LOVE YOUR ENEMIES, THAT YOU MAY BE CHILDREN OF YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER, FOR HE MAKES THE SUN RISE ON THE BAD AND THE GOOD.

MATTHEW 5:44-45

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FEBRUARY 23, 2020
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.

SCHOOL: 35601 Warren Avenue

FAITH FORMATION CORD.: Rosario Herbst x 119
FAITH FORMATION ASSIST.: Maria Garfias

PARISH CENTER: 28W441 Warrenville Rd.
Warrenville, IL  60555

PHONE: 630.393.2400
FAX: 630.393.9680
WEB: www.st-irene.org
E-MAIL: parishoffice@st-irene.org

PASTOR: Rev. James Antiporek x 113
DEACONS: Brad Hentz - Brad@st-irene.org
Joe Urso x130 - joe@st-irene.org

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE: Annette Kubalanza x 122
MUSIC DIRECTOR: Ryan Matthew Rump
BUSINESS MANAGER: Fred Schlick x 114

FACILITY DIRECTOR: John Marotto x 115
ADMIN. ASSISTANT: Pat Jackowiak x 110
OFC. 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 120

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE
- Daily: M-F 7AM
- Saturday: 5PM
- Sunday: 8AM & 10AM

Pledge Your Gift to the CMAA

This is Commitment Weekend for the 2020 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA). Please prayerfully reflect on how you can best support our annual appeal and help our parish reach its goal of $66,200.

This year’s CMAA theme is Be Kind and Merciful. In this spirit, the 30 ministries our CMAA supports help us do God’s work here on earth. Providing these ministries is not only beyond the means of any one parish, the ministries benefit all of us, including our most vulnerable brothers and sisters.

Seventy percent of the amount we raise over our goal will be returned to our parish, for our needs. Please make a commitment to the CMAA today by completing a pledge envelope available in the pews. Our parish is counting on you for your support. Thank you for making the most generous pledge possible to this year’s CMAA.

Join us on February 26th for Ash Wednesday Mass at 7AM, Noon, or 7PM.

Ashes will be available in the church all day if you choose to bless yourself.

Reflecting on God’s Word

A 2006 movie called Love Actually has one of the best openings in recent years. It begins with two young people running toward each other and falling into each other’s arms, kissing joyfully. Then you see a mother being hugged by her two little girls, then two older women, perhaps sisters, embracing. As these scenes give way to others, you become aware that all this takes place in an airport at the arrivals gate. Accompanying these images is a voiceover.

Whenever he feels down about the condition of the world, the speaker goes to the arrivals gate at Heathrow airport in London. Despite the fact that there is so much hatred and greed in the world, he says, Heathrow is one place where things seem different. At Heathrow love is everywhere.

All the while you hear this voice, you are watching people rush into each other’s arms. For a full minute you see the world as a welcoming, warm, loving place. You know it’s something of a set-up because who goes to meet people at airports other than family, good friends, people in a loving relationship? But isn’t this God’s plan for the world, what God wants most from us: love God; love one another.

The voiceover concludes by noting that right before the planes hit the Twin Towers in New York City, all the calls that went out were messages of love. People chose to have their final words be professions of love. Making that choice on a daily basis is what makes us perfect—that is, full-grown, complete, holy.

—James A. Wallace, C.Ss.R.

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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.

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**Clothing Drive for the St. Vincent DePaul Society**

**March 14 & 15**

For the St. Vincent DePaul Society in West Chicago

We are accepting clothing, shoes, linens and books in good or bad condition. Also small household items and electronics!

**NO TV’s or COMPUTERS!**

Start collecting now! Collection bags will be handed out after Masses on March 7th and 8th. Fill them (or any strong bag/box) and return to the truck in the church parking lot the following weekend (14th and 15th) before or after Masses.

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**JDCCW Bishop Blanchette Scholarship**

Applications for the Joliet Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (JDCCW) Bishop Blanchette Scholarship are now available to those students planning on attending a Joliet Diocesan Catholic High School for the 2020-2021 school year. Applicants can obtain a BBSF application form from their Parish CCW President (Dana Wolze dana@wolze.com). Application deadline is April 16, 2020. FACTS must be applied for online at https://online.factsmgt.com. Request to be added to the JDCCW-BBSF FACTS ID#32463. If the family has already submitted a FACTS application for the upcoming year for another award, they are still eligible for the JDCCW-BBSF scholarship. Only one application need be submitted to FACTS at their online site. If you have any questions regarding FACTS call: 1-866-441-4637. DO NOT SEND the FACTS application to the JDCCW office. There is a $35.00 fee for the FACTS application that needs to be submitted to FACTS at the time of application, along with a copy of the family’s 2019 Income Tax report.

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**40 Hours of Adoration Devotion – What to do?**

If you haven’t been to Adoration lately, or you’ve never been to Adoration, and you’re worried you will be bored or confused, it’s understandable and you are NOT alone. But don’t worry, we have a few tips for you:

- **Pray with the heart.** Any conversations with God are prayers.
- **Write in a prayer journal.** A prayer journal is a great way to make your relationship with Jesus more tangible.
- **Listen to praise and worship music.** This is a great way to focus your thoughts on God. Music can also help you focus your thoughts more on your prayer.
- **Read religious material that will help you build your relationship with Jesus.** Reading a few lines of the Bible or a few paragraphs on one of the saints is a great way to find tips and treasures to help you build and strengthen your relationship with God.

So, don’t fret or worry that you will be bored. Sign up, or just stop by, and spend a few minutes with the Lord during our 40 Hours of Adoration Devotion which starts on Sunday, March 1st after the 10:00am Mass and ends on Tuesday, March 3rd, after the 8:15 Mass. Also, feel free to come by and spend a few minutes during our weekly Adoration on Thursdays, starting after the 7:00am Mass and ending at 8:00pm.
Family Faith Formation (Religious Education)

No classes this week. Please reflect on the material and questions below for the first week of Lent.

Gospel Weekly Family Discussion:

Gospel of Matthew 5:38-48 - Jesus encourages us to love everybody, especially those we dislike or those who dislike us. We should treat everyone how we wish to be treated, and not retaliate when others provoke us. Other people will recognize us as Jesus’ followers by the love we share.

Question of the Week:

♦ What is a loving way to respond to someone who upsets you?

Gospel Questions:

♦ How do Jesus’ exhortations in this Gospel touch your life?
♦ What’s hard about loving enemies?
♦ How does Jesus’ teaching differ from the eye-for-an-eye approach?

Life Questions:

♦ Who is a holy person you know? Why do you say this person is holy?
♦ When was the last time you showed kindness toward someone who wasn’t a friend or member of your family? What did you do?
♦ What should you do when someone says or does something mean to you?

Family Prayer:

♦ Help us Jesus, to remember to love everybody as you do. Help us to stay calm when we are upset and to be kind when we are angry. Amen.
Lenten Regulations

1. Everyone 14 years of age or over is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays of Lent.
2. All age 18 years up to the beginning of their 60th year are bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
3. On these two days of fast and abstinence, only one full meatless meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one’s needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted on these two days, but liquids, including milk and fruit juices are allowed. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige.
4. To disregard completely the law of fast and abstinence is sinful.
5. Lent is the principal season of penance in the Church year. Therefore, all of the faithful are strongly urged to develop and follow a program of voluntary self-denial. All Catholics are encouraged to support generously the charitable works of the whole Church, pray and perform works of charity and mercy.
6. Those who are sick, pregnant, or nursing, or whose health would adversely be affected by fasting or abstinence, should not consider themselves bound by these norms.

St. Irene CCW Woman of the Year Nominations

Dear Parishioners,
Please help us recognize a Woman of our parish who shines the light of God through her words and actions, living her faith for us to follow. Nomination forms for Woman of the Year are located in the Narthex and need to be returned by March 1st. Thank you for your prayerful consideration and participation in this process.
Sincerely,
St. Irene CCW Ministry

St. Patrick’s/St. Joseph’s Day Lunch

Are you 55 years old or older? Come celebrate St. Patrick’s/St. Joseph’s day with the Lunch Bunch on Thursday, March 5th in the ACL. RSVP by Monday, March 2nd, and indicate your entrée selection of corned beef or chicken to Annette Kubalanza at annette@st-irene.org or 630.393.2400 X122; or to Denise at dscagsch@comcast.net.
Donation is $10.00 at the door and includes a presentation on the history and lore of Garden Gnomes.

Seniors Invited to Defer Property Taxes

Qualified senior citizens aged 65 years and older are invited to apply for the Senior Citizen Real Estate Tax Deferral Program. The program allows participants to defer property tax payment until the property is sold. The deferral is treated as a loan and accrues 6 percent simple interest until paid. To qualify, the applicant’s household income cannot exceed $55,000. Additionally, the property must be used exclusively for residential purposes. The application period closes March 2, 2020. For more information, contact DuPage County Treasurer’s Office at 630-407-5900 or www.dupageco.org/treasurer.
This Week’s Meetings

**Sunday, February 23**
10-10:45a - Children’s Liturgy of the Word (ACL)

**Monday, February 24**
1-2:30p - Adult Education (ACL)
7-8:30p - Adult Education (ACL)

**Tuesday, February 25**
10-11:30p - Lenten Longings (Staff)
7:15-8:45p - Lenten Longings (ACL)

**Wednesday, February 26**
12:15-3:30p - Band (ACL)

**Thursday, February 27**
No Meetings

**Friday, February 28**
7-10p - Lenten Soup Supper (ACL)

**Saturday, February 29**
6:30-9p - Youth Group Meeting (ACL)

**Sunday, March 1**
10-10:45a - Children’s Liturgy of the Word (ACL)
11-12:30p - Rite of Christian Initiation - Adult (ACL)

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Easter Gifts for the Children of the Parish

The Ladies of Columbus Auxiliary #6710 will be constructing our Easter gifts to the children of the parish on Monday, March 9, from 6:00-8:00pm in the ACL. We will provide the necessary items to make the gifts as well as snacks and beverages. All are invited to attend. For further information, contact Cathy Kott at 630-393-9543.

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Catholic Charismatic Healing Mass

Fr. Paul Hottinger presider and Deacon Dan Danahey assisting at Mass on Friday, February 28 at 7:30p.m. with Sacrament of Reconciliation at 6:30p.m. at St. Margaret Mary Church, 1450 Green Trails Drive, Naperville. For information, contact Joey Rose at (630)-926-6576.

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A Big Thank You!

The Knights of Columbus wish to thank all the parishioners and the Knights who participated in this year’s Super Bowl Raffle on Feb. 2 to make it again a fun and successful fundraiser. There were 254 tickets sold of a possible 300. They were purchased by 135 individuals. Half of the gross receipts of $8000 were awarded as cash prizes, 42 in all, and the other half was retained by the Council to be used for St. Irene Parish and School projects, one in particular is the $1000 high school scholarship awarded each year.

The early bird winners were Bill Hughes and Kim Ladeur. The top prize winners: $500 to Andrew White; $250 to Kevin & Mary Colgan, Sue Goers, Alta Halama, Tom LaRocco, Janet McMahon, and Rosemary Meindl; $125 to Alta & Jim Halama, Ray Geinosky, John Huttenhoff, Cathy Kott; and $100 to Wayne Booth, Vicki Smith, Andre White, and Amy Z.

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Join us for Mass at Mercy Home

We have been invited to participate in the taping of Sunday Mass at Mercy Home for Boys and Girls for airing on May 3rd The Fourth Sunday of Easter and May 24th The Ascension.

We will meet on Sunday, March 8th at 11:30a.m. at Mercy Home, 1140 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago. The tape will occur between 12:30p.m.-2:00 p.m. and there will be a complimentary luncheon beforehand. There is free parking at Mercy Home and plenty of street parking available.

We hope to have a good showing, but can accommodate no more than 20 people for the TV audience (children over 5 years old are welcome). Please let Joe Kubal know if you will be joining by March 1st. Mercy Home is a Catholic Charity and free-will donations would be appreciated. For questions or more information please contact Joe Kubal at 630-983-6159 or SMKubal0712@aol.com.

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K of C Eyeglass and DME Drive

Please donate your old or unwanted eyeglasses and drop them off in the collection box in the back of church.

Eyeglasses will be forwarded to the Lions Club International local chapter for renovation and reuse by those in need. The collection box will be available from February 29th through May 31st.

Also, we will be collecting used durable medical equipment (DME) such as wheelchairs, walkers, canes, bath chairs, crutches, and hearing aids. These items will be donated to appropriate healthcare facilities and/or senior organizations.

Please leave your donations in the church narthex or contact Joe Kubal at 630-983-6159 or jdrk4715@aol.com to schedule a pick-up.
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.

Readings for the Week

Monday: Jas 3:13-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mk 9:14-29
Tuesday: Jas 4:1-10; Ps 55:7-11a, 23; Mk 9:30-37
Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-6ab, 12-14, 17; 2 Cor 5:20 — 6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday: Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 9:22-25
Friday: Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15
Saturday: Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-6; Lk 5:27-32
Sunday: Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7; Ps 51:3-6, 12-13, 17; Rom 5:12-19 [12, 17-19]; Mt 4:1-11

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 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.