Third Sunday of Ordinary Time

Reflecting on God’s Word

The book of Isaiah has been called the fifth Gospel, so often do the Gospel writers use it for proclaiming Jesus as Christ, the long-awaited Messiah and Son of God. In today’s Gospel reading, Jesus begins to move through His home territory of Galilee “in the power of the Spirit” (Luke 4:14), the same Spirit that descended on Him after His baptism. He then goes to His hometown of Nazareth and to the synagogue on the Sabbath.

A hush must have filled the room as He walked to the place of reading and searched the scroll to find this passage. They had been hearing about His time in Galilee and how all had praised His teaching. What would He say to them? He chose Isaiah’s words (61:1–2a) about one anointed by the Spirit who would preach good news to the poor, bring liberty to captives, and, at the heart of these lines, exercise a ministry of compassion, a reference to another citation from Isaiah (see 42:6b).

This three-part mission continues to be the work of the Church: preaching the Gospel, working for social justice, and reaching out to all peoples in compassion. At the beginning of His ministry, Jesus announced that this work was being fulfilled in the hearing of His listeners by what He was doing. The Spirit works to do the same today through us.

—James A. Wallace, C.SS.R.

LIVING GOD’S WORD:
When Ezra read from the book of the law of God, explaining it so the people could understand, they wept, but he said to them: “Today is holy to our LORD. Do not be saddened this day, for rejoicing in the LORD must be your strength!” (Nehemiah 8:10). Ask God to let the divine word bring joy to your heart.

All boys and girls ages 5-16 are invited to participate in the 2019 K of C Council 6710 Spelling Bee Contest to be held in the ACL on February 2 from 11AM-1PM. All contestants on the local level are recognized for their participation.

Winners will advance to the Regional Competition that will be announced. Rules of the contest are available at Knights of Columbus State of Illinois website. We follow the rules of Scripps Howard Spelling Bee which are also available on line.

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Knights of Columbus Spelling Bee

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Help your parish, while planning your Super Bowl Party. **Buy gift cards through SHOPRight** and use them at the following stores to pick up supplies for Super Bowl Sunday. We have the following vendors available and St. Irene Parish receives the following percentages for each of your purchases.

- Binny’s Beverage Depot - 3%
- Mariano’s or Jewel/Osco - 4%
- Target - 2.5%

**Haven’t had time to join?**

- Send an email to st.irene.script@gmail.com letting us know you are interested in signing up with script! You will then receive an email from Great Lakes Scrip company explaining how to register. We will need your first and last name, phone number and email address to keep you updated with script specials.
- Set up an online Payments (PrestoPay) where you simply link your bank account to your ShopWithScrip account. Note: credit cards are not accepted they add fees and would result in reduced earnings for your organization.
- Begin shopping and earn rebates for St. Irene Parish. Choose to purchase physical gift cards, ScriptNow or Reload (after initial purchase of a physical gift card).
- Orders placed by Sunday 4PM can be picked up the following weekend at any of the three Masses.

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**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11**

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12**

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13**

7-8 PM

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**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.
**Whole Parish Catechesis**

**Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing**

**Reading I: Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10**

♦ The Word of God speaks to all who hear it.

**Background:** In today’s reading, Ezra presents the Torah to the people as the Word of God. The Torah consists of the first five books, of the Bible. After the people listened to Ezra, they rejoiced with a great celebration for God’s gift of the Word.

**Reading II: 1 Corinthians 12:12-30**

♦ We are the body of Christ and each is a different part.

**Background:** The reading from First Corinthians presents Paul’s image of the Christian community as one body alive in one Spirit. In a healthy body all parts serve for the welfare of the whole. One of the gifts held by the Christian community is the gift of the Word of God.


♦ Jesus is the fulfillment of the Scriptures.

**Background:** In the introduction to this Gospel, Luke suggests that he knows of other Gospel accounts. The story of the beginning of Jesus’ ministry follows Luke’s introduction. Today’s passage highlights compassion and liberation as the theme of Jesus’ ministry and concern for the weakest members of society the mark of His identity as Messiah.

**Theme:** Jesus is the one sent by God to save us.

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**Question for Adults:**

Jesus came to bring glad tidings to the poor and set free the enslaved. How has this mission of Christ in the world affected you personally?

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**Question for Youth:**

Name a moment or situation in your life where Jesus was present. What are some situations or places where you wish that Jesus was more visible?

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**Question for Children:**

Jesus is present to each of us in a different way. Tell about a time that you knew Jesus was with you.

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**Coffee with the Pastor**

“Coffee with Pastor” became a monthly event back in October 2018. Since that time, people have gathered to visit with Fr. Jim and talk about his journey to the priesthood, parish life at St. Irene and other topics in our beautiful Catholic faith. Everyone is welcome to attend, and feel free to bring any questions you might have. Please make time to join Fr. Jim at one of the upcoming sessions:

- **Saturday, February 2, 2019 at 9AM in the ACL**
- **Saturday, March 9, 2019 at 9AM in the ACL**
- **Saturday, April 27, 2019 at 9AM in the ACL**
- **Saturday, May 18, 2019 at 9AM in the ACL**
23rd Annual Knights of Columbus Super Bowl Raffle & Party

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 Stands 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.

KC Annual FMSC Food-Packing Event

Come join fellow parishioners at the Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) 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 on the FMSC website at 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.

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!

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

We are accepting clothing, shoes, linens and books in good or bad condition. Also small household items and electronics!
NO TV's or COMPUTERS!

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.

Remember our Faithful Departed in your Prayers
♦ Gregory True
Son of Deacon Bob & Maryann True
### This Week’s Meetings

#### Sunday, January 27
- 9a-1p - School Open House (S)
- 9a-1p - Catholic Schools Week Hospitality (ACL)
- 11a-12:30p - RCIA (HF)

#### Monday, January 28
- 1-2:30p - Bible Study (ACL)
- 4-8:30p - Cultural Fair & Book Fair (AC)

#### Tuesday, January 29
- 11:30a-12:30p - Staff Appreciation Luncheon (ACL)
- 5:30-7p - Elementary RE (S, C, HF, ACL)
- 7-9p - Athletic Association (Staff)

#### Wednesday, January 30
- 12:30-3:30p - Band (ACL)
- 6:30-8p - Jr. High RE (S, AC)
- 7-8:30p - Adult Choir (C)

#### Thursday, January 31
- 3-5p - Basketball Practice (ACU)
- 7-8:30p - CCW (ACL)

#### Friday, February 1
- 12:30-3:30 - Band (ACU)

#### Saturday, February 2
- 9-10a - Coffee with Fr. Jim (ACL)
- 11a-1p - KC Spelling Bee (ACL)

#### Sunday, February 3
- 10-10:30a - Children’s Liturgy of the Word (ACL)
- 11a-12:30p - RCIA (ACL)
- 4-9p - KC Super Bowl Party (AC)

### St. Irene School Open House
St. Irene School will host an open house on February 1st from 9-11AM in the school for parents who want to see our students in the classrooms and our teachers in action. This is a great opportunity to answer any questions about how you and your child can join a challenging and community-focused program. You can also learn about financial aid opportunities and our education program. St. Irene School provides a safe and welcoming environment for all. If you can't make our open house, please call the school office at 630.393.9303, to schedule an appointment that is suitable to your schedule.

### 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
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
Baby Reyna Urso-Zizzo
Paula Lopat
Barb Olson
Sharon Booth
Lynette Meany
Don Clevenger, Jr.

Joe Gattone
Javier Tecuatl
Bernie Malovany
Mary Vander Meulen
Valder Morales
Max Malesh
Colette Malovany

Readings for the Week

Monday: Heb 9:15, 24-28; Ps 98:1-6; Mk 3:22-30
Tuesday: Heb 10:1-10; Ps 40:2, 4ab, 7-8a, 10, 11; Mk 3:31-35
Wednesday: Heb 10:11-18; Ps 110:1-4; Mk 4:1-20
Thursday: Heb 10:19-25; Ps 24:1-6; Mk 4:21-25
Friday: Heb 10:32-39; Ps 37:3-6, 23-24, 39-40; Mk 4:26-34
Saturday: Mal 3:1-4; Ps 24:7-10; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40 [22-32]
Sunday: Jer 1:4-5, 17-19; Ps 71:1-6, 15, 17; 1 Cor 12:31-13:13 [13:4-13]; Lk 4:21-30

Liturgical Calendar

Monday, January 28
St. Thomas Aquinas
7:00AM - St. Irene Parish Family

Tuesday, January 29
Weekday
7:00AM - Ted Mlsna/ Family
William Mucayh/ Family

Wednesday, January 30
Weekday
7:00AM - For the Poor and the Hungry

Thursday, January 31
St. John Bosco
7:00AM - Sr. Rosie Eck, CSJ/ 1st Anniversary
7:30AM - Eucharistic Adoration

Friday, February 1
Weekday; First Friday
7:00AM - William Hottinger/ St. Irene Community
8:15AM - For St. Irene Stands Strong Campaign

Saturday, February 2
Vigil: 4th Ordinary Sunday
5:00PM - Brad Standifer/ Meyers Family
Ann Staub/ Carl & Alexander
Blanche “Bee” Duquette/ St. Irene Community

Sunday, February 3
Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time
8:00AM - Keith Lambert/ Mary
10:00AM - Josephine Allen/ St. Irene Friends
Hal Dirienzo/ Mary Hafertepe
Walter Antiporek/ Fr. Jim
Barbara Seaberg/ Carl Seaberg

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!