

CHURCH & PARISH OFFICES

12 Main St.
Pelham, NH 03076
603-635-3525 (office)
603-635-3919 (fax number)
Website: www.stpatrickspelham.com
Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30-4:00

Pastor

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

Deacon

Deacon John Ross
Email: ualdrmfilt@comcast.net

Faith Life Director

Adam Castor 603-635-1447 Ext. 14
Email: faithlifeformation@comcast.net

Business Manager

Therese Soucy - Ext. 11
Email: therese42852@comcast.net

Secretary

Kathleen Jean - Ext. 10
Email: kathy7421@comcast.net

Music Ministry

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

Jeanne Dyjak 978-394-8894
Email: jeanned34@gmail.com

FORMED

To help you grow in your faith go to www.formed.org
and sign in with the parish registration code **nr3434**
(all lowercase).

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.

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 4PM
Sunday 8AM, 10:30AM, 6PM

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

Wednesday 8:30-9:30am
2:00-8:00pm

FIRST FRIDAY ROSARY

The Knights and the Women's Guild invite everyone to First Friday Rosary at 6pm in the chapel. The Rosary is followed by the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 6:45 PM.

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3pm to 3:30pm
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.

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



Saturday December 30
 4pm **The Jean & Plante Families**
 requested by their family

Sunday December 31
 8am **Intentions for all our Parishioners**
 10:30am **Rev. John Sledziona** requested by Donna Smith
 6pm **For all Priests of our parish who have passed away**

Monday January 1 Mary, Mother of God
 9:30am **William Costa**, 6th Anniversary, requested by his family

Tuesday January 2
 8am **Rev. Msgr. Raymond O. Blair Kevin Caron** requested by the Lemieux family

Wednesday January 3
 8am **Patrick Hager**, 1st Anniversary, requested by Hal & Charlene
Mr. & Mrs. Albert Lemieux, Jr. requested by the Lemieux family

Thursday January 4
 8am **Rev. Richard Wegman Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Caron** requested by the Lemieux family

Friday January 5
 8am **Marie Garafolo** requested by Patty Kennedy
 6pm Holy Hour

Saturday January 6
 8am Women of Mary
 4pm **Rena Cayer** requested by the Bedard family
Billy & Clara Wells, Anniversary, Remembrance, requested by their son Leon

Sunday January 7
 8am **Rev. John Sledziona** requested by Donna Smith
Mary Gleason requested by Carol Martin
 10:30am **Raymond Letendre**, 15th Anniversary, requested by his wife Jeannine
 6pm **Intentions for all our Parishioners**

PARISH COLLECTIONS

In order for the parish to meet its regular expenses, our offertory and other designated parish collections must bring in **\$8,700** per week.

Parish Collections for the following week:

Offertory 12/17/17	\$7,748
Maintenance	\$1,759

Total funds collected for this week for parish expenses \$9,507

Thank you for your continued support
 ~Fr. Von~



SECOND ENVELOPES FOR THE FOLLOWING WEEKS

Jan. 7 Capital Improvements

This collection helps with projects around the parish.

Jan. 14 Utility

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

Jan. 21 Diocesan Seminarian Fund

This collection funds the education and formation of men discerning the priesthood for the Diocese of Manchester. Your contribution helps promote vocations to the priesthood.

Jan. 28 Faith Life Formation

This collection helps with expenses for Faith Life.

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

First Friday Mass is this Friday, January 5th, at 8:00 AM.

First Saturday Mass is this Saturday, January 6th, at 8:00 AM.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday, January 1

Happy New Year

Tuesday, January 2

Women's Guild Meeting, 6:30 PM, in the parish center

Food Pantry, 6:30-7:30 PM

Wednesday, January 3

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

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

Bible Sharing, 9:00 AM, in the school classroom

Food Pantry, 1:00-3:00 PM

Knights of Columbus Meeting, 7:00 PM, in the K of C Hall

Thursday, January 4

Confessions, 6:00 PM, in the church

New Parishioner Meeting, 7:00 PM, in the rectory

AA, 7:00 PM, in the K of C Hall

Praise Band, 7:30 PM, in the church

Friday, January 5

Holy Hour, 6:00 PM, in the church

Saturday, January 6

Youth Group, 7:00 PM, in the youth room at the school

WOMEN OF MARY

Women of all ages are invited to join us in honoring Our Lady for First Saturday Devotions on January 6th. We begin with Mass at 8:00 AM, followed by a faith formation. In addition, we will have our potluck breakfast and fellowship. For more information, please call Linda at 603-930-6436 or email WomenOfMaryNH@yahoo.com. Note: Adoration and Divine Mercy Chaplet will be available before Mass at 7:30 AM in the church.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

SPIRITUALLY ADOPTED BABY

Your spiritually adopted baby has now reached full term and is ready to be born. Studies have suggested that the signal for onset of labor may arise from the unborn baby, and researchers at UT Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas have found evidence that a substance secreted by the lungs of the baby contains the key signal that initiates labor. He/she is truly a miracle. Your prayers saved lives! Thank you on behalf of the babies and their mothers for whom you prayed during the past nine months. One new ministry that is seeking to provide shelter and support to homeless pregnant women is St. Gianna's Place. Please check out their website at stgiannasplace.org and consider a Christmas gift to this very worthy cause in the southern NH area.

The Parish Office will close at noon on Friday, December 29th, and will reopen on Tuesday, January 2nd.

Acts of Mercy

How many Spiritual

- Instruct the uninformed
- Counsel the doubtful
- Admonish sinners
- Comfort the sorrowful
- Bear wrongs patiently
- Forgive offenses
- Pray for the living and the dead

How many Corporal

- Feed the hungry
- Clothe the naked
- Give drink to the thirsty
- Shelter the homeless
- Comfort the imprisoned
- Visit the sick
- Bury the Dead



***HAVE A HEALTHY, HAPPY AND
BLESSED NEW YEAR!***

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This weekend we celebrate the Holy Family. This is a great opportunity to remind us that the family is at the core unit of society – as the family goes, so does society. And the devil *hates* the family. I don't use the word "hate" lightly – I use it intentionally, for he truly hates the family. Why? Because the family is a reflection of who God is, it is a participation in Divine Life. It is called the **Domestic Church** – the home Church. I know, you're thinking while the kids are screaming, "Don't touch me!" and the dog knocked over the garbage pail, and chaos seems to reign in the house, "I don't see anything Divine in this! Isn't God full of peace?!!" Yet, the very essence of God is Trinity – Father, Son, Holy Spirit – and this Trinity is *relationship*! The heart of who God is, is relationship. Family is relationship. True, we are all part of dysfunctional families, but we are in progress, striving for holiness. The devil hates how the family reflects God's love, and so he attacks it with great malice.

So, what are some of the ways we can help make our families "holy families," to break off the attacks of the evil one? First, I would say that we need to have a real sense of what the family is supposed to be. Being a good, holy family doesn't mean we have all of our "stuff" together... we are broken and we will remain broken. It doesn't mean the kids will never fight, and we'll all be hunky-dory Pollyanna-ish. It means that we move through the brokenness and strive to love each other in our wounded and sinfulness. We don't have to be "perfect" (as the world understands it) to be holy.

The following suggestions come from a friend of mine – Fr. James Bromwich – who wrote a family rule of life. He marks five areas of family life we need to be striving to improve to build up our families. They are **Prayer, Family Life Together, Education/Teaching the Faith, Sacrifice/Fasting, and The Moral Life of the Family**. I don't have space to go into all of these areas today, but feel free to read the whole "Rule of Life for the Family" on our web site (www.stpatricks-pelham.com/from-the-pastor/). I will just touch on areas of **Prayer** and **Family Life Together**. As with all things, there's so much more that could be said or done!

Prayer is our relationship with God. This is more "caught than taught." Of course, we can learn to say prayers, but prayer is more than words – it is communion, it is raising our hearts and minds to God. A child who sees her parents praying, who sees it is important to them, will be much more open to praying. Baseline, of course, is attending Sunday Mass together as a family. At the Mass, we enter into the very gift Christ gives of Himself to us and, more importantly, to the Father. How can we enter more fully into Mass? Maybe during the week, we can read through the upcoming Sunday's readings as a family. Pray together in the car on the way to Mass. With little ones, no matter how small, when the Consecration comes, we can take them in our arms and quietly say, "Here's where the *miracle* happens!" With older children, everyone can have a Mass Journal, and you can discuss after Mass what spoke to us in the Mass – whether from the readings, the homily, the music, the prayers, or the silence.

Another important aspect of prayer is to **pray every day as a family**. Have set times and set prayers. Have a routine, while still leaving room for spontaneity. Establish habits that the children will come to expect. Don't back down to resistance. If your kids could get away with it, most would balk at eating their vegetables and going to school every day. Yet, you still make them do it because you love them. How much more to help them grow strong and learn for the things of *eternity*.

Family Life Together is so important. There is a spirit of division that is dividing families. Most often we'll recognize it under the title of "*busyness*". If you want your children to grow up to value what you value, you need to spend time with them. If there is nothing else you get from this article, take this to heart: **the family meal is the altar of the domestic Church**. It is *vitaly important* for the entire family to eat together regularly, at least once a day. Make sure you eliminate distractions – turn off the TV, and cell phones (don't just put them on silent... people will continue texting as they eat!). This is the place where you each share about your day. This is the place where fights are to be reconciled. This is the place where children ... and parents ... learn to listen to each other, and not just talk about what they want to talk about. This is the place where memories are made! Let this be a time of joy and laughter, and a time of getting to know each other. Share responsibilities of preparation and cleanup.

I hope that this has whet your appetite for more. Again, check out the "Rule of Life for the Family" on our website for more information and suggestions. May your family truly be a holy family!

PELHAM FUNERAL HOME

A very generous donation from the Pelham Funeral Home to St. Patrick Church has been received in loving memory of the people of St. Patrick Church whose families the Pelham Funeral Home was privileged and honored to have served from December 1, 2016 through December 1, 2017. It is the hope of Jim O'Donnell and the staff of the Pelham Funeral Home that the support of family, friends and faith may guide these families through this holy season and bring them blessings into the New Year. And may their deceased loved ones, whom we name here, rest in the peaceful and loving embrace of Jesus Christ.

Dominic DiCastro
Claire Plomaritis
Gilbert Monty
Michael T. Crane, Sr.
Dale A. Benoit
Marguerite Kmiec
Priscilla Albert
Theresa M. Boucher
Alrick P. Hammar, Sr.
Claire McCarthy
Pauline A. Tardiff

Francis J. Murphy, Jr.
Barry E. Ryan
Darlene M. Balzotti
Maureen E. Boyden
Joan M. Straughan
Robert J. Briere
Arthur J. Lavigne, Jr.
Joseph E. Lemieux
Brenda M. Pacheco
Joan E. O'Brien
Paul A. Roma



This year for Lent
Do something that will
Change Your Life
Join our Retreat
March 2-5, 2018
held at St. Patrick School
Sign up by contacting
Fr. Von at 603-635-3525 or
fathervon@comcast.net

The retreat is free,
and you sleep at home
Please indicate dietary restrictions.

NEW YEAR'S MASS

New Year's Day - January 1st
The Solemnity of Mary 9:30 AM

FOOD PANTRY

The Pelham Food Pantry is in need of **Canned Fruit and Juice or Sports Drinks.**

PELHAM GOOD NEIGHBOR FUND

On behalf of the Pelham Good Neighbor Fund "Sponsor A Child" program committee members, I would like to thank you for your generous donation of clothes and toys. Your support will make it possible for us to help the wonderful families who had reached out to the PGNF at Christmas time. All of the Pelham Good Neighbor Fund committee members would like to wish you and your families a happy holiday season.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Dear Parishioners of St. Patrick's Church, I would like to thank all of you very much for your donations to my Eagle Scout project. Your support means a lot to me and so very much to all the veterans we are helping. All of the donated items were gathered and put into backpacks to give to homeless veterans as planned. My original goal was to assemble and distribute 50 backpacks, but with all of your help, we were able to surpass the total number of filled backpacks to 72! We then transported the backpacks to the Veterans Administration in Manchester on Veterans Day, for distribution to the homeless veterans throughout NH. Because of your generosity, you have touched many lives of homeless veterans in New Hampshire. I thank you, on behalf of homeless veterans of New Hampshire, for bringing some comfort into their lives. Overall, I would like to thank you for your help in achieving my eagle project goals, and bringing my idea into action.

Sincerely,
George Michaud
Troop 610
Pelham, NH
Eagle Scout Candidate