



St. Irene Church

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

Third Sunday of Lent
March 24, 2019

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

Jane Buchaniec - 15th Anniversary Mass

Joseph Buchaniec - 50th Anniversary Mass

Sunday, March 24 at 8:00 am

Alberta Mae Follmar

1st Anniversary Mass

Friday, March 29 at 9:00 am

John Nelson

1st Anniversary Mass

Tuesday, April 2 at 9:00 am

Edward Richards

Months Mind Mass

Thursday, April 4 at 9:00 am

The Pastor's Corner

As we approach the mid-point of the season of Lent, it is a good time to evaluate our observance of the special season of grace. What have I done to grow spiritually? If we have not done much, it is not too late. The Church encourages us to practice three disciplines in Lent – Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving. Our prayer may be attending morning Mass or taking time to reflect on the meditations in the “Living Faith” booklets. (The spring edition is available at the church exits.) Fasting can be giving up food or TV or something else we enjoy. It could be a greater effort to give up some fault in our lives. Almsgiving is really sharing with others – our time, our talent, our treasure. Lent is our preparation for our greatest feast – Easter Sunday. The Resurrection of the Lord Jesus and the new life we share with the Risen Lord. Lent prepares us for the renewal of our Baptismal promises on Easter Sunday and our renewed life as disciples of Jesus.

~ Fr. Tom Donohoe

Daily Bible Readings

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

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. Good Friday is a day of fasting for Catholics between the ages of 18 and 60 years of age.

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

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

6th Grade Stations of the Cross Rehearsal

The 6th Grade will have a special start time on Monday, Mar. 25 at 6:30 - 8:00 pm.

Living Stations of the Cross

The 6th grade students will present the Living Stations of the Cross on Sunday, March 31 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.

Confirmation

On Good Friday, 12 teenagers will be representing St. Irene's at ABIDE Boston 2019 which is being held at St. Bridget'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 30/31 there will be a collection 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: abide2019.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 Zacharchuk at Confirmation@StIrenes.org. Thank you.

Parish Happenings

Holy Hour for Life – Sunday, March 24

The Respect Life Ministry invites you to a Holy Hour for Life on Sunday, March 24 following the 5pm Mass. Our hour of prayer will include Eucharistic Adoration, rosary recitation of the Joyful Mysteries, prayers for life, and the Litany of the Unborn Christ Child. Join us for a peaceful hour in the presence of the Lord. For more information contact Amy Regan or Cindy Reynolds at respectlife@stirenes.org.

St. Irene's Adult Faith Formation Presentation on "Ignatian Spirituality"

Monday, March 25 ~ 9:30-11:30 a.m.
Parish Hall, Light Breakfast Served

Cabrini Pak, Ph.D., Religion & Culture, is a member of St. Irene Parish. She is also a Research Consultant for the Oblates of the Virgin Mary in Boston. The community of the OVM has as its special calling the formation of the laity with emphasis on the spiritual exercises of St. Ignatius. Ignatian Spirituality focuses on discerning God's presence in our everyday lives, including seeking God's help in decision making. St. Ignatius Loyola, founder of the Jesuits, introduced this spirituality nearly 500 years ago. We hope that this presentation will give you an opportunity to grow closer to God during Lent. There will be time for discussion and a light breakfast will be served.

Collaborative News

It was announced at the Masses on March 9 & 10 that Fr. Frank Silva (currently in Burlington) will be the new pastor for the St. Irene and Holy Family collaborative. We will be welcoming Father Silva as pastor in June 2019.

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.

"Theology on Tap" Saturday, April 6, 7:00-9:00 p.m., Church Hall

You are invited by St. Irene's Adult Faith Formation committee to attend a "Theology on Tap" presentation on Saturday, April 6, 2019, from 7-9 p.m. in the church hall.

The "**Theology**"- A live presentation by popular speaker, **Ernest Collomati**, Associate Professor of Religious Studies at Regis College. His timely topic will be "Why I Am Still Catholic."

The "**Tap**"- Craft beer tasting hosted by the Craft Beer Cellar, Westford (wine tasting included).

Come to the Parish Hall and share your questions and ideas with fellow Catholics in a casual setting. Open your heart and brain on how to follow Christ in the modern world. Bring a friend or a spouse or come alone and make a friend. Make it a night out. Light refreshments, craft beers, and interesting wines will be served.

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 April 16**.

Save the Date – Saturday, April 27 St. Irene Mystery Dinner Theater

The St. Irene Players, with lead thespian Fr. Tom Donohoe, will present its latest production: "MURDER AT THE DRUNKIN' MOSQUITO –or– The St. Irene's Magical Misery Tour" on **Saturday, April 27, 2019**. Come and see what Fr. Tom is up to this year-and enjoy good company, good food, and lots of laughs!!

Save the Dates

Fri., Apr. 12 – Stations of the Cross

Sat., May 4 – Confirmation

Sun., May 5 – Women's Club Tea

Sat., May 18 – First Communion

Sat. & Sun. May 18/19 Thank You Celebration

Parish Library

The parish library has books for Lenten reading on the table at the back of the church. Registered library users may borrow books for three weeks.

Newsletter

The Lent 2019 edition of St. Irene's quarterly e-mail newsletter was distributed March 6th. If you have not seen it, please check your spam folder first, and if it isn't there either, let the rectory office know via stirene@comcast.net that you're a parishioner and would like to receive the quarterly e-mail newsletters. To access prior editions of the newsletter, visit www.stirenes.org/about/newsletter.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.

Financial Information

Grand Annual Collection

The Grand Annual Collection this past weekend amounted to **\$121,340** towards our goal of \$125,000. If you have not yet contributed you may send your donation in to the rectory. We are most grateful for your continued support to our parish.

Catholic Appeal 2019

Thank you for your generous support of the 2019 Catholic Appeal. Thanks to your generosity, we can continue to advance programs for evangelization and pastoral outreach in our parish communities and schools, and in the lives of those who turn to us for assistance. For those of you still interested in making a pledge to this life-changing work, please find a donation form available in the back of the Church or visit our website at bostoncatholicappeal.org to view our latest video about the Appeal. 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 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.