

St. Irene Church

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



Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 31, 2016

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

Pham T. Thanh

Memorial Mass

Sunday, January 31 at 11:00 am

Steven Rosa

Memorial Mass

Sunday, January 31 at 5:00 pm

Amanda Gunning

21st Birthday Mass

Monday, February 1 at 9:00 am

Edna Moschini

24th Anniversary Mass

Tuesday, February 2 at 9:00 am

Julie Riley

4th Anniversary Mass

Sunday, February 7 at 11:00 am

The Vicar's Corner

On January 22nd many Catholics gathered in Washington, D.C. for the annual March for Life. As they were returning home, Winter Storm Jonas was consuming the East coast. Tens of buses had to stop on the turnpike in Pennsylvania because of an accident on the road. For 22 hours they couldn't go anywhere.

A group of youth from the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis had a brilliant idea, a holy idea. They constructed an altar out of snow and asked one of the priests to celebrate Mass. He said yes and they went knocking on all of the buses inviting everyone for Mass - 500 people gathered. They were from dioceses in Iowa, Nebraska, Minnesota and Pennsylvania. Father Behm from Le Mars, Iowa, who was asked to preside the Mass, said that when time for communion came his hands were too numb to distribute communion. Other priests took that on.

Father Behm recounted that 35 minutes of Mass changed 22 hours of being stuck. He concluded, "Christ was with us in this storm. He's with us in every storm and it is him who will ultimately bring victory." (Continued)

May Christ be with us in the different storms of our lives. When we feel stuck, may we know how and when to build him an altar so that he can change cold into warm hearts, brighten our days and clear the way to bring everyone home safely!

~ Fr. Romain Rurangirwa

First Friday

February 5th is the First Friday of February and Mass will be celebrated at 9:00 am. First Friday Devotions will follow and conclude with Benediction.

Knights of Columbus Present An Evening of Prayer & Adoration

*Special Presentation of
Image of the Holy Family*

*By Giovanni Balestra (1774-1842)
Tuesday February 2, 2016 at 7:30 PM*

The image was blessed by Pope Francis on June 29, 2015 and is currently on pilgrimage throughout the country. The inauguration ceremony for the pilgrimage was conducted on Aug. 4 in Philadelphia right before the city hosted the 8th World Meeting of Families, which was held for the first time in the United States. Come and honor our heavenly family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph as we ask their blessings for our families.

Thank You

Thank you to the 8th grade students and teachers for hosting both Masses on January 24th. Great job!

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.

Ash Wednesday Schedule

The season of Lent begins on Wednesday, February 10th. Masses for Ash Wednesday will be celebrated at 9:00 am and 7:30 pm. A Prayer Service will be held at 4:00 pm. Ashes will be blessed and distributed at these services.

Religious Education

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.

The Peer Leadership Group will be Hosting the "Mardi Gras" celebration for grades K-5 on Sunday, February 7th.

The 6th, 7th & 8th grades will be having their Mardi Gras Celebration on Monday, February 8th. This special 2 hour class will begin with Mass and then followed with a Pizza Party and "Lenten Stations" in the Parish Hall. Please note the SPECIAL START TIME OF 6:00 PM for Mass. Pick up will be at the usual time of 8pm.

Confirmation

Level 2 Confirmation class will meet on Sunday, January 31st at the 5:00 pm Mass. Class will follow Mass.

Parish Happenings

Lector Training

St. Irene's will provide Lector/Reader training on Thursday, Feb. 4 from 7:00 - 8:30 pm in the church (upstairs). Those who are interested in reading at Mass are welcome to join us for training, after which they could be included on the schedule.

Stations of the Cross

Women's Club – Soup and Bread

The Season of Lent is fast approaching. Ash Wednesday is February 10th. On Friday February 12th, prior to the Stations of the Cross, we will have our first "Soup & Bread" repast in the Parish Hall. This Lenten event hosted by the Women's Club will run from

5:30 pm and continue until 7:00 pm so as to give people ample time to enjoy their meal before going upstairs for the stations. All are invited and encouraged to attend.

Women's Club Hors d'oeuvres Night

The Women's Club will hold an hors d'oeuvres tasting evening on Thursday, February 18th at 6:30 pm in the church hall (weather permitting). Come see our "Culinary Chefs" prepare and serve their special "tidbits" all the while enjoying friendly conversation. As always desserts are always appreciated to complete the evening. Please contact Jan Brown for more information.

More Than Words Book Drive Success

The Peer Leaders would like to thank all the parishioners who contributed their books, DVDs and text books. The project was a great success. On Sunday, January 24th over three truckloads of books were delivered to the More Than Words (MTW) warehouse in Waltham. Please go to <http://www.stirenes.org/volunteering/parishministries/peer.html> to see the pictures of the peer leaders collecting, loading and delivering the books.

MTW works with youth ranging in age from 16 to 21. All of these young adults have been in foster care, court involved, homeless, or out of school. MTW provides them with 15 to 25 hours per week working in their bookstores, on-line business, and café. In addition they provide them with intensive case management, workshops, career and college coaching, site visits, networking events, mock interviews, and training for them to reach measurable goals for their future work, education, and life. This is a 24 month program.

The funds that your donations provide will help the folks at MTW to continue to make a life changing impact upon disadvantage youth, addressing in a concrete way Pope Francis call during the Jubilee Year of Mercy for corporal and spiritual works of mercy. Many thanks from More than Words.

Parish Pastoral Council

The Parish Pastoral Council will meet on Sunday, February 14 at 7 pm in the rectory.

Audio Engineer Volunteer Needed

St. Irene's is beginning the process of updating the audio system in the church. We are seeking an audio engineer to volunteer for some consulting and to work with the sound company. If you are able to help, please email info@StIrenes.org or call the rectory office (978) 369-3940. Thank you.

Peer Leadership Seeks Adult Assistance

St. Irene Peer Leadership Ministry (PLM) has been in existence for over 5 years providing award winning leadership training and faith development based on the Gospel message for post confirmation high schoolers. Membership in the PLM has quadrupled during that time. This exciting rapidly growing expansion needs additional help from motivated committed catholic adults to help take the program to its next level.

PLM involves social events, retreats, mission trips, and leadership activities for younger parish members all of which have been key components of our ministry.

We are seeking adult volunteers to assist with the organizing and execution of various events. This would require at most 4 or 5 hours per month. Ideal candidates would possess the skills of mentoring, guiding, and supporting the development of sound Catholic values, virtues and principles for post confirmation young adults.

If you have questions, ideas, or would like to become involved please contact Deacon-Charlie@stirenes.org for more information.

Join the Music Ministry in the New Year!

After a well-deserved "long Winter's nap," rehearsals for both the Children and Adult Choirs will resume on WEDNESDAY (new day!), January 13th. Both choirs rehearse in the church at the following times: Children's Choir, 6:15-7:00; Adult Choir, 7:15-8:30.

Neither choir requires an audition or any previous singing experience. The only "requirements" are a positive attitude and the desire to grow spiritually through learning new music and sharing your talents during the Masses. For more information, please drop me a note at Music@stirenes.org. I look forward to seeing YOU! 😊

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

When Your Brother or Sister Dies Surviving Sibling Support Group

When a brother or sister dies everything changes in your family, in your life, and your dreams. Know you are not alone in your grief and loneliness. A Surviving Sibling Support Group is now offered at Saint John the Evangelist Old Parish Hall, 115 Middlesex St., North Chelmsford, MA on the last Saturday each month for surviving siblings of all ages and for any reason. All are welcome to a safe place to share their story, find comfort, hope and encouragement as you continue a new path in life. Meetings will begin: Saturday, April 30 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Eucharistic Ministers Needed at Emerson

Eucharistic Ministers are needed to bring communion to the sick and recovering at the Emerson Hospital. We ask for a 2 hour commitment approximately once a month during weekday mornings. Communion is provided from the hospital chapel, and two ministers are scheduled each day. Timothy Duff, Catholic Chaplain at the hospital, offers ongoing training and direction as well as a yearly dinner and retreat for all minister. If you have an interest in this ministry or need additional information please call Tim at (978) 287-3015 or email him at tduff@emersonhosp.org.

Financial Information

Offertory Report

The weekly offertory last Sunday was 28% more than last year. Thank you for your continuing support of our parish.

Offertory	\$6,390
Last year's Offertory	\$4,995

Offertory YTD	\$24,130
Offertory YTD last year	\$23,025
Monthly YTD	\$2,593
2015 Grand Annual	\$110,221
Separate Gifts YTD	\$480

Last week the second collection for the Church in Latin America amounted to \$806.

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.