not replace it.

Catholics reserve leftover communion breads in a tabernacle. The primary purpose for this custom is to have the Body of Christ ready for the dying at any time. The tabernacle also provides communion for the sick or those unable to come to Mass. Because it houses the sacramental Body of Christ, it serves as a place for adoration.

Adoration may be private or public. When adoring the Blessed Sacrament in private, Catholics usually go to any church, where the communion hosts are kept inside the tabernacle. They say whatever prayers they wish. Public adoration may take place in the context of a brief service (traditionally called "Benediction" although that only refers to the blessing which concludes it) or over a more extended period of time. The Blessed Sacrament is usually presented for adoration outside the tabernacle on an altar or a stand.

Extended periods of adoration used to be common. They filled the void for people who were not receiving communion frequently. However, in the twentieth century, the church has urged people to more frequent communion and has forbidden exposition during Mass. Participation in the Eucharist at Mass accomplishes spiritual communion more perfectly and renders simultaneous adoration unnecessary. Prolonged periods of adoration may happen in church where a large number of the faithful are gathering and when the bishop has given his approval. If Mass is celebrated, the Blessed Sacrament should be returned to the tabernacle.

Whether the Blessed Sacrament is inside or outside the tabernacle, adoration may invite us into prayer and prepare us for the Eucharist.

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Paul Turner, pastor of St. Munchin Parish in Cameron, MO, holds a doctorate in sacramental theology from Sant' Anselmo University in Rome.

WINTER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION:

TIME TO REKINDLE THE LIGHT

December 17 from 7-9 PM Fee: \$20

While some will be approaching December 21 with the belief that the world is coming to an end along with the Mayan calendar, we see it as an important time to gather with others who are committed to searching for ways to "rekindle the light" even as the darkness seems to overwhelm us. With song and ritual, fire and faith---and a Spirit that promises to be with us in the chaos---we will welcome the return of the sun and pray for the courage to make our lives better: helping one another remember again what we want for our planet, for ourselves, and for those who will come after us!

Facilitators: Father Terry Johnson, Mary Ann O'Donnell, Mary Ruth Broz, RSM

PORTIUNCULA Center for Prayer
9263 West St. Francis Rd.
Frankfort, IL 815-464-3880



Our 32nd Annual Spaghetti Dinner is now history. Your participation again showed the great spirit of our parish family. Families and friends from our parish and outside our parish gathered to enjoy an excellent meal, to visit and to enjoy each other's company.

We would like to thank the following for their generous donations: Lain-Sullivan Funeral Home and Crematory, Chicago Dough Pizza, Mike Jordan State Farm Insurance, Gina's Salon, Hiland Enterprise, Gervais Construction, Merts Heating & Air Conditioning, Knights of Columbus Nina Council #3602, Tower Cleaners, Stone Work Snowplowing, The Frame Shoppe, Keith's Power Equipment, Joey Arebalo's Cleaning Service, Rodan+Fields Dermatologist, Redwood Lawn Service, Matt's Property Maintenance, The South Suburban Food Co-op, Kennedy Auto, Kerr-Parzygnot Funeral Homes. A special thanks to all of the people who made monetary donations to offset the cost of purchasing ingredients for our special sauce and our other expenses. We would also offer another special thanks to all the people who donated all of the beer, wine, pop and water that was needed for the bar. Desert makers you did a great job.

We thank all of our volunteer workers who worked so hard together for the success of our Annual Spaghetti Dinner: cooks, set-up crew, servers, bar workers, ticket sellers, students workers and clean-up crew both upstairs and in the kitchen.

We served dinners to 43 children and 265 adults. Our total income from ticket sales, donations, 50/50 raffle, place mat ads and the bar was \$6,046.72. Our total expenses came to \$731.31. The final income to the parish was \$5,315.41.

Thanks again for making the St. Irenaeus Annual Spaghetti Dinner a success.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, December 12, 2012

The celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe is Wednesday December 12, 2012. While most people associate this feast with Hispanic customs and celebrations, it's important to remember that Our Lady, under the title of Guadalupe, is the Patroness of *the Americas!* She belongs to every community and every culture!



One of Advent's most significant symbols is Our Lady, the Virgin Mary. During this second half of Advent, with the imminent observance of the Nativity of Christ, Our Lady of Guadalupe is a most appropriate image: she is expecting a child—Jesus, our Savior. The expectation and anticipation that is part of the experience of an expectant mother is a model of what the Advent experience is to be for all of us.

A liturgy for the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe will be celebrated on December 12, 2012 at 7:00PM. Please join this special Eucharistic celebration through music, dance, and a short play by children from the St. Irenaeus Religious Ed program. A reception of traditional goodies will follow.

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

Sara Langer
Bette Edwards
Mary & Jeirmyri Liddell



Simbang Gabi 2012-20th Year Celebration Southwest Fil-AM Catholic Community Ihanda ang Iyong Puso

Simbang Gabi is a Filipino Catholic tradition of celebrating a novena (series of nine) of Advent evening Masses. It is meant to help the Filipino-American and other Catholics in the area to intensify their spiritual preparation for the grace-filled celebration of Christmas. The nine host parishes invite the parishioners, families and friends to celebrate Simbang Gabi with them each night.

On Saturday, December 22 at 5:00 pm, our Parish will be hosting one of the nine (9) novena nights for Simbang Gabi.



Year of Sunday Mass

July 2012 - June 2013

KNOW THE MASS, ONE WORD AT A TIME



Drink

It makes perfect sense. Before we drink, we must pour what we are to drink. At Holy Communion, when we drink from the chalice, we know there has been a prior ritual action of preparation, the pouring of wine that includes a drop of water symbolizing the union of the humanity and divinity of Jesus. We also know from Jesus' words of institution that what we drink has been poured in another sense.

In Jesus's name, the priest says, "Take this all of you, and drink from it, for this is the chalice of my blood, the blood of the new and eternal covenant, which will be poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins." Take and drink what has been poured into this chalice. Take and drink what has been poured out on the cross for your salvation. When we drink from this chalice, we know we can only do so, because the suffering and self-sacrificing love of Jesus has first been poured out for us.

Archdiocese of Chicago Strategic Pastoral Plan
YEAR OF SUNDAY MASS / YEAR OF FAITH

Retirement Fund for Religious

Like Sister Rita, thousands of senior women and men religious worked for small stipends. Their sacrifices over many decades now leave their religious communities without adequate savings for retirement and elder care. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious provides vital funding for prescription medications, nursing care, and more. Please be generous.

Share in the Care

Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

Retirement Fund for Religious

Year of Sunday Mass
Question of the Week

December 9, 2012

LK 3:1-6

How is Eucharist my bread for the journey, nourishment for the "desert" times of my life?

St. Irenaeus/Catholic Charities Food Pantry Eat & Earn Fundraiser Day at Beggars Pizza



22149 GOVERNORS HIGHWAY
RICHTON PARK 708-679-9990
ANYTIME BETWEEN 11:00AM TO
10:00PM



Beggars Pizza has agreed to donate 20% of your bill (before taxes, gratuity and coupons) to **St. Irenaeus/Catholic Charities Food Pantry.**

Support **St. Irenaeus/Catholic Charities Food Pantry** with Beggars Pizza on **Monday, December 10th.**

Liturgical Ministers December 15/16	Saturday 5:00 p.m.	Sunday 8:30 a.m.	Sunday 10:30 a.m.
Lectors	Therese Goodrich Tom Koranda Mary Ellen Strezo	Bill Seifert Mary Jane Riopelle Chris Blue	Raye Warkenthien Stephanie Sagun Arthur Bourgeois
Servers	Myles Greska Karen Ertl Isabel Acosta	Elysia Sawyers Ora Sawyers Oryon Sawyers	Mary Helson Joanna Mahiya George Mahiya
Cantor	Cathy Williams	Marianne Velut	Melva LeBlanc
Eucharistic Ministers	Bev Helm Denise Douglas Loren Bowns Sally Fortune Bob Steiert	Laurie Miller Mark Keth Judy Sopiartz Gerry Berish Laura Hennessy	Vincent Oganwu Sevena Merchant David Perkins Kathleen Anderson Pat Benjamin

Mass Intentions For The Week

Monday, December 10

8:00 Sr. Pricilla Michalak req by
Alice Michalak

Tuesday, December 11

St. Damasus I

8:00 Meghan McLaughlin req by
Alice Michalak

Wednesday, December 12

Our Lady of Guadalupe

8:00 Marlene Hamill req by
The Hamill Family
7:00 Parishioners of St. Irenaeus

Thursday, December 13

St. Lucy

8:00 Communion Service

Friday, December 14

St. John of the Cross

8:00 Communion Service

Saturday, December 15

5:00 Stanley Pisani req by
His Family

Sunday, December 16

8:30 Rev. Daniel O'Sullivan req by
Don & Judy Korte
David Newhuis req by
Rosemary & Family
10:30 Ted & Jeanne Goehler req by
The Family

Holiday Office Hours

December 26th the office will
be closed.

December 27th, 28th, & 31st,
the office will be open from
9:00-Noon.

January 1st & 2nd the office will
be closed.

January 3rd normal office hours.

December 9, 2012

2nd Sunday of Advent

*"And this is my prayer: that
your love may increase ever
more and more in knowledge
and every kind of perception,
to discern what is of value..."*
(Philippians 1:9-10)

Glittery holiday ads can blind
us to our stewardship values
and distort our needs and
wants. It is important that
during this season of endless
buying we remember that each
of us also has the need to
give back to God.

This Week's Meetings

Monday

Boy & Girl Scouts 6:30 in
the R.E. Center
Food Pantry Open
10:00-12:00 in the R.E.
Center

Tuesday

Cantor 6:30/Choir 7:15 in
church

Wednesday

Little Rock Scripture Series
10:00-11:30 & 7:00-8:30
in the R.E. Center
SPRED I & II 5:30 in the
R.E. Center

Thursday

PADS

Friday

SNAP (food stamps)
screening and application
8:30-12:00 in Rm. 8

Saturday

Art & Environment
9:00 in church

Sunday

R.E. Classes 9:00
Children's Choir 12:00

Church Stewardship

Budget \$5,100.00

December 2 Collection \$5,088.00

Weekly Budget Shortage (\$12.00)

Budget Year to Date \$117,300.00

Total Year to Date \$111,971.94

Budget Shortage YTD (\$5,328.06)

Maintenance Fund Dec. 2 \$1,107.00

Maintenance Fund YTD \$13,306.00

E-Giving

Sunday Offertory \$320.00

Maintenance Fund \$318.00

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*

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.

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.

Need prayers?

*Call the St.
Irenaeus Health
Ministry Prayer
Line at 747-0974
with your requests*

The Sacrament of Baptism



Baptisms are celebrated the first and third weekends of each month. Parents must attend a baptismal preparation session prior to securing a date for their child's baptism. Please call the parish office for further information and/or to sign up for a baptismal prep session.

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

Ann Koranda, Director of Music Ministry

Terri Cardin, Administrative Assistance

Cindy Prepura, Business Manager

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.