



Saint Patrick Catholic Church
34 AMHERST STREET, MILFORD, NH 03055

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

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**
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- Christopher Maynard, Music Director**
music.saintpatricksmilford@gmail.com



**BAPTISM
OF THE
LORD**

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

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

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

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.

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

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

JANUARY 11-17, 2021

MON - 1/11- Weekday

7:30AM Intentions of Mariane Marcinko by Jane Provins

TUES - 1/12- Weekday—NO MASS

WED - 1/13- St. Hilary

5:30PM: Jeanne Stone by Patti & Diane

THURS - 1/14- Weekday

7:30AM: All Souls

FRI - 1/15- Weekday

7:30AM: All Souls

SAT - 1/16 - Vigil of the 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00PM: Frederick Jepson by the family

SUN - 1/17- 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time —

Church will remain open from 11:30—5pm

8:00 AM: Intentions of Carol Goodman by Jane Provins

10:30AM: Members of the parish

**FACE MASKS
REQUIRED
SOCIAL DISTANCING
PRACTICED**

READINGS 1/17/2021

1 Sm: 3:3b-10, 19
1 Cor: 6:13c-15a, 17-20
Jn: 1:35-42

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!

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.

Weekend of January 3, 2021: \$5,868.

Monthly Vanco: \$14,665.54

GIVE+ONLINE



SACRAMENTS:

Baptisms: We rejoice with parents at the birth of a
new child. Parents are encouraged to initiate prepara-
tion for baptism prior to the child's birth. Call the Par-
ish 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 com-
mitment 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 per-
sonal appointment with the pastor.

Sacrament of the Sick: If you are anticipating sur-
gery 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 ar-
range for the Anointing of the Sick.

NON-TRIVIAL PURSUITS

Weekly challenge from your Faith Formation Team (1/10/2021)

If faith is a gift from God, which He offers to every person, what is "belief?" (Hint-You may find it helpful to review an Act of Faith in your memory or a prayer book.)

Answer to last week's question (1/3/2021)

"Just have faith," "Keep the faith," "Be faithful," and of course "Teach the faith" – each of these seems to have a different meaning, and each seems to be something we choose to do. But in 1 Cor. 12:9, Paul listed "faith" as one of the gifts given by the Holy Spirit.

"Faith," according to Hebrews 11:1 is "the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." The writer goes on to give numerous examples, beginning with "by faith, we understand that the world was created by the word of God." He runs through a list of the heroes of the Old Testament, telling us that each lived "by faith," and asserting in verse that "without faith, it is impossible to please God." James 1:2-4 says that trials "test" our faith and by clinging to our faith, our faith will be strengthened.

Faith as an inner conviction that what God has revealed is true. We use the expression "the faith" to refer to those revealed truths. (More on this in our next question.)

Christmastime: what baptism reveals about Jesus and us

On this last Sunday of the Christmas season, the Lectionary presents themes that celebrate the *Baptism of the Lord*. The readings ask us to think about baptism and what it tells us about Jesus and us.

Mark's gospel is the story of Jesus' baptism, in which Mark again reveals who Jesus really is. Modern readers may miss cultural clues and context that were obvious to his first-century hearers.

Leaving home and family. In the ancient Mediterranean world, family is the *central social institution*. Apart from family, an individual has no identity. Mark says that Jesus *leaves his family* and village ("came from Nazareth") to be baptized "in the Jordan by John." Mark's hearers would be surprised that Jesus breaks his family ties. *How could Jesus survive without a family?*

Jesus' true paternity. The ancient world had only a primitive understanding of reproduction and had no tools to prove a child's paternity. A baby became a son or daughter only when a *father publicly acknowledged the child* as his. Jesus became Joseph's son when Joseph agreed to marry Mary who was not pregnant by him. *Joseph's acceptance* of Jesus as his son *gave Jesus honor and a family*. When Jesus left Joseph's family and village, God personally *acknowledged* him and *revealed Jesus as God's own son* ("You are my beloved Son"). Mark's hearers would recognize that God's acceptance *gives Jesus greater honor and a divine family*.

This week's readings, as all Christmas season readings, ask us to consider the meaning of Jesus' self-revelation. The Isaiah readings reveal God's servant and God's saving plan. Acts reveals God working through Jesus. John's letter identifies Jesus as the promised messiah and savior who is revealed through his baptism and his death. Mark reveals that Jesus is truly the Son of God. Baptism foretells and tells us who Jesus is. As disciples, our own baptisms are full of expectations and promises. Are we faithful to our baptismal promises? Do our words and actions reveal us every day as God's adopted children? Do our baptismal lives reveal us as sisters and brothers of one divine family?

--Terence Sherlock

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



Jean Moro, Brenda Smith, Lucille Farwell, John Hoff, Stephen, Cheryl Lounsbury, Baby Owen, Christian Beck, Shawn Dufraine, Laura McGettigan, Tracey Lafleur, Jen, Kim Salem, Patti Fay McDonagh, Lillian Esielionis, Tiffany Brown, the Staff & Residents of all Milford long term care facilities, Dr. Ray Roberge, Brendan Zubricki, Alison Caiado, John Coleman, Bruce Gade, Dorothy Gates, Eleanor Botelho, Rita Rose, Richard, Paul, Laura, Skip, Betty, Ken Jalbert, Stephen Swallow, Pamela Wood, Sean, 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, 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, Liz Richer, Luke LaVallee, John, Mike Paxton, Isabelle Miller, Marc Belanger, Helen R., Claudette Blais, Kim Beebe, Anne Ronsov, Scott Dickinson, Joseph Kopek, 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, 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: Reborn: Episode 1: A New Creation

Learn: Lectio: Mark, Episode 2: Prepare the Way of The Lord

Listen: Changed Forever: The Sacrament of Baptism by Fr. Mike Schmitz

**FAMILY FAITH FORMATION
GRADES K-6**

Tuesday: 4:30 - 6:00pm — February 9, 2021
Wednesday: 5:30 -7:00pm — February 10, 2021

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

Sunday: 6-7:30pm — January 24
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.

**PRAY TO PROTECT HUMAN LIFE
JANUARY 21-29, 2021**

January 22 is a day of prayer and penance, called the “Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children” on the anniversary of Roe v. Wade. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops provides resources to help parishes, schools, families, ministries, and individual Catholics participate in this important day of prayer and penance. “9 Days for Life” is a novena for the protection of human life. Each day’s intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life. Please visit the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and the Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities at <https://www.respectlife.org/9-days-for-life>.

Pope Francis announces “Year of St. Joseph”



On the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Dec. 8, 2020, Pope Francis issued an apostolic letter, *Patris corde* (“With a Father’s Heart”), for the 150th anniversary of the declaration of St. Joseph as patron of the universal Church. To mark the occasion, the pope proclaimed a year dedicated to Mary’s husband, Joseph, foster father to Jesus. The special “Year of St. Joseph” will be held through Dec. 8, 2021.

In his apostolic letter, Pope Francis explains that the aim of this special year is “to increase our love for this great saint, to encourage us to implore his intercession and to imitate his virtues and his zeal,” describing St. Joseph as a “beloved father, a tender and loving father, an obedient father, an accepting father; a father who is creatively courageous, a

working father, a father in the shadows.” **Read *Patris corde* (“With a Father’s Heart”)** Log on to Parish Website and Click on Pastor’s Notes

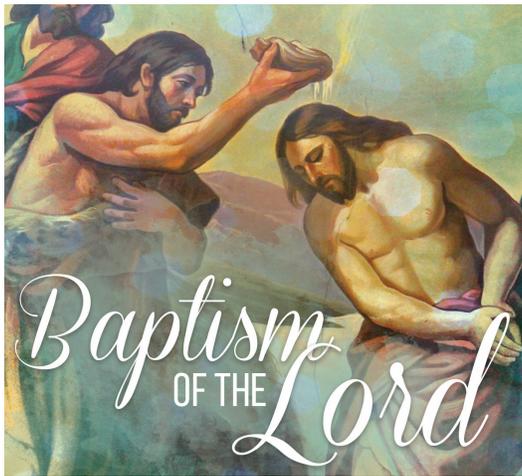
Plenary indulgence for the Year of St. Joseph

In its Dec. 8 decree, the Apostolic Penitentiary said that, “to reaffirm the universality of St. Joseph’s patronage in the Church,” it would grant a plenary indulgence to Catholics who recite any approved prayer or act of piety in honor of St. Joseph, especially on March 19, the saint’s solemnity, and May 1, the feast of St. Joseph the Worker.

Other notable days for the plenary indulgence are the feast of the Holy Family on Dec. 27 and St. Joseph’s Sunday in the Byzantine tradition, as well as the 19th of each month and every Wednesday, a day dedicated to the saint in the Latin tradition.

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.



Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

John the Baptist is part of the excitement of a new beginning of the Good News that Mark announces in the first verse of his gospel. John the Baptist is the one going before Jesus to prepare his way.

Mark describes Jesus' arrival from the humble village of Nazareth. Although he is without sin and therefore in no need to repentant baptism, Jesus puts himself in solidarity with the crowd and with sinful humanity. He bares his human body and chooses to go down into the waters of the Jordan to be baptized by John as a representative of our collective guilt. As Jesus rises up, the heavens are torn open, and the action of God is manifested in the descent of the Holy Spirit "like a dove" and the voice addresses Jesus as "*my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.*" In the person of Jesus, this is the beginning of a new age, a new relationship of heaven and earth, of the whole of creation and our human condition. God seems to rip the heavens apart at Jesus' baptism and pours forth his Spirit into every part of the earth. The symbolism of the presence of the Holy Spirit "like a dove" is perhaps a memory of the spirit/wind of God that fluttered over the face of the newly-created waters at creation. It is also a witness to the gentle action of God that descends upon Jesus to empower him, to seek and save our poor humanity from its sinfulness.

The word spoken by the Father at the baptism of Jesus is addressed to Jesus, not to John the Baptist or the crowd. The voice of God affirms Jesus as "my Son," and then as "the Beloved" upon whom God's favor rests. In the humble setting of the Jordan River, a humble man from a humble Galilean village is baptized by the humble voice crying from the wilderness and proclaimed by God as one with royal dignity. Three times in the testing of faith at Mount Moriah, Abraham refers to Isaac as his "beloved son" as Isaac and he face the sacrificial knife out of obedience to God. The cost of Jesus' allegiance to his Father is yet to come in his death on a cross. And because of his obedient love of his Father, he will conquer sin and death as he is raised from the dead in his glorious resurrection.

This gospel is a declaration of who Jesus is to St. Mark's church. It is a statement that, through Baptism, they have become sons and daughters of the Father ... through the merits of Jesus ... by the power of the Holy Spirit and commissioned disciples to serve in his name. Throughout Mark's gospel, those who follow Jesus will struggle to understand the cost of discipleship and the implications of accepting one who is: "*my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.*"

Fr. Dennis