

St. Irene Church

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



Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 14, 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

Liturgical Events

Mass Intentions

Ursula Kocemba-Slosky
6th Anniversary Mass
Saturday, January 13 at 5:00 pm

Francis Voss
Memorial Mass
Tuesday, January 16 at 9:00 am

Roy, Betty and David Hudson
Memorial Mass
Thursday, January 18 at 9:00 am

Katherine Ward
Birthday Mass
Friday, January 19 at 9:00 am

Amy Caruso
Memorial Mass
Saturday, January 20 at 9:00 am

The Pastor's Corner

Last Monday, the Christmas season ended as we celebrated the Baptism of Jesus. This Christmas season is a special time for all of us in our church and in our families. We treasure the story of the birth of Jesus – the coming into our world of God's son. He was born in a stable, laid in a manger while shepherds came and Wise Men as well to honor this child. Angels sang of Glory to God and Peace on Earth. Now we return to Ordinary Time in our church liturgy that will last until Ash Wednesday – February 14th. Ordinary Time reflects the way we live most of our lives. We do ordinary things at work and raising our families. But St. Paul gave us words that can make the everyday things we do have a special meaning. Paul writes, "Whatever you do in word or in deed do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus." This motive makes even the most ordinary word or action special and worthwhile.

Fr. Tom Donohoe

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 & 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.

Religious Education

Religious Education

There will be NO CLASSES on Sunday, Jan. 14th and Monday, Jan. 15th due to the Martin Luther King Holiday Weekend.

Classes will resume on Sunday, Jan. 21st for grades K-5 and Monday, Jan. 22nd for grades 6-8. Second Grade Reconciliation Workbooks and Journals are due on Jan. 21.

First Reconciliation

First Reconciliation will take place on Saturday, Jan. 27th (Snow Date: February 3rd) at 11:00 am in the Church followed by a luncheon in the Parish Hall for 2nd graders and their families. Students will need to arrive to the church by 10:45 am and sit with their class in the **Reserved pews**.

Reminder: There will be a mandatory 2nd grade First Eucharist Parents Meeting in the parish hall during regularly scheduled class times on Sun., Feb. 4th (snow date: Feb. 11).

Confirmation

Classes for Levels 1 and 2 will meet on Sunday, Jan. 28th. Class begins with attendance at the 5:00 pm Mass. The Rite of Election will take place on Sunday, Jan. 28th for Level 2.

Peer Leaders

The Peer Leaders will 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. Peer Leadership will be trying them all over the next few months and putting together our favorites.

Parish Happenings

Women's Club Bingo & Pizza Night

Women's Club will have an evening of pizza and bingo on Thursday, Jan. 18 at 6:30 pm. This is always a fun night so plan to attend, don't forget to RSVP Jan Brown at WomensClub@StIrenes.org so that we can have a head count. Please also bring a wrapped gift for the "winner's table". See you on the 18th.

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.

14th Annual Trivia Night

Come on out for the 14th Annual St. Irene's Team Trivia Night on Saturday, January 20th at 7:00 pm in the parish hall. (Snow date is two weeks later on Feb. 3.) Bring your own team (max. 8 per table), or come on your own and we'll seat you with friendly St. Irene folks. Enjoy 60 stimulating questions, complimentary food and beverages, door prizes, and awards, all for \$5 per person. For tickets, contact Tim and Jean Butler at Trivianight@StIrenes.org.

Red Cross Blood Drive – February 1

On Thursday, February 1 from 11:00 am – 4:00 pm St. Irene's is sponsoring a blood drive for the American Red Cross. You must be at least 17 years of age and in good general health to donate. To schedule an appointment either call (800) Red-Cross or visit redcrossblood.org and enter "SaintIrene." Please donate if you are able. Thank You.

St. Irene's Women's Club 2017 Activities

The fall of 2017 has been a very busy and productive time for the women's club. A Ham & Bean Dinner was hosted in October for parishioners. The food was homemade by members of the club. November saw the making of 59 apple pies while 41 handmade boxwood trees were produced in December. Profits from the sale of the pies provided Thanksgiving food baskets for 2 local families. Boxwood tree profits were used for the purchase of food and Christmas gifts for local families experiencing hard times this holiday season. The club also boxed and mailed gifts donated by parishioners for military personnel stationed in Afghanistan in December.

We are very thankful and grateful to St. Irene parishioners for supporting our efforts through the purchase of the pies and trees and troop donations. We are also very thankful to the ladies of the women's club who participated in these projects and provided materials and supplies.

Jan Brown, President, St. Irene Women's Club

Catholic Charities Thank You

Merrimack Valley Catholic Charities would like to thank the parishioners at St. Irene's for their generosity during the Christmas holiday. Our clients were truly appreciative of all the kindness you have shown with your gift giving. May you all have a happy, healthy and prosperous new year.

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.

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.

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.

Please return all Advent books by January 15.

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

Save the Dates

Saturday, Jan. 20 – Trivia Night

Friday, Feb. 16 – Stations of the Cross

Saturday, Mar. 24 – Italian Night

Saturday, May 5 – Confirmation

Saturday, May 12 – First Communion

Area Events

REBOOT! Live Tour

"Are you longing for more? Do you want to experience your faith – and live your life – more deeply? Then don't miss the **REBOOT! Live Tour** with Chris Stefanick, coming to Bedford's St. Michael Parish on April 25, 2018 at 7 PM! Draw closer to God. Deepen your understanding of His plan for your life. And gain a new passion to live the life God created for you. Buy your ticket online through bedford-catholic.org or call St. Michael's Religious Ed office at 781-275-6324. For more information visit RealLifeCatholic.com."

Financial Information

Grand Annual Collection

The Grand Annual Collection this past weekend amounted to **\$102,891** 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.

Collection Schedule Change

For 2018, the Archdiocese offices have identified opportunities to strategically look at the collections in light of the mission of the Catholic Church and not as individual collections. In doing so, collections were grouped to reduce the number of special collections from 17 to 10, combined under common mission categories.

Therefore, there will only be one collection this weekend but there will be two collections the weekend of January 28. The first will be the weekly collection and the second will be the collection for Support of the Church Around the World.

The Special Collection for Assistance to Urban Parishes that was to be held this weekend will be taken on October 13/14. Please call the rectory if you have any questions.

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, 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.