

2nd Sunday of Easter — April 11, 2021 — Divine Mercy Sunday



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

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



CONGRATULATIONS
To our newest Catholics whom were
received into our Church at Easter Vigil



Paige Gladysz
Christopher Egbert
Kim Hicks
Adam St. Cyr
Genevieve St. Cyr

©LPI

Parish Office: 673-1311 Fax: 673-3687
Faith Formation: 673-4797
Website: saintpatrickmilfordnh.org

PASTORAL STAFF

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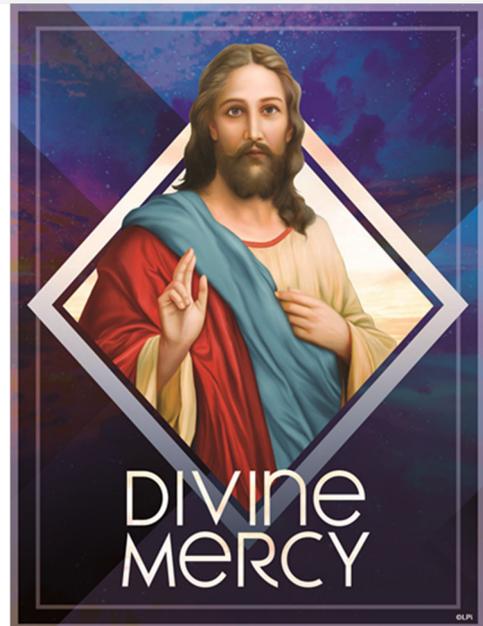
All are Welcome

No matter your present status in the Catholic Church;
No matter your family or marital status;
No matter where you are in the practice of faith;
You are always welcomed here at St. Patrick.

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.

APRIL 12-18, 2021

MON - 4/12- Easter Weekday

7:30AM: Mary Clare Milan by her husband, John

TUES - 4/13- St. Martin I - NO MASS

WED - 4/14- Easter Weekday

5:30PM: All Souls

THURS - 4/15- Easter Weekday

7:30AM: Marion Dube by John Milan

FRI - 4/16 - Easter Weekday

7:30M: Marion Dube by Jane Provins

SAT - 4/17 - Vigil 3rd Sunday of Easter

4:00PM: Thomas Lippert by Mr. & Mrs. Ted Muscara

SUN - 4/18- 3rd Sunday of Easter

The Church closes at Noon on Sundays

8:00 AM: Members of the parish

10:30AM: Gred Holland by Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Dudley

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

**FACE MASKS
REQUIRED
SOCIAL DISTANCING
PRACTICED**

READINGS 4/18/2021

Acts: 3:13-15, 17-19

1 Jn: 2:1-5a

Lk: 24:35-48

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



The sanctuary lamp will burn this week in memory of Evelyn Blanchard by Kelly Carter

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!*

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**

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.

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 APRIL 4, 2021: \$11,051

Facilities Repairs: \$1,696

Holy Land: \$1,080

GIVE+ONLINE



NON-TRIVIAL PURSUITS

Weekly challenge from your Faith Formation Team (4/11/2021)



The halo is now a very common symbol in Christian art, although it was not used before the fourth century, possibly because Roman artists had traditionally given haloes to the Roman gods and the divinity-claiming emperors. There are many different styles of haloes. What does each of these three symbols indicate?

Answer to last week's question (4/4/2021)

Ancient beliefs about these three birds provided the symbolism that made them important in early Christian art. The Pelican was believed to feed her young by piercing her breast with her beak to enable the hatchlings to drink her blood. This became symbolic of Jesus's shedding His blood and giving it to us to drink in the Eucharist. Peacocks, the ancients thought, did not decompose when they died, so their incorruptible flesh represented the Incarnate Lord. And the legendary Phoenix was believed to self-immolate at its death, only to rise to life again from the ashes of its former body, pointing to the Resurrection of Jesus in His glorified Body.

Eastertime: faith to continue Jesus' mission

In the Easter season, Jesus appears to his disciples and explains his resurrection's meaning; reveals himself as good shepherd, true vine, and one who has laid down his life; and prays for those whom he sends into the world. This week's readings ask us, the believing community, to think about our baptismal commission and its meaning.

John's gospel is the story of Jesus' appearance to the disciples on Easter night and a week later. John reminds his hearers that, despite human limitations and imperfect faith, Jesus sends his disciples to continue his work.

Jesus commissions fragile disciples. Before his passion, Jesus confides in his disciples that he "knows those he has chosen" (Jn 13:18); he knows that they will betray him, deny him, and desert him. Yet Jesus *continues to love them* "to the end." Even after the disciples encounter the resurrected Jesus, they are still afraid and unsettled. Still, and even today, *Jesus commissions imperfect, fearful, fallible humans to continue his work.*

Without seeing Jesus, we believe. In the stories of Mary Magdalene, the Beloved Disciple, and Thomas, John's gospel presents *different ways of coming to faith*. Both Mary Magdalene (Jn 20:17) and Thomas (Jn 20:25) need to *touch* Jesus to believe he is raised; Jesus himself leads Mary Magdalene and Thomas into authentic belief. The Beloved Disciple comes to faith *without seeing* the resurrected Jesus (Jn 20:8). As the founder of John's community, the Beloved Disciple leads the way for his *ekklesia* and for all disciples who come to believe without touching or seeing Jesus. Jesus bestows *special blessings on all who, like the Beloved Disciple, believe without seeing.*

Jesus' resurrection has many meanings and many implications. The Easter season lasts six weeks to give us time to reflect on this cosmos-changing event. Luke describes what a perfect Christian community could look like. The author of John's first letter encourages his hearers to complete their own missions to believe in Jesus and to love one another. John's gospel recognizes how fragile and tentative faith can be. Easter celebrates Jesus' resurrection and our salvation: new life and Christian hope. How do we practice and show hope in our own believing community? How do our imperfect lives witness to Jesus' command to love one another? What are we doing to nourish and to grow our faith so we can be sent and serve others?

-Terence Sherlock

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



REMEMBER
in your prayers

Ashley Holland, Janet Ramsdell, Joyce Nelson, Todd Turcotte, Bettina Mace, Jean Moro, Lucille Farwell, Stephen, Cheryl Lounsbury, Baby Owen, Shawn Dufraigne, Laura McGettigan, Jen, Kim Salem, Patti Fay McDonagh, Lillian Esielionis, Conrad Bergeron, 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
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. If you have any questions registering, contact ParishCare for technical support: <https://watch.formed.org/contact/support>.

FORMED:

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Watch: Ocean of Mercy

Watch: Divine Mercy 101

Watch: Divine Mercy Chaplet in Song

Listen: The Necessity of Divine Mercy

4/4 ST. ISIDORE OF SEVILLE (Patron Saint of Technology)

Book: Young People's Book of Saints

Listen: Audiobook: Holiness is Always in Season

If you are moving.
If your contact information has changed
If you dropped your land line
If your phone numbers or email address changed
Please call the office at 673-1311 or email diane.st.patoffice@gmail.com to update your information.



If you would like to receive the weekly bulletin in an email. Send your email address to the parish office's email address: diane.st.patoffice@gmail.com

and you will be added to our mailing list.



Are you or someone you know interested in the Catholic Faith?

The Catholic Church invites you to the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) process for those who are:

- ◆ Unbaptized and recognizes a need for spirituality in their life
- ◆ Baptized and raised in another Christian tradition but interested in learning about the Catholic faith
- ◆ Baptized in the Catholic faith or another Christian faith tradition, but never received any formal faith formation.

Inquirers please contact Patti Hendrickson at 673-1311 or pattih2015@comcast.net.

**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 — April 18
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.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP:

Registrations are available at the office, at the entrance of the Church, in the Church Hall and on our website. Registration is necessary for Faith Formation Classes and Sacrament Preparation.

NON-PERISHABLE ITEMS ONLY

Canned Fruit, Flour, Sugar, Boxed Cake Mixes & Baking Supplies, Coffee & Tea, Juice, Granola **These items can be dropped off at the SHARE office. PLEASE CALL FIRST: 673-9898. Thank you for your donations.**



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Thomas had not been in the room when the risen Jesus appeared to the disciples, and so has missed out on any personal encounter with him. Often the comments about Thomas concentrate too much on him as a doubter (which he is never called anywhere in the gospels) and too little on his desire to touch the source of life. John's gospel shows him to be the kind of person who blurts out the questions or comments others are too timid or too embarrassed to speak. He is ready to go along with Jesus to Lazarus' grave and die with him; and he is honest enough at the Last Supper to say that none of the disciples have any idea where Jesus is heading.

The disciples, to whom the risen Lord appeared on Easter eve, announce the resurrection to Thomas in the same words as Mary Magdalene spoke to them: "*We have seen the Lord.*" And they are just as unsuccessful in convincing Thomas as Mary had been with them. Like all disciples, Thomas needs a personal experience of Jesus before he will believe. Until then, he is locked in his own conditions for faith: he wants Jesus to be "touchable." So, eight days later, on the next "first day of the week" according to the resurrection timeline, the risen Lord stands again in the midst of his disciples, greets them with his peace, and then turns to Thomas who is most in need of this.

For eight days, Thomas has wrestled with the darkness of doubt and is wounded by this struggle. The wounded, risen Jesus and the wounded disciple stand before one another. Jesus invites Thomas to stretch out his hand to the wounds of his hands and side. But there is no physical touching. Jesus' personal presence and self-offering to Thomas touch him and demolish all doubts. Here is "*the way, and the truth, and the life*" that Thomas is seeking, and he responds with the most profound and personal assent of faith in all the gospels: "***My Lord and my God!***"

For the future generations who will listen to this gospel in the presence of the physically absent Jesus, a new beatitude is addressed to Thomas: "***Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.***" It is to hand on such life-giving faith, says the evangelist, that he has written his gospel.

In his *Asian Journal*, Thomas Merton wrote: "*Faith means doubt. Faith is not the suppression of doubt. It is the overcoming of doubt, and you overcome doubt by going through it. The man of faith who has never experienced doubt is not a person of faith. Consequently, the monk is one who has to struggle in the depths of his being with the presence of doubt, and has to go through what some religions call the Great Doubt, to break through doubt into a certitude which is very, very deep because it is not his own personal certitude; it is the certitude of God Himself, in us.*"

Jesus Christ took his wounds into the grave and did not disown them in his resurrection. Because of his wounds, Jesus is now credibly in touch with wounded humanity: with the wounded in body and spirit, those hurt by society, the victims of domestic and global violence, those suffering from their own addictions, those abused by our disregard and complacency. And we know only too well our own woundedness. Such wounds reveal our need for one another and, therefore, the potential for the building of a compassionate, healing community that witnesses to the love of our blessed Lord of mercy!

Have mercy of us and on the whole world. Lord, we trust in you!

Fr. Dennis