

December
21
2025



28W441 Warrenville Rd., Warrenville, IL 60555



630-393-2400



parishoffice@st-irene.org



Regular Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:30am-4:00pm
Friday 8:30am-3:00pm



www.st-irene.org



<https://st-irene.churchgiving.com>



www.facebook.com/StIreneChurch



FB for Live Stream - <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61556292389237>



https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmMeIs6ydHjTJD98ZZb_VcA

Welcome!

Join us for Mass!

Weekday Mass

Monday, Tuesday | 8:00am
Wednesday | 12:00pm
Thursday, Friday | 7:00am

Weekend Mass

Saturday | Vigil 4:30pm
Sunday | 8:00am, 10:00am

Confessions

Every Saturday at 3:30pm

Church Open for Prayer:

Mon., Tue. & Wed. 8:30am-4:00pm, Thu.
7:30am-4:00pm, Fri. 7:30am-3:00pm

STAFF DIRECTORY

PASTOR:

Fr. Gregory Rothfuchs x113 - pastor@st-irene.org

DEACON SENIOR STATUS:

Joe Urso x130 - joe@st-irene.org

ASSISTANT DEACON:

Dennis Stolarz - dennis@st-irene.org

PARISH LIFE AND LITURGY COORDINATOR:

Pamela Keating x120 - pamela@st-irene.org

DIRECTOR OF SACRED MUSIC:

Ellen Coman x123 - ellen@st-irene.org

BUSINESS MANAGER:

Fred Schlick x114 - businessmanager@st-irene.org

OFFICE MANAGER (Habla español): Yvonne Aranda x119 - yvonne@st-irene.org

PARISH ADMIN. ASSISTANT:

Lynn Bierman x110 - lynn@st-irene.org

ADMIN. ASSISTANT: Pat Jackowiak x110 - pat@st-irene.org

DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION & RE:

Maggie Detwiler x122 - maggie@st-irene.org

PARISH REGISTRAR: Julie Duquette x116 - julie@st-irene.org

MAINTENANCE: call Parish Office

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 20, 4:30PM

†Michael Andrew Kometz/Marty & Susan Kometz

Sunday, December 21, 8:00AM

St. Irene Parish Family

Sunday, December 21, 10:00AM

†Francesco Naccarato / Family

†William Baker / Family

Monday, December 22, 8:00AM

†Katherine Grych / Family

Tuesday, December 23, 8:00AM

†Anthony Nilges / Cathy Kott

Wednesday, December 24, 4PM & 10:30PM

St. Irene Parish

Contact the Parish Office for submitting Mass intentions.

† = Deceased

Thursday, December 25, 8AM & 10AM

St. Irene Parish

Friday, December 26, 7:00AM

†Gloria Wilger / 1st Anniversary

Saturday, December 27, 4:30PM

†Gloria Wilger / 1st Anniversary

†Jan (John) Palys / Berning & Siele Families

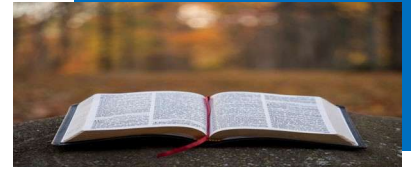
Sunday, December 28, 8:00AM

St. Irene Parish Family

Sunday, December 28, 10:00AM

†David Fraser / 1st Anniversary

Mary Hafertepe for healing/Carl Seaberg



WEEKLY READINGS

bible.usccb.org

Monday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/

1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/

Lk 1:46-56

Tuesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/

Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/

Lk 1:57-66

Wednesday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/

Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29

(2a)/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/

Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25

Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3,

11-12, 13 (Lk 2:11)/

Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14

Thursday: Dawn: Is 62:11-12/

Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/

Lk 2:15-20

Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3,

3-4, 5-6 (3c)/Heb 1:1-6/

Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Friday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/

Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc

and 17/Mt 10:17-22

Saturday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2,

5-6, 11-12/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/

Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 (see 1)/

Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/

Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

HEAVENLY FATHER, WE PRAY FOR...

Gregory LaRocco

Chuck Dutton

Katie Stanutz

Tom McNelis

Kelsey Woods

Dennis Knell

Joan Moran

Rachel Jarasius

Hannah Kelley

Don Clevenger Sr.

Ron Dieter

Jim Stoudt

Kathy Aranda

Rich Planek

Fr. Gerald Riva

Bev Murphy

Brad George

Mary Hefertepe

Ken Intihar

Mary Kay Colgan

Gary Naberhaus

Karen Udell

Carlos Contreras

Jennifer Tomashek

Rob Siebert

Donna Bernstein

Paula Peterson

Jim McDermott

Christopher Kennedy

Leonardo Przybylek

David Peterson

Theo Reed

Fr. John Ouper

**Names will remain on the list for 3 months, please notify the parish office to add or remove names.

OBSERVANCES for the Week of Dec 21

Tuesday: St. John of Kanty, Priest

Wednesday: Christmas Eve

Thursday: The Nativity of the Lord

Friday: St. Stephen, First Martyr

Saturday: St. John, Apostle and Evangelist

Sunday: The Holy Family





Merry Christmas!

Fr. Gregory Rothfuchs

Deacon Joe Urso - Deacon Dennis Stolarz

Pamela Keating - Ellen Coman

Maggie Detwiler - Julie Duquette

Fred Schlick - Yvonne Aranda

Lynn Bierman - Pat Jackowiak

Zeke Gomez-Garcia



WELCOME to the St. Irene Family!

Camille James Carstens

To be Baptized December 21, 2025

Camille, may God bless you on your special day and may He guide your family through the years as they share His love with you.

Bereaved Holiday Season Bill of Rights

As a grieving person, you have certain inalienable rights that cannot be taken away from you by those who may not understand.

When grieving during the holiday season, you have the right to:

1. Feel what you feel and be politely honest with others about it. If you do not feel merry, cheerful, or otherwise festive, then say so.
2. Reserve your feelings. If you would rather say, "I am fine," that is okay.
3. Avoid parties or family gatherings where your loved one and your grief are not welcome.
4. Take time for yourself, whether this is a walk alone, a day in bed, or some other momentary escape.
5. Cry when it hurts, laugh when something is funny, and smile when you are happy. Don't feel guilty about any of it.
6. Have your loved one remembered in a way that is meaningful to you.
7. Change your mind repeatedly during any get-together, event, or party. You may not know what you can or cannot handle until faced with it.
8. Change traditions when necessary or desired. Traditions are supposed to bring comfort, not distress.
9. Enjoy your holidays. Your loved one is going to be celebrating with you. It doesn't mean that you have forgotten or are being disrespectful. Living life is a wonderful way to honor them.
10. Try again next year if this year does not turn out the way that you want.

4

Parish Community



ST. IRENE CHURCH

CHRIST

AT OUR CENTER

church
renovation
campaign

Be a part of this new chapter!



Sign up to light the
Advent Wreath!

Also sign up to bring
up the gifts for Advent
and Christmas too!

Sign up by the reception
desk in the Narthex

Let's **MAKE**
Disciples
for Jesus!

See the flock notes for the next excerpt of
Bishop Hicks' MAKE pastoral letter.

NEW PARISHIONERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

Call the Parish Office or register on-line on our website.

BAPTISMS: Call Maggie Detwiler on x122.

MARRIAGES: Call Pamela Keating on x120 to arrange
preparation at least 6 months in advance.

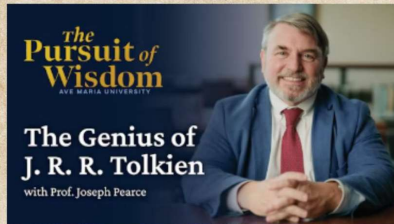
RECONCILIATION: Saturdays at 3:30pm.

FUNERALS: The Pastoral Staff works with families to
plan the Funeral Mass, call the Parish Office.

CRISIS PRAYER CHAIN: Contact Deacon Joe Urso at
630-853-2070. or at joe.urso@outlook.com.

SICK CALLS: Call the Parish Office.

Come Join Us as We Discuss
"The Genius of J.R.R. Tolkien"



Where: St. Irene School Building (Room 202)

When: Every other Monday Beginning in January
(1/12/26, 1/26/26, 2/9/23, 2/23/26, 3/9/26, 3/23/26)

Time: 7:00pm-8:30pm

RSVP: Maggie@st-irene.org

Trivia Night

SAVE THE DATE

St. Irene Trivia Night

Saturday, January 17 in the ACL

5:30pm – Doors Open

6:00pm – Trivia begins!

ST. IRENE CATHOLIC CHURCH
CHILI COOK-OFF
35th ANNUAL

April 11, 2026!!!

Due to the Church Renovations, the **Chili Cook-Off** has been rescheduled to **April 11, 2026**. If you have any questions regarding donations, sponsorships, volunteering, or being a contestant, please contact Jeff Schmitz at lcschmitz1@comcast.net.



December 18, 2025

Dear Friends,
Peace be with you.

Today, December 18, 2025, it was officially announced that I will be installed as the 11th Archbishop of the Archdiocese of New York on Friday, February 6, 2026.

I want to begin by expressing my heartfelt gratitude to Pope Leo XIV for this appointment. Growing up in the south suburbs of Chicago, just a stone's throw from where he grew up, and having spent part of my priesthood in missionary work in Latin America, I feel a deep connection to him. His leadership is a guiding light for me, and I accept this new role with humility and an open heart.

I am also grateful to Cardinal Christophe Pierre, our apostolic nuncio, for his trust. When he called to share this news, I told him I simply wish to do God's will. Receiving his phone call on the feast of Saint Juan Diego is a reminder that sometimes God calls us to things that feel beyond us, but with grace and faith, we can answer yes.

I also want to offer a heartfelt thank you to Cardinal Timothy Dolan for his more than 17 years of leadership in New York. I have been touched by his gracious support and encouragement.

These past five years in Joliet have been a true blessing for me. I have felt grateful, happy, and deeply blessed to serve as your bishop. Together we have catechized, evangelized, and put our faith into action. The relationships we have built, the faith we have shared, and the journey we have walked together are treasures I will carry with me to New York.

As you continue to read, share, and embrace my pastoral letter, "MAKE," I ask you to let it keep guiding you. Please do not let it sit on a shelf, gathering dust. Instead, continue to implement it as a living, breathing call to be disciples who MAKE disciples.

I have much to learn in New York, and I will serve there as I have served here, with all my heart. I trust in God's will and count on your prayers. Know that as you pray for me, I am praying for you, with immense gratitude and love.

With good wishes, may God bless you this Advent season as we prepare for the celebration of the birth of Jesus.

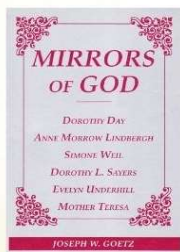
As I remain --

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Ronald A. Hicks

Bishop of the Diocese of Joliet and Archbishop designate of the Archdiocese of New York

🌿 Women's Book Study 🌿



Mirrors of God by Joseph W. Goetz

Why should you join us?


Mirrors of God shows us that we are meant to reflect the Creator—not perfectly, but faithfully.


In six brief chapters, author Joseph W. Goetz helps us:

- Ponder spiritual truths
- Repent and refocus
- Align with God's vision

He does this beautifully through the stories of six women who have modeled this faithful reflection of God.

Study Details:

 **Dates:** Feb. 16th and March 2nd

 **Time:** 7:00-8:00 pm

 **Location:** St. Irene School Building Room 202

Lead by: Shannon M Burns is retired as a nationally known consultant and trainer on ethical issues, public engagement, corporate consultation. personal wellness and environmental issues. Dr. Burns now devotes her time and creativity to leading thought provoking book discussions.

 Bring your book or let us know if you'd like a copy.

All women are welcome!

Come grow in faith and community.

To sign up or learn more:

Contact: Maggie Detwiler - maggie@st-irene.org

Stewardship of Treasure
Week of December 1-December 7
(Includes on-line contributions)

Sunday Offertory	Building/Maintenance Fund
\$ 12,866.30	\$ 1,214.00



Dear Friends of the Outreach
Warrenville Christmas Store,

What a joy it is to share the blessings of the first ever Christmas Store at Outreach Warrenville! We were reminded once again of the true meaning of the season: the boundless love of Christ, who came to bring hope, joy, and light to the world. Here's what the Outreach Warrenville Christmas Store accomplished with your support this year:

- **37** families shopped at the Christmas Store!
- **99** children received Christmas gifts that were chosen and purchased at a discounted price by a parent or grandparent.
- Over **500** gifts were donated by generous supporters who embrace the heart of what the Christmas Store is about shining the love of Christ!
- **6** partner churches organized or hosted gift drives to bless others. We are so grateful!
- **70+** volunteers gave their time and energy to make this ministry possible.

Here's what some of our shoppers shared:

- *"The store was so beautiful, and everyone was so helpful. It felt special being here."*
- *"All the people I met today showed me love."*
- *"I was able to find a gift at an affordable price for my daughter. Everything was so great. Thank you for what you are doing."*

Thank you for your support, because of you, families who were facing difficult circumstances were reminded of the good news of great joy: *"For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given"* (Isaiah 9:6).



Fourth Week of Advent – December 21:

- **Represents:** Love
- **Candle Name:** the Angel's Candle
- **Candle Color:** Purple, during this final week of Advent we rejoice in the endless love that God has for us, which is made apparent in the birth of His Son.

We reflect on the good news of God's love brought to us from the angel Gabriel.

Dynamic Catholic



Help Our
Neighborhood Pantry

Items that are always needed, **which people can drop off at the food pantry on Mondays and Thursdays between 2:30 and 5:00 pm:**

Canned corn, Canned fruit (any variety)
Rice: 1 lb or 2 lb bags, Pasta
Canned tuna, chicken, or beans
Cooking Oil, Kraft macaroni & cheese
Breakfast foods, Cereal, Oats

To receive food, come for "in person" shopping at the pantry on **Sundays 1:00-3:00pm and Tuesdays 11:00am-1:00pm**. For those who cannot come in person or prefer not to, we also offer an order ahead program where they can pre-order online (go to orderahead.org and click on the IPC site) and then drive thru and pick up the order on Thursdays from 5:00pm-6:30pm.

Our Neighborhood Pantry serves all of Warrenville.
Drop donations off at 29W260 Batavia Road (next door to Immanuel Presbyterian Church).



Giving
Tree

Tags are on the Giving Trees in the vestibule.
 Please return all gifts by
 December 21.

This year we will be supporting:
***Warrenville Youth Center**
***Bridge Community Families**



Upcoming Events

7



Join us for
**Liturgy of the Word
for Children**
December 21,
10:00AM Mass

Interested in volunteering, contact
Pamela Keating - pamela@st-irene.org

December 21 | 10:00am

Children's Liturgy of the Word: Join us for Liturgy of the Word for Children at 10:00am Mass.

December 21 | 11:00am

High School Teen Group: Come to 10:00am Mass and join us for food, fun, and faith afterwards in the Mobiles!

December 21 | 1:30pm

Lay Carmelite Meeting: Monthly meeting held in ACL, for info contact Debbie at 708-363-1753.

December 23 | 5:00pm

Family Choir Practice: Contact Ellen Coman if you are interested.

January 1 | 9:00am

Solemnity of Mary: Join us for Mass to start off the year!

January 2 | 7:00pm

First Friday Holy Hour: Join us for exposition of the Holy Eucharist and Benediction.

January 3-4 | All Masses

Epiphany: Come to Mass to get your house blessing chalk.

January 5 | 6:00pm

Little Flowers Girls Club: Girls 5 and up and their Moms join us to learn about our Catholic heritage, faith, and traditions meet in the Mobiles.

January 5 | 6:00pm

Chili Cook-Off Planning Meeting: Join us for the planning of a great event in the Parish Center.



Religious Education Schedule and Upcoming Events

December 23 – No RE

December 25 – Christmas Day

December 30 – No RE

January 1 – Happy New Year!

January 19 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day

January 20 – Catholic Parent Night

February 3 – No RE

Advent and Christmas Schedule

Christmas Eve - Wednesday, December 24

- 4:00PM - Christmas Vigil Mass
- 10:00PM - Christmas Carols and Anthems
- 10:30PM - Christmas Mass at Night

Christmas Day - Thursday, December 25

- 8:00AM - Christmas Mass at Dawn
- 10:00AM - Christmas Mass During the Day

Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God
Thursday, January 1, 9:00AM

Epiphany- Saturday, January 3

- 4:30PM Vigil Mass

Epiphany - Sunday, January 4

- 8:00AM Mass
- 10:00AM Mass

**Parish Offices will be closed from
December 24 thru January 4, 2026**

J. H. Bollweg & Sons, Inc.
Established 1926 Lic. #058-112251
Plumbing, Heating, Electric,
Water Systems
28 W. 321 Warrenville Road
393-9444

ASE Master Technician
PHOENIX AUTO BODY INC.
Collision Repair Professionals
3-Car Trained Member ASP
Joe Carmon
Ph: (630) 393-6000 28 W. 321 Warrenville Rd.
Fax: (630) 393-0125 Warrenville, IL 60055

FREE AD DESIGN
with purchase
of this space
CALL
800-950-9952

Voegtli's Auto Service, Inc.
630-393-1436
Complete Auto Repair Since 1975
Charles & Joseph Voegtli
28 W. 224 Warrenville Road • Warrenville, Illinois 60055 • www.voegtliautoservice.com

catholicmatch®
Illinois
CatholicMatch.com/IL

IF YOU LIVE ALONE
MDMedAlert!™ Starting At **\$19.95**
✓ Ambulance ✓ Police/Fire
✓ Family/Friends ✓ GPS & Fall Alert
CALL NOW 800.809.3570 • md-medalert.com

Ed the Plumber
Ed the Carpenter
630.663.1444
Best Work • Best Rates
PARISHIONER DISCOUNT

LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS
Place Your Ad Here
and Support Our Parish!
CONTACT ME
Alicia White
awhite@4LPi.com
(800) 950-9952 x9783

SUPPORT OUR PARISH

2800 S. Batavia Rd., Suite 3022, Downers Grove, IL
GASPERO & GASPERO
ATTORNEYS AT LAW, P.C.
630/687-9700
For twenty-eight years our attorneys have assisted individuals with wills, trusts, real estate matters, and more so that families can enjoy peace and focus on important things.

DOES YOUR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION NEED A NEWSLETTER?
Engaging, ad-supported print and digital newsletters to reach your community.
Visit ipicomunities.com
Scan to contact us!

Place Your Ad Here and Support our Parish!
Instantly create and purchase an ad with
AD CREATOR STUDIO
4lpi.com/adcreator

BATES CONSTRUCTION
Additions • Basements
Kitchens & Bathrooms
Windows • Doors • Decks
(630) 668-2334
Mike Bates
dbab5870@gmail.com

ADT-Monitored Home Security
Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust
• Burglary • Flood Detection
• Fire Safety • Carbon Monoxide
833-287-3502

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!

IF YOU LIVE ALONE
MDMedAlert!™ As Low As **\$19.95**
✓ Ambulance ✓ Police/Fire
✓ Family/Friends ✓ GPS & Fall Alert
CALL NOW 800.808.9294 • md-medalert.com

Say Good-bye to Clogged Gutters!
\$99 Installation*
Receive a \$100 Visa gift card with your FREE in-home estimate
Call today for your FREE estimate and in-home demonstration
CALL NOW 708-462-6373

LeafGuard®
is guaranteed never to clog or we'll clean it for FREE!
• Seamless, one-piece system keeps out leaves, pine needles, and debris
• Eliminates the risk of falling off a ladder to clean clogged gutters
• Durable, all-weather tested system not a flimsy attachment
ENGLERT LeafGuard®
Get it. And forget it.

WE'RE HIRING!
AD SALES EXECUTIVES
BE YOURSELF.
BRING YOUR PASSION.
WORK WITH PURPOSE.
• Paid training
• Some travel
• Work-life balance
• Full-Time with benefits
• Serve your community
Contact us at
careers@4lpi.com or
www.4lpi.com/careers

Friedrich Jones
Two beautiful locations:
44 S. Mill Street • Naperville, IL
(630) 350-0213 • Historic Downtown
15218 S. Juliet Rd. • Plainfield, IL
(815) 436-0221 • Rt. 58
& Rte. 30
Funeral Homes & Cremation Services
www.friedrichjones.com
The Jones Family