

St. Irene Church

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



**Feast of Christ the King
November 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

Charles, Josephine & Mary Roscoe
Memorial Mass

November 22 at 8:00 am

Pham T. Thanh
Memorial Mass

Sunday, November 22 & 29 at 11:00 am

George Dee
Memorial Mass

Friday, November 27 at 9:00 am

Jessie LeDrew
and All Deceased Veterans
Memorial Mass

Saturday, November 28 at 9:00 am

George Gould
21st Anniversary Mass

Saturday, November 28 at 5:00 pm

Ernestine Secovich
Memorial Mass

Sunday, November 29 at 11:00 am

The Pastor's Corner

On Thursday we celebrate Thanksgiving Day – a day for us to give thanks to God for all His Blessings to us. Certainly this year, we need to give thanks not only for our material possessions which enable us to live in comfort; we also need to be grateful that we live in a peaceful nation and community even as we witness the terrible violence in so many places around the world.

It has been our custom on Thanksgiving Eve to join with the members of the First Religious Society at an Ecumenical Service of Thanksgiving. This year the service will be held at the First Religious Society on Wednesday evening at 7:30 PM. I am privileged to preach the homily. We welcome all of you who are free to join us that evening. It is a very special way to observe this holiday and give thanks to God for all His blessings.

~ Fr. Tom Donohoe

Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service

Our annual Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service will be held at the First Religious Society on Wednesday, November 25 at 7:30 pm. Father Tom will preach. We hope to see you.

Banns of Marriage

1st Publication

Dan Boffo and Kristen Kilfoyle

Parish Book of Life

During the month of November we offer special prayers in remembrance of the faithful departed. The Parish Book of Life will be at the front of the Church so that you may record the names of your family members who have died. We will offer Mass for them on All Souls Day and on other days in November. We will also pray for them at Mass daily in November.

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.

Religious Education

Christmas Pageant Directors Needed

After several years of directing Carol Yelle and Laura France will be retiring. Please email Eileen Faber at Reled@StIrenes.org if you are interested in volunteering. You would be involved in assisting this year and take over for next.

Religious Education

There will be no classes for grades K-5 on Sunday, November 29th due to Thanksgiving weekend.

Thank You

Thank you to the Grade 4 students for hosting both the 8:00 and 11:00 am Masses last weekend. Great job!

Confirmation

Level 2 Classes will meet on Sunday, November 22. Class begins with attendance at the 5:00 pm Mass. There are no classes on Sunday, November 29th due to Thanksgiving weekend.

Parish Happenings

Parish Children's Christmas Party Sunday, December 6th

Calling all kids to come to the Saint Irene Children's Christmas Party. Sunday December 6th following the 11am Mass in the Parish hall. There will be crafts, games, music, pizza, and a visit from Santa to bring the Christmas cheer. Please buy tickets after Masses prior to the 6th if possible, so we can have an accurate headcount. Tickets will be on sale after weekend Masses: Kids \$5 Adults \$8.

Christmas Children's Choir Be Part of a St. Irene's Tradition!

All children in grades Kindergarten through 6th are invited to join the Christmas Children's Choir! This choir sings at both the Christmas pageant and on Christmas Eve, and is much-loved by many in the parish. No experience is necessary, and rehearsals will take place in the church on the following Thursday evenings from 6:00-7:00 pm (December 3rd, 10th, and 17th). Please contact Cypriana at Music@StIrenes.com if you have any questions, to join or plan to come to the first rehearsal. We look forward to seeing all the young singers!

Keeping Christ in Christmas

Your Saint Irene Knights of Columbus will be selling Keeping Christ in Christmas cards after the Masses beginning November 21 & 22. Please consider purchasing these Catholic themed cards that represent what Christmas is all about.

Thanksgiving 2015 Food Baskets

Catholic Charities of Lowell and Haverhill currently distributes food to 30,000 people annually. For many years Catholic Charities has relied upon St. Irene's to provide food baskets to families in need. Your response in the past has been greatly appreciated.

Detailed information and food lists can be found at the back of the church. The boxes have been donated by *Olympia Movers of Watertown* and can be found in the closet at the back of the church. **Baskets will be collected and delivered immediately after on Sunday, November 22nd.** We are in need of volunteers to drive the donated meals to Catholic Charities **Sunday after collection.** If you own a large SUV, enclosed truck or minivan, please consider helping deliver. Checks can be made out to "Merrimack Valley Catholic Charities" with "Lowell Food Pantry" on the memo line in lieu of a food basket. Checks can be dropped off at the rectory. Please email Deacon Charles Ferraro at DeaconCharlie@StIrenes.org for more information or to volunteer.

Concord Prison Holiday Gift Bag Project

We will be collecting items for the Concord Prison Holiday Gift Bag Project from Saturday, Nov. 14th through Sunday, Dec. 6th; please put your contributions in the box located in the church vestibule. Donations do not have to be in sets. Adult volunteers will assemble the gift bags. Each gift bag will contain a bar of deodorant soap (4-5 oz.), toothpaste (5.8 - 6 oz.), white envelopes #6 3/4 (6 1/2" x 3 5/8"), a pad of WHITE paper (6" x 9" or 5" x 8", 100 pages, no wire), a pair of white CREW socks (no tube socks, knee highs or "tennis" socks), a bottle (plastic) of shampoo (12-15 oz.), a stick deodorant (no roll-ons or gels, 2.5 oz. or larger), and a hand made holiday greeting card ("Happy Holidays, Seasons Greetings, Merry Christmas, no religious cards), signed with first names only. If you would like to assemble gift bags, make cards, have any questions or want to make a cash donation, call Jean Donnelly 978-369-1993 or email prison-gifts@stirenes.org.

Library News – Advent Book Displays

Advent books for both adults and children are on display at the back of the church and also downstairs in the library. Please keep the books out for no longer than 3 weeks, so that all may enjoy them.

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.

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 **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.

Area Events

Luke: Stories on the Road Frank Runyeon to Kick Off Year of Mercy

The Catholic Community of Billerica has invited Frank Runyeon, a former Hollywood actor who now performs the gospel throughout the country, to bring "**Luke: Stories of Mercy**" to **St. Theresa Church on Sunday, December 6 at 2:00 PM.** Frank will share reflections and stories from his own faith journey, and point to the theme of mercy in Jesus' best known parables, *The Prodigal Son* and *The Good Samaritan*. In addition, Frank will share some of his "Hollywood vs. Faith" presentation to help us

to choose to live out our Advent the way Jesus would want us to, as opposed to secular society. All ages are welcome! We will have fellowship and refreshments following the hour-long performance.

Financial Information

Grand Annual collection

The Grand Annual Collection this past weekend amounted to \$18,511 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.

Retired Religious Sisters Collection

This week's second collection is for our Retired Sisters. In our Archdiocese of Boston, some 2,000 Retired Sisters have devoted more than 54,000 years of faithful ministry to our Catholic schools, parishes, hospitals, and social services agencies. This annual collection offers a special opportunity to say thank you to the Sisters who have served our Church of Boston so generously. Every contribution makes a difference in our ability to meet the retirement and healthcare needs of these faith-filled women. Thank you for your prayerful and generous support of our Retired Sisters.

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. Thank you.

Offertory Report

The weekly offertory last Sunday was 4% more than last year. Thank you for your continuing support of our parish.

Offertory	\$6,749
Last year's Offertory	\$6,483
Offertory YTD	\$267,356
Offertory YTD last year	\$279,148

Dedicated Church Maintenance
and Upkeep Fund YTD \$26,405

Grand Annual as of 11/15 \$18,511
Amount needed to reach goal \$81,489

Separate Gifts as of 11/15 \$600

This week the second collection is for the Retired Sisters.

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, 1st 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, 2nd and 4th of each month at 1:00 pm.

Weddings

Please contact Pastor 6 months in advance.