



Saint Patrick Church

34 AMHERST STREET
MILFORD, NH 03055

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Saturday: 4:00 P.M.

Sunday: 7:00 A.M.; 8:45 A.M.; 10:45 A.M.
(Choir).

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Monday, Thursday & Friday 7:30 A.M.

Wednesday 5:30 P.M. Mass, unless otherwise indicated.

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION: 7:30 A.M. & 5:30 P.M. (Except Dec 25th, Christmas & Jan 1st, Mary, Mother of God).

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday: 9-12 and 1-5 p.m.
Friday: 9-12 and 1-4 p.m.

Parish Office: 673-1311

Fax: 673-3687

Faith Formation: 673-4797

Website: saintpatrickmilfordnh.org

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Dennis Audet, Pastor

daudet52@gmail.com

Patti Hendrickson, Pastoral Associate:

pattih2015@comcast.net

Diane Bergeron, Secretary

diane.st.patoffice@gmail.com

Sue Pasquale, Faith Formation

re@saintpatrickmilfordnh.org

Pauline Nepveu, Accountant

pbnepveu@myfairpoint.net

Henry Kopczynskie, Music Director

saintpatmusic@gmail.com

Terence Sherlock, RCIA 673-1311

Jerry Guthrie, Cemetery 672-1254

SACRAMENTS:

Baptisms: We rejoice with parents at the birth of a new child. Parents are encouraged to initiate preparation for baptism prior to the child's birth. Call the Parish Office at 673-1311 for information and pre-baptism instruction.

Marriage: Weddings are a special time of joy and promise for a bride and a groom. Engaged couples are invited to contact the pastor personally (preferably 6-12 months) prior to the desired wedding date to begin their preparation. Couples should not make any commitment with a reception venue prior to the 1st meeting with the pastor.

Reconciliation: Individual confessions are held every Saturday from 3:00-3:45 P.M. in the reconciliation room at St. Patrick Church or during the week by personal appointment with the pastor.

Sacrament of the Sick: If you are anticipating surgery or experiencing health issues and would like to be strengthened with the Church's sacrament of healing and hope, please contact the pastor personally to arrange for the Anointing of the Sick.

MISSION STATEMENT

St. Patrick Roman Catholic Church is a welcoming community in a traditional and Eucharistic setting focused on prayer, service, and life-long faith formation on the values and teachings of Jesus Christ and His Church.

1st Sunday of Lent — February 18, 2018

FEBRUARY 19-25, 2018

- MON. - 2/19** - Lenten Weekday (Presidents' Day)
7:30AM - **NO MASS** (Parish office closed)
- TUES. - 2/20** - Lenten Weekday
7:30AM - **NO MASS**
- WED. - 2/21** - St. Peter Damian
5:30PM - George M. Emrich by the family
- THURS. - 2/22** - The Chair of St. Peter
7:30AM - Albert Pelchat by Mr. & Mrs. Michael Pank
- FRI. - 2/23** - St. Polycarp
7:30AM - All souls
- SAT. - 2/24** - Vigil of the Second Sunday of Lent
4:00PM - Kathy Dion by her husband, Paul
- SUN. - 2/25** - Second Sunday of Lent
7:00AM - Albert Pelchat by Eunice Welch
8:45AM - Members of the parish
10:45AM - Richard McGuire by Mr. & Mrs. Don Gombieski

Readings: 2/25/2018

Gn: 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18

Rom: 8:31b-34

Mk: 9:2-10

Prayer Line call

Diane or Patti at 673-1311.



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn this week for the deceased members of the Coté & Caveney family by Ida

Parents of First Communion Children

If your child was not baptized at St. Patrick's, we will need an original certificate with the raised seal. Even if your child was baptized at St. Patrick we still need you to fill out the registration form before May 5th. Please be sure to request one from the parish where your child was baptized if you don't have it in your possession. If your child is going to a catholic school please come to the office to get a registration form.

1st Communion Retreat for parents & child(ren) is:

Saturday, May 5th from 8:30 to Noon.

1st Communion Date is:

Saturday, May 12th @ 11am.



FEBRUARY 19-25, 2018

- Mon: PRESIDENTS' DAY CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**
 4:30PM—Faith Formation Classes—SPC
- Tues: 4:30 & 6:30PM— Faith Formation Classes—SPC**
 7:00PM—Cribbage—C/H
- Wed: 4:00PM—Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**
 4:30PM—Reconciliation—Church
 5:30PM—Mass
 6:05PM—Women's Prayer Group—C/H
 7:00PM— RCIA—SPC
- Fri: 6:00PM—Lenten Meal—C/H**
 7:00PM—Stations of the Cross—Church
- Sat: 7:30AM—Men's Prayer Group—SPC**
 3:00PM—Reconciliation—Church
- Sun: Coffee & Donuts—C/H**
 NO Faith Formation classes (School Vacation)
 Noon—Choir rehearsal—Church

Parish office will be closed on Monday. There will be Faith Formation classes.



WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Our Parish Community depends upon the participation of all our parishioners so that we may continue the mission of our parish and pay our expenses. The total weekly operating expense in our current budget totals 8,000.00 per week. Your regular weekly contribution to meet the budget is greatly appreciated.

WEEKEND OF: Feb 11, 2018

Parish Offering	Prior Year	This Year
From(188) Envelopes		\$5,949
Loose Offerings		\$1,136
Total Sunday	\$7.993	\$7,085

Catholic Facilities Repairs

From Envelopes (125)	\$1,727
Loose:	\$ 438
Total:	\$2,165

Faith formation

CLASSES LAST 1 HOUR:

Feb 18 Grades K-1-2 @ 8:35 or 10:35am

Feb 19 Grades 3 thru 8 @ 4:30pm

Feb 20 Grades 3-8 @ 4:30 or 6:30pm

NO CLASSES FEBRUARY 25, 26 & 27

CLASSES LAST 1 1/2 HOUR

March 4, 18 Confirmation I & II @ 6:00pm



Lenten Friday Meals

As a parish community, each Friday evening during Lent at 6:00 PM we will share a simple meal, consisting of chowder or meatless soup, bread and water.

We need volunteers to make a crock pot of meatless soup on one or more Fridays during Lent. We ask that you please call the office (673-1311) if you are interested in providing a crock pot of meatless soup. There is a sign-up sheet in the church hall for soup-makers. There is no charge for this meal, however donations will greatly be accepted.

These are the dates: **2/23 3/2, 3/9, 3/16, 3/23**



Holy Thursday Washing of the Feet

If you would like to participate on Holy Thursday (3/20 at 7PM), the Mass of the Lord's Supper by having your foot washed, please call 673-1311 or email Patti at patti-h2015@comcast.net

Pastoral Council Members

Peter Arnoldy, Chris Conard ,
MaryGrace Duncan, Jerry Guthrie,
Teresa McGinley, Jude Lorman,
Randy Lowenberg, Will McGrath
Irene Prunier, Tony Varga.



The Stations of the
Cross
will follow the meal
in the Church
at 7:00 PM.

Catholic Charities news

We are \$288.00 short from our goal this year which is \$39,500. If you have not yet given there is still time to send your donation.

Prayer in Action

We are happy to share with you that the Men's Prayer Group here at St Patrick came together after our recent visit from Father Baptiste to collectively fund the construction of a new home for a suffering family in Haiti. We are grateful to those men who participated for being a wonderful example to the parish of God's generous and merciful love in action.



The Knights of Columbus have formed a Community Needs Committee and are accepting applications for potential projects. If you or someone you know has an idea about how the Knights can support those who are less fortunate in our community, we'd love to hear it. Please pick up an application in the back of the Church or in the Parish office. After completing the application please mail to Mike Goci at the address listed on the form.



FOOD PANTRY & CLOTHING BARN NEEDS

Toothbrushes & paste, Deodorants, Shampoo & Conditioner, Bar Soap, Feminine Hygiene Products, Diapers, Wipes.

Can be dropped off at the SHARE office or in the Church Hall. Thank you for your donations. The clothing barn is in need of children's Large pajamas.



Please remember in your prayers those who have asked for our prayers:

Eugene Callahan, Andrea, Frank Albano & his father, Joanne Pcolar, Sophia Larmarche, Janice, Brundage family, Genie Stone, Coralee Smart, Camille Long, Marie, Frances, Arlene, Georgian, Jeanne, Sue, Dennis Creedon, Paul Golch, John Foss, Ron Lockwood, Gladys Fino, Rob Erickson, Jenny Ciotti, Maureen Corron, Dan Nelson, Denise Bergeron, Alice Creighton, Liz Richer, Patricia Kazkis, Luke LaVallee, MaryAnn Molinari, John, Mike Paxton, Isabelle Miller, Bettina Mace, Joanne Coughlin, Marc Belanger, Alice Denecker, Helen R., Claudette Blais, Kim Beebe, Anne Ronsov, Jack Long, Beth Powers, Scott Dickinson, Nenad Opijac, Jack Daniels, John Knott, Joseph Koprek, Bobby Holland, Lillie & Damien, Ronald Aveni, Benjamin Smith, Patti Patenaude, Esther Duffy, Donatella Tuguzza, Jeffrey Yorio, Lisa Yorio, Blanche Belanger, Cheryl Williams, Ken Hower, Jeff MacMartin, Margaret Nelson, Lorraine Williams, Mindy Kane, Linda Lewis, Susan Yorio, Richard Copeland, Wayne Cormier, Robert Merley, Frank Williams, Jeffrey Bryant, Crystal Heaney, Leah Stigliano, Philip McPhee, William Thompson, Sammy Tinaglia, Ed Gartland, Joseph Sherlock, John Sullivan, Alice & Lloyd Eskins, Mary & Dick Almy, Steven Perez, Elda Paduano, Meaghan Pezze, Dennis Frye, and for the men and women who are serving our country.

Please call the parish office when someone can be taken off the prayer list.

Preparing for Easter: baptism and testing

During Lent the believing community follows Jesus as he is tested, transfigured, and foretells his coming glory to the temple leadership, Nicodemus, and his disciples. For RCIA participants, the Lenten season is a time of rites and prayers that prepare them for the sacraments they will experience at the Easter Vigil. The readings recall the meaning of our baptisms and ask us to consider how our discipleship is tested.

Mark's gospel contains two related narratives: Jesus' testing in the wilderness, and the start of his mission and message.

Testing in the wilderness. Immediately after Jesus' baptism (Mk 1:9-11), the Spirit drives him into the wilderness, traditionally a place of *testing and revelation*. Satan, God's adversary, wants to find out what God's words--"You are my beloved son"--really mean. Satan tests Jesus to *see who he is*, and to determine Jesus' *power and authority*. Jesus has come to break Satan's grasp on the world and on humanity. Mark connects Jesus' baptism and testing to warn the newly baptized that baptism does not make them immune to ongoing testing.

Mission and message. Mark summarizes Jesus' good news and the *action* required from those who hear his proclamation: "God's kingdom is near. Change your hearts (*metanoia*) and believe in the good news." For Mark, Hebrew scripture's promises are the root of Christian faith, and Christian life and experience reflects those fulfilled promises. Their path to faith in the good news leads them through *metanoia* and baptism.

Today' Lenten readings remind RCIA candidates and the believing community about the meaning and power of baptism. Discipleship requires that we live in the *ambiguity of the wilderness*: a place of both testing and revelation. Evil attacks us--pride, greed, addictions, institutional violence, and on and on. At the same time, through baptism, we share in the Spirit's power to break evil's grip and to live out salvation's good news. What tests do we face every day? How do we respond? What is revealed?

Terence Sherlock

Read the full reflection and subscribe at: LectionaryInContext.WordPress.com



Pastor's Message for Lent

1st Sunday of Lent

Lent is a season of being invited by God in a deeply personal way. "Come back to me, with all of your heart," our Lord beckons. "We will," we respond, but we aren't quite ready yet, our hearts are not prepared. We want to squirm, evade, avoid. Our souls not yet perfect. We are not ready for God to love us.

Yes, of course we want to have a deeper relationship with God, we tell ourselves earnestly. And we will....Soon. God calls to us again: *Come back to me, with all of your heart.*

Ok, ok, I really will. Just a few more things to do at work. Let me spend a little more time in prayer first. Let me get to Reconciliation. Let me clean my oven, tidy my closets. Sell my yoke of oxen. Check a field I have purchased.... *Come back to me, with all of your heart.*

It is an extraordinary invitation to each one of us. To *me* in a personal, individual way. God invites me to drop the defenses that I hold up between myself and God. All God wants is for me to realize that *my* standards, my way of judging and loving are so very different from God's way, and so much smaller. God offers an entire Lent season, an entire lifetime, of loving me unconditionally, no matter what I have done or how much I think I have hidden from God.

From the first day of Lent, the Ash Wednesday readings make God's call to us clear: "Return to me with your whole heart." "A clean heart create for me, O God," Psalm 51 offers. "Give me back the joy of your salvation." That is exactly what our loving God wants to give us, the joy of salvation.

In North America, Lent falls in winter and these days are cold and dark, perfect for hiding ourselves indoors, perfect for hiding from God - or so we imagine. But our God is insistent, loving, gently prodding. God is the parent of the Prodigal Child, waiting faithfully, eagerly on the road for our return, night after night. There are no folded arms and stern judging stares, only the straining eyes of a parent eager for our return, longing to embrace us and rejoice in us.

Yet we spend so much time trying to think of *how* to return and what to say, how to begin the conversation. It's only when we finally appear after so much time away, embarrassed and confused, that we understand we don't have to say anything. We only have to show up.

Look up there on the road ahead of us: our loving God is jumping up and down for joy. The invitation to us has been heard. We have returned home! But, wait... What stops us from this great reunion? What keeps us from accepting this invitation to something deeper in our lives with God? We feel in our hearts that there are things we should say first: "wait...but...if only" and finally, "If God really knew about me..."

It doesn't matter. None of it matters. Only the joy that we have turned to God and that like a loving father or mother, God is smothering us with embraces and joyful cries. We have returned!

Come back to me, with all of your heart. That is the invitation of each day of Lent. Today is the day to accept it.

Fr. Dennis