

**Saturday December 17**

4pm ~ The Choquette & Loisselle Families and Rita & Jerry Trottier requested by Al & Shirley Choquette & family
Robert Comeau requested by his wife & family

Sunday December 18

8am ~ Aldo Larese, 34th Anniversary, requested by the Raby family
Ashley Nicole Drolet, 4th Anniversary, requested by Mom, Dad & Meaghan
10:30am ~ Intentions of all our Parishioners

Monday December 19

8am ~ Tina Wurst, 3rd Anniversary, requested by her family
Fr. Gerald Dunn

Tuesday December 20

8am ~ Edward Miranda requested by David & Maureen Groff
Victory Mary requested by St. Patrick Parish

Wednesday December 21

8am ~ Norman Coombs, 8th Anniversary, requested by his family
Don Goyette requested by the Goyette family

Thursday December 22

8am ~ Rev. John Sledziona, Birthday Remembrance, **Health & Blessing for Joyce Riccardone** requested by Donna Smith

Friday December 23

8am ~ No Mass

Saturday December 24 Christmas

4pm ~ Christmas Memorials
7pm ~ Christmas Memorials

Sunday December 25 Christmas

midnight ~ Christmas Memorials
9:30am ~ Christmas Memorials

Sunday, December 18

Coffee & Donuts, 11:30 AM, in the parish center
 Christmas Pageant Practice, 11:30 AM, in the church

Youth Ministry Christmas Party, 5:30-7:00 PM, in the youth room at the school

Men & Women AA, 7:00-8:00 PM, in the school

Monday, December 19

The Chosen, 7:00 PM, in the youth room at the school

Tuesday, December 20

Food Pantry, 6:30-7:30 PM

Wednesday, December 21

Men's Morning Group, 6:00-7:00 AM, in the chapel

Adoration, 8:30-9:30 AM and 2:00-9:00 PM

Food Pantry, 1:00-2:30 PM

Women's AA, 7:00-8:30 PM, in the school

Confessions, 8:00 PM, in the church

Thursday, December 22

Men's AA, 7:00 PM, in the school

Praise Band, 7:00 PM, in the church

Friday, December 23

Men & Women AA, 7:00-8:00 PM, in the school



This week the Sanctuary Candle is in memory of **Tina Wurst**, 3rd Anniversary, by her family

VOCATION

"When Joseph awoke he did as the angel of the Lord directed him." Are you prayerfully vigilant about discovering your vocation in Christ? Might He be inviting you to the priesthood or consecrated life? Contact the Vocation Office at (603)663-0196 or email: mmason@rcbm.org



My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We're one week out from Christmas! During this "Late Advent" time, the Church shifts focus from preparing for the coming of Christ at the end of our lives on earth to the coming of Christ at Christmas. The readings point this out. We read in Isaiah about the prophecy of Emmanuel – God-with-us – which is a foreshadowing of the Annunciation to St. Joseph in the Gospel. As I was praying with these Scriptures, I started to notice the contrast in the characters.

In the first reading, Isaiah tells us that the kings of Aram and Israel (the northern kingdom) go up to attack the kingdom of Judah at Jerusalem. The Lord sends Isaiah to tell the king of Judah – King Ahaz – not to be afraid, that He (God) would protect Jerusalem. He tells Ahaz not to go seeking help from Assyria (another, very powerful nation), for God Himself would keep Jerusalem safe, and that both Aram and Israel would be destroyed within 65 years.

Here's where we enter into the reading for today. Isaiah tells Ahaz to ask for a sign from the God, and He would give that sign. God wants to strengthen Ahaz's faith! But Ahaz, in an act of false humility says, "**I will not ask! I will not tempt the LORD!**" (Isaiah 7:12). It sounds holy and humble, but it actually pride and rebellion. When God invites you to ask for a sign, He does it for a reason. Ahaz refused because he knew what he wanted to do – he plans to ask Assyria to help him against Aram and Israel. He didn't want to have to trust in the LORD. If he got a sign, it would mean he would have to change his life – and that's uncomfortable. God, in His mercy, though, gives an amazing sign! It was a sign for that time, for Ahaz, but also a sign for all of us, through Mary, the Virgin, conceiving and bearing a Son who would be called Emmanuel – God-with-us! (It's interesting to note that with most writers' words can stand for something else, but only God can have actions/events/history stand for something else, as it does here! God is so good!)

Let's look at St. Joseph, now. Here is a good man, a righteous man, a man after the Heart of God. He *wants* to do what God is asking, but is troubled. Many have interpreted this passage (appropriately so) as Joseph divorced Mary because he knew the child was God, and he was over-awed by this – he knew himself completely unworthy to take care of the Mother of God and the God-man. In his unworthiness, he separates himself from Mary. On the surface, it seems kind of like the same thing Ahaz did. However, when Joseph is told by the Angel in the dream to take Mary into his home, Joseph doesn't argue about his unworthiness; he doesn't come up with excuses. No, Joseph obeys: "**When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home**" (Matthew 1:24).

God is inviting us to trust Him. When we look around at the trouble in the world, we can fear for the outcome. I don't need to tell you all the problems out there. And in the midst of it, God is inviting us to trust! He is in charge! It doesn't mean that we will have justice the way we envision justice, but God will walk with us every step of the way, if we keep our eyes on Him, if we *obey* Him. Of course, we will have to bear crosses – Jesus *promised* that that would happen. But He will be there to bear them with us. Joseph didn't have it easy, but he persevered in obedience to God's will, and God took care of him and his family. God will take care of us, too, through the crosses, trials and tribulations, but we have to humble ourselves to obey trustingly in His love.



Faith Life for the Month of December

Advent is one of the most beautiful times to live our faith as a family. We prepare to celebrate the birth of our Savior but we are also reminded of the hope that Jesus' Second Coming will bring as well. Advent is a time to renew our hope!

"The season of Advent, restores this horizon of hope, a hope which does not disappoint for it is founded on God's Word. A hope, which does not disappoint, simply because the Lord never disappoints! He is faithful! He does not disappoint! Let us think about and feel this beauty."

- Pope Francis

During this beautiful season, this will be our focus in the Faith Life Program. What does this look like? How can we anchor our lives in Christ and restore our hope during Advent?

- Take time for family prayer
- Attend Holy Mass together and discuss what you see and hear during the Sacred Liturgy.
- Visit those who might be lonely during these times
- Serve the poor
- Sing lots of Advent and Christmas Carols
- Invite someone to join you for Holy Mass on Christmas morning.

These are just a few ways we can quiet our hearts and anchor once again on Jesus, who is the source of hope!

I pray that you all have a blessed Advent and Christmas.

In Christ,

Adam Castor

Director of Faith Life

**SCHEDULE FOR CHRISTMAS
&
NEW YEAR'S MASS**

Christmas Eve – December 24th

Christmas Eve Mass 4:00 PM
Christmas Eve Mass 7:00 PM

Christmas Day – December 25th

Midnight Mass 12:00 AM
Christmas Day Mass 9:30 AM

New Year's Eve – December 31st

The Solemnity of Mary 4:00 PM

New Year's Day – January 1st

The Solemnity of Mary 8:00 AM
The Solemnity of Mary 10:30 AM

YOUTH MINISTRY FOR DECEMBER

Youth ministry is open to everyone in grades 6-12 Annual Youth Ministry Christmas Party on this **Sunday, December 18th, from 5:30-7:00 PM.**

Join us for games, Yankee swap, and celebration! This gathering will take place in the youth room at the school.

Please register for this event by emailing Adam at faithlifeformation@comcast.net

SAVE THE DATE

Stuebenville East in Springfield, MA on the weekend of **July 21-23, 2023.** Registration will open soon!

STAY UP-TO-DATE

If you want to receive reminder emails about Youth Ministry events happening at our parish and neighboring parishes, please email Adam Castor at faithlifeformation@comcast.net and he will add you to the Youth Ministry mailing list.

CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS

If anyone would like to remember their love ones you can do this through the Christmas Memorials. The deadline is this Monday, December 19th. You can drop it off in the Parish Office or drop it into the collection basket at Church during Mass.

MONDAY NIGHT TEACHING

Monday Night Teaching Series will be watching and discussing "The Chosen" Series. The date is **December 19th, at 7:00 PM** in the youth room at the school. There will be more episodes in the New Year.



The Christmas Pageant will be before the 4:00 PM Mass on Christmas Eve.

Christmas Pageant rehearsal will be on Sunday after the 10:30 AM Mass (approximately 11:35 AM) on **December 18th**. To sign up or get more information, please email Wendy Williams at garywendy6@comcast.net

HELPING CENACOLO

This January, Fr. Von will be traveling to minister to Cenacolo in Florida. Cenacolo is a place for young people in darkness to find light through prayer, work and community. Many that go to Cenacolo are addicts. If you would like to help Cenacolo, gift cards to Home Depot, Lowe's or generic (ie Visa gift cards) would be appreciated. Please get them to Fr. Von or to the Parish Office no later than January 3rd.



You are invited to a Christmas Concert at Mary Queen of Peace with Marie-Line Morin, soprano. The concert is Sunday, January 1st, at 2:00 PM. Free offerings will be welcomed. Benefits will go toward a Listening Ministry project to be implemented in the Church, details are available on [facebook.com@morin.marieline](https://facebook.com/morin.marieline)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Holy Hour for Life, Tuesday, January 3rd, 6:00-7:00 PM, in the church

Community Dinner, Friday, January 13th, from 5:30-7:00 PM, in the parish center

Men of St. Joseph, Saturday, January 14th, 7:00-9:00 AM, in the parish center

Blood Drive, Thursday, January 19th, from 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM, in the parish center

MONEY

The Bulletin had to be transmitted early due to Christmas. The offertory collection will be in next weekend's bulletin.



Helping Our Parish Grow
WEEKLY OFFERTORY

SECOND ENVELOPES FOR THE FOLLOWING WEEKS

Dec. 25 Utility

This collection helps with the cost of utilities for the Church, Rectory, Parish Center and School.

Jan. 1 Capital Improvements

This collection helps with projects around the parish.

Jan. 8 Utility

This collection helps with the cost of utilities for the Church, Rectory, Parish Center and School.

Your contributions toward the support of the parish and its ministries are greatly appreciated.

MASS ON PARISH WEBSITE

You can watch Mass now on our Parish Website. Go to the Parish website www.stpatrick-pelham.com and look under the quick links and click on Mass on Pelham Television. Then click on the link ptv.viebit.com. If you would like to hear Fr. Von's past homilies, please visit our Parish Website under "Quick Links" under "On-line Masses and Homilies."

PTV - SCHEDULE - CHANNEL 22

For St. Patrick Mass Schedule

Sunday - 8:00 PM

Monday - 7:00 AM & 4:00 PM

Tuesday - 9:00 AM & 8:00 PM

Wednesday - 1:00 PM & 10:00 PM

Thursday - 9:00 AM & 7:00 PM

Friday - 11:00 AM & 7:00 PM

Saturday - 6:00 AM & 2:00 PM - **4:00 PM "LIVE"**

Subject to change

CHURCH & PARISH OFFICES

12 Main St.
Pelham, NH 03076
603-635-3525 (office)
603-635-3919 (fax number)

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30-4:00

PARISH WEBSITE

Website: www.stpatricks-pelham.com

Pastor

Rev. Volney J. DeRosia - Ext. 15
Email: fathervon@comcast.net

Priest in Residence

Msgr. Richard J. Kelley
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Faith Life Director

Adam Castor 603-635-1447 Ext. 14
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Kathleen Jean - Ext. 10
Email: kathy7421@comcast.net

Music Ministry

Gary Williams 603-635-7669
Email: garywendy6@comcast.net

Steve Caruso 603-401-0837

Help Souls on their way to Heaven

When Fr. Von gets called to anoint people who are dying, he calls on a group of people to pray a **Divine Mercy Chaplet** for them.

If you would like to join this ministry or want more information, contact Fr. Von at (603)-635-3525 or fathervon@comcast.net.

PRAYER LINE

Please contact Lillian Murgia at 603-635-2634 or Lmurgia_871@comcast.net

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 4PM
Sunday 8AM, 10:30AM

WEEKDAYS MASS SCHEDULE

Monday through Thursday 8am
Friday No Mass
First Friday and First Saturday 8am

HOLY DAY MASS SCHEDULE

Holy Day 8am, 10am & 7pm

ADORATION

Monday-Thursday 6:30-7:40am
Wednesday 8:30-9:30am
2:00-9:00pm

For more information, or to sign up call the Parish Office at 603-635-3525

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3pm to 3:45pm
or by appointment

ANOINTING OF THE SICK & COMMUNION TO THE SICK & HOMEBOUND

Please contact the Parish Office for arrangements

BAPTISM

Please contact the Parish Office to schedule a baptism. Parents are required to meet with the pastor and participate in a baptismal catechetical session prior to the celebration of the sacrament.

MARRIAGE

Arrangements with the parish must be made at least nine months prior to the wedding. Fulfillment of a Diocesan, pre-marriage program is required.

FORMED

To help you grow in your faith go to www.formed.org to register, go to pelham.formed.org

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Care to join the Knights of Columbus? Please contact Erick Wright at 603-635-8772 or eqwright@comcast.net. More information online: www.kofcpelhamnh.org