

St. Irene Church

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



Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 5, 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

Colleen Kelly
Memorial Mass

Sunday, February 5 at 8:00 am

Julie Riley

5th Anniversary Mass

Sunday, February 5 at 11:00 am

Euclide and Claire Lague
Memorial Mass

Tuesday, February 7 at 9:00 am

Grace McCarron

1st Anniversary Mass

Sunday, February 12 at 11:00 am

Josephine Cotroneo
Memorial Mass

Saturday, February 18 at 5:00 pm

The Pastor's Corner

Last Thursday, February 2nd was the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. In some areas of the world, that day is celebrated as the closing of the Christmas season; marking the final day of our annual celebration of God made flesh.

Some time ago I read this quote. "When the song of the Angel is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone, when the kings and princes are home, the work of Christmas begins to find the lost, to heal the broken, to feed the hungry, to release the prisoners, to rebuild the nations, to bring peace among brothers and sisters, to make music in the heart."

That is what the prophet Isaiah is telling us today in the first reading and in the Gospel Jesus invites us to simply go out there and shine. "You are the salt of the earth. You are the light of the world."

~Fr. Romain Rurangirwa

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, followed by Benediction. 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 K-8

Religious Education Classes for grades K-5 Session I are from 9:00-9:50 am and Session II is from 10:00-10:50 am on Sunday mornings. Grades 6-8 meet Monday nights from 7:00-8:00 pm.

There are no Religious Education classes on February 19th, 20th and 26st due to Winter Vacation. Classes will resume on Monday, February 27th for grades 6-8.

Congratulations

Congratulations to our 2nd graders. They received the Sacrament of First Reconciliation on Saturday, January 28.

Reminder: There will be a 2nd grade First Eucharist Parents Meeting in the Parish Hall on Wednesday, February 8th at 7:30 pm.

Confirmation

Classes for Levels 1 and 2 will meet on Sunday, February 12th. Class begins with attendance at the 5:00 pm Mass. Level 2 Candidates saint papers due.

Parish Happenings

SAVE THE DATE!

Fr. Tom's "Surprise" Birthday Reception – Sunday, April 9, 2017

It is hard to believe that Fr. Tom Donohoe will turn 90 years old on Sunday, April 9, 2017! This year is also the 65th Anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. These two milestones deserve a party!

So—on Sunday, April 9, all parishioners are invited to a celebratory Mass at 11 a.m. followed by a luncheon at the Westford Regency in Westford. There will be gathering time from 12:15-1:15 p.m. at the Regency with lunch served at 1:15 p.m. Invitations will be mailed out to everyone in the parish on February 27. We hope that many parishioners can join us as we thank Fr. Tom for his 65 years of service in the Archdiocese and his 29 years of pastoral care for the people of St. Irené's Parish.

Women's Club Hors d'oeuvres Night

The Women's Club will hold an hors d'oeuvres tasting evening on Thursday, Feb. 16th at 6:30 pm in the parish hall. Come see our "Culinary Chefs" prepare and serve their special "tidbits" all the while enjoying friendly conversation. As always desserts are always appreciated to complete the evening. Please contact Jan Brown for more information.

Theater News

Are you interested in seeing "The King and I" at the Opera House? Judy Andrews is setting up a trip in April. The show runs from April 11 - 23. More information will be available soon.

St. Irene's Caring Friends Network

Thank you!

Thanks to the many people who signed up to become members of the St. Irene's Caring Friends Network last weekend—an additional 18 parishioners volunteered to help out their fellow parishioners in time of need. This brings the "helping hands" to a total of 41 parishioners who are ready and willing to provide encouragement, love and support to our fellow parishioners who are experiencing difficult life situations!

We encourage everyone to take one of the "business cards" that are on the table next to the poster at the back of the church and send an email to caring@stirenes.org when you know of another parishioner who could use a card, a meal, an occasional ride to church, or other situation in which we may be able to help.

Save the Dates

The following are some of the events scheduled for 2017:

- Friday, Mar. 3 – Stations of the Cross*
- Friday, Mar. 31 – Stations of the Cross*
- Sunday, Apr. 9 – Fr. Tom's Party*
- Friday, May 5 – Confirmation*
- Sunday, May 7 – Tea & Fashion Show*
- Saturday, May 13 – First Communion*

Protecting God's Children / CORI Checks

All clergy, Parish staff, and volunteers who minister, work, or serve in a capacity involving contact with children under eighteen must complete the prevention and education programs mandated by the Archdiocese of Boston (Virtus/Protecting God's Children). Dates and locations for training are listed at https://www.virtusonline.org/virtus/reg_list.cfm?theme=0.

The Archdiocese also requires a **yearly** criminal offender record information (CORI) check for all full and part-time paid staff members, all clergy and all volunteers (17 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 have any questions.

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.

College Planning

If you and your family are starting a college search please check St. Irene's website for a list of many Catholic colleges in the US at www.stirenes.org/faithformation/catholiceducation/colleges.html.

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.

Area Events

LIFT Worship Night

Join LIFT Ministries on Tuesday, February 21st at 7pm for an inspiring night of worship at Immaculate Conception Church in Nashua, NH with speaker Fr. Matt Williams. The night will include uplifting music, a relevant talk, confessions, Eucharistic Adoration, and is FREE to attend and open to ALL AGES. A downloadable flyer, along with more information about LIFT, can be found on their website at www.liftedhigher.com. Come and worship with hundreds of Catholics from around the Boston area!

Lowell Catholic Elementary Open House

Please join us Feb. 7th 6:00 – 7:30 PM

This year, Lowell Catholic has extended our school offering to a Pre-K through 12th grade school model. Lowell Catholic Elementary School is located at St. Margaret Hall, 486 Stevens Street in Lowell, MA. As a Xaverian Brothers Sponsored School, Lowell Catholic focuses on educating the whole child in a faith based environment, complimenting a rigorous and engaging academic program in the STREAM curriculum with religion, fine

arts, athletics and co-curriculars, helping to prepare students to be successful 21st century learners.

For more information about applying to Lowell Catholic Elementary School please contact Ms. Kristina Hills, Director of Admissions at admissions@lowellcatholic.org.

Financial Information

Grand Annual Collection

The Grand Annual Collection this past weekend amounted to **\$118,425** 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.

2017 Catholic Appeal

Recently, many of you received a letter from Cardinal Seán requesting your support of the 2017 Catholic Appeal. Our parish directly benefits from the 50 ministries supported by the Appeal. If you have not already done so, please prayerfully consider making an early pledge. You may mail your pledge or visit bostoncatholicappeal.org to give online. 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 of St. Irene Parish.

22 parishioners/families have enrolled in the on-line giving program.

23 parishioners are now using EBP (Electronic Bill Pay).

Offertory	\$5,031
Last year's Offertory	\$4,359
Offertory YTD	\$27,271
Offertory YTD last year	\$28,489

Monthly YTD	\$2,711
2016 Grand Annual	\$118,425
Separate Gifts YTD	\$75

Last weekend the second collection for the Church in Latin America amounted to \$1001.

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.