



Saint Patrick Catholic Church

34 AMHERST STREET, MILFORD, NH 03055

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday: 9-12 and 1-5pm. Closed at Noon on Friday

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

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Sue Pasquale, Faith Formation

re@saintpatrickmilfordnh.org

Pauline Nepveu, Accountant

pbnepveu@myfairpoint.net

Christopher Maynard, Music Director

music.saintpatricksmilford@gmail.com

Jerry Guthrie, Cemetery 672-1254

Pastoral Council Members

Chairperson: Chris Conard

Peter Arnoldy, MaryGrace Duncan, Jerry Guthrie,

Jude Lorman, Will McGrath, Irene Prunier,

Steve Santinelli.

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

Inclement Weather and Weekday Masses

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.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Saturday: 4:00 P.M.

Sunday: 7:00 A.M.; 8:45 A.M.; 10:45 A.M.

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).

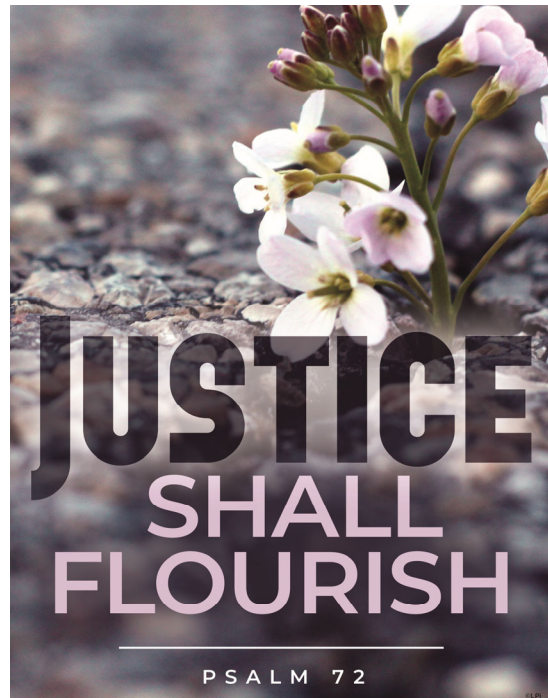
All are Welcome

No matter your present status in the Catholic Church;

No matter your family or marital status;

No matter where you are in the practice of faith;

You are always welcomed here at St. Patrick.



Second Sunday of Advent — December 8, 2019

Dec 9-15, 2019 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER 9-15, 2019

- MON - 12/9 - The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
 7:30AM - Joanne Coughlin
- TUES - 12/10 - Advent Weekday**
 7:30AM - NO MASS
- WED - 12/11 - St. Damasus 1**
 5:30PM - Janet (Janie) Porter by Jane Provins and Rev. Richard Vicerey
- THURS - 12/12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe**
 7:30AM - Moe Facques by Jeanne Jacques
- FRI - 12/13 - St. Lucy**
 7:30AM - Joanne Coughlin by Josef Zund
- SAT - 12/14 - Vigil of the 3rd Sunday of Advent**
 4:00PM - Rev. Donald Jacques by his sister, Jeanne and Joanne Coughlin by the Knights of Columbus
- SUN - 12/15 - 3rd Sunday of Advent**
 7:00AM - Members of the Parish
 8:45AM - Courtney Turgeon by Sean Duchemin & Family and Yvette Therouz by Dorothy Cooper
 10:45AM - Richard Caveney by his wife, Ida

- Mon: 9:30AM—Bible Study (C/H)
 Tues: 7:00PM—Cribbage (C/H)
 7:00PM—Prayers Shawl Ministry (C/H)
 Wed: 5:15PM—Evening Prayer (Church)
 6:05PM—Women's Prayer group (SPC)
 6:30PM—RCIA
 7:00PM—Choir Rehearsal (Church)
 7:15PM—Scout BSA Troop 1794 (C/H)
 Thurs: 6:15PM—Knights of Columbus 4 degree mtg followed by 3rd degree at 7:15PM (SPC)
 Sat: 7:30PM—Men's Prayer Group (SPC)
 Sun: 2:00PM—Deanery Penance Service
 6:00PM—Youth Ministry grades 6-8 (C/H)

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEKEND OF December 14-15, 2019

- 4:00PM **Altar Servers:** Olivia & Jonathan R.
Eucharistic Ministers: Bernie K., Carol H., Joanne O.
Lector: Eric J.
Greeters: Gary M., Bert D., Al B., Joanne O.
- 7:00AM **Altar Servers:** Jerry G.
Eucharistic Ministers: Sally W., Kathy S., Jeanne D.
Lector: Amy G.
Greeters: Skip G., Joe Z.
- 8:45AM **Altar Servers:** Morgan & Erin P.
Eucharistic Ministers: Sr. Marcelle, MaryGrace D., Susan P.
Lector: Will McG.
Greeters: Steve S., Lisa M., Pat K.
- 10:45AM **Altar Servers:** Victoria & Andrew R.
Eucharistic Ministers: Karen R., Joyce N., Jude L.
Lector: Paul D.
Greeters: The Hohenadels, Alex K., Ron V.

Readings: 12-15-2019

Is: 35:1-6a, 10
 Jas: 5:7-10
 Mt: 11:2-11



WEEKEND OF: NOVEMBER 24, 201

Parish Offering	Prior Year	This Year
Budget From(183) Envelopes		\$4,352
Loose Offerings		\$2,214
Total Sunday	8,336	\$7,566

Catholic Communications: \$1,902

WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 1, 2019

Parish Offering	Prior Year	This Year
Budget From(181) Envelopes		\$8,716
Loose Offerings		\$2,390
Total Sunday	9,275	\$11,106

Christmas Flowers: \$2,481
 Vanco Monthly on Line: \$4,165
 Share: \$1,065

GIVE+ONLINE



Prayer Line call

Diane or Patti at 673-1311.

We will be celebrating Advent Evening Prayer on the Wednesday's of Advent at 5:15PM in the church.
 Dec. 11: 5:15 PM —Advent Evening Prayer followed by Mass at 5:30PM
 Dec. 18: 5:15 PM —Advent Evening Prayer followed by Mass at 5:30 PM

Faith Formation Ministry

These calendars can be found on our website under Faith Formation calendar.

GRADES K-5

Sunday Classes are
12:15pm to 1:45pm

Sunday, January 5
Sunday, February 9
Sunday, March 1
Sunday, April 5
Sunday, May 3

All are welcomed to the adult teaching in the Church.

GRADES K-5

Tuesday Classes are
4:30pm to 6:00pm

Tuesday, January 7
Tuesday, January 11
Tuesday, March 3
Tuesday, April 7
Tuesday, May 5

GRADES 6-10

Sunday evening classes
from 6-7:30pm

December 15
January 5 - 19
February 9 - 16
March 1 - 15
April 5 - 19
May 3 - 17

GRADES 11 & 12

Sunday evening classes
6-7:30pm

January 19
February 16
March 15
April 19
May 3

The Bible Timeline, the Story of Salvation

Ty Perry and Sally Wilkins will be leading a 24 week bible study on The Great Adventure: The Bible Timeline, the story of the 14 narrative books of the Bible. We will be meeting on Tuesday nights 6:30-8:00 starting January 28.

The program is encompassing in scope, eye-opening as Jeff Cavins leads you through the story of God's Salvation, but is not overly academic or scholarly. Easily accessible for participants with beginner levels of biblical knowledge, and equally rewarding for those with fuller knowledge. You may find out more at Ascension Press <https://ascensionpress.com/pages/the-great-adventure>
Each participant will need to purchase a course workbook which has charts, commentary, and questions to answer. Or perhaps one workbook per couple if you wish to share. The cost will be \$37.95 per workbook when ordering in bulk. Please do not order yet or send us money - we will let you know when we reach a minimum participant threshold and then ask for the money to order the books together. Please sign up soon by calling Faith Formation at 673-4797 or emailing perry8777@comcast.net.

FORMED

First, go to our website

www.saintpatrickmilfordnh.org and register

Follow the directions given on the front page – this is a free gift for you!

This week take a look at “FORMED Daily with Dr.

Tim Gray” This Advent season, walk with Dr.

Tim Gray on a journey of renewal to ready your

heart for the coming of Christ.

More suggestions coming next week.

The Christmas Play – January 5, 2020

We are now looking for children to participate in our annual Christmas Play. For rehearsal dates and more information contact Jude Lorman at judelorman@gmail.com

NON-TRIVIAL PURSUITS

Weekly challenge from your Faith Formation Team (12-8-2019)

Today is December 8, which is the date of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary. Normally this is a Holy Day of Obligation in the United States. But we are celebrating the Second Sunday of Advent today and the Feast of the Immaculate Conception tomorrow, and tomorrow is not a Holy Day of Obligation. Why?

Answer to Last Week's Question: (12/1/2019)

Last week's question reminded us that Advent's readings focus on the Second Coming of Jesus in glory as well as His Coming to earth at his birth. Hebrews 9:28 says, “Christ, offered once to take away the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to take away sin but to bring salvation to those who eagerly await him.”





REMEMBER in your prayers

Please remember in your prayers:

Richard, Paul, Laura, Skip, Betty, Ken Jalbert, Bill Loscocco, David Pfeifer, Maureen Yergeau, Stephen Swallow, Irene Hendrickson, Pamela Wood, Sean, Jonathan Niquette, Janine Hartwell, Hope Kelly, Thomas Martel, Donna Thomas, Nancy Salisbury, Rick Corron, Patricia Barrett, Michael Strong, Cameron Conley, Lexz Bragdom, Brenda Lamarre, Timothy Russell, Maureen Belair, Marty, Leo Barriault, Nancy Moro, Mary Ann Hower, Ronald Rood, Connor Sillowy, Eva, Carolyn Hassett, Lyn, Bettina Mace, Thomas Burkardt, Ben & Anne Marie Yorio, Donald Labonte, William, JoAnn & John, Gus Dreher, Tiffany Brown, Irene Dion, Eugene Callahan, Andrea, Sophia Lamarche, Brundage family, Genie Stone, Coralee Smart, Marie, Frances, Arlene, Georgian, Jeanne, Sue, Dennis Creedon, Paul Golch, John Foss, Rob Erickson, Dan Nelson, Liz Richer, Luke LaVallee, John, Mike Paxton, Isabelle Miller, Marc Belanger, Helen R., Claudette Blais, Kim Beebe, Anne Ronsov, Jack Long, Barbara Powers, Scott Dickinson, Jack Daniels, John Knott, Joseph Koprek, 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, 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.



NON-PERISHABLE ITEMS ONLY

Canned Fruit, Flour, Sugar, Boxed cake Mixes & Baking Supplies, Coffee & Tea, Juice, Granola 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 MEN'S, WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S NEW UNDERWEAR

Advent: change your heart/mind and change your actions

During Advent's unfolding narrative and liturgy, the Lectionary encourages us to *look back* to Jesus' historical incarnation, to *look forward* to Jesus' *parousia*, and to *look at our readiness now* as disciples. This week's readings present stories of hope.

Matthew's gospel introduces John the Baptizer: a historical figure, a prophet and precursor, and a preacher who announced the hoped-for coming of God's kingdom.

Historical figure. We know from contemporary sources as well as from the gospels that John's preaching and baptism *attracted large crowds* of people, including Jesus. He was so popular that Herod Antipas, fearing an uprising, *imprisoned and executed* him. John's movement *continued after his death* and spread to Ephesus.

Prophet and precursor. John wears the same *camel-hide robe and leather belt* as the prophet Elijah (2 Kgs 1:8), signaling that Elijah has returned, and the day of the Lord is near. John tells the people that a "greater one" will follow him. Although their *teachings are the same* ("change your mind/heart"), John has a *subordinate role* to Jesus ("the sound of one calling out in the wilderness"). John acknowledges he is *simply Jesus' herald* ("prepare the Lord's way, straighten his roads").

Preacher. The evangelists tell us that John preaches "repentance." "Repentance" is an English translation of the Greek word *μετάνοια* (meh-TAH-noy-ah), meaning "a change of mind/heart." The biblical idea of *metanoia* is a *willingness* to turn one's life around, in the sense of a *complete reorientation*. John announces that the long hoped-for time of *God's kingdom is drawing near*. That is, soon all the *world will recognize the fullness of God's power and presence*. The correct response to God's presence is *metanoia*, and actions ("good fruit") must evidence *metanoia*.

This week's readings, and all Advent readings, ask us to consider Jesus' coming in history, his liturgical and sacramental coming now, and his future return. Isaiah offers hope to a people beaten down by endless conflict. Paul reminds Rome's believing communities that God's every act contains within it an expectation for something more. The Baptizer announces that God is drawing near. Advent is full of hope and expectation. Do we see in current difficulties a promised future hope? Do we find in God's word our own hope for greater things? Do we experience in Jesus' saving act a hope for our own and the world's *metanoia*?

Terence Sherlock

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



GIVING TREE

If you wish to pick a star and buy a gift for a less fortunate person or family for Christmas, the giving tree sponsored by SHARE is in the vestibule. Do not forget to pick up the instruction sheet on when and where to bring back the gift.

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.



2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

John wore clothing made of camel's hair and had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. - Mt 3:4

2nd Sunday of Advent

On the 2nd Sunday of Advent, we turn backward to John the Baptist's witness to Jesus near the beginning of Matthew's gospel, preparing the people for this "One" who will come to baptize them with the Holy Spirit and fire. During Advent, the light of our candles burn brighter each week. May we pray for the fire of this season to purify us and prepare us to welcome the risen Christ into our hearts anew at Christmas.

This year, the 2nd Sunday of Advent falls on December 8th when we usually celebrate the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. We will commemorate the Immaculate Conception on December 9th (not a holy day of obligation this year). And so, for this Advent Sunday we hear the fiery preaching of John the Baptist, introduced for the first time in the Gospel of Matthew.

It almost goes without saying that John the Baptist is Jewish, and he is preaching to fellow Jews. But because he is considered a Christian saint, it's possible to overlook that he is a Jewish prophet calling the Jewish people to repentance, as prophets had done for centuries before. He directly confronts the Pharisees and Sadducees, calling them a "brood of vipers." They are not to rest assured in their being part of the chosen people of God, the children of Abraham. *For God can raise up children of Abraham from the stones.* This message is so stark it nearly needs to be recast to our own day for those of us who might feel secure in our own Christian or Catholic identity. We can hear John telling us that God can make Christians from the stones. There is no value or guarantee of salvation simply by being Christian. John the Baptist would say something more is demanded. We are to repent, *for the kingdom is at hand.*

The people confessed their sin and were baptized for repentance. Even this, however, is only a foreshadowing of the one who is to come, for he will baptize "with the Holy Spirit and fire." It can be easy to overlook the "fire" with which the one mightier than John will baptize. But the fire will consume the chaff. The baptism John imagines is the anticipated judgment at the end of time.

We are familiar with the stories of John the Baptist and his preaching. But when we read them with careful attention to detail, new meaning pops from the page. Let us not grow complacent in the face of such a baptism. John's baptism only prefigures Jesus' baptism. An interior renewal is called for. Resting in our identity as chosen by God, even as a Christian, is not enough.

Advent seems to set us in a mindset that it is good for us to be shaken up a bit and jostled from our regular routine, as John the Baptist is doing today. We are reminded that we need to repent, turn away from selfish interests and turn toward God. This interior renewal is nothing less than a dying to self and rising with Christ, the paschal mystery. What regular routines do we need to abandon? From what in our lives do we need to turn away? What does turning toward God look like in our own time and place, in the midst of the relationships we have? Going to church, being Catholic, or knowing about God is not enough. An interior reorientation toward God and the values of his kingdom is very necessary.

Fr. Dennis



Thank you to all our wonderful bakers. The pie sale raised \$572. If you would like to be part of our baking committee, please call the office at 673-1311. This committee would meet a few times a year to talk about fundraisers.