



St. Irene Church

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

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 11, 2018

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

Claire Mariano
Month's Mind Mass
Tuesday, February 13 at 9:00 am

Euclid and Claire Lague
Memorial Mass
Thursday, February 15 at 9:00 am

Evelyn Werner
Memorial Mass
Saturday, February 17 at 9:00 am

Grace McCarron
2nd Anniversary Mass
Saturday, February 17 at 5:00 pm

Julie Riley
6th Anniversary Mass
Sunday, February 18 at 8:00 am

The Pastor's Corner

This weekend we celebrate World Marriage Day. It began in 1981 in Louisiana as "We Believe in Marriage Day." The event was so successful that it was adopted by World Wide Marriage Encounter. The permanent theme for World Marriage Day is "Love One Another." It is a daily decision – simple but challenging. World Marriage Day celebrates husband and wife as head of the family and honors their faithfulness and sacrifice in married life. Today we will offer a prayer and blessing for all married couples.

Fr. Tom Donohoe

World Marriage Day

This Sunday, February 11th is World Marriage Day. We will have renewal of marriage vows and presentation of flowers at all Masses this weekend.

Ash Wednesday Schedule

The season of Lent begins on Wednesday, February 14. 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.

Season of Lent

Lent is a time for spiritual renewal in our lives. It is a season of repentance calling us once again to a change of heart. It is a special time of prayer and fasting: a time of penance and charity towards our neighbors.

Lent is that special time when we prepare for our greatest feast — The Resurrection of the Lord on Easter Sunday. Lent is a period of special penitential observance. Every Friday of Lent is a day of abstinence. On those days, adult Catholics over age 14 may not eat meat.

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting for Catholics between the ages of 18 and 60 years of age.

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.

Flu Season Advisory

In light of the severity of flu related illnesses the Archdiocese has issued some liturgical directives. The distribution of the Precious Blood for the faithful is suspended until the emergency subsides. We encourage you to exchange the sign of peace without any physical contact. If you are ill or suspect you are ill with a contagious illness, you are not bound by the Sunday Mass obligation. You should remain at home and return to church when you are well.

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 K-8

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.

Special Start Time: 6:00 to 8:00 pm for grades 6-8 on Monday, Feb. 12, 2018. We will host our annual "Mardi Gras" celebration which begins with Mass up in the church. There will be NO RELIGIOUS ED CLASSES on Feb. 18, 19 and 25 due to Winter Vacation. Classes will resume on Monday, Feb. 26 for grades 6-8.

Congratulations

Congratulations to our 2nd graders. They received the Sacrament of First Reconciliation on Saturday, Jan. 27, 2018.

6th Grade Stations of the Cross Rehearsal Schedule

Classes will have a special start time for the following 3 classes:

Monday, Feb. 26th at 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Monday, Mar. 5th at 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Monday, Mar. 12th at 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Confirmation

Classes for Levels 1 and 2 will meet on Sunday, Feb. 11th. Class begins with attendance at the 5:00 pm Mass.

Peer Leaders

Just a reminder we are still looking for recipes for our Parish Cookbook, which we hope to have out by the fall. Please send recipes to Peerleaders@StIrenes.org.

Parish Happenings

Women's Club Hors D'oeuvres Night

The Women's Club will hold an hors d'oeuvres tasting evening on Thursday, Feb. 15th at 6:30 pm in the parish hall. 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.

"Will You Help to Build My Classroom?" Update

The Social Justice Committee wants to thank everyone who made donations last weekend toward the goal of raising \$30,000 to build three elementary school classrooms adjacent to the Catholic Church in Thunga Malawi. Generous parishioners have donated \$5,821 to date! Members of the Social Justice Committee and the Knights of Columbus will be accepting donations at all Masses this weekend. Donations can be made by cash, check (payable to Design Cause Inc., a 501(c)(3) non-profit) or by credit card. Donations can be made after each Mass or made online at www.designcauseinc.org.

All Invited to Information Gathering – After 11 a.m. Mass on Sunday, Feb. 11

The St. Irene's Women's Club will host a "light luncheon" reception in the church hall after the 11 am Mass on Sunday, Feb. 11. All are invited to learn more about the parish's project to build three elementary classrooms in Thunga Malawi. This is an opportunity to see more pictures of the people, the children, the current conditions, and the site for the new classrooms. Kelsey Bradley, who was confirmed at St. Irene's and who founded Design Cause Inc. after her graduation from Philadelphia Univ. with a degree in architecture, will be here to describe her trip to Malawi last November and answer questions. PLEASE COME! ALL ARE WELCOME!

St. Irene's Adult Faith Formation Presentation Monday, Feb. 26, 9:30 – 11:30 am BC Video: "Journey with the Saints of Lent"

Lent is the perfect season to take a reflective look at our spiritual needs and longings. We welcome you to join us in the church hall at 9:30 am (after the 9 am Mass) as we watch this video from the Boston College School of Theology. The presenter is Br. Michael O'Neill McGrath, O.S.F.S. As Brother Mickey shares his paintings and stories, the saints and Gospel stories of Lent come alive, leading to a deeper awareness of God's presence as we journey together toward Easter. Following the hour video, we have set aside an additional 45 minutes for discussion. A light breakfast will be served.

Stations of the Cross Women's Club – Soup and Bread

The Season of Lent is fast approaching. Ash Wednesday is February 14. On Friday, February 16, 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.

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.

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.

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 https://www.virtusonline.org/virtus/reg_list.cfm?theme=0.

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.

Financial Information

Grand Annual Collection

The Grand Annual Collection this past week-end amounted to **\$107,591** 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.

Catholic Appeal 2018

This past week, many of you received a letter from Cardinal Seán requesting your support of the 2018 Catholic Appeal. Supporting the Catholic Appeal is the most effective way to carry out the work of the Church, both within and beyond parish boundaries. Our parish benefits from the ministries supported by the Appeal and your gift will help us reach our 2018 goal. If you have not already done so, please prayerfully consider making an early pledge. You may mail your pledge or visit **www.bostoncatholicappeal.org** to give online. 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 second collection last week for Church Support around the World totaled \$1301.

Ash Wednesday Collection for Catholic Charities – Wednesday, February 14

On Ash Wednesday a special collection will be taken up for Catholic Charities of Boston. Catholic Charities works to serve those throughout the Archdiocese and help them on a path to self-sustainability. Programs including food and utility assistance, adult education, temporary and transitional housing,

at-risk youth development, child care, and refugee and immigration services provide a hand up for nearly 200,000 of our neediest neighbors annually. On behalf of those we serve, thank you in advance for your generosity. For more information, please visit www.ccab.org.

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.