

April 30, 2023

Saint Patrick Parish

Living Catholic Tradition in Nashua

Mass Schedule

Daily

Tuesday - Friday 12:05 pm

Saturday 8:00 am

Weekend

Saturday 4:00 pm

Sunday 7:00 am

Sunday 9:30 am

Confessions

Saturday 3:00 pm

Sunday 9:00 am

Tuesday - Friday 11:15 am

Office Hours

Monday- Thursday

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Friday Closed

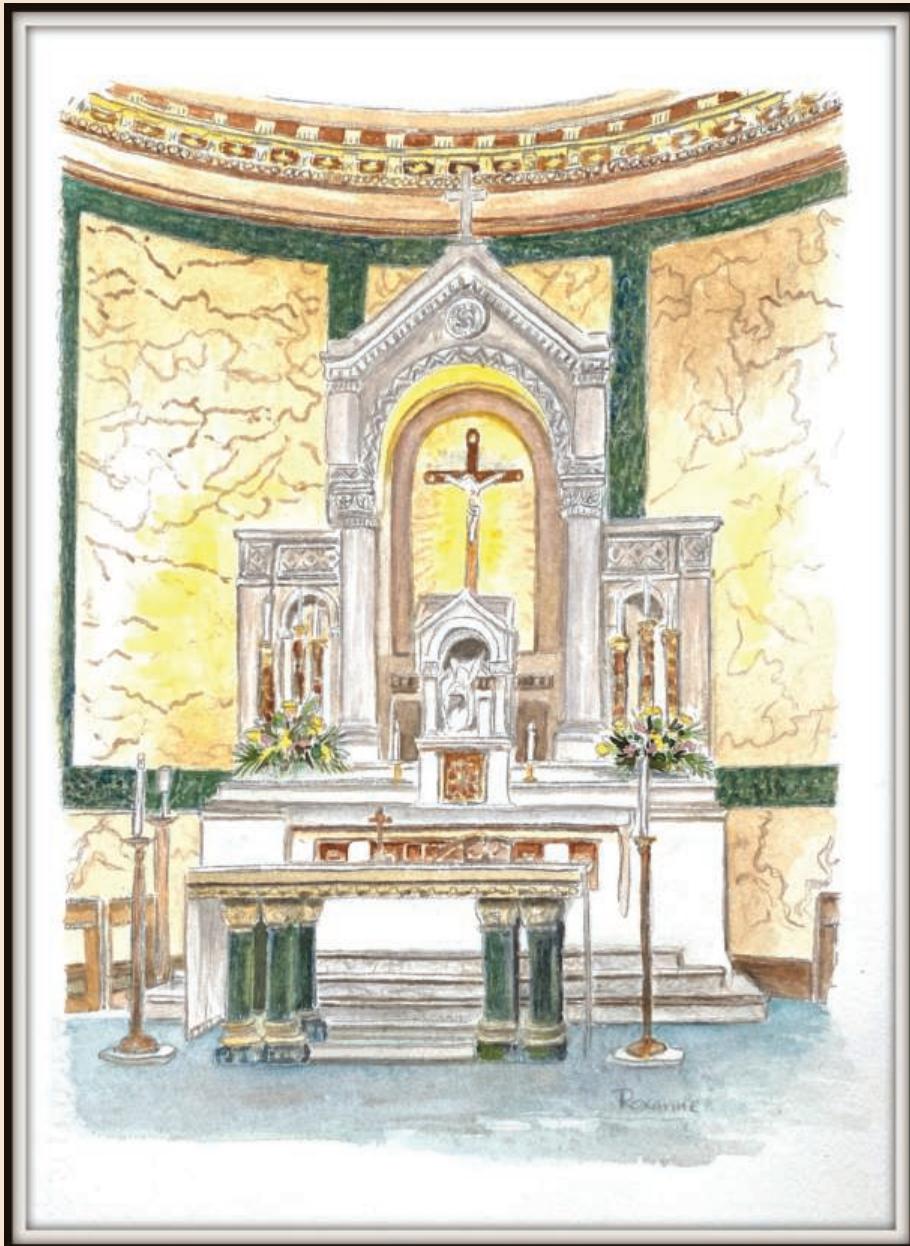
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Rev. Michael Kerper
Pastor

Rev. John Healey
Priest-in-Residence

Rev. Edmund Crowley
Priest-in-Residence



29 Spring Street, Nashua, NH 03060

603-882-2262

www.stpatricksnashua.org

office@stpatricksnashua.org

Mass Intentions

Sunday, April 30

Fourth Sunday of Easter

7:00 AM **Priest's Intentions**

9:30 AM **John Kwiatkowski (Living)**
By his Mom

Monday, May 1

No Mass

Tuesday, May 2

12:05 PM **No Mass – Priest's Conference**

Wednesday, May 3

12:05 PM **No Mass – Priest's Conference**

Thursday, May 4

12:05 PM **Cynthia Mac Dougall**
By Mary McConnell

Friday, May 5

12:05 PM **Joyce Blackburn**
By the Family

Saturday, May 6

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

4:00 PM **Kenneth J. York**
By the Family



Contributions April 22 & 23

Planned Giving

Envelopes	\$ 3,029
E-Giving	\$ 3,355

Cash & Checks \$ 1,372

Total Collection \$ 7,756

Easter Contributions

Total To Date \$ 14,517

Easter Flowers

Total to Date \$ 2,162

Poor Box Donations

April 22 & 23 \$ 643

Thank You!

All funds are used locally to assist people who come to us for help.

Parish Staff

Jean Dickson *Finance Manager*

Sandra Rathbone, *Administrative Assistant*

Ruth Thompson, *Faith Formation*

Diane Duffy, *Cemetery Director*

Adam D'Entremont, *Pastoral Associate*

Musician

Chris Bord, *Organist/Director (9:30 am)*



St. Patrick Cemetery Office

Serving St. Patrick and Holy Cross Cemeteries, Hudson, NH

Pre-Planning

Diane Duffy

Consultation

Cemetery Director

603.881.8131

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday ~ 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Wednesday ~ 9:00 to 12 Noon, Friday ~ Closed

Located in the Rectory

Parish News and Notes

Mass Attendance

April 22 & 23

Saturday 4:00 PM = 85

Sunday 7:00 AM = 76

Sunday 9:30 AM = 159

Total Attendance = 320

Special Mass Schedule

Due to the annual conference for priests in early May, weekday Mass and Confessions will be suspended on:

Tuesday, May 2nd

Wednesday, May 3rd

Thank you for your understanding.

Fr Michael Kerper

Fellowship Time Following 9:30 AM Mass

The Knights of Columbus host our “Fellowship Time” on the **second Sunday of every month** following the **9:30 AM Mass**. The next event will be held on **Sunday, May 14**. Please stop by and enjoy visiting with fellow Parishioners.

Anointing of the Sick

Every **Friday** after the **12:05 PM Mass**, we offer the ***Anointing of the Sick***. The Sacrament can be received by people preparing for surgery, recovering, or who suffer from any serious disease or infirmity. The Sacrament is administered in front of the **Blessed Virgin Mary** altar on the left side of the sanctuary.

Prayer Opportunity for Women

The **St. Patrick's Women's Prayer Group for our Priests** meets on the **first Saturday of the month**. We welcome all women of the parish and their friends to join us. We begin with the Joseph. A short time for refreshments, fellowship, and prayer intentions follows in the Center. Please join us as we pray in community for our parish, our priests, and the universal church.

If you are a Catholic women interested in joining this ministry, call the Parish office @ 603-882-2262 or email office@stpatricksnashua.org



News from Friends & Neighbors



Birthright Mother's Day Flower Sale



St. Patrick's will be sponsoring the annual Mother's Day Flower Sale to benefit **Birthright of Southern NH**, after the 4:00 PM Mass on **May 13** and after the 7:00 AM and 9:30 AM Masses on **May 14**. Carnations will be available for purchase for a suggested donation of at least \$1.00 per carnation.

Birthright is a pregnancy help center that supports mothers and children in all their needs. We encourage you to support this wonderful organization and to celebrate all the moms in your life! Donations can also be made by visiting the website at www.birthright.org/derry

Thank you for supporting Birthright in their mission of life.

*Good morning
Starts with
Coffee*

The DAY Café
@ St. Patrick Parish Center
Main Street, Nashua
Monday-Friday/7:00-9:30 AM

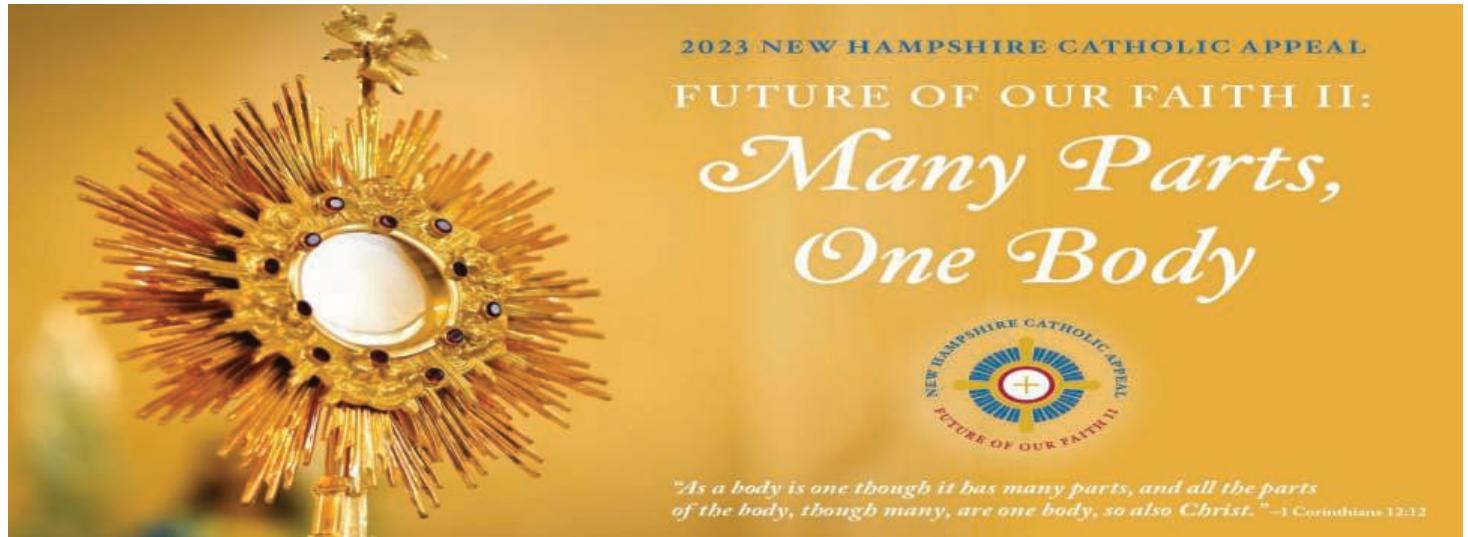
Several parishioners from St. Patrick Parish and other groups offer coffee, light snacks, and friendship to our neighbors on the street. This happens every weekday from 7:00 to 9:30 AM. All are welcome. No charge. Please enter through the Main Street entrance and enjoy meeting your friends.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: If you would like to volunteer with this ministry, please call the Parish office at 603-882-2262.

Donations of the following items will help keep this gesture of friendly hospitality operating:

Paper Towels, Pre-packaged Snacks

Donated items can be dropped off at St. Patrick's vestibule before or after Mass.



This weekend we kickoff the **New Hampshire Catholic Appeal: Future of our Faith II, Many Parts, One Body**. This is an initiative for our Diocese to grow and expand ministries in the Church in New Hampshire. It will also consolidate six of our annual collections under one Appeal along with the Catholic Charities NH parish appeal and the *Parable* magazine drive.

I am grateful for your continued generosity to our parish and to these vital ministries. The New Hampshire Catholic Appeal will help fund essential services and ministries like the care for our retired priests, education and formation of seminarians, Catholic education, *Parable* magazine, Catholic Charities N.H., and more.

Everyone in our parish will receive a copy of the Appeal materials so that you can learn more about the NHCA and how you can participate. As you consider making your gift, please consider what you have given to these individual collections (Seminarian Fund, Retired Priest Fund, Parish to Parish Support Fund, Catholic University of America and USCCB, Catholic Education/Schools, N.H. Missionaries Abroad and Migrant & Refugee Ministry in N.H.) plus to *Parable* Magazine and the Catholic Charities N.H. special collection appeal. Our parish goal this year is \$51,000 and any money raised over that goal will be rebated to our parish to use for our parish needs.

Together, we are many parts of the Church in New Hampshire, but one body of Christ and we can make a difference in the lives of many people. To make your gift, please return the gift envelope that you will receive in the mail or pick up an envelope on the tables at the rear of the church. To give online, visit the Appeal's website <https://www.catholicnh.org/nhca> or call the Appeal Office at 603-663-0170.

With gratitude, Fr. Michael Kerper

On Giving to the Church: Spiritual Considerations

As the New Hampshire Catholic Appeal moves along, we tend to focus heavily on money. How much should I contribute? How much is fair? Where does it go? Why now?

Keeping strictly to the matter of money, I offer two numbers for consideration. The first is \$1,603 — the average yearly contribution from American Catholic households to their parishes. That's \$30.82 per week. The second number is minus 26% — the large drop off in overall contributions to religious groups in the United States. Twenty years ago, 55% of American households donated to their churches. By 2018, that share had fallen to just 29%. This shrinkage of religion in the United States is plain for all to see.

As people awash in technology and new methods of fundraising, we tend to see everything as primarily an economic matter. Meanwhile, we completely miss the *spiritual dimension* of giving. By contrast, Sacred Scripture and the early Church Fathers *always* “spiritualized” economic matters, even to the point of regarding the offertory procession at Mass as an indispensable act of divine worship.

Last Sunday, while praying the Divine Office, I stumbled upon a surprising text from St. Justin Martyr. He described the offertory of the ancient Mass this way: “*Those who are well provided for, if they wish to do so, contribute what each thinks fit; this is collected and left with the president [the presbyter/priest], so that he...provides for all who are in want.*”

Three points stand out:

First, St. Justin emphasized the freedom of people to decide *whether* to give or not; and to determine *how much* they will give. Each household has unique financial needs that deserve to remain private. He envisioned that Christians would strike a balance between their own needs and those of the community. This, by the way, helps us to understand why the Church tended to avoid tithing, which would perpetually obligate people to give 10% regardless of changed circumstances.

Second, St. Justin specified that *only* “Those who are well provided for” should make contributions. This protected poorer people from feeling obligated to impoverish themselves by supporting the Church. And, without any coercion, St. Justin hinted that the more affluent Christians should “carry” the poorer ones. (This happens at St. Patrick’s all the time: 80% of our income comes from 20% of parishioners.)

Third, the collection in the early Church went to the president/presbyter/priest “so that he...provides for all who are in want.” Note that the “president” of the community personally distributed the funds to the poor. Here we discover the connection between collection and the Eucharist: Those who consumed the Body and Blood of Christ responded in turn by feeding the “other” Body and Blood of Christ *in the poor*.

Please take time to study the brochure from the *New Hampshire Catholic Appeal*. The goal is to strengthen the Church’s financial position, which will also strengthen every parish in our state. Thank you for your customary generosity.

Fr. Michael Kerper



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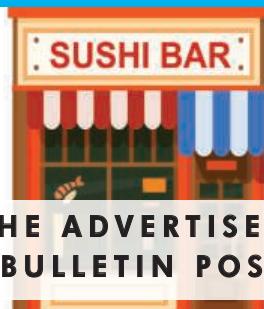
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