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

Acts 1:11
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.
If your birthday or wedding anniversary is in the month of May I would like to extend a personal invitation to you and your family to join your parish family in celebrating this occasion. Next Sunday, May 20th at the 10AM Mass a special Blessing for you and others celebrating a birthday or anniversary will be included in the Liturgy. Please register with a minister of hospitality before Mass and join us in honoring everyone celebrating a special day this month. Following Mass, join us in the Lower Level of the Activity Center for a special hospitality in your honor.

Peace & Blessings,

May 13, 2018

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

PAGE THREE

St. Irene Rosary Group

The St. Irene Rosary Group meets the third Thursday of each month in the ACL from 7-8PM then followed by fellowship. Please plan on joining us on May 17th and bring a friend.

For more information, please call Jeanette Clark at 630.292.9349.

What is the R.C.I.A.?

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults—it is the way the Catholic Church welcomes new members.

Who is it for?

Primarily this Rite is for unbaptized adults and children of school age; however, it has been adapted for those adults and children baptized in other Christian denominations who seek membership in the Catholic Church.

What about baptized Catholics who have not received the Sacraments of Confirmation or Eucharist? Adults seeking these Sacraments will be evaluated on an individual basis.

Christian Initiation is the responsibility of the entire faith community. If you are interested in becoming active in this dynamic ministry, phone Annette at 630.393.2400 x 122 for information.

Inquiry sessions: These sessions are ongoing.

In Ireland and the United Kingdom, Mother’s Day is over. “Mothering Sunday” was on the Fourth Sunday of Lent. Long ago, people were freed from work to travel on this day to the parish where they were baptized, their “Mother Church.” Often, people were reunited with their mothers on this day. Employers would release their workers and servants for this visit. The American celebration, while based on this custom, really has to do with an anti-war movement of mothers in Civil War times. They crusaded for better sanitary conditions for their sons. When President Wilson instituted the first Mother’s Day in 1912, it was a day to fly the flag in honor of mothers whose children had died in battle. Knowing the tradition is a good balance to our celebration today. We can enfold in prayer the mothers who have suffered the loss of their children in war.

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

Reading I: Acts 1:1-11
♦ He was lifted up before their eyes.

Background: Today’s first reading begins with the story of the ascension of Jesus and the descent of the Holy Spirit. Jesus has remained with the disciples as evidence of the resurrection, but now He returns to the Father. The disciples still believe the kingdom will come in historic time.

Reading II: Ephesians 1:17-23
♦ May God grant you a spirit of wisdom.

Background: The reading from Ephesians asserts Jesus’ role in God’s plan of salvation. Christ has returned to the heavens where He and the Father are one. Today’s passage portrays Christ as the ruler of the world, whose presence can be found in all things.

Gospel: Mark 16:15-20
♦ Go, make disciples of all nations.

Background: Today’s Gospel testifies to the belief that after His resurrection, Jesus ascended to heaven and is seated at God’s right hand. Having completed His role on earth, Jesus returned to God. The passage from Mark makes clear that Jesus remains present in the world through the work of His disciples.

Theme: We are sent, and Christ is with us.

Question for Adults:
How do you experience the divine power of Christ among-us in your daily life?

Question for Youth:
Even after Jesus ascended into heaven He worked through the disciples to spread the Gospel. We are Jesus’ disciples today. How can you open yourself up more to let Jesus work through you to be Good News in the world today?

Question for Children:
Jesus helps us be brave when we need to be. When do you need to be brave?

2018 JOLIET DIOCESE
CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC HEALING MASS

Father Paul Hottinger - Presider
Deacon Alex Grozik - Assisting
St. Margaret Mary Church
1450 Green Trails Drive, Naperville, IL 60540
Friday, May 18, 2018
Sacrament of Reconciliation 6:30PM
Mass 7:30PM
For information, call Joey Rose at: 630.926.6576
www.smmp.com/info/directions.html

Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal 2018
Pledge Report

If we exceed our goal in paid pledges, 65% of the additional funds received will be returned to the parish for our use. Please contact the Diocesan Development Office with any questions you may have about your pledge at 815.838.8515.

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 was 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.

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Summer means VBS!
Join us June 18th-22nd from 9AM-12PM!

Our VBS Theme is...Maker Fun Factory where kids will learn to build, explore and discover that they were made by the Ultimate Creator, God! They were created by God and built for a PURPOSE!!

- Kids entering Kindergarten thru 5th grade are invited to participate. **Registration will be held after Masses on May 12 & 13 and May 19 & 20.** Participation fee is $25. Space is limited!
- Kids entering 6th-8th grade are invited to be Group Leaders. Our High School and College students are invited to be VBS Team Leaders. Adult Leaders are also needed! Please contact Jacqueline Skelly at jacqueline@st-irene.org or 630.393.2400 x 121 if you would like to be on the Leadership Team. Students will receive 15 hours of service.
- There will be a preschool room for 4-year-old children of volunteers or siblings of kids participating.

The Spring 2018 issue of Catholic Extension’s magazine, *Extension*, tells of the inspiring work of Catholic faith communities in hurricane-damaged Puerto Rico. The Church has a central role in reaching out to residents to address their spiritual and human needs.

It also features a story about Catholic Extension’s partnership with Catholic universities, particularly in the Northeast, that provide education and training for Church leaders in mission dioceses.

**Pick up a free copy of Extension magazine in the vestibule.** Its inspiring stories will help you experience a different side of the Catholic Church in America—in places where faith is strong but resources are limited. A digital version of the magazine can be found at [www.catholicextension.org/extension-magazine-newest](http://www.catholicextension.org/extension-magazine-newest).

**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.

**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. Join us on Thursday, May 17th from 6:30-8PM in the Holy Family Room of the Parish Center. For more information, please contact Sue Battaglia at 312.213.2119.
This Week’s Meetings

Sunday, May 13

Monday, May 14
8-10:30p - School Acting Class (AC)

Tuesday, May 15
7-8:30p - CCW (ACL)

Wednesday, May 16
12:15-3:30p - Band (ACL)
5:30-6:30p - Kids Choir (C)
6-8p - RE End of the Year Wrap Up (ACL)
7-8:30p - Adult Choir (C)

Thursday, May 17
6:30-8p - Healing Horizons (HF)
7-8p - Rosary Group (ACL)

Friday, May 18
12:15-3:30p - Band (ACL)
6-7:30p - American Heritage Girls (ACL)

Saturday, May 19
7-9p - St. Irene School Dance (AC)

Sunday, May 20
7:30a-12:30p - Hospitality (ACL)
10-10:30a - Children’s Liturgy of the Word (ACL)
11a-12:30p - RCIA (Staff)
11a-12:30p - Baptism Prep 2nd Session (S)
11a-12:30p - Wedding Prep (HF)

Upcoming Bulletin Deadline

Sunday Bulletin: Deadline is 8AM on: May 27 Monday, May 14th

Regular deadline - 8AM on the Friday a week prior to print.

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 epavelli@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.

Automated Giving - St. Irene Parish has an automated giving program called WeShare. It is a check-free, no-cost, convenient way for you to participate in stewardship and donate to special collections. For more information or to enroll, please visit st-irene.churchgiving.com or call the parish office at 630.393.2400 x 114.
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.

Virginia Barber  
Ken Kras  
Mary Hughes  
Bernie Malovany  
Paige C. Robertson  
Ann Mulcahy  
Bev Oliveri  
Patti Menconi  
Judy Colonero  
Joe Gattone

Liturgical Calendar

Monday, May 14  
St. Matthias  
7:00AM - Loretta Paver/ Family

Tuesday, May 15  
St. Isidore  
7:00AM - Deacon Bart Federici/ Family

Wednesday, May 16  
Easter Weekday  
7:00AM - For the Poor & the Hungry

Thursday, May 17  
Easter Weekday  
7:00AM - For Those Who Attend 7AM Mass  
7:30AM - Eucharistic Adoration

Friday, May 18  
St. John I  
7:00AM - Fr. Henry Wilkening/ St. Irene  
8:15AM - St. Irene Faith Community

Saturday, May 19  
Vigil: Pentecost Sunday  
5:00PM - Joseph Carlson/ Wingelnik Family

Sunday, May 20  
Pentecost Sunday  
8:00AM - Terry Pavel/ Meyers Family  
10:00AM - Birthday/Anniversary Mass  
Jim Rieser/ Tom & Karen Vanalek  
Barbara Seaberg/ Carl  
11:30AM - Baptism Ceremony

Readings for the Week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Acts</th>
<th>Psalms</th>
<th>New Testament</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>1:15-17, 20-26</td>
<td>113:1-8</td>
<td>15:9-17</td>
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</tbody>
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Eucharistic Adoration runs from 7:30AM-8PM on Thursdays. For information or scheduling, please call Cathy at 630.393.9543.

The greatest of worries can’t pay the smallest of debts. —Anonymous

AB Patrick Reid - Keesler AFB, MS  
1st Lt. Weston J. Umano USAF - Holloman, NM  
1st Lt. Keegan Lohenery USMC - Camp Pendleton  
Lance Cpl. Quin Lohenery USMC - Camp Pendleton  
Master Sgt. Dan Peterson - Anchorage, AK  
T Sgt. 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 Foltz - stationed at Okinawa  
Capt. Patrick Looby - Eglin AFB, FL  
Chief Petty Officer Michael Spans  
Sgt. Thomas Raspicka - Fort Bliss, Texas