

St. Irene Church

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



Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 25, 2015

The Pastor's Corner

Recently, I was reading a brochure entitled, "Pope Francis, Pastor of the World." It noted that Pope Francis possessed the traits of a good pastor by reaching out to heal the wounds of people in need and also the ability to preach the gospel in a way that makes sense to the people of the world today. On the gospel message, Pope Francis said, "The presence of God among men did not take place in a perfect, idyllic world but rather in the real world which is marked by so many things both good and bad, by divisions, wickedness, poverty, arrogance and war. He is God - with - us, Jesus is God - with - us. Do you believe this? Together let us profess: Jesus is God with us!"

~ Fr. Tom Donohoe

Children's Liturgy

Our next Children's Liturgy will take place this Sunday, October 25th at the 8:00 and 11:00 am Masses. Grade 6 students will host both Masses.

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

John & Margaret O'Connor
Memorial Mass
Saturday, October 24 at 5:00 pm

Ted Graczyk
13th Anniversary Mass
Sunday, October 25 at 8:00 am

Pham T. Thanh - Memorial Mass
Sunday, October 25 at 11:00 am
Sunday, November 1 at 11:00 am

Marie Riccio - Memorial Mass
Monday, October 26 at 9:00 am

Salvator Curcio - Memorial Mass
Tuesday, October 27 at 9:00 am

Katie Faber – 14th Birthday Mass
Friday, October 30 at 9:00 am

All Saints Day

Next Sunday, November 1 is the feast of All Saints. Masses are the regular weekend schedule.

Parish Book of Life

During the month of November we offer special prayers in remembrance of the faithful departed. The Parish Book of Life will be at the front of the Church so that you may record the names of your family members who have died. We will offer Mass for them on All Souls Day and on other days in November. We will also pray for them at Mass daily in November.

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.

Wednesday Morning Adoration

Every Wednesday morning, the Holy Mass is followed by the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for Adoration until 12 noon. During this time Fr. Romain is available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The Adoration is concluded by the Divine Mercy Chaplet and the Benediction. Come by anytime and spend some time with Jesus.

Religious Education

Christmas Pageant Directors Needed

After several years of directing both Carol Yelle and Laura France will be retiring after this year. Please email Eileen Faber at Reled@StIrenes.org if you are interested in volunteering for this position. You would be involved in assisting this year and take over for next.

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.

Safety Sessions

Safety Part II for grade 5 will conclude on October 25th. Safety sessions for grades 6-8 are now part of the regular curriculum.

2nd Grade Parent's Meeting

There will be a 2nd grade parents First Reconciliation meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 5 at 7:30 pm in the Parish Hall.

Confirmation

Level 2 Classes will meet on Sunday, Oct. 25. Class begins with attendance at the 5 pm Mass.

Parish Happenings

Thanksgiving 2015 Food Baskets

Catholic Charities of Lowell and Haverhill currently distributes food to 30,000 people annually. Clients are carefully screened for need. For many years Catholic Charities has relied upon St. Irene's Parish to provide food baskets to families in need. Your response in the past has been greatly appreciated.

Detailed information and food lists can be found at the back of the church. The boxes have been donated by *Olympia Movers of Watertown* and can be found in the closet at the back of the church. **Baskets will be collected and delivered on Sunday, November 22nd.** We are in need of volunteers to drive the donated meals to Catholic Charities Sunday evening. If you own a large SUV, enclosed truck or minivan, please consider helping deliver. Checks can be made out to "Merrimack Valley Catholic Charities" with "Lowell Food Pantry" on the memo line in lieu of a food basket. Checks can be dropped off at the rectory. Please email Deacon Charles Ferraro at Deacon-Charlie@StIrenes.org for more information or to volunteer.

St. Irene Mystery Dinner Theater **Saturday, November 21**

The St. Irene Players, with lead thespian Fr. Tom Donohoe, will present its latest production: “Star Wreck – or - The Day the Earth Slowed Down for Murder” on **Saturday, November 21 at 6:15 pm**. Tickets will go on sale after all Masses on the week-ends of **November 7/ 8** and **November 14/ 15** at \$25 each for a 4-course catered meal (by Hostess Catering of Acton) AND a fun production—such a deal!

Come and see what Fr. Tom is up to this year—and enjoy good company, good food, and lots of laughs!!

Theater News

The North Shore Music Theatre will present “A Christmas Carol” in December. If you are interested in going, please call the rectory (978) 369-3940, email info@StIrenes.org or see Judy Andrews as soon as possible. If there is enough interest, a trip will be planned for early December. Thank you.

Family Prayer for Vocations Icon

St. Irene’s has a beautiful new icon of Christ the High Priest which will go each month to a family wishing to host it to pray for religious vocations as well as discern God’s will in their lives. The kit includes the icon, a stand, a votive candle, a booklet of prayers, questions to help your family discern what God may want them to do with their lives, some scripture references, and more. Also included is a prayer card listing the current seminarians, so you can pray for them by name if you wish. Please join us in this beautiful initiative to pray for priestly vocations and to guide and bless us all in our vocation in life. To sign up please contact Mary Ellen Bakken at vocations@StIrenes.org.

Children’s Choir

We welcome children in grades K through 6 to come and sing with the Children’s Choir. Rehearsals are every Thursday in the church from 6:00 -7:00 pm. The choir sings at the monthly Family Masses, as well as at Christmas, Easter, and First Communion. No experience is needed.

Adult Choir

We welcome adults of any age to come and sing with the Adult Choir. Rehearsals are every Thursday in the church from 7:15-8:30 pm. The choir sings at the 11:00 pm Mass every Sunday, as well as on Christmas Eve, Holy Week, Easter, and other important occasions. No experience or audition is required, just a love for singing!

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.

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 the Archdiocese website: www.bostoncatholic.org/PGCTrainingSchedule.aspx?pid=1472.

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

St. Michael Annual Harvest Holiday Fair

St. Michael Parish will hold its annual craft fair on Saturday, Nov. 21, from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm, 90 Concord Rd (Rt. 62), Bedford. The fair features an array of beautiful raffle baskets and items, beautiful holiday gifts by crafters, artisans, independent vendors, home-base businesses, delicious baked goods, home-made apple pies (frozen ready to bake), and a definite not-to-be missed White Elephant Sale!

Holy Family Presentation – November 1 Dr. James O’Connell

Holy Family Parish Church at 12 Monument Square, Concord, will be the site of a special presentation on healthcare to the homeless by Harvard Medical School professor Dr. James O’Connell on Sunday, Nov. 1 at 6:30 PM in the sanctuary of Holy Family Church. Dr. O’Connell has just published a book, *Stories from the Shadows, Reflections of a Street Doctor*, which recounts his years of experience working with the homeless men, women and children of Boston.

Designed for adults and older youth we are expecting a very large crowd for this event. So, please plan to come early to get a good seat. He will be touching on some of the greatest health challenges of our time: AIDS, addiction and untreated mental illness.

Bowling / Pizza Event – November 15th

On Sunday, November 15, the Knights of Columbus will sponsor their Fall Bowling/Pizza Event for children with disabilities and their families. It will be held at Collins Bowladrome in Billerica from 1:00–3:00 pm. The event includes Duck-pin bowling, which is followed by pizza. Interested families are asked to register for this free event by contacting Ken Desilets before November 11th -phone: 978-692-6866 or email; kgdesigned@gmail.com.

Financial Information

Catholic Appeal 2015

Thank you to all who have participated in the 2015 Catholic Appeal. St. Irene Parish has raised \$25,255 towards our goal of \$35,246 from 82 donors and families. If you would like to make a donation, envelopes are at the back of the church or visit www.BostonCatholicAppeal.com. Thank you.

Offertory Report

The weekly offertory last Sunday was 17.6% less than last year. Thank you for your continuing support of our parish.

Offertory	\$4,922
Last year’s Offertory	\$5,975

Offertory YTD	\$241,769
Offertory YTD last year	\$252,412

Dedicated Church Maintenance and Upkeep Fund YTD	\$26,080
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The collection for the Dedicated Parish Maintenance and Upkeep Fund amounted to \$2,462.

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.