



Saturday February 27

4pm ~ Aurel Plamondon, 10th Anniversary, requested by his wife Therese
John Golden requested by Joan Berard

Sunday February 28

8am ~ Corey Lemieux requested by Anita Hall & family
10:30am ~ Intentions of all our Parishioners
6pm ~ Fr. Roger P. Bilodeau

Monday March 1

8am ~ Therese Greaves requested by Carol Martin

Tuesday March 2

8am ~ In Honor of St. Joseph
Rev. Arnold Kelley requested by the Lemieux family

Wednesday March 3

8am ~ Rosemary Dole, Birthday Blessings, requested by Patty Kennedy

Thursday March 4

8am ~ For All Souls in Purgatory

Friday March 5

8am ~ Msgr. Stanislaus Kempa requested by the Lemieux family
John Austin requested by David & Maureen Groff

6pm ~ Ann Neskey requested by Patty Bousquet

7pm ~ Stations of the Cross

Saturday March 6

8am ~ Women of Mary
4pm ~ Intentions of all our Parishioners

Sunday March 7

8am ~ The DiGiantomaso Family requested by their family
June Greenwood requested by the Wasylak & Belanger family
10:30am ~ Michael Crane, 4th Anniversary, requested by his wife & sons
6pm ~ Fr. John Bavaro, OFM

Sunday, February 28

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

Tuesday, March 2

Holy Hour for Life, 6:00-7:00 PM, in the church
 Food Pantry, 6:30-7:30 PM

Wednesday, March 3

Men's Morning Group, 6:00-7:00 AM, in the chapel
 Adoration, 8:30-9:30 AM and 2:00-8:00 PM
 Food Pantry, 1:00-3:00 PM
 Women's AA, 7:00-8:30 PM, in the school
 Confession, 7:00 PM, in the church

Thursday, March 4

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

Friday, March 5

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

Friday Night Line up during Lent
 6:00 PM Mass
 7:00 PM Stations of the Cross

VOCATIONS

"If God is with us, who can be against us?" Is the Lord strengthening you to consider the grace of a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life? Call Father Matthew Mason (603) 663-0132, or write: mmason@rcbm.org.

Confession during Lent: Sundays 7:30-7:45, 10:00-10:15 AM and 5:30-5:45 PM.
Wednesdays, March 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st at 7:00 PM.
Reconciliation Service next Sunday, March 7th at 2:00 PM here at St. Patrick Parish.



My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We are now into our second week of Lent. How are you doing with your Lenten observances? All too often, we can fall early on and think that we have failed. In our discouragement, we might then stop trying for the rest of Lent. Remember, though, that we are on a Lenten *journey!* We're working our way to the Cross and the Resurrection. We are not there yet. So, if you have fallen: get up again! Try again! A saint is not someone who is perfect, who never sins or fails (just read the lives of any saints ... they all struggled!). A saint is someone who keeps going back to God for mercy – trusting in His infinite mercy! Confidence, nothing but

confidence in God's love and mercy!

I want to look at the first reading for this weekend. It is a rather harrowing reading as we hear about how God asks Abraham to sacrifice his beloved son, Isaac. Before we freak out about this, we need to know that the culture of the ancient near east often believed in gods that required human sacrifice (as did many other cultures, including the Aztecs). This desire for human blood makes sense if we understand, as St. Paul did, that the other "gods" weren't gods at all, but demons (see I Corinthians 10:19-21). Demons hate humanity and so would rejoice in human sacrifice and in murder (for information about this in modern times, see Fr. Michael Gaitley's book *The Second Greatest Story Ever Told* in his discussion on "*Santa Muerte*" in Mexico today). Knowing the end of the story, we can see that God is not only *testing* Abraham, He is also *showing* Abraham that He is NOT like the other "gods" of the land – He is the LORD of life.

God commands Abraham to sacrifice Isaac on Mt. Moriah. It is significant that Isaac carries the wood for the sacrifice. This indicates that Isaac is not a child at this time, but a strong young man... while Abraham is well over 100. This seems to indicate that Isaac went willingly to sacrifice... that it is not just the faith of Abraham, but of Isaac as well. God shows Himself as the God of life as He sends the Angel to stay the knife so that Isaac is spared.

This incredible act of faith of Abraham and Isaac makes ripples down the centuries. It is here that Abraham shows that He has faith that God can even raise men from the dead (see Hebrews 11:19), since He knew that God had promised descendants as numerous as the stars through Isaac. Of course, Isaac would not be able to bear children if he were not alive. They trust God, they have faith in God even in the midst of seemingly impossible circumstances. They have come to believe that God is a God of the impossible!

The sacrifice of Isaac is seen as a key moment for the people of Israel as they understand that the sacrifices that they offer in the Temple are only efficacious because they somehow, in a mystical way, participate in the faith of Abraham and Isaac. In fact, the place where the Temple was built was Mt. Moriah (see 2 Chronicles 3:1). This is significant, as well, since this is the same mountain range on which Jesus was crucified. You see, Isaac is a foreshadowing of Jesus. If the sacrifices of the Temple had meaning because they looked back to the sacrifice of Isaac, the sacrifice of Isaac had meaning because it looked forward to the sacrifice of Jesus! Jesus carried the wood for sacrifice up the hill. Jesus was the beloved Son of the Father. Jesus died willingly, trusting with faith in His Father that He would raise Him from the dead. And He was vindicated!

It is so important to realize that in the midst of everything, God has a tremendous plan. Even when it seems all is lost, God has a way out. God invites us to have faith in Him, to trust His love, to have confidence in His incredible plan for our lives, and that He is a God of the impossible!

GROUNDING IN TRUTH
The beauty of our Faith
Expressed in the Nicene Creed

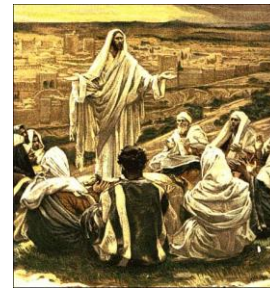
All Adults are encouraged to join Director of Faith Life, Adam Castor during the Liturgical Season of Lent. We will meet using Zoom video conferencing, spending the six Tuesdays of Lent reflecting upon the Truths of our faith found in the Nicene Creed. The Creed we recite at every Holy Mass. These meetings will occur at 7:30 PM. To register for these sessions and to receive the Zoom information via email, please email Adam at faithlifeformation@comcast.net. I look forward coming together in reflection and prayer during the Season of Lent.



The current pandemic has left many local families in positions of food insecurity. In order to celebrate Saint Patrick's Day in a meaningful way and help local families, there will be a food drive at St. Patrick Church Parking Lot from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM on Saturday, March 13, 2021. Any of the following items would be greatly appreciated, boxed/canned food items, paper towels/toilet paper, any types of personal hygiene items such as toothpaste, deodorants, soap, and shaving items. All donated items will be presented to the Pelham Food Pantry. For any questions, please contact Colin Roark at colinroark@hotmail.com

HOLY HOUR FOR LIFE

Join Fr. Von on the first Tuesday of the month, March 2nd, from 6-7 PM for a Holy Hour for Life in the Church. In this time before our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, we will pray for a cultivation of the Culture of Life. There will be guided prayer as well as time for silence. Please contact Fr. Von (fathervon@comcast.net or 635-3525) if you have any questions.



We Dare To Say Our Father

“See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God.”

1 John 3:1

During the month of February, families in the Faith Life Program are pondering the beautiful reality that God asks us to call Him Father in the Lord's Prayer. In the Jewish tradition, the name of God was not to be spoken except for when Torah was being read or for prayers in the synagogue. In all other cases, they would refer to God by other titles and, when His name was written, they would not write the entire name. This was to uphold the Commandment: thou shall not take the Lord's name in vain.

Knowing this background allows us to appreciate greatly the reality of how Jesus teaches us to pray. He not only asks us to call Him by name, He asks us to call Him Father. What a beautiful gift it is to have a Father in Heaven. The next time we say the Lord's Prayer, may we slow down and remember this reality, reciting the prayer with love and devotion.

Continue to pray for all of our Faith Life families and know that we are praying for you.

-Adam Castor

Director of Faith Life

FORMED

To help you grow in your faith go to www.formed.org. They really have some good materials like Movies, Daily Reflection, Documentaries and much more. To register, go to pelham.formed.org

HOUSE BLESSING
DURING THE PANDEMIC

If you would like your house blessed during the pandemic, Fr. Von is willing to do this Rite, which allows for social distancing. Please contact Fr. Von if you want to schedule a blessing of your house. (603-635-3525, fathervon@comcast.net)

**WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER
has gone "VIRTUAL"!**

To support married couples during this time of social distancing, Worldwide marriage Encounter is sponsoring virtual marriage experiences. Some are on weekends and some span multiple weeks on a given weekday. Couples will explore their individual personality styles, improve listening and communication skills, understand God's plan for their marriage, and learn how to keep their relationship a priority. Registration is limited and a \$100 application fee is required. For more information, or to apply, call at or visit them at <https://wwmema.org/>. "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." Let us learn to listen better to each other and God by participating in a virtual Worldwide Marriage Encounter experience on Friday/Saturday/Sunday March 19-21 and Thursdays/Mondays April 8-29.

DIOCESE OF MANCHESTER

Did you know that the Diocese of Manchester has a Code of Conduct? This Code of Conduct, known as *Serving Christ, Serving Others*, applies to all Church personnel. "Church personal" not only refers to priests, deacons, and religious men and women, it also includes all those who regularly work or volunteer at diocesan parishes, schools and camps. Some examples are: lectors, ushers, catechists, day care staff and volunteers, Catholic school volunteers, Boy Scout leaders, CYO coaches, youth ministers, members of pastoral and finance councils, choir directors and members, and parish outreach workers. The *Serving Christ, Serving Others* Code of Conduct is available at www.catholicnh.org/code.

**THE CASE FOR JESUS
MONDAY NIGHT TEACHINGS ARE BACK**

Fr. Von will be starting up his Monday Night Teachings again -- this time virtually. This Lent and Easter, we will make our way through Dr. Brant Pitre's program *Lectio: The Case for Jesus*. Teachings begin at 7:00 PM via Zoom. The first session is Monday, March 8th (other dates are 3/15, 3/22, 4/5, 4/12, 4/19, 4/26, 5/10, and 5/17). Please contact Fr. Von to sign up (fathervon@comcast.net).

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 week of 2/21/21

Offertory Envelopes \$5,478

Offertory Electronic Giving \$2,360

Total Offertory \$7,838

Maintenance \$1,063

Total Offertory \$8,901

As of 2/21 we have an offertory deficit of \$9,163

Thank you to all of our parishioners who have been supporting us during this pandemic. I appreciate your generosity.

~Fr. Von~

Aid to Eastern Europe

collected as of 2/17/2021

\$1,438

Thank you for your generosity!



**SECOND ENVELOPES
FOR THE FOLLOWING WEEKS**

Mar. 7 Capital Improvements

This collection helps with projects around the parish.

Mar. 14 Catholic Relief Services

CRS Provides funding for Catholic Relief Services, USCCB Offices of International Justice and Peace, relief work of the Holy Father, USCCB's Migration & Refugee Services, and the Catholic Legal Immigration Network. CHM supports the strengthening of the Catholic Church where it is most financially challenged in the United States.

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

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
Email: rkelly4372@gmail.com

Deacon

Deacon John Ross
Email: ualdrmflt@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

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.

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

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

1st Wednesday Adoration is for Vocations
Contact Jackie Hynes at 603-425-8459

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 egwright@comcast.net. More information online: www.kofcpelhamnh.org