John said, “I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals.”

Luke 3:16

JANUARY 13, 2019
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.

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**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
Joe Urso x 130 - joe@st-irene.org

**PASTORAL ASSOCIATE:** Annette Kubalanza x 122
**MUSIC DIRECTOR:** Ryan Matthew Rump
**BOOK KEEPER:** Cheryl Clayton x 114
**FACILITY MANAGER:** John Marotto x 115
**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

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**The Baptism of the Lord**

**Reflecting on God’s Word**

The other night I was looking out the window as the sun was setting and the layers of clouds allowed the sun to create an extraordinary sunset, painting some clouds with a golden hue, while others were orange and red, moving to purple and gray. It was a stunning moment. The baptism of Jesus is one of those brief moments of beauty, occurring in the first three Gospels (and alluded to in the fourth).

Luke’s account differs from the others in that the dramatic moment does not occur as Jesus is coming up out of the water but only after His baptism, while He is praying. Luke’s Gospel has been called the Gospel of prayer, and from its beginning the adult Jesus is presented as one who prays. At this moment of intimacy, “heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon Him in bodily form like a dove” (Luke 3:21–22). While He was at prayer, the voice spoke to Him: “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased” (3:22). From here on we find that Jesus is under the influence of the Holy Spirit, and this Spirit directs Him first into the desert to be tested, then into His years of service.

With this solemn celebration of the baptism, we too are sent back into the days called “Ordinary Time,” reminded that God has spoken these same words to us at our baptism: You are my son, my daughter. I delight in you. I send you forth to serve as my Son, Jesus, went forth to serve, accompanied by the Holy Spirit.

—James A. Wallace, C.SS.R.

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**LIVING GOD’S WORD:** We pray as Jesus prayed that we might hear the voice of the Father, a voice that speaks of God’s love for us. We ask that we might allow that Spirit, God’s holy breath that came upon us at our own baptism, to move us out into the world in service to those most in need whom God has set before us.

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**Parish Mission - Save the Date!**

You don’t want to miss our Parish Mission coming this February 11 - 13. Nationally renowned speaker, radio host, and author, Michael O’Neill, The Miracle Hunter, will be our guest presenter.
Merry Christmas! Share that cheerful greeting with some folks today. They may wonder if you have had any Elvis sightings lately, attended Star Trekkie conventions, or were Cleopatra in a previous lifetime. Despite the skeptics, today is solidly within the Christmas season. In fact, in some strands of the Christian tradition it represents the clearest manifestation of the mystery of the Incarnation. On Christmas Day, for example, the Gospel reading is the Prologue of John’s Gospel, which reveals the glory of Christ shining through our humanity precisely in His baptism.

At any rate, this is an ancient feast, celebrated first in Egypt sixteen centuries ago. More than most other ancient people, the Egyptians understood the life-giving properties of water. On this day, they drew water from the Nile, so central in the history of their people, and reserved it in honor. Many other places copied the custom, so that St. John Chrysostom wrote of people in Antioch gathering at midnight to collect flowing water into vessels they brought from home since “today there is a blessing on the water.” At home for dinner tonight, decorate the table with beautiful bowls of water and white candles, toast one another with goblets of sparkling water, and light a Christmas candle in the window one last time.

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

**Reading I: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7**
- God upholds His servant, a light for all nations.

**Background:** The first reading from Isaiah sings of God’s servant, being upheld by the Spirit. God has formed us and we belong to God. We are sent to heal and set free.

**Reading II: Acts 10:34-38**
- Jesus is the Savior of all nations.

**Background:** Anyone called by God is acceptable to Christ. Jesus was anointed by the Spirit.

- Jesus is baptized.

**Background:** The heavens were opened and God spoke. Jesus invited John to baptize Him in order to fulfill all that God demanded. This is my Son, God said, My favor rests on Him.

**Theme:** “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”

**Question for Adults:**
Name a time when you felt your actions were pleasing to God.

**Question for Youth:**
“With you I am well pleased.” What are you doing right now that is pleasing to God? How does it feel to live that way?

**Question for Children:**
What are some things you can do to please God?

Religious Education classes meet on Tuesday, January 15 (Gr. 1-6 in the classroom) 5:30-7PM and Wednesday, January 16 (Gr 7-8 in the ACL) 6:30-8PM. On Tuesday, January 16 parents are invited to come to the Church at 5:45PM for a tour of the church prior to TNT. Parents meet their children on Wednesdays at 7:45PM in the ACL.

As we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord (and Christmas season comes to an end) bless yourself with holy water in the font when you enter and leave the church as a reminder that you were baptized into God’s family. Imagine God’s voice saying to you, “You are my beloved son/daughter: with you I am well pleased.”

**Gospel Weekly Family Discussion:**
**Gospel of Luke 3:15-16, 21-22** - After Jesus was baptized, the Holy Spirit came down in the form of a dove. A voice from Heaven said, “You are my beloved Son; with You I am well pleased.” Father, Son and Holy Spirit are each present for this important event at the beginning of Jesus’ public ministry.

**Gospel Questions:**
- How does John the Baptist help Jesus begin His work?
- How do the Father and the Holy Spirit bless Jesus at His baptism?
- Who does this Gospel show will be with Jesus in His work?

**Life Questions:**
- What makes belonging to the Christian community, God’s family, important to you?
- What kind of service work inspires you?
- What happens at Baptism?

**Family Prayer:**
- Thank you, Lord, for making us members of your family through Baptism.

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 9th from 11:30AM-1:30PM. We will pack 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 "volunteer" on the FMSC website at [http://www.fmsc.org/](http://www.fmsc.org/), go to "Volunteer" and enter code "9DV8BB" at bottom of page entitled "Looking for Specific Group." If you have questions, please feel free to call Joe Kubal at 630.983.6159. If you cannot attend, please consider a monetary donation to this worthwhile organization.
In a few weeks!

Clothing Drive for the St. Vincent DePaul Society
February 16 & 17
For the St. Vincent DePaul Society in West Chicago

Special need this year for winter coats, sweaters, hats, gloves, boots, etc. Also for blankets, sheets and other linens as well as small household items!

Start collecting now! Collection bags will be handed out after Masses on February 9th & 10th. Fill them (or any strong bag/box) and return to the truck in the church parking lot the following weekend (16th & 17th) before or after Masses.

The Joliet Diocese - Partnership in Missions announces the formation of a construction team to serve in Chinle, Arizona. The mission is from June 1st through June 14th, 2019. This will be a construction mission. We invite men and women who would like to assist local people in building projects for the poor. No special construction skills are necessary, just willing hands and a warm heart.

An information meeting will be held on January 16th, 2019 from 7-9PM at the Bishop Blanchette Center in Crest Hill. Interested persons are invited to attend. Further information can be found at:

or call 815.221.6258,
email: missions@dioceseofJoliet.org.

Opportunities to become involved in the ministries of YOUR Church

Social Justice Ministry:
♦ Food Pantry

Education Ministry:
♦ Catechist/assistant: Pre-School
♦ Catechist/assistant: Elementary
♦ Catechist/assistant: Jr. High
♦ Catechist/assistant: High School
♦ Bible Study Facilitator

Formation Ministry:
♦ RCIA
♦ Baptism prep
♦ Baptism prep child care
♦ Marriage prep
♦ Small Christian Communities

Liturgical Ministry:
♦ Lector
♦ Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist
♦ Altar Server – Elementary/ Jr. High Level
♦ Altar Server – High School
♦ Choir – Adults
♦ Choir – Children
♦ Children’s Liturgy of the Word Leaders/ Assistants/ Musicians
♦ Usher/ Greeter

Hospitality:
♦ Seniors LunchBunch Leader & Assistants
♦ New Parishioner Welcome Team
♦ Monthly Hospitality

Pastoral Ministry:
♦ Minister to the Homebound

YES! After prayerful consideration, I will help! (Please drop in collection.)

Name:___________________________________
Phone:__________________________________
Email:___________________________________
Ministry: _________________________________

Can’t find what you’re looking for?
Phone Annette at 630.393.2400 x 122.
This Week’s Meetings

Sunday, January 13
7:30a-12:30p - Hospitality (ACL)
10-10:30a - Children’s Liturgy of the Word (ACL)
11a-12p - Baptism Prep 1st Session (ACL)

Monday, January 14
1-2:30p - Bible Study (ACL)

Tuesday, January 15
3-5p - Basketball Practice (ACU)
5:30-7p - Elementary RE (S,C, ACL)

Wednesday, January 16
12:30-3:30p - Band (ACL)
3-5p - Basketball Practice (ACU)
6:30-8p - Jr. High RE (S, ACL)
7-8:30p - Adult Choir (C)

Thursday, January 17
9:30a-1:30p - DRE Meeting (ACL)
3:30-5p - KC Free Throw Contest (ACU)
7-8:30p - Rosary Group (ACL)

Friday, January 18
12:30-3:30 - Band (ACU)

Saturday, January 19
8-10a - KC Color Guard (AC)

Sunday, January 20
10-10:30a - Children’s Liturgy of the Word (ACL)
11a-12p - Baptism Prep 2nd Session (ACL)
11a-12:30p - RCIA (ACL)

KC Free Throw Contest

All boys and girls ages 9-14 are invited to participate in the 2019 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest on Thursday, Jan. 17 at 3PM in the ACU. Winners will progress through district and state competitions. The regional competition will take place in March at Benedictine University in Lisle. Participants are required to furnish proof of age. Registration begins at 3PM. Winners will advance to District competition which will be held at St. Irene on Feb. 23.

St. Irene's 30th Annual Chili Cook-Off

Saturday, February 9, 2019
6-10:30PM
St. Irene Activity Center
Sponsored by St. Irene School

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. The success of the Chili Cook-Off continues to depend on GREAT CONTESTANTS LIKE YOU! 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. Contact Stacey Riggs or Shannon Ryson if you or your organization would like to be a contestant and enter your favorite chili recipe. It’s A LOT of fun! (But enter early - the number of contestants had to be limited last year!)

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)! Contact Stacey Riggs or Shannon Ryson if you or your company can make a donation or would like additional information on how to donate.

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

We look forward to seeing everybody in February (and hearing from you sooner)! In the meantime, enjoy this blessed and holy season!

FOR INFORMATION & TO SIGN UP, CONTACT
Stacey Riggs  riggsstacey@aol.com
Shannon Ryson swryson@gmail.com

All boys and girls ages 9-14 are invited to participate in the 2019 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest on Thursday, Jan. 17 at 3PM in the ACU. Winners will progress through district and state competitions. The regional competition will take place in March at Benedictine University in Lisle. Participants are required to furnish proof of age. Registration begins at 3PM. Winners will advance to District competition which will be held at St. Irene on Feb. 23.
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.

Thank you and God Bless You!

**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:** Heb 1:1-6; Ps 97:1, 2b, 6, 7c, 9; Mk 1:14-20
- **Tuesday:** Heb 2:5-12; Ps 8:2ab, 5, 6-9; Mk 1:21-28
- **Wednesday:** Heb 2:14-18; Ps 105:1-4, 6-9; Mk 1:29-39
- **Thursday:** Heb 3:7-14; Ps 95:6-11; Mk 1:40-45
- **Friday:** Heb 4:1-5, 11; Ps 78:3, 4bc, 6c-8; Mk 2:1-12
- **Saturday:** Heb 4:12-16; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mk 2:13-17
- **Sunday:** Is 62:1-5; Ps 96:1-3, 7-10; 1 Cor 12:4-11; Jn 2:1-11

**Liturgical Calendar**

- **Monday, January 14**
  - First Week in Ordinary Time Begins
  - 7:00AM - John Schefke/ Schefke Family

- **Tuesday, January 15**
  - Weekday
  - 7:00AM - St. Irene Parish Family

- **Wednesday, January 16**
  - Weekday
  - 7:00AM - Rick Lovelace/ 1st Anniversary

- **Thursday, January 17**
  - St. Anthony
  - 7:00AM - Lon Russell/ Family
  - 7:30AM - Eucharistic Adoration

- **Friday, January 18**
  - Weekday
  - 7:00AM - Martin Patton/ Meyers Family
  - 8:15AM - For the School Board

- **Saturday, January 19**
  - Vigil: 2nd Ordinary Sunday
  - 5:00PM - Engagement Blessings for Bailey Gysbers & Jessie Lavoie/ RCIA

- **Sunday, January 20**
  - Second Sunday of Ordinary Time
  - 8:00AM - Sr. Rosie Eck/ Friends
  - 10:00AM - Sarah Totman/ Friends
  - Deacon Richard Nowak/ Family
  - Grace Gattone/ Family
  - 11:30AM - Baptism Ceremony

**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.

**We ended In Prayer Those Who Serve Our Country**

Chief Petty Officer Michael Spans - Deployed
1st Lt. Weston J. Umano USAF - Deployed
Jacob VanderMeulen, USNavy, Great Lakes
AB Patrick Reid - Lackland AFB, TX
1st Lt. Keegan Lohery USMC - Camp Pendleton
Master Sgt. Dan Peterson - Anchorage, AK
1STSGT. Daniel Geinosky - serving in Iraq
Lance Cpl. Levi Dieter - Embassy of Latvia
Cmndr. Eric G. Peterson - Serving in San Diego
Sgt. Peter Folz - Fort Bragg, North Carolina
Major Patrick Looby - Kunsan AB, S.K.
Sgt. Thomas Rasplica - Fort Bliss, Texas