

Saint Patrick Catholic Church

34 AMHERST STREET
MILFORD, NH 03055



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.

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

OFFICE HOURS

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

Friday: 9-12 and 1-4 p.m.

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).

CONFESSION OPPORTUNITIES

Lent is an appropriate & excellent time to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

WEDNESDAYS 4:30 - 5:15 PM Prior to the Late afternoon Mass at 5:30 PM

SATURDAYS 3:00 -3:45 PM Prior to the Saturday Vigil Mass at 4:00 PM
The sacrament **will not be** available on Holy Saturday, March 31.

SUNDAY - MARCH 18, 2018

Annual Deanery Lenten Reconciliation Service with the deanery priests available for individual confessions at **St. Joseph the Worker**, 1 Gilson Rd, Nashua at 2:00PM

MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK - MARCH 26, 2018

Diocesan Wide Day of Reconciliation where every Catholic Church in New Hampshire will have confessors available during these times.

11:00AM-1:00PM and 5:00-7:00 PM

4th Sunday of Lent — March 11, 2018

MARCH 12-18, 2018

- MON. - 3/12** - Lenten Weekday
7:30AM - Albert Pelchat by John Milan
- TUES. - 3/13** - Lenten Weekday
7:30AM - **NO MASS**
- WED. - 3/14** - Lenten Weekday
5:30PM - Jim Roccio by his wife, Marie
- THURS. - 3/15** - Lenten Weekday
7:30AM - Rev. Donald Jacques by Mr. & Mrs. Michael Donnelly
- FRI. - 3/16** - Lenten Weekday
7:30AM - Edna Hug by the Knights of Columbus
- SAT. - 3/17** - Vigil of the Fifth Sunday of Lent
4:00PM - Jack Learson by Mr. & Mrs. James Neely
- SUN. - 3/18** - Fifth Sunday of Lent
7:00AM - Charles Woods, Jr. by Jane Provins
8:45AM - Mary Loughlin-Demers by Maria Marini
10:45AM - Members of the parish

Readings: 3/11/2018

Jer: 31: 31-34
 Heb: 5: 7-9
 Jn: 12:20-33



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: March 4, 2018

Parish Offering	Prior Year	This Year
From (197) Envelopes		\$5,641
Loose Offerings		\$3,783
Total Sunday	\$8,554	\$9,424

Facilities Repair: \$2,397

MARCH 12-18, 2018

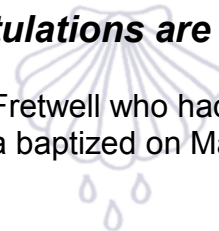
- Mon: 4:30PM— Faith Formation Classes—SPC
 6:30PM—Catechetical Task Force mtg.—SPC
- Tues: 4:30 & 6:30PM— **NO** Faith Formation Classes
 7:00PM—Cribbage—C/H
- Wed: 4:00PM—Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
 4:30PM—Reconciliation—Church
 5:30PM—Mass
 6:05PM—Women’s Prayer Group—C/H
 7:00PM— RCIA—SPC
- Thurs: 6:00PM—Pastoral Council—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
 5:30PM—Corned Beef & Cabbage—C/H
- Sun: Knights of Columbus breakfast—C/H
 8:35 & 10:35 AM—Faith Formation classes
 Noon—Choir rehearsal—Church
 2-4PM—Deanery Reconciliation Service—
 St. Joseph in Nashua
 6:00PM—Confirmation Class



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn this week in memory of Robert Swallow by the family.

Congratulations are extended to

Mark & Julia Fretwell who had their daughter, Eloise Victoria baptized on March 3, 2018



Blood pressure screening & health counseling will be available after all Sunday Masses on March 18th in the Reconciliation Room.



Faith formation

CLASSES LAST 1 HOUR:

Mar 18, 25 Grades K-1-2 @ 8:35 or 10:35am

Mar 12, 26 Grades 3 thru 8 @ 4:30pm

NO CLASSES MARCH 19

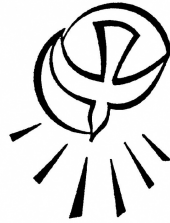
Mar 13, 20, 27 Grades 3-8 @ 4:30 or 6:30pm

CLASSES LAST 1 1/2 HOUR

March 18 Confirmation I & II @ 6:00pm

CONFIRMATION NEWS

Confirmation for grades 9 & 10 will be celebrated on Friday, April 20, 2018 at 7:00pm, the presider will be Bishop Libasci.



The Knights of Columbus news

The last K of C breakfast, until the fall, will be held on Sunday March 18 following all the Masses. Menu: scrambled eggs, sausages, home fries, pastries, coffee/juice. All proceeds will be donated to help revamp the church kitchen. A donation of \$5. per person is greatly appreciated.



In celebration of St. Patrick's Day, the parish will be hosting a corned beef and cabbage dinner on March 17 @ 5:30pm. The cost is \$8 per adult and \$3 for children age 5-12. The last day to pick up your ticket is Wednesday, March 14. There is a limit of 60 people. **No** tickets will be sold at the door.



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.

Pastoral Council Members

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

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 pattih2015@comcast.net

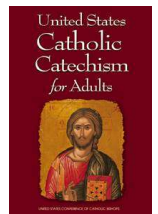


Lenten Meal, 6:00 PM, Friday, March 16, 23 in the Church Hall followed by The Stations of the Cross in the Church at 7:00 PM.



THE US CATHOLIC CATECHISM FOR ADULTS

offered by Fr. Dennis will be on March 19th in the Church Hall from 4:30-5:30pm





FOOD PANTRY & CLOTHING BARN NEEDS

Canned Ham, Canned Meats, Side Dishes (seasoned pasta mix, hamburger helper, etc.), Ravioli & Beefaroni

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 bathing suit and beach towels.**



Prayers
FOR HEALTH

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

Raymond Coté, Irene Dion, Eugene Callahan, Andrea, Frank Albano & his father, Joanne Pcolar, Sophia Lamarche, Janice, Brundage family, Genie Stone, Coralee Smart, Camille Long, Marie, Frances, Arlene, Georgian, Jeanne, Sue, Dennis Creedon, Paul Golch, John Foss, Ron Lockwood, 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.

Rejoice: God cares for us

During Lent the believing community follows Jesus as he is tested and transfigured, and as he foretells his coming glory. For RCIA participants, Lent's rites and prayers prepare them for the Easter Vigil sacraments. In the middle of Lent, today's readings reflect Easter's promise and how God restores us.

John's gospel presents a portion of Nicodemus' nighttime encounter with Jesus. This reading has many themes, but this reflection focuses on God's gift and Jesus' saving work:

Jesus must be lifted up. The Greek verb ὑψώω (hoop-SOH-oh) means both "to lift up" and "to exalt." John intends both meanings. To fulfill *God's gift* to us, Jesus must be "lifted up" on the cross. In being crucified, Jesus is also "exalted:" he completes his work and the Father raises him. Jesus' heavenly exaltation presupposes his earthly crucifixion.

God gives the Son as a gift. God loves the world, even when we reject God. God gives the Son as *God's gift* to the world. The *Son's gift* to us is the cross, which enables those who *believe* in him to be *saved*.

We judge ourselves by our choices. We don't have to wait for the end of the world and God's final judgement to be judged. Each one judges himself or herself by accepting or rejecting God's revelation in and through Jesus. Our own *actions* (good or bad) *flow from our choice*.

This week, while still deep in Lent, RCIA candidates and the believing community reflect on God's love and restoration. Salvation history is the story of God's love for us and God's longing to be in relationship with us, no matter what we do. We judge ourselves, based on our acceptance or rejection of Jesus' revelation. Our choice to accept or to reject is not limited to a single moment. The sum of all our actions--good, evil, and ambiguous--reveal who we truly are. Our daily choices--to hide in the dark or to move more and more into the light--judge us before God, one another, and ourselves. Do we want to remain in exile, or return home? Do we prefer the dark, or do we choose the light?

Terence Sherlock

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



Unlock the Stations of the Cross, Examen-Style by Gary Jansen

Monday through Friday I ride the Long Island Railroad from my home in Rockville Centre to my job in mid-town Manhattan. Often I take the express train, which zips me into the city rather quickly (about 45 minutes when there are no delays). After work I have to take the local, which includes numerous other station stops. That means a longer commute. Not fun when you're packed in a rail car with tired, grumpy, and sometimes smelly passengers who all want to get home. (This does not include coughers or those kind folks who sneeze into the air without even attempting to cover their faces. *Nice.*

Really, nice.)

On my ride home I am often reminded of the Stations of the Cross, an age-old devotion that forces me to slow down and pay attention to a very particular and tumultuous time in Jesus' life. I know I've been guilty of zipping through the stories in the Gospels—there's Christmas (presents!) and then, bam, we're into Easter (chocolate bunnies). But the Stations say: "Wait! Pay particular attention to these moments in Jesus' life!" Like the stations on the Babylon branch of the Long Island Rail Road, each Station of the Cross has its own tale to tell with lessons to be learned. For instance, consider the Station when Veronica wipes the face of Jesus. It's a visually dramatic moment, but also one that demonstrates how acting compassionately, as Veronica does toward Jesus, leaves us with the face of Christ before us. It's a story and scene that asks us if we've been compassionate in our lives. *Have we seen the face of Jesus in our actions toward others?*

In the last year I've wanted to get to know Jesus more deeply by focusing on the many trials he experienced at the end of his life. So I began applying a variation of the Examen—a reflective devotional exercise described in St. Ignatius's *Spiritual Exercises*—to the Stations of the Cross. I make it a 15-day exercise (I always add the Resurrection to the 14 Stations), focusing on just one Station a day on my commute home, Monday through Friday. This adds up to a three-week exercise, and it has helped me not only to decompress on the way home but to engage in my relationship with Jesus in new ways. Oh, and to make sure I remember to do this exercise, I set an alarm on my phone as a reminder!

I invite you to do the same. You can approach this reflection at any time in your day, before or after work or dropping off the kids, wherever you are in your life's journey. Here are five simple steps, derived from the Examen, to help you unlock the Stations of the Cross in a practical, contemplative, and reflective way.

Step 1: Choose a Station. Let's say we're focusing on Jesus taking up his Cross. You can read a passage from the Bible that correlates to that scene or simply picture an image in your mind. Then take a few deep breaths and ask God to help you quiet your head and open your heart. Often we only try to focus on getting rid of all the mental chatter inside of us, but it's also important to place our attention on the waves of emotions and feelings inside us. Something in you might resist focusing—you may feel tired, nervous, or angry, but that's okay. Allow yourself to find a level of openness that is true to you.

Step 2: Remind yourself that God is all around you. He's inside you and outside you and his heart beats in yours. Try to feel that reality as best as you can. Then take the picture of Jesus carrying his Cross, and imagine placing the image inside you. Let it take root in you.

Step 3: Ask the Holy Spirit to rise up inside you and give you the wisdom to acknowledge God in your life. Ask the Spirit to help you meditate on the scene inside you. How do you think Jesus felt when this was happening? What was he thinking? What is your cross to bear? How heavy is it? How does it affect your relationship with God?

Step 4: Review your day. Where did your cross feel the heaviest today? Where did you encounter the cross on the shoulders of others at work, on the news, or in the streets? Where is God in these encounters? Ask God to make you more aware and compassionate of others and yourself.

Step 5: Give thanks to God for the opportunity to know Jesus better, and ask God to help you to become more aware of the crosses that everyone carries in life.