



# St. Irene Church

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

**Fourth Sunday of Lent**  
**March 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

A. Dorethea Murphy - Memorial Mass  
Saturday, March 14 at 5 pm

James Scacciotti  
26<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass  
Sunday, March 15 at 8 am

Rosie - Memorial Mass  
Monday, March 16 at 9 am

Nova Mallalieu - Memorial Mass  
Tuesday, March 17 at 9 am

Josephine and George Cotroneo  
Memorial Mass  
Thursday, March 19 at 9 am

Bernadette Sullivan - Memorial Mass  
Saturday, March 21 at 5 pm

Jane and Joseph Buchanec  
Anniversary Mass  
Sunday, March 22 at 8 am

## The Pastor's Corner

An interesting article by John Allen this weekend speaks of the Francis miracle. As Archbishop of Buenos Aires, he was committed to the poor, the mission effort of the church and living a life of gospel simplicity. This has not changed. Yet his personality was different – some say shy; his critics say boring. But since becoming the pope two years ago, his personality has changed. Even his sister says, “I don’t recognize the guy.” Pope Francis has stated that he had an experience of the closeness of God on the night of his election that gave him great freedom and peace and that sense has never left him. It is a sense of mission with a miracle at its center.

I remember that Pope John XXIII has a similar religious experience in the 1960’s at the beginning of his short papacy. The result was surprising when Pope John called for an ecumenical council – Vatican II – which changed the church dramatically. John Allen concludes that Pope Francis believes he has experienced an act of God, like John XXIII and views it, his mission with a miracle at its core.

-Fr. Tom Donohoe

## Morning Rosary

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

## 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.

## Stations of the Cross

### Women's Club – Soup and Bread

Stations of the Cross will be offered during Lent on Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup> 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.

## Religious Education

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### Attention 6<sup>th</sup> grade students

Rehearsals for the 6<sup>th</sup> grade presentation of the Living Stations of the Cross began on Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>. There is **1 mandatory rehearsal** left on March 16<sup>th</sup> from **6:00-8:00 pm**. Please note the special start time. 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 stu-

dents will present the Living Stations of the Cross on Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> from 9:00-10:00 am followed by a 7<sup>th</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup>. Class begins with attendance at the 5:00 pm Mass.

## Parish Happenings

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### In the Footsteps of Jesus with Fr. Tom

Please join us on Wednesday, March 25, at 7:30 p.m., in the Parish Hall to hear and see Fr. Tom's pilgrimage to the Holy Land with Cardinal O'Malley and the priests of the Archdiocese in April 2013. This is a wonderful opportunity to "experience" Lent and prepare for Easter by reliving the gospels. See videos showing the lands and places where Jesus walked. Hear Fr. Tom describe the moving experience of celebrating Mass in the Upper Room. Encounter the reality of the gospels.

### Women's Club Gathering

The Women's Club will be meeting on Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in the parish hall for a demonstration and tasting of two hors d'oeuvres. This will be followed by a fascinating talk by Paul Callahan. The Carlisle author will discuss his ten year odyssey as a Maine fisherman several decades ago. Desserts are welcome.

### Men's Retreat – 2015

On Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:kofc@stirenes.org) to make your reservation or for more information.

### Tentative Retreat 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

### Easter Flowers

If you wish to make a donation for Easter flowers in memory of a loved one or in honor of someone, please place your donation of \$5 or more along with the name of the person to be remembered or honored in an envelope. It can be placed in the collection basket or sent to the rectory office.

### 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.

### Music Ministry

Weekly rehearsals take place on Thursday nights in the church: 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](mailto:Music@stirene.org).

### 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.

### Catholic Appeal 2015

Last weekend, our parish launched the 2015 Catholic Appeal. We would like to thank all of you who have given so generously to support our parish. If you were unable to attend Mass last weekend and wish to make a pledge to the Catholic Appeal, please take a pledge form from the back of the church. You also can make a gift or pledge online at [www.bostoncatholicappeal.org](http://www.bostoncatholicappeal.org). Thank you for your support and for helping us reach our parish goal of \$35,246.

### 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).

## 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).

## St. Irene Online

We have upgraded St. Irene's web site: [www.StIrenes.org](http://www.StIrenes.org) and also added a 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).

## Area Events

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### Organ Concert at Holy Family

This year, building on an organ concert once a year for the past four years, Holy Family Parish is proud to host Trinity Episcopal Church, Concord, organist and music director, Robert Barney, in a concert on the parish's fully restored and functional 1875 vintage Hook and Hastings organ. The concert will take place on Sunday, March 22 at 3:00 pm in the church. There is no charge for this event but free-will donations for the ongoing upkeep of this vintage instrument are gratefully accepted.

## Financial Information

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### Offertory Report

The weekly offertory last Sunday was 41% more than last year. Thank you for your continuing support of our parish.

## Financial Information

Offertory	\$7,639
Offertory last year	\$5,415
Offertory YTD	\$57,878
Offertory YTD last year	\$63,089
Dedicated Church Maintenance and Upkeep Fund	\$5,562

This week the second collection is 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.