

St. Irene Church

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



First Sunday of Lent
March 5, 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

Colleen Kelly - Memorial Mass
Sunday, March 5 at 8:00 am

Lisa Trebino - 13th Anniversary Mass
Sunday, March 5 at 11:00 am

Brent Allen - 1st Anniversary Mass
Monday, March 6 at 9:00 am

Amy Tobin - Memorial Mass
Tuesday, March 7 at 9:00 am

Maria Kowalska – Memorial Mass
Wednesday, March 8 at 9:00 am

John & Grace Behan- Memorial Mass
Sunday, March 12 at 8:00 am

Gilbert Ponte - Memorial Mass
Sunday, March 12 at 11:00 am

The Pastor's Corner

We have begun the season of Lent. I look back at my days in the seminary, long before the Vatican Council. Then we were obliged to a strict Lenten fast, which allowed me one full meal a day and no food between meals. This obligatory Lenten observance ended with the Second Vatican Council. But our obligation to do penance and to fast did not end. We are now asked to do something more difficult. We are asked to fast from our major faults – to work to change our lives. We are asked to reach out and help our neighbors and to take more time to pray. As we begin this first week of Lent let us take on the penance - that kind of fasting that will best help us to live as better disciples of Jesus and experience fully the spiritual renewal and new life we celebrate on Easter.

~Fr. Tom Donohoe

The Light is on for You

You are invited! Please come and experience Christ's healing love and celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The church is open on Wednesdays during Lent from 6:30 – 7:30 pm.

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, 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.

Children's Liturgy

Children's Liturgy will be celebrated on March 12th at the 8:00 and 11:00 am Masses. The Masses will be hosted by the 3rd grade.

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.

Tuesday Evening Adoration & Benediction

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.

Daily Bible Readings

Please visit www.usccb.org/bible/readings/ to find the daily bible readings and other 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. Grades 6-8 meet Monday nights from 7:00-8:00 pm.

Reminder

The 6th Grade classes will have the first of three Stations of the Cross rehearsals on Monday, March 13 beginning at a special start time of 6:00 pm.

Parish Happenings

Parish Pastoral Council

The Parish Pastoral Council is meeting on Sunday, March 5 at 7:00 pm in the rectory.

Join us for "Light Lenten Lessons" on March 13 and March 27 at 9:30 a.m.

The bible tells us that "they shared their meals with great joy and thankfulness." We invite you to join us for a light breakfast on Monday, Mar. 13, and Monday, Mar. 27, with an opportunity for conversation and a little Lenten Faith Formation. Breakfast starts at 9:30 a.m. followed by a video from the Boston Coll. School of Theology and Ministry and an opportunity for discussion among friends.

Mar. 13—"Jesus: A Pilgrimage"
presented by James Martin, S.J.

Mar. 27—"Sowing the Seeds of Faith: It is (Almost) All in the Family"
presented by Thomas H. Groome

We hope that this will be an opportunity for busy people to enjoy the community of other busy people and find time to "do something" during Lent. If you have any questions, please email Yvonne MacCormack (gymac@live.com) or Pat Barry (pbarry11@verizon.net).

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.

Women's Club Hors d'oeuvres Night Rescheduled

The Women's Club will hold an hors d'oeuvres tasting evening on Thursday, Mar. 16th 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.

Parish Library

The parish library has books for Lenten reading on the table at the back of the church. Registered library users may borrow books for three weeks. If you are not registered, you may do so at the table

Theater News

Judy Andrews is planning up a trip on Wed., April 19 to see "The King and I" at the Opera House. Please contact the rectory office at (978) 369-3940 as soon as possible if you are interested.

Save the Dates

The following are some of the events scheduled for 2017:

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| Friday, Mar. 31 – | Soup and Bread
Stations of the Cross |
| Sunday, Apr. 5 – | Fr. Tom's Party |
| Friday, May 5 – | Confirmation |
| Sunday, May 7 – | Tea & Fashion Show |
| Saturday, May 13 – | First Communion |

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.

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

On Friday, March 31st, prior to the Stations of the Cross, we will have our second "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.

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.

Area Events

Eucharistic Ministers at Emerson Hospital

Eucharistic Ministers are needed to bring communion to patients at Emerson Hospital. The candidate does not have to be a Eucharistic Minister in a parish. We ask for a 2 hour commitment approximately once or twice a month. 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.

If you have an interest in this ministry or need additional information please call Tim at (978) 287-3015 or email him: tduff@emersonhosp.org by Friday, March 31st.

The Emmaus Ministry for Grieving Parents

Serving the Spiritual Needs of Grieving Parents. Losing a child under any circumstance is horrific. Focusing on the spirituality of the grieving process can help tremendously. Please join us. All are welcome.

St. Anthony Shrine, Boston, MA
Lenten One-Day Spiritual Retreat
March 11 from 9:30am-7:30pm

Lenten One-Hour Spiritual Retreat
"Death is Only the First Day of the Week"
March 15 from 12:00-1:00pm

For more information call Diane, Mother of Paul, at (617) 542-8057 or www.emfgp.org.

Financial Information

Grand Annual Collection

The Grand Annual Collection this past week-end amounted to **\$119,075** 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.

2017 Catholic Appeal

Next week, Catholics across the Archdiocese will be invited to pledge their support to the 2017 Catholic Appeal. The Appeal helps to maintain and expand the many ministries that serve the Catholic faithful in our part of Christ's vineyard. Please be sure to read the insert in today's bulletin to see how these ministries impact our parish and the life of our Church.

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 of St. Irene Parish.

23 parishioners/families have enrolled in the on-line giving program.

23 parishioners are now using EBP (Elec. Bill Pay).

The Ash Wednesday collection for the Church in Africa, Central & Eastern Europe amounted to \$698.

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

February

Year to Date

Weekly

\$21,841

\$49,537

Monthly

\$2542

\$5253

Gifts

\$425

\$525