

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time — January 31, 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

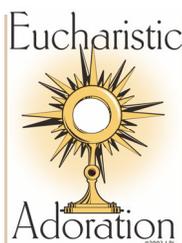
Website: saintpatrickmilfordnh.org

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Dennis Audet, Pastor
daudet52@gmail.com
Patti Hendrickson, Pastoral Associate
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Diane Bergeron, Secretary
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Pauline Nepveu, Accountant
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Christopher Maynard, Music Director
music.saintpatricksmilford@gmail.com
Jay Duffy

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.



First Friday Adoration **February 5, 2021 — 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 to prayerfully consider coming to church and participating in this or any portion of First Friday Adoration.

**FACE MASKS REQUIRED AND
SOCIAL DISTANCING PRACTICED**

INCLEMENT

WEATHER POLICY
for weekday Masses



Parishioners are now to be aware that if there is inclement weather there will be no Mass that morning. Official announcements of cancellations and delays will be made on the cancellations ribbon on WMUR -TV CHANNEL 9. This policy is for the safety of parishioners and those who are responsible for snow removal.

FEBRUARY 1-7, 2021

MON - 2/1- Weekday

7:30AM Jack Milan by his dad, John 13th anniversary

TUES - 2/2- Presentation of the Lord—NO MASS

WED - 2/3- Ss. Blaise & Ansgar

5:30PM: James Heald by Patti & Diane

THURS - 2/4- Weekday

7:30AM: All Souls

FRI - 2/5 - St. Agatha (FIRST FRIDAY)

5:30PM: All Souls

SAT - 2/6 - Vigil of the 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00PM: Frederick Jepson by John Milan and
Dan & Helen Hauser by the family

SUN - 2/7- 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time—

Church will remain open from 11:30—5pm

8:00 AM: Rev. Donald Jacques by the Carter family
and Kathy Knowlton by Kathy Marchocki

10:30AM: Members of the parish

**FACE MASKS
REQUIRED
SOCIAL DISTANCING
PRACTICED**

READINGS 2/7/2021

Jb: 7:1-4, 6-7
1 Cor: 9:16-19, 22-23
Mk: 1:29-39



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

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

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 24, 2021: \$6,647

Heating & AC fund: \$1,232

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 (1/31/2021)

"Faith, hope and love remain, but the greatest of these is love," St. Paul wrote (1 Cor. 13:13). You may recall that there are three Greek words which are all translated as "love" in English. In this verse, the word is *agape* (*caritas* in Latin). As with "faith" and "hope," the common use of the word "love" in English may obscure the meaning of Paul's statement. At the last supper Jesus said, "A new commandment I give you - love one another as I have loved you." (John 13: 34-35 and 15:12-17). He told them that everyone would recognize them as His disciples by their love. How would you explain the difference between what we generally mean by "love" and the love which is the greatest of spiritual gifts?

Answer to last week's question (1/24/2021)

In everyday English we often use the word "hope" to express a desire for something that we would like to have happen. It is generally a "wish," as in "I hope it doesn't rain on the Fourth of July" or "Hopefully no one will get sick." The spiritual gift of hope is a confident trust that God will keep His promises to us and bring about His will for our salvation. This confidence is not something we can just will ourselves to have, it is given to us by the Holy Spirit. To build upon Professor Kreeft's analogy of the plant with faith as its root and love as its blossom, hope is not an easily-bruised stem but a solid trunk. When we "await in joyful hope the coming of Jesus" we are confident that He will return as He promised, to welcome us into the New Creation.

Words' prophetic power to drive out evil

During Ordinary time the Lectionary presents stories and teachings from Jesus' everyday ministry. This week's readings focus on the power of prophetic words.

Mark's gospel is from Jesus' "day of ministry." Mark tells about Jesus' authoritative teaching, his power over unclean spirits, and the inbreaking of God's reign.

Authoritative teaching. The synagogue attendees compare the teachings of the scribes and Jesus: the scribes repeat other rabbis' opinions and hand on traditional interpretations, while Jesus proclaims God's kingdom is *near*. Jesus' words have power or authority because they come from his true *prophetic voice*.

Authority over unclean spirits. In the ancient world people believed that humans occupied only a small part of the universe; the rest was filled with many spirits, most threatening to humans. First-century exorcists typically used *physical means* or *magic rituals* to trick spirits into leaving a possessed person. Jesus commands the unclean spirit to "be muzzled" to "come out." By the authority of Jesus' word alone the unclean spirit leaves the man.

New teaching with authority. "What just happened?" the amazed people ask. Jesus' teaching is new not only because the people *haven't heard it before*, but also because the teaching has the *power or authority to accomplish* what it communicates. Jesus' words announcing God's kingdom or reign have the power to *free humans from evil*.

This week's readings ask us to think about speaking with authority and power. Moses promises that God will raise another prophet to speak God's word to the people. Paul is clear to say he is giving his own opinion, not the Lord's command. Jesus teaches with prophetic authority and his words have power to drive out evil. How do we use the power of words? Do our authoritative words give comfort or do they cause confusion? Do we hear what God asks of us, or do we proclaim what we want to accomplish? Do we use our powerful words drive evil out, or do our words put more evil into the world?

--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: An Ordinary Martyr: The Life & Death of Blessed Stanley Rother

Learn: Lectio: Mary: Episode 1: The New Eve

Listen: A Scriptural Walk Through the Mass by Edward Sri

**FAMILY FAITH FORMATION
GRADES K-6**

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

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

Sunday: 6-7:30pm — February 14
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.

MASS INTENTIONS

If you would like to have a Mass celebrated during the week or on the weekend for a particular intention for a person living or dead, please call the office to schedule. 673-1311. Donations are gratefully accepted.

Remembrance bulletin board

We wish to honor and pray for our brave men and women serving in the military throughout the world. If you have someone that you would like us to remember & pray for please bring in a photograph of your loved ones serving in the military with their name and they will be placed on the board.



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

Toothbrushes & paste, Deodorants, Shampoo & Conditioner, Bar Soap, Feminine Hygiene Products, Diapers, Wipes
These items can be dropped off at the SHARE office.
PLEASE CALL FIRST: 673-9898. Thank you for your donations.

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)



HE TAUGHT
THEM AS ONE
WHO HAD AUTHORITY

We are all formally students for some time in our lives, and it is best to remain informal students throughout our lives, for there is no point at which there is not something we can learn. At the same time, most of us function as teachers at many points in our lives, some of us professionally but most of us casually, guiding and directing people in ways that might even escape us. We teach by how we live, how we treat people, how we respond under stress, how we reprimand a child, how we help a neighbor, as well as by more concrete and direct ways of teaching.

Some of us, by training and vocation, teach religion and theology, and it is those of us engaged in this vocation who must always remain students in our area of expertise, for Jesus says, *“You are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all students. And call no one your father on earth, for you have one Father—the one in heaven. Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Messiah”* (Matt 23:8-10). This teaching is directed at all Christians, but it is a difficult teaching for those called upon to be teachers and instructors, for it is easy to forget that in the things of God we are always students.

It is telling, and especially humbling for biblical scholars, to remember that Jesus did not choose his apostles from among the biblical interpreters or experts of the Jewish scriptures but from among the fishermen. How could fishermen be teachers in the Bible and Jewish law when they had not been formally trained? What did they know that the experts did not?

What the fishermen knew, or were willing to encounter, was the only true subject: God. The unschooled fishermen knew Jesus, spent time with Jesus, and were willing to learn from Jesus what they did not know. It was not technical expertise that Jesus sought in his apostles but the willingness to encounter the word of God as life-changing and life-giving.

It was the encounter with truth that led the students, the crowds of ordinary people in Galilee, Judea, and elsewhere, to gather around the teacher Jesus; they responded as people hungry to learn the deepest reality about God and themselves. So, *“on the sabbath Jesus entered the synagogue and taught. The people were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority and not as the scribes.”* The religious experts, the scribes, are mentioned, though it seems they are not present, as a contrast to Jesus’ authority. Perhaps the experts hung back, wary of how Jesus’ teaching might affect their livelihood or authority, or because they disagreed that Jesus’ authority was grounded in the Scriptures or God.

Yet, Jesus’ final act in the Capernaum synagogue is the demonstration of the divine ground of his teaching authority, for *“in their synagogue was a man with an unclean spirit; he cried out, ‘What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!’ ”* Jesus healed the man of the unclean spirit, and the people were again “amazed,” referring to this action of Jesus as a “teaching”: *“They asked one another, ‘What is this? A new teaching with authority.’ ”* It is God’s presence and power that is the lesson not only to learn but to encounter.

It is necessary to have teachers in all areas of knowledge, and this includes theology and biblical studies. Expertise and properly ordered authority are essential for all fields. But ultimately, we are all students of the one teacher, whose authority is ordered to our salvation and joy. From this school we never graduate; this teacher is always guiding us. This education is perfected for our final purpose: **to know God.**