

# St. Irene Church



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

**Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**October 4, 2015**

## The Pastor's Corner

This has certainly been an exciting week as we witnessed the historic visit of Pope Francis to our country. The warm and enthusiastic welcomes he received everywhere from Washington to New York to Philadelphia has confirmed his reputation as the "People's Pope." His message to the United States Congress and to the United Nations in New York challenged them in a pastoral way. "We can do better than this and we can do it together." The ecumenical prayer service at ground zero in New York was especially moving, as people of various faiths prayed for the victims of 9/11. Pope Francis also canonized Saint Junipero Serra at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception reminding us that the church does not make saints – God makes saints. Pope Francis concluded his visit with an outdoor Mass in the streets of Philadelphia which also ended the World Meeting of Families. Pope Francis inspired so many people not only by his word but also by his humility and simplicity. He has a real sense of being our pastor. Viva El Papa.

~ 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

Kevin Phillips

Birthday Mass

Saturday, October 3 at 5:00 pm

Pham T. Thanh

Memorial Mass

Sunday, October 4 at 11:00 am

Ralph Guanci

6<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass

Saturday, October 10 at 5:00 pm

Barbara Graczyk

22<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary Mass

Sunday, October 11 at 8:00 am

Phuc Tu and Pham T. Thanh

Memorial Mass

Sunday, October 11 at 11:00 am

Dolores Regan

1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Mass

Sunday, October 11 at 5:00 pm

## 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

Religious Education Classes for grades K-5 Session I are from 9:00-9:50 am and Session II is from 10:00-10:50 am on Sunday mornings. Grades 6-8 meet Monday nights from 7:00-8:00 pm.

### Safety Sessions

October 4<sup>th</sup> will begin Part I of our Safety Sessions for grades K-4 and will conclude on October 18<sup>th</sup>. Safety Part I for grade 5 will begin on October 18<sup>th</sup> and will conclude on October 25<sup>th</sup>. Safety sessions for grades 6-8 are now part of the regular classroom curriculum.

### Columbus Day Weekend

There will be NO CLASSES for grades K-5 on Sunday, Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> and Monday, Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> for grades 6-8 due to the Columbus Day Weekend. Classes will resume on Oct. 18 and 19.

### Youth Living Rosary - Special Start Time

Grades 6-8 will host their annual Living Rosary on Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup> from **6:30-8:00 pm**. *Please note the special start time.* ALL are welcome to attend!

## Confirmation

Level 2 Classes will meet on Sunday, Oct. 4. Class begins with attendance at the 5 pm Mass.

## Parish Happenings

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### SAVE THE DATE!! Saturday, Nov. 21

#### St. Irene Mystery Dinner Theater

Mark your calendar now! The St. Irene Players, with lead thespian Fr. Tom Donohoe, will present its latest production: "Star Wreck – or- The Day the Earth Slowed Down for Murder" on **Saturday, November 21, 2015**. Fr. Tom has been the hit of the show for the last 18 productions, and you will surely want to see what he is up to this year! Come and enjoy good company, good food (from Hostess Catering of Acton), and lots of laughs!!

### Tootsie Roll Drive

The Saint Irene Knights of Columbus will be conducting their annual Tootsie Roll drive after Masses the weekend of October 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>. All proceed will go to help children with special needs. Thank you for your generosity towards this great cause.

### Parish Pastoral Council – Date Change

The Parish Pastoral Council will meet on Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm in the rectory.

### Theater News

The North Shore Music Theatre will present "A Christmas Carol" in December. If you are interested in going, please call the rectory (978) 369-3940, email [info@StIrenes.org](mailto:info@StIrenes.org) or see Judy Andrews as soon as possible. If there is enough interest, a trip will be planned for early December. Thank you.

### Women's Club Movie Night

The Women's Club October meeting will be on Thursday, the 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. It will be "Movie Night" with all the normal movie treats, plus some surprises!! Ballots will be given upon entrance to determine which movie will be shown; so come enjoy an entertaining evening. The meeting is open to all ladies of the parish...members and non-members.

## Ham and Bean Dinner

A harvest Ham & Bean Dinner, sponsored by the Women's Club, will be held in the parish hall on Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. Tickets will go on sale the weekend of October 10<sup>th</sup> after Mass. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$6 for children. Come gather with family and friends for a nice warm comfort meal. Seating is limited so we encourage you to get your tickets early. Please call the rectory (978)369-3940 for more information or to reserve tickets.

## Lazarus House Collection

On Saturday, Oct. 17<sup>th</sup>, Lazarus House Ministries from Lawrence will have a truck in the lower parking lot of the church to collect slightly used clothing and household items like towels, sheets and comforters. They are in desperate need of infant clothes up to 3T and children's shoes and sneakers. The truck will be there from 9:00 am until 1:00 pm. You may bring your donations to them at that time. **DO NOT BRING ANY DONATION BEFORE THE TIME NOTED!!** For those who do not know, Lazarus House Ministries provides services to those in dire need in the Greater Lawrence area. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

## Children's Choir

We welcome children in grades K through 6 to come and sing with the Children's Choir. Rehearsals are every Thursday in the church from 6:00 -7:00 pm. The choir sings at the monthly Family Masses, as well as at Christmas, Easter, and First Communion. No experience is needed.

## Adult Choir

We welcome adults of any age to come and sing with the Adult Choir. Rehearsals are every Thursday in the church from 7:15-8:30 pm. The choir sings at the 11:00 pm Mass every Sunday, as well as on Christmas Eve, Holy Week, Easter, and other important occasions. No experience or audition is required, just a love for singing!

## 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).

## 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.

## 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).

## Area Events

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### Reading the Old Testament

Holy Family Parish, as part of its adult faith formation program will offer a four week course on "Reading the Old Testament" on four consecutive Tuesdays, October 6, 13, 20 and 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM in the lower level of

the parish office building at 55 Church Street in West Concord. A donation of \$5-10 per session is deeply appreciated. Be sure to bring your Bible and a copy of Fr. Boadt's book, "Reading the Old Testament" from Paulist Press.

## Health Care Decisions and the Catholic Church: Honoring Choices

Holy Family Parish Church at 12 Monument Square, Concord, will be the site of a special panel on health care decisions and the Catholic Church on Wednesday, October 14 at 7:30 PM offered by elder law attorney, Margaret Hoag, Jesuit priest and medical doctor, Myles Sheehan and care manager and nurse Mary Ann Wonn in the lower level of the church. At the conclusion of the discussion, attendees will be offered the chance to complete and execute their own Health Care Proxy.

## Financial Information

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### World Mission Sunday

Next week's second collection supports Catholic World Missions. World Mission Sunday gathers support for the pastoral and evangelizing programs and needs of more than 1,150 mission dioceses in Africa, Asia, the Pacific Islands, and remote regions of Latin America. The funds gathered are distributed in the pope's name by the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. For more information please visit <http://www.propfaithboston.org/>.

### 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 35.4 % more than last year. Thank you for your continuing support of our parish.

Offertory	\$8,654
Last year's Offertory	\$6,389
Offertory YTD	\$225,723
Offertory YTD last year	\$231,369
Dedicated Church Maintenance and Upkeep Fund YTD	\$23,453

The second collection next Sunday is for World Mission Sunday.

## 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.