



# St. Irene Church

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

**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
February 8, 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

Sebastian Slosky – Memorial Mass  
Sunday, February 8 at 8 am

Julie Riley - 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary Mass  
Sunday, February 8 at 11 am

Marie Riccio - 4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass  
Michael Riccio - 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass  
Monday, February 9 at 9 am

Jose Dias - Memorial Mass  
Sunday, February 15 at 9 am

### World Marriage Day

This Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup> is World Marriage Day. We will have renewal of marriage vows and presentation of flowers at all Masses next weekend.

### Morning Rosary

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

## The Pastor's Corner

I am writing this column as I prepare for a winter vacation visiting my sister, Ginny in Vero Beach, Florida for two weeks. I've already sent the golf clubs ahead. Unfortunately, my sister suffered a slight stroke two weeks ago. However, she is recovering very well and the outlook is for a full recovery. Please remember her in your prayers.

As I was reading about Pope Francis' trip to Asia, I learned something about his first stop in Sri Lanka. There he celebrated the canonization of St. Joseph Vaz, the first Sri Lankan to be declared a saint. Pope Francis continues to choose his own path. Usually several miracles are required for canonization. But Pope Francis used a process he called "equivalent canonization" when a person is in fact venerated as a saint. He said, "I have done this for persons who are great evangelizers. And now in September, I will canonize Junipero Serra in the United States because he has been a great evangelizer for the western United States." The pope's surprise announcement is exciting news for us. It will be the first time a canonization has taken place in the United States and will be done by Pope Francis himself.

-Fr. Tom Donohoe

## Ash Wednesday Schedule

The season of Lent begins on Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>. 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.

## 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 7:00 -8:00 pm.

## Congratulations

Daniel Hurley VI, Josephine Rhiannon Hurley, Elizabeth Anne Hurley and Robert Charles Cimon III were baptized at St. Irene Church in January. Congratulations to Daniel, Josephine, Elizabeth and Robert and their families. Welcome to St. Irene Parish!

## Religious Education

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### Congratulations

Congratulations to our 2<sup>nd</sup> graders. They received the Sacrament of First Reconciliation last Saturday.

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

The 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grades will be having their Mardi Gras Celebration on Monday, February 9<sup>th</sup>. 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 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> due to Winter Vacation. Classes will resume on Monday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> for grades 6-8.

### Confirmation

Level 1 Classes will meet on Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup>. Class begins with attendance at the 5:00 pm Mass.

## Parish Happenings

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### Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

The Parish Pastoral Council will meet on Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the rectory.

### Women's Club Hors d'oeuvres Night

The Women's Club will hold an hors d'oeuvres tasting evening on Thursday, February 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in the church hall (weather permitting). Come see our "Culinary Chefs" prepare and serve their special "tidbits" all the while enjoying friendly conversation. As always desserts are always appreciated to complete the evening. Please contact Jan Brown or email Jean Morin at [womensclub@StIrenes.org](mailto:womensclub@StIrenes.org) for more information.

### Catholic Appeal 2015

This past week, many of you received a letter from Cardinal Sean requesting your support of the Catholic Appeal. If you have not already done so, please prayerfully consider making an early pledge. Your gift will help us reach our 2015 goal. You may mail your pledge or visit [www.bostoncatholicappeal.org](http://www.bostoncatholicappeal.org) to give online. Thank you.

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

### 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.

## **Stations of the Cross Women's Club – Soup and Bread**

The Season of Lent is fast approaching. Ash Wednesday is February 18<sup>th</sup>. On Friday February 20<sup>th</sup>, 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, March 27<sup>th</sup>. All are invited and encouraged to attend.

## **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](mailto:Music@stirene.org).

*Cypriana Coelho*

## **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.

## **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).

## **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).

## **St. Irene Online**

For more information please visit St. Irene's web site: [www.StIrenes.org](http://www.StIrenes.org) or Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/StIrenes](http://www.facebook.com/StIrenes). You are invited to explore both and offer suggestions via e-mail at [feedback@stirenes.org](mailto:feedback@stirenes.org). St. Irene's online calendar can be found at [www.stirenes.org/quicklinks/calendar.html](http://www.stirenes.org/quicklinks/calendar.html).

## **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](http://www.stirenes.org/faithformation/catholiceducation/colleges.html).

## Area Events

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### Family Homelessness Forum

We invite you to attend the 11<sup>th</sup> annual Concord area family homelessness forum of the *Advocacy Network to End Family Homelessness*, on Sunday, March 1, from 2:30 to 4:30 pm, at First Parish in Bedford.

Never have there been more homeless families in MA. Each night, nearly 3,100 families are in shelters and 1,850 more families are in motels. Please contact Sally Nelson for more information.

### 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.

### Catholic Television

Catholic TV is available on Comcast Cable channel 238, Verizon FiOS channel 271, Sky Angel IPTV channel 142, RCN channel 85, EWTN channel 26 and streaming on [www.CatholicTV.com](http://www.CatholicTV.com).

## Financial Information

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### Offertory Report

The weekly offertory last Sunday was 29.7% less than last year. Thank you for your continuing support of our parish.

## Financial Information

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|-------------------------|----------|
| Offertory               | \$5,435  |
| Offertory last year     | \$7,736  |
| Offertory YTD           | \$28,460 |
| Offertory YTD last year | \$31,521 |

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| Dedicated Church Maintenance and Upkeep Fund | \$3,690 |
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Next week the second collection will be for the Dedicated Parish Maintenance and Upkeep 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.