St. Irene Faith Community

AUGUST 25, 2019

Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough.

Luke 13:24

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
NEW PARISHIONERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME! Call or come to the Parish Center to register.

BAPTISMS: Dates for Baptism will be arranged after attending the Pre-Baptismal Catechesis. Please call Annette in the Parish Office for information.

MARRIAGES: Call Annette in the Parish Office to arrange preparation 6 months in advance.

SICK CALLS: Call Annette in the Parish Office and Ministers of Care will visit the sick or shut-in.

RECONCILIATION: Saturday 4:20-4:40PM in the Reconciliation Room.

FOOD PANTRY: Our pantry is open Wednesdays from 9AM-12PM. Call 630.393.2400 x 112.

FUNERALS: The Pastoral Staff works with families to plan the Funeral Mass.

SMALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES: Call Dwight Sherman at 630.393.3221 or 630.362.1324.

CRISIS PRAYER CHAIN: Contact Deacon Joe Urso at 630.853.2070 at joe.urso@outlook.com.
The wonderful diversity of life and worship among Roman Catholics of East and West is an example of God writing straight with crooked lines. The steady hand of the villainous Emperor Diocletian drew a line across Europe and Africa that split the empire in two, and for the most part determined how Christians would worship two thousand later.

Italy’s heel and the far northern city of Trieste fell on the Eastern side, and have had a form of Eastern liturgy ever since. Constantinople, which soon became the seat of the Roman Empire, became a base for Christianizing the East up to Russia and Poland. Poland was on the Eastern side, but a series of wars and medieval mayhem pushed the religious boundary back to the Ukraine, and Poland remains an outpost of the Latin Church to this day.

An old rule of thumb declared that whatever religion was observed by the local prince, the people had to follow. This gave rise to persecution and migration as people sought toleration for their expressions of faith. In the United States, we are accustomed to peaceful collaboration among Christians of East and West, a situation that challenges churches that still feel the pinch of age-old division.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.
What is the R.C.I.A.?
The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults—it is the way the Catholic Church welcomes new members.

Who is it for?
Primarily this Rite is for unbaptized adults and children of school age; however, it has been adapted for those adults and children baptized in other Christian denominations who seek membership in the Catholic Church.

What about baptized Catholics who have not received the Sacraments of Confirmation or Eucharist?
Adults seeking these Sacraments will be evaluated on an individual basis.

Christian Initiation is the responsibility of the entire faith community. If you are interested in becoming active in this dynamic ministry, phone Annette at 630.393.2400 x 122 for information.

Inquiry sessions: These sessions are ongoing.
Adults who are interested in completing the sacraments of Christian Initiation or who would like information about the process of becoming a Catholic Christian, contact Annette at annette@st-irene.org or 630.393.2400 x 122.

Reading I: Isaiah 66:18-21
♦ People will gather in God’s name from all the nations.

Background: This reading refers to a time when the people of Israel believed they could remain faithful to the covenant by separating from people who were not chosen. The point is made that all humankind will worship in Jerusalem. Some Gentiles would even serve as priests and Levites, which was unheard of in the religious belief of the time.

Reading II: Hebrews 12:57, 11-13
♦ Your trials in life bring you strength.

Background: By designating Christians as children of God, the author of today’s Letter to the Hebrews makes an important point. Like the divine Son, disciples share in the glory of God through the cross. In this passage, human suffering is interpreted as evidence that God is disciplining the children He loves to bring them to maturity.

♦ Some who are last will be first, and some who are first will be last.

Background: The Gospel reading is a collection of warnings to disciples to be faithful and prepared. The image of a narrow door indicates the difficulties involved in following Jesus. Table fellowship is a primary sign of discipleship. To eat with Jesus is to share His life; to share His life is to share His cross.

Theme: Following Jesus calls us to risk and not always take the easy road.

Question for Adults:
As you wrestle with today’s Gospel, what signs do you see in your own life that you are “with God.”

Question for Youth:
Of all the things that Jesus tells us about the way that we are to live our lives, what is the hardest thing for you to do? Why?

Question for Children:
How do you show that you are a follower of Jesus?
Catholic Charismatic Healing Mass

This Mass will take place at St. Margaret Mary Church in Naperville on Friday, August 30th. Sacrament of Reconciliation will begin at 6:30PM followed by Mass at 7:30PM. For more information, please call Joey Rose at 630.926.6576.

Thank you to everyone who donated so generously to the school supply collection in July. Your generosity helped more than 90 children from our community obtain the tools they need for a successful school year. The block party, held each year at Johnson school, is an event sponsored by the churches of Warrenville and coordinated by Warrenville Youth and Family Services. Together with our partner churches, over 300 bags of supplies were distributed. The Lord said, “whatever you do for the least of my people, you do for me”. The Lord truly smiles on you today.

Remember our Faithful Departed in your Prayers

♦ Pat Elliott
Father of Dolly Pointner
This Week’s Meetings

**Sunday, August 25**

- 1-2:30p - Adult Education: Come Holy Spirit (ACL)
- 5-6:30p - Volleyball Practice (ACU)
- 7-8:30p - CCW Craft Fair Meeting (ACL)
- 7-8:30p - Adult Education: Come Holy Spirit (Chapel)

**Monday, August 26**

- 3-5p - Volleyball Practice (ACU)
- 6-8:30p - Catechist Appreciation Dinner (ACL)

**Tuesday, August 27**

- 3-5p - Volleyball Practice (ACU)
- 6-8:30p - Adult Education: Come Holy Spirit (ACU)
- 5-6:30p - Volleyball Practice (ACU)
- 7-8:30p - Adult Education: Come Holy Spirit (Chapel)

**Wednesday, August 28**

- 3-5p - Volleyball Practice (ACU)
- 6-8:30p - Catechist Appreciation Dinner (ACL)

**Thursday, August 29**

- 3-4:30p - Volleyball Practice (ACU)

**Friday, August 30**

**Saturday, August 31**

**Sunday, September 1**

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**OCTOBER 12th**

**FATIMA ROSARY PRAYER RALLY**

St. Irene is partnering again with St. Thomas for this year’s **Fatima Rosary Prayer Rally**, Saturday, October 12th at 12PM. On that day, it’s anticipated 23,000 Prayer Chains will be created across the country. 225 people signed up last year, and we’re hoping to top that number! All who participated the past two years will agree that the 40-minute Prayer Event was a most blessed experience. This year we will be praying the Sorrowful Mysteries. There are 11 Prayer Stations to choose from, set up along a route connecting both parishes. We’re excited to continue the tradition of praying the Rosary **en español** at Station #8. Please join us in responding to the pleas of Our Lord and Blessed Mother, as we pray for the Conversion of sinners and World Peace. Check the Bulletin and Parish Website for more details. Sign up via email at fatimarosaryrally@gmail.com or in the Narthex.

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**Catechist Appreciation Dinner**

**Tuesday, August 27th**

6PM in St. Irene ACL

Our Catechists’ are worth their weight in Gold!

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Please join us on Wednesday, September 11 at 7PM for this special Mass of the Holy Spirit.

We call upon the Holy Spirit to rain down the gifts of wisdom, counsel, knowledge, understanding, fortitude, piety and fear of the Lord. We praise God for the presence of the Holy Spirit in our people at St. Irene; those who perform community service; ministers at Mass; fundraisers; ministry leaders and participants; every person who worships God in our community. All of the many gifts and talents freely given by God are returned to Him with the gifts our time, talent and treasure.

**This is the Christian service that is at the heart of discipleship.**

Every person, every gift makes St. Irene Parish and School a warm, welcoming, loving community of faith drawing others to Christ. It is fitting that we celebrate service on this date, the 18th anniversary of the September 11th attacks on our beloved nation. It is fitting that we honor those servants who selflessly gave everything in the service of others. It is fitting to reflect on the tremendous blessing given to those who serve with a servant's heart.

The Lord said, “Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.” Colossians 3:23-24

**Come celebrate who we are as a Catholic Community!**
St. Irene Vocation Prayer

In every age Lord, You raise up women and men who are strong in their faith and bold in their actions to give witness to the Gospel. Fill St. Irene Parish Community with Your Spirit and give us a burning desire to make a difference in our world. Because of our love for You, Bless our Church with holy and courageous priests, deacons, religious sisters and brothers, devoted married couples, dedicated single men and women, and enthusiastic youth. We ask this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Liturgical Calendar

Monday, August 26
Weekday
7:00AM - For the Men & Women in the Military

Tuesday, August 27
St. Monica
7:00AM - Elsie Simon/ Family

Wednesday, August 28
St. Augustine
7:00AM - Charles Lagrutta/ Cathy Kott

Thursday, August 29
The Passion of St. John the Baptist
7:00AM - Vivienne Bryant/ Friends
7:30AM - Eucharistic Adoration

Friday, August 30
St. Rose of Lima
7:00AM - Deacon John Cozzens/ St. Irene Community
8:15AM - St. Irene Faith Community

Saturday, August 31
Vigil: 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
5:00PM - Renewal of Vows
Brian & Mary Jean Lynch
Craig Farmer/ Mom & Dad
Frank & Jean Palka/ Tina & Wally Sajdak

Sunday, September 1
Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00AM - Sr. Rosie Eck, CSJ/ Friends
10:00AM - Joyce LaDeur/ Annette

Readings for the Week

Monday: 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b; Mt 23:13-22
Tuesday: 1 Thes 2:1-8; Ps 139:1-6; Mt 23:23-26
Wednesday: 1 Thes 2:9-13; Ps 139:7-12ab; Mt 23:27-32
Thursday: 1 Thes 3:7-13; Ps 71:1-4a, 5-6ab, 15ab, 17; Mk 6:17-29
Friday: 1 Thes 4:1-8; Ps 97:1, 2b, 5-6, 10-12; Mt 25:1-13
Saturday: 1 Thes 4:9-11; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Mt 25:14-30
Sunday: Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29; Ps 68:4-7, 10-11; Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a; Lk 14:1, 7-14

Flu Shots will be offered after Masses in the ACL on Sunday, September 8th. The event is hosted by the Knights of Columbus and sponsored by Walgreens. Pharmacist and Brother Knight Michael Fellow will offering the Flu Shots.