

St. Irene Church

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



Feast of Christ the King November 26, 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

John Hiltz – Memorial Mass
Ellen Costello – Memorial Mass
Saturday, November 25 at 5:00 pm

George Dee - Memorial Mass
Sunday, November 26 at 8:00 am

George Gould - 23rd Anniversary Mass
Sunday, November 26 at 5:00 pm

Jeanne Parlee - Memorial Mass
Monday, November 27 at 9:00 am

Stuart Mosher - Memorial Mass
Wednesday, November 29 at 9:00 am

Barbara Moschini - 16th Anniversary Mass
Saturday, December 2 at 9:00 am

Albert Cabral - 1st Anniversary Mass
Saturday, December 2 at 5:00 pm

James W. McNeill – Memorial Mass
Sunday, December 3 at 8:00 am

Charles Trebino – 5th Anniversary Mass
Sunday, December 3 at 11:00 am

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.

The Pastor's Corner

This weekend we celebrate the feast of Christ the King which brings the liturgical year to an end. As we conclude this year over Thanksgiving weekend, we should be grateful and thank God for the many blessings we have received during this past year. We should be thankful as well for our faith which gives us the strength to accept even the difficult things in life.

Fr. Tom Donohoe

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.

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.

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/readings/ to find the daily bible readings and other information.

Religious Education

Peer Leaders

Calling all high school juniors and seniors! Come to peer leadership meetings the first Sunday of every month from 3:30 to 4:45 before the 5:00 Mass. In Peer Leadership, we will build our faith and give back to the community, and earn community service hours. As always, there will be food and games! The theme for our December 3rd meeting will be Vatican II. If you have any questions, contact Maeve Lobo at Peerleaders@StIrenes.org.

Religious Education

Grades K-5: 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. **Reminder:** There are no classes for grades K-5 on Sunday, Nov. 26.

Christmas Pageant and "Holy Pancake" Breakfast

Please join us on Sunday, Dec. 10 at 9 am for our annual Christmas Pageant presented by our 5th grade students (*snow date Dec. 17*). Students in grades K-4 will sit with their classes in the Church (in lieu of classes) for the event and will be dismissed to their parents following the pageant.

Plan to stay for the "Holy Pancake" breakfast hosted by the 8th grade students immediately following the pageant in the parish hall. For admission, we are requesting monetary donations for a local family in need. Thank you.

Parish Happenings

Children's Christmas Party

The Saint Irene Parish Children's Christmas Party will be next Sunday, December 3 at 12 noon in the Parish Hall. There will be Games, Crafts, Pizza and More. Always a great time for the family. Free to attend. If you would like to make a small donation to the Lazarus House meals fund, then that will be greatly appreciated. See you there.

Christmas Parking Volunteers Needed

We are seeking volunteers to help with parking during Christmas Eve Masses. If you can help, please call the rectory (978)369-3940. Thank you.

Women's Club Apple Pie Results

I'd like to thank the parishioners of St. Irene parish for their support of our apple pie project. The Women's Club made and sold 59 apple pies. Profits will be used to provide Thanksgiving food and Christmas gifts to local families in need this holiday season. Thank you very much.

Jan (President, St. Irene Women's Club)

Women's Club Happenings

December 7th the Women's Club will be boxing up the gifts for the soldiers at 9:30 am. Items will be collected thru Dec. 6th and can be left at the back of the church.

December 14th the ladies will be putting together boxwood trees beginning after the 9:00 am Mass. Trees will be sold after the Masses over the weekend ...again MANY hands make light work!

December 21st at 6:30 pm our Christmas party and Yankee Swap. Bring a wrapped \$10 gift for the Swap. Desserts or hors d'oeuvres are welcome! Come join the festivities!!

Keeping Christ in Christmas

The St. Irene Knights will have Catholic themed Christmas cards available for sale after Mass. In this day and age of the true meaning of Christmas being lost in the noise of advertising; take this opportunity to remind others that it is about the birth of our Lord Savior Jesus Christ.

Adult Advent Event – Monday, Dec. 4

Matthew's gospel tells of the three Magi who came from the East to worship the new-born King. As we enter the season of Advent, here is an opportunity to learn about how the religion "from the East" coincides with and differs from Christianity.

Join us for a light breakfast in St. Irene's parish hall Monday, Dec. 4 at 9:30am, to hear on video, Natana J. DeLong-Bas, a visiting assistant professor of the Boston College Theology Department and Islamic Civilization and Societies Program. She will address issues of concern and interfaith dialogue and relations, discussion will follow.

Young Adult Music Group

Make some time for yourself and join the Young Adult Music Group at St. Irene's! We meet one Sunday a month at 4:00 to rehearse, then play/sing at the 5:00 PM Mass. No audition, no experience necessary, no stress...just a chance to relax, spend time with other nice people, make beautiful music, and be with God. We would love to have you join us! If interested, please drop a line to music@stirenes.org – Cypriana.

Christmas Giving Tree – Beginning Nov. 25

St. Irene's is once again collecting Christmas gifts for the needy. If you would like to participate please select a tag from the tree, purchase the gift (wrapping is optional for Catholic Charities gifts) and return it to St. Irene's by **Sunday, Dec. 10**. Please securely attach the tag to the gift, so we can deliver it.

Gift Cards: The dollar amount should be clearly marked on all the gift cards. Tags need to be securely fastened to gift cards and placed in the box at the back of the church. Please return gift cards by **Sunday, Dec. 10**.

Merrimack Valley Catholic Charities appreciates St. Irene's for helping our clients at Christmas time. Please note that all gift cards received will be distributed to our Healthy Families program, a home visiting program for first-time young parents. The program focuses on parents and children receiving adequate medical care, being economically self-reliant, and attaining educational goals. For the majority of these clients, what they receive from us is the only gift they give to their child. It is empowering for these moms/dads to be able to go shopping (staff take the parent to shop) and pick out the gift (s) for their baby themselves. It is also one of the only "choices" they get to make on their own. Thank you for your generosity.

Concord Prison Holiday Gift Bag Project

We will be collecting items for the Concord Prison Holiday Gift Bag Project until Sunday, Dec. 3; please put your contributions in the box located in the church vestibule. Donations do not have to be in sets. Adult volunteers will assemble the gift bags. Each gift bag will contain a bar of deodorant soap (4-5 oz.), toothpaste (5.8- 6 oz.), white envelopes #6 ¾ (6 ½" x 3 5/8"), a pad of WHITE paper (6" x 9" or 5" x 8", 100 pages, no wire), a pair of white CREW socks with no more than 5 inches of ribbing (no tube socks, knee highs or "tennis" socks), a bottle (plastic) of shampoo (12-15 oz.), and a handmade holiday greeting card ("Happy Holidays, Seasons Greetings, Merry Christmas, no religious cards), signed with first names only. If you would like to assemble gift bags, make cards, have any questions or want to make a cash

donation, contact Jean Donnelly at prison-gifts@stirenes.org.

Choir Schedule

Thursday, Nov. 30 – Children's & Adult Choirs

Thursday, Dec. 7 – Both Choirs

Thursday, Dec. 14 – Both Choirs

Thursday, Dec. 21 – Both Choirs

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 Sym-pathy 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.

Financial Information

Grand Annual Collection

The Grand Annual Collection this past week-end amounted to **\$25,751** 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.

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.

The second collection this week is for the Retired Religious Sisters.

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.