



St. Irene Church

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

First Sunday of Lent
March 9th, 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

Dorothea Murphy – Memorial Mass

Saturday, March 15 at 5 pm

Jane Buchanec - 10th Anniversary Mass

Joseph Buchanec - 45th Anniversary Mass

Sunday, March 16 at 8 am

Vigino Guardino - Memorial Mass

Sunday, March 16 at 11 am

Liturgical Events

Mass Intentions

Maria Kowalska - 21st Anniversary Mass

Saturday, March 8 at 5 pm

William Conway - 1st Anniversary Mass

Sunday, March 9 at 11 am

Jay Hagman - Memorial Mass

Sunday, March 9 at 5 pm

John J. Sullivan, Jr – Memorial Mass

Monday, March 10 at 9 am

Meghan & Christine O'Brien

Mass of Thanksgiving

Wednesday, March 12 at 9 am

Paul Dumont - 4th Anniversary Mass

Charlene Parlee - Birthday Mass

Thursday, March 13 at 9 am

Jay Hagman - Memorial Mass

Friday, March 14 at 9 am

Angelica King-Shaw

Quinceanera Celebration

Saturday, March 15 at 3 pm

The Pastor's Corner

Each year on the first Sunday of Lent, we recall the beginning of Jesus' ministry. Saint Matthew tells us that Jesus was led into the desert to be tempted. These forty days were a time of prayer and fasting as Jesus prepared for his public ministry. When tempted to the sin of pride, Jesus replied – "It is written, 'One does not live on bread alone, but in every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.'"

The season of Lent is for us a time of prayer and fasting. It is the time each year when we prepare to celebrate our greatest feast – Easter, the day of Jesus' Resurrection. For us it is a time to reflect on our lives and the purpose of life, to correct our faults, to renew our faith. We prepare for the Easter celebration when we will renew our baptismal promises to walk with Christ in the newness of life.

– Fr. Tom Donohoe

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.

Thank You

We thank the 8th Grade students for hosting the 8:00 and 11:00 am Masses last Sunday. Great Job!

Stations of the Cross

Women's Club – Soup and Bread

Stations of the Cross will be offered during Lent on Friday, April 11th at 7:30 pm. Prior to the service, the Women's Club will be serving complimentary bread and soup in the Parish Hall from 5:30 – 7:00 pm. Please join us for this Lenten devotion.

Religious Education

Religious Education News

Classes will be held for grades K-5 this Sunday, March 9. Session I is from 9:00-9:50 am. Session II is from 10:00-10:50 pm. There will be classes for grades 6-8 on Monday, March 10 from 7- 8pm

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

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 stu-

dents 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@StIrenes.org.

Parish Happenings

Parish Pastoral Council

The Parish Pastoral Council will meet this Sunday, March 9 at 7:00 pm in the rectory.

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, email womensclub@StIrenes.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

As Christians, we have the call to reflect the love of Christ in our own lives. Your support of the 2014 Catholic Appeal helps countless people through 50 ministries of the Archdiocese of Boston. If you have not yet participated in the 2014 Appeal, information is available at the back of the Church or www.bostoncatholicappeal.org/.

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 for picture appointments will be available through the St. Irene website 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 to help (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 18. 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.

Family Prayer for Vocations Icon

St. Irene's has a beautiful new icon of Christ the High Priest which will go each month to a family wishing to host it to pray for religious vocations as well as discern God's will in their lives. The kit includes the icon, a stand, a votive candle, a booklet of prayers, questions to help your family discern what God may want them to do with their lives, some scripture references, and more. Also included is a prayer card listing the current seminarians, so you can pray for them by name if you wish. Please join us in this beautiful initiative to pray for priestly vocations and to guide and bless us all in our vocation in life. To sign up contact Mary Ellen Bakken at vocations@StIrenes.org.

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

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, Foncebadon, 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.

Caring Friends Network

If you know of a parishioner who is in need of a meal, a ride to church or a Get Well or Sympathy card, let us know. We have volunteers who have signed on to help a fellow parishioner in need. Please contact: caring@StIrenes.org.

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.

College Planning

If you and your family are starting a college search please check St. Irene's website for a list of many Catholic colleges in the US at www.stirenes.org/faithformation/catholiceducation/colleges.html.

Offertory Report

The weekly offertory increased by 23% from last year. The total weekly and monthly offertory since May 12, 2013 has increased by 16.7%. Thank you for your continuing support.

Area Events

Special Needs & Family Bowling

On Sunday, April 6, the Knights of Columbus will sponsor their Spring Bowling Event for children of Special Needs and their families. It will be held at Collins Bowladrome in Billerica from 1:00 – 3:00 pm. The event includes Duckpin bowling, which is followed by Pizza. Interested families are asked to register for this **free event** by emailing Ken Desilets at kgdesigned@gmail.com before April 1.

Financial Information

Offertory	\$8,006
Offertory YTD	\$57,748
Monthly YTD	\$4,647

The collection for the Church in Africa, Central & Eastern Europe amounted to \$1,305.

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.