

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time — January 24, 2021



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

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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.



For February in this year of St. Joseph

Every day for 40 years, Pope Francis has prayed to St Joseph. After saying Morning Prayer, Pope Francis writes in [*Patris Corde*](#), (see parish website: Pastor's Notes) he recites a nineteenth century prayer from a French prayer-book. Through this prayer, the Pope entrusts both "serious and troubling situations" to St Joseph. The prayer ends thus: "Let it not be said that I invoked you in vain". We find out about this daily custom in a footnote in *Patris Corde*, a text that brings the memory of the Church back to Pope Pius IX who, on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception in 1870, proclaimed St Joseph the Patron of the Universal Church.

"Glorious Patriarch Saint Joseph, whose power makes the impossible possible, come to my aid in these times of anguish and difficulty. Take under your protection the serious and troubling situations that I commend to you, that they may have a happy outcome. My beloved father, all my trust is in you. Let it not be said that I invoked you in vain, and since you can do everything with Jesus and Mary, show me that your goodness is as great as your power. Amen."

JANUARY 25-31, 2021

MON - 1/25— Conversion of St. Paul

7:30AM Mary Clare, Jack & Kathleen Milan by John

TUES - 1/26— Ss. Timothy & Titus—NO MASS

WED - 1/27— St. Angela Merici

5:30PM: Frederick Jepson by Patti & Diane

THURS - 1/28— St. Thomas Aquinas

7:30AM: All Souls

FRI - 1/29 - Weekday

7:30AM: Roger Jamison by Patricia Wiener

SAT - 1/30 - Vigil of the 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00PM: Benny Beebe by the Knights of Columbus

SUN - 1/31- 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time —

Church will remain open from 11:30—5pm

8:00 AM: Members of the parish

10:30AM: Special Intentions by Kathy Marchock and
Robert(Bob) Champagne by Robert Champagne, Jr.
& Kathy Duchesne



The sanctuary will burn this week in memory of
Richard Burpee by Elaine Pratt

**FACE MASKS
REQUIRED
SOCIAL DISTANCING
PRACTICED**

READINGS 1/31/2021

Dt: 18:15-20

1 Cor: 7:32-35

Mk: 1:21-28



If you would like to receive
HOLY COMMUNION ONLY,
it is offered every Sunday from
11:30 - 11:45 AM.

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 17, 2021: \$7,643

Seminary fund: \$2,135

GIVE+ONLINE



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 (1/24/2021)

Professor Peter Kreeft commented that the three great gifts, faith, hope and love can be thought of as a single plant, with faith as the root, hope as the stem, and love as the blossom. "Hope" can be a confusing concept for us because the word as we use it in common English does not have the same meaning as the spiritual gift St. Paul describes. What is the "joyful hope" (to quote the prayer after the Lord's Prayer at Mass) and how is it different from the common use of the term?

Answer to last week's question (1/17/2021)

The teachings of the Church are revealed by God and found in Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition. Jesus (the Incarnate Word of God, God's ultimate self-revelation) promised to protect His Church, so that the Church would be "consecrated in Truth" (see John 17, Jesus' priestly prayer for the Church). At the Ascension, He sent the Apostles into the world with the command to make disciples of all nations, baptizing them and teaching them to obey all that He had commanded. (Matt. 28:18-20)

Discipleship: hearing and immediately acting

During Ordinary time the Lectionary presents stories and teachings from Jesus' everyday ministry. This week's readings focus again on discipleship.

Mark's gospel has two parts: a summary of *Jesus' proclamation* and the story of *Jesus calling* his first disciples. Jesus' proclamation requires a response; his personal call of Simon and Andrew, and James and John show correct responses to discipleship.

Jesus' proclamation. Jesus tells his hearers two things: "the time is *now*; God's kingdom is *near*." First, God's promised *messianic age starts now*. Second, God's kingdom is *near*, both "physically close" and "near in time." The kingdom is near in Jesus' *physical presence*, and God's reign is already beginning in Jesus' *preaching*, which *announces and describes* God's kingdom.

Hearer's required actions. Jesus' proclamation requires that his hearers *do* two things: "change your hearts/minds; believe in the good news." First, hearers must *turn their hearts and minds (metanoia)* toward God and away from everything else. Second, hearers must believe or *trust in God's good news* of salvation. This belief is not simply intellectual assent, but *personal commitment and action*.

Example responses. Jesus personally calls the disciples to follow him. Their actions correspond to a hearer's required action on hearing Jesus proclamation: the time is *now* and the kingdom is *near*. They *turn towards God* ("followed him") and *turn away* from everything else ("immediately abandoned the nets," "immediately left their father"). Simon, Andrew, James, and John are *models of how to answer* Jesus' call to discipleship.

This week's readings ask us to think some more about our own calling and our own response to discipleship. In the Jonah story, the Ninevites' actions change God's mind and heart and receive God's mercy. Paul urges the Corinthians not to become so attached to this world that they miss the coming world of God's reign. Mark recounts Jesus proclamation and challenge, and shows how a true disciple responds. Discipleship begins with Jesus' call to continuous change. Do we trust that God's kingdom is real here and now, or something in the hazy future? Do we answer Jesus' personal call immediately, or as something we can get to later? Does God's gospel invite us to continuing *metanoia*, or do we consider discipleship a one-time choice?

--Terence Sherlock

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



REMEMBER
in your prayers

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, 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: The Bible Collection – Paul The Apostle

Learn: Formed Now! Letters of St. Paul

Listen: St. Thomas Aquinas with Randall Smith

**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, 2021
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>.



Knights of Columbus

Father Don Jacques Council #3035, Milford, NH

St. Patrick’s Helpers: Do you have a small project or a list of projects that you need completed around your house? How would you like to have “masked” Knights of Columbus take care of this for you? We are offering handy-man services to the community. Proceeds will be donated directly to St. Patrick Church – Facilities Fund. If you would like to learn more or if you think that you have the “perfect project” for St. Patrick Helpers, or if you are interested in helping us, please contact Pauline Nepveu at pnepveu54@gmail.com or 603-672-0564.

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

President: Will McGrath

Peter Arnoldy, Laura Ilsley, Jerry Guthrie,
Irene Prunier, Steve Santinelli

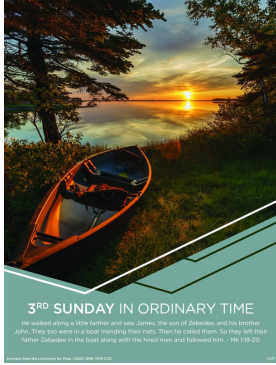
For anyone who would like to stop in for private prayers. These are the times when the Church is opened.

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

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.

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)



In the wilderness Jesus has withstood Satan's temptation, and, strengthened in spirit by this personal combat, he comes into Galilee, the "springtime" place of first preaching, first ministry, first calling of disciples. Yet there has also been a winter: the arrest and imprisonment of John the Baptist, which add urgency to Jesus's first spoken words in Mark's gospel. The time of God's reigning presence is at hand, and this Good News of God demands a response. "Repent, and believe in the gospel" may have been repeated as an early Christian baptismal call to the catechumens (the elect) as they descended into the Easter waters to rise up as God's new creation. At infant baptism our parents and our faith community made this response for us; the challenge is for us to say our own continuing adult "Yes" to this call and grow in our discipleship.

Urged on by his sense of mission, Jesus passes along the lakeside, the Sea of Galilee. He "saw" Peter and Andrew, with a seeing that penetrates to their deepest selves and their future potential as his disciples whom, with all their successes and failures, he will make fishers of people to draw others into the kingdom. All that Simon and Andrew will become will be because of Jesus and, with contagious gospel urgency, "they abandoned their nets"—the source of their income—and follow him. A little further on another two brothers, James and John, sons of Zebedee, are called while they are involved in their fishermen's task of mending nets. Once again, the call and response is immediate and the dispossession is radical when they follow Jesus. It is significant that the first disciples whom Jesus calls are people who must leave what is indicative of their success in a brotherly and family venture: boats, nets, hired servants, parent. They follow Jesus, not hoping for a better lifestyle, but urged by his words to an unconditional obedience to him. From the beginning of his ministry, Jesus gathers a community around himself in a relationship of "brotherliness" that the call of two sets of brothers may also suggest.

Whereas our consumer society has to package and market every commodity, every offer has to have a good sales pitch, even in some megachurches and by some TV evangelists, Mark's narrative of Jesus's call is stark and unadorned. Like any relationship, this is the "honeymoon" period. Much of what they understand at this moment they will progressively forget, and compromises, obtuseness, status-seeking will replace following until, on the eve of Jesus's passion and death, the disciples leave everything to run away from him. The traditional prophetic calling accounts, such as that of Samuel or Elisha's call by Elijah, are transformed because now it is Jesus who calls. Jesus does not issue orders to his followers like a charismatic military leader; he offers no rallying call to a revolutionary war, but he does make promises.

Do we live as though we believe these promises? How constant, how radical are we in our following of Jesus to which we are invited by our baptism? How discerning of its demands are we in our contemporary society, and has Jesus priority in our lives? Do we continually try to launch out into a shared mission with Jesus that will transform us from day to day and draw other people into a relationship with him, or do we cling to the safe and familiar? Questions to think about, huh?

Fr. Dennis