

St. Irene Church

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



Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 4, 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

Lisa Trebino
14th Anniversary Mass
Saturday, February 3 at 5:00 pm

Spencer Frank Ridick
Month's Mind Mass
Thursday, February 8 at 9:00 am

Walden and Grace Ward
Memorial Mass
Friday, February 9 at 9:00 am

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

The Pastor's Corner

All Masses this weekend will be offered for Prayer and Penance at the request of Cardinal Sean. This is the response of a call from Pope Francis for all dioceses across the world to have a day of Prayer and Penance in recognition of the harm done by clergy sexual abuse. It is the opportunity to seek repentance for the sins of the church, to pray for all who were abused and to pray for healing for the abused families, members of the church and the community at large.

Fr. Tom Donohoe

Mass Location Change

On Tuesday, February 6 the daily Mass will be held downstairs in the Parish Hall due to rafter cleaning in the church. Please call the rectory office 978-369-3940 if you have any questions.

World Marriage Day

Next 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.

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

Confirmation

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

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. Grades 6-8 meet Monday nights from 7:00-8:00 pm.

Reminder: There will be a mandatory 2nd grade First Eucharist Parents Meeting in the parish hall during regularly scheduled class times on Sun., Feb. 4th (snow date: Feb. 11).

Peer Leaders

The next Peer Leadership meeting is on Sunday February 4 at 3:30 pm. Our theme for the month will be Love and Happiness. Please bring your Bibles as we will be doing a quiz with prizes. If you have any question please send them to Peerleaders@StIrenes.org.

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.

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.

“Will You Help to Build My Classroom?”

We are excited to announce that with the support of the Parish Pastoral Council, the parish Social Justice Committee, and members of many parish ministries, St. Irene’s will launch a fundraising campaign this weekend to build three elementary classrooms in Thunga Malawi. We are blessed that a “daughter” of our parish, Kelsey Bradley, will share her time and talents to design and oversee the construction of three classrooms in Thunga this summer. See the enclosed flyer for more details. Speakers at the Masses this weekend will describe the needs of the children of Thunga and how you can help. As Pope Francis said, at the end of time, “We will be asked if we have helped others . . . especially children deprived of the necessary means to free them from the bonds of poverty; . . .”

Save the Dates

Monday, Feb. 26 – Adult Ed. Class

Friday, Mar. 23 – Stations of the Cross

Saturday, Mar. 24 – Italian Night

Saturday, May 5 – Confirmation

Saturday, May 12 – First Communion

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.

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.

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.

Children’s Choir Schedule 2018

Thursday, February 15

Thursdays, March 8, 15, 22, 29

Thursdays, April 12, 26

Thursday, May 10, 24 (Kimball Farms)

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.

Area Events

LIFT Ministries Event February 20

A Quiet Intimate Night of Worship

Join us for a 2-hour evening that will lead believers and disciples more deeply into the heart of God through a greater yielding to the power of the Holy Spirit. This evening features acoustic praise and worship, Eucharistic adoration and speaker Fr. Matt Williams.

This evening is OPEN TO ALL . . . but is best suited for those with a faith foundation who are looking to delve a little deeper. Tuesday, Feb. 20 from 7-9 pm at St. John the Evangelist Parish, 115 Middlesex St., North Chelmsford. Questions? Call Courtney at (978) 256-2374 x227.

A Lenten Evening with Andrew LaVallee of Live the Fast - Sunday, February 25

The Catholic Community of Billerica welcomes Andrew LaVallee, founder of Live the Fast and LaVallee’s Bakery Distributors to speak to us about *Why Prayer and Fasting is a Team*. Join us on Sunday, February 25 at 6:30 pm at St. Theresa Church to hear Andy’s

story of conversion and how we, too, can incorporate prayer and fasting into our own lives. There will also be time for Q & A. Fellowship and refreshments will follow in the parish center. Live the Fast materials and Andy's books will be available.

Financial Information

Grand Annual Collection

The Grand Annual Collection this past weekend amounted to **\$105,066** 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

Once a year, Catholics throughout the Archdiocese are asked to support the greater church by giving a gift to the Catholic Appeal. Just as the weekly collection supports parish expenses, initiatives and programs, the Catholic Appeal helps fund services that are essential to both the parish and the greater Church community. Within the next few weeks, many of you will receive a letter from Cardinal Seán requesting your support of the 2018 Catholic Appeal. We hope that you will respond generously. 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.

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.

| Financial Details | Weekly | Monthly | Gifts & Bequests |
|-------------------|-----------|----------|------------------|
| January 2018 | \$25,911 | \$2867 | \$125 |
| Year to Date | \$25,911 | \$2867 | \$125 |
| December 2017 | \$31,103 | \$2970 | \$613 |
| YTD 2017 | \$322,239 | \$31,103 | *\$86,234.62 |

*Includes a one-time bequest of \$42,751.62