

# St. Irene Church

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



## Fourth Sunday of Advent / Christmas Eve December 24, 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

Lorna Phillips – Birthday Mass  
Sunday, December 24 at 8:00 am

Eleanor F. Reid – 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass  
Sunday, December 24 at 11:00 am

Claire Kelly - 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass  
Sunday, December 24 at 4:00 pm

Mary Macumber - 47<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass  
Sunday, December 24 at 5:30 pm

Amy Caruso - Memorial Mass  
Monday, December 25 at 12:00 am

Gerard Forrester - Memorial Mass  
Monday, December 25 at 11:00 am

Amy Caruso - 8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass  
Tuesday, December 26 at 9:00 am

Chad Sullivan - Birthday Mass

Wednesday, December 27 at 9:00 am

Euclide & Claire Lague - Memorial Mass

Saturday, December 30 at 9:00 am

Amy Caruso - Memorial Mass

Sunday, December 31 at 8:00 am

Clara & Timothy Galvin

Memorial Mass

Sunday, December 31 at 11:00 am

### The Pastor's Corner

This weekend we celebrate our most beloved feast – Christmas – the birth of Jesus Christ. It is so special because of the beautiful and familiar carols, the lights and flowers that decorate our churches and our homes, the mangers in our churches that bring to life the birth of the Christ Child and the beautiful Christmas story that we celebrate in our liturgy. Our churches are filled at Christmas because it is a celebration of how Jesus is born as Lord and Savior. His promise to us who believe in Him is life that does not end. He comes to bring us forgiveness and joy and peace. May this joy and peace be with you today and throughout the coming year.

Fr. Tom Donohoe

## Please Note Mass Schedule Changes

### 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent Masses

Masses for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent will be Saturday at 5:00 pm and Sunday morning, December 24 at 8:00 and 11:00 am.

### 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.**

### 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@StIrenes.org](mailto:adoration@StIrenes.org) for more information.

### Daily Bible Readings

Please visit [www.usccb.org/bible/readings/](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/) to find the daily bible readings and other information.

## Religious Education

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### Religious Education

Classes will resume on Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup> for grades K-5 and Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup> for grades 6-8. Second Grade Reconciliation Workbooks and journals are due at that time.

### Peer Leaders

Calling all confirmed teens! Join us at Peer Leadership on Sunday, Jan. 7<sup>th</sup> at 3:30. Come hangout and snack as we discuss the theme for this month, Every Day Epiphanies.

The teens of Peer Leadership will also be putting together a parish cookbook for next year! Please help us to fill the pages by sending in your favorite family recipes to [peerleaders@stirenes.org](mailto:peerleaders@stirenes.org). Peer Leadership will be trying them all over the next few months and putting together our favorites.

## Parish Happenings

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### Thank You

Dear St. Irene's parishioners: I and the Carlisle Council on Aging would, once again, like to thank every parishioner who so generously donated gift cards for our seniors. You make a big difference! Seniors not only appreciate the financial help with their groceries, but they also appreciated knowing that they are remembered. I would also like to thank Judy Andrews, who coordinates the Caring Tree and all those who help in so many ways to make these generous donations possible. Thank you!

*Angela Smith, Carlisle Council on Aging Outreach and Program Manager*

### 2018 Catholic Appeal Volunteer Needed

St. Irene's is seeking a volunteer to help as an Appeal Coordinator for the 2018 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.

### 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](mailto:music@stirenes.org) – Cypriana.

### Library News – Advent Book Display

Advent books are on display at the back of the church. Please keep the books out for no longer than three weeks, so that all may enjoy them. Please return all Advent books by January 15.

## Christmas Flowers

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

*In Honor of Anne C. Arcidi*

*In Memory of the Barre Family*

*In Memory of Paul and Loretta Bolduc*

*In Memory of Fran and Rita Booth*

*In Memory of Raymond Briere*

*In Memory of Albert Cabral*

*In Memory of Matthew Caiazza*

*In Memory of Paul and Susan Champagne*

*In Remembrance of Smutte & Evald T. Christensen*

*In Memory of Triston and Leonore Correia*

*In Memory of Triston Correia, Jr.*

*In Memory of Alice T. Harrington Critch*

*In Memory of Helen and Ray Critch*

*In Memory of Daniel Biomedes*

*In Memory of Barbara and Ted Graczyk*

*In Remembrance of Duane E. Irmen*

*In Memory of the Isabelle Family*

*In Memory of Kurt Kelly*

*Ernestine Kontney*

*In Memory of Harriet Layden*

*In Memory of James and Helen Lee*

*In Memory of Betty Mangan*

*The McDermott / Bulpett Families*

*In Memory of Bob Nelson*

*In Honor of William and Louise O'Leary*

*In Memory of Rita and Lionel Paquin*

*In Memory of the Render Family*

*In Memory of Joseph Reynolds*

*In Memory of John Schirmer*

*In Memory of Beverly Schirmer*

*In Memory of Martin Traumuller*

*In Memory of Joe and Kay Womersley*

*In Memory of the deceased members of:*

*The Clericuzio Family*

*The Ferreira Family*

*The Silva Family*

## Three King's Day Party - January 7th

Please join us for St. Irene's third annual Three King's Day party! Celebrate the Epiphany with us on Sunday, Jan 7<sup>th</sup> after the 11:00 am Mass in the church's parish hall. We will have activities for the children and an international potluck for all.

Kindly visit our Sign Up page if you want to participate in the potluck: <http://tinyurl.com/3Kings-StIrene-2018>. Please contact Karen Gettings at [3Kings@StIrenes.org](mailto:3Kings@StIrenes.org) or the rectory (978) 369-3940 for more information. Merry Christmas, and we're looking forward to celebrating with you in January!

## 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](mailto:caring@StIrenes.org).

## St. Irene Online

For more information about St. Irene Parish, please visit our web site: [www.StIrenes.org](http://www.StIrenes.org) or [www.facebook.com/StIrenes](https://www.facebook.com/StIrenes). You are invited to explore both and offer suggestions via e-mail at [feedback@stirenes.org](mailto:feedback@stirenes.org). St. Irene's online calendar can be found at [www.stirenes.org/quicklinks/calendar.html](http://www.stirenes.org/quicklinks/calendar.html).

## Area Events

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### Holy Family Lecture Series

Please join Dr. Elizabeth Smith, Pastoral Associate, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month after the 5pm Mass in the lower level for a discussion of topics relevant to Catholics hoping to enrich their faith and deepen their meaningful engagement with the world.

**Jan. 21:** *Jesus is my Best Friend: What is Incarnational Theology?*

### Catholic Television

Catholic TV is available on Comcast Cable channel 238, Verizon FiOS channel 271, Sky Angel IPTV channel 142, RCN channel 85,

EWTN channel 56 and streaming on [www.CatholicTV.com](http://www.CatholicTV.com).

## Financial Information

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### Grand Annual Collection

The Grand Annual Collection this past week-end amounted to **\$70,921** 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.

### 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](http://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.

### 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 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](http://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.

### 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.