



Saint Patrick Catholic Church

34 AMHERST STREET, MILFORD, NH 03055

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9am-Noon & 1-5pm & Friday 9-Noon

Parish Office: 673-1311 Fax: 673-3687
Faith Formation: 673-4797
Website: saintpatrickmilfordnh.org

PASTORAL STAFF

- Rev. Dennis Audet, Pastor**
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- Jerry Guthrie, Cemetery** 672-1254

Welcome!

We are delighted to welcome each and every one who has come to worship with us. Our parish is here to assist all who wish to know God more deeply.

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.

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

- President: Will McGrath
- Peter Arnoldy, Laura Ilsley, Jerry Guthrie,
Irene Prunier, Steve Santinelli

First Friday Adoration December 5, 6-8pm

Between the hour of 7:00-8:00pm we will have an intentional hour of prayer. Each month, we pray for a specific intention that affects our universal church. Our goal is to use this most holy time of prayer to call on God's involvement and blessing in these specific areas of need in our Church. There will be special prayers offered during this hour and we ask you prayerfully consider coming to church and participating in this or any portion of First Friday Adoration.



**FACE MASKS REQUIRED AND
SOCIAL DISTANCING PRACTICED**



Join us for Advent Holy Hours with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament which will take place on Wednesday evening following the 5:30pm Mass. from 6:00 to 7:00PM in the church.

December 2, 23 will be led by Patti.

December 9, 16 will be led by Fr. Dennis.

This will include intentional prayers which highlight the themes of Advent.

NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 6, 2020

MON - 11/30- St. Andrew

7:30AM: Bishop Odore Gendron

TUES - 12/1- Advent Weekday—NO MASS

WED - 12/2- Advent Weekday

5:30PM: Special Intentions of Lucille Farwell

6-7PM: Holy Hour

THURS - 12/3- St. Francis Xavier

7:30AM: Leon, Bernetta & Joanne Hunsader & Lucille Sinicky by Mr. & Mrs. Tom Hunsader

FRI - 12/4 - St. John Damascene

5:30PM: Jan Petrella by her husband, Bob

6-8PM: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

SAT - 12/5 - Vigil of the Second Sunday of Advent

4:00PM: All Souls

SUN - 12/6 - Second Sunday of Advent—

Church will remain open from 11:30—5pm

8:00 AM: Members of the parish

10:30AM: Laurette Coté by her daughter, Ida

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REQUIRED
SOCIAL DISTANCING
PRACTICED**



READINGS 12-6-2020

Is: 40:1-5, 9-11

2 Pt: 3:8-14

Mk: 1:1-8

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!*

**Prayer Line call: Diane or Patti
603-673-1311**

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.

Report on collection for Nov 22 & 29 will be in the December 6 bulletin.

GIVE+ONLINE



For anyone who would like to stop in to Church for private prayers. These are the times when the Church is opened.

Monday - Friday: 9-5pm
Saturday: 9-3pm
Sunday: 11:30-5pm

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.

NON-TRIVIAL PURSUITS

Weekly challenge from your Faith Formation Team (11/29/2020)

This weekend we begin the season of Advent, a time of waiting and preparing both for the celebration of the First Coming of the Lord in the flesh and for His return. This year, we'll look at some Advent traditions.

Obvious but worth reflection: What do the elements of the Advent wreath symbolize?

Answer to last week's question (11/22/2020)

The story of Mary's birth and childhood comes mainly from an early Christian book called the Protoevangelium of James. Its author claimed to be an older half-brother of Jesus, one of the sons of St. Joseph's first wife.

According to this narrative, Mary's parents were named Joachim and Hannah (or Anne). They were devout yet childless until their old age, when each of them separately experienced a vision of the Angel Gabriel, who told them they would have a daughter. Joachim told his wife he thought they should dedicate the child to service in the Temple (as the prophet Samuel's parents had done with him) and Hannah agreed on the condition that they wait until she was three. According to the tradition, when her parents brought her to the Temple she danced joyfully on the third step before running up to be received by the priests.

Advent: Jesus' past, present, and future coming

Happy new year! This Sunday starts a new liturgical year and a new season. The Sunday gospel readings change from Matthew to Mark; the season's color is Advent's purple. Advent's readings look back to God's promises and look forward to their fulfillment. This week's readings ask us to think about how and where we look for Jesus.

In Mark's gospel, Jesus stresses the need for watchfulness, emphasized by his parable of the doorkeeper.

The parable and its meaning. The doorkeeper parable is part of Mark's *eschatological discourse* (Mk 13). The master tells his doorkeeper and other household slaves to continue their work in his absence; he will judge their work when he returns. Because no one knows when the master will return, all must remain *faithful, awake, and watchful*. In the ancient world, night travel was difficult and dangerous; the parable's surprise is that the master may return unexpectedly at *night* or in the *early morning*. Jesus warns his disciples to *be on the watch* for the coming end-time.

The parable's meaning in Advent. In choosing this parable, the Lectionary editors carry Ordinary time's *eschatological theme* into a new season and year. In Advent, Jesus' warnings to "Be alert! Watch!" now call the believing community to prepare for his historical *incarnation* at Christmas, rather than his future *parousia*.

During Advent, the readings ask us to think about Jesus' coming in history, his liturgical and sacramental coming now, and his future return. Isaiah prays with the returning exiles for God to come again. Paul teaches the Corinthians that as they await Jesus' *parousia*, God remains present with them. Jesus warns his disciples to watch and to look for him. Even in Jesus' physical absence he remains present to us. Do we look for Jesus only as a Christmas memory, or do we find him now in Christmas preparations? Do we look for Jesus only in the Eucharistic presence, or do we find his continuing presence in every human encounter? Do we look for Jesus only as a future promise, or do we find him daily in family and work?

--Terence Sherlock

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



REMEMBER
in your prayers

Baby Owen, Christian Beck, Julie Dupuis, Shawn Dufraigne, Laura McGettigan, Tracey Lafleur, Jen, Polly Coté, Kim Salem, Fleurette Laquerre, Patti Fay McDonagh, Doris Fay, William Lawson, Lillian Esielionis, Kevin Duffy, Joyce Nelson, Tiffany Brown, Jeanne Jacques, the Staff & Residents of all Milford long term care facilities, Dr. Ray Roberge, Brendan Zubricki, Rita LaJeunesse, Alison Caiado, John Coleman, Bruce Gade, Dorothy Gates, Eleanor Botelho, Rita Rose, Richard, Paul, Laura, Skip, Betty, Ken Jalbert, Stephen Swallow, Pamela Wood, Sean, Hope Kelly, Rick Corron, Patricia Barrett, Cameron Conley, Lexz Bragdom, Timothy Russell, Maureen Belair, Marty, Leo Barriault, Nancy Moro, Mary Ann Hower, Connor Silloway, Eva, Carolyn Hassett, Bettina Mace, Thomas Burkardt, Ben, Anne Marie, Jeffrey, Lisa, Susan Yorio, 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, Scott Dickinson, Jack Daniels, John Knott, Joseph Koprek, Lillie & Damien, Benjamin Smith, Patti Patenaude, 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 at 673-1311 when someone can be taken off the prayer list.

**To register for FORMED –
A gift for you**



Registering for FORMED is easier than ever!

1. Go to our website and follow the instructions or
 2. Go to formed.org/signup
 3. Click I belong to a parish or organization
 4. Enter our zip code 03055
 5. Register with your name and email address
- To make life easy, put FORMED in your computer favorites

FORMED:

Watch: [YDisciple \(Youth\): Advent, Session 1:
Prepare the Way](#)

Watch: [Christmas in Rome](#)

Listen: [Prepare the Way of the King](#)

Learn: [Lectio: Evangelization, Session 2:
Clothed with Power \(St. Andrew 11/30\)](#)

**FAITH FORMATION
CLASSES**

**FAMILY FAITH FORMATION
GRADES K-6**

Tuesday: 4:30 - 6:00pm — December 1
Wednesday: 5:30 -7:00pm — December 2

**YOUTH MINISTRY FAITH FORMATION
GRADES 6-12**

Sunday: 6-7:30pm — December 6, 20

All of these classes will be through Zoom Meeting.
Sue, our Faith Formation Director will be sending
you a link to invite you to class.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT FROM FR. DENNIS

It has become increasingly clear that we are seeing a serious spike in covid-19 cases here in NH and cases are **exploding in the country**. And with the holidays upon us, we are concerned to continue to keep everybody safe and for everyone to feel safe in church. Given the guidelines of the State of NH for large gatherings, we will continue **as long as we can** to welcome people inside the church at 50% capacity. This will be a challenge especially at Christmas time. Beginning on November 29th, people coming to church (when our **90 PERSON CAPACITY** is reached here in church) will be directed to the parish hall where Mass will be livestreamed. The **CAPACITY FOR THE PARISH HALL IS: 60!**

As I announced a few weeks ago, we have now made arrangements to live stream our Masses so that people can participate from home on your computer. . You can now view our Saturday and Sunday Masses at the regularly scheduled times live streaming on **FACEBOOK** by simply going to the homepage page of the parish website (saintpatrickmilfordnh.org) and click on the green block that says **LIVE STREAMING. YOU DO NOT HAVE TO HAVE AN ACCOUNT WITH FACEBOOK to view our Mass. If you get a pop up to subscribe, just click NOT NOW and scroll the pictures until you see the sanctuary.**

I will be sending a Christmas letter to all registered parishioners with this announcement so that everyone planning to come to Mass on Christmas will know what to expect as we continue to live through this pandemic.

Finally, I would remind you that the Bishop continues to excuse all Catholics from the Sunday and Holy Day obligation to attend Mass. Anyone who is sick, or understandably does not feel comfortable gathering in church, should not personally attend Mass at this time.

SHARE the Holidays



Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, SHARE is foregoing its usual holiday program this year. There will be no 'giving trees' and no traditional 'adopt-a-family program'. Instead, we are asking supporters to help us with donations of gift cards or money. **Needed gift cards are: Amazon, Target, Walmart, grocery stores, or drug stores.**



Donations may be mailed or dropped at the SHARE Center, 1 Columbus Ave., Milford.

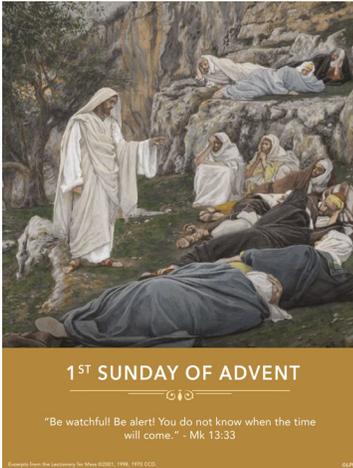
Please be sure to include your name and address so that your gift may be acknowledged. You may also make a credit card donation from our website www.sharenh.org. Click on DONATE then DONATE TODAY. **Be sure to include a note that the gift is to be used for the holiday program. All donation must be received by December 4.**

Questions? Call 673-9898 or email info@sharenh.org. Thank you for your support.

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.



The Church's New Year 1st Sunday of Advent (Year B)

"Be watchful! Be alert!" are the first words with which Mark greets us at the beginning of this new year of the church. They are also the last words spoken by Jesus in Mark's gospel before the whirlwind of violence that brings Jesus into the passion and death that he will conquer by his resurrection. So even as we begin Advent, we are reminded of the paschal mystery of Christ, the heart of the liturgical year.

Today's gospel is part of Mark 13, the chapter that is known as his "little apocalypse." Apocalyptic literature is sometimes called the literature of the oppressed, as it usually arises from and is addressed to people in a time of uncertainty or suffering, present or imminent. Such was the situation of the St. Mark's church ... a church persecuted and unsure what the next day would bring in terms of fidelity to or betrayal of their faith.

In one sense, "uncertainty" has always been and will always be as we live this second Advent ... which will bring the final coming of Jesus ... when human history has run its course. We are uncertain about the day or the hour of this, because it is known only to the Father; but we have the certainty of faith that there is an end for the world: a faith that Christ will come again to pour out upon the universe the extravagant love of God that will transform it into the new heaven and new earth. When something new shows itself in our lives, it usually threatens the established order. And often, our reaction brought the feeling where people said: "I felt as though my whole world was collapsing!" In the verses immediately before today's gospel, Jesus has spoken about the end of the old order in terms of the "passing away" of heaven and earth. The old order is the predictable, mindless, and often oppressive "business as usual." Jesus' words announce something new for which we must be awake and alert. Advent is our yearly reminder that we always stand on the edge of the future ... secure in the words of Jesus which will not pass away but will help us journey into a new and more hopeful world.

The first Gospel of the Church's new year presents the parable of a man who goes abroad and leaves his servants in charge of his household. Just as each one of the servants in the parable is given specific work to do during his master's absence, so we, as members of God's household, are to be daily committed to our baptismal calling in our own circumstances from "the rising of the sun to its setting". Especially as his followers, we are to watch out for and open our personal and communal lives to the advent (coming) of God. We don't just measure our lives by days and years. Jesus' disciples measure our lives by time spent in preparation for eternal life ... even while we experience the natural process of aging, or perhaps deal with the diagnosis of our own or our loved one's illness, or the ravages of a world pandemic—all these are reminders of how short our lives really are and our need to be prepared for that day when we will see God "face to face".

Today, in our churches or homes, we light the first candle on the Advent wreath: a small flame is struck on an evergreen circle, a simple ritual and symbol of the first flicker of hope in Jesus, who is the Light of the World, who will lead us through every darkness to eternal life with God who is without beginning or end. And so, we pray and we sing: "O come, O come, Emmanuel!"

Fr. Dennis