

St. Irene Church

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



Third Sunday of Lent
March 4, 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

Bernice H. Charko - Funeral Mass
Saturday, March 3 at 11:00 am

Robert Nelson - Memorial Mass
Sunday, March 4 at 11:00 am

Marion Young - Funeral Mass
Wednesday, March 7 at 10:00 am

Nancy McKinley - Memorial Mass
Thursday, March 8 at 9:00 am

Elinor McDonald – Memorial Mass
Saturday, March 10 at 9:00 am

Colleen Kelly – 2nd Anniversary Mass
Sunday, March 11 at 8:00 am

The Pastor's Corner

This Sunday Liturgy invites us to re-examine our understanding of God's Commandments. A good understanding of the commandments is very essential for finding their source and origin – God himself. The Ten Commandments propose a way of life that upholds God's name and our human dignity. They are not so much about what we must do as they are about how we should think and act in our daily life. Their purpose is not just the avoidance of evil but directing our life towards the higher goal: living in harmony with God. Jesus knew that the money changers and sellers in the temple were motivated by greed rather than service to God and his people. They were turning away from the commandments. Lent invites us to a conversion of heart, a heart that recognizes the fact that "the precepts of the Lord are right, they give joy to the heart." What then, in the light of God's Commandments should primarily motivate all our actions? Serving God and his people and attain one day the ultimate goal of living in harmony with God eternally.

Fr. Romain

Children's Liturgy

Children's Liturgy will be celebrated on March 11 at the 8:00 and 11:00 am Masses. The Masses will be hosted by the 3rd grade.

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.

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.

Flu Season Advisory

In light of the severity of flu related illnesses the Archdiocese has issued some liturgical directives. The distribution of the Precious Blood for the faithful is suspended until the emergency subsidies. We encourage you to exchange the sign of peace without any physical contact. If you are ill or suspect you are ill with a contagious illness, you are not bound by the Sunday Mass obligation. You should remain at home and return to church when you are well.

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.

Daily Bible Readings

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

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.

6th Grade Stations of the Cross Rehearsals

Classes will have a special start time for the following 2 classes:

Monday, Mar. 5th at 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Monday, Mar. 12th at 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Peer Leaders

Meeting Date – Sunday, March 4

Theme of the Meeting-The face of forgiveness. We will try to reflect on issues revolving around Lent.

Speaker: Kelsey from Design Cause is trying to raise money to help build a school in Africa and provide a better education. Please join us for an information filled afternoon.

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 Peerleaders@stirenes.org.

Parish Happenings

Parish Pastoral Council

The Parish Pastoral Council is meeting on Sunday, March 4 at 7:00 pm in the rectory.

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's Adult Faith Formation Presentation—Monday, Mar. 12, 9:30–11:30 am
BC Video: "Journey with the Saints of Lent—Part II"

Looking for something to "do" for Lent? We welcome you to join us in the church hall at 9:30 am (after the 9 am Mass) on Monday, March 12, as we watch Part II of a presentation by Br. Michael O'Neill McGrath, O.S.F.S. of a video from the Boston College College School of Theology. As Brother Mickey continues to share his paintings and stories, the saints and Gospel stories of Lent come alive, leading to a deeper awareness of God's presence as we journey together toward Easter. Following the hour video, we have set aside an additional 45 minutes for discussion. A light breakfast will be served. Please come!

Parish Library

The parish library will have a basket of new free books for Lent. Readers can take one and either: 1. keep it; 2. pass it on to a friend; 3. return it to the basket to be given to other parishioners. 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.

Stations of the Cross

Women's Club – 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.

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.

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?" Update

The thermometer continues to move up! With two weeks left in the campaign to raise \$30,000 to build three elementary school classrooms adjacent to the Catholic Church in Thunga Malawi, generous parishioners have donated \$17,326 to date! Thanks to all!

Religious Education students are saving change in Lenten to support their fellow students in Malawi. Reminder: boxes should be returned on Sunday, March 11. They will be presented during the Children's Liturgy Masses at 8 and 11 o'clock.

Members of the Social Justice Committee will be available after each Mass until March 18 to answer questions and accept donations. Donations can be made by cash or check (payable to Design Cause Inc., a 501(c)(3) non-profit) after each Mass, or made online at www.designcauseinc.org.

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.

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. (email; kgdesigned@gmail.com)

Financial Information

Grand Annual Collection

The Grand Annual Collection this past weekend amounted to **\$108,366** 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

Next weekend, the Catholic Appeal will be announced in all parishes throughout the Archdiocese. Each of us is responsible not only for the wellbeing of our parish, but also for the wellbeing of the Church throughout our Archdiocese and throughout the world. In preparation, we invite you to prayerfully consider making a generous gift. To make an online pledge, please visit www.bostoncatholicappeal.org. Thank you for your prayerful consideration of this year's Appeal.

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.

Financial Details

February 2018

Year to Date

Weekly

\$21,076

\$46,987

Monthly

\$2942

\$5809

Gifts & Bequests

\$75

\$200