

# 4th Sunday of Easter — April 25, 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

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

**Faith Formation: 673-4797**

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

## **PASTORAL STAFF**

**Rev. Dennis Audet, Pastor**

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



## **4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER**

"I am the good shepherd, and I know mine and mine know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I will lay down my life for the sheep." - Jn 10:14-15

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

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

## ***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.*

## **COMMUNION NOTE**

Starting this Sunday we are going back to forming 2 lines in the center aisle and the front pew goes first. Return to your pew by the side aisles and keeping safe distancing.

APRIL 26 - MAY 2, 2021

**MON - 4/26— Easter Weekday**

7:30AM: All souls

**TUES - 4/27— Easter Weekday - NO MASS**

**WED - 4/28— Ss. Peter Chanel & Louis Grignon de Monfort**

5:30PM: Michael Neider by Vesta Philbrick

**THURS - 4/29— St. Catherine of Siena**

7:30AM: Patricia Conard by John Milan

**FRI - 4/30- St. Pius V**

7:30M: Reverend Xavier Connelly, O.S.B. by  
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Prifty

**SAT - 5/1 - Vigil 5th Sunday of Easter**

4:00PM: Fred Jepson by the family and  
Richard Wagner by Mr. & Mrs. Bob Courage

**SUN - 5/2 - 5th Sunday of Easter**

**The Church closes at Noon on Sundays**

8:00 AM: Members of the parish

10:30AM: Robert Champagne by Kathy Duchesne  
& Robert Jr. and Helen Goslin & William Sherrard  
by Kim Hicks

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

**READINGS 5/2/2021**

**Acts: 9:26-31**  
**1 Jn: 3:18-24**  
**Jn: 15:1-8**

**FACE MASKS  
REQUIRED  
SOCIAL DISTANCING  
PRACTICED**

**COVID UPDATE ON MASK WEARING  
IN CHURCH — APRIL 16, 2021**

You may have seen that the Governor announced the repeal of the State mask mandate. This is causing confusion because it does not repeal what is in place for guidance for Houses of Worship in New Hampshire which incorporated the CDC's best practices including the continued recommended wearing of masks. From the first days of this pandemic impacting our State, the Diocese has been, and will continue to be, informed by federal and state public health experts and our own local, Catholic health resources.

What the Governor is allowing to expire is separate from the broader and still prudent precautionary measures which remain in place: washing and sanitizing of hands, maintaining a distance of six feet, or twenty for choirs, and other measures the Diocese has had in place since last May. Masks when in close confines, such as when we are at Mass, are still strongly encouraged to be worn by those who are able, according to the guidance we have asked all to follow.

While vaccines are now widely available, they should not give the false sense that no other precautions are necessary or helpful. We ask you, therefore, to continue to follow the guidance of best practices for the Celebration of Mass and other aspects of Parish life.

**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](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 April 18, 2021: \$5,306**

**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.



**Weekly challenge from your Faith Formation Team (4/25/2021)**

In a catacomb in Rome that was built for the Domatilla family, a first-century inscription includes an anchor – one of the most ancient Christian symbols, and still one of the most popular. What does an anchor represent in Christian art?

**Answer to last week's question (4/18/2021)**

The Chi-Roh is a "Christogram," made by superimposing the first two letters of the word "Christ" in Greek ("Christ" translates the Hebrew "Messiah.") The circle, a simplified wreath, symbolizes eternal life as well as victory. So the two symbols together represent the Resurrection, Jesus' triumph over sin and death. The Chi-Rho was the symbol the Emperor Constantine had placed on a standard he carried into battle after his vision of the Cross imposed on the sun.

**Eastertime: are we good disciples of the Good Shepherd?**

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 how Easter should change discipleship.

John's gospel is from Jesus' "Good Shepherd" discourse. This discourse has many themes (shepherds, hirelings, other sheep, self-gift, mutual knowing); this reflection offers two ideas:

**Uniqueness of Jesus as shepherd.** Hebrew scripture uses the shepherd image to identify God, or the Jewish leadership, or, in later writings, the promised messiah-shepherd from David's line. Jesus' good shepherd *does not fit the expected Davidic shepherd-messiah*. Jesus' identity and self-gift ("a good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep") to his death *has no parallel in Jewish texts about the messianic shepherd*.

**Relationships: Father and Son; Jesus and disciples.** The good shepherd's relationship with his sheep has *mystical* depths. The relationship between the Father and the Son is one of *unity* (Jn 10:30) and *eternal love* (Jn 5:20, Jn 17:24), the most radical form of self-giving (Jn 3:35, Jn 17:10). The shepherd knows his sheep in the most *personal and intimate way*. In laying down his life for his disciples in an act of perfect love, Jesus *draws his disciples into communion* with him and also with the Father (Jn 15:1-8, Jn 17:22-23).

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. Paul identifies Jesus as the only one with the authority to heal and to save all. John's letter tells us we know we are God's children now and promises we will know him completely at our resurrection. John's gospel reveals Jesus as the good shepherd and divine Son who knows and loves us intimately. How does examining Easter's meanings change how we understand God and ourselves? Does our acceptance of God's unmerited salvation change the way we understand and practice our faith? Does our inclusion with all God's children change the way we see and treat others? Does the good shepherd's self-sacrificing love define and exemplify our words and actions as disciples?

-Terence Sherlock

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



**REMEMBER**  
*in your prayers*

Mimi Shrall, Mimi Cuddington, Mark Blamy, Emily Wrzeszcz, Ashley Holland, Janet Ramsdell, Joyce Nelson, Todd Turcotte, Bettina Mace, Jean Moro, Lucille Farwell, Stephen, Cheryl Lounsbury, Baby Owen, Shawn Dufrairie, 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 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](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. If you have any questions registering, contact ParishCare for technical support:  
<https://watch.formed.org/contact/support>.

### **FORMED:**

**Watch:** Films from St. Luke's Productions <https://watch.formed.org/search?q=Films+from+St.+Luke%27s+Productions>

**Listen:** Resurrection and Mercy: Homilies for the Easter Season <https://watch.formed.org/search?q=Resurrection+and+Mercy>

**Listen:** Reaching out to today's Culture – Bishop Robert Barron - <https://watch.formed.org/videos/reaching-out-to-todays-culture>

**Watch:** Guard What Has Been Entrusted to You: A Sermon for the Feast of St. Joseph (May 1, Feast of St. Joseph the Worker) <https://watch.formed.org/search?q=Guard+What+Has+Been+Entrusted+to+You>

## **FAMILY FAITH FORMATION GRADES K-6**

Please pray for the 17 children that will be receiving Confirmation & First Eucharist on April 30th.

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

## **MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR WEEKEND OF MAY 1-2**

### **Saturday 4:00PM**

<b>Lector</b>	<b>Terri Magnus</b>
<b>Eucharistic Minister</b>	<b>Dianne Hamilton</b>
<b>Greeters</b>	<b>Gary McCartney</b>
	<b>Susan Niquette</b>
	<b>Pauline Nepveu</b>

### **Sunday 8:00AM**

<b>Lector</b>	<b>Amy Guthrie</b>
<b>Eucharistic Minister</b>	<b>Sally Winkins</b>
<b>Greeters</b>	<b>Steve Santinelli</b>
	<b>Susan Pasquale</b>
	<b>Diane Bergeron</b>

### **10:30AM**

<b>Lector</b>	<b>Kathy Marchocki</b>
<b>Eucharistic Minister</b>	<b>Jackie Kelly</b>
<b>Greeters</b>	<b>Steve Dudley</b>
	<b>Tony Varga</b>
	<b>Michelle Varga</b>



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

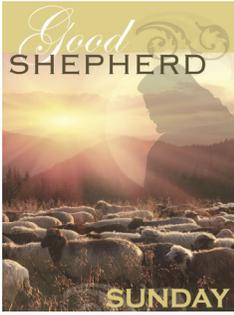
The Catholic Church invites you to the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) process for those who are:

- ◆ 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](mailto:pattih2015@comcast.net).

## **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.**



## 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

Reflecting on the Gospel, this Sunday's gospel presents us with one of the most loved images of Jesus when he says of himself, ***"I am the good shepherd."*** We are sometimes enamored by images of a smiling Middle Eastern shepherd with a cuddly, clean, and fluffy lamb tucked under his arm. Much less romantic and more accurate and robust is the earliest known statue (ca. 60 CE) of the Good Shepherd at Caesarea Maritima in Israel. The legless remnant has a huge, heavy sheep draped around the shepherd's shoulders. To carry such a load would be no easy task! In 1 Samuel, we have another vigorous Old Testament description of a shepherd in the context of King Saul's attempt to dissuade the young David from fighting against the mighty Philistine warrior, Goliath. David argues his case for the fight with a graphic description of how he kept sheep for his father: *"Whenever a lion or bear came to carry off a sheep from the flock, I would chase after it, attack it, and snatch the prey from its mouth. If it attacked me, I would seize it by the throat, strike it, and kill it. . . . The same Lord who delivered me from the claws of the lion and the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine"*.

As our Good Shepherd, Jesus fights for us, saves us from the gaping jaws of whatever or whoever seeks to grab and destroy our discipleship and wound the little "flock" of the Christian community. He shepherds us with his loving care so that we may "have life and have it more abundantly".

In contrast to the Good Shepherd is the hireling who is concerned primarily with his own self-interest: his reputation, remuneration, and safety. Through the prophets, God had denounced the shepherd leaders of Israel who had prostituted their pastoral ministry. "I myself will pasture my sheep," God promises his people. There are still some political, social, and ecclesial "hired men" with us, but there are also the magnificent shepherds who are willing to lay down their life for their sheep.

In *Oscar Romero: Memories in Mosaic*, Maria López collects the memories of two hundred people who had lived, prayed, and worked with such a shepherd— Archbishop Oscar Romero. Here is one: One morning in rainy season when the skies were heavy with the day's rain, a man in rags, with a shirt full of holes and hair made curly by dust, covered with dust, was cleaning (Romero's) tomb carefully with one of his rags. When he left to go out, I felt I needed to talk to him. "Why do you do that?" "Do what?" "Clean Monsignor's tomb." "Because he was my father." "What do you mean...?" "It's like this. I'm just a poor man, you know? Sometimes I make some money carrying things for people in the market in a little cart. And sometimes I spend it all on liquor and end up lying hungover on the streets. But I never get discouraged. I had a father! I did! He made me feel like a person. Because he loved people like me and didn't act like we made him sick. He talked to us, he touched us, he asked us questions. He had confidence in us. You could see in his eyes that he cared about me. Like parents love their children. That's why I clean off his tomb, because that's what children do."

As a child, as a son, Jesus the Good Shepherd lives, dies, and is raised to life in the power of the mutual love between him and his Father. Into this love Jesus gathers his disciples so that they may also share in it.

Fr. Dennis