



St. Irene Church

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

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 15, 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

Jose Dias - Memorial Mass
Sunday, February 15 at 8 am

Norman Edward Dee - Memorial Mass
Monday, February 16 at 9 am

Alice Doherty and Ruth Proctor
Memorial Mass
Wednesday, February 18 at 9 am

Kathleen Blais and Pamela Gleason
Anniversary Mass
Thursday, February 19 at 9 am

Rosemarie Krugh - 1st Anniversary Mass
Friday, February 20 at 9 am

Ash Wednesday Schedule

The season of Lent begins on Wednesday, February 18th. 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 Pastor's Corner

This Wednesday we begin the season of Lent. On Ash Wednesday we receive the blessed ashes as a twofold reminder. The ashes symbolize our mortality. The traditional prayer that the priest uses in placing the ashes on our foreheads is "Remember you are dust and to dust you shall return." Those somber words remind us that life on earth is only for a time. The other significance of the ashes is repentance. More often the priest or deacon will say these words, "Repent and believe in the gospel." Ash Wednesday sets the tone for Lent. It is a time to remember the final purpose of our life on earth. And it is a time to repent over past sins and weaknesses and prepare for the new life of Easter. But even more importantly, we need to believe and live the gospel message.

-Fr. Tom Donohoe

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.

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.

Children's Liturgy

Our next Children's Liturgy will be celebrated on March 1 at the 8:00 and 11:00 am Masses.

Morning Rosary

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

Religious Education

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

There are no Confirmation classes on Sunday, February 15. Level 2 Classes will meet on Sunday, February 22nd. Class begins with attendance at the 5:00 pm Mass.

Parish Happenings

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

The Parish Pastoral Council will meet on Sunday, February 15th 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 19th 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 for more information.

Stations of the Cross

Women's Club – Soup and Bread

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

Catholic Appeal 2015

Recently 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 to give online and also to see a brief, inspiring video about the 2015 Catholic Appeal. Thank you.

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.

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.

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.

Cypriana Coelho

Library News

For your spiritual journey, the parish library has a table at the back of the church with Lenten and Easter books for registered patrons to borrow. If you are not registered, you may do so at the table.

Books should be returned to the basket on the top shelf of the library, or the box in the church vestibule. Please do not put returned books back on the library shelves.

St. Irene Online

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

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.

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.

Area Events

Family Homelessness Forum

We invite you to attend the 11th 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.

Ash Wednesday Collection

The collection on Ash Wednesday supports the Church in Africa and in Central and Eastern Europe. These collections help the Church spread God's Word and train Church leaders of tomorrow, help needy families materially and spiritually, rebuild churches that have fallen into disrepair, and support the sisters and brother who have suffered for the faith. For more information, please visit www.usccb.org.

Financial Information

Offertory Report

The weekly offertory last Sunday was 2.7% less than last year. Thank you for your continuing support of our parish.

Financial Information

Offertory	\$5,494
Offertory last year	\$5,651

Offertory YTD	\$33,954
Offertory YTD last year	\$37,172

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

The collection on Ash Wednesday is for the Church in Africa, Central & Eastern Europe.

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.