I am the good shepherd, and I know mine and mine know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I will lay down my life for the sheep.

John 10:14-15
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. 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.

Staff Directory

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
Bill Murphy - murphy807@aol.com
Joe Urso x 130 - joe@st-irene.org

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE: Annette Kubalanza x 122

MUSIC DIRECTOR: Ryan Matthew Rump x 118

BUSINESS MANAGER: Richard Kaffka x 114

ADMIN. ASSISTANT: Pat Jackowiak x 110
Shari Meyers x 110

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:
1-6 GRADE COORDINATOR: Jacqueline Skelly x 121

7th & 8th GRADE COORDINATOR: Pamela Keating x 120

SCHOOL: 3S601 Warren Avenue

PHONE: 630.393.9303

FAX: 630.393.7009

WEB: www.st-ireneschool.org

PRINCIPAL: Maggie Detwiler x 136

ADMIN. ASSISTANT: Julie Duquette x 116

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Reflecting on God’s Word

All of creation has the power to lay down its life. The yearly seasons lay down the bounty of their harvest, and daily our own lives pour forth their energy into tasks and labors—all a laying down. Most people want to be and are generous. Most people want to forgive. Most people want to be patient, to sacrifice for the sake of love, to give back what is received. Most people want to give of themselves for the happiness of others, to do service for the community, to donate blood, to be able to forgo their own way for the sake of harmony, to be courageous even at great cost.

All of creation also has the power to take up life again. Springtime returns; each morning we instinctively awaken to another day; weakened bodies heal. We also have the power to take up life. We seek relationships of love; we desire to enflesh that love with children. We work hard; we long to be creative; we strive to be good; we seek to create harmony and peace. We hunger for a relationship with our God. And we succeed more often than not. We do have a God-given power to take up new life. It is our God’s command to us.

That dual rhythm of laying down and taking up is but the echo of the Lord Jesus and how He chose to live among us. It was His Father’s command to Him, bred in His bones and in His spirit, and it is a command that continues to show itself in our lives.

—Rev. Joseph J. Juknialis

LIVING GOD’S WORD: The divine instinct to lay down and to take up is how the Lord Jesus shepherds us, modeling so well what it means to be divine that we find ourselves imitating him and growing in his likeness. That divine instinct is how the Spirit shepherds through us.

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Eucharistic Adoration

We need coverage for ALL hours of adoration which runs from 7:30AM-8PM on Thursdays. Please sign up for a 1/2 hour or a 1 hour segment by calling Cathy Kott at 630.393.9543 or Mary Mickel at 630.293.0774.

Mass Schedule

- Daily: M-F 7AM
- Saturday: 5PM
- Sunday: 8AM & 10AM
SAVED BY THE ONE WHO WAS REJECTED

Some city teenagers often scorn and reject farm kids. Yet it’s no exaggeration to say that humanity owes its life to farmers who care for the world’s crops and livestock. This week’s scriptures remind us that Jesus was as rejected as a shepherd, a farm boy, yet we owe our very lives to him.

In this Sunday’s reading from the Acts of the Apostles Peter tells the people that salvation comes through Jesus Christ, the one who was rejected. In John’s letter we hear that we have become God’s beloved children through Jesus, whom the world did not know. Lastly, in the Gospel Jesus describes Himself as the Good Shepherd who “lays down His life for the sheep” (John 10:11). Will you join Jesus in laying down your life for God’s beloved flock?

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Are you looking for an education change for your children?

St. Irene School welcomes you to consider us for the 2018/2019 school year. There are openings in all grades, Pre-K through 8th Grade. Public school transfers are also eligible for a $2,000 discount per child for grades 1 through 8 for their first year. Scholarships may also be available. Please contact our school office at 630.393.3903 x 116.

www.st-ireneschool.org

Healing Horizons is a parish support group where people help people through the difficult experience of loss through death, divorce, or separation. Our focus is on the spiritual, intellectual, and emotional growth of those who attend. People from all faiths are encouraged to join us. We meet four times each quarter from 6:30-8PM. Our Spring Quarter meetings will be held in the Holy Family Room of the Parish Center on Thursday evenings April 26, May 3, and May 17. For more information, please contact Sue Battaglia at 312.213.2119.

Most languages take the name for this fifty-day season from the Lord’s Passover: Pasqua in Italian, Pâques in French, Paach in Dutch, Pascha in Greek and Russian. English has a much newer name, the name of a pagan goddess, Eoster. For centuries before Christianity took hold, in both Germany and Britain the spring equinox was dedicated to her and the concepts of fertility and rebirth. She was said to be a playful spirit, following the Sun King’s chariot, and ending the reign of winter. She had a magical companion, a rabbit who hid eggs in the fields to coax plants and animals to rebirth. It was believed that Eoster once came across a bird with broken wings and saved it by turning it into a rabbit—an egg-laying rabbit at that! Although they were baptized, most people didn’t take to the new Latin name (Pascha Domini) too easily, and kept calling the spring equinox by the old accustomed name. For good measure, they kept a pagan name for Christmas, too: Yule.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.
Whole Parish Catechesis
Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

Reading I: Acts 4:8-12
♦ Jesus has become our cornerstone!

Background: In the reading from the Acts of the Apostles follows the story of the arrest of Peter and John and includes Peter’s speech to the authorities who are interrogating them. Peter restates the basic truth of the resurrection: Death is conquered and life won through the death and resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth. The authorities release Peter and John, who immediately return to preaching the good news.

Reading II: 1 John 3:1-2
♦ We shall be like Him: light!

Background: The reading from the First Letter of John is another description of the relationship between God and people. God has made us children through and with Christ. Because we are God’s children, then, we must be like God.

Gospel: John 10:11-18
♦ Jesus is our good shepherd.

Background: In the gospel passage, Jesus describes three traits of an ideal shepherd. These traits also characterize Jesus’ relationship to His followers. Jesus calls His sheep by name, and they follow wherever He leads.

Theme: Jesus is the Good Shepherd.

Question for Adults:
What qualities of God does the image of the Good Shepherd suggest? How do you experience God in this way?

Question for Youth:
How do you feel about Jesus’ being your shepherd? What does it mean to you that He lays down His life for you?

Question for Children:
Jesus tells us He is the Good Shepherd, but how do you experience God guiding and protecting you?

Christianity is the spirit of Jesus Christ at work in the world.
—Anonymous

St. Irene
Lunch Bunch Ministry
Cinco de Mayo Celebration Lunch
Thursday, May 3rd from 11:30AM-2PM in the ACL

Catered by El Puente in St. Charles - Parishioner David Jimenez is the owner
Chicken/steak tacos, quesadillas, chips/salsa/pico de gallo, beans/rice and all taco fixings
Dessert- churros and chocolate
Beverages included - $12 per person
Entertainment to be determined
RSVP by April 29th to Anna Saake 630.456.0644 (text or call) or anna@saake.net

4th Annual Hustle Up The Hill For The Homeless

Challenge yourself in a 30-minute walk/run up and down 150 foot Mt. Hoy at Blackwell Forest Preserve. How many trips can you do? 3? 4? More? 100% of proceeds go to house a homeless family for 2 years as they are transitioned to self-sufficiency. Tech shirt, water and snacks are provided to all participants. Registration is open on Active.com. Search Hustle up the Hill. This event is on Sunday, May 20th with heats at 9AM and 10AM.

Donations are needed of size 3 pampers and size 4T pull ups. A Bridge family desperately could use help with these items. God bless you for your help! If you have any questions, call Susan at 630.649.8720.

The Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal helps our parish and the Diocese of Joliet to provide countless ministries, programs and services to support our friends and neighbors in immeasurable ways.

A mailing will soon be sent to all parishioners who have not yet made a gift to the CMAA. Despite the severe February snowstorm we encountered over Commitment (In-Pew) Weekend, we are confident we can still meet our goal if we all partner together. If you have not done so already, I ask that you please reflect on God’s gifts to you and prayerfully consider supporting the CMAA. A gift to the CMAA, no matter the amount, will make a difference!

By partnering together, we can continue to spread the Gospel message in our Diocese through our ministries. Thank you for your support.
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.

Knights of Columbus Eyeglasses Drive

Please donate your old or unwanted eyeglasses by dropping them off in the collection box in the back of the 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 in the back of the church until May 1st. Questions? Call Joseph Kubal at 630.983.6159.

Silence is a gift of God, to let us speak more intimately with God.  —St. Vincent Pallotti
### This Week’s Meetings

**Sunday, April 22**
- 10-10:30a - Children’s Liturgy of the Word (ACL)
- 11a-12:30p - RCIA (ACL)
- 11:15a-12:15p - Special Sacrament Group (S)

**Monday, April 23**
- 1-2:30 - Consoling the Heart of Jesus (ACL)
- 7-8:30p - Consoling the Heart of Jesus (ACL)
- 7-9p - Parish Council (Staff)

**Tuesday, April 24**
- 5:30-7p - Elementary Religious Education (S, C)
- 7-8p - Prayer Shawl Ministry (Parish Center)

**Wednesday, April 25**
- 12:15-3:30p - Band (ACL)
- 5:30-6:30p - Kids Choir (C)
- 6:30-8p - Jr. High RE (C, S, HF, SF, AC)
- 7-8:30p - Adult Choir (C)

**Thursday, April 26**
- 6:30-8p - Healing Horizons (HF)
- 7-8:30p - Faith Formation Board (ACL)

**Friday, April 27**
- 12:15-3:30p - Band (ACL)
- 6:30-7:30p - Confirmation Practice (C)

**Saturday, April 28**
- 6:30-8:30p - Daddy Daughter Dance (AC)

**Sunday, April 29**
- 10-10:30a - Children’s Liturgy of the Word (ACL)
- 11a-12:30p - Baptism Prep 1st Session (S)
- 1-6p - Confirmation (ACL)

### St. Irene Employment Opportunity

St. Irene Parish is seeking to hire one or two persons to fulfill the duties of a parish business manager and separately, a parish Physical Plant Manager. Below is a general description of duties. If you are interested in one of these positions, contact Fr. Jim at parishoffice@st-irene.org, or Erich Pavel, chair of the parish finance committee, at epavellii@aol.com.

#### Position Description

**St. Irene Business Manager**

Reporting directly to the Pastor with responsibilities to the parish Finance Committee; also, facilitator to parish staff.

- Serve as financial and day-to-day administrative manager for the parish.
- Prepare annual budget and monthly financial reports.
- Conduct the accounting, bookkeeping, and payroll (Paylocity) operations.
- Prepare monthly bank reconciliation.
- Monitor revenue in relation to expenses and budget, and assume responsibility for budget control.
- With the Diocese administer the fringe benefit programs.
- Train, support, and manage church software programs including but not limited to: census/membership database, religious education and school membership, tuition, and donor database.
- Work with parish consultant to direct successful stewardship/annual giving programs.
- Work collaboratively with staff to facilitate their programs.

**Physical Plant Manager**

- Negotiate cost, terms, and conditions of all contracted services.
- Act as owner’s representative in selection of qualified contractors/bidders for any and all contracted services.
- Supervise any and all contracted services.
- Develop preventive maintenance schedules for all equipment based on need and manufacturer recommendations.
- Develop comprehensive major repair and improvement programs and make recommendations for priority inclusion to the annual budget.
- Develop systems to define and protect the organization’s interest under cost, terms, conditions, and cancellations.

For more information, please contact Fr. Jim at parishoffice@st-irene.org, or Erich Pavel, chair of the parish finance committee.

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**The Prayer Shawl Ministry**

This ministry makes and distributes shawls for people in need of comfort. Many blessings are prayed into each shawl before it is given. Those who have received these shawls have been uplifted, affirmed, and their days made brighter by knowing they are being remembered and prayed for. For more information about receiving a shawl, or to help knit/crochet shawls, please contact Paula Peterson at 630.393.3989 or paula.lp.peterson@gmail.com.

Join us at our next meeting on Tuesday, April 24th at 7PM in the Parish Center.
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: Acts 11:1-18; Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4; Jn 10:1-10
Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26; Ps 87:1b-7; Jn 10:22-30
Wednesday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14; Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17; Mk 16:15-20
Friday: Acts 13:26-33; Ps 2:6-11ab; Jn 14:1-6
Saturday: Acts 13:44-52; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 14:7-14

Ladies of Columbus Auxiliary Nomination and Election - Our elections are being held on Tuesday, May 8th. We are looking to fill two positions: Secretary and Trustee. If you are interested in joining an organization that has so much to offer to our parish and the community, please join us! Contact Pat Kemp at patkemp2004@yahoo.com or at 630.653.1647.

Liturgical Calendar

Monday, April 23
St. George; St. Adalbert
7:00AM - Lucy Bernard/ Rita Luergo

Tuesday, April 24
St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen
7:00AM - For The Healing of Our Friends & Family

Wednesday, April 25
St. Mark
7:00AM - For the Poor & the Hungry

Thursday, April 26
Easter Weekday

Friday, April 27
Easter Weekday

Saturday, April 28
Vigil: 5th Sunday of Easter
2:30PM - Baptism Ceremony
5:00PM - Kathy Ulanowski/ Family
Joseph Carlson/ Schefke Family

Sunday, April 29
Fifth Sunday of Easter
8:00AM - Theresa Pavel/ Phil & Pat Kemp
10:00AM - Imelda Nilges/ Cathy Kott
William Stednitz/ Family
3:00PM - Confirmation

We hold in prayer those who serve our country:
AB Patrick Reid - Keesler AFB, MS
1st Lt. Weston J. Umoro USAF - Holloman, NM
1st Lt. Keegan Lohenry USMC - Camp Pendleton
Lance Cpl. Quin Lohenry USMC - Camp Pendleton
Master Sgt. Dan Peterson - Anchorage, AK
TSgt. Daniel Geinosky - serving in England
Sgt. Christian Wilkins - stationed in Iraq
Lance Cpl. Levi Dieter - Embassy of Latvia
Cmdr. Eric G. Peterson - Serving in San Diego
Sgt. Peter Folz - stationed at Okinawa
Capt. Patrick Looby - Eglin AFB, FL
Chief Petty Officer Michael Spans
Sgt. Thomas Rasplicka - Fort Bliss, Texas