

# St. Irene Church

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



**Fourth Sunday of Easter**  
**April 26, 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

Roland Isabelle - 9<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass  
Saturday, April 25 at 5 pm

Rich Simeone - 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass  
Sunday, April 26 at 11 am

Ann Canzano - Memorial Mass  
Monday, April 27 at 9 am

Josephine Hill  
Memorial Mass/Birthday Remembrance  
Tuesday, April 28 at 9 am

Louise Pelletier – Memorial Mass  
Wednesday, April 29 at 9 am

Scott Whalen - 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary Mass  
Sunday, May 3 at 11 am

Jose Henriques  
Memorial Mass/58<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary  
Sunday, May 3 at 5 pm

## The Pastor's Corner

The process of forming several parishes into collaboratives continues in the Archdiocese of Boston. In a few years, there will be one pastor for two parishes – St. Irene parish and Holy Family parish. Concord Father Austin Fleming and I wish to postpone this event as long as possible since neither of us – due to our age – will be appointed as the pastor of this collaborative. We have been preparing for this by meeting together with our Parish Pastoral Councils. Last week, we met in Concord to hear the experiences of Father Thomas Maloney, pastor of Saint Joseph and Saint Luke parish, Belmont. It was very interesting and valuable as he pointed out the successes and the problems of the process. It reminded me that we need to see that our parish identity remains. There is a danger here that the collaborative becomes one parish at two campuses; not one pastor of two different parishes. We continue to plan to come together to prepare for our collaborative and to find ways to make it successful.

-Fr. Tom Donohoe

# Religious Education

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## Grades K-5

Classes will resume for grades K-5 on Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. Our last class will be held on Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>. We conclude our Religious Ed. Program with the May Crowning. More information to follow.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade First Communion/Rehearsals

The 2<sup>nd</sup> grade classes will have their second rehearsal April 26<sup>th</sup>. The *special rehearsal time for rehearsal* is: **9:30-10:30** am for both Sessions I and II. Second grade students will receive their First Communion on Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am. Students will begin lining up in the Parish Hall at 9:30 am.

## Grade 2 First Communion Items

Folders, workbooks and banners are due on Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> as well as donations for First Communion flowers.

## Grades 6-8

The LAST class for grades 6-8 will be on Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup> from 7-8:15pm. We will begin with Mass in the church. Please arrive on time. We will conclude the year with an Ice Cream Social. Please note the **SPECIAL PICK-UP** time of **8:15 pm**.

## Thank you Religious Ed Teachers

Thank you to all the teachers, students and parents for a wonderful year! A special thank you to the teachers for their time, talent and service!

## Confirmation News

Confirmation candidates and their families will meet in the church on Wednesday, April 29 at 6:30 pm for rehearsal with dinner to follow. Candidates will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday, May 2 at 11:00 am.

## Parish Happenings

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### Fr. Augustin's Departure

Fr. Augustin Vondou, who has been in residence at St. Irene's since August 2013, will complete his STL program at Boston College and graduate on May 18. Shortly thereafter he will be returning to Cameroon.

Everyone at St. Irene's has come to enjoy his presence with us and we wish him all the best in the future. The good news is that he will be returning to St. Irene's for a few weeks during the summer prior to leaving for Chicago to start a Ph.D. program in August at Loyola University in Chicago.

### Farewell Reception for Fr. Augustin – Sunday, May 17

A farewell reception will be held for Fr. Augustin on Sunday, May 17, in the church hall after the 11 a.m. Mass. This will be a great opportunity to celebrate his graduation from Boston College which will take place the next day (May 18) and to thank him for his contribution to the pastoral life of St. Irene's Parish. Light refreshments will be served. Be sure to come by to say thanks and congratulations to Fr. Augustin!

### World Youth Day 2016 - Krakow Poland

A number of families have expressed an interest in attending World Youth Day in Krakow Poland July 21-31, 2016. Several adults have come forward to chaperone, some of whom have been to Poland and are quite familiar with the country. The Archdiocese of Boston has organized the details of the trip for parishes that want to participate. The time for final registration is ending in May so that time is of the essence. We will be hosting a meeting for families of interested young adults and youth on **Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm** in the church hall. Please email [DeaconCharlie@stirenes.org](mailto:DeaconCharlie@stirenes.org) a confirmation of your attendance so we can be sure to have sufficient material available for attendees.

### Women's Club – Trash to Treasure

The Women's Club will have their Trash to Treasure Day on Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 am – 1:00 pm. You can begin leaving your treasures in the rectory garage on April 26<sup>th</sup>. **PLEASE REMEMBER, WE CANNOT ACCEPT ELECTRONICS, CLOTHES OR LARGE ITEMS LIKE FURNITURE.** In the past large items have been left, we have no way of getting rid of them. If you have any questions please email the Women's Club at [Womensclub@StIrenes.org](mailto:Womensclub@StIrenes.org).

## Marriage Enrichment

In today's hectic pace of family life sometimes we find that we put our marriage needs at the bottom of the list. Both parents are working, children's schedules are time consuming, when do we as married couples have the time to refresh, enhance and enrich our marriages? On April 25/26 at our weekend Masses, a visiting married couple will speak about a great solution to our busy world - Marriage Encounter. Learn how you can revitalize your marriage through this Catholic encounter that Pope Benedict characterized as "important work...especially in this world we live in."

## Calling All Thespians

The St. Irene's Players (a/k/a "SIPs") are planning to present another murder mystery on Saturday, November 21, 2015. If you would like to act in the play this year, please contact Pat Barry or the rectory at (978)369-3940 by May 15 for all the details. Requirements include an ability to laugh a lot and a commitment to approximately ten rehearsals starting in September. All are invited!

## 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).

## Catholic Appeal 2015

Thank you to all who have participated in the 2015 Catholic Appeal. St. Irene Parish has raised \$15,555 towards our goal of \$35,246 from 53 donors and families. If you would like to make a donation, envelopes are at the back of the church or visit [www.BostonCatholicAppeal.com](http://www.BostonCatholicAppeal.com). Thank you.

## Grand Annual Collection

We have collected \$94,000 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.

## 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](http://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.**  
Please contact Wendy Krugh at (978) 369-3940 if you need a form or have any questions. Thank you.

## 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).

## Home Missions, Black & Native American, Military Archdiocese Collection

This week's second collection supports three important national Catholic missions. The Military Archdiocese provides for Catholic chaplains for American service men and women. The Home Missions subsidizes the evangelization and formation activities of mission dioceses. The Black and Native American collection strengthens evangelization and outreach programs.

## Area Events

### St. Margaret School, Lowell – Open House

Catholic school education provides a learning environment that promotes academic success and the development of faith, values, and a moral compass. St. Margaret School, a K1-8 Catholic school is hosting an Open House on Wednesday, May 6 from 5:30 – 7:00pm at 486 Stevens St. in Lowell. Please contact Roselyn Scales at (978) 453-8491 for more information or visit [www.stmargaretschoollowell.org](http://www.stmargaretschoollowell.org).

### Boys & Girls Club Book Drive

Along with Holy Family Parish, we are collecting new and gently used books through April 26<sup>th</sup> in the foyer of the church. The books will be donated to a new Boys & Girls Club library being built in Chelsea, MA. Picture books, chapter books and young adult books would be greatly appreciated!

## Financial Information

### Financial Information

Offertory \$5,025  
Last year's total was for the Clergy Benefit Trust/ Easter Collection.

Offertory YTD \$91,663  
Offertory YTD last year \$97,522

Dedicated Church Maintenance  
and Upkeep Fund YTD \$11,604

Last week's collection for the Dedicated Parish Maintenance & Upkeep Fund amounted to \$2,064.

This week's second collection is for the Home Missions, Black & Native American Mission and the Military Archdiocese.

## 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.