

St. Irene Church

181 East Street, Carlisle MA 01741
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Visit our website at www.StIrenes.org



Fifth Sunday of Lent
March 18, 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

Dorothy Dunderdale - Memorial Mass
Monday, March 19 at 9:00 am

Robert and Ann Keefe - Memorial Mass
Wednesday, March 21 at 9:00 am

Walden and Grace Ward - Memorial Mass
Thursday, March 22 at 9:00 am

John Foley
James and Elinor Higgins
Memorial Mass
Friday, March 23 at 9:00 am

Jane Buchanec 14th Anniversary Mass
Joseph Buchanec 49th Anniversary Mass
Sunday, March 25 at 8:00 am

Leonard Curcio – 1st Anniversary Mass
Sunday, March 25 at 11:00 am

The Pastor's Corner

Once again, you have shown your generous spirit. We have completed our effort to help build classrooms in a school in Malawi. We set an ambitious goal of \$30,000 to complete this project. We raised over \$32,000. We wanted to reach out beyond our parish to assist these young people. Our parishioner, Kelsey Bradley is going to Malawi to design and supervise the construction. We thank you for your magnificent response that makes all this possible.

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.

Thank You

We thank the third grade students for hosting the 8:00 and 11:00 am Masses last weekend. Great job!

Season of Lent

Lent is a time for spiritual renewal in our lives. It is a season of repentance calling us once again to a change of heart. It is a special time of prayer and fasting: a time of penance and charity towards our neighbors.

Lent is that special time when we prepare for our greatest feast — The Resurrection of the Lord on Easter Sunday. Lent is a period of special penitential observance. Every Friday of Lent is a day of abstinence. On those days, adult Catholics over age 14 may not eat meat.

Holy Week Schedule

March 26, 27 & 28 - Daily Mass at 9:00 am

March 29 Holy Thursday
9:00 am Liturgy of the Hours
7:30 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper
8:30-11 pm Veneration of the Blessed Sacrament

March 30 Good Friday
9:00 am Liturgy of the Hours
3:00 pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion
4:15-5 pm Confessions

March 31 Holy Saturday
9:00 am Liturgy of the Hours
11am - Noon Confessions
8:00 pm Easter Vigil Mass

April 1 Easter Sunday

The Resurrection of the Lord. Masses are at 7:00 am, 9:00 am, and 11:00 am. There will be no 5:00 pm Mass on Easter Sunday.

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.

The Light is on for You

You are invited! Please come and experience Christ's healing love and celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The church is open on Wednesdays during Lent from 6:30–7:30 pm.

Religious Education

Living Stations of the Cross

The 6th grade students will present the Living Stations of the Cross on Sunday, March 18 at 9:00 am followed by a 7th grade hosted breakfast in the parish hall. Both the 9 and 10 am sessions will attend in lieu of classes. Students will sit in the church with their classes and then be dismissed to their parents following the event. ALL are invited to proceed down to the parish hall for the hospitality breakfast.

There will be NO CLASSES on Sunday, April 1st for grades K-5 due to Easter.

Confirmation

On Good Friday, 17 teenagers will be representing St. Irene's at ABIDE Boston 2018 which is being held at St. Brigid's in Lexington. Abide is a 24-hour event, starting on Good Friday at 5PM and ending on Holy Saturday, that invites high school teenagers to partake in a 24-hour "food and technology fast" and spend most of the day Holy Saturday serving others.

Attending youth are encouraged to get "sponsored" for their fast (each youth is encouraged to try to raise \$250). Money raised will go toward holding the event, with the remainder going toward supporting local Catholic charities.

On the weekend of March 24/25 there will be a basket at the back of the church for donations, if writing a check please make it out to ABIDE Boston 2018 or for online donations go to: abide2018.com/make-a-donation/. Any donation you can give to the youth of our parish to support them in this event is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions please email Sheila Curran at Confirmation@StIrenes.org. Thank you.

Returning Lenten Boxes for Malawi

If Religious Education students didn't have a chance to return Lenten Boxes for the children of Malawi last weekend, there is a big purple box at the back of the church. We will pick up the Lenten Boxes after each Mass and report next weekend as to the final total from the Religious Education students.

Peer Leaders

Just a reminder we are still looking for recipes for our Parish Cookbook, which we hope to have out by the fall. Please send recipes to kmccollum19@concordcarlisle.org.

Parish Happenings

Stations of the Cross / Soup and Bread

On Friday, March 23, prior to the Stations of the Cross, we will have our second "Soup & Bread" repast in the Parish Hall. This Lenten event hosted by the Women's Club will run from 5:30 pm and continue until 7:00 pm so as to give people ample time to enjoy their meal before going upstairs for the stations. All are invited and encouraged to attend.

Women's Club Meeting March 22

Mar. 22 Make meatballs & sausage for Italian night after 9:00 am Mass in the church hall

Women's Club Italian Dinner – March 24th

Mark your calendar - March 24th will be the Women's Club "fabulous" Italian dinner with all the fixings - including the ever popular Italian Antipasto Noel. Tickets will go on sale starting the second weekend in March after all the Masses and are \$15 for adults; \$10 for children age 6 to 14; there will be no charge for children under 6 years old.

This is a very well attended event so it is suggested that you get your tickets as soon as they go on sale. If you have questions, please contact Jan Brown at 978-256-9480.

Parish Library

The parish library has books for Lenten reading displayed at the back of the church. Please only borrow the books for three weeks. We also would like any overdue books returned. Thank you.

Easter Flowers

If you wish to make a donation for Easter flowers in memory of a loved one or in honor of someone, please place your donation of \$5 or more along with the name of the person to be remembered or honored in an envelope. It can be placed in the collection basket or sent to the rectory office **before March 26**.

"Will You Help to Build My Classroom?"

The answer was a resounding "Yes!!"-the people of St. Irene's will help to build your classroom! The goal was to raise \$30,000 to build three classrooms for children in Thunga, Malawi. The generous parishioners of St. Irene's (including our Religious Education students) kicked the ball through the goalposts in the final few minutes of the game last weekend-even though there was no power in the church and even though the snow lay all about. We raised **\$32,031**, thereby exceeding the goal!!!

Kelsey is ecstatic! The extra money will provide a buffer for those unforeseen problems that might arise, but Kelsey is hopeful that she can also repair the roof on an existing classroom that she feels is ready to fall on students at any time.

"You have never really lived until you have done something for someone who can never repay you."

"Do you want to do something beautiful for God? There is a person who needs you. This is your chance."

"Together, we can do great things."

Mother Teresa

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 offer suggestions via email at feedback@stirenes.org. St. Irene's online calendar can be found at

www.stirenes.org/quicklinks/calendar.html.

Area Events

Bowling / Pizza Event – April 8

On Sunday, April 8, the Knights of Columbus (Westford/Chelmsford Council) will sponsor their Spring Bowling / Pizza Event for children with disabilities and their families. It will be held at Collins Bowladrome in Billerica from 1:00 – 3:00 PM. The event includes duck-pin bowling, which is followed by pizza for all who attend. Interested families are asked to register for this **free event** by contacting Ken Desilets no later than April 1st. (Phone: 978-692-6866 or email; kgdesigned@gmail.com)

Financial Information

Grand Annual Collection

The Grand Annual Collection this past weekend amounted to **\$118,366** 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.

2018 Catholic Appeal

The 2018 Catholic Appeal campaign is underway at St. Irene's. So far, 17 parishioners have participated, and together, we have raised **\$5,680** toward our parish assessment of **\$37,577**. Thank you to all who already have participated. Your generosity will benefit hundreds of pastoral, charitable, and educational programs at work within the Archdiocese. With **\$31,897** left to raise, we need the participation of every parishioner. If you have yet to participate in this year's Catholic Appeal, please pledge online at bostoncatholicappeal.org or complete a pledge form available in the back of the church.

This weekend the second collection is the Monthly Collection.

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.