

CHURCH NAME & NUMBER —

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

PHONE —

(708) 748-6891

CONTACT PERSON —

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## FIRST WEEKEND OF THE MONTH FOOD PROJECT OCTOBER 3-4, 2009

The cooler weather, the shorter days, the falling leaves and the kids back in school all tells us it's Autumn. Change is constant, and it is especially so this year, because we have even more needy among us. Please keep this in mind when you do your family shopping this week and fill an extra bag of groceries for our disadvantaged neighbors and bring it to Mass with you on October 3 or 4. As always, THANK YOU for your continued generous support of our food project.

### Lord's Landscapers

Have you ever wondered who is responsible for cutting the grass, planting the flowers, pulling the weeds around our parish grounds? Well, for your information, there is only a handful...six, to be exact...of parishioners who volunteer their time to do just that. It takes a lot of hard work and dedication to keep the grounds looking good. (And these same folks have their own home properties to take care of as well.)

It would be great if we could afford professional landscapers to cut the grass weekly and keep up with the garden beds, but that is not possible. And it won't be long before the leaves will be falling and the grounds will need all those leaves picked up.

St Irenaeus is looking for men and women, boys and girls of all ages to become part of the Lord's Landscapers at this, your parish. You don't have to be especially talented...just willing to do yard work. In a few weeks, we will look for your help in raking leaves. We'll post a date in the PILLAR.

In the meantime, if you'd like to be one of the Lord's Landscapers at St. Irenaeus, please call the rectory.

### 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. Please patronize the businesses who advertise in our parish bulletin.



### "All Creatures Great and Small...."

In honor of St. Francis of Assisi, Father Terry Johnson will officiate at the Blessing of the

Animals. This will take place on Saturday, October 3, 2009 at 9:30 a.m. It will be held at the front of the church, if it rains, it will be held in the church lobby.

For safety and protection, please have pets on leashes or in carriers. We hope to see you then.

....The Lord God Made them All."



### HOUSING OPPORTUNITY FOR HOMELESS FAMILIES

During the past year, ST. IRENAEUS PARISH and CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF CHICAGO signed a cooperative agreement to assist homeless families in the Park Forest area. Recently, Catholic Charities asked for referrals of homeless families in St. Irenaeus and surrounding areas to New Hope Apartments, a two-year transitional housing program administered by Catholic Charities. To qualify, a homeless family must be living in a shelter, on the street, or residing temporarily in a hotel or motel.

Prompting Catholic Charities call for homeless applicants are upcoming vacant apartment units in New Hope Apartments. This is an opportunity for St. Irenaeus parishioners to reach out to homeless families in our community and invite them to take advantage of this unique housing opportunity. If interested, the homeless family should call the parish rectory and provide their first name, the number of persons in the family, and a means to contact the family.

**Peace & Justice**

John Paul II, speaking to members of Pax Christi during a delegation to the Vatican, May 1995:

"Movements like yours are precious. You help draw people's attention to the violence which shatters the harmony between human beings which is at the heart of creation. You help to develop conscience, so that justice and the search for the common good can prevail in the relations between individuals and peoples. These are the foundations for lasting peace."

Pax Christi is the international peace movement of the Catholic church. It strives to create a world that reflects the Peace of Christ by witnessing to the call of Christian nonviolence. This work begins in personal life and extends to communities of reflection and action to transform structures of society. Pax Christi USA rejects war, preparations for war, and every form of violence and domination. It advocates primacy of conscience, economic and social justice, and respect for creation.

For information on the local Pax Christi group, contact Helen Silvia, 747-0795 or [h.silvia@sbcglobal.net](mailto:h.silvia@sbcglobal.net).

**1st Reading: Numbers 11:25-29.**

The Israelites were discontented with the whole experience of the Exodus and complained incessantly to Moses. When an exasperated Moses reached the end of his patience, he complained in turn to God that the burden of "all this people was too great." Then, the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to Moses. He had Moses call seventy of the elders of Israel into assembly in the meeting tent, then, "taking some of the spirit that was on Moses, he bestowed it on the seventy elders; and as the spirit came to rest on them, they prophesied."

Two of the seventy elders who were to be commissioned to bear some of Moses' burden, did not come to the meeting tent, but were left back in the camp. When Joshua was told that they had also begun to prophesy, he urged Moses to stop them. Moses refused, saying, "Would that the Lord might bestow His spirit on them all."

**Psalm 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14.**

"The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart." The Psalmist sings of the truth of the "ordinances of the Lord." Recognizing his failings, he asks the Lord to help him keep them.

**2nd Reading: James 5:1-6.**

"See what you have stored up for yourselves against the last days." With these words, James excoriates the wealthy who grow rich by exploiting those who work in their fields. The wealth they amass to assure themselves a comfortable life will be a "testimony against them" at the last judgment. Of their wealth, James says, "Here, crying aloud, are the wages you withheld from the farmhands who harvested your fields." James addresses the wealthy landowners of an agrarian society who have grown rich on the backs of those whom they have exploited. A like problem exists today in our society where heads of companies are paid

exorbitant sums even when their actions have been only marginally effective in increasing the income or net worth of their companies. Even when they leave their organizations in shambles, their "golden parachutes" are an affront to the notion that compensation should be commensurate with their effectiveness.

**Gospel: Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48.**

"Teacher, we saw a man using your name to expel demons and we tried to stop him because he is not of our company." Like Joshua, the disciples ignore the goodness of the man's action because of who he is or, rather, because of who he is not. In their eyes, their "meeting tent" is full. They are part of an elite group. Their mandate to act in Christ's name is, in their thinking, exclusive. We likewise tend to think that God's spirit comes to rest upon us and those in "our tent;" that the walls of "our tent" can confine the Spirit; that worthy thoughts and actions come only from "our tent." But it is God who bestows the Spirit on whom He chooses and neither He nor the Spirit are to be confined. Who are we, then, to question "outsiders" who prophesy? Jesus told his disciples, "Anyone who is not against us is with us." His admonition is appropriate for any of us today who think our "meeting tent" is full. In the last judgment parable (Matthew 25:31-46), all the nations are gathered before the "Son of Man, the "sheep" on His right and the "goats" on His left. To the "sheep," who saw Jesus in their neighbors and attended to His needs in them, the Son of Man said, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.' To the "goats," who didn't, the Son of Man said, 'Depart from me, you accursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.'



**WEDDING  
BANNES  
II  
STEVEN M.  
FRENCH  
&  
TARA  
GREGORY**

**That We May Have Priests...**

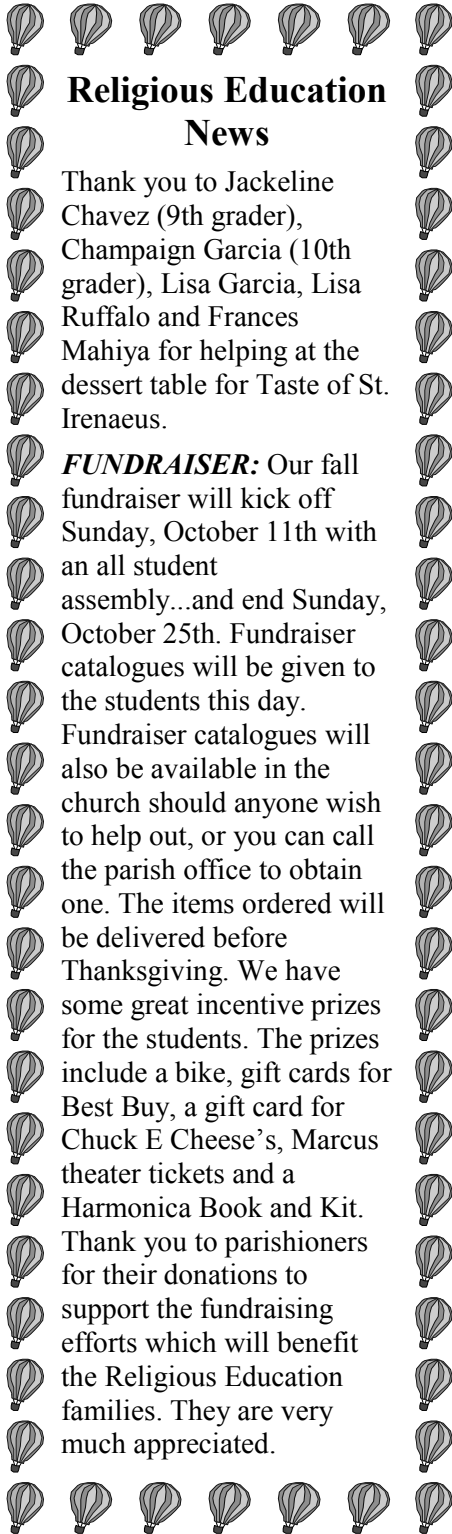
How many times in our lives has a priest brought healing to us and to our families?

How many times has a priest celebrated the liturgy on Sunday, throughout the week and at special parish and family celebrations, bringing Christ to us through the Eucharist?

How many times has a priest stood with us in joy at the birth of a child; at our bedside in the hospital, or in sorrow at the death of a loved one?

Let us pray for vocations to the priesthood; that we may have priests whose lives are directed by the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the service of God's people.

Thank you for your ongoing prayers and financial support for this Collection for the Seminary System of the Archdiocese of Chicago. The envelopes are on the back tables.



**Religious Education  
News**

Thank you to Jackeline Chavez (9th grader), Champaign Garcia (10th grader), Lisa Garcia, Lisa Ruffalo and Frances Mahiya for helping at the dessert table for Taste of St. Irenaeus.

**FUNDRAISER:** Our fall fundraiser will kick off Sunday, October 11th with an all student assembly...and end Sunday, October 25th. Fundraiser catalogues will be given to the students this day. Fundraiser catalogues will also be available in the church should anyone wish to help out, or you can call the parish office to obtain one. The items ordered will be delivered before Thanksgiving. We have some great incentive prizes for the students. The prizes include a bike, gift cards for Best Buy, a gift card for Chuck E Cheese's, Marcus theater tickets and a Harmonica Book and Kit. Thank you to parishioners for their donations to support the fundraising efforts which will benefit the Religious Education families. They are very much appreciated.

**New Parishioners**

A warm welcome to our new parishioners from the St. Irenaeus Parish community.

- The Martinez Family*
- The Garcia Family*
- The Chavez Family*
- The Bishop Family*
- The Perez Family*

**Mass Intentions  
For The Week**

**Monday, September 28**  
**St. Lawrence Ruiz and his companions; St. Wenceslaus**  
 8:00 Willamena Hansen req by Al Hansen

**Tuesday, September 29**  
**St. Michael, St. Gabriel, and St. Raphael**  
 8:00 Patricia O'Connor Rita Sella req by The Family

**Wednesday, September 30**  
**St. Jerome**  
 8:00 Frank & Martha Michalak

**Thursday, October 1**  
**St. Therese of the Child Jesus**  
 8:00 Communion Service

**Friday, October 2**  
**The Guardian Angels; First Friday**  
 8:00 Communion Service

**Saturday, October 3**  
**Blessed Virgin Mary; First Saturday; Sukkot (Jewish harvest festival) begins at sunset**  
 4:00-4:45 **Reconciliation**  
 5:00 Roger Cleghorn req by Barbara & Angelo Principali Lucille Newbanks Marvin req by Richard Marvin

**Sunday, October 4**  
 8:30 The Deceased Members of the Kogler & Newhuis Families Jeanne & Ted Goehler req by The Family  
 10:30 Dolores & Ralph Condon req by The Condon Family

**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. When necessary, arrangements can be made for the celebration of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

**Liturgical Ministers**

**Saturday, September 26 5:00 pm**  
**Lectors**  
 Rosemary McDonnell, Judy McDonnell Sally Fortune  
**Extraordinary Ministers/Eucharist**  
 Virginia Piechocki, Jim Silvia Therese Goodrich, Brenda Harris Merle Arr, Marilyn Carroll  
**Cantor**  
 Cathy Williams  
**Altar Servers**  
 Myles Greska

**Sunday, September 27 8:30 am**  
**Lectors**  
 Linda Marron, Adele Perkins Eleanore Burns  
**Extraordinary Ministers/Eucharist**  
 Laura Hennessy, Gerry Berish Chrys Rudnik, Pat O'Connor Patrick McCartan, Richard Thomas  
**Cantor**  
 Marianne Velut  
**Altar Servers**  
 Karen Ertl, Elizabeth Hurd

**Sunday, September 27 10:30 am**  
**Lectors**  
 Raye Warkenthien, Dolly Mikolajczyk Agnes Caruso  
**Extraordinary Ministers/Eucharist**  
 Linda Marron, Vincent Oganwu Gary Marron, Jan Pattyn Connie Rice, David Ostroski  
**Cantor**  
 Phil Schwartz  
**Altar Servers**  
 Vincent Oganwu, Stephanie Sagun

**The Sacrament of Baptism**

We celebrate the sacrament of baptism on the fourth Sunday of each month at 1:00 p.m. Parents must attend a baptism preparation session. These sessions are held on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Rectory. Please call the rectory to make arrangements.

**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.

**FIFTH TASTE OF ST. IRENAEUS UPDATE**

What a great TASTE it was! Thanks, again to all the table Chairs . . . Nneka Green, Victoria Merlo, Rita & Rudolph Thompson, Helen Funk, Mary Jane Riopelle, Barb Ostroski, Karen Ertl, Diane Cash, Tony Meilcarz, Doris Foster, Sevena Merchant, Susan Brown-Barber, Biyin Huang and Colleen McGrain. The food was outstanding and plentiful. Thanks to all the folks who came to the party and enjoyed the fellowship along with the many dishes served. Congratulations, too, to all the raffle winners! And thanks, too, to the folks who helped clean up. Until next year . . . .

**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
- See Pamphlet Rack in front entrance of Church for more references*

**NEEDED-A FEW GOOD MEN & WOMEN**

October is the month designed by The Knights of Columbus for our yearly recruitment period. While members may be admitted at virtually any monthly Council Business Meeting, it is during October near the beginning of the fiscal year that a major effort is made just prior to the Christmas and then Lenten seasons.

The Knights of Columbus is a Catholic lay men’s organization organized for charitable activities and has over 1.7 million members worldwide. Nina Council #3602 covers the parishes of St. Irenaeus, St. Lawrence O’Toole and St. Mary’s and welcomes practicing Catholic gentlemen, at least 18 years old, who wish to apply for membership.

Nina Council also has a Ladies Auxiliary component with similar aims and goals for those who may wish to join. You do not need to be married to a Knight to join the Ladies Auxiliary.

At your parish Masses on October 3rd and 4th, 2009, the pastor will advise you of the presence of some Nina Council members so that you can later see them about filling out a Membership Form in time for our October Meeting.

Thank you,  
W.A.(Tony) Brunson,  
Nina Council #3602

A Recital in memory of the late pastor and late director of music ministries at St. Irenaeus church, the Reverend Daniel O’Sullivan and Dr. Mark Russakoff, respectively. Music will reflect their cultural heritages and interests. Presenters are clarinetist, Lynn Godfrey and keyboardist, Helen Silvia. Recital at 2:30 P.M., Sunday, October 18 at St. Irenaeus Church, 78 Cherry St., Park Forest, IL. 708-748-6891. There will be a free will offering.

**St. Irenaeus Ministerial Staff**  
**Rectory Phone: 748-6891**  
**Religious Education Center**  
**Phone: 748-7997**

Rev. Terry Johnson, Administrator  
Joe & Judy McDonnell, Deacon Couple  
Deanna Martin, Lay Minister  
Robert Neal,  
Director of Music Ministry  
Terri Cardin, Parish Secretary  
Sr. Mary Anne Yanz, O.P.  
Director of Religious Education  
Web-site [www.stirenaeuschurch.com](http://www.stirenaeuschurch.com)  
E-Mail [stirenaeus@archchicago.org](mailto:stirenaeus@archchicago.org)

**Church Stewardship**

**Budget Information - 12**

<b>Budget Information</b>	<b>\$4,650.00</b>
September 20 Collection	\$4,077.00
Thank you to the 136 families who used their stewardship envelopes last weekend.	
Money collected\envelopes	\$3,479.00
Loose Money	\$598.00

Budget Year to Date	\$55,800.00
Actual Income Year to Date	\$51,469.94

**09/10 Budget Shortage (\$4,330.06)**

<b>Maintenance Fund Sept. 20</b>	<b>\$297.00</b>
<b>Maintenance Fund YTD</b>	<b>\$6,530.00</b>
<b>Collections Prior Fiscal Yrs.</b>	<b>\$325,363.00</b>
<b>Total Collections</b>	<b>\$331,893.00</b>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$269,616.83</b>

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

**Welcome to St. Irenaeus Church**

78 Cherry St.  
Park Forest, IL 60466  
Rectory Phone, 748-6891

We are pleased to have you celebrate God’s Eucharist with us. Place this completed form in the offering basket.

( ) I am new to this area and interested in joining the parish.  
( ) I would like more information about the parish’s \_\_\_\_\_ ministry.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**“Humankind fully alive is God truly glorified.” St. Irenaeus**