

3rd Sunday of Easter — April 18, 2021



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

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

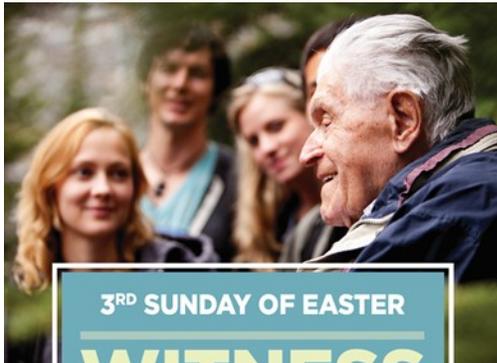
All are Welcome

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



3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

WITNESS

**"You are witnesses
of these things."**

- Lk 24:48

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Parish Office: 673-1311 Fax: 673-3687

Faith Formation: 673-4797

Website: saintpatrickmilfordnh.org

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Dennis Audet, Pastor

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Jay Duffy, Cemetery Sexton 673-1311

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.

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**

APRIL 19-25, 2021

MON - 4/19- Easter Weekday

7:30AM: Marion Dube by Josef Zund

TUES - 4/20- Easter Weekday - NO MASS

WED - 4/21- St. Anselm

5:30PM: All Souls

THURS - 4/22- Easter Weekday

7:30AM: All Souls

FRI - 4/23- Ss. George & Adalbert

7:30M: Marion Dube by The Knights of Columbus

SAT - 4/24 - Vigil 4th Sunday of Easter

4:00PM: Dennis Cosmo by Jane Cosmo

SUN - 4/25- 4th Sunday of Easter

The Church closes at Noon on Sundays

8:00 AM: Anna & André LaPalme by the Keenan family

10:30AM: Members of the parish

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

**FACE MASKS
REQUIRED
SOCIAL DISTANCING
PRACTICED**

READINGS 4/25/2021

**Acts: 4:8-12
1 Jn: 3:1-2
Jn: 10:11-18**

FROM FR DENNIS PLEASE GET VACCINATED!

The CDC, Dr. Fauci and our President have urged all local doctors, ministers and priests to talk about why it's important to get that vaccine.

We understand that some people may be concerned about getting vaccinated now that COVID-19 vaccines are available in the United States. While more COVID-19 vaccines are being developed as quickly as possible, routine processes and procedures remain in place to ensure the safety of any vaccine that is authorized or approved for use. Safety is a top priority, and there are many reasons to get vaccinated.

COVID-19 vaccination will help keep you from getting COVID-19

COVID-19 vaccination is a safer way to help build protection

COVID-19 vaccination will be an important tool to help stop the pandemic

COVID-19 vaccination will be an important tool to get life back to normal. People who have been fully vaccinated can start to do some things that they had stopped doing because of the pandemic.

**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 April 11, 2021: \$13,193
Vanco for March: \$10,877.74
Formed Subscription: \$2,727
Rice Bowl: \$4,463**

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.



Weekly challenge from your Faith Formation Team (4/18/2021)

One of the earliest symbolic representations of the Resurrection is a Chi-Rho within a circle – almost like a halo. What is the significance of the Chi-Rho, and what is the significance of the Circle?

Answer to last week's question (4/11/2021)



Also called a “nimbus,” the halo represents the “cloud of glory” that manifested the Presence of God in the Old Testament. When a person becomes holy by the grace of God, that person “radiates” that glory, represented usually by a circle of light. So a plain circle or disk indicates that a person is holy – a saint. Plain haloes are also often shown on angels, who are holy by virtue of their obedience to God. A halo with a cross in it is reserved for the Persons of the Trinity – most frequently Jesus but sometimes also the Father and the Spirit. A cruciform halo may also be shown on the Lamb of God, the Descending Dove, and sometimes on a Hand representing the Creator. Mary is sometimes shown with a halo of stars, recalling John’s vision of the Woman crowned with twelve stars in Heaven. Check the Facebook page for a discussion of the “full-body” halo or Aureola

Eastertime: Jesus’ continuing presence

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 Jesus’ ongoing presence in our lives.

Luke’s gospel is Jesus’ final recorded appearance to the disciples, immediately after he appeared to the two disciples on the Emmaus road. As in the Emmaus story, Luke shows his believing community how the resurrected Jesus remains present with them.

Breaking bread together. Jesus *shares meals* with disciples and adversaries throughout his ministry. In this final eating together, Jesus shows the disciples not only that he is a *real human*, and not a ghost, but also that he is the *same Jesus* they knew from the shared meals of his ministry (“I am myself”). This is how disciples recognize the resurrected Jesus’ continuing presence: in their fellowship meals when they *break bread together*.

Breaking open the scripture. Jesus *quotes and interprets Hebrew scripture* throughout his ministry. In this final appearance, Jesus continues to explain his *identity and mission* to his disciples, showing how his words and actions fulfill the Law (Torah), the prophetic writings (Prophets), and the psalms (Writings). This is how disciples recognize the resurrected Jesus’ continuing presence: when they hear and understand the scripture, they *recall Jesus’ own words and actions and make them their own*.

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. In Acts, Luke shows Peter and John continuing Jesus’ words and actions. The author of John’s first letter describes how disciples respond to Jesus’ self-gift. Luke’s gospel teaches disciples how to recognize the resurrected Jesus. How do we recognize and respond to Jesus’ resurrected presence? Can we find Jesus in everyday miracles of unexpected kindness or life-saving vaccines? Do we recognize Jesus in enduring relationships based on truth and respect? Do we encounter Jesus in the believing community’s words and actions and in our own words and actions?

-Terence Sherlock

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



REMEMBER
in your prayers

Mark Blamy, Emily Wrzeszcz, Ashley Holland, Janet Ramsdell, Joyce Nelson, Todd Turcotte, Bettina Mace, Jean Moro, Lucille Farwell, Stephen, Cheryl Lounsbury, Baby Owen, Shawn Dufraine, 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

Happy Easter! This is a time when new members have come into the Catholic Church. They were searching for God and found the Catholic faith.

- There are numerous programs on St. Joseph during this Year of St. Joseph.
- Get FORMED Daily or the Augustine Institute Show to continue to grow in your own faith journey.
- Check out The Search in Formed, a new series by Chris Stefanick.
- Kids have their own special books and programs on FORMED.
- Seek them out during this Easter season and celebrate the beautiful faith that we have been given. FORMED is a gift to you from our parish. Open it!

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>.

VATICAN PUBLISHES STATISTICAL YEARBOOK OF THE CHURCH AS OF DEC. 31, 2019

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- The yearbook, which was published in March, contains more than 500 pages of charts and statistical data on church life in every region of the world and almost every nation -- China being the key exception. The countries in the world with the most people baptized Catholics continue to be, in order: Brazil, Mexico, the Philippines, the United States and Italy. According to the yearbook, Brazil had 177 million baptized Catholics by the end of 2019; Mexico had 115.5 million; the Philippines had 89 million; the United States had almost 74 million; and Italy had 57.8 million.

But the top-5 countries in terms of the number of dioceses, eparchies, prelatures and other jurisdictions were: Brazil with 278; Italy with 228; the United States with 195; India with 175; and France with 99.

One indication that the order of countries with the most Catholics can and will change is the statistics the book provides on the number of baptisms of children under the age of 7 (the yearbook provides separate statistics for the baptism of people over 7). Throughout 2019, it said, there were more than 1.6 million baptisms of children under 7 in the Philippines; more than 1.48 million in Mexico; more than 1.05 million in Brazil; more than 595,000 in the U.S.; and more than 442,000 in Colombia. The pope's Argentina came close to making the top 5 with 441,572.

As for ordinations to the diocesan priesthood in 2019, two countries were tied for the top position: the United States and India, each with 415 new priests. Rounding out the top 5 were: Nigeria with 410; Brazil with 390; and Italy with 317.

The countries with the most Catholic hospitals, not counting dispensaries, are: India with 754; the United States with 551; Germany with 439; Congo with 419; and Brazil with 278.

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

Thank you to all the families who attended the Zoom classes this past year. Hope to see you all back in September.

YOUTH MINISTRY FAITH FORMATION GRADES 6-12

Sunday: 6-7:30pm — May 2

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.



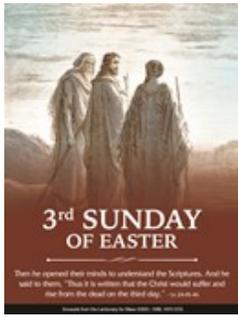
Knights of Columbus Father Don Jacques Council #3035, Milford, NH

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.

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.**



3rd Sunday of Easter

This Sunday's gospel follows the appearance of the risen Jesus to the two disciples on the way to Emmaus. The Emmaus meal was a welcoming event; the meal with the risen Jesus in Jerusalem will be a missioning event. Despite the witness of the two disciples who have hurried back from Emmaus and the news of Jesus' appearance to Simon, the eleven and their companions are still startled and terrified when Jesus appears among them and greets them with peace. They think he is a ghost! In this gospel of Luke, as in John's narrative last Sunday, Jesus makes clear to them the reality of his glorified human presence, his full embodied existence, by showing them his wounded hands and feet, inviting them to touch him, asking them to give him something to eat, and then taking the piece of grilled fish and eating it before their eyes.

In Luke's Last Supper account, Jesus was among his disciples "as the one who serves"; now he is among them as one who is to be served. Just seeing with their human eyes is not enough. As Jesus had done in the passion predictions during his ministry, as he had done for the disciples on the way to Emmaus, as the two messengers at the tomb had done for the women on Easter morning, Jesus now opens the eyes of the Jerusalem disciples' hearts so that they may understand the Scriptures. Luke mentions the threefold division of the Hebrew Scriptures: the teaching of Moses (the Pentateuch/ Torah), the Prophets, and the Writings (represented by the psalms). These were the Scriptures that had nourished Jesus throughout his life.

Jesus tells his disciples clearly that they cannot stay in this Jerusalem house of ecstatic joy, listening to his words and serving him at table. This experience must burst through the doors in the service of those outside, people of all nations who are waiting to hear the Good News of repentance and forgiveness of their sins. At the first meal with Jesus that is recorded in Luke's gospel, the great banquet that Levi hosted for Jesus, Jesus spoke of the life-changing repentance that turns one's life around, and which Levi had just experienced in his call to follow Jesus. At that meal, Jesus had addressed the call to repentance to the tax collectors and sinners; at this last meal after his passion and resurrection "the same message had to be preached to all the nations, beginning with Jerusalem. Jesus' passion-resurrection transformed the table of Jesus the prophet into that of Jesus Christ the Lord and made it the springboard for the church's universal mission. Jesus's message at this point in his final discourse looks directly to the story of the church on mission in the Acts of the Apostles.

This is what the disciples are to witness. And we, who at the Eucharist also sit at the "transformed table" of Jesus, share in the same urgent mission. As individuals and as church, we must admit our own sinfulness, continually turn to Jesus in repentance, and then go out in the strength of the Eucharist we have received to bear credible, outreaching witness of the need for conversion to the following of Jesus in our own small or larger worlds. Many places in our contemporary world are obviously not founded on repentance and forgiveness, but on war and entrenched animosities that we may publicly lament, or rationalize, or even excuse, while at the same time still allowing violence and bitterness to inhabit our hearts. If we are to be disciples who take seriously Jesus's Easter greeting of "**Peace be with you**" and who offer this peace to one another around the eucharistic table with a present and future intent, we need to create a space in our lives and our hearts where such peace with God and with our sisters and brothers can truly be at home.

"Peace be with you"

Fr. Dennis