



St. Irene Church

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

Fifth Sunday of Lent
March 22, 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

Bernadette Sullivan
Memorial Mass

Saturday, March 21 at 5 pm

Jane and Joseph Buchaniec
Anniversary Mass

Sunday, March 22 at 8 am

Tuon Vu
Memorial Mass

Sunday, March 22 at 11 am

Nova Mallalieu
Memorial Mass

Thursday, March 26 at 9 am

Gary Bonnell - Memorial Mass
Friday, March 27 at 9 am

Erin Von Flander - Memorial Mass
Saturday, March 28 at 5 pm

Nancy Malone - Healing Mass
Sunday, March 29 at 11 am

The Pastor's Corner

After the long snowy winter, a record setter, spring arrived last Friday. And next Sunday is Palm Sunday and the beginning of Holy Week and Easter. All of us are ready for spring and Easter. Both are promises of new life. Spring promises the new life of nature – the trees budding, the first flowers, the crocuses with their beautiful yellow flowers, the warmer pleasant days. Easter promises new life as well – the promise of the fullness of life after this life comes to an end. Let us enjoy this change of seasons which brings hope into our lives. And it is hope that gives us a sense of joy and contentment.

-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.

Holy Week Schedule

March 29 - Palm Sunday of the Lords Passion: Triumphant March into Jerusalem and Passion of the Lord. Palms will be blessed and distributed at all Masses.

March 30, 31 and April 1 - Daily Mass at 9:00 am

April 2	Holy Thursday
8:00 am	Liturgy of the Hours
7:30 pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper
8:30-11 pm	Veneration of the Blessed Sacrament

April 3	Good Friday
8:00 am	Liturgy of the Hours
3:00 pm	Celebration of the Lord's Passion

4:15-5 pm Confessions

April 4	Holy Saturday
8:00 am	Liturgy of the Hours
11am - Noon	Confessions
8:30 pm	Easter Vigil Mass

April 5 **Easter Sunday**
The Resurrection of the Lord. Masses are at **7:00 am, 9:00 am, and 11:00 am**. There will be **no 5:00 pm Mass** on Easter Sunday.

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.

Religious Education

Living Stations of the Cross - Family Event

This Sunday, March 22nd Religious Education students from both sessions I & II will attend *The Living Stations of the Cross* in lieu of the regular class time. The sixth grade students will present ONE presentation at 9:00 am in the church. Teachers and students should meet upstairs in the church. The pews will be marked by grade. **Parents should remain present** to escort their children down to the Parish Hall for a simple breakfast hosted by the 7th grade classes. *All are welcome to attend!* We invite you to enter into the Stations where you come to know Jesus more intimately.

Special Start Time-Grade 6 ONLY!

The 6th grade classes will begin at 6:30 pm (instead of 7 pm) on Monday, March 23rd to celebrate their "Cast Party" for the Living Stations of the Cross.

Confirmation

Level 2 Classes will meet on Sunday, March 22nd. Class begins with attendance at the 5:00 pm Mass.

Parish Happenings

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.

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 dona-

tion 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.

Men's Retreat – 2015

On Friday, March 27th from 6:00 pm 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.

Spring Fashion Show & Tea

Tickets for the Spring Fashion Show & Tea, sponsored by the Women's Club, will be sold after the Masses on Saturday, March 28, Sunday, March 29, Saturday, April 11 and Sunday, April 12. The event will be on Sunday, April 19th at 2:00 pm. Tickets are \$5 and we encourage you to purchase them early since this is a popular event. If you have any questions please email Womensclub@StIrenes.org.

Catholic Appeal 2015

Thank you to all who have participated in the 2015 Catholic Appeal. St. Irene Parish has raised \$5,310 towards our goal of \$35,246 from 13 donors and families.

If you have not yet contributed please consider a donation to the Catholic Appeal. Donation envelopes are at the back of the church or for more information visit www.BostonCatholicAppeal.com. Thank you for your prayers and support.

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 Request

The Caring Friends Network, our parish ministry devoted to helping others in need, is urgently requesting household items for a parish family that recently emigrated from Uganda. Items specifically needed include men and women's shoes and clothing, toiletries, bedding, towels, bedroom furniture, fans, room air conditioners, laptop computers, and a refrigerator. New or used items in good condition are all appreciated. We would also appreciate any volunteers with a small truck who would assist with moving some of the larger items.

Small items can be dropped off in a bin located in the church vestibule. For delivery of larger items and any questions you might have, please contact Michelle Christensen at Caring@StIrenes.org. This is a terrific way to help a needy parish family and a great way to clean out old items you don't want that will find a much needed new home.

Rwanda Mass of Commemoration

Dear Friends,

*"There's a grief that can't be spoken
There's a pain goes on and on
Empty chairs at empty tables
Now my friends are dead and gone*

*...
Here they sang about tomorrow
And tomorrow never came."*

These lyrics from "Empty Chairs At Empty Tables" (Les Miserables) hit my heart whenever I hear the song and I know I am not the only one. We who lived through the Genocide and survived without our families are always reminded of the emptiness the Genocide left around us but we live in hope and faith.

I invite you to join me and other Rwandans to help us commemorate and celebrate the lives of those we lost, to relive their hopes and to share, in communion with them, our faith. The Mass of Commemoration will be celebrated at St. Irene Church on Tuesday April 7 at 6:00 pm. After mass, stay with us in the parish hall as we gather to share stories about our grief and our resilience.

"God will rejoice over you with gladness. He will sing joyfully because of you, as one sings at festivals." (Zeph 3:18)

Toto Corde, Fr Romain

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.

Area Events

Bowling / Pizza Event – April 12

On Sunday, April 12, the Knights of Columbus will sponsor their Spring Bowling / Pizza Event for children with disabilities and their families. It will be held at Collins Bowladrome in Billerica from 1:00 – 3:00 pm. The event includes Duckpin bowling, which is followed by pizza. Interested families are asked to register for this **free event** by contacting Ken Desilets by April 6 at 978-692-6866 or email kgdesigned@gmail.com.

Financial Information

Offertory Report

The weekly offertory last Sunday was 17% more than last year. Thank you for your continuing support of our parish.

Financial Information

Offertory	\$6,481
Offertory last year	\$5,542
Offertory YTD	\$64,097
Offertory YTD last year	\$68,641

Dedicated Church Maintenance and Upkeep Fund YTD	\$7,845
--	---------

Last week the second collection for the Dedicated Parish Maintenance and Upkeep Fund amounted to \$2,283.

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.