

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.

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).

DAILY MASS

Parishioners are now to be aware that if there is a weather-related cancellation or 2 hour delay announced by the Milford School System, there will be **no** Mass that morning. Official announcements of cancellations and delays will be made on the schools cancellations ribbon on WMUR - TV Channel 9. This policy is for the safety of parishioners and those who are responsible for snow removal.



The Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday, December 8 is a Holy Day of obligation .

A vigil Mass will be celebrated at 5:30PM on Friday and a 10:00AM on Saturday morning.

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:

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Diane Bergeron, Secretary

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Pauline Nepveu, Accountant

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Henry Kopczynskie, Music Director

saintpatmusic@gmail.com

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.



First Sunday of Advent—December 2, 2018

DECEMBER 3-9, 2018

- MON. - 12/3** – **St. Francis Xavier**
7:30AM - All Souls
- TUES. - 12/4** – **St. John Damascene**
7:30AM - **NO MASS**
- WED. - 12/5** – **Advent Weekday**
5:30PM - All Souls
- THURS. - 12/6**– **St. Nicholas**
7:30AM - *In Thanksgiving for Darrin Nelson by his mother, Joyce*
- FRI. - 12/7** – **St. Ambrose**
7:30AM - All Souls
5:30PM - All Souls
- SAT. - 12/8** – **Immaculate Conception (Holy Day)**
10:00AM - Parishioners
- **Vigil of the First Sunday of Advent**
4:00PM - Mary Brahaney by Jeanne Jacques
- SUN. - 12/9** – **Second Sunday of Advent**
7:00AM - Members of the Parish
8:45AM - Deceased members of the Bergeron/
Larose families
10:45AM - Laurette Coté by her daughter, Ida



Readings: 12/9/2018

- Bar: 5:1-9
- Phil: 1:4-6, 8-11
- Lk: 3:1-6



Canned Fruit, Flour, Sugar, Boxed Mixes & Baking Supplies, Coffee & Tea, Juice, Granola & fruit

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 sleepwear.



DEC 3-9, 2018

- Mon: 4:30PM—Adult Faith Formation with Fr. Dennis
6:30PM—Catholicism with Fr. Dennis - SPC
- Tues: 4:30PM—Faith Formation grades 1-5—SPC
5:45PM—Faith Formation Commission Mtg -SPC
7:00PM—Cribbage—C/H
- Wed: 4:30PM—Faith Formation grades 1-5—SPC
5:15PM—Evening Prayer—Church
6:05PM—Women's Prayer Group—C/H
- Fri: 5:30PM—Mass
6:00PM—Exposition until 9:00PM
- Sat: 7:30AM—Men's Prayer Group—SPC
10:00AM—Mass
3:00PM—Reconciliation— Church

Our second collection the weekend of December 9th will be to support our Retired Religious. The ushers will be going the aisles a second time.



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn this week in memory of George M. Emrich by the family.

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: November 25, 2018

Parish Offering	Prior Year	This Year
From(157) Envelopes		\$5,609
Loose Offerings		\$2,727
Total Sunday	\$7,339	\$8,336

SHARE OUTREACH: \$3,828

Faith Formation Ministry

Faith Formation Classes Grades 1-5 from 4:30-5:30PM

Tues: —Nov 27

Wed: - Nov 28

Grades 6-12 from 6-7:30PM

Sun: - Dec 2, 16



Look what's new with the Youth Group. Teens grade 6 and up including their parents are invited to join the group page on Facebook. Log into Facebook and look up Saint Patrick's Youth Group, Milford NH.

ABSENT FROM CLASS!!

If your child is going to be absent from Religious Ed classes, please call the office at 673-4797 to let us know: Child's name, the day, grade.

NON-TRIVIAL PURSUITS

– a weekly challenge from your Faith Formation team
Which of the following statements about St. Nicholas are true?

- a. He was a fourth-century bishop
- b. He was from what is now Turkey
- c. He was known for his generosity toward the poor
- d. He once punched another bishop at a synod



Join us for Advent Evening Prayer

We will be celebrating Advent Evening Prayer on the Wednesday's of Advent at 5:15PM in the church.

Dec. 5: 5:15 PM —Advent Evening Prayer followed by Mass at 5:30 PM

Dec. 12: 5:15 PM —Advent Evening Prayer followed by Mass at 5:30PM

Dec. 19: 5:15 PM —Advent Evening Prayer followed by Mass at 5:30 PM



FIRST FRIDAY MASS & ADORATION

On First Friday, in addition to 7:30 AM Mass, Mass will also be offered at 5:30 PM. Instead of exposing the Blessed Sacrament following morning Mass it will now be exposed for adoration following the evening Mass (6:00) until 9:00 PM. There is a sign-up sheet at the entrance of the church for those who are willing to commit to a time of adoration.



The Knights of Columbus

are sponsoring a Parish breakfast in the Church Hall on Sunday, December 9th after the 7:00, 8:45 & 10:45 a.m. Menu: scrambled eggs, sausages, home fries, pastries, coffee/juice. The proceeds will be split between the Church and Wilton Open Cupboard. A donation of \$5. per person would be appreciated.



Please remember in your prayers:

Jean Duffy, David Chamberlain, Ronald & Jean Rood, James Lyons family, Kathy Knowlton, Ron Lockwood, Connor Silloway, Tina Gaidmore, Eva, Carolyn Hassett, Lyn, Bettina Mace, Vera Rasmussen, Karen Jarest, Marie Roccio, Donatella Fugaza, Thomas Burkardt, Ben & Anne Marie Yorio, Christina Ferguson, Donald Labonte, William, JoAnn & John, Gus Dreher, Dorothy Calogero, Tiffany Brown, Raymond Coté, Irene Dion, Eugene Callahan, Andrea, Frank Albano & his father, Sophia Lamarche, Janice, Brundage family, Genie Stone, Coralee Smart, Marie, Frances, Arlene, Georgian, Jeanne, Sue, Dennis Creedon, Paul Golch, John Foss, Rob Erickson, Jenny Ciotti, Maureen Corron, Dan Nelson, Denise Bergeron, Alice Creighton, Liz Richer, Luke LaVallee, John, Mike Paxton, Isabelle Miller, 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, Benjamin Smith, Patti Patenaude, Jeffrey Yorio, Lisa Yorio, Blanche Belanger, Cheryl Williams, Ken Hower, Jeff MacMartin, Margaret Nelson, Mindy Kane, Linda Lewis, Susan Yorio, Richard Copeland, Wayne Cormier, Robert Merley, 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, and for the men and women who are serving our country.

Advent: past, present, and future comings

The first Sunday of Advent marks the start of a new liturgical year: the liturgical color changes from Ordinary time's *green* to Advent's *purple*, and the Sunday gospel readings change from Mark to Luke. *Adventio*, a Latin verb meaning "I am coming," is the root of the English word *advent*. Advent's unfolding liturgical narrative and rituals encourage the believing community to *look back* to Jesus' historical incarnation, to *look forward* to Jesus' *parousia*, and to *look at our readiness now* as disciples.

The gospel is Luke's version of Jesus' eschatological discourse. Inspired by Mark's "little apocalypse" (Mk 13), Luke modifies the message for his hearers: a *gentile* believing community facing a *delayed parousia*. Luke emphasizes *universality* and *faithfulness*:

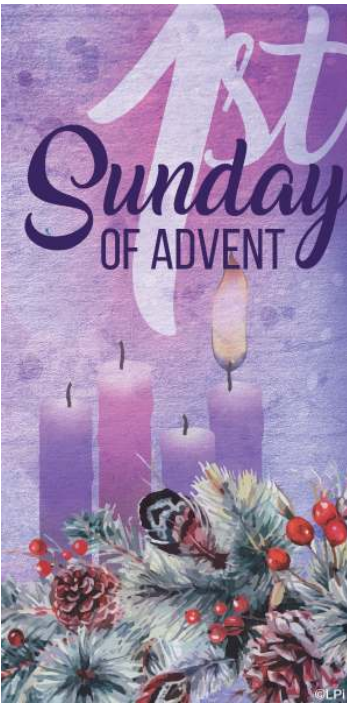
The whole world. The "day of the Lord" foretold by Daniel, Isaiah, and other prophets affects not only Jews and Jewish Christians, but the *whole world*. When Luke writes, "on earth *nations* will be distressed," he uses the Greek word ἔθνος (EHTH-nohs), which means "nations," "peoples," or "gentiles." In the same way, when he describes "what is coming upon *the world*," Luke uses a word that means "the whole inhabited earth." Luke's point: *Jesus' coming affects everyone everywhere*.

Remaining faithful. Jesus cautions his hearers to "be alert" and to "be vigilant" at all times. *No one knows* when the Son of Man will return. Luke stresses that Jesus' coming will surprise many, but those *who wait and remain faithful* have nothing to fear.

Like Luke's believing community, we live in the time between Jesus' *incarnation* (Jesus' first coming) and Jesus' *parousia* (Jesus' second coming). The readings warn us to stay alert and pray continuously as we wait *in the present*, remaining faithful to Jesus' teachings. Disciples who are faithful, who continue to witness, and who remain alert in prayer will rejoice at Jesus' coming. Advent, a season dedicated to watchful waiting, can be diluted or drowned out by commercialism. Advent's stillness and reflection should bring a sense peace, but the pre-Christmas season often creates dismay and anxiety. Shopping, wrapping, and giving gifts are rituals that anticipate joy and gratitude at Jesus' coming. For whom or what are we preparing? Whom or what are we awaiting?

---Terence Sherlock

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



Experiencing Advent Deeply, for Busy People

The challenge of entering Advent, or of entering into any religious experience, these days is that we are often very busy. We may feel bad that we don't have time, but it is true, we just don't have time. The result is that our experience of Advent is four Sunday Masses, which begin with lighting a new candle in the Advent wreath and the rest of it just passes around us, without any real effect.

A Proposal for a New Way to Experience Advent This Year
If we can't squeeze any more time out of our schedule to use the resources on this site, including the daily prayer and the reflections, then there are two things that are critical for a new way to experience Advent: desire and focus.

Desire: The powerful advantage of Advent is that it offers us light in the midst of darkness, hope in the midst of despair, liberty in the midst of captivity, and peace in the midst of war or conflict. The key to a grace-filled Advent is to begin by identifying where I am experiencing darkness, despair, captivity and war. Recognizing our own unique version of these struggles is the first grace of Advent. We can't say "Come, Lord Jesus" with any real meaning unless we have a felt experience of what it is we need. Once we experience our need, then the desire can formulate in our heart to ask for what we need.

Focus: How do we do this first step, if we don't have time? We do it by focusing our attention whenever we can, especially during the "background" times of our day. These are the in-between times – in the shower, getting dressed, walking down stairs, getting coffee, driving to work, walking down the hall, doing laundry, shopping, walking to the bathroom, preparing a meal, walking from one meeting to another, heading home from work, getting ready for bed. In these very brief times, there is something in our minds. Sometimes, we are "day dreaming" or our minds are wandering. At other times, we are thinking about what we have to do, or we are full of anxiety about something coming up, or perhaps we are "replaying" a memory or imagining a future conversation. Whatever is going on in our minds and hearts during those "background" times can easily be refocused. It takes a little practice and some discipline, but it works.

The First Week of Advent:

Our days of the first week of Advent can be transformed if we decide – consciously choose, with a deep desire – to use the background times of each day to explore where I am in spiritual need. We can use the images of Advent to help ourselves explore "darkness," for example. Darkness can include any discouragement, disappointment, frustration and any limits I'm experiencing. It might be struggles in my primary relationships or feelings of self-doubt. It might be struggles at work, that tend to dominate my life and hurt my family relationships. It might be repeated struggles with temptations and sin that have become patterns in my life and embarrass me, while I can't foresee any hope of change.

Don't Rush – First Things First: It is important not to skip this first step. There might be Christmas decorations in the shopping malls or Christmas parties to go to, but the first step we need to experience is to slow down and begin at the beginning. If we are to have a deep religious experience that allows us to celebrate the Incarnation – in the past and its meaning for me today – then we have to first taste the depth of our longing for a Savior. Until we feel our need for a Savior, we are at risk of missing gifts of the Season of Advent altogether.

Fr. Dennis