



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

diane.st.patoffice@gmail.com

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

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.

Pastoral Council Members

Chairperson: Chris Conard

Peter Arnoldy, MaryGrace Duncan, Jerry Guthrie,

Jude Lorman, Will McGrath, Irene Prunier,

Steve Santinelli.

MASS SCHEDULE FOR THE HOLYDAYS!

The Nativity of the Lord - Christmas

December 24, 2019 (Tuesday - Christmas Eve)

No 7:30 AM Mass

4:00 PM and 7:00 PM and 9:30 PM

December 25, 2019 (Wednesday - Christmas Morning) 10:00 AM

The Blessed Virgin Mary - The Mother of God / New Year's Day

December 31, 2019 (Tuesday - New Year's Eve) 5:30 PM

No 7:30 AM Mass

January 1, 2020 (Wednesday - New Year's Day) 10:00 AM

Third Sunday of Advent — December 15, 2019

DECEMBER 16-22, 2019

MON - 12/16 - Advent Weekday

7:30AM - All Souls

TUES - 12/17-Advent Weekday

7:30AM - NO MASS

WED - 12/18- Late Advent Weekday

5:30PM - Joanne Coughlin by Mr. & Mrs. Ray Pasquale

THURS - 12/19 - Late Advent Weekday

7:30AM - Mel Pfeifer by Jeanne Jacques and Rev. Richard Vickery

FRI - 12/20- Late Advent Weekday

7:30AM - Kathy Horn by Stephanie VanKleeck

SAT - 12/21 - Vigil of the 4th Sunday of Advent

4:00PM - Richard Mace by his wife, Betina 3rd anniversary

SUN - 12/22- 3rd Sunday of Advent

7:00AM - Mary Clare Milan by her husband, John

8:45AM - Members of the Parish

10:45AM - Julian Kravitz by Gosha Kroviek and Richard Fischer by his wife, Shirley

Dec 16-22, 2019 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mon: 9:30AM—NO Bible Study UNTIL JANUARY 6, 2020
 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 (SPC)
 7:00PM—Choir Rehearsal (Church)
 7:15PM—Scout BSA Troop 1794 (C/H)
 Sat: 7:30PM—Men's Prayer Group (SPC)
 Sun: Coffee & donuts are served after all Masses in the Parish Hall.

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.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEKEND OF December 21-22, 2019

4:00PM **Altar Servers:** John M.
Eucharistic Ministers: Linda V., Pauline N., Dianne H.
Lector: Chris J.
Greeters: Gary M., Pauline N., Diane H.

7:00AM **Altar Servers:** Roman B., Jerry G.
Eucharistic Ministers: Sally W., Amy G. Jeanne D.
Lector: Kathy J-P.
Greeters: Skip G., Joe Z.

8:45AM **Altar Servers:** Stephen A., Willa A.
Eucharistic Ministers: Mike & Ann G., Joe R.
Lector: Suzanne P.
Greeters: The Santinelli

10:45AM **Altar Servers:** Jonas & Ronin L.
Eucharistic Ministers: Henry A., Kathy M., Bridget C
Lector: MaryGrace D.

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. 18: 5:15 PM —Advent Evening Prayer followed by Mass at 5:30 PM

Prayer Line call

Diane or Patti at 673-1311.

Readings: 12-22-2019

Is: 7:10-14
 Rom: 1:1-7
 Mt: 1:18-24



WEEKEND OF: DECEMBER 8, 2019

Parish Offering	Prior Year	This Year
Budget From(167) Envelopes		\$5,306
Loose Offerings		\$3,044
Total Sunday	\$6,966	\$8,350

Retired Religious: \$2,693
Christmas Fair: \$2,276

E-giving is available to all parishioners. This is a safe and easy way to give to the parish. Go to our website saintpatrickmilfordnh.org under NEWS & EVENTS and scroll to "giving" then follow the instructions. This is very helpful for parishioners who want to give on a regular basis.

GIVE+ONLINE



Faith Formation Ministry

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

Family Faith Formation Classes

GRADES K-5

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

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

All adult parishioners are welcomed to join us
in the Church Hall.

GRADES K-5

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

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

Youth Ministry Classes

GRADES 6-10

Sunday evening classes
from 6-7:30pm

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

If classes are cancelled they will be held the following week.
For weather related cancellations check with **WMUR, OUR WEBSITE OR EMAIL.**

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

For Adults: St, Nicholas the Real Story

For Children:

Nicholas The Boy Who Became Santa

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

The Saint Patrick Cemetery is now closed until May 1st 2020

NON-TRIVIAL PURSUITS

Weekly challenge from your Faith Formation Team (12-15-2019)

The third Sunday in Advent is noted for rose-colored vestments. Why?

Answer to Last Week's Question: (12/8/2019)

In our liturgical calendar, feasts have rank, varying levels of importance. Solemnities of the Lord outrank other Solemnities and all Solemnities outrank other Feasts and Feasts outrank Memorials. BUT Sundays, being feasts of the Resurrection, outrank all feasts except Solemnities of the Lord. So the lower-ranking feast gets transferred. But when a Holy Day is transferred to another day, the obligation to participate in Mass does not transfer. (Even more details on the Facebook page!)





REMEMBER in your prayers

Please remember in your prayers:

Connie Gonzalves, Amanda Alcox, 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, 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.

DERWEAR

THE CLOTHING BARN IS IN NEED OF MEN'S, WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S NEW UN-

Advent: Rejoice! God is near!

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 for Gaudete Sunday are stories of rejoicing during patient waiting.

Matthew's gospel continues to explore John the Baptizer and his connection to Jesus. John asks who Jesus is, and Jesus tells the crowds who John is.

Who is Jesus? John, imprisoned by Herod, sends disciples to ask Jesus "are you the messiah?" John questions Jesus' messiahship because the messiah was not a universally understood figure in first-century Judaism. John expects a messiah of divine judgement who will "burn the chaff in unextinguishable fire." Jesus responds by listing signs of *God's presence* from Hebrew scripture: the blind see, the crippled walk, lepers are made clean, the deaf hear, the dead are alive again, and the poor hear the good news. Jesus' signs are not a prelude to something else; *they proclaim God's kingdom as it is*. God's kingdom triumphs not by crushing its opposition but by submitting to it. The kingdom's leader is a *servant of all*.

Who is John? In lifestyle and message, John presented himself as a prophet. Jesus reveals John's identity to the crowd in two Hebrew scripture quotes. "*I send my messenger ahead of you*" (Ex 23:20). John is the prophet who announces the "coming one." "*He will prepare the way*" (Mal 3:1). John also fulfills Hebrew scripture by leading the Jewish people toward a new promised land. Jesus' final saying suggests that John is a *great prophet of the past*. From Jesus' perspective, John belongs to another age, not to Jesus' messianic age.

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 promises that God is drawing near his defeated people; they should rejoice. The author of James exhorts his hearers to patient waiting because the Lord's return is at hand. Jesus reveals that God's presence is near and the kingdom's works can be seen. This is the reason for joy this Advent season: Jesus has come in history and saved us; Jesus is present daily in word and sacrament; Jesus will come again to complete the kingdom. Can we see God's presence among us? Are we waiting joyfully with patient kindness? Are we living in God's present kingdom, or are we looking for something better?

Terence Sherlock

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

Envelope offering donations.

If you are not using the offering envelopes and would like to, call the Parish office at 673-1311 and we will be happy to send you some.

SACRAMENTS:

Baptisms: We rejoice with parents at the birth of a new child.

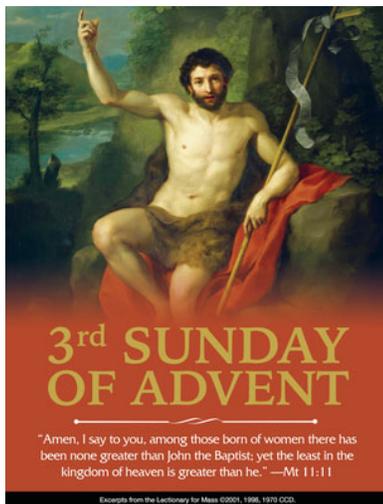
Parents are encouraged to initiate preparation for baptism prior to the child's birth. Call the Parish Office at 673-1311 for information and pre-baptism instruction.

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.

3rd Sunday of Advent



John the Baptist's presence again features prominently in the gospel today. Though we are in the midst of Jesus' ministry and John is in prison, he has a question for the Lord: "Are you the one who is to come/or should we look for another?" Though it might be surprising to us, it seems as though Jesus did not fit the expectations even of John the Baptist! Two thousand years later, we see these figures through the eyes of faith and so it can be difficult to place ourselves in the context of their day. And so, John the Baptist sends his own disciples from his prison cell with an astonishing question for Jesus. Had John gotten it wrong? Is Jesus the one? Or is there another?

For his part, Jesus does not respond with a simple "yes" or "no" answer. He responds by sending John's disciples back to him with a report of what they have seen and heard. Jesus reviews some of his deeds in alluding to the prophet Isaiah. He then concludes with an ominous beatitude that seems to be addressed to John directly: "Blessed is the one who takes no offense at me."

In the Gospel of Matthew, we do not have a story of John and Jesus as cousins, as Luke would have it. Instead, Matthew tells us something that might be closer to the historical picture. Perhaps John misunderstood Jesus and his mission. Perhaps John even took offense at what Jesus was preaching and what he was doing. Jesus' words and actions were not what John had expected.

Jesus reminds the one who baptized him that, among other things, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news preached to them. This is the mission of the Christ sent by God. Though John is greater than any person, the least in the kingdom of God is greater than he. Nowhere does it say how John responded to this beatitude addressed specifically to him. That silence speaks volumes. Jesus' mission is proclaiming this kingdom and creating it. Let us not take offense at his priorities, even if they are not our own. Instead, let us align ourselves with the Christ sent by God, assisting in proclaiming and creating the kingdom in our own day and time.

Expectations can be lofty things and it is disappointing when we see someone fall short or when we ourselves fall short. Then again, how often are we held to expectations beyond our ability or opposed to our own priorities? If and when we fail to meet the expectations of others, especially when we've had no say in those expectations, the fallout may be significant. Not many of us like to be told what we need to do or how we need to do it. So, it is incumbent upon us not to lay unrealistic or uninformed expectations on others either. Today, we learn about John's expectations for Jesus, the one he baptized. John was likely offended at Jesus' behavior and preaching because it was not what he had foretold. The disconnect was so great that John wondered if there was someone else who was to come. This is a good reminder for us to temper our expectations of others. We are ultimately responsible for ourselves, not anyone else. We can let God raise up in others the special gifts, talents, and abilities given to them. We would do well to let die any desire to control others through the expectations we might place on them.

Fr. Dennis

MASS INTENTIONS

If you would like to have a Mass celebrated during the week or on the weekend for a particular intention for a person living or dead, please call the office to schedule. 673-1311.

If you know of anyone whom is homebound and would like to receive the Eucharist weekly or monthly. Please call the office at 673-1311.

If you would be willing to be a friendly visitor. Please call the office for more information.