



St. Irene Church

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

Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 30th, 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

Frances Kaduboski

Memorial Mass

Saturday, March 29 at 5 pm

Francesca Tranfaglia

Memorial Mass

Sunday, March 30 at 11 am

John Patti

Memorial Mass

Tuesday, April 1 at 9 am

Raymond Briere

Memorial Mass

Sunday, April 6 at 8 am

Gioi Vu

Memorial Mass

Sunday, April 6 at 11 am

Children's Liturgy

The 3rd grade classes will be hosting the 8 and 11 am Masses this Sunday, March 30th.

The Pastor's Corner

Today we reach the mid-point of the season of Lent. It is a good time to evaluate our observance of the special season of grace. What have I done to grow spiritually? If we have not done much, it is not too late. The Church encourages us to practice three disciplines in Lent – Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving. Our prayer may be attending morning Mass or taking time to reflect on the meditations in the “Living Faith” booklets. (The spring edition is available at the church exits.) Fasting can be giving up food or TV or something else we enjoy. It could be a greater effort to give up some fault in our lives. Almsgiving is really sharing with others – our time, our talent, our treasure. Lent is our preparation for our greatest feast – Easter Sunday. The Resurrection of the Lord Jesus and the new life we share with the Risen Lord. Lent prepares us for the renewal of our Baptismal promises on Easter Sunday and our renewed life as disciples of Jesus.

– 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.

The Light is On For You

You are invited! Please come and experience Christ's healing love and celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The Church is open on Wednesdays during Lent from 7-8 pm on April 2nd, 9th and 16th. Please visit www.thelightisonforyou.org/ for more information on the Sacrament of Penance.

Rwanda Mass

"That time has come again, when Rwanda remembers the atrocities of the Genocide against Tutsis. It all started on April 7, 1994 and claimed more than a million lives just in 100 days. Some of us lost our entire families; many of us were left orphaned or widowed, others were physically handicapped and all of us were emotionally wounded. Twenty years on, and we still remember as if it was yesterday."

On April 7 at 6:00 pm we will have a Mass of Commemoration to celebrate the lives of those who perished during the Genocide against Tutsis in 1994. After Mass we will gather in the Parish Hall to share the stories of our loved ones, who are now shining like bright stars in heaven.

If you plan to attend the gathering after Mass, please call the rectory at (978)369-3940 to RSVP so that we can plan accordingly. Thank you.

*Grace, Peace and Blessings to you all,
Fr. Romain*

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

servicing 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 1-5 this Sunday, March 30. 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 31 from 7- 8 pm.

Religious Ed. Classes for Grades 6-8 will be cancelled on April 7, 2014 due to the Memorial Mass/Reception being held for the Rwandan community. Classes will resume on Monday, April 14. We appreciate your understanding. Please pray for those at rest and the survivors. Thank you.

Living Stations of the Cross - Family Event

On Sunday, April 6th Religious Education students from both sessions I & II will attend *The Living Stations of the Cross* in lieu of the regular class time. The sixth grade students will present ONE presentation at 9:00 am in the Church. Teachers and students should meet upstairs in the church. The pews will be marked by grade. **Parents should remain present** to escort their children down to the Parish Hall for a simple breakfast and beverages. *All are welcome to attend!* We invite you to enter into the Stations where you come to know Jesus more intimately.

Attention 6th grade students

There is **one more mandatory rehearsal** on March 31 for the Living Stations of the Cross. The rehearsal will be held at the regularly scheduled class time from 7:00-8:00 pm. Rehearsal 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 9:00-10:00 am followed by a 7th grade hosted breakfast in the Parish Hall. This is a family event and all are invited to attend!

Parish Happenings

Easter Flowers

If you wish to make a donation for Easter Flowers in memory of a loved one or in honor of someone, please place your donation of \$5 or more along with the name of the person to be remembered or honored in an envelope. It can be placed in the collection basket or sent to the rectory office.

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/. You may also call the Rectory (978) 369-3940 and speak with the parish secretary to set up an appointment. Lifetouch is sponsoring a food drive - "Feed the Need." If you donate a non-perishable food item, you will receive \$5 off a portrait order.

Children's Choir Sings Again!

The Spring season of the Children's Choir has started, so please come and join us! The Children's Choir will sing at the monthly Family Masses, on Easter Sunday, and at the First Communion Mass. Rehearsals are Thursday evenings from 6:15-7:00. All children in grades K through 6 are welcome to join! For more information, please contact Cypriana at music@StIrenes.org.

Eucharistic Ministers Needed at Emerson Hospital

Were you hospitalized and someone brought you communion? Would you like to give back by becoming a Eucharistic Minister yourself? Perhaps you would like to consider trying this ministry of prayer and Eucharist?

This ministry entails just about 1-2 hours per month, two gatherings per year, and a

retreat for your support, faith sharing, prayer and a wonderful meal provided by the hospital. All of your questions can be answered by calling the Catholic healthcare chaplain, Timothy Duff, STM (978)287-3015, or email: tduff@emersonhosp.org. Please consider trying this ministry. You will receive training and support on an ongoing basis. Thank you.

2014 Catholic Appeal Update

Thank you to all the supporters of the 2014 Catholic Appeal. We truly appreciate your donations. St. Irene Parish has raised \$10,240 towards our goal of \$33,894 from 39 donors and families. If you have not yet contributed please consider a donation to the 2014 Catholic Appeal. There are donation envelopes at the back of the Church. Please visit www.BostonCatholicAppeal.com for more information. Thank you.

Women's Club – Trash to Treasure

Spring is right around the corner and with it comes "spring cleaning"! If you can put aside your "unwanted" items for the Women's Club Trash to Treasure in May now is the time to begin. A date will be announced later as to when you can begin bringing items to the rectory - **NO items will be accepted until a date is given.** Remember we do not accept clothing, electronics or large items such as furniture, appliances, etc. If you have any questions, please email womensclub@-StIrenes.org.

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.

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.

Tuesday 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 email Mary Ellen Bakken at adoration@StIrenes.org for more information.

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.

Offertory Report

The weekly offertory decreased by 31.5% from last year. The total weekly and monthly offertory since May 12, 2013 has increased by 12%. Thank you for your continuing support.

Area Events

Annual Spring Concert

Holy Family Parish in Concord, MA is happy to announce its next concert which will be held on Sunday, April 6 at 7:00 pm in the church at 12 Monument Square. The annual spring concert involves instrumentalists as well as the choirs from Holy Family Parish and West Concord Union Church. The joint choir is under the direction of Holy Family

Director of Music, Jim Barkovic. The combined choirs will present mostly a cappella music of the Lenten season, including works by Brahms, Bruckner, and Faure. There is no charge for this event but free will offerings are gratefully accepted.

Financial Information

Offertory	\$5791
Offertory YTD	\$74,422
Monthly YTD	\$7306

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.