

# St. Irene Church



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(978) 369-3940 • info@StIrenes.org  
Visit our website at [www.StIrenes.org](http://www.StIrenes.org)

**Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**September 20, 2015**

## The Pastor's Corner

This Tuesday, Pope Francis begins his week-long trip to the United States. It will certainly be a memorable event. The central reason for coming to the United States is to attend the World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia. This meeting will focus on the Christian concept of marriage and family. What is unique about this trip is that Pope Francis will also address Congress and the United Nations. We look forward to hear his message to both assemblies. Writer John Allen comments that we should "expect the unexpected" because the formal schedule of any given day is a point of departure for Pope Francis. He often adds impromptu events that turn out to be the biggest headlines. This will be an historic week as we welcome our Holy Father Pope Francis for his first visit to our country.

~ Fr. Tom Donohoe

## 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

- Albert and Lorraine Rotondo  
Memorial Mass  
Saturday, September 19 at 5:00 pm
- Kurt Kelly  
3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary Mass  
John Kelly  
14<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass  
Sunday, September 20 at 8:00 am
- Pham T. Thanh  
Memorial Mass  
Sunday, September 20 at 11:00 am
- Matthew Whaley  
18<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass  
Sunday, September 20 at 5:00 pm
- Roland Desrochers  
Memorial Mass  
Saturday, September 26 at 9:00 am

George MacCormack  
1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Mass  
Sunday, September 27 at 11:00 am

Ray St. Germain  
2<sup>nd</sup> Months Mass  
Tuesday, September 29 at 9:00 am

### **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.

## **Religious Education**

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### **Religious Education**

On Sunday, Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> we observe Catechetical Sunday with a Commissioning Ceremony for the Religious Education teachers at the 8:00 and 11:00 am Masses.

Religious Education Classes for grades K-5 will begin on Sunday, Sept. 20. Session I is from 9:00-9:50 am and session II is from 10:00-10:50 am. Grades 6-8 will begin classes on Monday, Sept. 21. Grade 6-8 will begin the year with Mass at a special start time of 6:30 pm and end at 8:00 pm.

### **Confirmation**

On Sunday, Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> Level 2 Candidates and their parents will meet for 5 pm Mass followed by a parent meeting and video presentation.

Level 1 Classes will meet on Sunday, Sept. 27<sup>th</sup>. Class begins with attendance at the 5 pm Mass.

## **Parish Happenings**

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### **Lazarus House "Hike for Hope"**

St. Irene's Social Justice Committee is supporting the Lazarus House "Hike for Hope" to be held on Sunday, October 4. The "hike" is a 3-mile walk around the town of Andover. The Mostello and Bakken families have already signed up to represent us as the "St. Irene's Team." Fr. Tom is our honorary Team Captain! Collection baskets will be at the back of the church this weekend (September 19/20) if you wish to support our walkers. If your family would like to be a member of the "walking" team, look for the directions near the collection baskets or go to [www.lazarushouse.org/hike-for-hope](http://www.lazarushouse.org/hike-for-hope). We would love to have more participants! Together we can help Lazarus House satisfy the basic needs of families and individuals who are living in poverty, while empowering them to achieve self-sufficiency!!

### **Parish Bookkeeper**

After serving our parish for more than ten years Zenaide Cabral, our bookkeeper, will be retiring at the end of September. Zenaide is a long time parishioner and we are very grateful for her years of service in the rectory office and throughout the church. We will miss her very much and wish Zenaide many beautiful days down in Fairhaven.

St. Irene's is looking for a part-time bookkeeper with experience using Quick Books, payroll processing, bank reconciliation and managing accounts payable and receivable. Candidates should have working knowledge of Massachusetts hiring laws, tax requirements, end-of-year reporting and knowledge of Archdiocese procedures is a plus. The position will require between 20 - 25 hours per week. Resumes and letters of interest should be emailed to Fr. Thomas Donohoe at [info@stirenes.org](mailto:info@stirenes.org) or call (978) 369-3940 for more information.

## St. Irene Parish Picnic – September 20

The Parish Picnic will be held on Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup> after the 11:00 am Mass. This annual event will be held on the grounds of St. Irene Church. It is a great opportunity to enjoy good food, family, fun kid games and crafts, and to catch up with friends you may not have seen over the summer. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$5 for kids 5-12, and under 5 are free. Tickets will be on sale after weekend Masses.

## Save the Dates

The following are some of the events scheduled for 2015/2016:

*Saturday, Nov. 21 – Mystery Dinner*  
*Thursday, Jan. 21 – W.C. Pizza & Bingo*  
*Saturday, Jan. 23 – Trivia Night*  
*Saturday, Apr. 30 – Confirmation*  
*Saturday, May 14 – First Communion*

Please mark your calendars now and plan to come to these wonderful events.

## 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 **yearly** 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 have any questions.

## 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).

## 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).

## 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).

## Parish Library

Register now and enjoy the many wonderful books in our Parish Library which is located in Room 6 of the Parish Hall. The library is open whenever the Church is open but not during religious education classes.

## Area Events

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### Our Common Home: An Ethical Summons to Tackle Climate Change

Boston College Mon., Sept. 28 – Thurs., Oct. 1  
This conference explores the implications of Pope Francis's newly released encyclical on the environment and climate change, "Laudato Si' (Praised Be): On Care for our Common Home."

Distinguished presenters over four days will discuss how the moral voice of faith communities can offer distinct contributions to address climate change, as well as the national and international policy implications of the upcoming international climate con-

ference (COP21) to be held in Paris, and theological considerations of the encyclical. Register at: [www.bc.edu/centers/ila/our-common-home.html](http://www.bc.edu/centers/ila/our-common-home.html) by Sept. 23. Please note: registration is not required for evening events, but requested for morning and lunch events in order to properly accommodate our attendees. This event is free and open to the public.

### **St. Margaret School Holiday Craft Fair**

St. Margaret School in Lowell is searching for Crafters and/or Vendors for our annual Craft/Vendor Fair to be held on school grounds (inside) on Saturday, November 14 from 9-2. If you would like to rent an 8ft by 8ft space for \$30. please contact Danielle Caron at 978-453-8491.

### **Opening Your Heart- The Starting Point! Calling all Women**

Do you need some down time? Some time to reconnect with other women of faith? Then join us for this amazing faith-based class from Walking with Purpose- beautiful environment, yummy food, wonderfully supportive and encouraging women of all ages, and babysitting! Registration will begin at the end of August. This practical and informative course is for any woman wanting to grow in their relationship with the Lord. Please join us.

*When: Oct. thru Mar. Thursdays 10 am to noon*

*Where: Holy Family Parish, Lower Level*

Please contact Rita Staniar 978-505-5775 or email [rstaniar@gmail.com](mailto:rstaniar@gmail.com).

## **Financial Information**

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### **Catholic Appeal 2015**

Thank you to all who have participated in the 2015 Catholic Appeal. St. Irene Parish has raised \$25,255 towards our goal of \$35,246 from 82 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.

### **Offertory Report**

The weekly offertory last Sunday was 11.6% more than last year. Thank you for your continuing support of our parish.

|                         |           |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Offertory               | \$6,709   |
| Last year's Offertory   | \$6,009   |
| Offertory YTD           | \$210,821 |
| Offertory YTD last year | \$219,485 |

Dedicated Church Maintenance  
and Upkeep Fund YTD \$20,459

The collection for the Clergy Benefit Trust amounted to \$2063.

The second collection this weekend is for the Dedicated Parish Maintenance and Upkeep Fund.

### **St. Irene Staff:**

#### **Pastor:**

Reverend Thomas P. Donohoe

#### **Parochial Vicar:**

Reverend Romain Rurangirwa

#### **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  
Please contact Deacon Charles Ferraro

#### **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**

Please contact Pastor 6 months in advance.