

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
February 14, 2016

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

Richard Cotter

Memorial Mass

Sunday, February 14 at 8:00 am

Jacqueline Dailliere

1st Anniversary Mass

Monday, February 15 at 9:00 am

Alice Doherty and Ruth Proctor

Memorial Mass

Wednesday, February 17 at 9:00 am

Kathleen Blais and Pamela Gleason

Memorial Mass

Friday, February 19 at 9:00 am

Beverly Levangie

Memorial Mass

Monday, February 22 at 9:00 am

The Pastor's Corner

On Ash Wednesday, we began the season of Lent. We are guided by Pope Francis' call for the Church to "transmit mercy, so as to touch the hearts of all people and inspire them once more to find the road that leads to the Father." Lent is a time for penance – to atone for our sins. But it is also a time to strengthen our resolve and our will to resist temptation. The ultimate purpose of Lent is to prepare us for Easter – for new life. As we celebrate the new life of the Risen Christ on Easter Sunday, we will be prepared for a renewal of our own life in the Spirit. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday with a reminder of our human weakness and mortality. Lent ends on Easter Sunday with the celebration of new life and the promise of immortality.

~ 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 - 8:00 pm.

World Marriage Day

This Sunday, February 14th is World Marriage Day. We will have renewal of marriage vows and presentation of flowers at all Masses next weekend.

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

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

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.

There are no Religious Education classes on February 14th, 15th and 21st due to Winter Vacation. Classes will resume on Monday, February 22nd for grades 6-8.

The 6th Grade classes will have the first of three Stations of the Cross rehearsals on Monday, Feb. 22 during class time.

Confirmation

There are no Confirmation classes on Sunday, February 14th. Level 2 Confirmation class will meet on Sunday, February 21st at the 5:00 pm Mass. Class will follow.

On Wednesday, February 24 the Level 1 candidates will attend the New Spirit Retreat from 5:00-9:00 pm. Please arrive at 4:45 pm to check in.

Parish Happenings

Jubilee Year of Mercy

Pilgrimage to Holy Cross Cathedral March 9, 2016

St. Irene Parish will be sponsoring a pilgrimage to the Cathedral of the Holy Cross led by Father Tom and Father Romain. We will leave from St. Irene Parish parking lot at 9:30 am on March 9th by bus and arrive at the Cathedral around 10:30 am. We will begin with a walk through the Jubilee Door to the sacrament of Reconciliation, followed by Mass to include prayers for the Pope's special intentions. From the Cathedral we will head over to the *Cantina Italiana* on Hanover Street for a 3 course luncheon.

Space is limited so please sign up by calling the rectory office at (978)369-3940 or emailing stirene@comcast.net with Jubilee Pilgrimage in the subject line.

The total cost for the day will be \$48 which includes bus and luncheon (beverage, gratuity, and tax). ***Payment will be required by March 1st to reserve your seat.*** Menu selections (see Pilgrimage insert/flyer) will be required at the time of payment.

Women's Club Hors d'oeuvres Night

The Women's Club will hold an hors d'oeuvres tasting evening on Thursday, February 18th 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.

Parish Pastoral Council

The Parish Pastoral Council will meet on Sunday, February 14 at 7 pm in the rectory.

Knights of Columbus Collection

The St. Irene Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring a collection of new baby clothing and baby items as part of their *Right to Life Initiative* at the Masses on February 27 & 28 and would appreciate your assistance.

Parish Library

Please remember to return any overdue books. *Many of the Lent books have not been returned.* We would like to have them for the upcoming season. Thank you.

Join the Music Ministry in the New Year!

After a well-deserved “long Winter’s nap,” rehearsals for both the Children and Adult Choirs will resume on WEDNESDAY (new day!), January 13th. Both choirs rehearse in the church at the following times: Children’s Choir, 6:15-7:00; Adult Choir, 7:15-8:30.

Neither choir requires an audition or any previous singing experience. The only “requirements” are a positive attitude and the desire to grow spiritually through learning new music and sharing your talents during the Masses. For more information, please contact at Music@stirenes.org.

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.

Catholic Appeal 2016

Many of you have received a letter from Cardinal Seán requesting your support of the 2016 Catholic Appeal. If you have not already done so, please prayerfully consider making an early pledge. The Catholic Appeal sustains over 50 ministries and many people throughout the Archdiocese. Your gift will help us reach our 2016 goal. You may mail your pledge or visit bostoncatholicappeal.org to give online. Thank you!

Peer Leadership Seeks Adult Assistance

St. Irene Peer Leadership Ministry (PLM) has been in existence for over 5 years providing award winning leadership training and faith development based on the Gospel message for post confirmation high schoolers. Membership in the PLM has quadrupled during that time. This exciting rapidly growing expansion needs additional help from motivated committed catholic adults to help take the program to its next level.

PLM involves social events, retreats, mission trips, and leadership activities for younger parish members all of which have been key components of our ministry.

We are seeking adult volunteers to assist with the organizing and execution of various events. This would require at most 4 or 5 hours per month. Ideal candidates would possess the skills of mentoring, guiding, and supporting the development of sound Catholic values, virtues and principles for post confirmation young adults.

If you have questions, ideas, or would like to become involved please contact Deacon-Charlie@stirenes.org for more information.

Save the Dates

The following are some of the events scheduled for 2016:

Saturday, March 19 – Italian Night

Saturday, April 30 – Confirmation

Saturday, May 14 – First Communion

Please mark your calendars now and plan to come to these wonderful events.

Area Events

LIFT Worship Night

Join LIFT Ministries on Tuesday, February 23rd at 7 pm for an inspiring night of worship at St. Camillus Church in Arlington with speaker Travis Moran. The night will include uplifting music, a relevant talk, confessions, Eucharistic Adoration, and is FREE to attend and open to ALL AGES. Come and worship with hundreds of Catholics from around the Boston area!

St. Michael Speaker Series

St. Michael Parish Adult Education Speaker Series is delighted to welcome author Arthur P. Boyle on Palm Sunday, March 20 from 11:15 am – 12:15 pm. This event will take place at the Parish Hall, 90 Concord Rd., Bedford. Join us to hear Mr. Boyle's journey from content hockey dad, to cancer patient, to miracle seeker! Copies of his book, "Six Months to Live: Three Guys on the Ultimate Quest for A Miracle" will be available for purchase. Hope to see you then!

Homes For Low-Income Families:

Do we care enough?

12th Annual Family Homelessness Forum

We invite you to attend the 12th annual Concord area family homelessness forum of the *Advocacy Network to End Family Homelessness*, on Sunday, March 13 from 2:30 to 4:30 pm at Trinity Episcopal Church, 81 Elm St. in Concord.

Over 200,000 families in Massachusetts are at risk of becoming homeless because they must spend more than 50% of their income on housing. Families represent 64% of the homeless population in Massachusetts compared to 36% nationally, because our housing and energy costs have out-paced wages. Join us to learn more about the relationship between the lack of low-income housing and family homelessness. Learn how your advocacy can help hurting families have homes.

Financial Information

Offertory Report

The weekly offertory last Sunday was 18% more than last year. Thank you for your continuing support of our parish.

Offertory	\$6,477
Last year's Offertory	\$5,494
Offertory YTD	\$34,966
Offertory YTD last year	\$33,954
Monthly YTD	\$2,753
2015 Grand Annual	\$110,221
Separate Gifts YTD	\$610

The collection on Ash Wednesday for the Church in Africa, and Central & Eastern Europe amounted to \$634.

Next week the second collection will be the Monthly collection.

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.

The rectory office is usually open Monday through Friday from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm.