



St. Irene Church

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

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 25, 2015

Mass Schedule

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

Mass Intentions

Kathryn McCarthy
Months Mind Mass

Saturday, January 24 at 5 pm

Laura Whitehouse - Birthday Mass
Sunday, January 25 at 11 am

Elizabeth Bucens & Family
Mass of Thanksgiving

Tuesday, January 27 at 9 am

Jose Dias - Memorial Mass
Wednesday, January 28 at 9 am

Larry Schlesinger - Healing Mass
Thursday, January 29 at 9 am

Richard Robinson - Memorial Mass
Friday, January 30 at 9 am

Mary Dumont – Memorial Mass
Amanda Gunning – Birthday Mass
Saturday, January 31 at 9 am

Edna Moschini - 23rd Anniversary Mass
Sunday, February 1 at 8 am

Pia Centofante - 4th Anniversary Mass
Sunday, February 1 at 11 am

The Pastor's Corner

Pope Francis' trip to Asia last week was extraordinary. He visited Sri Lanka, a war torn country for years and preached a gospel of healing and peace. He visited a Buddhist temple to show a greater respect of the Catholic Church for other faiths. Then he went to the Philippines to visit the places destroyed by the 2013 typhoon in which five thousand people died. Finally, on Sunday he celebrated Mass attended by more than six million people.

It is interesting that our culture wants to describe people either as "liberal" or "conservative." Pope Francis defies that description and enjoys being tough to define. I read that one of his favorite sayings comes from a 19th century Argentine politician – "Reality is more important than ideas." The Cardinal of Manila was asked if Pope Francis was a liberal or a conservative. His answer was, "He is who he is."

- Fr. Tom Donohoe

Morning Rosary

Please join us for the Rosary before daily Mass at 8:40 am.

Children's Liturgy

Our next Children's Liturgy will be celebrated on January 25th at the 8:00 and 11:00 am Masses. The 8th grade Religious Education students will host both Masses.

Religious Education

Parents of Grade 2 Students

REMINDER: There will be a 2nd grade First Eucharist Parents Meeting in the Parish Hall on Wednesday, January 28th at 7:30 pm.

The Peer Leadership Group will be Hosting the "Mardi Gras" celebration for grades K-5 on Sunday, February 8th.

The 6th, 7th & 8th grades will be having their Mardi Gras Celebration on Monday, February 9th. 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 6:00 PM** for Mass. Pick up will be at the usual time of 8pm.

There are no Religious Education classes on February 15th, 16th and 22nd due to Winter Vacation. Classes will resume on Monday, February 23rd for grades 6-8.

Confirmation

Level 1 Classes will resume on Sunday, January 25. Class begins with attendance at the 5:00 pm Mass.

Parish Happenings

Mission Trip - July 2015

St. Irene parish in conjunction with Holy Family parish is organizing a mission trip for High School age students. The trip is through Young Neighbors in Action (YNIA) and is during the week of July 19 through July 25 in Worcester, MA. If you are interested in finding out more or want to sign up, please contact Deacon Charlie at DeaconCharlie@StIrenes.org.

Theology on Tap at St. Irene's Church Friday, February 6

Come to St. Irene's first "Adult Ed" program for 2015 - on Friday night, February 6, from 7:00-9:00 pm. Fulfill your New Year's Resolution to learn more about Catholicism! Pope Francis is making headlines! Are you up with the times?

"The Theology" - Discuss current questions of faith, morals and ethics in roundtable discussions. Moderated by Fr. Austin Fleming of Holy Family Parish.

"The Tap" - Craft Beer Tasting hosted by The Craft Beer Cellar, Westford (local wine tasting, too).

Come and bring your friends! Make it a date night!

Red Cross Blood Drive

St. Irene's will be hosting a blood drive on Thursday, January 29th from 2:00 - 7:00 pm in the Parish Hall. Please visit www.redcrossblood.org for more information or call (800)733-2767 to schedule an appointment. Walk-ins are welcome. You must be 18 years old to donate. Please donate if you are able. Thank you.

Make a New Year's Resolution to join the Music Ministry in the New Year!

In spite of the frigid weather, the Spring Season of both the Children's and Adult's Choirs is in full swing! Come join us!

Weekly rehearsals take place in the church at the following times: Children's Choir, 6:15-7:00; Adult Choir, 7:15-8:30.

Neither choir requires an audition or any previous singing experience. The only "requirements" are a positive attitude and the desire to grow spiritually through learning new music and sharing your talents during the Masses. For more information, please drop me a note at Music@stirene.org. I look forward to seeing YOU! ☺

Cypriana Coelho

Grand Annual Collection

The Grand Annual Collection total as of this past weekend is \$93,000 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.

Parishioner Giving Envelopes

We are updating our list of parishioners who receive offertory envelopes. In an effort to save money, we will stop sending envelopes to parishioners who have not used them for the last three years. If you would like to begin to receive envelopes, please contact Wendy Krugh in the rectory office at (978) 369-3940. Thank you.

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 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.

Library News

Please remember to return any overdue books. *Many of the Lent books have not been returned.* We would like to have them for the upcoming season. Thank you.

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 \$34,570 from 83 donors and families. For more information, please visit www.BostonCatholicAppeal.com. Thank you for your generosity.

Area Events

24-7 Prayer & Fasting February 1st-7th St. Anne's and St. Catherine's Parishes

During the first week of February, the collaborative of St. Catherine and St. Anne Catholic churches is embarking on a week-long journey of prayer and fasting. Individuals will commit to 30-minute blocks of continuous, intentional prayer, so there is full 24-7 coverage throughout the week. You may sign up for as many 30-minute slots as you want. Where you pray is your choice; choose a time and place that works best for you. In addition to prayer time, you can also sign up for a day or days of fasting. Fasting may be a fast from food or from something that consumes your personal time.

Please consider joining St. Catherine and St. Anne parishioners as they seek to rekindle their prayer lives, and to remind themselves how God calls them to pray. You can do this by signing up on poster boards located at St. Anne's in Littleton and St. Catherine's in Westford or you can sign up at www.littletoncatholic.org under the *Prayer & Fasting* tab.

Workshop on Visiting the Sick St. Elizabeth of Hungary

A two day workshop on visiting the sick on February 28 and March 7 (with a snow date of March 14) will be offered at St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Acton from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Timothy Duff, a certified chaplain, will teach the course.

The workshop will include a review of communication skills, the basics of pastoral visitation, key illness issues, spiritual needs and concerns, grief, loss and dying, and caregiving issues. Eucharistic ministers, pastoral visitors, parish nurses and others are encouraged to attend. Fee: \$40. Registration information is available in the parish office or call 617-746-5843. Pre-registration is required. Please register by February 23.

FIAT Meeting

The next meeting of FIAT, a group to help women explore and discern religious life, will be held Sunday, February 8, at San Damiano House of Prayer, 333 Pawtucket St., Lowell, MA. For further information, interested single women may contact Sr. Janet Deaett, SND, 978-454-2931 or sndjmd@gmail.com.

Church in Latin America Collection

This week's second collection supports the Church in Latin America (CLA). The CLA provides support for pastoral projects in financially poor dioceses. CLA funds catechetical and lay leadership programs, youth ministry, evangelization programs, and formation programs for priests and deacons. For more information please visit www.usccb.org/catholic-giving/opportunities-for-giving/latin-america/.

Financial Information

Offertory Report

The weekly offertory last Sunday was 7.4% more than last year. Thank you for your continuing support of our parish.

Financial Information

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| Offertory | \$5464 |
| Offertory last year | \$5085 |
| Offertory YTD | \$18,030 |
| Offertory YTD last year | \$17,889 |

Last week the second collection for the Dedicated Parish Maintenance and Upkeep Fund amounted to \$3465.

This week's second collection is for the Church in Latin America.

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

Weddings

Contact Pastor 6 months in advance.