



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

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**Visit our website at:
saintpatrickmilfordnh.org
for more information and events
regarding the Coronavirus**



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.

The Church is opened daily 9-5pm

Prayer Line call: Diane or Patti

April 27-MAY 3, 2020

MON - 4/27- Easter Weekday—Mass Intention: Rose Ann Gallagher by Mr. & Mrs. John Powers

TUES - 4-28-Ss. Peter Chanel & Louis Grignion — NO MASS

WED - 4/29- St. Catherine of Siena—Mass Intention: ———

THURS - 4/30 - St. Pius V - Mass Intention: ———

FRI - 5/1 – St. Joseph the Worker - Mass Intention: Mary Clare, Jack, Kathleen Milan by John

SAT - 5/2 - Vigil of the 4th Sunday of Easter— *The Church will be open from 9-5pm*

Mass Intention: for the intentions of Kathryn Schaeffer by Jane Provins

SUN—5/3 - 4th Sunday of Easter —*The Church will be open from 9-5pm*

Mass Intentions - Frank, Mary & Frank Burbee Jr. by Jane Provins, Members of the Parish, George M. Emrich by his mother, Mary.

ALL MASSES WILL BE CELEBRATED BY Fr. Dennis in private.

Please remember in your prayers:



REMEMBER
in your prayers

Kathryn Schaeffer, Jean Duffy, Jason Lajoie, Brendan Zubricki, Rita LaJeunesse, Alison Caido, John Coleman, Leo Ouellette, Bruce Gade, Dorothy Gates, Eleanor Botelho, Rita Rose, Connie Gonzalves, Richard, Paul, Laura, Skip, Betty, Ken Jalbert, Bill Loscocco, Maureen Yergeau, Stephen Swallow, Pamela Wood, Sean, Jonathan Niquette, Janine Hartwell, Hope Kelly, Thomas Martel, Donna Thomas, Nancy Salisbury, Rick Corron, Patricia Barrett, Cameron Conley, Lexz Bragdom, 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, Jeffrey, Lisa, Susan Yorio, Donald Labonte, William, JoAnn & John, Gus Dreher, 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, Blanche Belanger, Cheryl Williams, Ken Hower, Jeff MacMartin, Mindy Kane, Linda Lewis, 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, 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.



NON-PERISHABLE ITEMS ONLY

Canned Fruit, Flour, Sugar, Boxed Cake Mixes & Baking Supplies, Coffee & Tea, Juice, Granola
These items can be dropped off at the SHARE office. PLEASE CALL FIRST: 673-9898. Thank you for your donations.

Your weekly donation can be dropped off in the mail slot near the glass door.

or

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





April 15, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Easter Alleluia happily proclaims that Christ is Risen! He is truly risen as He said. In this most blessed Easter season, even though our lives have changed and routines and priorities have been altered so drastically, the unaltered promise of Jesus is fulfilled and remains our security and our hope. The Risen Christ is the One whose side was pierced with a lance and poured forth the Fountain of Immortality and so, our joy must not be diluted with tears of sadness today.

I've seen the refreshment of life that His Fountain of Immortality has been giving. Wounded as we are by the virus and the impact it has had even on our going to Mass, I cannot begin to tell you how edified I am by our people who have been comforted and even delighted as they admire their priests for their unyielding efforts to bring, as best they can, the elements and fruits of the Mass and Sacraments despite the challenging circumstances they, and we, all face.

I am reminded of the words of St. Maximillian Kolbe who, in the most dire of circumstances said, "Let us remember that love lives through sacrifice, and is nourished by giving." How we are all striving to live those words in our own day! The Fountain of Immortality still pours forth the grace for which the side of Christ was pierced. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. He IS Risen! Although the pews are empty at this time, the life of the parish lives through sacrifice and is nourished by giving. Our priests are finding ways of giving and in the midst of sacrifice continue to nourish their people. How blessed we are!

As members of the Church in New Hampshire, you, too, must be thanked for your generous and sacrificial support of your Church. Despite being fiscally prudent, many of your pastors are facing unexpected financial hardship for their parishes due to the effects of the pandemic. Your support each week is a blessed sacrificial gift flowing from your heart! YOU have shown that the wellsprings of the graces of the Fountain of Immortality continue to flow in the Church even in, and especially in, times of greatest need. In this time of particular need, I appeal to you that, if your means allow, you continue and possibly increase your support in one or each of these suggested ways:

- 1) Encourage friends and relatives to be sure that they know they can contribute at this time.
- 2) Contributions can be made to our newly established [Together in Faith: Parish Support Fund](#), which gives immediate assistance to parishes in extreme financial hardship due to the pandemic.
- 3) If, by any chance you find prayerfully that you can increase your giving to your parish by 10%, our parish life will continue uninterrupted throughout this critical time. You can visit www.catholicnh.org/online-giving page to give online to your parish, or if you give by check, fill out a [digital commitment card](#).

Many of our parishes strive zealously to livestream Mass and Devotions, and open the churches for prayer and Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament, and Confessions. These are the channels of grace pouring from the Fountain of Immortality – Christ and his Sacraments.

Throughout history, Catholics have always responded abundantly to the trials they have faced. We respond, we sacrifice and we give out of love. In this most challenging time, I ask that you prayerfully consider in what way you can offer immediate financial support to the Catholic Church here in New Hampshire.

Gratefully and faithfully yours in Our Lord,

+Most Reverend Peter A. Libasci





Saint Patrick Catholic Church

Reverend Dennis J. Audet, Pastor
E Mail: daudet52@gmail.com

04/20/2020

Monday of the Second Week of Easter

Dear Parishioners,

During this Easter Season, we proclaim the Risen Christ, our Light! And so, as we still live these weeks apart from one another, is it possible that we are seeing some light at the end of the tunnel? Everyone is asking: ***When will we come back together?*** We don't know. But we are certainly making some plans and preparing for our coming together again.

From my conversations with brother priests, family members (especially parents with children), parishioners, and from those I watch on the news, what has become a most sincere prayerful intention ... what is a great need this moment ... is PATIENCE. Patience is one of the 9 Fruits of the Spirit listed in Galatians 5:22. God wants to increase patience in every person's life. God stirs us to grow in this area, even during this pandemic, even if we don't ask him for it. During these days of separation and waiting for the normal to return to us, let's pray for patience.

Lord, Here I am facing a new day. I know that without yielding to your calmness and contentment, I will succumb to frustration and irritation. I seek your help today. Make me more aware of my emotions and my attitudes. Remind me that I have control over the attitudes that I choose to present to those around me. Remind me that I can learn to overcome every challenging situation today by putting on the shoes of peace and displaying an even temper. Remind me to show kindness. Give me more ability to receive your love and give it away to others today. Help me to work hard and do my best. But help me to care more about loving others than I care about my own feelings.

Lord, I want to grow spiritually this day. I want to be more Christ-like tonight when I go to bed than when I got up this morning. Today, I will focus on developing the fruit of the spirit of PATIENCE instead of pleasing myself. Today, I will thank you, Lord, for leading me toward love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Today, I will praise you, Lord, and I will celebrate your presence among us during these abnormal days and the love you have for me. Grant this through Christ, our Lord, Amen.

THANK YOU to the many individuals and families that remembered the parish at Easter time. As you may well know, that is one of the greatest sources of our annual income. Please continue to support the parish financially by mailing in or on line giving their weekly offering to the parish. We depend on weekly income for survival. Anything you can do to help us by MAILING IN YOUR WEEKLY/MONTHLY DONATION or DONATING ONLINE would be appreciated and very helpful. One of our parishioners has already donated ½ of his COVID ASSISTANCE CHECK that we are all receiving from the US Treasury ... very much appreciated! We continue to do everything we can to be prudent with our expenses. FYI, I applied to the US Small Business Administration Payroll Protection Program to help us continue to fully pay our employees!

So, continue to stay well. I pray for you every day and offer Masses for you and for your intentions. We are certainly united in prayer. Jesus Christ, the light of the world, is risen from the dead!

Blessed Easter Season to all!

Fr. Dennis

3rd Sunday of Easter 2020

Fr. Dennis' Reflection – St. Patrick - Milford

Though we are celebrating the Third Sunday of Easter, the gospel story from Luke today has as its setting Easter Sunday. Emmaus was a small village not far from Jerusalem. Two disciples, one named Cleopas, were walking to Emmaus from Jerusalem when the risen Christ himself appears to them and ac-companies them on their way. There is speculation that the unnamed disciple may have been a woman. When we are reminded that Luke has a special concern for women, often narrating a story about a woman before or after telling a story about a man, it seems likely that this unnamed disciple could have been a woman. Indeed, Conception Seminary in Missouri has an icon of this scene in which Jesus speaks with Cleopas and a female disciple. In any case, as Luke is not explicit about the identity of the other disciple, we should be open to possibilities.

As the two speak to Jesus and relate to him what happened, he in turn explains the Scriptures to them, causing their hearts to burn within them. Then, instead of continuing on his way, Jesus joins them and in explicit eucharistic language the gospel says, “[H]e took bread / said the blessing, / broke it, / and gave it to them.” With that, Jesus vanished! Thus, the disciples came to know him in the “breaking of the bread,” illustrating vividly how subsequent Christians would come to know the risen Lord. So, when we break bread (in the Eucharist), we come to know the risen Christ.

With this experience, the two disciples race back to Jerusalem to report their encounter to the assembled others. The two are told that Jesus has also appeared to Simon, which according to Luke’s gospel was the first appearance. The experience of coming to know him in the breaking of the bread is additional confirmation that Jesus lives eternally, building on the appearance of the risen Christ to Simon. Up to this point, for the assembled disciples, much like for us, they have only the testimony of Peter, Cleopas, and the other disciple. They also have reports of the empty tomb and of angels announcing that Jesus is alive. At this point in the story, the other disciples are relying on the testimony of others, and such is the Christian story. Disciples share the “good news” of Jesus being alive with one another. For those who have faith, the resurrection is a confirmation of God’s activity on behalf of Jesus.

After Easter, the disciples come to know Jesus in the breaking of the bread. He is present among his followers as he was prior to his death and resurrection, but now, he is present in a new way. Of course, as Catholics, we see this clearly in the Eucharist, when we take bread, bless it, break it, and give it. The bread broken is Christ himself. He is our nourishment both spiritually and physically, metaphorically and actually. During these days as we are living through a pandemic, we are all more aware of the precious gift the Eucharist is to us. Separation and distance have, more than ever, made us long for the Bread of Life. We all can’t wait to join the Lord around the altar again when we will experience the Eucharist not merely by gazing at it, but by consuming it—as real food ... and truly become the paschal mystery.

Fr. Dennis

Recognizing Jesus' continuing presence in the community

During the Easter season the readings ask the believing community to examine the meaning of Jesus through his teachings and post-resurrection appearances. This week's readings focus on how Jesus continues to reveal himself to disciples.

Luke's gospel finds two sad and confused disciples leaving the believing community. Luke uses the "journey," the "road," or "the way" as a metaphor for discipleship. In this story, Jesus teaches the lost disciples how to recognize him.

"Breaking open" the scripture. The risen Jesus teaches the disciples the proper way to interpret the Torah texts. Luke makes it clear that *to believe in Jesus requires a proper understanding of the scripture*. Luke's phrase "all that the prophets said" implies that the proper understanding for Jesus' disciples is that all Hebrew scripture bears a *prophetic, messianic significance*. Jesus' interpretation of Hebrew scripture is the model for all apostolic teachers who use proof-texts in their preaching.

Breaking the bread. The ritual pronouncement "take, bless, break, and give" echo Jesus' words at the feeding of the five thousand (Lk 9:16) and at the Last Supper (Lk 22:19). When they *see and hear* this ritual formula, the disciples suddenly *recognize Jesus' presence*. Luke wants his hearers to recognize how something of the same kind happens in their Eucharistic gatherings, in which the meaning of *scripture is also made clear*.

Luke's appearance story shows how *telling and reinterpreting builds* both a *community narrative* and the *community itself*. In his gospel, Luke gathers the scattered story fragments from the women on Sunday morning, Peter, other visitors to the tomb, and the disciples on the road into a single, shared narrative: "the Lord is risen."

Jesus' resurrection has many meanings and many implications. The Easter season lasts six weeks, allowing us time to reflect on this cosmos-changing event. Peter's Pentecost proclamation reveals the risen Jesus foretold in scripture. The author of Peter's letter uses the Exodus story to explain Jesus' redemptive act. At Emmaus, Jesus reveals how he remains present to and in the believing community. How does Jesus reveal himself to us? Are we startled and awe-filled by our sudden encounters with Jesus in our travels? Have we learned to find Jesus in words and sacraments? Do we reveal Jesus through our own community's stories?

---Terence Sherlock

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

Pope Francis' Prayer for Spiritual Communion:

*My Jesus,
I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love you above all things and desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.
Amen!*

NON-TRIVIAL PURSUITS

Weekly challenge from your Faith Formation Team (4-26-2020)

Yesterday was the Feast of St. Mark. Mark was not one of the Apostles, nor an eyewitness to most of Jesus' ministry. How did he come to write a gospel?

Answer to last week's question (4-19-2020)

St. Faustina Kowalska had a series of visions in the 1930s in which Jesus repeatedly requested the promotion of the image He revealed to her and the feast, in order to spread far and wide the message of mercy He wanted every soul to receive.

St. Faustina was a nun in Kraków, just 30 miles from where a young boy named Karol Wojtyła was living at the time of her visions. He would go on to become Archbishop of Kraków before being elected to the See of Peter in 1978.