

## 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](http://saintpatrickmilfordnh.org)**

#### **PASTORAL STAFF**

**Rev. Dennis Audet, Pastor**

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**Patti Hendrickson, Pastoral Associate**

*pattih2015@comcast.net*

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**Christopher Maynard, Music Director**

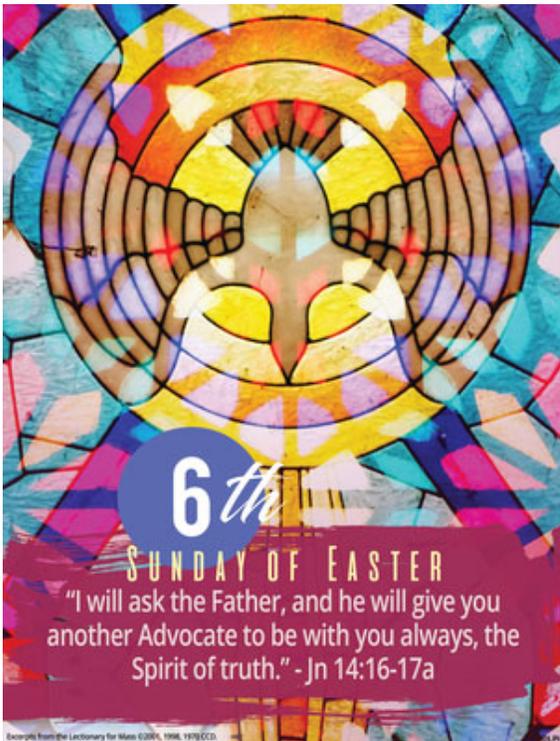
*music.saintpatricksmilford@gmail.com*

**Jerry Guthrie, Cemetery**

672-1254



**Visit our website at:  
[saintpatrickmilfordnh.org](http://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**

**MAY 18-24, 2020**

**MON - 5/18— St. John 1—Mass Intention: ——**

**TUES - 5/19—St. Bernardine of Siena — NO MASS**

**WED - 5-20— Our Lady of Fatima—Mass Intention: ——**

**THURS - 5-21 - The Ascension of the Lord - Mass Intention: Special Intention by Jane Provins**

**FRI - 5/22 – St. Rita of Cascia- Mass Intention: ——**

**SAT - 5/23 - Vigil of the 7th Sunday of Easter— *The Church will be open from 9-5pm***

**Mass Intention:** Rose H. Martin by Mr. & Mrs. R. Dineen

**SUN—5/24 - 7th Sunday of Easter —*The Church will be open from 9-5pm***

**Mass Intentions** - Evelyn O'Neil by Jane Provins, Members of the Parish, Luke Caveney by his mother, Ida

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

**Please remember in your prayers:**



**REMEMBER**  
*in your prayers*

The Staff & Residents of Crestwood Nursing Home, Dr. Ray Roberge, Brendan Zubricki, Rita LaJeunesse, Alison Caiado, 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, 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**

Pancake Mix & Syrup, Condiments, Cooking Sauces & Seasonings, Cooking Oil, Jelly, Cold Cereal

**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](http://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**



## *The truth of continued presence in absence*

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 give us reason to look forward with hope.

John's gospel continues Jesus' Last Supper "farewell discourse." John uses a spiral narrative structure to circle around ideas about love/action and absence/presence. Facing departure, Jesus challenges and encourages his disciples to love actively and to continue to see him by remaining-in-relationship.

**Love is action.** Jesus challenges his disciples to show their love for him by keeping his commandments to "love one another as I have loved you" (Jn 13:34). Just as the Son loves the Father and *acts according to the Father's will*, so also disciples love Jesus and act as he has instructed them. Jesus' love is active: he is laying down his own life for his disciples. Disciples must continue this active love, *laying down their lives in service to others*.

**Absence and presence.** Jesus' active love results in his departure (death) and his physical absence from his disciples. Jesus asks the Father to send another paraclete to *remain forever as the Spirit who communicates the truth*, the ongoing presence of the revelation of God in the world. Jesus' law of love forms the basis of *remaining-in-relationship*. Because Jesus, the Spirit, and disciples remain-in-relationship, disciples will *continue to see and know Jesus*. Remaining-in-relation with the resurrected Jesus means that disciples will live eternally, sharing in Jesus' resurrected life.

Jesus' resurrection has many meanings and many implications. The Easter season lasts six weeks, allowing us time to reflect on this cosmos-changing event. This week's readings look forward to the work of the Spirit. Luke's *Acts* tells how God uses unintended human consequences to bring about the kingdom. The author of Peter's letter urges hope in all things. The gospel promises a paraclete who will continue Jesus' work and presence. The Easter season concludes with the coming of the Spirit of truth. Do we find hope in God's power to transform human failings into acts of goodness? Do we see hope in those who choose to lay down their own lives for others? Do we see Jesus' presence in those inspired to speak truth to a world that rejects it?

---Terence Sherlock

Read the full reflection and subscribe at: [LectionaryInContext.WordPress.com](http://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 (5-17-2020)**

Thursday is the Feast of the Ascension. Luke describes this event twice, at the end of the Gospel and again as the opening of the Book of Acts. It is mentioned in the "second ending" of the Gospel of Mark. Surprisingly, Matthew does not describe it at all, concluding with the Great Commission. It is referenced in several of the apostolic letters, and of course in the Creed. Where did the Ascension take place?

#### **Answer to last week's question (5/10/2020)**

Luke was a companion of Paul for several of his missionary journeys. A physician, his Gospel is notable for, among other things, the attention he gives to women in the narratives. He opens his Gospel by explaining that he has done research to attempt to write as accurate an account as is possible. It is certainly possible that he interviewed Mary while he and Paul were in Ephesus, and that she shared with him the things that she had "pondered in her heart." (Luke 2:19).

Bishop Libasci invites you  
to support priestly vocations by joining  
him for the  
**Transitional Deacon Ordination**  
Saturday, May 30, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.,  
livestreamed at  
[www.stjosephcathedralnh.org](http://www.stjosephcathedralnh.org)



Mr. David Gagnon  
Mr. Joseph Moynahan  
and

#### **Priest Ordination**

Saturday, June 6, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.,  
livestreamed at  
[www.stjosephcathedralnh.org](http://www.stjosephcathedralnh.org)



Mr. Joshua Livingston  
Mr. Ryan Amazeen



## Saint Patrick Catholic Church

Reverend Dennis J. Audet, Pastor  
E Mail: [daudet52@gmail.com](mailto:daudet52@gmail.com)

### *Pastor's Bulletin - May 11, 2020*

#### LIVE STREAMING MASSES

A complete list can be found at: [www.catholicnh.org/livestreamed-masses](http://www.catholicnh.org/livestreamed-masses) AND on the **FORMED** platform ... log onto **PARISH WEBSITE** [www.stpatrickmilfordnh.org](http://www.stpatrickmilfordnh.org)

**ACCESS TO CHURCH** As has been our practice since March 22, the Church remains opened for prayer and adoration every day from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

**CONFESSION** The Sacrament of Penance (individual confession behind the screen) is available on Saturdays from 3:00 to 5:00 pm.

**FROM THE BISHOP'S OFFICE** On Friday May 1, 2020, Governor Chris Sununu extended the State *Stay at Home Order*. Bishop Peter Libasci has been closely monitoring the data from the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as well as the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services. Although there are positive signs the Coronavirus, also known as COVID-19, has not spread to the level it could have if the stay-at-home order were not in place, the data shows that significant numbers of our fellow citizens continue to test positive and die from this virus. Our neighbors in Massachusetts also are experiencing a greater impact as the virus spreads much faster to our south. For these reasons, at this time, **Bishop Libasci is keeping in place the decisions already implemented in this Diocese, including the suspension of the public celebration of the Mass.** But in the meantime, preparations are actively underway for when we will SAFELY gather together again.

**PARISH FINANCES** I am sincerely grateful to those who are able to continue to support the parish financially by mailing in or on line giving their weekly offering to the parish. **We depend on your weekly income for our continued existence and vitality.** Anything you can do to help us by mailing in your weekly/monthly donation or donating online would be appreciated and very helpful.

**PARISH ADDRESS** NB For the last 4 years, the parish no longer has a Post Office Box in its address. All mail should be directed to **St. Patrick Church – 34 Amherst Street – Milford, NH 03055.**

#### RECENT POPE FRANCIS PRAYER DURING THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

*Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of good health and peace that we have enjoyed for so many years. As we find ourselves in this time of crisis today, we ask for your divine intervention and mercy to be upon each of us. Come and guide the minds of those working to discover a treatment to the COVID-19 virus. Grant them wisdom, knowledge, and clarity of mind, so that all peoples will be free from the threat of this ailment.*

*We also pray for the healthcare workers that are standing in the front line of this battle. Father, we thank you for their hearts of service, putting the needs of society before their own, generously responding to the cry of Your people. We ask that You will grant them strength and protection. As they give of themselves in selfless service, may You fill them with your Holy Spirit as they work to be Your healing hands and feet!*

*Father, we also surrender to You all those who have been afflicted with the virus. Grant them Your healing grace, merciful Father, so that they may recover swiftly and continue to be witnesses of Your love in their lives. Mother Mary, we ask for your intercession in this great time of need. Cover each of us with your blue mantle of protection, so that we may be preserved in good health to continue to glorify your son, Jesus Christ. We make this prayer through Christ, our Savior and Redeemer. Amen.*

**+ God Bless You! Fr Dennis**

## 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter 2020 Fr. Dennis' Reflection – St. Patrick – Milford

*"If you eat your vegetables, you can have dessert,"* the parents said to their children. It was one in a string of many negotiations they made to encourage good eating habits. The next day, the parents said, *"If your room is clean, you can go out to play."* After some delay, all of the children cleaned their rooms enough to earn some outside time. These kinds of conditional promises may be familiar to parents, children, teacher, students, and more. We might be a bit surprised to hear one open the gospel passage today. Jesus says to his disciples, ***"If you love me, you will keep my commandments."*** While this is not exactly the same as the two examples above, the conditional nature of the statement is similar.

Another way to restate what Jesus said might be this: *"When you keep my commandments, I know you love me."* What precisely are Jesus' commandments? In the Gospel of John the commandments are as simple and profound as this: *"Love one another"*. Most of the other ethical demands Jesus cites in the Gospel of John are rooted in the Ten Commandments. So, we might say that when we love one another, we demonstrate that we love Jesus. Put another way, when we do not love one another, we demonstrate that we are not loving Jesus. But loving one another can be challenging. It's like the comedian said: *"I love humanity, just not human beings."* We are called to love not only in the abstract, but in particularity.

The gospel passage closes with these words: *"And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him."* When we continue to develop into loving human beings, who express that love in service to others, we experience the love of God. Christ himself is revealed in the loving relationships we have with one another, and for that reason these relationships may be considered "holy." The entire gospel can be summed up by this Johannine emphasis on the love of God, the love of Christ, and the command for us to love one another.

As Christians we seek to follow the example of Christ, who poured himself out in love for his friends. Especially in the Gospel of John, we hear the word "love" often. For example, *"God so loved the world that he sent his only son"*, the simple and straightforward *"God is love"*, and of course the command to *"love one another"*. The command seems so simple but it is very difficult to carry out ... especially when people are forcibly cooped up together for such a long time. It is especially in these hard times that we have the profound command to love. Love knows no limits and there is not a point when we say "enough." Love sees the other as another self, so that the needs of the other are as important as our own. When modern communication has made the world a global village, the needs of our neighbors can seem overwhelming.

Where do we stop? Yet, we are called to move beyond ourselves as Jesus did and to place our lives in service of the other, in imitation of Him. Have we not seen this so powerfully lived out in the lives of our heroic "essential workers" during this pandemic ... our doctors and nurses and emergency responders and police and firefighters and teachers ... these truly merit the name "disciple".

Fr. Dennis

### FORMED

First, go to our website [www.saintpatrickmilfordnh.org](http://www.saintpatrickmilfordnh.org) and register. Follow the directions given on the front page – this is a free gift for you!

Discover all the best Catholic content in one place. Entertaining movies, programs, talks, audio dramas, and ebooks - just a click away!

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Kids: Brother Francis - The Rosary

Saint Matthias Listen: Acts of the Apostles Listen: The Apostle's Creed