

## Third Sunday in Lent — March 7, 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.



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 & Saturday from 3-3:45PM



THE WEEKEND OF MARCH 13-14TH

**Parish Office: 673-1311 Fax: 673-3687**

**Faith Formation: 673-4797**

**Website: [saintpatrickmilfordnh.org](http://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**

*pnepveu54@gmail.com*

**Christopher Maynard, Music Director**

*music.saintpatricksmilford@gmail.com*

**Jay Duffy, Cemetery Sexton 673-1311**

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: **Closes at Noon**

### PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

President: Will McGrath

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

## 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.*

**MARCH 8-14, 2021**

**MON - 3/8— St. John of God**

**7:30AM:** William M. Costillo by Mr. & Mrs. Michael Dineen and  
Lillian Cullinan by her daughter, Betty Barnard

**TUES - 3/9— St. Frances of Rome—NO MASS**

**WED - 3/10— Lenten Weekday**

**4:15-5:15PM** - Reconciliation

**5:30PM:** All Souls

**THURS - 3/11— Lenten Weekday**

**7:30AM:** Yvonne Rines by Jane Provins

**FRI - 3/12 - Lenten weekday (Abstinence)**

**7:30AM:** All Souls

**6:00PM:** Stations of the Cross (led by Patti)

**SAT - 3/13 - Vigil of the 4th Sunday of Lent**

**4:00PM:** Francis Coty by Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Coty

**SUN - 3/14- 4th Sunday of Lent —**

**The Church closes at Noon on Sundays**

**8:00 AM:** All Souls

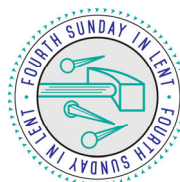
**10:30AM:** Members of the Parish

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

**FACE MASKS  
REQUIRED  
SOCIAL DISTANCING  
PRACTICED**

**READINGS 3/14/2021**

**2 Chr: 36:14-16, 19-23**  
**Eph: 2:4-10**  
**Jn: 3:14-21**



**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](http://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 28, 2021: \$4,716**

**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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 (2/7/2021)

Temperance can seem like a flimsy thing, in contrast with Fortitude, but remember that the virtues are interdependent. How can temperance (or moderation) help a person to live a righteous life?

### Answer to last week's question (2/28/2021)

The Catechism says, "fortitude ensures firmness in difficulties and constancy in the pursuit of the good." It is often difficult to do what is right and tempting to excuse what is wrong. Whether it be Joseph resisting Potiphar's wife or John the Baptist refusing to mollify Herod, Scripture is filled with examples of people who willingly suffer for righteousness. In our daily lives challenges to our virtue are rarely so extreme, but peer pressure and the desire to avoid discomfort can also require inner strength. Fortitude enables a person to resist temptation and to sacrifice for good, even to give up their own lives for the good of others.

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### **Lent: give us a sign**

In the season of Lent, the believing community follows Jesus as he is tested, transfigured, purifies the temple, explains how God loves, and announces his hour has come. This week's readings ask us to see beyond the limits we place on trusting God.

John's gospel is his version of Jesus' purification of the Temple. John's story is about the Temple's *meaning* and how someone *comes to believe* in Jesus.

**Many meanings of temple.** The Jewish people encounter God at the Jerusalem Temple, which is *God's dwelling place* ("your house") on earth. By allowing animal sellers and moneychangers to transact commerce within the Temple precincts, the religious leaders have turned God's meeting place into a *market place*. Jesus expresses his special connection with the Temple: it is his *Father's house*. When the unbelieving religious leaders demand a sign (see today's first and second readings), Jesus offers them another temple or house as a sign: *his own body*. Jesus is now *the place to encounter God*, and, after his resurrection, Jesus will be *the new temple* (Jn 4:21-23).

**Signs vs faith/belief.** John's gospel focuses on *the relationship between signs and believing*. The Jewish leaders *reject Jesus' sign* ("You? You will raise the Temple in three days?") and *will not believe* in him. The "many" who *started believing* because of "the signs he was doing" do not gain Jesus' trust toward them ("he knew them all"); their faith rests on *signs alone*. Jesus' disciples "*come to believe*" because they *remember the words* of Hebrew "scripture and the word Jesus has spoken;" their faith rests on Jesus' *promise of life*. In John's gospel, Jesus does not perform signs (miracles) to *cause* faith, but to invite witnesses to *deepen* their faith.

Lent's readings call us to walk with Jesus as he prepares for his transformative death. Today's readings ask to think about the ways we limit our faith. In Exodus God invites Israel into covenant though the sign of the commandments, but the sign is not the covenant. Paul asks the Corinthians to put aside their biases to see the salvation that God offers them. John asks his hearers to see God dwelling among them and to trust in Jesus' words to them. What signs or personal biases condition our trust? Do we expect God to appear in person and tell us exactly what to do? Do our personal beliefs or human wisdom get in the way of discovering God as God is? Do we trust in God conditionally, believing only after God passes our tests?

-Terence Sherlock

Read the full reflection and subscribe at: [LectionaryInContext.WordPress.com](http://LectionaryInContext.WordPress.com)



**REMEMBER**  
*in your prayers*

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Evelyn Blanchard, Joyce Nelson, 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 Dufraine, 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 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, 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](https://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:**

**Listen:** Freedom Through Forgiveness (copy and paste) <https://watch.formed.org/freedom-through-forgiveness-the-sacrament-of-confession-by-ken-yasinski/videos/freedom-through-forgiveness-the-sacrament-of-confession-by-ken-yasinski>

**Watch,** Francis: The People's Pope (copy and paste) <https://watch.formed.org/videos/francis-the-people-s-pope>

**Listen:** Understanding the Lord's Prayer - Dr. Scott Hahn (copy and paste) <https://watch.formed.org/understanding-the-lord-s-prayer-by-dr-scott-hahn/videos/understanding-the-lord-s-prayer-by-dr-scott-hahn>

**Listen:** Light in the Darkness: Living a Christian Life in a Secular World (copy and paste) <https://watch.formed.org/light-in-the-darkness-living-a-christian-life-in-a-secular-world-by-patrick-lencioni/videos/living-life-by-design-not-by-default-by-fr-mike-schmitz>

**Listen:** Letter to the Elderly by St. John Paul II (copy and paste) <https://watch.formed.org/letter-to-the-elderly-by-pope-st-john-paul-ii/videos/letter-to-the-elderly-by-pope-st-john-paul-ii>

**MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR  
MARCH 13-14, 2021**

**4:00PM**

<b>Lector</b>	<b>Terry Magnus</b>
<b>Eucharistic Minister</b>	<b>Pauline Nepveu</b>
<b>Greeters</b>	<b>Gary McCartney</b>
	<b>Pauline Nepveu</b>
	<b>Dianne Hamilton</b>

**8:00AM**

<b>Lector</b>	<b>Mike Carter</b>
<b>Eucharistic Minister</b>	<b>Dawn Block</b>
<b>Greeters</b>	<b>Steve Santinelli</b>
	<b>Irene Prunier</b>
	<b>Diane Bergeron</b>

**10:30AM**

<b>Lector</b>	<b>Michelle Varga</b>
<b>Eucharistic Minister</b>	<b>Tony Varga</b>
<b>Greeters</b>	<b>Steve Dudley</b>
	<b>Bernie Quinn</b>
	<b>Judy Hohenadel</b>

**FAMILY FAITH FORMATION  
GRADES K-6**

Tuesday: 4:30 - 6:00pm — April 13, 2021  
Wednesday: 6:00 -7:30pm — April 14, 2021

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

Sunday: 6-7:30pm — March 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.

**A Virtual Lenten Evening of Reflection  
for young adult Catholics**

**"The Saving Grace of Beauty"**

Date: March 12, 2021-----Time 7:00pm to 9:00pm  
**There is no cost.** For more information contact Faith Formation at 673-4797.

**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](mailto:pnepveu54@gmail.com) or 603-672-0564. Thank you.

***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/>) under resources 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](mailto:scholarship@kofc3035.org).

**NON-PERISHABLE ITEMS ONLY**

Canned Ham, Canned Meats, Side Dishes (seasoned pasta mix, hamburger helper, etc.), Ravioli & Beefaroni  
**These items can be dropped off at the SHARE office. PLEASE CALL FIRST: 673-9898. Thank you for your donations.**



### *3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent*

We find it easy to admire—even if we do not imitate—the compassionate Jesus, but an angry Jesus armed with a corded whip, driving traders and money-changers out of the Jerusalem temple and upturning their tables, may shock us. This gospel does not actually use the word “angry,” but Jesus’ actions are played out against the backdrop of the “zeal” of Psalm 69:10, and the burning passion of the psalmist for God and the house of God, the Temple, that Mark places in the mouth of Jesus. This is the zeal that will consume Jesus in the summit of Calvary.

The cause of Jesus’ anger is not so much the money exchange or animal trading in the outer court of the temple. Foreign coinage that bore pagan or imperial images could not be accepted for the half-shekel tax for the upkeep of the temple sanctuary, and so it had to be exchanged for acceptable temple currency with which to pay this tax and also buy sacrificial animals. John writes that “the Passover of the Jews was near,” and so those flocking to Jerusalem to celebrate this feast from all over the Roman Empire needed to buy the animals required for participation in the temple worship and the domestic rituals. They could do this most conveniently at the temple. Jesus is not unaware of the need for the money exchange, nor so naïve as not to know that petty pilfering and profiteering can be involved in these transactions. Something much more radical is happening: the reclamation of the holy place from marketplace to his Father’s house; from empty, atrophied ritual to living worship.

By his “parable in action,” Jesus momentarily terminates the temple worship, reclaims it from chaos and commerce, and cleanses the privileged piece of creation that is his Father’s house of prayer. No doubt a few hours later the tables were again in place, animals led back in, coins exchanged—with plenty to talk about!

Yet the disturbing Jesus does not disappear from the scene; he has more “table turning” to do. He stays to answer the criticism of his opponents who can see no further than the temple built over forty-six years by human hands or who refuse to imagine or tolerate any alternatives to the religious practices and institutions that they consider faultless and unchangeable. In this Jesus stands in the line of the Hebrew prophets like Isaiah, Jeremiah, Hosea, and Amos, who angrily and zealously denounced triumphalism and absolutism in worship (e.g., Isa 58:6-9; Jer 7:4-7; Hos 6:6; Amos 5:21-24). Jesus, too, will suffer the fate of so many prophets before and after him: rejection, persecution, even death. Jesus dares to name himself as the new and living temple in which the divine presence dwells. Ultimately, the sanctuary of his body will be destroyed in his passion and death, only to be raised again in three days. It is only after these events that his disciples will remember and understand Jesus’ words.

The contemporary church cannot consider itself beyond the reach of Jesus’ whip or overturning hands. For us who are living stones in the temple of Christ’s Body, Lent is also a time for cleansing the deep personal sanctuary of our hearts, for driving out of our lives whatever clutters our discipleship, blocks our ears to the word of God and the prophets, and distracts us from trading justly and lovingly with the gifts God has given us.

Fr. Dennis