

Irenaeus Newsletter



June '24

From the desk



Just recently, I was invited to a meeting to share the silence. We were given name badges and then we sat down. A bell was rung and the chatter stopped as each person introduced themselves. When that was done, a song was played and we entered into the silence together. As time went on, one man began to weep. He didn't say why but others held his hand in the silence and I felt a shift take place within as I realised that this was sacred ground, and even without words, his vulnerability was leading us deeply into the mystery of God.

The hidden secret in the scriptures is this call to intimacy. It is only revealed when we stop hiding from ourselves, from God and from at least one other person. Who is your soul mate? To whom do you reveal the inner most secrets of your heart? The risk to do that enables one to enter into the mystery of another person and of course into the mystery of God who lives deeply within humanity. Suddenly you know that you are on holy ground, that the moment is sacred, and that God is present. That's why at Irenaeus we spend so much time walking with the weak, the vulnerable and the needy. Their lives are holy ground. We find the Scriptures and prayer are the source of all we try to do so why not come and join us at some of our events or just pop in to see us. *Chris*

WHAT'S ON AT A GLANCE

COME AND SEE DAYS

10:30am - 4pm
6th July '24

CRAFT WORKSHOPS

13th May & 10th June '24
(booking essential)

AGAPE MASS @ IRENAEUS

4th July '24

SCRIPTURE MORNINGS

10:30am - 12noon
4th, 11th, 18th & 25th July

WOMEN'S WEEKEND

'Mary in a Martha's world'
14th - 16th June '24

ST. IRENAEUS FEAST DAY GARDEN PARTY

28th June '24
5pm Mass followed by the garden party

For more information about all our events contact
jenny@irenaeus.co.uk or Tel: 0151 949 1199



Celebrating St. Irenaeus Feast at the Irenaeus Project

Great Georges Road, Waterloo, L22 1RD

Friday 28th June

Starting with Mass at 5:00pm

followed by refreshments

and a

Summer Garden Fayre

with a variety of stalls



All are welcome

Tombolas



Raffle

Cakes

Crafts



The Irenaeus Project
the glory of God is a person fully alive

www.irenaeus.co.uk

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*Moira's
Meanderings*



On 28th June we will celebrate our feast day, the day that we remember the life of St. Irenaeus. I was reading about St. Irenaeus recently, he was made a Doctor of Unity in 2022 by Pope Francis who identified him as a link between the church of the East and the West. Pope Benedict XVI, previously, when speaking about Irenaeus said, 'St. Irenaeus decisively claimed the original holiness of matter, of the body, of the flesh no less than of the Spirit.'. The phrase, 'the Glory of God is a person fully alive' attributed to Irenaeus, is a wonderful phrase. It acknowledges the power of the Incarnation and our call to live the Gospel. The question for me is, 'what makes us fully alive?' Maybe it is to be free of all unnecessary distraction, to live in hope and to have God at the centre of all that we do. A challenge for many of us.

A WOMEN'S WEEKEND AT IRENAEUS

Mary in a world of Martha?



14th – 16th June 2024

Limited Residential places available For more information
At The Irenaeus Centre Contact
Great Georges Rd. jenny@irenaeus.co.uk
Waterloo, Liverpool L22 1RD. 0151 949 1199

What do I define as human?

(Joan Chittister)

What do I believe in?

What do I define as human?

I believe in the pursuit of the spiritual, in the presence to pain, and the sacredness of life. Without these, life is useless and humanity is a farce.

To be human it is necessary, perhaps, to think again about what matters in life, to ask always what is, is.

To be human is to listen to the rest of the world with a tender heart, and learn to live life with our arms open and our souls seared with a sense of responsibility for everything that is.



Without a doubt, given those criteria, we may indeed not live the "better life," but we may in the end, at least have lived a fully human one.

"Human nature will only find itself when it fully realizes that to be human it has to cease to be beastly or brutal."

— Mahatma Gandhi



EUCCHARISTIC MINISTRY TRAINING DAY

5th October 2024

**We will be leading a Eucharistic ministry training day
at Irenaeus.**

Parishes are invited to book places by emailing

jenny@irenaeus.co.uk

or Tel: 0151 949 1199





Richard Rohr reflects on what it is to become fully human and recognise God more clearly in our lives. He quotes James Finley as saying, “The greatest teacher of God’s presence in our life *is our life.*” and continues: for some reason, it is easier to attend church services than quite simply to reverence *the Real*—the “practice of the presence of God,” as some saints have called it. Making this commitment doesn’t demand a lot of dogmatic wrangling or managerial support, just vigilance, desire, and willingness to begin again and again. Living and accepting our reality will not feel very spiritual. It will feel like we are on the edges rather than dealing with the essence. That’s why many run toward more esoteric and dramatic postures instead of *bearing the mystery of God’s suffering and God’s joy inside themselves.* But the edges of our lives—fully experienced, suffered, and enjoyed—lead us back to the centre and the essence, which is Love.

We do not find our own centre; it finds us. Our own mind will not be able to figure it out. We collapse back into the Truth only when we are spiritually naked and free—which is probably not very often. *We do not think ourselves into new ways of living. We live ourselves into new ways of thinking.* In other words, our journeys around and through our realities lead us to *the core Reality*, where we meet both our truest self and our truest God. We do not really know what it means to be human unless we know God. And, in turn, we do not really know God except through our own broken and rejoicing humanity.

COUNSELLING AND BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

Are you struggling with life? Do you need some support? We have trained counsellors who can help. Call in on a Wednesday morning to speak with someone.

COME AND SEE



6th July 2024

THE POWER OF WELCOME

Led by Richard McKay

Bring a packed lunch

Suggested donation £10

For more information contact
jenny@irenaeus.co.uk or tel: 0151 949 1199

This then is my prayer...

An exploration of the letter to the Ephesians led by Chris

10:30am - 12 noon Thursdays

4th, 11th, 18th & 25th July 2024

At the Irenaeus Centre, Great Georges Rd L22

“We are not human beings having a spiritual experience. We are spiritual beings having a human experience.”



Teilhard de Chardin

SUPPORT FOR THE DIVORCED AND SEPARATED

The Restored Lives course is run over six weeks, one evening per week.

The talks cover the key issues to help you to move on and highlight the practical steps and tools to enable you to tackle the issues that arise from separation and divorce.



For more information contact Maureen
0767753371

The Irenaeus Centre and St Thomas' Oratory



WARM AND COSY!
CALL IN FOR A CUPPA AND A CHAT
KEEP WARM AND ENJOY THE COMPANY
We are open 10am - 4pm Monday - Thursday

Join us for Mass 12 Noon every Wednesday

OTHER ACTIVITIES

ART AND MEDITATION
Thursdays 2-4pm

KNIT AND NATTER
Tuesday 10.30 - 12 noon

GODLY PLAY
Creative time of prayer
Tuesday 12 Noon

TAI CHI
Tuesdays 1:15pm - 2pm

PRAYER FOR HEALING
Mondays 2pm - 3pm

COUNSELLING
Wednesdays 10am - 2pm

'SONGS WE REMEMBER'
SING-A-LONG
2pm, 2nd and 4th
Wednesday of the month
(Dementia friendly)

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT
Thursdays 1:15pm - 2pm

