



St. Irene Church

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

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
December 31, 2017

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

Amy Caruso

Anniversary Mass

Sunday, December 31 at 8:00 am

Clara & Timothy Galvin

Memorial Mass

Sunday, December 31 at 11:00 am

Heneghan & Stewart Families

Memorial Mass

Friday, January 5 at 9:00 am

Richard Heneghan

Memorial Mass

Sunday, January 7 at 8:00 am

Joseph Femia

Memorial Mass

Sunday, January 7 at 5:00 pm

The Pastor's Corner

We are still celebrating the joy of Christmas and the birth of Jesus – our Savior. Now we look ahead to this New Year – 2018. We look back with thanks to the Lord for his many blessings to us as individuals and as a parish community. We look ahead with hope. Christmas inspires that hope – that God loves us and takes care of us. Let us renew that hope as we begin this new year in our lives.

Fr. Tom Donohoe

First Friday

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

Low-Gluten Altar Bread is Available

If you have Celiac Disease and wish to receive Communion, please see the celebrant priest **prior** to Mass so he can consecrate the low-gluten hosts during the Mass.

Daily Bible Readings

Please visit www.usccb.org/bible/readings/ to find the daily bible readings and other information.

Tuesday Evening Adoration & Benediction

All are invited every Tuesday at 7:30 pm to Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. 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.

Religious Education

Religious Education

Classes will resume on Sunday, Jan. 8 for grades K-5 and Monday, Jan. 9 for grades 6-8. Second Grade Reconciliation Workbooks and journals are due at that time.

Peer Leaders

Calling all confirmed teens! Join us at Peer Leadership on Sunday, Jan. 7 at 3:30. Come hangout and snack as we discuss the theme for this month, Every Day Epiphanies.

The teens of Peer Leadership will also be putting together a parish cookbook for next year! Please help us to fill the pages by sending in your favorite family recipes to kmc-collum19@concordcarlisle.org. Peer Leadership will be trying them all over the next few months and putting together our favorites.

Parish Happenings

Three King's Day Party - January 7th

Please join us for St. Irene's third annual Three King's Day party! Celebrate the Epiphany with us on Sunday, Jan 7th after the 11:00 am Mass in the church's parish hall. We will have activities for the children and an international potluck for all.

Kindly visit our Sign Up page if you want to participate in the potluck: <http://tinyurl.com/3Kings-StIrene-2018>. Please contact Karen Gettings at 3Kings@StIrenes.org or the rectory (978) 369-3940 for more information. Merry Christmas, and we're looking forward to celebrating with you in January!

St. Irene's Women's Club 2017 Activities

The fall of 2017 has been a very busy and productive time for the women's club. A Ham & Bean Dinner was hosted in October for parishioners. The food was homemade by members of the club. November saw the making of 59 apple pies while 41 handmade boxwood trees were produced in December. Profits from the sale of the pies provided Thanksgiving food baskets for 2 local families. Boxwood tree profits were used for the purchase of food and Christmas gifts for local families experiencing hard times this holiday season. The club also boxed and mailed gifts donated by parishioners for military personnel stationed in Afghanistan in December.

We are very thankful and grateful to St. Irene parishioners for supporting our efforts through the purchase of the pies and trees and troop donations. We are also very thankful to the ladies of the women's club who participated in these projects and provided materials and supplies.

Jan Brown, President, St. Irene Women's Club

Catholic Charities Thank You

On behalf of Merrimack Valley Catholic Charities, we sincerely thank you, St. Irene's, for your generous donation of Christmas gifts. You blessed so many families with your kindness and compassion this holiday season. Our clients truly appreciate the outpour of love from your parishioners. We wish you continued blessings and health for this upcoming New Year.

2018 Catholic Appeal Volunteer Needed

St. Irene's is seeking a volunteer to help as an Appeal Coordinator for the 2018 Catholic Appeal. If you are able to help please speak with Fr. Tom or call the rectory office (978-369-3940) Monday through Friday from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm. Thank you.

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.

Christmas Thank You

A special thank you to all that worked so hard this Christmas season to make it joyous for so many others.

We thank Jean Morin and the Saint Irene Women's Club who organized packing and sending 25 individual soldier gift boxes and 9 common room boxes for our men and women serving overseas; Jean Donnelly who organized the Gift Bag Project for the Concord Prison; Lauren and Joe Dominguez for coordinating the Catholic Charities of the Merrimack Valley Thanksgiving food basket drive. A total of 76 Thanksgiving baskets were given to those in need; Judy Andrews for coordinating and delivering over 220 gifts donated by our generous parishioners for the Giving Tree. Gifts were distributed through Catholic Charities, Elder Services of Merrimack Valley, Carlisle Council on Aging, and House of Hope. Margaret Bulpett, Alice Fischer and several others knitted and crocheted many blankets, hats and mittens.

We also thank Paul Flanagan for coordinating the parking on Christmas Eve and the **Carlisle Police Department** for their traffic control help.

We thank all who made our church so beautiful for Christmas with the banners, wreaths and flowers especially Marvin Gonzales for setting up the Christmas trees, Mary Ellen, Dave, Ben and Abbie Bakken, the Phillips Family, Pat and Erin Enwright and Deacon Dean and Margaret Bulpett for decorating.

Many people helped to make our Church Liturgies both wonderful and inspirational. Cypriana Coelho, Marianne Vrotsos and the entire Music Ministry provided beautiful music.

We also thank our Lectors, Ushers, Eucharistic Ministers and Altar Servers for their contributions. Everyone worked together to make our celebration of the birth of the Lord a joyful experience.

Christmas Flowers

The Christmas flowers decorating our church were donated in memory of or in honor of the following:

In Honor of Anne C. Arcidi

In Memory of the Barre Family

In Memory of Paul and Loretta Bolduc

In Memory of Fran and Rita Booth

In Memory of Raymond Briere

In Memory of Albert Cabral

In Memory of Matthew Caiazza

In Memory of Paul and Susan Champagne

In Remembrance of Smutte & Evald T. Christensen

In Memory of Triston and Leonore Correia

In Memory of Triston Correia, Jr.

In Memory of Alice T. Harrington Critch

In Memory of Helen and Ray Critch

In Memory of Daniel Diomedes

In Memory of Barbara and Ted Graczyk

In Remembrance of Duane E. Irmen

In Memory of the Isabelle Family

In Memory of Kurt Kelly

Ernestine Kontney

In Memory of Harriet Layden

In Memory of James and Helen Lee

In Memory of Betty Mangan

The McDermott / Bulpett Families

In Memory of Bob Nelson

In Honor of William and Louise O'Leary

In Memory of Rita and Lionel Paquin

In Memory of the Render Family

In Memory of Joseph Reynolds

In Memory of John Schirmer

In Memory of Beverly Schirmer

In Memory of Martin Traumuller

In Memory of Joe and Kay Womersley

In Memory of the deceased members of:

The Clericuzio Family

The Ferreira Family

The Silva Family

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

The Parish Pastoral Council is meeting on Sunday, January 7 at 7:00 pm in the rectory.

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.

Please return all Advent books by January 15. Thank you.

St. Irene Online

For more information about St. Irene Parish, please visit our web site: www.StIrenes.org or www.facebook.com/StIrenes. You are invited to explore both and offer suggestions via e-mail at feedback@stirenes.org. St. Irene's online calendar can be found at www.stirenes.org/quicklinks/calendar.html.

Financial Information

Grand Annual Collection

The Grand Annual Collection this past weekend amounted to **\$88,306** towards our goal of \$125,000. 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.

Increased Offertory Campaign

We sincerely thank those who have participated in the increased offertory campaign. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Our goal is to appeal to the generous support of our community and increase the offertory by 20% to cover our operating expenses.

We are asking each of you to prayerfully review your commitment and consider an increase in your continuing offertory contributions consistent with your means. The parish needs the support of every parishioner to have a vibrant, long-term community where all are welcome to share in the light of Jesus Christ and each other. Thank you.

On-Line Giving at St. Irene's

St. Irene Parish provides Online Giving - a convenient and safe way to make a one-time or recurring donations. Getting started is easy - just visit our website, www.stirenes.org, and click our **E-Giving** link. When you participate, your gift will be securely transferred directly to the parish. We thank you for your continued support.

The collection for the Clergy Benefit Trust amount to \$8437.

St. Irene Staff:

Pastor:

Reverend Thomas P. Donohoe

Parochial Vicar:

Reverend Romain Rurangirwa

Permanent Deacons:

Deacon Dean Bulpett

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 the rectory.

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.