

St. Irene Church

181 East Street, Carlisle MA 01741
(978) 369-3940 • info@StIrenes.org
Visit our website at www.StIrenes.org



Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
March 2nd, 2014

Mass Schedule

Daily

Monday – Saturday 9:00 am

Saturday Vigil

5:00 pm

Sunday

8:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 5:00 pm

Confessions

Saturday 4:00 - 4:45 pm

Liturgical Events

Mass Intentions

Lisa Trebino

10th Anniversary Mass

Sunday, March 2 at 11 am

Sandra Cotroneo

Healing Mass

Thursday, March 6 at 9 am

William Conway

1st Anniversary Mass

Sunday, March 9 at 11 am

Young Adult Mass

Our Young Adult Contemporary Mass will be this Sunday, March 2 at 5:00 pm. If you would like to sing or play an instrument at this Mass, please join us in the church at 4:00 for a rehearsal. For more information, please e-mail Cypriana at Music@stirenes.org. We look forward to having you join us!

The Pastor's Corner

This Wednesday is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the season of Lent. The ashes we receive are a symbol – a reminder of our mortality and also a sign of repentance. Lent has always been a spiritual time in our church. During these days we prepare for our greatest feast – Easter Sunday, the days of the Resurrection of Jesus. Lent is a time of prayer, penance and good works. For many years the emphasis was on fasting. As children we gave up candy or ice cream or some other treat. For adults, the Lenten fast was a strict abstaining from food. Its purpose was twofold – to do penance for our sins and to discipline ourselves to resist temptations. The Church does not impose this strict fast any longer. Instead, we are to choose whatever enables us to overcome our faults and to grow spiritually. It may be prayer or fasting. It may be service to others, daily Mass or acts of charity. We invite you to use this special season to become a better person and a better Catholic Christian.

– Fr. Tom Donohoe

Children's Liturgy

Our Children's Liturgy will be celebrated this Sunday, March 2 at the 8:00 and 11:00 am Masses.

Ash Wednesday

The Season of Lent begins this Wednesday, March 5th. Masses for Ash Wednesday will be celebrated at 9:00 am and 7:30 pm. A Prayer Service will be held at 4:00 pm. Ashes will be blessed and distributed at these services.

Season of Lent

Lent is a time for spiritual renewal in our lives. It is a season of repentance calling us once again to a change of heart.

It is a special time of prayer and fasting: a time of penance and charity towards our neighbors. Lent is that special time when we prepare for our greatest feast – The Resurrection of the Lord on Easter Sunday.

Lent is a period of special penitential observance. Every Friday of Lent is a day of abstinence. On those days, adult Catholics over age 14 may not eat meat.

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting for Catholics between the ages of 18 and 60 years of age.

Religious Education

Religious Education News

Classes will resume for grades K-5 on Sunday, March 2.

The 8th grade classes will be Hosting both the 8 & 11am Masses on Sunday, March 2.

The Peer Leadership Group will be Hosting the "Mardi Gras" celebration for grades K-5 on March 9.

The 6th, 7th & 8th grades will be having their Mardi Gras Celebration on Monday, March 3. This special 2 hour class will begin with Mass and then followed with a Pizza Party and "Lenten Stations" in the Parish Hall. Please note the SPECIAL START TIME OF 6 PM for Mass. Pick up will be at the usual time of 8 pm.

Attention 6th grade students

Rehearsals for the 6th grade presentation of the Living Stations of the Cross begin on Monday, March 17th. There are **3 mandatory rehearsals**: March 17th, 24th and 31st. Rehearsals will be held at the regularly scheduled class time 7:00-8:00 pm. It

takes three rehearsals to prepare the students to depict the stations. For rehearsals students should meet in the church upstairs NOT the classroom. Pick up will be from upstairs in the Church. The sixth grade students will present the Living Stations of the Cross on Sunday, April 6th from 9:00-10:00am followed by a 7th grade hosted breakfast in the Parish Hall. This is a family event and all are invited to attend!

Healthy Choices / Safe Kids Grades 7 & 8 Dating and Safety Retreat

The annual 7th and 8th grade "Healthy Choices/Safe Kids Retreat" will take place on Sunday, March 23 from 11:30 am to 4:00 pm in the Parish Hall. Students and parents are strongly encouraged to attend. A light lunch will be served. Please RSVP to Eileen Faber at reled@Stlrenes.org.

Parish Happenings

Stations of the Cross

Women's Club – Soup and Bread

The Season of Lent is fast approaching. Ash Wednesday is the 5th of March. On Friday the 7th, prior to the Stations of the Cross, we will have our first "Soup & Bread" repast in the Parish Hall. This Lenten event hosted by the Women's Club will run from 5:30 pm and continue until 7:00 pm so as to give people ample time to enjoy their meal before going upstairs for the stations. The next Soup and Bread will be on Friday, April 11th. *Please note the corrected date!* All are invited and encouraged to attend.

Women's Club Italian Dinner

On March 22nd the Women's Club will be host to an evening of "ITALIAN CUISINE" starting at 6:15 pm. Tickets will be on sale the weekends of March 8th and March 15th - adults are \$15, children \$10. Seating is limited so purchase your tickets early. Come in out of the cold and enjoy a fine home cooked repast! Any questions, please email womensclub@Stlrenes.org for more information. We ask members of the club to bring a "sweet" dish for the dessert table.

Knights of Columbus Retreat – March 25th

The Knights of Columbus have scheduled a men's retreat on Tuesday, March 25th at the St. Benedict Abbey in Still River, MA. St. Benedict Abbey is located at 252 Still River Rd. in Still River. It will begin at 6:00 pm and finish at 9:00 pm. and will include a Benediction, Gregorian Chant, supper, meditation, and a visit to the relic chapel. All men of St. Irene Church are welcome. The cost is \$25 per person. Those wishing to car pool should plan to leave the Saint Irene's parking lot no later than 5:00 pm. If you are a man of at least 18 years of age and would like to spend a relaxing evening in prayer and meditation, please join us. There will be a Knight at the back of the church after each Mass until March 23rd if you have any questions.

2014 Catholic Appeal

This week Catholics across the Archdiocese are being asked to make a commitment to support the 2014 Catholic Appeal. Ministries supported by the Appeal have a direct impact on the administration and evangelization efforts at St. Irene's as well as at the 287 other parishes in our Archdiocese. Your generous support and participation is critical to the success of the 2014 Catholic Appeal at St. Irene's and helps move us forward in hope as we seek to better embody the Gospel message in our lives. Please complete a pledge form available in the back of the Church or pledge online at www.bostoncatholicappeal.org/. Thank you for your prayers and support for a successful Catholic Appeal.

Follow-up on Ministry Sunday Responses

Post cards went out this past week to the adults and children who volunteered on Ministry Sunday last fall. We apologize for the delay. The good news is that many of you volunteered; the bad news is that processing the data was very time-consuming. Lists have been sent to the coordinators of each of the ministries. If you are a new volunteer for a particular ministry, the coordinator will be in touch shortly. Thanks to everyone who volunteered for helping to make St. Irene's such a vibrant community!

Save the Date! New Parish Directory

St. Irene Church along with Lifetouch Photography will be creating a new photo directory this spring. Parishioner photos will be taken in the parish hall on:

Friday, April 11th from 2 - 9 pm

Saturday, April 12th from 10 am - 5 pm

Friday, May 9th from 2-9 pm

Saturday, May 10th from 10 am - 5 pm

Signups will be available through the St. Irene website. You can register at www.stirenes.org/communitylife/parishactivities. In addition we are seeking volunteers to help with signups at the back of the Church following the weekend Masses of March 15/16. Please call the Rectory if you are available (978)369-3940.

St. Andrew Dinner - March 25th 6- 8 pm

Calling all High School young men, Cardinal Sean is hosting the St. Andrew Dinner at St. John's Seminary March 25th from 6 to 8 pm. This is an informal dinner which consists of conversation with seminarians, evening prayer, and vocation witness stories. It a great opportunity to explore one of many career choices you have. If you are interested in attending please email info@StIrenes.org with the subject line St. Andrews Dinner. Please respond by March 18th. Deacon Charlie will be providing transportation from the parish to the dinner and back.

Parish Library Displays

Please see our displays of Lenten books in the back of the Church as well as in the Parish Hall Library Room 6. Register now and enjoy the many wonderful books in our Parish Library. The library is open whenever the Church is open but not during religious education classes.

Who's Got the Beat?

We are looking into purchasing a "Drum Box" to use at the monthly Contemporary Masses, but we need a drummer to play it! If you are a drummer/percussionist who is interested in joining the music ministry and playing at the Contemporary Masses, please drop me a

line at music@StIrenes.org. It's lots of fun to play and would enhance the music, too!

Parish Pastoral Council

The Parish Pastoral Council will next meet on Sunday, March 9th at 7:00 pm.

The Way of St. James with Fr. Romain April 25 – May 5

Come and join Fr. Romain Rurangirwa and Kristen Walker on a pilgrimage to The Way of St. James, El Camino, Spain this spring. The trip begins on April 25th and concludes on May 5th. The tour departs from New York and will include visits to Madrid, Foncabadon, Iron Cross, O Cebreiro, Sarria, Portomarmin, Palas de Rei, Arzua, Arca do Pino, Monte do Gozo and Santiago de Compostela. For more information, please call 800-206-8687.

Adoration & Benediction

Take a break from the world's demands and rest in the Lord! All are invited every Tuesday at 7:30 pm to Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, followed by Benediction. First Tuesdays of the month include periods for silent prayer, recitation of the Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy and finish at 9:00 pm. All other Tuesdays include the Liturgy of the Hours, silent prayer, the Litany of the Blessed Sacrament, and conclude at 8:30 pm. Please contact Mary Ellen Bakken at adoration@StIrenes.org for more information.

Offertory Report

The weekly offertory increased by 22% from last year. The total weekly and monthly offertory since May 12, 2013 has increased by 17.5%. Thank you for your continuing support.

Church in Africa, Central & Eastern Europe

The collection on Ash Wednesday supports the Church in Africa and in Central and Eastern Europe. These collections help train Church leaders of tomorrow, help needy families materially and spiritually, rebuild churches that have fallen, and support the sisters and brothers who have suffered for the faith. For more information

please visit www.usccb.org/about/national-collections/.

Financial Information

Offertory	\$6,484
Offertory YTD	\$49,742
Monthly YTD	\$4,617

The collection on Ash Wednesday is for the Church in Africa, Central & Eastern Europe.

St. Irene Staff:

Pastor:

Reverend Thomas P. Donohoe

Parochial Vicar:

Reverend Romain Rurangirwa

Resident:

Reverend Augustin Vondou

Permanent Deacons:

Deacon Dean Bulpett
Deacon Charles Ferraro

Music Director:

Cypriana Coelho

Religious Education Coordinator:

Eileen Faber

Confirmation Coordinator:

Frank de Alderete

Religious Education

Grades K-5: Sunday 9:00 – 9:50 am
Sunday 10:00 – 10:50 am

Grades 6-8: Monday 7:00 – 8:00 pm

Youth Ministry

Sunday 6:00 – 8:15 pm

Baptism Catechesis

Last Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm. Please call the rectory to register.

Baptisms

Sundays, 2nd and 4th of each month at 1:00 pm.

Weddings

Contact Pastor 6 months in advance.