Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time October 29, 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

Ted Graczyk - 15th Anniversary Mass Saturday, October 28 at 5:00 pm

Mass of Thanksgiving Wednesday, November 1 at 9:00 am

Norman Edgerton - Memorial Mass Thursday, November 2 at 9:00 am

Albert Cabral - Memorial Mass Saturday, November 4 at 9:00 am

Norman F. Daigle - 1st Anniversary Mass Saturday, November 4 at 5:00 pm

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

The Pastor's Corner

This Wednesday we celebrate All Saints Day. This feast reminds us that we are all called to be saints. We honor the ordinary men and women who have lived good and virtuous lives. They are our family members and friends who have gone before us. During the year we honor the extraordinary saints who have been canonized by the church. They are models to us of Christian living. Even though we can't see ourselves as holy as these men and women, we are encouraged by the feast of All Saints to know that the "ordinary" saints are also enjoying the reward of heaven.

Fr. Tom Donohoe

All Saints Day

The Feast of All Saints will be celebrated on Wednesday, November 1. The feast is a Holy Day of Obligation and Mass will be celebrated at 9:00 am and 7:30 pm.

Banns of Marriage

2nd Publication Eric Smith and Kaitlin Carpenter

Parish Book of Life

During the month of November we offer special prayers in remembrance of the faithful departed. The Parish Book of Life is 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.

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. 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@Stlrenes.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.

Daily Bible Readings

Please visit **www.usccb.org/bible/read-ings/** to find the daily bible readings and other information.

Religious Education

Thank You

Thank you to the students for hosting both the 8:00 & 11:00 am Masses last Sunday.

Our next Children's Liturgy will be hosted by Grade 4 on Sunday, November 5.

Religious Education

Religious Education Classes for grades K-5 began on Sunday, September 18. Session I is from 9:00-9:50 am and Session II is from 10:00-10:50 am. Classes for grades 6-8 are held on Monday nights from 7:00 - 8:00 pm.

2nd Grade Parent's Meeting

There will be a mandatory 2nd grade parents First Reconciliation meeting on Sunday, October 29 during class times in the Parish Hall.

Confirmation

Level 1 & 2 Confirmation classes will meet on Sunday, Oct. 29 with attendance at 5:00 pm Mass.

Peer Leaders — The Ethics of Giving

Juniors and Seniors come join Peer Leadership! Meetings are once a month before Mass. We will plan and execute community service projects, long and short term. Grow in faith and earn community service hours! There will be food from 3:30-4:00.

The next meeting is November 5th at 3:30. Please contact Maeve Lobo at Peerleaders@stirenes.org if you have any questions.

Parish Happenings

St. Irene Mystery Dinner Theater Saturday, November 18

The St. Irene Players, with lead thespian Fr. Tom Donohoe, will present its latest production: "SAY GOODBYE TO HOLLYWOOD - or — Did Oskar Do It?" on **Saturday, Nov. 18, 2017.**

Tickets will go on sale after all Masses on the weekends of **Nov. 4/Nov. 5** and **Nov. 11/Nov. 12** at \$25 each for a 4-course catered meal 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!!

Parish Pastoral Council

The Parish Pastoral Council will be meeting on Sunday, Nov. 5 at 7:00 pm in the rectory.

Hurricane Relief Fundraiser for Puerto Rico

We will be having a bake, candy and used Halloween costume sale at St. Irene Church on Sunday, Oct. 29 from 9:00 am until 1:00 pm. Proceeds will be donated to the San Pedro y San Pablo Parish in Utuado, Puerto Rico, which serves a community severely affected by Hurricane Maria.

Concord Prison Outreach Project

Last year we collected items for gift bags distributed to the inmates by the Concord Prison Outreach Project. Many of those men wrote letters of appreciation. A binder containing copies of those letters is on display in the vestibule at the entrance of the church.

Eucharistic Minister Training - November 8

We will be having new Eucharistic Minister training with Deacon Dean Bulpett on Wednesday, Nov. 8 at 7:00 pm in the church. If you are already serving but would like a refresher course, you are also welcome to attend. Please either email Amy Regan at Eucharist@Stlrenes.org or call the rectory office (978) 369-3940 if you have any questions.

Lector Training - November 9

St. Irene's will provide Lector/Reader training on Thursday, Nov. 9 from 7:00 - 8:30 pm in the church. Those who are interested in reading at Mass are welcome to join us for training, after which they could be included on the schedule. If you have any questions please either call the rectory office (978) 369-3940 or email Michelle Christensen at Lectors@Stlrenes.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@Stlrenes.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.

Wheelchair from the Knights

Your Saint Irene Knights of Columbus have received a new wheelchair as part of a K of C international program that encourages Councils to provide these types of items to our parishes, to ensure their availability when needed. The chair can be found in the right side closet of the main church entrance. If you have occasion to use it, please ensure that it is returned to this location. Thank you.

Theater News

Judy Andrews is planning a trip on Thursday, Nov. 30 to see "The Color Purple." The bus will leave St. Irene's at 12:30 pm for the 2:00 show. Orchestra tickets are \$79, Senior Citizen tickets are \$47. Bus fee is additional. Please contact Judy or the rectory office as soon as possible if you are interested.

Children's Choir

We welcome children in grades K through 8 to come and sing with the Children's Choir. Rehearsals are on selected Thursdays in the church from 6:15-7:00. The choir sings at the monthly Family Masses, as well as at Christmas, Easter, and First Communion. Please email Cypriana Coelho at Music@Stlrenes.org for more information.

Adult Choir

We welcome adults of any age to come and sing with the Adult Choir. Rehearsals are on selected Thursdays in the church from 7:15-8:30. The choir sings at the 11:00 Mass every Sunday, as well as on Christmas Eve, Holy Week, Easter, and other occasions.

Choir Schedule

Thursday, Nov. 2 — Both Choirs
Thursday, Nov. 16 — Children's Choir only
Thursday, Nov. 30 — Both Choirs
Thursday, Dec. 7 — Both Choirs
Thursday, Dec. 14 — Both Choirs
Thursday, Dec. 21 — Both Choirs

St. Irene Online

For more information about St. Irene Parish, please visit our web site: www.Stlrenes.org or www.facebook.com/Stlrenes. You are invited to explore both and offer suggestions via e-mail at feedback@stirenes.org.

Save the Dates

Sunday, Dec. 3 — Parish Christmas Party Saturday, Jan. 20 — Trivia Night Saturday, Mar. 24 — Italian Night Saturday, May 5 — Confirmation Saturday, May 12 — First Communion

Area Events

Bowling Event for Kids with Disabilities

On Sunday, Nov. 19 from 1-3 pm, the Knights of Columbus Council will run their fall Bowling & Pizza Event. This event is free to kids with disabilities and their families at the Collins Bowladrome in Billerica. The bowling lanes are wheelchair accessible and some have bumper guards for the younger bowlers. Please register by contacting Ken Desilets at (978) 692 6866 or kgdesigned@gmail.com on or before Nov. 10.

Financial Information

Increased Offertory Campaign

We sincerely thank those who have participated in the increased offertory campaign. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Our goal is to appeal to the generous support of our community and increase the offertory by 20% to cover our operating expenses.

We are asking each of you who currently support our parish to prayerfully review your commitment and consider an increase in your continuing offertory contributions consistent with your means. The parish needs the support of every parishioner to have a vibrant, long-term community where all are welcome to share in the light of Jesus Christ and each other. 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.

Last weekend the World Mission Sunday Collection amounted to \$1342.

Next weekend the second collection will be for the Campaign for Human Development.

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.