



St. Irene Church

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

Second Sunday of Lent
March 1, 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

Jacqueline Dailliere
Memorial Mass
Saturday, February 28 at 5 pm

Lisa Trebino
11th Anniversary Mass
Sunday, March 1 at 11 am

John Blinn
1st Anniversary Mass
Thursday, March 5 at 9 am

Maria Kowalska
22nd Anniversary Mass
Sunday, March 8 at 8 am

The Pastor's Corner

Every year on this second Sunday of Lent we hear the story of the Transfiguration. Jesus took three of his disciples – Peter, James and John to the top of Mount Tabor and revealed himself as the Son of God. When I visited the Holy Land two years ago with Cardinal Sean O'Malley and thirty other priests, we rode to the top of Mount Tabor. We concelebrated Mass with Cardinal Sean. It was an awesome experience as we relived what happened so many years before. The Lord was transfigured on this mountain to strengthen the faith of these apostles. The story also strengthens our faith in this Lenten Season and enables us to continue our penance and good works with renewed strength. The Transfiguration is the promise of Easter – Resurrection and New Life for Jesus and for us.

-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.

Children's Liturgy

Children's Liturgy will be celebrated on March 1st at the 8:00 and 11:00 am Masses. The Masses will be hosted by the 3rd grade classes.

Morning Rosary

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

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.

Religious Education

Classes will resume on Sunday, March 1st for grades K-5.

Attention 6th grade students

Rehearsals for the 6th grade presentation of the Living Stations of the Cross begin on Monday, March 2nd. There are **3 mandatory rehearsals**: as follows: March 2nd from 6:30-8:00 pm, March 9th from 6:30-8:00 pm and March 16th from 6:00-8:00 pm Please note the special start times. It takes three rehearsals to prepare the students to depict the stations. For rehearsals 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, March 22nd from 9:00-10:00 am followed by a 7th grade hosted breakfast in the Parish Hall. All students in Sessions I and II will attend with their classes. This is a family event and all are invited to attend!

Confirmation

Level 1 Classes will meet on Sunday, March 1st. Class begins with attendance at the 5:00 pm Mass.

Parish Happenings

Beatitudes In Action

Social Justice Committee

Presentation and Italian Dinner

The newly formed Social Justice Committee will hold its premier event “Beatitudes in Action” on Saturday evening, March 7th at 6:15 pm (after 5 pm Mass) in the Parish Hall. With the season of Lent upon us, it’s a time for all Catholics to reflect on their faith and their commitment to justice and charity for humankind. Beatitudes in Action will present members of the Catholic community who practice their faith everyday by feeding the homeless, educating the disadvantaged, and volunteering in developing nations.

Be inspired and enjoy dinner and drink with your neighbors, friends, and fellow parishioners. All are invited and encouraged to attend.

The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.
-Mahatma Gandhi

Thank you! From the Knights

Your Saint Irene Knights of Columbus would like to say THANKS! Your generosity raised a total of \$451 to support the efforts at Lazarus House in Lawrence, MA. As always, you are more than welcome to participate in this wonderful activity of preparing and serving dinner at the shelter the fourth Saturday each month. For more information please email Kevin Donnelly at KofC@StIrenes.org.

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

The next Parish Pastoral Council meeting will be on Sunday, March 8th at 7:00 pm in the rectory.

Catholic Appeal 2015

Next weekend, Cardinal Sean will ask Catholics across the Archdiocese to pledge their support to the 2015 Catholic Appeal. The Appeal greatly helps thousands of people throughout the Archdiocese in many ministries. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this year’s Appeal. Thank you.

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

Stations of the Cross will be offered during Lent on Friday, March 27th at 7:30 pm. Prior to the service, the Women's Club will be serving complimentary bread and soup in the Parish Hall from 5:30 – 7:00 pm. Please join us for this Lenten devotion.

Men's Retreat – 2015

On Friday, March 27th from 6:00 until approximately 9:15 pm, a men's retreat will be held at St. Benedict Abbey at 252 Still River Rd., Still River, MA (Harvard, MA).

The retreat is open to all men and will cost \$25 per person – dinner included. This retreat is sponsored by St. Irene's Knights of Columbus. Space is limited. Please email Kevin Donnelly at KofC@StIrenes.org to make your reservation or for more information.

Tentative Schedule:

- 5:00 pm – Meet at St. Irene's
- 5:45 pm – Arrive at St. Benedict Abbey
- 6:00 pm – Vespers with community
- 6:30 pm – Dinner
- 7:15 pm – Rosary
- 7:35 pm – Address by Deacon Charlie
- 7:50 pm – Confession and Meditation
- 8:15 pm – Mass and Communion

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.

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.

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.

Music Ministry

Weekly rehearsals take place on Thursday nights 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 email Cypriana Coelho at Music@stirene.org.

Offertory Report

The weekly offertory last Sunday was .4% more than last year. Thank you for your continuing support of our parish.

Area Events

American Guild of Organists Recital

The local Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, Merrimack Valley Chapter invites you to attend its Annual Members' Recital at All Saints' Episcopal Church, 10 Billerica Rd., Chelmsford on March 8th at 3:00 pm.

A reception with the artists will follow the concert. This event is free and open to all. Donations will be accepted to support the Young Organist Scholarship Fund of the Merrimack Valley Chapter. For more information, please contact Alain Bojarski, Dean of the Merrimack Valley Chapter at alain.bojarski@comcast.net or call 978-263-3979.

Holy Family Speaking Series

Holy Family Parish in Concord will be sponsoring a talk by Boston College Emeritus Professor of English, Dennis Taylor, on Tuesday, March 10th at 7:30 pm. The talk and discussion will explore the Catholic dimensions of Shakespeare's writings and will take place in the lower level of the parish office building at 55 Church Street in West Concord, opposite the Harvey Wheeler Center. Donations gratefully accepted.

Holy Family Scripture Course

Holy Family Parish in Concord, will be hosting Scripture scholar Michael O'Laughlin in a three week course on the letters of St. Paul. The title of the course is *Saint Paul and the Empowerment of Women*. A donation of \$5-10 is deeply appreciated for the classes that will be held in the lower level of the parish office building at 55 Church Street in West Concord on Tuesdays March 17, 24 and 31 from 7:00 – 8:30 pm.

Financial Information

Financial Information

Offertory	\$6,515
Offertory last year	\$6,484
Offertory YTD	\$42,702
Offertory YTD last year	\$49,742
Dedicated Church Maintenance and Upkeep Fund	\$5,142

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.