

St. Irene Church

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



Fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas Day December 23 & 25, 2018

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

Amy Caruso - 9th Anniversary Mass
Wednesday, December 26 at 9:00 am

Chad Sullivan - Birthday Mass
Friday, December 28 at 9:00 am

Euclid and Claire Lague – Memorial Mass
Sunday, December 30 at 8:00 am

Liturgical Events

Mass Intentions

Kevin McCarron - 15th Anniversary Mass
Saturday, December 22 at 5:00 pm

Eleanor F. Reid - 41st Anniversary Mass
Sunday, December 23 at 5:00 pm

Claire Kelly - 21st Anniversary Mass
Monday, December 24 at 4:00 pm

Mary Macumber - 48th Anniversary Mass
Monday, December 24 at 5:30 pm

Amy Caruso - Memorial Mass
Tuesday, December 25 at Midnight

Colleen Kelly - Memorial Mass
Tuesday, December 25 at 11:00 am

The Pastor's Corner

This Sunday we light the last purple candle on the Advent wreath. We look forward to our most loved feast day, Christmas. It is the day we celebrate the birth of Jesus – the Son of God becoming one of us to be our Lord and Savior. We celebrate in church with prayers, words and familiar songs beginning on Christmas Eve and concluding on Christmas Day. We celebrate at home with family and friends sharing food and presents and the joy of being together. We share with each other the joy of this feast and the hope and peace we share on this joyful day. May the joy and peace of Christmas be with you and your loved ones. Merry Christmas!

~ Fr. Tom Donohoe

Sacrament of Penance

Confessions will be heard on Monday, Dec. 24 from 11:00 am to 12:00 noon.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Masses for Christmas will be celebrated on Christmas Eve at 4:00 pm, 5:30 pm and at Midnight. Lessons & Carols will be celebrated at 11:15 pm on Christmas Eve prior to Midnight Mass. Mass will be celebrated at 11:00 am on Christmas Day.

There are no Masses at 8 am or 5 pm on Christmas Day.

Feast of Mary, Mother of God

The Feast of Mary, Mother of God is a holy day of obligation. Masses for the Holy Day are on Monday, Dec. 31 at 5:00 pm and on Tuesday, Jan. 1 at 8:00 and 11:00 am.

First Friday

January 4 is the First Friday of January and Mass will be celebrated at 9:00 am. First Friday Devotions will follow and conclude with Benediction.

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.

Daily Bible Readings

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

Tuesday Evening Adoration

Please note: There will not be Adoration on Tuesday, December 25.

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.

Religious Education

Religious Education Classes

Religious Education classes will be off on Christmas/New Year's Vacation. Classes for grades K-5 will resume on Sunday, January 6th, 2019 and on Monday, January 7th, 2019 for grades 6-8. Have a Blessed Christmas!

Confirmation

Classes for Levels 1 and 2 will resume on Sunday, Jan. 6th. Class begins with attendance at the 5:00 pm Mass. The Rite of Enrollment will take place on Sunday, Jan. 6th for Level 1.

Parish Happenings

Parish Library – New Books

Thanks to the efforts of one of our parishioners, as well as the Library Committee, there will be free books given out at all the Masses on Christmas Eve and day-- compliments of Dynamic Catholic. Copies of Matthew Kelly's new book, "The Biggest Lie in the History of Christianity" will be at the back of the church. Please take one.

Church Christmas Decorating

We are seeking volunteers to help decorate the church after 9:00 am Mass on Christmas Eve (Dec. 24). Please email Mary Ellen Bakken at Altardec@stirenes.org if you have any questions.

2019 Catholic Appeal Volunteer Needed

St. Irene's is seeking a volunteer to help as an Appeal Coordinator for the 2019 Catholic Appeal. If you are able to help please speak with Fr. Tom or call the rectory office (978-369-3940) Monday through Friday from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm. Thank you.

Christmas Flowers

The Christmas flowers decorating our church were donated in memory of or in honor of the following:

In Memory of Paul & Lauretta Bolduc
In Memory of Francis & Rita Booth
In Memory of Joe Bowers
In Memory of Albetine Chamberlain
In Memory of Susan & Paul Champagne
In Memory of Evald Thunbo Christensen
In Memory of Smutte Thunbo Christensen
In Memory of Mary Jane Cleaves
In Memory of Joanne Cleaves
In Memory of Francis Creran
In Memory of Helen Dolan
In Memory of Mary & William C. Dumont
In Memory of Maura Rose Gaida
In Memory of Barbara & Ted Graczyk
In Memory of Duane E. Irmen
In Memory of Kurt Kelly
In Memory of Ernestine Kontney
In Memory of Alverna Lober
In Memory of Betty Mangan
In Memory of Claire Mariano
In Memory of the Nolan Family
In Memory of John & Maria Teresa Noone
The Paglia and Ciulla Families
In Memory of Jeanne & Charles Parlee
In Memory of Ralph & Muriel Parlee
In Memory of Rita & Lionel Paquin
In Memory of Carmela & Dr. Joseph Parisi
In Memory of Mary Koulas Perry
In Memory of Robert & Mary Reynolds
In Memory of Beverly Schirmer
In Memory of John Schirmer
In Memory of Paul Schirmer
In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Carl Shaver
In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Arnold Stenrose

In Memory of Martin Traumuller
In Memory of Wayne & Rosalie Troutman
In Memory of Rene & Ann Van Hoorde
In Memory of Stasia Wojtas
In Memory of Deceased Members of:
The Briere Family
The Clericuzio Family
The Critch Family
The Correia Family
The Ferreira Family
The Lee Family
The Silva Family

2019 Calendars - Thank You

St. Irene Church would like to thank the **Dee Funeral Home** of Concord, MA for their yearly donation of calendars to our parish. The calendars can be found on the tables at the entrance of our church. Please take one.

Three King's Day Party - January 6

Please join us for St. Irene's very special Epiphany celebration! We will celebrate The Three Kings Day on January 6, 2019, right after the 11AM mass in the church hall. There will be entertainment for the children and a potluck for all. This event is free of charge and always a great time! If you wish to participate in the potluck you may sign up here: <https://www.signupge-nius.com/go/20F0C4CACA723AAFC1-three3>.

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.

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 offers suggestions via e-mail at feedback@stirenes.org. St. Irene's online calendar can be found at www.stirenes.org/quicklinks/calendar.html.

Christmas Newsletter

St Irene's quarterly e-mail newsletter was distributed Dec 5th; If you did not see it, first check your spam folder, and if it isn't there, let the parish office know (stirene@com-cast.net) to add your e-mail address to our distribution list for parishioners.

CORI Checks – All Volunteers & Staff

The Archdiocese requires a criminal offender record information (CORI) check for all paid staff members, all clergy and **all volunteers (18 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 need a form or have any questions.

Financial Information

Grand Annual Collection

The Grand Annual Collection this past weekend amounted to **\$86,122** 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.

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.

Christmas Collection for the Clergy Trust

This Christmas the collection will support the health and well-being of our priests. Our priests have dedicated their lives to serving the Catholic faithful. Now, it is our turn to help fulfill the promises made to care for them in their time of need. Please give generously to the Christmas collection, which will directly benefit the 614 active and senior

diocesan priests who are cared for through the Clergy Health and Retirement Trust. All are welcome to make a gift online at clergy-funds.org or use the envelopes that are provided. **All donations given at Christmas Masses go to the trust.** Thank you for helping to care for the priests who give so much to our Church.

There is only one collection on Christmas. All donations will be for the Clergy Health and Retirement Trust.

St. Irene Staff:

Pastor:

Reverend Thomas P. Donohoe

Parochial Vicar:

Reverend Romain Rurangirwa

Permanent Deacon:

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/Peer Leaders

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.