



# ST. PATRICK ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

34 Amherst St Milford, NH 03055  
Parish Office: (603) 673-1311  
Faith Formation Office: (603) 673-4797 Fax: (603) 673-3687  
Website: [saintpatrickmilfordnh.org](http://saintpatrickmilfordnh.org)

## Rev. Dennis Audet

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**RECONCILIATION/CONFESSION:** Individual Confessions are available every Saturday afternoon in the Confession Room from 3:00 pm to 3:45 pm or by appointment with the pastor. Additional opportunities for confession will be announced during the Advent and Lenten seasons.

## NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL



**MASS TIMES:** The Eucharist is to be the source and summit of the spiritual lives of Catholics. Sunday Masses are celebrated weekly on **Saturday at 4:00 pm and Sundays at 8:00am and 10:30am.** Weekday Masses are celebrated usually on **Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 7:30am and Wednesdays at 5:30pm.** Please consult the bulletin or website weekly for schedule changes. First Friday Mass and Holyday Mass is celebrated on the Holy Day at 5:30pm.

**EUCHARISTIC ADORATION:** An Intentional Holy Hour is provided on the First Friday of the month following the 5:30pm Mass from 6:00-7:00 pm.

**MARRIAGE/WEDDINGS:** A wedding is a special time of joy for a bride and groom and their families. Engaged couples should contact the Pastor as soon as possible (at least 6 months before the desired date) to set the date and plan for the wedding. Couples should not make commitments with a reception venue until the wedding date is confirmed with the Pastor. The preparation process is available on the parish website.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** If you are anticipating surgery or experiencing serious health issues, or you or a loved one is near death, please contact the office or the pastor personally to make arrangements for this sacrament of healing.

## PASTORAL COUNCIL

**President: Will McGrath; Members: Peter Arnoldy, Steve Santinelli, Laura Ilsley, Timothy Gregory, Jerry Guthrie, Sue Niquette, Juliann Washer along with the parish staff**

## 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.**

## OUR SACRAMENTAL LIFE

**BAPTISM:** We rejoice with parents as their family is blessed with children. Parents are encouraged to initiate arrangements for the Baptism of their child as soon as possible. Call the Parish Office for information or visit the parish website.

## 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time — January 14, 2024

### MASS INTENTIONS - January 15-21, 2024

**MONDAY – JANUARY 15 - OFFICES CLOSED  
WEEKDAY (Martin Luther King Day)**

7:30AM: - NO MASS

**WEDNESDAY - JANUARY 17 -**

**St. Anthony**

5:30PM: - All Souls

**THURSDAY- JAN 18 -**

**WEEKDAY**

7:30AM: - Ronald Phan by Patricia Wiener

**FRIDAY – JAN 19 -**

**WEEKDAY -**

7:30AM: - All Souls

**SATURDAY – JANUARY 20 -**

**Vigil of the 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

4:00PM: All Souls

**SUNDAY – JANUARY 21 -**

**3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00AM - All Souls

10:30AM - For the people of St. Patrick

### PARISH STEWARSHIP

Your giving supports the ministry of our parish as we celebrate the sacraments, preach the Gospel, form and transform our community, bring healing, provide for the needy and maintain our facilities. You are not only giving to the Church; you are giving *as* the Church!

**Weekend collection for Jan 7: \$4,677**

### **GIVE+ONLINE WITH VANCO**

This highly recommended way to give to the parish is safe and easy. It has proved itself very helpful to the future financial vitality of the parish. Go to our website [saintpatrickmilfordnh.org](http://saintpatrickmilfordnh.org) on the right side of the Home page “giving” then follow the instructions. This is very helpful for parishioners who want to give on a regular basis.

Your weekly donation can also be mailed to the office or dropped off in the mail box on the garage wall.

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### CALENDAR OF EVENTS JANUARY 15-21, 2024

**TUESDAY, Jan 15**

6:30pm—Bible Study with Sally Wilkins—SPC

**WEDNESDAY, Jan 16**

6:15pm—RCIA—SPC

7:00pm—Scouts - C/H

**THURSDAY, Jan 17**

9:30am—Bible Study—SPC

10:00am—Prayer Shawl ministry—SPC

6:00pm—Pastoral Council—SPC

**SATURDAY, Jan 20**

7:30am—Men’s Prayer Group - C/H

3:00pm—Confessions

5:00pm—Italian Night Social—C/H

**SUNDAY, JAN 21**

9:00am—Knights of Columbus breakfast—C/H

9:00am—Blood Pressure Screening—C/H

6:00pm—Faith Formation grade 6-12—C/H

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a delicious hot breakfast after the 8:00 Mass on the 21<sup>st</sup> of January. The menu will include our famous egg casserole, scrambled eggs, breakfast sausage, our homemade fruit salad, english muffins and pancakes along with orange juice, hot coffee or tea and hot chocolate. We look forward to seeing you!

### HOMEBOUND

If you know of anyone who is homebound and would like to receive the Eucharist, please call the office at 673-1311.

**INCLEMENT**

WEATHER POLICY  
for weekday Masses



Parishioners are now to be aware that if there is inclement weather there will be no Mass that morning. Official announcements of cancellations and delays will be made on the cancellations ribbon on WMUR-TV CHANNEL 9. If there is 2 hours delay in the Milford School System there will be no morning mass. This policy is for the safety of parishioners and those who are responsible for snow removal.

### PRAYER REQUEST

email or call: [diane.st.patoffice@gmail.com](mailto:diane.st.patoffice@gmail.com) 603-673-1311

## STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

Dear Heavenly Father, my parish is composed of people like me; I help make it what it is. It will be friendly, if I am. Its pews will be filled, if I help fill them. It will do great work, if I work. It will make generous gifts to many causes, if I am a generous giver. It will bring other people into its worship and fellowship, if I invite and bring them. It will be a parish of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith, and a parish with a noble spirit, if I, who make it what it is, am filled with these same things. Therefore, with Your help, O God, I shall dedicate myself to the task of being all things that I want my parish to be. Amen.

### PRAYER REQUEST

Donald Murphy, Jack, Chris Arnoldy, Julie Crosby, Amelia DiBurro, David & Carolyn Momenec, Paul & Lilian Battaglia, Rod Descartaret, William Gartner, Mary Jane Nichols, Irene Prunier, Oscar & Cecilia Beck, Joe Landers, JPB, Aileen Cormier, Patty Fay McDonagh, Joyce Keilig, Maureen Yergeau, Sophia Doyle, Rev. Don Keegan, Joanne Gallagher, James D'Alessandro, George Rose, Frank Lake, Tabias Wood, Margarita, Tony Richazzi, Priscilla Scott, Kellene McMahon, Ken Dubois, Melissa, Helen, Ann, Paige DiPietro, Mary, Eric Lacroix, Linda Asselin, John Milan, John Lacroix, Joseph & Brenda Janikas, Chuck Dumont, Robert Ferreira, Conrad Ducas, Konstantin & Marko Bushuyev, Tom Moro, Elijah Huang, Neil Gade, Brenda & Cullen Boisvert, Orlando Lopez, Julie & David Spokane, Julie Hammond, Mimi Shrall, Mimi Cuddington, Mark Blamy, Ashley Holland, Todd Turcotte, Bettina Mace, Lucille Farwell, Stephen, Chery Lounsbury, Shawn Dufraine, Brendan Zubricki, John Coleman, Bruce Gade, Pamela Wood, Patricia Barrett, Cameron Conley, Maureen Belair, Nancy Moro, Mary Ann Hower, Eva, Thomas Burkardt, Susan Yorio, William, Gus Dreher, Irene Dion, Andrea, Sophia Lamarche, Brundage family, Coralee Smart, Liz Richer, Luke LaVallee, Mike Paxton, Isabelle Miller, Anne Ronsov, Scott Dickinson, Joseph Koprek, Benjamin Smith, Cheryl Williams, Ken Hower, Mindy Kane, Linda Lewis, Richard Copeland, Robert Merley, Leah Stigliano, Philip McPhee, Sammy Tinaglia, for the men and women who are serving our country, and for the end of the war in the Ukraine and the Middle East.

*Please call the parish office at 673-1311 when someone can be taken off the prayer list.*

### **CARDINAL O'MALLEY SAYS POPE FRANCIS ALLOWING PRIESTS TO BLESS SAME-SEX COUPLES SHOWS 'LOVE AND CARE' FOR ALL IN THE CHURCH**

Cardinal Sean O'Malley, the leader of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston praised Pope Francis for formally allowing priests to bless same-sex couples.

"We thank the Holy Father for his love and care of all the people in the flock," Cardinal O'Malley said in a statement. "We caution and make clear that the Holy Father has not endorsed gay marriage, but has recognized all Catholics, including those whose unions are not recognized by the Church, as equally in need of God's grace and love."

Pope Francis' directive, issued Monday by the Vatican's doctrinal office, gives priests greater flexibility to bless Catholics in same-sex unions — a practice that was already occurring behind closed doors in many parishes but had not been officially sanctioned until now, said Mathew Schmalz, a religious studies professor at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester.

"Pope Francis indicates that he is recognizing 'non-ritualized blessings' that are spontaneous and for those who ask for them," O'Malley said Tuesday. "Priests imparting these blessings need to be careful that it should not become a liturgical or semi-liturgical act, similar to a sacrament."

O'Malley said the declaration "stresses that Catholics should 'neither provide for nor promote a ritual for the blessings of couples in an irregular situation,' but at the same time, 'not prevent or prohibit' the Church from responding to people seeking God's help through 'a simple blessing.'"

While the shift empowers priests to bless gay couples outside of Mass, it stresses that marriage is a lifelong sacrament between a man and a woman, and that clergy who impart blessings on people in same-sex relationships should avoid rites and prayers reserved for Catholic weddings.

"It is precisely in this context that one can understand the possibility of blessing couples in irregular situations and same-sex couples without officially validating their status or changing in any way the Church's perennial teaching on marriage," wrote the doctrinal office's prefect, Cardinal Víctor Manuel Fernández, who introduced the new rule. **Fr. Dennis' Note: People who are interpreting this permission as the Pope's promoting gay marriage is a serious misinterpretation of this permission.**

## Family Faith Formation Class Schedule

### Sunday Morning - Grades K-5

February 4, 2024, March 10, 2024, April 7, 2024

### Sunday Evening - Grades 6-12

January 21, 2024      February 4, 18, 2024  
March 10, 24, 2024      April 7, 2024

## SHARE

### NON-PERISHABLE ITEMS ONLY

**FOOD ITEMS:** Canned Fruit, Flour, Sugar, Boxed cake Mixes & Baking Supplies, Coffee & Tea, Juice, Granola

**CLOTHING BARN:** NEW underwear for Men, Women, Children of all sizes are needed.

**These items can be dropped off at the SHARE OFFICE. PLEASE CALL FIRST: 673-9898.**

## FORMED

### WHAT TO WATCH

**ARE YOU SIGNED UP FOR "FORMED"?** It's easy! Just go to [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org) and click on SIGN UP.

Click on "Sign up as a parishioner", add our zip code "03055" and follow the prompts from there. You'll have a wealth of Catholic movies, studies, books, audios and more. Get signed up today and feed the faith of your ENTIRE family! If you have any difficulties, please call the office.

Podcasts, History, Mental Health, Kids, Marriage & Family, Pro-Life, Evangelization, Lent, Conversion Stories, Advent, Drama, Scriptures - Enhance your spiritual life with these informative podcasts.

**FORMED: Listen:** Podcast: Doctor Doctor - episodes on health from Catholic doctors' perspective

**Study:** Lectio Prayer

**Watch:** Into Life: Love Changes Everything (A series with the Sisters of Life)

**Read:** Saint Gianna Molla: Wife, Mother, Doctor

**Watch:** Martyrs and Monastics



## ITALIAN NIGHT SOCIAL

**When:** Saturday, January 20<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 5pm

**Where:** church hall

Tickets are available at the office during office hours. Tickets can be purchased until January 16th.

No tickets will be reserved or sold at the door.

**LIMIT OF 75 people**

**\$10.00 adults**

**\$5.00 children under 12**

**Free for children under 3**

## HEALTH MINISTRY INFORMATION

**Blood Pressure screening: 9 to 10:15am**

**Blood Pressure Screening is now twice a month.  
January 21; February 4, 18**

### Hats & Mittens



With coldest months upon us the Health Ministry Team is again sponsoring our Hat & Mitten Tree. During the month of January donations of handmade or purchased mittens, gloves, hats and scarves (for all ages) can be left in the basket near the tree in the vestibule. The donated items are given to: The Homeless Shelter.

**Knitting Ministry every Thursday from 10-11:30am in the Center.**

If you love to knit or crochet, consider joining our team in making warm comforting shawls for the sick and the poor. The comfort of our blessed shawls can not only warm the body but heal the heart. Join us in our mission to nourish the soul and care for others within our community. Need instructions? Pick up a brochure in the back of the church.



## SAINT PATRICK HELPERS

Do you have a small project or a list of projects that you need completed around your house? The Knights of Columbus offers handy-man services to the community.

Proceeds are donated to the parish – **Facilities Fund.**

If you would like to learn more or if you think that you have the "perfect project" please contact Pauline Nepveu at [pnepveu54@gmail.com](mailto:pnepveu54@gmail.com) or 603-672-0564. For information about the Knights or to help, contact Mike at [MG60MG@Gmail.com](mailto:MG60MG@Gmail.com).



## *2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (B-2024)*

We have every reason to suppose that John the Baptist saw his ministry as a mission from God, that God was calling him to announce the coming of the kingdom. And if we can trust the gospels and other ancient sources, John's mission was a huge success. Thousands of people went out into the Judean desert to be baptized by John, and John was able to form a group of disciples who supported him and

assisted him in his work. John took his mission seriously. This is what makes John's action in today's gospel so remarkable. When John sees Jesus passing by, he says to his disciples, "Behold the Lamb of God," and his disciples leave him and follow Jesus. At the height of his influence and success, John did not try to hold on to his disciples but instead sent them to the Lord.

Now, John was able to do this because he was a man of faith. He believed that God had a plan, and his role was only part of that plan. So, when he saw Jesus, he realized that his work was done. He had come to prepare the way of the Lord, and the Lord had now arrived. John had the freedom to let go of his mission and his disciples because he believed that the same God who had called him to preach would continue to be faithful to him. Even though John's work was finished, John believed that God was not finished with him. Trusting that God would not forget him, he was able to proclaim, "Behold the Lamb of God," and step aside.

You and I need to follow the freedom and the faith of John the Baptist, as various callings in our lives come to an end. Parents need to do this. For years they give themselves to their children, providing, guiding, and protecting them. Then comes college, a job out of town, and someone they wish to marry. If we, like John the Baptist, believe that God has a plan for our children and we are only part of that plan, then we can find the freedom to let go of our children, even as we trust that God will not let go of us.

We have maybe worked for years building a career, serving other people through a job of which we are proud. Perhaps we have been attending a school where we are comfortable and have made a lot of friends. Then time comes for retirement or graduation, and we have to leave what we know and the people we know behind. If we, like John the Baptist, can be proud of the work that was done and now ended, we can also trust that God will lead our lives in a new direction and that direction will have blessings of its own.

Perhaps we've been fortunate to have good health our whole lives, having energy and strength to play hard and to work hard and to help others when they are in need. But, as we grow older, we begin to realize we have less energy and less strength and that we will have to depend more on others. The witness of John the Baptist tells us that we should not lament the good things that have ended but trust that, even in our fragility and dependency, God can still bless us.

If we try to hold onto things that are finished, we will become angry and unhappy people. That is why we need the example of John the Baptist, the example of his freedom and his faith: the freedom to say, "This part of my work is now done," and the faith to believe that God will never be done with us.

**SUNDAY READINGS: 1 Samuel 3:3b – 10, 19 • Ps 40 • 1 Corinthians 6:13c – 15a, 17 – 20 • John 1:35 – 42**