



**Saturday January 6**

**4pm ~ Wayne Montuori**, 7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, In Honor of **St. Joseph** requested by the Taylor family

**Sunday January 7**

**8am ~ Raymond Letendre**, 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary, requested by his wife Jeannine  
**10:30am ~ Intentions of all our Parishioners**

**Monday January 8**

**8am ~ Roger Aubrey, Sr.** requested by his family  
**Stephen Straughan** requested by St. Patrick Parish

**Tuesday January 9**

**8am ~ Terrill Gerow** requested by a friend  
**Robert Vaillancourt** requested by Doug & Laura Masson

**Wednesday January 10**

**8am ~ Thanksgiving to the Blessed Mother** requested by a friend  
**Stephen Straughan** requested by David & Laura Masson

**Thursday January 11**

**8am ~ William Gerow, Jr.** requested by a friend  
**Michael Perruccio** requested by Patty Kennedy

**Friday January 12**

**8am ~ No Mass**

**Saturday January 13**

**4pm ~ John Fitzgerald**, 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, requested by his wife & children

**Sunday January 14**

**8am ~ Intentions of all our Parishioners**  
**10:30am ~ Joseph Dias**, Birthday Remembrance, requested by Kevin & Karen Martin  
**Norman Provencal**, 24<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, requested by the Provencal family

**Sunday, January 7**

Coffee & Donuts, 9:00 AM, in the parish center  
 Coffee & Donuts, 11:30 AM, in the parish center  
 Faith Life Parent Session, 11:30 AM, in the school  
 Men & Women AA, 7:00-8:00 PM, in the school

**Monday, January 8**

Faith Life Parent Session, 6:00 PM, in the school  
 Grades 5-12 Confirmation Class, 6:00 PM, in the school

Discernments of Spirits, 7:00 PM, in the youth room at the school

**Tuesday, January 9**

Food Pantry, 6:30-7:30 PM

**Wednesday, January 10**

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 11**

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

Praise Band, 7:00 PM, in the church

**Friday, January 12**

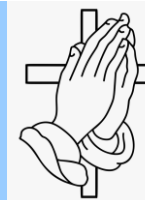
Community Dinner, 5:30-7:00 PM, in the parish center

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

**Saturday, January 13**

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

Grade 2 Reconciliation Retreat, 9:00-11:30 AM, in the school



“For out of you shall come forth a ruler who will shepherd My people.” Is Christ calling you forth out of your comfort zone to serve Him in others as a sister, brother, or priest? Talk to your priest or reach out to Fr. Matt Mason, the Vocations Director at 603-663-0196 or [mmason@rcbm.org](mailto:mmason@rcbm.org).



My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This week, we'll begin looking at the section on the second person of the Blessed Trinity – the Son. Much discussion (dare I say, argument) went into this section, as they tried to deal with the understanding that God is one, yet Jesus is Lord. As I mentioned a few weeks ago, this gave rise to two basic questions: How can God be one yet three (Father, Son and Holy Spirit)? And, how can Jesus be two, yet one (God and man)? This section of the Nicene Creed shows us the fruit of these discussions.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;  
through him all things were made.

The Lord Jesus is one. This is important, because there were questions about how Jesus could be divine and human. One solution was to say that there was the Divine Christ, which united Itself to the human Jesus – two persons who were united, as in a marriage. The problem is that if this is so we are not saved of our sins. One of the fathers of the Church (I can't remember who right now) famously said, "What is not assumed is not redeemed." If Jesus Christ was divided into two persons, the Divine never got "low enough" to take on our humanity, and so we are not saved. The Council of Ephesus (431) put forth the dogma that there is only one Divine Person in Christ, (not two persons – divine and human).

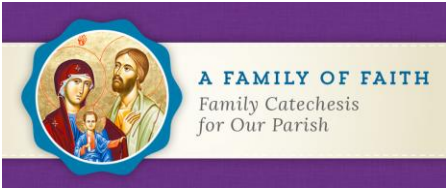
Jesus is "the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages." The language is hard – "begotten," "born of." We have to remember that we are talking of divine mysteries, not human happenings. "Only Begotten" is speaking of relationship – that He is Son of God by nature, not by divine decree (we are *made* sons and daughters of God by grace, not by nature). He came forth (born) from the Father, but not in time – before all ages. He always existed. There never was a time when He was not.

"God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God." This counters the heretic Arius' claim that Jesus was a demi-god, not fully God. These words emphasize that Jesus *is* true God, from the true God. He is fully divine; not partially God. "Begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father" tells us that Jesus is not part of creation – He wasn't *made* by the Father, but eternally begotten. This is complicated, but, to simplify, it tells us there is a relationship of persons between Father and Son – they are not "its" but persons. They are not the same person, but distinct from each other, though the same God (hence, consubstantial – of the same substance or nature). The Father is the Begetter, the Son is Begotten, but from all eternity, so, as I said earlier, there was never a time when He was not.

The last line we'll look at today: "through him all things were made." The Father creates all things, through the Son, in the Holy Spirit. They all are active in creation. This is important, for instance, when people try to "de-male" the Trinity, they sometimes say: "The Creator, the Redeemer, and the Sanctifier." One problem with this is that you're only saying "God, God, and God," because The Father, Son and Holy Spirit ALL are active in creation, redemption and sanctification. None of them are "lone-rangers" – they all work together. (Another problem with this, is that it reduces the Persons of the Trinity to their actions – doing, not being.)

I've tried to simplify some of our systematic theology so it will be better understood, but when it comes down to it, we are delving into mystery. Remember that mystery in the Christian sense doesn't mean a problem to figure out, nor something beyond us that we will never be able to understand. Rather it is like a man saying his wife is a mystery (in the best possible sense) – he really does know her, but there is *more* he doesn't know than he knows. He will have to be learning about her all throughout the marriage. This mystery is a delight, since we are called to grow in our knowledge and relationship with God, but will never totally grasp Him.

Monday Night Teachings  
 St. Ignatius of Loyola's  
 14 Rules for  
 Discernment of Spirits  
 Join us Monday Nights at 7:00 PM  
 in the youth room  
 January 8, 15, 22 and 29



**FAITH LIFE IN THE MONTH OF JANUARY**

This month families will be discussing the first four Commandments. We all need a reminder that these truly are laws of love that God has given us. These laws are not meant to restrain our freedom but, like any good father, the Lord desires what is best for us and will lead us on the path of holiness. The Lord wants to see us in Heaven!

As a community, let us reflect upon these Commandments and examine our own souls so that we can love the Lord better. The first four Commandments are:

1. "I am the Lord your God, you shall have no strange Gods before me"  
 - Are there times when I put material goods or my own personal success before my love of the Lord? Do I create an idol of these things?

2. "You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain"  
 - Do I use the Lord's name as a swear? When others speak poorly of the Lord, do I humbly speak up and defend the precious name of Jesus?

3. "Remember to keep holy the Lord's day."  
 - Do I attend Holy Mass every Sunday and whenever else we are obligated to as Catholics? If we have missed a Sunday Mass, let us be sure we go to the Sacrament of Confession and confess this Mortal Sin.

4. "Honor thy Father and Mother."  
 - This, of course, applies to adults just as much as it does children. Have I stayed in touch with my parents and ensured they have everything they need as they grow older? If there is a dispute among us, have I made an effort to reach out and make peace?

God gives us these beautiful laws of love so that we can become the best version of ourselves. God desires to set us on a path of thriving! So often we settle for survival mode but, God has other plans for you and they are written in this law of love.

God Bless you all  
 In Christ,  
 Adam Castor  
 Director of Faith Life



Coffee and Donuts and Children's Crafts will be hosted by the Praise Band this weekend. Please come and join us.

**PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS**  
 Thank you to the following parishioner who will be praying for vocations during this week:  
**-The Keslo Family-**  
 All parishioners have the opportunity to participate in the program. Interested? Please email [stpatsharvestteam@gmail.com](mailto:stpatsharvestteam@gmail.com)

**ONLINE BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GOUP:  
 CATHOLIC CHARITIES NH**

Have you recently lost a spouse or a loved one? Are you struggling to navigate this difficult time? If so, Catholic Charities NH is here to help with our "Bereavement - Experiencing Loss, Being Lost and Finding Your Way Again" online support group. The five-session program will be held via Zoom on Wednesdays at 1:30 PM, starting January 24, 2024 and running through February 21<sup>st</sup>. You will learn about the dynamics of grief, explore different coping strategies, and have an opportunity to connect with others in similar situations. To register, visit [www.cc-nh.org/berereavement](http://www.cc-nh.org/berereavement) or call Louise at 603-752-1325; ext. 4573. There is no cost to attend.

**SAVE THE DATE**  
 Our Parish Mission  
 March 10<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>.  
 More information to follow



**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS) – SAVE THE DATE**

**SCUBA is coming!** This summer, kids will be *DIVING INTO FRIENDSHIP WITH GOD!* Mark your calendars for July 8-12, 2024 (9:00 AM - Noon). Open to campers ages 5-12.

**Creation Corner:** The three Persian kings did not bring Jesus a Persian rug for Mary to use as a receiving blanket. They brought gold, from the Earth, and frankincense and myrrh, both from the sap of trees. They brought the gifts of creation *back* to the Creator, just as we do with our bread and wine at Mass. May we be grateful for the gifts of Creation!

**HUNGER, HOPE & HEALING  
WOMEN'S MINISTRY GATHERING**

St. Patrick Church & School  
February 3, 2024 at 9:00 AM

8:00 AM Holy Mass & Confession (optional)

8:30 AM Registration opens (school)

9:00 AM Light Refreshments & Fellowship

9:30 AM Praise & Worship

10:00 AM Talks & Testimonies

Prayer Ministry to follow at noon

\$5 Registration fee

Bring a pen & notebook

Please register at link below

<https://tinyurl.com/hungerhopehealing>

**CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS**

**In Loving Memory of:**

Leon, Louise, Linda & Rick Bousquet, Felix & Blanche Turcotte, Joseph & Yvonne Bousquet and Paul Kennedy

**Requested by:**

Patty Kennedy

Phillip J. Cieszynski, John T. Kelly, Jr., Robert S. Cieszynski, Barbara J. Kelly and all the deceased family & friends of the Kelly & Cieszynski Families

**Requested by:**

The Cieszynski Family

**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 12/24/23

Offertory Envelopes \$5,684

Offertory Electronic Giving \$2,325

**Total Offertory \$8,009**

Faith Life 12/24 \$1,207

Christmas Memorials \$1,889

**Total Collected \$11,105**

Christmas Collection \$18,757

Utilities \$2,321

**Total Collected \$21,078**

**Total Funds Collected \$32,183**

Thank you for your faithful & generous support  
~Fr. Von~



**SECOND ENVELOPES  
FOR THE FOLLOWING WEEKS**

**Jan. 14 Utility**

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

**Jan. 21 Faith Life Formation**

This collection helps with expenses for Faith Life.

**Jan. 28 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 Virginia Fichera and Rita Guzdowski. 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](http://www.stpatricks-pelham.com)

### **Pastor**

Rev. Volney J. DeRosia - Ext. 15  
Email: [fathervon@comcast.net](mailto:fathervon@comcast.net)

### **Priest in Residence**

Msgr. Richard J. Kelley  
Email: [rkelly4372@gmail.com](mailto:rkelly4372@gmail.com)

### **Faith Life Director**

Adam Castor 603-635-1447 Ext. 14  
Email: [faithlifeformation@comcast.net](mailto:faithlifeformation@comcast.net)

### **Business Manager**

Therese Soucy - Ext. 11  
Email: [therese42852@comcast.net](mailto:therese42852@comcast.net)

### **Secretary**

Kathleen Jean - Ext. 10  
Email: [kathy7421@comcast.net](mailto:kathy7421@comcast.net)

### **Music Ministry**

Gary Williams 603-508-9288  
Email: [garywendy6@comcast.net](mailto: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](mailto:fathervon@comcast.net).

### **PRAYER LINE**

Please contact Lillian Murgia at 603-635-2634 or [Lmurgia\\_871@comcast.net](mailto: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](http://www.formed.org) to register, go to [pelham.formed.org](http://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](mailto:eqwright@comcast.net). More information online: [www.kofcpelhamnh.org](http://www.kofcpelhamnh.org)