



St. Irene Church

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

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
March 29, 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

Erin Von Flander
Memorial Mass

Saturday, March 28 at 5 pm

Gilda Antolini

3rd Anniversary Mass

Sunday, March 29 at 8 am

Nancy Malone

Healing Mass

Sunday, March 29 at 11 am

Gioi Vu

Memorial Mass

Sunday, April 5 at 11 am

The Pastor's Corner

Today we celebrate Palm Sunday, the beginning of Holy Week. This is the most sacred time in our church. The palms we receive today remind us of the day when Jesus entered the Holy City Jerusalem riding on a donkey while the people threw palm branches on the road and welcomed him as Messiah and King. The Sacred Triduum begins on Holy Thursday when we celebrate the Mass of the Lord's Supper. We recall the gifts of the Holy Eucharist and Priesthood which Jesus gave us that evening. On Good Friday, we observe the death of the Lord on the cross of Calvary in a somber celebration. His death on the cross is our salvation. That prepares us for our greatest feast – Easter Sunday - the Day of Resurrection. We encourage you to join us for these solemn holy days.

-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.

Holy Week Schedule

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
8:00 pm Easter Vigil Mass
(Please note the time change)

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.

Holy Thursday

One of the ancient rites of our church takes place during the Mass of the Lord's Supper. The Washing of the Feet of His disciples at the Last Supper is a sign of the new commandment that Christians should love one another. If you would like to be part of this ancient tradition please call Father Tom at the rectory office (978) 369-3940.

Children's Liturgy

Grade 5 will Host both the 8 & 11 am Masses on Sunday April 12th.

Religious Education

Religious Ed classes for grades K-5 will be held this Sunday. Session I is from 9:00-

9:50 am and Session II is from 10:00-10:50 am. Religious Ed classes for grades 6-8 will be held on Monday evening. There will be **NO CLASSES** on Sunday, April 5th for grades K-5 due to Easter Sunday. Please note grades 6-8 **WILL HAVE** classes on Monday, April 6th.

Word of Thanks-6th & 7th Grade Classes

We would like to express our appreciation and thanks to the 6th grade Religious Ed students and their teachers for their presentation of the Living Stations of the Cross. A special thanks to the 6th grade teachers Sam Pietropaolo and Celine Clark-Gribbons. A special thank you to Maria Donnelly for her time, dedication and helping our new directors transition. Kelly Guilmette and Lisa Hughes did a fabulous job! We would also like to thank our 7th grade classes as well as our teachers: Jennifer Albanese, Andrea Pickersgill, Marianne Gallagher, Kathy Jeffers and Eileen Faber for hosting the breakfast following the event. A special thanks to Margaret Bulpett for helping coordinate and prepare for the event.

Confirmation

Level 1 Classes will meet on Sunday, March 29th. Class begins with attendance at the 5:00 pm Mass. This is the last class for Level I. Please bring your sponsor forms.

Parish Happenings

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. Desserts are welcome.

"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

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.

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.

Catholic Appeal 2015

Thank you to all who have participated in the 2015 Catholic Appeal. St. Irene Parish has raised \$10,295 towards our goal of \$35,246 from 34 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.

Caring Friends Request

The Caring Friends Network, our parish ministry devoted to helping others in need, is urgently requesting household items (in addition to super market gift cards) for a parish family that recently emigrated from Uganda. Items specifically needed include men and women's shoes and clothing, toiletries, bedding, towels, bureaus, 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.

Grand Annual Collection

The Grand Annual Collection total as of this past weekend is \$93,500 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.

Protecting God's Children / CORI Checks

All clergy, Parish staff, and volunteers who minister, work, or serve in a capacity involving contact with children under eighteen must complete the prevention and education programs mandated by the Archdiocese of Boston (Virtus/Protecting God's Children). Dates and locations for training are listed at the Archdiocese website: www.bostoncatholic.org/PGCTrainingSchedule.aspx?pid=1472.

The Archdiocese also requires a criminal offender record information (CORI) check for all full and part-time paid staff members, all clergy and **all volunteers (17 years and older) who minister to or have access to children, youth, elderly or the disabled.**

CORI forms are due by April 20th. Please contact Wendy Krugh at (978)369-3940 if you need a form or have any questions. Thank you for your understanding.

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 8% more than last year. Thank you for your continuing support of our parish.

Financial Information

Offertory	\$6,259
Offertory last year	\$5,791
Offertory YTD	\$70,356
Offertory YTD last year	\$74,422

Dedicated Church Maintenance and Upkeep Fund YTD \$8,415

Next week's Easter collection will be for the Clergy Health and Retirement Trust. To donate online or for more information visit: www.Clergyfunds.org. Thank you.

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.