St. Irene Faith Community presents:

Michael O’Neill

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13
7-8PM

Come! He will enlighten us on miracles throughout Church history including Marian Apparitions, Eucharistic Miracles and other strange phenomena.

Michael O’Neill has been a guest on:
The Today Show, Fox & Friends, Live Science and the Dr. Oz Show.

He has a weekly radio program, The Miracle Hunter on Relevant Radio®.
All are welcome! Admission is free.
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.

Reflecting on God’s Word

“Do whatever He tells you,” is what today’s Gospel pointedly suggests (John 2:5). Perhaps too pointedly, because it just may turn out that none of what He tells us seems appealing. Be that as it may, life does serve up new wine.

Yet as always the question remains, how does anyone know what we’re being told to do? How does one read the signs of personal times? A good marker, it would seem, is to pay attention to one’s gifts. It may not be the only marker, but certainly one not to be ignored. St. Paul writes to the Corinthians that our strengths and talents come from the Spirit, and that each is given for some benefit. Other translations say they are given for the common good, which seems to be a better way of putting it, because it broadens our view and prevents us from understanding any gift in terms of personal benefit or preference. It may be that the old wine we just drained did quench our personal thirst, but that the new wine is for the common good.

So when the old wine runs out and we’re offered new wine, it’s worth considering whether we’re being called to some new role in life. It may be that life is ratcheting up our degree of participation, calling us to make some new contribution we have not even considered. And we may be surprised. It may enrich the taste of life.

On this day, then, raise a toast to God’s new creation. To new wine. The British say Cheers! The Germans, Prosit! Poles, Na Zdrowie! In Spain, Salud! And Lithuanians, Sveikas! Believers, well, they say Alleluia!

—Rev. Joseph J. Juknialis

Second Sunday of Ordinary Time

Eucharistic Adoration runs from 7:30AM-8PM on Thursdays. For information or scheduling, please call Cathy at 630.393.9543.

LIVING GOD’S WORD: It does seem that somewhere along the path of life, the wine runs out for each of us. We get bored with jobs, or relationships, or maybe just the same four old walls. We can lament the loss of old wine, or we can open a new bottle, and carry on God’s work perhaps in a new way.
The cause of church unity is commended to Christians for prayer and action every year around this time. This week is not so much to focus on the many divisions within the Christian family, but on bonds of faith and mission. Even though Christians have always shown an inclination to fracture, spin off, and mutate into new expressions, recent history shows some new points of convergence and agreement. Catholics are more firmly rooted in the word of God, for example, and many Protestants are more likely to celebrate Communion than in years past. Some denominations are merging and pooling resources, and people from various traditions are collaborating on projects.

The call of this week is to be mindful of the diversity of our traditions and customs while treasuring what we hold in common. The old advice to “lighten up” is good medicine, because sometimes our differences are delightful and amusing. If someone says, “Let us pray,” a Catholic might close the eyes, bow the head and fold hands; a Protestant reach out and clasp hands with the person in the next chair; and someone belonging to an Orthodox tradition might stand up with eyes wide open. Each has taken a different path, but the goal is always the same. This is a week not for focusing on the well-worn paths of divergence, but for mutual delight in a common goal.

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

Reading I: Isaiah 62:1-5
♦ God rejoices over you.

Background: The first reading from Isaiah compares the renewed city of Jerusalem to a radiant bride of the Lord. The image of marriage was often used to describe God’s covenant relationship with the people. In today’s passage, this image was designed to hearten the discouraged Jewish people as they attempted to rebuild their city.

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 12:4-11
♦ One Spirit gives different gifts to each.

Background: In the second reading Paul reminds the Corinthians that they should use their spiritual gifts with order and reverence. The gifts are from one Spirit and will build the Christian community into one body.

Gospel: John 2:1-11
♦ Jesus’ first miracle at a wedding in Cana.

Background: Today’s reading is the first miracle story in the Gospel of John. Throughout John’s Gospel, Jesus’ “hour” referred to the combined moments of His passion, death, resurrection and ascension. At the wedding in Cana, Jesus responds to His mother’s request by performing a miracle to symbolize that hour.

Theme: Grace is God’s free gift to us.

Question for Adults:
God fills each of us with grace (miracles) and gifts, what is one grace (miracle) or gift that you have shared with your family?

Question for Youth:
Jesus got His start in ministry through the urging of His mother. Who urges you to pray, go to Church, and do good works?

Question for Children:
What is one special gift that God has given to you to share with your friends or classmates?

We have many wonderful family events coming up…and we are looking for families to join our planning teams. Would you like to help plan the Parish Mission? Fat Tuesday/Mardi Gras celebration? The Seder Meal? Please contact Jacqueline Skelly at jacqueline@st-irene.org or 630.393-2400 x121 or Pamela Keating at pamela@st-irene.org or 630.393.2400 x 120.

Religious Education classes meet on Tuesday, January 22 (Gr. 1-6 in the classroom) 5:30-7PM and Wednesday, January 23 (Gr. 7-8 in the ACL) 6:30-8PM. Parents meet their children on Tuesdays at 6:45PM in Church and Wednesdays at 7:45PM in the ACL.

Gospel Weekly Family Discussion:
Gospel of Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21 - We learn that Jesus proclaimed Himself as the anointed one when He said, “Today this scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing.”

Gospel Questions:
♦ How does Jesus fulfill the words of the prophet Isaiah and bring Good News to the poor?
♦ How do we bring people Good News the way Jesus does?
♦ What Good News does Jesus bring to our world?

Life Questions:
♦ Who inspires you to be a person of justice?
♦ Who handed you the Good News of Jesus?
♦ If you decide to write your life story, what stories will you tell?

Family Prayer:
♦ Dear Lord, we do believe. Help us in our unbelief (see Mark 9:24).

Parish Mission - February 11-13
Nationally renowned speaker, radio host, and author, Michael O’Neill, The Miracle Hunter, will be our guest presenter.

Caring Network provides spiritual, emotional and material support to women dealing with unplanned pregnancies, enabling them to choose life for their babies. You can help Caring Network be a hope center for families in our community by participating in Coins for Caring Network. Pick up your baby bottle today. Fill it with spare change and return it to church in February. Your change can make a difference!
Parishioners and Friends, you are invited to participate in the 23rd Annual Knights of Columbus Super Bowl Raffle to be held during a Super Bowl party held in the Activity Center on February 3rd. Raffle tickets are now on sale after all the Masses until Super Bowl Sunday.

For the raffle, tickets at $25 dollar per square are being sold for two separate Faith and Hope Pools, and a $50 ticket per square is being sold for the Charity Pool. Cash prizes ranging from $25 to $500 will be awarded throughout the football game on Super Bowl Sunday. You may split the cost of a ticket with your friends.

The Raffle is a major fundraiser for the St. Irene Knights of Columbus Council. It is a 50-50 cash raffle with half of the proceeds awarded to participants, and the other will go to fund the "St. Irene Stand Strong" school campaign.

Buy your raffle tickets early for two early drawings. Raffle tickets will be available from KC representatives prior to, and following the Masses each weekend until Super Bowl Sunday. Tickets will be placed into Early Bird drawings to be held after the 10AM Masses on Jan. 20 and 27. Early bird raffle winners remain eligible for drawings on Super Bowl Sunday.

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.

St. Irene Senior LunchBunch Ministry Potluck Luncheon

Thursday, February 7th, 2019
11:30AM-2PM in the Lower Activity Center
Fee: $3 each

Entertainment: Chezady – Magician & Illusionist

Last names starting with:
♦ A-I: main course - main dishes - any type of casseroles/pastas, meat dishes
♦ J-R: sides dishes - vegetables or vegetable casseroles, salads of any type, cheese/crackers
♦ S-Z: desserts - any type, fruit

Food items can be store bought!
Coffee and beverages will be provided!!

Any questions please contact:
Annette Kubalanza @ 630.393.2400 x 122 or
Denise Schmidt @630.930.0154

All are welcome!

Celebrate the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity at a Potluck

Once again the Churches of Warrenville will gather for prayer and fellowship. This year Immanuel Presbyterian will host the Unity Service and Pot Luck on Thursday, January 24 at 6PM. All are welcome. Please sign up to bring a dish to pass at the table located in the narthex.
This Week’s Meetings

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)

Monday, January 21

1-2:30p - Bible Study (ACL)
6:30-8p - Healing Horizons (ACL)

Tuesday, January 22

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

Wednesday, January 23

12:30-3:30p - Band (ACL)
3-5p - Basketball Practice (ACU)
6:30-8p - Jr. High RE (Off Site - FMSC)
7-8:30p - Adult Choir (C)

Thursday, January 24

6-10p - Knights of Columbus Officers Meeting (ACL)

Friday, January 25

12:30-3:30 - Band (ACU)
4-8p - Bridge Communities (AC)

Saturday, January 26

8-10a - KC Color Guard (AC)

Sunday, January 27

9a-1p - School Open House (S & ACL)
11a-12:30p - RCIA (HF)

Remember our Faithful Departed in your Prayers

♦ Monica Garceau
♦ Lorraine Talaga
Mother of Dianne Bengel
♦ Blanch Mary “Bee” Duquette
Mother of Mike Duquette

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 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

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, January 21st for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.
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.

Dan Cyrus
Scott Hurley
Baby Reyna Urso-Zizzo
Paula Lopat
Barb Olson
Sharon Booth
Lynette Meany
Don Clevenger, Jr.
Joe Gottone
Javier Tecuatl
Bernie Malovany
Mary Vander Meulen
Valder Morales
Max Malesh
Colette Malovany

Thank You from a Bridge Family

Thank you for the incredibly wonderful generosity my family received from the church. I can not even begin to tell you the support and hope created by the mentor team. My family is very grateful that you took a chance on us!
Thanks for believing in me especially. Truly Blessed!

Readings for the Week

Monday: Heb 5:1-10; Ps 110:1-4; Mk 2:18-22
Tuesday: Heb 6:10-20; Ps 111:1-2, 4-5, 9, 10c; Mk 2:23-28, or any of a number of readings for the Day of Prayer
Wednesday: Heb 7:1-3, 15-17; Ps 110:1-4; Mk 3:1-6
Thursday: Heb 7:25-8:6; Ps 40:7-10, 17; Mk 3:7-12
Friday: Acts 22:3-16 or 9:1-22; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Mk 16:15-18
Saturday: 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5; Ps 47:2-3, 6-9 or Ps 96:1-3, 7-8a, 10; Mk 3:20-21
Sunday: Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10; Ps 19:8-10, 15; 1 Cor 12:12-30 [12-14, 27]; Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21

Liturgical Calendar

Monday, January 21
St. Agnes
7:00AM - John Dragas/ Palczynski Family

Tuesday, January 22
Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children; World Youth Day
7:00AM - For the Protection of Unborn Children

Wednesday, January 23
St. Vincent; St. Marianne Cope
7:00AM - For the Poor and the Hungry

Thursday, January 24
St. Francis de Sales
7:00AM - For Christian Unity
7:30AM - Eucharistic Adoration

Friday, January 25
The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle
7:00AM - For St. Irene Catholic School
8:15AM - Sophie Antiporek/ Fr. Jim

Saturday, January 26
Vigil: 3rd Ordinary Sunday
5:00PM - Craig Farmer/ Mom & Dad

Sunday, January 27
Third Sunday of Ordinary Time
8:00AM - For St. Irene Parish Family
10:00AM - Catholic Schools Week
John Schefke/ Pat Jackowiak
Mary Gottone/ Family

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 Loheny USMC - Camp Pendleton
Master Sgt. Dan Peterson - Anchorage, AK
TSGt. Daniel Gienkosky - 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 - Fort Bragg, North Carolina
Major Patrick Looby - Kunsan AB, S.K.
Sgt. Thomas Rasplicka - Fort Bliss, Texas

We Fight for Those Who Serve Our Country