

## 6th Sunday of Easter — May 9, 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**

*[daudet52@gmail.com](mailto:daudet52@gmail.com)*

**Patti Hendrickson, Pastoral Associate**

*[pattih2015@comcast.net](mailto:pattih2015@comcast.net)*

**Diane Bergeron, Secretary**

*[diane.st.patoffice@gmail.com](mailto:diane.st.patoffice@gmail.com)*

**Sue Pasquale, Faith Formation**

*[re@saintpatrickmilfordnh.org](mailto:re@saintpatrickmilfordnh.org)*

**Pauline Nepveu, Accountant**

*[pnepveu54@gmail.com](mailto:pnepveu54@gmail.com)*

**Christopher Maynard, Music Director**

*[music.saintpatricksmilford@gmail.com](mailto:music.saintpatricksmilford@gmail.com)*

**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.*



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

### **Ascension Thursday**

This Thursday, Mass will be celebrated at 5:30pm  
and livestreamed.  
There will be **NO** 7:30am Mass.

MAY 10-16, 2021

**MON - 5/10– St. Damien de Veuster**

**7:30AM:** All Souls

**TUES - 5/11– Easter Weekday - NO MASS**

**WED - 5/12– Ss. Nereus, Achilleus & Pancras**

**5:30PM:** John Couturier by Patti & Diane

**THURS - 5/13– The Ascension of the Lord (livestreamed)**

**NO MORNING MASS**

**5:30PM:** Members of the Parish

**FRI - 5/14 - St. Matthias**

**7:30AM:** Lillian Martin by Jane Provins

**SAT - 5/15 - Vigil of the 7th Sunday of Easter**

**4:00PM:** Dennis Cosmo by Jane

**SUN - 5/16 - 7th Sunday of Easter**

**The Church closes at Noon on Sundays**

**8:00 AM:** Members of the Parish

**10:30AM:** Greg Holland by Mr. & Mrs. Steve Dudley

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

**FACE MASKS  
REQUIRED  
SOCIAL DISTANCING  
PRACTICED**

**READINGS 5/16/2021**

**Acts: 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26**

**1 Jn: 4:11-16**

**Jn: 17:11b-19**

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**

### **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 May 2, 2021: \$3,833**

**Month of April Vanco: 10,084**

**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 (5/9/2021)

Many flowers have symbolic meaning in Christian art. Here are several flowers associated with the Virgin Mary. What attribute does each represent? (Extra bonus if you can remember or find where the flower is named in Scripture.)

Lily

Rose

Almond

### Answer to last week's question 5/2/2021

A ship is a traditional symbol for the Church, which brings Christians across the (often stormy) sea of life and safely to the distant port of Heaven. In fact, the word for the central part of a church building, where the people sit, is "nave" from the Latin word *navis*, or ship. In art the mast and yardarm of the boat is frequently stylized as a Cross.

This symbolic boat (also sometimes called the "Bark/Barque of Peter") was itself prefigured by the Ark of Noah, according to many of the early Church Fathers. St. Cyprian wrote that as those who were inside the ark survived the flood, those who entered the Church by baptism would be saved.

See the Facebook page for the connection of this symbol with Jesus' post-Resurrection encounter with Peter on the shore of the Sea of Galilee.

### Eastertime: the obligation to love one another

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 obligation as disciples to love one another.

John's gospel is from Jesus' final discourse. In this week's pericope Jesus continues his vine-and-branches teaching about *discipleship*. Jesus describes his union (abiding, remaining-in-relationship) with disciples, and requires disciples to love one another.

**Jesus' command.** *Love one another as I loved you.* Jesus' love is *unconditional and without limit*, laying down his life for his disciples while they still don't recognize his identity and despite their failures. Jesus loves his disciples with the *total self-giving* of God. The Father *gives the Son* to the world to *redeem the world*; the Son *lays down his life* to fulfill his mission to the Father as an *act of perfect love*. Jesus charges disciples to love like he does.

**A new relationship.** Jesus defines "remaining in relationship" as a *relationship of equals, not subservience* (through authority or force). True friends act out of *concern for one another*. Jesus, their friend, *models the relationship* he asks disciples to have with one another. Jesus *chose* them and *commissions* them to "bear fruit" and continue the Father's mission. Disciples who ask will receive the Father's help to *love one another* and to *continue Jesus' mission* of fulfilling the Father's plan.

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 God pushing a lagging church to fulfill God's saving plan. John the Elder's letter teaches a disciple's obligation to love others. John's gospel reveals how Jesus' command changes our lasting relationship with God and each other. How do we respond when God pushes us out of our comfort zone? Do we see and hear what the Spirit reveals, or do we stand behind personal rules and practices? Do we recognize Jesus' requirement to love one another, or do we reject the command as humanly impossible? Do we allow Jesus' words and actions to change us, or do we choose to remain slaves in ignorance?

-Terence Sherlock

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



**REMEMBER**  
*in your prayers*

Florence Boudreau, 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 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 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.**

**FORMED:** it's available to all parishioners for use free of charge. An annual second collection helps to defray the cost.

Registering for FORMED is easier than ever!

1. Go to our website and follow the instructions or
2. Go to [formed.org/signup](http://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:** Fatima, A Message of Hope (May 13, 1917 First Apparition) <https://watch.formed.org/videos/fatima-a-message-of-hope>)

**Kids: Watch:** The Day the Sun Danced: The True Story of Fatima (<https://watch.formed.org/search?q=The+Day+the+Sun+Danced>)

**Listen:** The Second Greatest Story Ever Told: Understanding Mary's Role in Your Life by Father Michael Gaitley (<https://watch.formed.org/the-second-greatest-story-ever-told-understanding-mary-s-role-in-your-life-by-fr-michael-gaitley>)

**MINISTRY SCHEDULE**  
**FOR**  
**WEEKEND OF MAY 15-16**

**Saturday 4:00PM**

<p><b>Lector</b> <b>Eucharistic Minister</b> <b>Greeters</b></p>	<p><b>Suzanne Price</b> <b>Bernie Kallfelz</b> <b>Gary McCartney</b> <b>Pauline Nepveu</b> <b>Susan Niquette</b></p>
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**Sunday 8:00AM**

<p><b>Lector</b> <b>Eucharistic Minister</b> <b>Greeters</b></p>	<p><b>Amy Guthrie</b> <b>Dawn Block</b> <b>Steve Santinelli</b> <b>Susan Pasquale</b> <b>Diane Bergeron</b></p>
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**10:30AM**

<p><b>Lector</b> <b>Eucharistic Minister</b> <b>Greeters</b></p>	<p><b>Michelle Varga</b> <b>Tony Varga</b> <b>Steve Dudley</b> <b>Mary Ellen Dudley</b> <b>Judy Hohenadel</b></p>
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Congratulations to our students whom have received Confirmation on April 30th.



Xavier Aftanas	Tobias Aftanas	Sebastian Aftanas
Luca Allen	Hunter Austin	Ryan Bonafilia
Devon Crouse	Noah Denis/Leroy	Isis Desmarais
Eva Gavert	Emma Ilsley	Madeline Leonard
Asherah Mirles	Mason Morrison	Michael Okoro
Valerie Okoro	Jude Okoro	



**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.



**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).

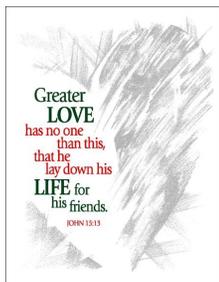
**NON-PERISHABLE ITEMS ONLY**

Pancake Mix & Syrup, Condiments, Cooking Sauces & Seasonings, Cooking Oil, Jelly, Cold Cereal  
**These items can be dropped off at the SHARE office. PLEASE CALL FIRST: 673-9898. Thank you for your donations.**

**Saint Christopher Academy Teacher Fair**

Saint Christopher Academy is growing and looking for teachers to join their joy-filled community! The Academy will hold its second drop-in Spring Teacher Fair on Thursday, May 13 from 5:00 to 7:30 PM at their upper campus, located at 6 Bartlett Ave, Nashua, NH. The Academy is particularly in need of full-time teachers for grades 4-8, daily and long term substitutes, and after care teachers. During the Teacher Fair, candidates will participate in an informal mini-interview with the principal and meet faculty and staff. Candidates are encouraged to download and complete the Diocesan Teacher Application at <https://www.catholicnh.org/schools/resources/schools-employment/> prior to the Teacher Fair and also bring along supporting credentials such as teaching accreditation, transcripts, and letters of recommendation.

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



The heartbeat of today's gospel and of the second reading from 1 John is "love." As disciples, we are called to feel this pulse and make our lives beat in rhythm with it. The love commandment that Jesus gives to his disciples depends on God's limitless love for the world. This love is made incarnate and dwells among us in Jesus, the one who is "close to the Father's heart", and so Jesus' own relationship with his Father, his own life and death, become the norm of the costly love he asks of his disciples. This must not be grudging love, but joyful and expansive, encompassing the world for which Jesus was sent.

One of the most priceless human gifts is friendship. It allows us to disclose ourselves to and receive from another in complete openness and trust. With a friend, we can think aloud; participate in one another's joys and sorrows, hopes and fears; survive loneliness, indifference, hostility. Small wonder, then, that in today's gospel Jesus calls his disciples by this most precious of names: "my friends." Drawn into and abiding in the mutual love of the Father and the Son, disciples are no longer called servants but friends. The community in St John's Gospel was to live as friends and so, throughout his gospel, John introduces us to various occasions of friendship: John the Baptist, the precursor and "the friend of the bridegroom" who, like a best man, hands over the bride Israel to Jesus; the family at Bethany, especially Lazarus, the friend for whom he wept at his grave and for whom Jesus was the tomb breaker; Pilate, who at a critical moment preferred to be a friend of Caesar rather than Jesus; and Peter, the forgiven friend who will lead and shepherd the community of the forgiven.

As we gather around the altar of the word, we hear that we have been chosen by Jesus as his friends and commissioned to befriend the world in and with the love he has shown us. The most startling, profound, yet simple naming of God is proclaimed in the reading from the First Letter of John: "God is love." The letter is addressed to the "beloved," those with whom God has taken the initiative, who are parented by God's love, and this self-giving love is the source of human love. Like today's gospel whose heartbeat is love, so love beats strongly in this reading—named nine times in its four verses. It is love that is expansive and global, yet also intimate and personal, revealed most fully in Jesus, the Son of God and our brother.

## ASCENSION OF THE LORD 2021



Ascension  
DAY

This Thursday, we celebrate the Ascension of the Lord which is one of the many-faceted Easter jewels that crown the liturgical year, and the Ascension readings reflect this light. In their different ways, all the gospel writers want us to appreciate the threshold moment of Jesus's exaltation into heaven.

St. Mark narrates that Jesus is risen. He has appeared to his followers during forty days—a biblical number symbolic of both fullness and transition—and has instructed them about the promised coming of the Holy Spirit. He explains this coming in baptismal terms. Water was used by John the Baptist, but this new baptism will be in the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. So, the disciples wait for this unimaginable outpouring. Jesus, in the meantime, focuses their concern for mission—the witness to him that the disciples will be called and empowered to give beyond Jerusalem ... to the very ends of the earth. The disciples are still a wounded community, wounded by Judas's treachery, by Peter's betrayal, and by their own cowardice. Yet it is in the midst of such failure, false expectations, and personal ambitions and wishes for quick solutions, that Jesus will call them to mission.

We are also people entrusted with the mission of proclaiming the gospel now that the physical presence of Jesus has ascended to heaven and is no longer with us. We too are sent to do new wonders, speak new words with the fire of the Spirit on our tongues, offer new healing to our sisters and brothers, and cast out the contemporary "demons" from ourselves and others. And all this continues to be "in the name of," in the personal power of Jesus into whose Body we are baptized.

Fr. Dennis