Men of Galilee, why are you standing there staring at the sky? This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will return in the same way as you have seen him going into heaven.  

ACTS 1:11
Today we celebrate the Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord. It may sound like He is leaving those who love and need Him but what He is doing is gifting them with the next fulfillment of His promise. Jesus returns to the Father so that the gifts we receive are what is best for us.

Today Jesus renews His promise to us and we go forward with confidence that we will be fine. These difficult times will make us stronger and more God centered. We need to pray each day and follow the example of Jesus’ love.

Remember the Lord is always with us, let Him be the smile on your face that comes from your heart.

Blessings to all for a great week and a fun Memorial Day!

Sunday Masses
Sunday Masses will be live streamed at 10:00am and a recording will be available afterwards on:
- Facebook at - https://www.facebook.com/StIreneChurch/
- YouTube channel at - https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmMeIs6ydHjTJD98ZZb_VcA

Catholic Cemeteries of the Diocese of Joliet is cancelling all Memorial Day Masses. The sacred grounds are open from sunrise to sunset and the Mausoleum chapels are open for prayer every day from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm.

We will be sending email updates when there are changes or other information to provide. The bulletin will be emailed and provided weekly on the St. Irene website at https://st-irene.org/documents/collection/bulletin

Contributions can be mailed to:
St. Irene Parish
28W441 Warrenville Road
Warrenville, IL 60555

Or can be made on-line through our WeShare Online Giving program at https://st-irene.churchgiving.com
Adult Formation Event—Online Scripture Study
Exploring the Sunday Readings

Please join the discussion of the Sunday reading on Friday afternoons at 1:00pm June 5, 12, 19, and 26. Register by emailing Annette@st-irene.org with your name and phone number. The zoom link will then be forwarded to you.

SAINT PHILIP NERI (1515-1595) - May 26

In a shop near the Vatican, a group of Americans laughed as the shopkeeper showed off his fluent English and latest souvenir, a key ring whose papal portrait, when pressed, activated a recorded blessing. Through the shop window, two clerics scowled disapproval. The shopkeeper grunted, “They’re a very somber order who’ve left the Church. I recognize them.” “By their long robes?” an American asked. “Many in Rome wear robes,” replied the shopkeeper. “It’s their long faces!” When Philip Neri arrived in sixteenth-century Rome, there was reason to be somber. Swiss Guards had been massacred on Saint Peter’s steps defending the pope. Parts of Europe were abandoning the Church. But Philip resolved to be an “apostle of joy,” drawing especially the young to Christ—and frequent confession and Communion—by his sincere interest in their problems, prayerful example, and gentle humor. His “Oratory,” a movement as well as a place, provided recreation and devotion in a joyful atmosphere of companionship, service, and liturgy. Philip Neri challenges each of us to begin improving Church and world by changing ourselves with unfailing joy.

—Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

The Seven Sorrows Rosary

Tuesdays & Fridays
8:45am CT

Dial In: 701-802-5017
Access Code: 777442#
Donna - donnajpelletier@icloud.com
Rita - patjoe@comcast.net

Prayer to Our Lady of Guadalupe During COVID-19 Pandemic
by Archbishop José Gomez

Holy Virgin of Guadalupe, Queen of the Angels and Mother of the Americas,
we fly to you today as your beloved children.
We ask you to intercede for us with your Son, as you did at the wedding in Cana.
Pray for us, loving Mother, and gain for our nation and world, and for all our families and loved ones,
the protection of your holy angels, that we may be spared the worst of this illness.
For those already afflicted, we ask you to obtain the grace of healing and deliverance.
Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful, wipe away their tears and help them to trust.
In this time of trial and testing, teach all of us in the Church to love one another and to be patient and kind.
Help us to bring the peace of Jesus to our land and to our hearts. Amen.
Win a Free Registration!

Families have the opportunity to win free registration for the next school year! So those of you who haven't yet registered are in luck! You have more time to submit your form. You may either email Julie Duquette (admin@schoolspeak.com) or complete the fillable form on our school website. The lucky family will be announced on Sunday, May 24. Good luck to everyone!

Daily Prayer to Guardian Angel

Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's love commits me here. Ever this day be at my side, to light and guard, to rule and guide.

Amen.

Spirit Activities

Check out the Spirit Activities emailed from Karina Detwiler. As always, send in your pictures for Facebook!

Our Lady's Wardrobe

In Fatima, Our Lady stood upon a holly tree. She dressed in white like crystal light and held a rosary.

—Our Lady's Wardrobe by Anthony De Stefano

Young Adult Faith Sharing on Pope Francis' **Laudato Si'**

Our Earth is in peril. With Pope Francis' groundbreaking encyclical on the environment, *Laudato Si'* as our guide, we will support and inspire each other to take action on behalf of our common home during this faith-sharing series.

Join RENEW International Young Adult Leaders in a six-week faith-sharing series on *Creation at the Crossroads*, a small-group resource breaking open *Laudato Si'.* Sessions will be weekly, starting on Earth Day, April 22 at 8 PM ET (7 PM CT, 6 PM PT):

♦ May 27, 8 PM ET, 7 PM CT, 6 PM PT

For more information call - 1-888-433-3221

God Family Friends

Parents you have a great opportunity, and your kids have such a great need, to be drawn more deeply into relationship with God, your family, and with friends. Make time this Sunday to strengthen these foundational relationships. Check out this wonderful resource from the Diocese of Joliet at [http://www.dioceseofjoliet.org/reo/content1.php?secid=81](http://www.dioceseofjoliet.org/reo/content1.php?secid=81)
Insight into St. Irene
Woman of the Year
Mary Ann Berg

“We have been parishioners of St. Irene for 50 years and have seen many changes over the years. My husband Tom and I have been married for 54 years and have two children Jeffrey and Jennifer and three grand children Alex, Jack and Emma.

I have been active in the church for many years. I first became a Eucharist minister when my Mother passed away in 2002 and Annette had me offer the wine to our family members and I was so honored to offer the body and blood of Jesus that I have served as a minister ever since. I have helped with funerals and weddings and to bring communion to the home bound. I take care of the altar servers Albs making sure they are cleaned, ironed, and mended.

I also volunteer to help Katie Augustynowicz clean the church for holidays. I love helping people and serving wherever I can at church. I worked at Ball Horticultural Company for 33 years which fueled my love of gardening but have been retired for 5 years. So during the warm weather you can find me in my yard gardening or helping my friends doing yard work. I love to take long walks with my husband and we love to swim and ride our bikes. During these uncertain times when we are to stay home I have learned to enjoy doing jigsaw puzzles and go back to doing some sewing to make our own masks for safety reasons.

I am honored to be named CCW Woman of the Year for 2020 and I have made some very wonderful friends from all the wonderful people of St. Irene.”

Monday, May 25 is Memorial Day

Have a safe holiday!
Happy Memorial Day!!!

New Job Opportunity
Junior High Program Coordinator

Outreach Community Ministries has an employment opportunity available at the Carol Stream location. The position is Junior High Program Coordinator which is a great fit for any individual with a passion for working with junior high students and experience with at-risk youth.

Interested candidates can contact Shalina Wozny at swozny@outreachcommmin.org. Details and a path for resume submission can be found at https://www.outreachcommunityministries.org/employment/.

Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,
I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love you above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.
Amen.

Comunion Espiritual

Jesús mío,
creo que estás presente en el Santísimo Sacramento.
Te amo por encima de todas las cosas y deseo recibirte en mi alma.
Como en este momento no puedo recibirte sacramentalmente, entra al menos espiritualmente en mi corazón.
Te abrazo como si ya estuvieras allí y me uno completamente a Ti.
Nunca permitas que me separe de Ti.
Amen.
Whole Parish Catechesis
Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

Reading I:  Acts 1:12-14
♦ They were all gathered in the upper room, waiting.

Background: Today’s first reading refers to a time when the early Christians were “in-between” their experience of Jesus’ presence with them and their experience of the promised Holy Spirit. The Apostles, Mary, and other believers return to Jerusalem after the death of Jesus. They are strengthened as a community through support of one another and prayer.

Reading II:  1 Peter 4:13-16
♦ If you suffer for something, let it be for Christ.

Background: In the second reading, Christians living in the time “between” Pentecost and the second coming of Jesus at the end of time are reminded that their conduct should promote unity and harmony rather than destroy it. At the time this letter was written, the Christian community was finding it hard to endure persecution. Peter warns them that following Christ might result in hardships, but that any suffering in God’s name will lead to future glory.

Gospel: John 17:1-11a
♦ Jesus prays to His Father.

Background: Today’s Gospel is part of Jesus’ Last Supper discourse. Jesus’ address is not to the disciples but to the Father. In today’s passage, Jesus prays for Himself, for the disciples and for all future believers, as He approaches His death. For the disciples, still in this world, Jesus prays that they will be united in a unity on earth as close as the unity between him and the Father.

Theme: We remain at the heart of Jesus mission.

Question for Adults:
In these heartfelt instructions from a leader of the church, what are the ways in modern life that we sometimes suffer for our faith? Or are there no such ways?

Question for Youth:
Prayer is essential to being a disciple, because it is the way we build or relationship with God—through talking and listening. What is one way you can take more time this week to listen to God in prayer?

Question for Children:
Jesus helps us be strong in our faith. When do you need to be really strong in faith?

Catequesis Parroquial Entera
Lecturas y Preguntas Para Compartir la Fe

Primera Lectura:  Hechos 1:12-14
♦ Estaban reunidos en el aposento alto, esperando.

Antecedentes: La primera lectura de hoy se refiere a un tiempo cuando los primeros cristianos habían vivido su experiencia con la presencia de Jesús y esperaban al Espíritu Santo prometido. Los apóstoles, María y otros creyentes regresaron a Jerusalén después de la muerte de Jesús. Están fortalecidos como una comunidad mediante el apoyo mutuo y la oración.

Segunda Lectura:  1 Pedro 4:13-16
♦ Si sufren por algo, que sea por Cristo.

Antecedentes: En la segunda lectura, a los cristianos que viven en la época “entre” Pentecostés y la segunda llegada de Jesús al final de los tiempos se les recuerda que su conducta promoverá la unidad y armonía más que destruiría. En el momento que se escribió esta Carta, la comunidad cristiana estaba encontrando difícil soportar la persecución. Pedro les advierte que el seguir a Cristo puede resultar en privaciones, pero que cualquier sufrimiento en el nombre de Dios los llevará a una gloria futura.

Evangelio: Juan 17:1-11
♦ Jesús le reza a su Padre.

Antecedentes: El Evangelio de hoy es parte del discurso de la Última Cena de Jesús. Jesús no se dirige a sus discípulos sino al Padre. En el pasaje de hoy, Jesús reza por él mismo, por los discípulos y por todos los futuros creyentes, al aproximarse su muerte. Para los discípulos, aún en este mundo, Jesús reza por que ellos estén unidos sobre la tierra, tan cercanos como la unidad entre él y el Padre.

Tema: Permanecemos en el corazón de la misión de Jesús.

Pregunta Para Adultos:
En estas instrucciones sinceras de un líder de la iglesia, ¿cuáles son las formas en la vida moderna en las que en ocasiones sufrimos nuestra fe? ¿O no hay dichas formas?

Pregunta Para Jóvenes:
Como un hombre o mujer joven, creciendo en la fe, ¿en qué punto haz tenido que elegir entre permanecer en la fe de Cristo y la iglesia o ir por el camino de la sociedad y la cultura?

Pregunta Para Niños:
Jesús nos ayuda a ser fuertes en nuestra fe. ¿Cuándo necesitas ser realmente fuerte en la fe?
May 24, 2020
THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

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
Erich Pavel
Max Malesh

Marc Alleruzzo
Jim Pippenger
Tim Rasplicka
Fr. Jim
Rachel Jaraisus
Mary Vander Meulen
Valder Morales

St. Irene Intentions for this Sunday and from this week:
- May 23 - Craig Farmer / Mom and Dad
- Mackenzie Walsh / Friends
- May 24 - Jack Radicker / Family
- David Jack Wilson / Lichtenbergs
- Pat Guerrieri / Vicki Kloehn

“PUSHED” OUT ON MISSION

There is a delightful character in the original Dr. Dolittle Tales called the “Pushmi-Pullyu.” It is a beast with two identical halves, with a head at each end. No matter which direction the beast walks, one end is the “push me” and the other is the “pull you.” Today’s feast is a bit like that in the life of the church. In the book of the Acts of the Apostles, it is the ascension of Christ that calls for the Holy Spirit, which consequently sends or “pushes” the church out on its mission. This is the message that we hear from the angels today as they tell the friends of Jesus not to look up into the clouds, but to get busy. It is the message of Jesus himself in Matthew’s Gospel, as he sends them out to baptize. He also tells them, “I am with you always, until the end of the age” (Matthew 28:20). And it is this message, confident in faith that Jesus has ascended to shouts of joy, that “pulls” us along to our final destiny. The life of the faithful disciple, sent into the world on mission, will one day know the same risen, ascended glory. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Readings for the Week

Monday: Acts 19:1-8; Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab; Jn 16:29-33
Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27; Ps 68:10-11, 20-21; Jn 17:1-11a
Thursday: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-11; Jn 17:20-26
Friday: Acts 25:13b-21; Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab; Jn 21:15-19
Saturday: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; Ps 11:4, 5, 7; Jn 21:20-25
Sunday: Vigil: Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5; Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29-30; Rom 8:22-27; Jn 7:37-39
Day: Acts 2:1-11; Ps 104:1, 24, 29-31, 34; 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13; Jn 20:19-23

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Prayer for People Infected with COVID-19 or Facing Quarantine

Jesus, during Your ministry on Earth You showed Your power and caring by healing people of all ages and stations of life from physical, mental, and spiritual ailments. Be present now to people who need Your loving touch because of COVID-19. May they feel Your power of healing through the care of doctors and nurses. Take away the fear, anxiety, and feelings of isolation from people receiving treatment or under quarantine. Give them a sense of purpose in pursuing health and protecting others from exposure to the disease. Protect their families and friends and bring peace to all who love them. Amen.

Lance CPL Jeff Sommer - stationed in Japan
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. 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

He was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight. — Acts 1:9

HEAVEN — The world is only peopled to people heaven.—St. Francis de Sales

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