

The Catholic Collaborative of CONCORD-CARLISLE



MASS SCHEDULE

Holy Family Parish – Concord

(St. Bernard's Church – 12 Monument Square,
Concord, MA)

- Saturday (Sunday Vigil): 4:00 PM
- Sunday: 9:00 AM
- Friday: 9:00 AM

St. Irene Parish – Carlisle

(St. Irene's Church – 181 East Street, Carlisle, MA)

- Sunday: 11:30 AM & 5:00 PM
- Monday: 9:00 AM
- Wednesday: Communion Service – 9:00 AM

CONFESSION / RECONCILIATION

- 1st Monday: St. Irene, Carlisle | 6:00–7:00 PM
 - 3rd Monday: Holy Family, Concord | 6:00–7:00 PM
- Other times by appointment — call 978-369-7442

PRAYER CHAPEL

Monday–Friday | 10:00 AM–3:00 PM
Join us for Silent Exposition & Adoration every Friday
10:00 AM–12:00 PM

Please sign-up by contacting
Sally-Ann Limpacher
sallyannq@gmail.com

Parish Center – 70 Monument Square, Concord, MA

PARISH CENTER OFFICE HOURS

70 Monument Square, Concord, MA 01742
Office Hours: Monday–Friday, 10:00 AM–3:00 PM
Phone: 978-369-7442
Website: www.cc-catholic.org
Email: parishlife@cc-catholic.org

HOLY COMMUNION FOR HOMEBOUND

Unable to attend Mass due to surgery, illness, or disability? We can bring Communion to you.
Contact: Linda Bentley – 978-505-8028 or
Barb Ewen – 978-505-9625

FAITH FORMATION

70 Monument Square, Concord, MA 01742
Office Hours: Monday–Friday, 10:00 AM–5:00 PM
Phone: 978-369-7442 x 224
Email: Faithformation@cc-catholic.org



HOLY FAMILY
OF
JESUS, MARY
AND JOSEPH

RESPONSIBILITIES TO PARENTS

God sets a father in honor over his children;
a mother's authority he confirms over her sons.
Sirach 3:2

HOLY FAMILY – ST. IRENE

New Year's Liturgies 2025–2026

New Year's Eve

Wednesday, December 31 • 7:00 PM

The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God
(Holy Day of Obligation)

Location: Holy Family Church

New Year's Day

Thursday, January 1, 2026 • 10:00 AM

Location: St. Irene Church

A Christmas Blessing for All

Dear Parishioners,

Each year, the holy season of Christmas invites us to enter anew into the beautiful mystery of the Incarnation, the mystery of a God who loves us so deeply that He chose to become one of us, so that we might share more fully in His divine life. As we contemplate the gift of Christ Himself, we are also invited to look around us and recognize the many ways our sisters and brothers in Christ are gifts to one another.

Over this past year, you have been such a gift to us. Through your faithful presence at our liturgies, your generous financial support of our ministries, and your service to our parish, our community, and the wider world, you have helped bring Christ's love to life among us. Thank you for welcoming and supporting our new staff, and for embracing our shared vision of creating a community where all are welcomed, all belong, and all are given the opportunity to grow and thrive in faith.

May this holy Christmas season and the coming New Year surround you and your loved ones with the love of the Holy Family. As we celebrate the birth of Emmanuel, God-with-us, may God's richest blessings be poured out upon you and those you hold dear.

Whether you are a longtime parishioner or new to our community, the entire staff of the Concord-Carlisle Collaborative, Holy Family Parish at Saint Bernard Church and Saint Irene Church, extends to you a heartfelt Christmas welcome. In this season of light and hope, we invite you to gather with us around the Lord's Table, to hear God's Holy Word, and to rejoice

together in the gift of Christ among us, not only at Christmas but throughout the year.

Please know this with confidence: **you are welcome here, just as you are.**

- **No matter your present status in the Catholic Church**
- **No matter your family or marital situation**
- **No matter your personal history, age, income, background, race, gender identity, sexual orientation, ethnicity**
- **No matter how you see your own holiness or worthiness or where you find yourself on your spiritual journey**

You are welcomed, accepted, and always respected with dignity here in our Catholic family of Concord and Carlisle. We are truly grateful for the gift that you are. You are a beloved child of God, a brother or sister of our Incarnate Lord Jesus Christ, and you belong with us. On that first Christmas night, Christ came not for the perfect, but for all.

May the joy of the angels, the wonder of the shepherds, and the faith of Mary and Joseph fill your hearts this holy season. And like our Blessed Mother Mary, may we carry Christ within us and bring His love into our world.

Pax Christi,

Fr. Dave, Fr. George, Fr. John, Dcn. Chuck, Dcn. Gregory, Marie, Gerry, Tony, Roberto, Jim, Cypriana, Gary, Marvin, Jim, Robin, Susan and Jean.

Collaborative News

PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT Week of December 14, 2025

	Holy Family	St. Irene
In Church & Mail In:	\$4,801.25	\$3,189.00
Electronic Giving:	\$2,291.00	\$965.00
TOTAL:	\$7,092.25	\$4,154.00

Note: The Dec. 21 report will appear next weekend.

GRAND ANNUAL

	Holy Family	St. Irene
YTD Total	\$64,375.00	\$44,650.00
No. of Donors	38	21

ELECTRONIC GIVING

Supporting our parish has never been easier! Visit our website at www.cc-catholic.org and click on the Donate Online tab to set up your weekly or monthly contributions. You can also make your offering by simply scanning one of our QR codes. For more information, please contact Gerry Armstrong at 978-369-7442 x227 or finance@cc-catholic.org



Holy Family



St. Irene

Thank you for your continued generosity and support of our parish community! Your support is deeply appreciated and needed.

PLANNED GIVING

A Tax-Savvy Way to Support the Catholic Collaborative of Concord-Carlisle (Holy Family and St. Irene Parishes).

Please help us cover our increased operating costs by considering a direct gift of securities or mutual funds. You can reduce or eliminate federal capital gains taxes on the transfer. You may also be entitled to a federal income tax charitable deduction based on the fair market value of the securities at the time of the transfer. For more information about donating Stock and/or Mutual Funds, please contact your financial advisor. To make a Stock and/or Mutual Fund electronic donation to The Catholic Collaborative of Concord-Carlisle (Holy Family and St. Irene Parishes), please visit www.bostoncatholic.org/finance-office and complete the Stock and or Mutual Fund Donation (Online Form). If you have any questions, please contact Eileen Murphy at the Archdiocese of Boston at 857-504-7204.

Interfaith Prayer Service

Sunday, January 11 • 5:00 PM
Saint Bernard Church

Please join us for an Interfaith Prayer Service, “*Loving Our Neighbors*,” featuring prayers, readings, and music from the various faith communities of Concord. As we begin a new year, we gather to affirm our shared calling to be people who truly **love our neighbors**.

TURKEY TRUCK - EVEN MORE THANKS!

This year we donated 378 turkeys to families in need in East Boston, our Friends from Afar ministry, and to Cor Unum in Lawrence. Your generosity exceeded \$4,500 enabling us to buy more than 250 turkeys in addition to the turkeys we collected. Additional funds (over \$2,000) will be earmarked for Youth Ministry Mission Opportunities to serve others in need. For example, Jacob spoke at the 11:30 Mass on Nov. 23 about an initiative he pursued to purchase backpacks to be given to housing insecure people served by the St. Paul Soup Kitchen in Lowell, which was funded by Youth Ministry Mission resources. Thank you for your generosity! Youth Ministry

May We Collect Your Tree?

For twenty years, the Catholic Youth Ministry in Concord has partnered with Scout Troop 132 to collect Christmas trees (in Concord only) for disposal at the town composting site. Your donation supports opportunities for growth and service for our teens’ faith formation like summer mission trips, fall mini-retreat, and other investments in our youth.



This year’s pickup will be on Saturday, January 10, 2026. Registration is now open, with more information at our website: <https://cc-catholic.org/tree> or through the Youth Ministry page.

The suggested donation of \$25 per tree is made through Paypal or by cash or check - more information is provided when you sign up. Please sign up by Jan. 7. Late registrations cannot be guaranteed and will be assessed a \$10 surcharge.

Collaborative News



Knights of Columbus®

Council #287

Serving Holy Family Parish (Concord), St. Irene Parish (Carlisle), and Hanscom AFB

KofC287.org

Meeting Schedule

Meetings are held on the **1st and 3rd Tuesdays** of each month **6:00 – 8:00 PM**

Upcoming Events – Monument Hall, 62 Monument Square, Concord

- 06 Jan, 6-8 pm, Dinner / Bus. Mtg, Monument Hall
- 20 Jan, 6-8pm, Dinner /Cor Mtg., Monument Hall



NURSE JEAN

Our **Parish Nursing and Health Ministry** supports the well-being of the whole person — **body, mind, and spirit** — and is here to serve the needs of our community. Whether you have a health question, need a listening ear, or just want to connect, **Nurse Jean is here to help!**

Where & When to Find Nurse Jean
10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Concord – Holy Family Parish Center, 3rd Floor
Fridays: January 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30
Carlisle – St. Irene’s Parish Hall
Wednesdays: 12/31; January 7, 14, 21, & 28

Friends From Afar Migrant Ministry

“It takes a village to raise the children.” Let us continue to help raise the children that were in the Concord Shelter. Even though the shelter has closed, our services to the children are still needed. Use QR code below to help!



Let’s Walk Together!

Join me for a weekly walk — a great way to get some fresh air, gentle movement, and good conversation.

Wednesdays at 1:00 PM | *Meet in the parking lot at St. Irene’s*

(Check the bulletin for any date changes.)

Tips from the Heart

As we celebrate the Christmas Season and New Year, remember:

- You are an important part of family and community. Enjoy the moments the Christmas Season Brings.
- If feeling overwhelmed with the upcoming holidays, you are not alone, seek support. (988)

As always, Be kind to yourself.

If I can help, please call, email or stop by.

Be well,

Nurse Jean

jjifford@cc-catholic.org | 978-369-7442 x235



Open Table's "Most Wanted" items for the month of December are: Vegetable Cooking Oil, Ground Coffee-no K-Cups, Tea, Salt, Sugar, Flour, and Hearty Soups or Stews Red.

Food donations for Open Table can be placed in the food collection bins located at the entrances to our churches. Thank you!

Note: Please bring your paper grocery bags for reuse.

Prayer & Worship

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 27 |
 4:00 pm **Holy Family**
 Don Yacus Memorial

Sunday, December 28 |
 9:00 am **Holy Family**
 Joseph Cushing Memorial

11:30 am **St. Irene**
 Richard Paglia Sr. Memorial

5:00 pm **St. Irene**
 Mass for the People

Monday, December 29 |
 9:00 am **St. Irene**
 Cypriana Coelho Healing

Wednesday, December 31 | The Solemnity of Mary, The Mother of God
 7:00 pm **Holy Family**
 Joyce Wilson Memorial

Friday, January 2 |
 9:00 am **Holy Family**

Saturday, January 3 |
 4:00 pm **Holy Family**
 Mark Memorial

Sunday, January 4 |
 9:00 am **Holy Family**
 Carol Mangiacotti Memorial

11:30 am **St. Irene**
 Mass for the People

5:00 pm **St. Irene**

To schedule a Mass intention or to add a name to the parish prayer list, please contact Roberto Mercado at parishlife@cc-catholic.org or call 978-369-7442.

PRAYER FOR THE SICK

Father, your son accepted our sufferings to teach us the virtue of patience in human illness. Hear the prayers we offer for our sick sisters and brothers. May all who suffer pain, illness or disease realize that they have been chosen to be saints and know that they are joined to Christ in His suffering for the salvation of the world. Amen
 (Catholic liturgical prayer for the sick)

READINGS, SAINTS, OBSERVANCES 2025

SUNDAY Dec 28	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23
MONDAY Dec 29	Fifth Day in the Octave of Christmas Saint Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6/Lk 2:22-35
TUESDAY Dec 30	Sixth Day in the Octave of Christmas 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Lk 2:36-40
WEDNESDAY Dec 31	Seventh Day in the Octave of Christmas Saint Sylvester I, Pope 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13/Jn 1:1-18
THURSDAY Jan 1, 2026	Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord Num 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6+8/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
FRIDAY Jan 2	Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 1:19-28
SATURDAY Jan 3	Most Holy Name of Jesus 1 Jn 2:29-3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/Jn 1:29-34
SUNDAY Jan 4	Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2,7-8,10-11,12-13/Eph 3:2-3,5-6/Mt 2:1-12

Pilot Bulletins



Readings To-Go!

*Holy Family Sunday
 December 28, 2025*

Scan QR code to see this week's readings!



Ray Snay, Joan Quigley, Mary Taylor, Juana Castro, Ignacio Casimiro, Dr. Norton, Kina Castro, Michael Castro, Cristina Nunez, Julian Casimiro, Juliauna Williams, Jace Williams, Jonathan Miller, Ted and Mary Snow, Joseph Donnelly, Lucrecia Choto, John Barbadoro, Gert Sullivan, Greg Symko, Henry Johnson, Julian Perez, Randi Tartaro, JoAnn Pozericky, Vanessa Duffy, James Walter, David Mello, Raimonda Beqari. **Please Note:** This list is for those who are living and have requested prayers for health or personal needs. If someone listed has passed away, or if you wish to add a name, please contact the Parish Office.

Prayer & Worship



December 28, 2025

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 | Col 3:12-21 | Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

In his Angelus address on the Feast of the Holy Family in 2001, St. John Paul II shared this with those gathered: “If we aspire to a deeper understanding of Jesus’ life and mission, we must draw close to the mystery of the Holy Family of Nazareth to observe and listen.” Following in the footsteps of the Holy Family in today’s Scripture, we find ourselves in quiet Bethlehem, just after the departure of the Magi. The angel of the Lord appears to Joseph in a dream, this time with a warning: “Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you. Herod is going to search for the child to destroy him.” They trust in God and their response is immediate. It is easy for us to imagine the Holy Family as different from ourselves — holier and more spiritual. Certainly, that’s true. They were holy but they were also fully human, which means that what they attained is possible for each of us. Let us try to imitate them in this holiness.

REFLECT

Most of us will never hear from an angel in the middle of the night telling us to walk hundreds of miles with our baby in tow. But every single one of us will be — has been — called. Let us pray to the Holy Family for an increase in the virtues of obedience and trust, so that we can respond to God’s call in our lives.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

It’s easy to glamorize the life of Joseph, Mary, and Jesus, but in reality, the cross was with them long before the crucifixion. From the moment of the Annunciation, there would be trials, temptations, and sufferings. But each time, they respond with immediate obedience and deep trust. In doing so, they give us all a perfect example of what the Christian life should look like: a life motivated by love and always listening for the voice of God, ready to respond in an instant. As we accompany others on this journey of faith, we also must listen deeply to them in order to help them in discerning the Spirit’s movement in their lives. As we hone the spiritual muscle of attentive listening, we grow in our ability to respond to God and to God’s action in our lives, and to help others do the same.

Attention Men of Holy Family & St. Irene Parishes!



Cor

Prayer • Formation • Fraternity

Knights of Columbus Council No. 287 invites you to Cor—a faith and fellowship opportunity for Catholic men to grow in prayer, virtue, and brotherhood.

Tuesday, January 20 | 6:00 PM
Monument Hall, 62 Monument Sq., Concord, MA

Join your fellow parishioners for dinner, prayer, and fraternity. Learn more via the link or QR code.



Questions? Contact PGK Robert Norton:
Robert.Norton@kofc.org | (617) 293-1730



The Holy Family

We are excited to announce our series of FORMED Now! Christmas and New Year special episodes. In these episodes, professors from the Augustine Institute Graduate School will lead us in reflections throughout the season!

Our parish has a free Formed subscription for you! Simply scan the QR code or visit formed.org/signup to create your account and select our parish to get free access to this content and much more!



Faith Formation

Spiritual Direction at the Parish Center Explore Your Spiritual Journey

Looking to deepen your relationship with God or reflect on how God is moving in your life? Spiritual direction offers a confidential, one-on-one space to explore your spiritual journey.

Certified spiritual director **Michele Fisher** will be available at the Parish Center on the **2nd and 3rd Thursdays of the month, 12:00–3:00 PM** (50-minute sessions).

To learn more or see if spiritual direction with Michele is a good fit, contact her at **michelespiritualdirector@gmail.com** to schedule a **15-minute exploratory call**.

Help Shape Our Parish Future! Survey Opens This Weekend

We are excited to launch our Parish Engagement & Communication Survey on December 13–14!

Your input is essential as we look ahead to enriching parish life and offering events and ministries that truly meet the needs of our community.

- Scan the QR code to complete the survey online
- Grab a paper copy at the church entrance and return it to the Parish Office or place it in the collection basket next weekend

This survey takes only a few minutes, and your responses remain anonymous. Thank you for helping us build a vibrant, welcoming Catholic community!



Young Adult Group

Selah: A Hebrew word meaning “to pause” or “when God invites you to pause.”

Pause, reflect, and lift up. Introducing **Selah**, a group for young adults ages 25-39! We invite you to take time out of your routines to deepen your relationship with God and connect with others in the faith.

Join us every second and fourth Monday at 7:00pm at the Catholic Parish Center. (70 Monument

Square, Concord) We’ll start with silent prayer, then pray Vespers together, and conclude with casual discussion and snacks. Examples of discussion topics include the Catholic monthly devotion, Sunday’s Gospel reading, or a passage from the Catechism. Plus, look forward to occasional social events and outings!



SELAH

Concord-Carlisle Catholic Collaborative
Young Adult Group

Upcoming gatherings at the Catholic Parish Center:

Monday, December 29th at 7:00pm

Monday, January 12th at 7:00pm

Monday, January 26th at 7:00pm

Monday, February 9th at 7:00pm

Monday, February 23rd at 7:00pm

Monday, March 9th at 7:00pm

Monday, March 23rd at 7:00pm

We hope to see you at our first meeting! If you have any questions, please email youngadults@cc-catholic.org

Faith Formation

Monument Hall Kitchen Upgrade — Thank You!

We are pleased to announce the completion of the long-awaited upgrade to the Monument Hall kitchen! The space now features freshly painted walls and cabinets, new granite countertops, a new sink, and a new floor. It looks clean, bright, and truly wonderful. We kindly ask for everyone's cooperation in helping keep it uncluttered and well-maintained.



This project was made possible through the funds raised by the Hospitality Committee at the 2024 Holiday Fair, the recent sale of remaining fair items, and additional generous donations from five members of the committee. We are grateful for the vision and dedication that made this improvement possible.



We also extend our heartfelt thanks to:

- **All who supported the Holiday Fair** and endorsed the decision to devote the proceeds to the kitchen renovation.



Our own Ahgos Tekle, for his skilled labor and invaluable contribution to the renovation.

Thanks to all of you, Monument Hall is now better equipped to host parish and community events — and will soon be available for rental to additional groups in the future.



Thank you for helping enhance this beautiful space for everyone in our Collaborative!

Thank You to Our Newly Commissioned Altar Servers!

Our hearts are filled with joy and gratitude for our newly commissioned Altar Servers and their families. Your dedication, enthusiasm, and willingness to serve have truly inspired our parish community. We were moved by the many families who rearranged schedules, traveled long distances, and made special efforts to be part of this beautiful moment.



Our new servers may begin serving as early as next week. Families will receive an email introduction to the Coordinators along with scheduling information. Please register for the dates that work best for your family—switching is always allowed, and if a substitute can't be found, that's okay.

A warm thank-you as well to everyone who stayed afterward to build community and share a slice of pizza!



Sacrament & Administration Info.



Concord-Carlisle Parish Catholic
Center

978-369-7442

Email: parishlife@cc-catholic.org

INFANT BAPTISM

Celebrated on the second (HF) and third (SI) Sundays of each month. Participation in a pre-Baptism session is required for parents presenting their children for the Sacrament of Baptism. Contact the parish office to make arrangements.

MARRIAGE

Congratulations on your engagement! Couples preparing to celebrate marriage in the Church are asked to make arrangements at least six months in advance. Call the parish office for details.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is offered to those whose health situation has been affected by illness, accident, or age. Contact the parish office to make arrangements for receiving the Sacrament in your home or health care facility.

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS (OCIA)

Interested in Becoming Catholic?
Have you been attending Mass or felt drawn to the Eucharist? The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA) offers a welcoming path into the Catholic Church for all ages and backgrounds.

To learn more, contact Marie Noel at 978-369-7442 or faithformation@cc-catholic.org

THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

We seek to provide support to individuals and families in the Concord-Carlisle community who are in need of short term assistance and support possibilities.

For more information go to:
www.svdpconcordcarlisle.org or
call 978-341-3151



Pastor

Fr. Dave O'Leary

Weekend Celebrant

Fr. George Collins, S.J.
Fr. John P. Murray, S.J.

Deacons

Gregory Burch
Chuck Clough

Coordinator of Parish Life

Roberto Mercado, Jr.

Directors of Music

Jim Barkovic (HF)
Cypriana Coelho (SI)

Director of Faith Formation

Marie Noel

Youth Ministry Coordinator

Tony Carbrello

Finance & Operations Manager

Gerry Armstrong

Parish Nurse

Jean Gifford

Concord-Carlisle Catholic Collaborative Pastoral Council

Pam D'Ambrosio
Maureen Foley
Doug Koval
Kevin Donnelly
Jeannie Morin
Rob Norton
Mark Rzepczynski

Linda Tonies
Wayne Busa
Ken Desilets
Robin Masi Carlson

Collaborative Finance Council

Gerry Armstrong
Kevin Feeney
Wayne Franklin
Mark Rzepczynski
Tom Bilotta

Ex Officio Member: Fr. Dave O'Leary