NOW, MASTER, YOU MAY LET YOUR SERVANT GO IN PEACE, ACCORDING TO YOUR WORD, FOR MY EYES HAVE SEEN YOUR SALVATION.

LUKE 2:29–30

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

FEBRUARY 2, 2020
Staff Directory

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Warrenville, IL 60555

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WEB: www.st-irene.org
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PASTORAL ASSOCIATE: Annette Kubalanza x 122
MUSIC DIRECTOR: Ryan Matthew Rump
BUSINESS MANAGER: Fred Schlick x 114
FACILITY MANAGER: John Marotto x 115
ADMIN. ASSISTANT: Pat Jackowiak x 110
OFC. MNM/ADMIN. ASSIST.: Yvonne Aranda x 110
DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 1-6:
Cathy Berning x 121
DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 7-8:
Pamela Keating x 121
FAITH FORMATION CORD.: Rosario Herbst x 119
SCHOOL: 35601 Warren Avenue
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FAX: 630.393.7009
WEB: www.st-ireneschool.org
PRINCIPAL: Maggie Detwiler x 136
ADMIN. ASSISTANT: Julie Duquette x 116

NEW PARISHIONERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!
Call or come to the Parish Center to register.

BAPTISMS: Dates for Baptism will be arranged after attending the Pre-Baptismal Catechesis. Please call Annette in the Parish Office for information.

MARRIAGES: Call Annette in the Parish Office to arrange preparation 6 months in advance.

SICK CALLS: Call Annette in the Parish Office and Ministers of Care will visit the sick or shut-in.

RECONCILIATION: Saturday 4:20-4:40PM in the Reconciliation Room.

FOOD PANTRY: Our pantry is open Wednesdays from 9AM-12PM. Call 630.393.2400 x 112.

FUNERALS: The Pastoral Staff works with families to plan the Funeral Mass.

SMALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES: Call Dwight Sherman at 630.393.3221 or 630.362.1324.

CRISIS PRAYER CHAIN: Contact Deacon Joe Urso at 630.853.2070 at joe.urso@outlook.com.

The Presentation of the Lord

Reflecting on God’s Word

Have you ever noticed how church candles burn? Unlike our candles at home, they leave no wax behind. They slowly get shorter and shorter until they have been completely consumed by the flame. That is because they are made of pure beeswax, which burns hot and bright with all of the wax becoming fuel for the fire.

Today’s candle ritual, like the Service of Light at the Easter Vigil, reminds us of the Light of the World that dawned at Christmas. Simeon rightly recognized that Jesus Himself would have to become like pure wax. His sacrificial death would fuel the flame that burns brightly as a light of revelation to the Gentiles and glory for Israel.

—Virginia Stillwell

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A Note from Fr. Jim ...

With the holidays over let me thank you for your greetings and gifts. I appreciate all of them!

As most of you have heard, I will be retiring from the position of pastor this June, My last Mass is June 14. I am going to be Chaplain at Rosary Hill in Justice, IL.

Let us pray for good things to come! Have a great week.

Be Kind and Merciful through the 2020 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal

All parishioners will receive a mailing from the Diocese of Joliet this month about the 2020 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA). Our annual appeal is vitally important to not only the diocese, but also to our parish as well. The CMAA supports 30 ministries that benefit every parish and allow us all to Be Kind and Merciful to the most vulnerable in our community.

Our parish’s goal for the 2020 CMAA is $66,200 and 70 percent of any amount we raise over goal will be returned to us. This is a great opportunity for our parish! Please review the materials and then prayerfully reflect on your gift to this year’s annual appeal.

If you do not receive a mailing from the diocese about the CMAA, please contact the parish office.

MASS SCHEDULE

- Daily: M-F 7AM
- Saturday: 5PM
- Sunday: 8AM & 10AM
An evening of Lenten Reflection
Including Paczkis, a concert, and Palm Burning

All are welcome to join us Tuesday, February 18th
Featuring:

ValLimar

Her concert will inspire a renewed, passionate love of our faith through song, story and movement. Fun for all ages!

6:00pm - Social in ACL with Paczkis (donuts)
6:45pm - Concert in Church with ValLimar
8:00pm - Burning of the Palms outside

Additional unique performances:
   Feb 16 - Holy Spirit in Naperville  4:00pm
   Feb 19 - St. Joan of Arc in Lisle  6:30pm

24th Annual Knights of Columbus Super Bowl Raffle and Party

Parishioners and Friends, you are invited to participate in the 24th Annual Knights of Columbus Super Bowl Raffle to be held during a Super Bowl party at the St. Irene AC on Feb. 2nd.

Buy your raffle tickets for $25 per square for two separate Faith and Hope Pools, and $50 per square for the Charity Pool. Cash prizes ranging from $25 to $500 will be awarded throughout the football game on Super Bowl Sunday. You may split the cost of a ticket with your friends.

The Raffle is a major fundraiser for the St. Irene Knights of Columbus Council. It is a 50-50 cash raffle with half of the proceeds awarded to participants, and the other half retained by the local Council to be used for programs that benefit St.Irene Parish, the Grade School, and community outreach programs.

For Teens … Catholic Heart Workcamp

Our St. Irene youth had such an amazing experience the last 2 years that we are collaborating again with St. Mike’s for this awesome mission trip!

This July 19th - 25th our 8th - 12th grade teens are invited to join 350 teens from parishes all over the U.S. at Catholic Heart Workcamp (CHWC) in the Twin Cities, Minnesota. This is a week of fun, prayer, laughter, Mass & Reconciliation, and restoring hope through service to those less fortunate.

There are still a few spots available. For more information or any questions contact: Pamela Keating at 630-393-2400 x120 or pamela@st-irene.org.

40 Hours of Adoration Devotion – Save the Date!

Mark your calendars as St. Irene Parish will be doing our second annual 40 Hours of Adoration Devotion this year starting on Sunday, March 1 after the 10:00 am Mass and ending on Tuesday, March 3 with a Parish wide Mass. Are you looking for peace in any area of your life? Are you looking for a way to strengthen your faith? Are you looking for a short respite from the noise and business of the world? Come spend an hour, or 15 minutes, in the real presence of Jesus Christ. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed continuously during our 40 Hour Devotion and all are welcome to come spend some time with Jesus. Not sure what Adoration is? Not sure what to expect or what to do during your time in Adoration? Don’t worry! Over the next few weeks, we will be providing information about Adoration, both in the bulletin and in the back of Church. Each week the bulletin will contain some information on Adoration to help you prepare. Beginning, this weekend, February 1-2, we will have signup sheets and information in the back of Church as well. We will be asking each parish ministry to sponsor an hour of Adoration. Throughout the duration of the Devotion, we will have some hours with a meditation and prayer leader. The signup sheets will clearly indicate which hours of Adoration will be silent and which will contain spoken prayer and/or lead meditations.

If you have any questions, please contact Amy Z. at amy.zielazinski@gmail.com.
Whole Parish Catechesis
Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

Reading I: Malachi 3:1-4
♦ There will come to the temple the Lord whom you seek.

Background: Malachi was faithful to his Jewish faith; yet, he was critical of the priesthood of his time. God visits the temple. God’s visit results in purification of both the sacrifices and the ministers.

Reading II: Hebrews 2:14-18
♦ He had to become like His brothers and sisters in every way.

Background: Jesus shares in the flesh and blood of humanity. Jesus is the compassionate high priest. Because Jesus suffered He is able to help those who suffer.

♦ My eyes have seen your salvation.

Background: Jesus grew up in a devout Jewish family and society. Simeon predicts that Jesus will cause conflict and division within Israel. Simeon and Anna knew that Jesus was God’s promised Redeemer.

Theme: Jesus, our Redeemer, came to live among us and light the path to Salvation.

Question for Adults:
Mary and Joseph took their faith seriously enough to make a return to the Lord of the most precious thing in their lives, their son, whom they presented to God in the Temple. How do you return to God that which is most precious to you?

Question for Youth:
Simeon said that Jesus would be a “light to all nations.” When, where or how do you see the light of Jesus?

Question for Children:
What do you want to tell others about Jesus?

Condolences to the Family of Cheri Haight
Sister of Debbi Kruse

Family Faith Formation (Religious Education)

Classes meet on Tuesday, Feb. 4 (Gr. 1-6 in the classroom) 5:30-7PM and Wednesday, Feb. 5 (Gr. 7-8 in the ACL) 6:30-8PM. Parents meet their children on Tuesdays at 6:45PM in Church and Wednesdays at 7:45PM in the ACL.

Gospel Weekly Family Discussion:

Gospel of Luke 2:22-40 - As was the Jewish custom, Mary and Joseph presented Jesus in the Temple forty days after His birth. Two holy people, Simeon and Anna, recognized Jesus as the Messiah—promised to be the Savior.

Question of the Week:
♦ What Catholic faith traditions and customs are important to you and/or your family?

Gospel Questions:
♦ What expectations of God characterize your faith? The faith you see in the people in your believing community?
♦ What does Simeon anticipate will be Jesus’ significance to his people? To all the nations of the world?

Life Questions:
♦ What wisdom do you hear from the elders in your parish?
♦ Who is a bright light for the world today? Why?
♦ When have you faced a hard choice? Who or what helped you?

Family Prayer:
♦ Lord, help us to imitate the Holy Family and to follow the teachings of the Catholic Church. Amen.

He had to become like His brothers and sisters in every way.
— Hebrews 2:17a

PALM BURNING

We will once again observe the centuries old tradition of burning palms from last year’s Palm Sunday for use at our Ash Wednesday Liturgies. The ritual of burning palms will be celebrated on Tuesday, February 18th as part of our Lenten Evening of Reflection. All are invited.

We will begin collecting palms next weekend. Please deposit last year’s palms in the baskets provided.
Thank You!

Thank you to all the ladies who made the Lady of Guadalupe Mass & Fiesta celebration such a fantastic event. The Mass was inspiring, the food was delicious, and the dancers were exceptional! Thank you to all those who helped with organizing, decorating, cooking, serving, and cleaning up. A special thanks goes out to Maggie Nagode who has been the driving force behind this event for many years. Maggie is stepping down from being the chairperson so we are looking for someone to take her place. If you are interested, please email or call Cathy Kott at cakott1210@att.net or 630-393-9543.

St. Irene Lunch Bunch Ministry

All seniors, age 55 and older are invited to attend a Pot Luck Luncheon on Thursday, February 6th at 11:30am in the ACL. Bring a friend and your favorite dish to share. Our theme this month is Mardi Gras. Entertainment will be provided by the barbershop quartet “Sound Investment.” Come join the fun!

A-L……………main dish  J-R……………sides  S-Z……………desserts

Donation is $5 at the door. Please contact Annette annette@st-irene.org or Denise dcagsch@comcast.net to RSVP.

MAKE THIS LENT ABOUT WHAT YOU DO, NOT WHAT YOU DON’T DO!

During the coming Lenten season, instead of depriving yourself of some type of food or some form of entertainment, join a small community for six weeks and participate in Lenten Longings, an opportunity to read Scripture and share your faith with some of your fellow parishioners. Small groups will meet for 90 minutes once a week at the parish or at someone’s home. It’s a great way to make Lent a more meaningful season as you prepare to celebrate the resurrection. Make your commitment today!

Dates: Tuesdays: February 25, March 3, March 10, March 17, March 24, March 31

Times: 10:00am Parish Center - Staff Room

7:15pm ACL

Please circle: 10:00am 7:15pm  Off Site: M, T, W, TH

I am able to host a small group off site

Name:
Address:
Email:
Phone:

Please register by Sunday, February 16th.

Phone 393-2400 x122 or drop this form in the collection basket or sign up on the forms provided at the table in the narthex.
This Week’s Meetings

Sunday, February 2
10-10:45a - Children’s Liturgy of the Word (ACL)
11a-12:30p - Rite of Christian Initiation Adult (ACL)
2-9p - KC Super Bowl (AC)

Monday, February 3
1-2:30p - Adult Education (ACL)
6:30-8:30p - Healing Horizons (ACL)
7-8:30p - Adult Education (Chapel)

Tuesday, February 4
5:30-7p - Elementary Religious Education (C, S)
7-9p - School Board (HF)

Wednesday, February 5
12:15-3:30p - Band (ACL)
6:30-8p - Jr. High Religious Education (S, AC)
7-8:30p - Adult Choir (C)

Thursday, February 6
11:30a-2p - Lunch Bunch (ACL)
7-8:30p - CCW (ACL)

Friday, February 7
12:15-3:30p - Band (ACL)
6-11p Athletic Association (AC)

Saturday, February 8
6-11p - Chili Cook Off (AC)

Sunday, February 9
7:30a-12:30p - Hospitality (ACL)
10-10:45a - Children’s Liturgy of the Word (ACL)

Walking with Purpose
The Modern Woman’s Guide to the Bible
Are you in search of your “one thing” for Lent? Join other women like you for “Living in the Father’s Love” a Women’s Bible study beginning Thursday, February 27th at 1:00 PM and 7:00 PM.

- 92% of participants recommend the study to a friend.
- 97% report at stronger relationship with Christ.
- 97% say their prayer life has improved.

Find out why! Check it out Walkingwithpurpose.com
Contact the St. Irene Parish Office for more information (630) 377-2400 x110.

St. Irene’s 31st Annual Chili Cook-Off
Saturday, February 8, 2020
6-10:30PM
St. Irene Activity Center
Sponsored by the St. Irene Athletic Association
Your $10 ticket buys you samples of all of the delicious chili offerings. This is a 21-and-older event. Hot dogs, soft drinks, beer and wine will be available for sale. You will also have an opportunity to bid on fabulous silent auction items, enter raffles for great prizes and compete in the Liquor Loop. There will be a 50/50 raffle this year with tickets sold after Masses.

PLEASE CONSIDER BEING A CONTESTANT (AGAIN) THIS YEAR. Each contestant will receive a variety of thank you gifts, including a $50 cash reimbursement toward their chili expenses! Rules for the Cook-Off will be forwarded when you sign up.

ALSO CONSIDER BEING A SPONSOR OR MAKING A RAFFLE OR MONETARY DONATION. We are looking for sponsors and monetary donations, as well as raffle and silent auction items (no amount is too small!)

PLEASE CONSIDER HELPING IN ANY WAY. All proceeds benefit St. Irene School ~ but the fun of the evening benefits all who attend and contribute!

FOR INFORMATION & TO SIGN UP, CONTACT:
- Scott Reid - S.Reid@st-ireneschool.org
- Shannon Nevins - Shannon.nevins23@gmail.com

K of C Annual FMSC Food-Packing Event
Jesus challenged believers to perform works of charity. One of those acts is to feed the poor. Come join fellow parishioners at the Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) facility at 555 Exchange Ct. in Aurora on Saturday, February 15, from 9:00a.m. until 11:00a.m.

We will be packing food for needy children overseas. No experience is necessary. Individuals over the age of 5 are welcome to participate. Get the entire family involved in this worthy cause.

Students can earn service hours.

To participate, just register at https://www.fmsc.org/join-group?joincode=GGKXWV. If you have any questions, contact Joe Kubal at 630-983-6159 or email at jdrk4715@aol.com.

If you cannot attend, please consider a monetary donation to this worthwhile organization.
**St. Irene Vocation Prayer**

In every age Lord, You raise up women and men who are strong in their faith and bold in their actions to give witness to the Gospel. Fill St. Irene Parish Community with Your Spirit and give us a burning desire to make a difference in our world. Because of our love for You, Bless our Church with holy and courageous priests, deacons, religious sisters and brothers, devoted married couples, dedicated single men and women, and enthusiastic youth. We ask this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Sue Lambert  
Colette Malovany  
Sam Vitale  
Pat Wehner  
Mary George  
Desiree Sheppard  

Jim Pippenger  
Colette Malovany  
Sam Vitale  
Pat Wehner  
Mary George  
Desiree Sheppard

**Readings for the Week**

**Monday:**  
2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13; Ps 3:2-7; Mk 5:1-20

**Tuesday:**  
2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30, 19:3; Ps 86:1-6; Mk 5:21-43

**Wednesday:**  
2 Sm 24:2, 9-17, Ps 32:1-2, 5-7; Mk 6:1-6

**Thursday:**  
1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12; 1 Chr 29:10-12; Mk 6:7-13

**Friday:**  
Sir 47:2-11; Ps 18:31, 47, 50, 51; Mk 6:14-29

**Saturday:**  
1 Kgs 3:4-13; Ps 119:9-14; Mk 6:30-34

**Sunday:**  
Is 58:7-10; Ps 112:4-9; 1 Cor 2:1-5; Mt 5:13-16

**Eucharistic Adoration**  
- Join us on Thursdays anytime between 7:30AM-8PM. Please sign up for a 1/2 hour or an 1 hour segment by calling Cathy Kott at 630.393.9543.

**Communion Assistance**

We want to insure that every parishioner who wishes to partake in the Communion Sacrament be able to do so. In order to assist us with this process, please notify an usher prior to the start of Mass if you or someone in your party needs communion brought to you. Extraordinary Ministers will bring the Precious Body & Blood to you in your pew.

**Liturgical Calendar**

**Monday, February 3**  
St. Blaise; St. Ansgar  
7:00AM - Keith Lambert / Mary

**Tuesday, February 4**  
Fourth Week in Ordinary Time  
7:00AM - Cheri Haight / St. Irene Parish Family

**Wednesday, February 5**  
St. Agatha  
7:00AM - Jane Peters / Cathy Kott

**Thursday, February 6**  
St. Paul Miki and Companions  
7:00AM - St. Irene Faith Community  
7:30AM - Eucharistic Adoration

**Friday, February 7**  
First Friday  
7:00AM - Benjamin Ruiz / Family  
8:15AM - Peggy Babcock / Family

**Saturday, February 8**  
St. Jerome Emiliani; St. Josephine  
5:00PM - Paula Lopat / Sue & Jim Schultz  
Cari Martens / St. Irene Parish Family

**Sunday, February 9**  
Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time  
8:00AM - Lorraine McWilliams / St. Irene Family  
10:00AM - Hal Dirienzo / Tom & Pat McHugh  
Aaron Hennager / Sr. Mary & St. Josephine  
Shirley Joseph Dichtl / Edith Dichtl  
Michael Dichtl / Edith Dichtl

Lance CPL Jeff Sommer - Camp Mujuk Korea  
Chief Petty Officer Michael Spans  
Capt. Weston J. Umano USAF - Deployed  
E3 Jacob VanderMeulen, USNavy, San Diego  
1st Class Patrick Reid - Lackland AFB, TX  
Master Sgt. Dan Peterson - Anchorage, AK  
TSgt. Daniel Geinosky - serving in England  
Sgt. Christian Wilkins - stationed in Iraq  
Sgt. Levi Dieter - Embassy in Ecuador  
Cmdr. Eric G. Peterson - Serving in San Diego  
Sgt. Peter Folz - Fort Bragg, North Carolina  
Major Patrick Looby - Shaw AFB, SC  
Sgt. Thomas Rasplika - Fort Bliss, Texas