

First Sunday in Lent — February 21, 2021



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

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

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.

Parish Office: 673-1311 Fax: 673-3687

Faith Formation: 673-4797

Website: saintpatrickmilfordnh.org

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Dennis Audet, Pastor

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Patti Hendrickson, Pastoral Associate

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Diane Bergeron, Secretary

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Sue Pasquale, Faith Formation

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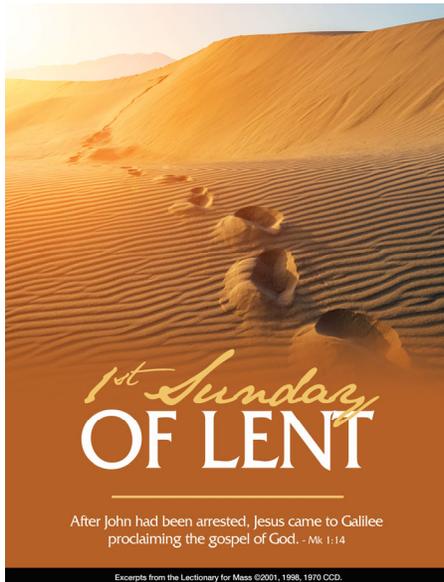
Pauline Nepveu, Accountant

pnepveu54@gmail.com

Christopher Maynard, Music Director

music.saintpatricksmilford@gmail.com

Jay Duffy, Cemetery Sexton 673-1311



A Daily Prayer

Whatever happens today, dear Lord, help us remember that you are present. If we find ourselves in the shadows of disappointment or rejection or pain, let us see your comforting light. If we're in the radiant light of success or acceptance or wholeness, may we acknowledge your providence and grace. Wherever we are, grant us the assurance of your nearness. Amen.

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.

FEBRUARY 22-28, 2021

MON - 2/22– *The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle*

7:30AM: Enriqueta Grumbrecht by the Hill Family (5th anniversary)

TUES - 2/23– Weekday—NO MASS

WED - 2/24– Lenten weekday

4:15-5:15PM - Reconciliation

5:30PM: Joseph Fay by the family

THURS - 2/25– Lenten weekday

7:30AM: Marg Larpenter by Jane Provins

FRI - 2/26 - Lenten weekday(Abstinence)

7:30AM: Special intentions by Lucille Farwell

6:00PM: Stations of the Cross (led by Knights of Columbus)

SAT - 2/27 - Vigil of the 2nd Sunday of Lent

4:00PM: Roy, Jeanne, Irene & Sony Dubay by Mr. & Mrs. Tom Hunsader & David Hebert by his wife, Gloria (5th anniversary)

SUN - 2/28- 2nd Sunday of Lent —

The Church closes at Noon on Sundays

8:00 AM: Paul Santinelli by Mr. & Mrs. Steve Santinelli & Greg Holland by Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Dudley

10:30AM: Members of the Parish

11:30AM-11:45AM HOLY COMMUNION ONLY

**FACE MASKS
REQUIRED
SOCIAL DISTANCING
PRACTICED**

READINGS 2/28/2021

Gn: 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18

Rom: 8:31b-34

Mk: 9:2-10



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.

Weekend of February 21, 2021: \$4,778.

Facilities Repairs : \$991.

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 (2/21/2021)

Justice is the second ranked of the natural virtues. We tend to think of justice in very juridical terms so this can be a challenging concept. What does “justice” mean as a virtue, a character trait that inclines a person to act righteously? And how is “just?” sometimes different from “fair”?

Answer to last week’s question (2/14/2021)

In common English to be “prudent” generally means “not impulsive,” weighing all known facts before making a decision. In the tradition of the Church it is described as the use of our human ability to reason in order to discern the good/best in every situation and determine the best means of achieving it. The catechism says we exercise prudence when we apply moral principles to individual situations – it is how our “conscience” is formed.

Lent: baptism’s pledge to renewed discipleship

In the season of Lenten, the believing community follows Jesus as he is tested, transfigured, cleanses the temple, explains how God loves, and announces his hour has come. This week’s readings ask us how our discipleship aligns with Jesus’ proclamation.

Mark’s gospel has two parts: the story of Jesus’ *testing* in the wilderness and *Jesus’ proclamation of “change of minds/hearts” (metanoia)*. These stories call every disciple to reflect on the Lenten themes of testing, faithfulness, *metanoia*, and renewed action.

A time of testing. The Spirit who descended on Jesus at his baptism now drives him into the *wilderness*, a place of revelation and testing. Jesus encounters Satan, who attempts to *frustrate God’s saving work*. The “wild beasts” reveal the wilderness as the place inhabited by demons. The ministering angels recall the angel who guided the Israelites in the wilderness (Ex 14:19; Ex 23:20). Jesus relives Israel’s wilderness testing, but, unlike Israel, he *remains faithful to God*. This story invites every disciple to examine his or her own *testing and faithfulness*.

Jesus’ proclamation. Jesus tells his hearers that “the time is *now*; God’s kingdom is *near*.” God’s promised *messianic age starts now*. God’s kingdom is *near* in Jesus’ *physical presence*, and God’s reign is already beginning in Jesus’ *preaching*, which *announces and describes* God’s kingdom. Hearers must *turn their hearts and minds (metanoia)* toward God and away from everything else, and *trust in God’s good news* of salvation. Jesus’ proclamation invites every disciple to examine his or her *personal commitment to change* and how every disciple is *fulfilling his or her commitment*.

Lent’s readings call us to walk with Jesus as he prepares for his transformative death. Today’s readings ask how our discipleship tests us every day. Genesis reminds us that God continually calls us to covenant. The author of Peter compares Noah’s salvation through water with a disciple’s salvation through baptism. Mark shows Jesus tested in his mission, and calling all to change. Lent is a reminder and opportunity to grow into discipleship. Do we see and recognize God’s constant invitations to deeper relationship? Do we hear in our baptismal promises our pledge to ongoing *metanoia*? Do we respond faithfully to discipleship’s daily tests? Are we open to Jesus’ call change our minds and hearts?

--Terence Sherlock

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



REMEMBER
in your prayers

Jeff Svelest, Jon Palmer, Scott Hall, Todd Turcotte, Bettina Mace, Julia Frawley, Jean Moro, Barbara Smith, Lucille Farwell, John Hoff, Stephen, Cheryl Lounsbury, Baby Owen, Christian Beck, Shawn Dufrairie, Laura McGettigan, 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 Sillowy, 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, Anne Ronsov, Scott Dickinson, Joseph Koprek, 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:

2/20 Feasts of Ss. Jacinta and Francisco Marto;
2/22 Chair of St. Peter

Watch: The Day the Sun Danced: The True Story of Fatima - family video

Watch: Saint Peter with Omar Sharif

Watch: The Revolution of John XXIII

Listen: Confession: Answering Common Objections - Dr. Scott Hahn

Study: A Lent to Remember - A Lenten Encounter with Mercy (includes a children's video on How to Make a Great Confession for children)

Study: Lectio: Salvation with Dr. Michael Barber

**FAMILY FAITH FORMATION
GRADES K-6**

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

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

Sunday: 6-7:30pm — March 7, 21
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.



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. Thank you.

**MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR
FEBRUARY 27-28, 2021**

4:00PM

Lector	Terri Magnus
Eucharistic Minister	Joanne Couture
Greeters	Gary McCartney
	Pauline Nepveu
	Dianne Hamilton

8:00AM

Lector	Ron Calo
Eucharistic Minister	Sally Wilkins
Greeters	Steve Santinelli
	Sue Pasquale
	Irene Prunier

10:30AM

Lector	Jude Lorman
Eucharistic Minister	Jackie Kelly
Greeters	Steve Dudley
	Bernie Quinn
	Judy Hohenadel

**Knights of Columbus
Scholarship application**

Attention high school seniors: the Knights of Columbus Fr. Don Jacques Council #3035 is pleased to offer two \$1000 scholarships to members of St. Patrick's parish who will graduate from high school this spring. For an application, please visit the parish website (<https://saintpatrickmilfordnh.org/>) or pick one up at the back of the church after Mass. Applications will be accepted until April 1, 2021. Submit any questions and completed applications to scholarship@kofc3035.org.

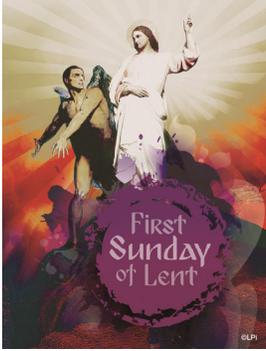


**Stations of the Cross will be at
6:00PM on Fridays during Lent**

**Reconciliation will be offered
every Wednesday during Lent
from 4:15-5:15PM**

NON-PERISHABLE ITEMS ONLY

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



1st Sunday of Lent

Every year on the 1st Sunday of Lent, the gospel proclaimed is the desert temptation of Jesus. Mark's account takes place shortly after Jesus' Baptism. The "Spirit drove" Jesus into the wilderness, says Mark. We often describe people as "driven"—by ambition, power, lust, desperation—but what drives Jesus—is the Holy Spirit. He is tossed into the physical and spiritual space where, before he begins his public ministry, before he proclaims one word of the Good News, he must struggle with two consequences of his baptism: his naming as Son of the Father and his taking to himself sinful humanity represented by the crowds on the Jordan's banks who were called by John to a baptism of repentance. In the desert there are no crowds; Jesus is alone with the Spirit of God and the spirit of evil, with the wild beasts and the angels, with communion and conflict, with the struggle—that will persist throughout his life and death—to be the faithful Son. He is alone with the memory of his ancestors and their wilderness wandering in what for them was not only a place of God's revelation and promises, but also a place of their temptations and failures. Jesus will show himself to be the most faithful man. The temptation between good and evil, between the "angelic" and the "beastly," was starkly exposed in Jesus' own soul. And if we are honest and mindful, we know them in ourselves and in our own struggles to be faithful sons and daughters of God.

The English artist Stanley Spencer (1891–1959) painted a "wilderness series" about the life of Christ. In one of these paintings, he depicts Jesus sitting on the desert sands with a "wild beast." But the beast is not a roaring lion or tiger. In his cupped hands, he holds a small but deadly scorpion. Jesus is no holy ghost, but very much a flesh and blood man. Spencer may be suggesting that the really dangerous beasts are those small ones that can slither unexpectedly into our lives; the persistent sins and small infidelities that, almost unnoticed, can sting and poison our discipleship. And so, we might interpret Spencer's painting, and Mark's account, positively: as a vision of peace and harmony in a restored creation in the hands of the "New Adam" on whom angels wait in service.

Jesus comes out from his desert experience strengthened for praise and pain and mission. The arrest of John the Baptist is the first storm that breaks over Mark's gospel, but over it rises a rainbow of hope as Jesus proclaims his first words: *"This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."* On Ash Wednesday, the last words of that proclamation were pronounced as we (who are dust) were signed with ashes and called to Lenten mindfulness of the struggle between sin and grace, success and failure.

The desert sand is not under our feet but in our hearts. Our desert is experienced in the daily irritations and nagging loneliness we often feel. We need these Lenten weeks of heightened awareness of the importance of uncluttered spiritual and physical space where we can come to grips with our pain, where we can discover the beauty of God and our sisters and brothers under the surface of our busy lives, and where we can allow our ears to be more opened to the word of God in our Sunday liturgy and acts of daily prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. We may then become much wiser about the spiritual baggage that we, as daily desert travelers, need to keep or discard on the journey toward Easter.

Fr. Dennis