



# St. Irene Church

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Visit our website at [www.StIrenes.org](http://www.StIrenes.org)

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## Fourth Sunday of Advent & Christmas Day December 21 & 25, 2014

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### Mass Schedule

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#### Daily

Monday – Saturday 9:00 am  
Saturday Vigil 5:00 pm

#### Sunday

8:00 am, 11:00 am, 5:00 pm

#### Confessions

Saturday 4:00 - 4:45 pm

### Liturgical Events

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#### Mass Intentions

- Salvatore Gentile – Anniversary Mass  
Saturday, December 20 at 5 pm
- James J. Burke – Memorial Mass  
Sunday, December 21 at 8 am
- Kevin McCarron – 11<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass  
Sunday, December 21 at 11 am
- Eleanor F. Reid – 37<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass  
Sunday, December 21 at 5 pm
- Allen Tibodeau – Memorial Mass  
Monday, December 22 at 9 am
- Jose Dias – Memorial Mass  
Tuesday, December 23 at 9 am
- Lorna Phillips  
Wednesday, December 24 at 9 am
- Claire Kelly – 17<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass  
Wednesday, December 24 at 4 pm
- Mary Macumber – 44<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass
- Robert W. Hommel – 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Mass  
Wednesday, December 24 at 5:30 pm
- Amy Caruso – Memorial Mass  
Thursday, December 25 at Midnight
- Jack Caires – 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass  
Thursday, December 25 at 11 am
- Amy Caruso – 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass  
Friday, December 26 at 9 am
- Chad Sullivan – Birthday Mass  
Saturday, December 27 at 9 am
- Helen and Raymond Critch  
Memorial Mass  
Sunday, December 28 at 8 am
- Jaroslav Pochyly – Memorial Mass  
Sunday, December 28 at 11 am
- Anthony DeFelice - Memorial Mass  
Wednesday, December 31 at 9 am
- Amy Caruso – Memorial Mass  
Wednesday, December 5 pm
- Norma Preece – 9<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass  
Thursday, January 1 at 11 am
- Gerard Forrester – 6<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass  
Saturday, January 3 at 9 am
- Francis Murphy – Memorial Mass  
Saturday, January 3 at 5 pm
- Raymond Briere – Memorial Mass  
Sunday, January 4 at 8 am
- Jose Dias – Memorial Mass  
Monday, January 5 at 9 am

## The Pastor's Corner

This Sunday we light the last purple candle on the Advent wreath. We look forward to our most loved feast day, Christmas. It is the day we celebrate the birth of Jesus – the Son of God becoming one of us to be our Lord and Savior. We celebrate in church with prayers, words and familiar songs beginning on Christmas Eve and concluding on Christmas Day. We celebrate at home with family and friends sharing food and presents and the joy of being together. We share with each other the joy of this feast and the hope and peace we share on this joyful day. May the joy and peace of Christmas be with you and your loved ones. Merry Christmas!

- Fr. Tom Donohoe

## Sacrament of Penance

Confessions will be heard on Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 am to 12:00 noon.

## Christmas Mass Schedule

Masses for Christmas will be celebrated on Christmas Eve at 4:00 pm, 5:30 pm and at Midnight. Lessons & Carols will be celebrated at 11:15 pm on Christmas Eve prior to Midnight Mass. Mass will be celebrated at 11:00 am on Christmas Day.

*There are no Masses at 8 am or 5 pm on Christmas Day.*

## Feast of Mary, Mother of God

The Feast of Mary, Mother of God is a holy day of obligation. Masses for the holy day are on Wednesday, December 31<sup>st</sup> at 5:00 pm and Thursday, January 1<sup>st</sup> at 8:00 and 11:00 am.

## Baby Jesus' Manger

The Empty Manger, hard and cold, is it ready to receive the newborn Christ Child? As a symbol of our turning our hearts in hope towards Him, we can create a more comfortable place for Him to rest. **You are invited to write down your good deeds and**

**place them in the manger. You can also put in notes of thanksgiving for blessings received, or even just tell Him you love Him. You can add them at any time. There is no age limit!** All, from toddler to senior citizen, are invited to prepare the manger and our hearts to receive the Baby Jesus.

## Music Ministry

Christmas is fast-approaching, and the St. Irene's Music Ministry welcomes parishioners ages 5-105 to come and sing with the Choir at the Christmas Masses. We look forward to having you join us!

## Christmas Children's Choir

All children in Grades K through 6 are invited to join the Children's Choir for Christmas! The final rehearsal will take place in the church from 6:15-7:00 pm on Monday, December 22. Our choir will sing at the annual Christmas pageant on Sunday, December...and the 4:00 pm Family Mass on Christmas Eve.

## Young Adult / Adult Choir

All parishioners in grades 7 and up (to age 105!) are invited to come and sing at the Christmas Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day (5:30, Midnight, and/or 11:00 AM). The final rehearsal will take place in the church from 7:15-8:30 pm on Monday, December 22. For more information, please e-mail Cypriana at [music@StIrenes.org](mailto:music@StIrenes.org).

## Religious Education

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### Thank You

Thank you to the 4<sup>th</sup> grade students and teachers for hosting Masses on December 7. Great job!

**Christmas vacation** will commence on Dec. 15 for grades 6-8 and Dec. 21 for grades K-5. Classes will resume on Monday, January 5<sup>th</sup> for grades 6-8 and Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup> for grades K-5. Second Grade Reconciliation Workbooks and journals are due at that time.

### Confirmation – Level 1

Classes will resume on Sunday, Jan. 4<sup>th</sup>.

## Christmas Pageant Thank You

Thank you to the 5th grade students and our baby Jesus, Keaton Groves, for a beautiful Christmas Pageant! Thank you to Carol Yelle and Laura France for directing this wonderful event. We would also like to thank the 5th grade teachers: Sam Pietro-paolo, Michele Connors, Linda Tonies, Chrissy McCormack, Lucia Gao, Leslie Bailey, and Christine White as well as parent volunteers. A special thank you to Marianne Gallagher for her time and photography expertise. The Pageant Program looked great.

Thank you to the 8th grade as well as teachers: Justine Cadden, Tina Ford, Carol Yelle, Joyce Errera, and Dan Doherty for a delicious "Holy Pancake" Breakfast. St. Irene's will donate \$559 to the Junior Seminary in Rwanda where Fr. Romain studied. Thank you to grades 6, 7, and 8 for the beautiful crafts which generated \$208 for the Pan y Amor School in Managua, Nicaragua. These funds will be used towards the shipping costs of donated school supplies.

## Parish Happenings

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### Christmas Eve Volunteers

We are seeking a few volunteers to assist Lisa Hales with directing traffic in the parking lot for 4 pm Mass. You will be needed from 3 pm until just after 5 pm. Please contact Lisa or the rectory if you are able to help. Thank you.

### Thank You

St. Irene's and Catholic Charities would like to thank all of the volunteers and parishioners who donated towards the Christmas Food Baskets. Volunteers delivered 26 baskets on Monday to families in need.

### Grand Annual collection

The Grand Annual Collection total as of this past weekend amounted to \$78,050 towards our goal of \$100,000. If you have not yet contributed you may send your donation in to the rectory. Your generosity over the years has been outstanding. We are most grateful for your continued support to our parish.

## Christmas Flowers

The Christmas Flowers decorating our church were donated in memory of or in honor of the following:

Paul and Loretta Bolduc  
Fran and Rita Booth  
Raymond Briere  
Tristao Correia  
Raymond and Helen Critch  
Evald Thunbo Christensen  
Francis J. Creran  
Mark Frazier  
Barbara and Ted Graczyk  
The Gregory Family  
The Hamilton Family  
Duane E. Irmen  
Kurt Kelly  
James and Helen Lee  
The Murphy Family  
Mr. and Mrs. John P. Noone  
Rita and Lionel Paquin  
Ted Semrad  
Nicholas and Louise Sherman  
Ursula Kocemba-Slosky  
Sebastian Slosky  
Mr. and Mrs. Stenrose  
The Sullivan Family  
The Trottier Family

## 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](mailto:caring@StIrenes.org).

## Tuesday Evening 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](mailto:adoration@StIrenes.org) for more information.

## Wednesday Morning Adoration

Every Wednesday morning, the Holy Mass is followed by the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for Adoration until 12 noon. During this time Fr. Romain is available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The Adoration is concluded by the Divine Mercy Chaplet and the Benediction. Come by anytime and spend some time with Jesus.

## 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 please contact Mary Ellen Bakken at [vocations@StIrenes.org](mailto:vocations@StIrenes.org).

## Bulletin

The bulletin will not be published on the weekend of December 27/28th.

## Christmas Collection – Clergy Trust

At all of our Christmas Masses, our **only** collection will be to support the retirement, medical and financial needs of priests in the Archdiocese of Boston. On behalf of all of our priests, thank you in advance for your generosity. For more information, please visit [www.clergyfunds.org/](http://www.clergyfunds.org/).

## 2014 Catholic Appeal Update

Good news! We have exceeded our goal for the 2014 Catholic Appeal. Thank you to all of the supporters who made this happen. We truly appreciate your donations. Our parish campaign goal was \$33,894 and we have raised \$34,070 from 80 donors and families. For more information, please visit [www.BostonCatholicAppeal.com](http://www.BostonCatholicAppeal.com). Thank you.

## Offertory Report

The weekly offertory last Sunday was 73% more than last year. Our year to date offertory is 4.8% less than last year Thank you for your continuing support of our parish.

## Financial Information

Offertory	\$7464
Offertory YTD	\$308,306

This week's second collection will be for the Dedicated Parish Maintenance and Up-keep Fund.

## 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:

Sheila Zacharchuk

### 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

Sundays, 1<sup>st</sup> of month 3:30 – 6:00 pm

### Baptism Catechesis

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

### Baptisms

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

### Weddings

Contact Pastor 6 months in advance.