

Fourth Sunday in Lent/Laetare Sunday— March 14, 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

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

President: Will McGrath

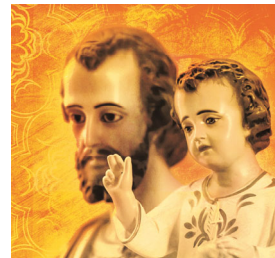
Peter Arnoldy, Laura Ilsley, Jerry Guthrie,
Irene Prunier, Steve Santinelli



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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Sue Pasquale, Faith Formation
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Pauline Nepveu, Accountant
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Christopher Maynard, Music Director
music.saintpatricksmilford@gmail.com
Jay Duffy, Cemetery Sexton 673-1311



In celebration of the Year of St. Joseph, on the Solemnity of St. Joseph, March 19, Mass will be celebrated at 5:30pm followed by Holy Hour.

NO 7:30AM MASS.

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 15-21, 2021

MON - 3/15- Lenten Weekday

7:30AM: Jovean DiLullo by his daughter, Mary Winiecki

TUES - 3/16- Lenten Weekday—NO MASS

WED - 3/17- St. Patrick

4:15-5:15PM - Reconciliation

5:30PM: Robert Coty by Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Coty (11th Anniversary)

THURS - 3/18- St. Cyril of Jerusalem

7:30AM: Charles J. Woods, Jr. by Jane Provins

FRI - 3/19 - St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Abstinence)

5:30PM: All Souls

6:00PM: Holy Hour

SAT - 3/20 - Vigil of the 5th Sunday of Lent

4:00PM: All Souls

SUN - 3/21- 5th Sunday of Lent —

The Church closes at Noon on Sundays

8:00 AM: Members of the Parish

10:30AM: Robert Naber by the family

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

**FACE MASKS
REQUIRED
SOCIAL DISTANCING
PRACTICED**



READINGS 3/21/2021

Jer: 31:31-34
Heb: 5:7-9
Jn: 12:20-33

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 MARCH 7, 2021: \$5,411
Easter Flower & decorations: \$1,582
Monthly Vanco: \$8,617

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 (3/14/2021)

Over the last few weeks on the Facebook page we've looked at symbols associated with the virtues. For the next few weeks, let's discover some of the many symbols that Christians have used over the years in art and as teaching devices. Some will be familiar, some may be surprising!

We'll start with one that is probably familiar – the “flat fish,” possibly the oldest Christian symbol other than the Cross.



How did a fish become a Christian symbol?

Answer to last week's question (3/7/2021)

Temperance in Catholic teaching is the realization that while the good things of the world are, in fact good and given to us to enjoy, this world is not the entirety of our existence and so our attraction to those temporal goods should be balanced with our desire for righteousness. Allowing our wills to be guided by pleasure rather than virtue can lead to all sorts of unrighteous behaviors, some unjust in the way we behavior toward others, some uncourageous in the ways we give in to temptation, some imprudent in the ways we fail to look wisely and reasonably at a decision.

Practices of self-sacrifice (such as fasting) can help a person develop temperance. However, it is not consistent with Catholic teaching to suggest that the things of the temporal world are evil – that is a form of Gnosticism, an ancient but persistent heresy.

Lent: all good gifts

In the season of Lent, 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 to think about God's gifts to us.

John's gospel is from Jesus' conversation with Nicodemus. In this first discourse, John reveals how Jesus will be “lifted up,” how Jesus saves rather than judges, and how we bring judgement on ourselves.

The meanings of “lifted up.” Moses *lifted up* the serpent in the wilderness (Nm 21:4-9) *to save the lives* of the Israelites; the Son of Man will be *lifted up* on the cross *to give eternal life* to all who believe in him. Jesus' “lifting up” has double meaning: he is first *lifted up on the cross* (his transformational death) and he is then *lifted up by the Father* in resurrection and glory (he is exalted at the Father's right hand). Those who believe in this revelation gain eternal life.

Jesus comes to save, not to judge. In Jesus' time, some Jews believed that the messiah would come as a judge to *condemn those who didn't keep the Law*. John has already stated Jesus' mission in his Prologue: *to empower humans to become God's children* (Jn 1:12). God's gift to the world is *the Son*; the Son's gift is *the cross*, which *enables the believing ones to be saved*.

Our own choices and actions judge us. Jesus doesn't come to judge because the *one who does not believe* has already condemned himself or herself. In John's *realized* eschatology, we don't need to wait for the end of the world to hear God's final judgement. Each person judges himself or herself by *accepting or rejecting God's revelation* in and through Jesus; a person's *actions* (good or bad) *flow from his or her choice*.

Lent's readings call us to walk with Jesus as he prepares for his transformative death. Today's readings ask us to reflect on God's gifts through history and on God's gifts in our own lives. The Chronicler recounts God's return of the captives from exile in Babylon. The Ephesians' author meditates on God's saving grace. John explores Jesus' lifting up in salvation and glory. What unwarranted gifts have we received? How has God facilitated our return to someone who we lost? When has God surprised us with grace in desperate times? How has God lifted us up to save and glorify us?

-Terence Sherlock

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



REMEMBER
in your prayers

Joyce Nelson, Jeff Svelest, Todd Turcotte, Bettina Mace, Julia Frawley, Jean Moro, Lucille Farwell, 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 Koprak, 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: St. Patrick: Pilgrimage of Peace (Copy and Paste) <https://watch.formed.org/st-patrick-pilgrimage-to-peace/videos/st-patrick-pilgrimage-to-peace>
Just click on the rest of them

Watch with Children, Patrick: Brave Shepherd of the Emerald Isle

Listen, The Trials of St. Patrick

Watch, Joseph of Nazareth (Feast 3/19)

Read, St. Joseph: Patron of the Universal Church

Read, The School of Nazareth: A Spiritual Journey with St. Joseph

Listen: Stations of the Cross - St. Alphonsus Liguori (Search on formed.org for other Stations of the Cross Meditations and reflections)

**MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR
MARCH 20-21, 2021**

4:00PM

Lector	George Lemelin
Eucharistic Minister	Dianne Hamilton
Greeters	Gary McCartney
	Pauline Nepveu
	Susan Niquette

8:00AM

Lector	Ron Calo
Eucharistic Minister	Sally Wilkins
Greeters	Steve Santinelli
	Sue Pasquale
	Diane Bergeron

10:30AM

Lector	Kathy Marchocki
Eucharistic Minister	Joanne Couture
Greeters	Steve Dudley
	Bernie Quinn
	Tony Varga

**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.

Ancient guidance on prayer

When we pray, we are not to pray for ourselves alone. We do not say, "My Father, who art in heaven" or, "Give me this day my daily bread"; we do not ask for our own trespasses alone to be forgiven; and when we pray that we may be delivered from evil, we are not praying only for ourselves either.

Our prayer is for the general good, for the common good. When we pray, we do not pray for our own single selves; we pray for all God's people, because they and we are one.
—Cyprian, bishop of Carthage (third century)

Knights of Columbus



**Father Don Jacques Council #3035,
Milford, NH**

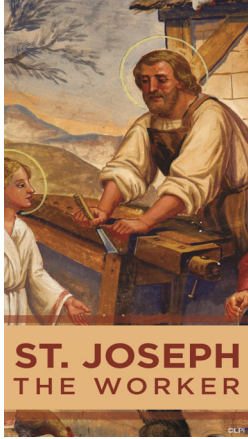
St. Patrick's Helpers: Do you have a small project or a list of projects that you need completed around your house? How would you like to have "masked" Knights of Columbus take care of this for you? We are offering handy-man services to the community. Proceeds will be donated directly to St. Patrick 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.

**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.

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.



March 19 Solemnity of St. Joseph Year of St. Joseph 2021

St. Joseph is an ordinary saint, comparable to many of the ordinary heroes of daily and family life, who behave dutifully, and with kindness, often behind the scenes, not drawing attention or praise to themselves, but fulfilling the work assigned to them without complaint. When Joseph found that his betrothed Mary was pregnant, his first reaction was not anger, or a desire to see her punished by stoning for adultery, but “since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame,” he “decided to divorce her quietly.”

This would have been an act of kindness on Joseph’s part, but a different task was assigned to him in a dream. Joseph was not to divorce his betrothed wife Mary, but to understand that she was pregnant through the Holy Spirit. This would not be an easy thing for anyone to accept, but Joseph did it. When he woke up, he accepted God’s word to him and did what he was commanded.

Joseph’s role is not great in many ways, but it is fundamental to human salvation. Mary—the Mother of God, *theotokos* as the church would come to call her—would bear the son. That son, Jesus, would “save his people from their sins.” Joseph’s task was to accept that this was God’s will and “to name him Jesus.” In Greek, the verb to name is in the second person singular, “you, Joseph, are to name him Jesus.” Joseph did not have a major role in saving the world, but he supported them with his necessary and essential role, even if it was simply remaining with his wife and naming the son.

Yet, this ordinary human history is where our salvation is played out. Joseph, whose day-to-day life is hidden from us for the most part, helped raise Jesus and taught him the work of the carpenter and craftsman, as fathers had for generations trained their sons to enter their own craft. Certainly, Joseph also took Jesus to the local synagogue to hear and learn to read Scripture, bringing him up in the Torah and the commandments of God, as a child of Israel.

And while history has as its goal the glory of God’s kingdom, established by the Son of David, God’s son, most of us participate in this goal not through heroic acts or by being the center of attention, but by remaining faithful to God’s call, by listening to God’s word, by carrying out daily, mundane tasks just like Joseph. We labor in the background doing what is asked of us because it is in the ordinariness of everyday life that most of us build up the kingdom and seek righteousness, just like Joseph. Like him, we are called by God to do our part that is essential and necessary, even if often unseen and unheralded.

St. Joseph, righteous man and faithful servant, pray for us!

Fr. Dennis