



Saturday January 14

4pm ~ John Fitzgerald, 19th Anniversary, requested by his wife & children

Sunday January 15

8am ~ Intentions of all our Parishioners

10:30am ~ Joseph Dias requested by the Martin family

Irene Laforge requested by the Laforge family

Monday January 16

8am ~ Mary V. McKenzie, Birthday

Remembrance, requested by her family

Helen Surprenant requested by the Letendre family

Tuesday January 17

8am ~ Jean Bilodeau requested by Therese Goupil

Lorraine Hannan requested by Dan & Sue Martin & family

Wednesday January 18

8am ~ George & Theresa Muldoon requested by Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Clark

Rev. Leo L. Frechette

Thursday January 19

8am ~ Helen Kilkenny requested by Matt, Patty, Katie & Joe Halpin

Mary Dunn requested by Paul Dunn

Friday January 20

8am ~ No Mass

Saturday January 21

4pm ~ Walter Lambert, 16th Anniversary, requested by his wife & children

John Lawlor, Jr., Birthday Remembrance, requested by Pat Lawlor

Sunday January 22

8am ~ Alan Larese, 27th Anniversary, requested by the Raby family

Robert Boulanger requested by Ronnie & Kathy Jean

10:30am ~ Intentions of all our Parishioners



Sunday, January 15

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

Monday, January 16

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

Tuesday, January 17

Food Pantry, 6:30-7:30 PM

Pastoral Council Meeting, 7:00 PM, in the school

Wednesday, January 18

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

Thursday, January 19

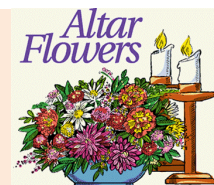
Blood Drive, 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM, in the parish center

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

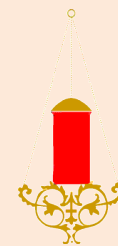
Praise Band, 7:00 PM, in the church

Friday, January 20

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



This week the Altar Flowers are in memory of **John Fitzgerald**, 19th Anniversary, by his wife & children



This week the Sanctuary Candle is in memory of **John Fitzgerald**, 19th Anniversary, by his wife & children



My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Today's Gospel shows us John the Baptist again. Here we see him pointing to Jesus and saying, "**Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world**" (John 1:29). We use the term "Lamb of God" in the Mass: "Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us..." and "Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb." In the Gospels, we hear about the Lamb of God twice – both in the first chapter of John. St. Paul makes one reference to Christ as "our paschal lamb" (I Cor 5:7). St. Peter refers to Christ as the "spotless unblemished lamb" (I Peter 1:19). The book of Revelation has 29 references to lamb, and the majority of them are referring to Jesus.

But what does it mean that Jesus is the Lamb of God?

In our Christian culture (or more accurately: post-Christian), the idea of a bloody sacrifice is foreign to our understanding. Yet it was a part of most other religions since the dawn of man. Somehow, people knew there was a need to offer animals (and sometimes humans) to "the gods" in order to appease them. We see this in the ancient middle east, throughout the Greek and Roman pagan religions, in the pre-Christian European religions (think Druids in Ireland and the Germanic tribes), and even as recently as the 16th century in the Aztec religion – which required human sacrifice.

Even the Israelite religion was very much focused on animal sacrifice until the destruction the Jerusalem Temple in AD 70. In fact, at the Passover in the first century, historian Josephus writes about the hundreds of thousands of lambs that were slaughtered in the Temple for Passover. As Venerable Fulton Sheen put it, "The Jewish religion was a veritable hemorrhage of blood."

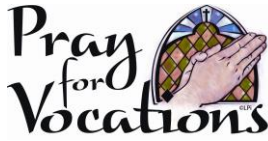
Why?

The answer comes from the letter to the Hebrews, "**without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness**" (Hebrews 9:22). All of the ancient religions could somehow sense this truth. With the Passover – as God liberates Israel from the grasp of slavery – He uses the blood of a lamb to be the sign of protection against the angel of death. God then revealed to Moses on Sinai, that this was to the practice every year so that they should always remember God's love and mercy, and never become complacent toward God. Throughout the Old Testament that God required a sacrifice, not to feed Him, or please Himself, but to help us to surrender in trust to the God who provides for us. We give Him back the first-fruit, the best of our work, of our lives, in order to *thank* Him for what He has done for us, and so open ourselves to His love and mercy.

When we say, then, that Jesus is the Lamb of God, we are saying that He is to be slaughtered for the forgiveness of sins. It reveals to us that the death of Jesus is salvation from the angel of death, and liberates us from the slavery to sin so that we can live as children of our God and Father. For John the Baptist to say that Jesus was the Lamb, was to say that He was a sacrifice – a bloody sacrifice – to God. How blessed we are that God shows us that we no longer have to slaughter animals – which could never really take away sins – nor offer human sacrifices to make up for our severed relationship with God. No, Jesus paid it all for us!

When we begin to think there's no such thing as sin, when we say, "I'm ok and you're ok," let us remember how much it cost God to save us; may we remember the "Lamb of God." It cost the Cross – because of His overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love for you and me. He doesn't want us to feel bad or shameful for what it cost Him, but only to be ever thankful and to give Him our love.

May we be ever mindful of the incredible love of God, and respond to the Lamb with love in our hearts.



“To you who have been sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be a holy people.” Could it be that you or someone in your family is being called to consider priesthood or consecrated life? Contact the Vocation Office at (603)663-0196 or email: mmason@rcbm.org



Faith Life for the Month of January

It is fitting that we celebrate the Miracle of Christmas and then move into the Faith Life topic of the Holy Eucharist. They are both Incarnational, God chooses to make Himself present to all mankind, and it is difficult for us to understand.

St. Thomas Aquinas writes these beautiful words on the Eucharist:

“This the truth each Christian learns,
Bread into His flesh he turns
To His precious blood the wine,
Sight has failed, nor thought conceives
But a dauntless faith believe,
Resting on a power divine.”

Why would God become man? Why would God make Himself fully present (Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity) in the Holy Eucharist?

We find that the answer to both of these questions is simple, yet jaw-droppingly difficult to comprehend.

God loves you.


That is the answer to these questions and that is why it is difficult for us to understand them. So often, we do not feel worthy of love, let alone the love of God. Perhaps this is why some of us avoid going to Holy Mass, because deep down we forget how worthy of God's Love we are. How He has chosen you as His son or daughter.

God waits for us in the Tabernacle, God waits for us fully present in the Eucharist. The response of love is to go to Him and to receive Him.

In Christ,

Adam Castor

Director of Faith Life



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS) – SAVE THE DATE
STELLAR is coming! This summer, kids will learn to SHINE A LIGHT ON JESUS' LOVE! Mark your calendars for July 10-14, 2023 (9am-noon). Open to campers ages 5-12.

VITA NOVA:

Married Couples Day of Enrichment

The beloved Vita Nova program is back again this winter. Join us on Saturday, February 4th, at St. Patrick Parish. Just \$40/couple includes the full day seminar and lunch for two. Check-in starts at 8:30 AM and the event runs from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Questions about the day? Please reach out to our hosts, Scott & Martha Tardiff, at scottmartha@comcast.net

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Holy Hour for Life, Tuesday, February 7th, 6:00-7:00 PM, in the church
Healing Mass, Friday, February 10th, 7:00 PM, in the church
Men of St. Joseph, Saturday, February 11th, 7:00-9:00 AM, in the parish center

MONDAY NIGHT TEACHING

Monday Night Teaching Series will be watching and discussing “The Chosen” Series. The dates are **January 16th, 23rd & 30th, February 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th, March 6th & 13th, at 7:00 PM** in the youth room at the school.

YOUTH MINISTRY FOR FEBRUARY

Youth ministry is open to everyone in grades 6-12
Youth Ministry Meeting February 5th, from 5:30-7:00 PM

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

Steubenville East Registration!

Steubenville East in Springfield, MA on the weekend of July 21-23, 2023. Registration is open and we are building a parish group. Please email me at faithlifeformation@comcast.net for details.

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.



An evening of visual beauty, live music, and reflection that will open your senses to the secret of God revealed in all of creation and orient your whole life toward the satisfaction of your deepest longings.

Made For More Trailer:

<https://vimeo.com/260114539>

Parish "Made For More" Home Site:

<https://M4MNH.eventbrite.com>

Tuesday, May 9th, 2023 7:00-9:30 PM

Cost: \$25 per person

World-renowned speaker and author Christopher West, along with award winning musician, Mike Mangione, are coming to St. Patrick Parish with a beautiful multimedia event called MADE FOR MORE: VISIONS OF THE PROMISED LAND. Bring family and friends. No one should miss this awesome and inspiring event!

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.

Christmas	\$24,433
Solemnity of Mary	2,130

Parish Collections for the week of 1/1/23	
Offertory Envelopes	\$6,628
Offertory Electronic Giving	\$1,840
Total Offertory	\$8,468

Parish Collections for the week of 1/8/23	
Offertory Envelopes	\$ 5,699
Offertory Electronic Giving	\$3,495
Total Offertory	\$9,194

Utilities 12/25	\$2,312
Utilities 1/8	\$1,392
Christmas Memorials	\$2,185

Total Collected	\$32,745
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Thank you for your
faithful & generous support
~Fr. Von~

Capital Improvement

collected as of 1/1/23
\$1,131

Thank you for your generosity!

SECOND ENVELOPES FOR THE FOLLOWING WEEKS

Jan. 22 Maintenance

This collection helps with the Church and School grounds.

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

WITH PRAYERFUL SYMPATHY

We pray for Celine Martin and Anita Hall.
We extend our sympathy to their families.

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

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.

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