



Saturday July 22

4pm ~ Michael Taylor, Sr., Birthday
Remembrance, **In Honor of St. Joseph**
requested by the Taylor family
Michael Goupil requested by Theresa Goupil

Sunday July 23

8am ~ Intentions of all our Parishioners
10:30am ~ Leonard J. Nelson, Sr., 14th
Anniversary, requested by his son & daughter-
in-law
H. Tracy Davis, 35th Anniversary, requested by
his wife Joan & family

Monday July 24

8am ~ Beatrice Turgeon requested by Mr. &
Mrs. Roger Turgeon
Elizabeth Cornell requested by the Lemieux
family

Tuesday July 25

8am ~ John Comeau, Sr., Birthday
Remembrance, requested by his family

Wednesday July 26

8am ~ Raymond Jean, Sr., 30th Anniversary,
requested by his family
Wilrose Jean requested by Tim & Jeanne
Glasheen

Thursday July 27

8am ~ Rena Cayer requested by the Bedard
family
The Deceased Members of the Peters Family
requested by a friend

Friday July 28

8am ~ No Mass

Saturday July 29

4pm ~ Francis Proveaux, Birthday
Remembrance, requested by Pat Lawlor

Sunday July 30

8am ~ Intentions of all our Parishioners
10:30am ~ John T. Kelly, Jr., Birthday
Remembrance, requested by the Cieszynski
family
Michael Medeiros, 2nd Anniversary, requested
by Christine Simmons and Josh & Chris
Mediros

Sunday, July 23

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

Tuesday, July 25

Bible Sharing, 9:00-10:30 AM, in the youth room
at the school
Food Pantry, 6:30-7:30 PM

Wednesday, July 26

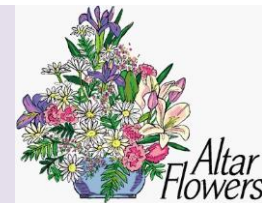
Adoration, 8:30-9:30 AM and 2:00-9:00 PM
Food Pantry, 1:00-2:30 PM
Women's AA, 7:00-8:30 PM, in the school

Thursday, July 27

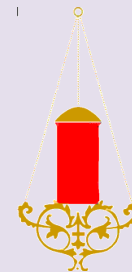
Men's AA, 7:00 PM, in the school
Praise Band, 7:00 PM, in the church

Friday, July 28

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



This week the Altar Flowers are in memory of **H. Tracy Davis,** 35th Anniversary, requested by his wife Joan & family



This week the Sanctuary Candle is in memory of **H. Tracy Davis,** 35th Anniversary, by his wife Joan & family



My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

St. Paul says something startling in the second reading today: **“we do not know how to pray as we ought”** (Romans 8:26). Wait a minute! Jesus taught us the Our Father, and we have so many other prayers... don't we know how to pray? This statement of St. Paul allows to ask the question: What is prayer, really? Is it talking to God? Is it requests to the Almighty? Or is it something more?

I think you figured out that it is, indeed, something more. Here are some definitions of prayer from the Church:

“For me, prayer is a surge of the heart; it is a simple look turned toward heaven, it is a cry of recognition and of love, embracing both trial and joy” (St. Therese of Lisieux, qtd. in *Catechism of the Catholic Church* [CCC] 2558).

“Prayer is the raising of one's mind and heart to God or the requesting of good things from God” (St. John Damascene, qtd. in CCC 2559).

“The Fathers of the Church say that prayer, properly understood, is nothing other than becoming a longing for God” (*Mary: The Church and the Source*. Joseph Ratzinger and Hans Urs von Balthasar).

“Desire is your prayer; and if your desire is without ceasing, your prayer will also be without ceasing. The continuance of your longing is the continuance of your prayer” (St. Augustine, reflection on Psalm 37).

All of these quotes point to the truth that prayer is more than just asking for something from God. They speak of union with God. Because God is infinitely greater than humanity, we can never reach Him on our own. This, of course, is why Jesus came – He bridged the infinite gap between creation and the Creator. Now, He has poured out His Holy Spirit upon us so that we can enter that union with the Father and the Son.

Prayer, in its essence, is communion with God. It is a joint venture between God and humanity. In this partnership, guess who the junior partner is: you; me. This means that the Holy Spirit does all of the hard work of bridging the infinite gap between us.

This doesn't mean, though, that prayer is easy. The *Catechism* refers to “The Battle of Prayer” (which encompasses paragraph 2725-2745). Prayer can be very difficult – “we do not know how to pray as we ought.” There are times when God seems distant, that it seems that our prayers are just “bouncing off the ceiling.” There are times when it feels like we're wasting our time. Fr. Mike Schmitz says that for the saints, hours in prayer can seem like minutes, yet often for him, minutes can seem like hours. I know that feeling!

The truth is that despite our feelings, God hears each and every prayer. Every attempt to get close to Him is received by Him. In fact, any desire we have to get close to God comes from Him... He is the instigator, and we respond. So, we reach out to pray in the memorized prayers... that's God stirring us up. We are in desperation and we cry out to God – He is inviting us to look to Him. In our emptiness when we feel God is a billion miles away, that longing for Him *is* prayer, and comes from the Holy Spirit. And when we just don't have any words, and we simply groan a groan to heaven, we remember that “the Spirit himself intercedes with inexpressible groanings” (Romans 8:26).

As we make our way through our lives, striving to grow closer to God, let us ask the Holy Spirit to teach us to pray, so that as we pray our Our Fathers and Hail Marys, we may allow our hearts and minds to be lifted to God; that as we meditate on the mysteries of the Rosary, we may enter into the mysteries themselves; that as we pray at Mass, we may come in to true Communion with our God who has given Himself to us so that we can give ourselves to Him.



**WOMEN'S BIBLE SHARING
SUMMER BOOK CLUB**

For the last four months, the Women's Bible Sharing group has met weekly to discuss scripture, build community and grow closer to God together. With summer upon us, we invite you to join us for Women's Bible Sharing summer book club where we will meet monthly on Tuesday mornings (7/25 and 8/22) 9-10:30 AM exploring *When God Whispers Your Name* by Max Lucado. For more information, please contact Jennah Costa jennahcosta@yahoo.com. We hope you'll join us!



"The Spirit too helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought." Do you approach the Lord in prayer with the confident strength given by the Holy Spirit asking that He make known your unique vocation? If God may be inviting you to consider the priesthood or consecrated life, contact the Vocation Office at (603)663-0196 or email: mmason@rcbm.org

NEW HAMPSHIRE CATHOLIC APPEAL

We are grateful to all of our parishioners who have made a gift to the New Hampshire Catholic Appeal. As of today, our parishioners have raised **\$36,865** toward our goal of **\$53,280**. We still need to collect **\$16,415**



**JOIN US FOR THE 2023-2024
FAITH LIFE YEAR!
REGISTRATION IS OPEN!**

All families are encouraged and welcome to join us for Faith Life this fall. So much more than Sacramental preparation, this program reaches into the daily craziness of family life and seeks to carve out a place for Jesus. Welcome Him into your homes this year!

Who should register for the Faith Life Program?
-All families with children in grades K-12

What if my son/daughter is older and has not received the Sacrament of Confirmation?
-That's okay! Every year we have a group of older students preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

What if I do not have a child preparing to receive a Sacrament?
-That's okay! This is a program that helps all families grow in faith together year after year.

I look forward to seeing you all!

To find registration materials please follow this link:
<https://www.stpatricks-pelham.com/faith-life-registration-2/>

You can mail registration materials back to the parish office or stop by and drop them off. The office is open Monday-Friday 8:30-4:00 PM. If you have any questions, please email Adam Castor at faithlifeformation@comcast.net

In Christ,
Adam Castor
Director of Faith Life
St. Patrick Parish
Pelham, NH

Dear Parishioners, Greetings and blessings to you! Thank you so much for your welcoming hospitality on my recent visit to your parish for the annual diocesan Mission Coop Appeal. I thank you for your kind attention to my message at all of the Masses and your prayerful and financial support for the Foundation for Children in Need. Your support will have life-changing effects on the people we serve. Children will go to bed with food in their stomachs and immunized against disease; students will be able to go to school and be given hope for a bright future; elderly individuals who have been abandoned because families cannot afford to care for them will be given a home, loving care, security and dignity. A portion of the money will be used for evangelization and catechesis. May God bless you for your loving kindness on behalf of the poor. With gratitude in service of the Gospel, I am Alan Carlson, Foundation for Children in Need. Our website is: www.fcn-usa.org



Here at St. Patrick we have a Prayer Shawl Ministry. These shawls are made by many volunteers and are either knitted or crocheted. If you know of someone who is sick or needs comfort, please call the parish office to receive one. We have many shawls of varying colors. The Prayer Shawls are free. On the other hand, if you are interested in making prayer shawls, the parish office has instructions. Just call us at 603-635-3525 and we will get the instructions to you.

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES NH:
“Caring for Loved Ones with Dementia”
Support Group**

Are you caring for a family member or friend with memory loss? You don't have to face it alone. Join Catholic Charities NH for a five-week online support group, "Caring for Loved Ones with Dementia," starting Wednesday, July 26. You will discover a deeper understanding of dementia and practical resources to support your loved one's well-being. To register, please visit www.cc-nh.org/dementia. There is no cost. For more information, contact Louise at 603-752-1325, ext. 4573 or email lmorneau@nh-cc.org.

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 7/16/23

Offertory Envelopes	\$5,315
Offertory Electronic Giving	\$2,023
Total Offertory	\$7,338
Utilities	\$1,786
Total Collected	\$9,124

Thank you for your continue support
~Fr. Von~

Mission Coop
collected as of 7/16/23
\$2,933
Thank you for your generosity!

**SECOND ENVELOPES
FOR THE FOLLOWING WEEKS**

- July 30 Maintenance**
This collection helps with the Church and School grounds.
- Aug. 6 Capital Improvements**
This collection helps with projects around the parish.
- Aug. 13 Utility**
This collection helps with the cost of utilities for the Church, Rectory, Parish Center and School.
- Aug. 20 Maintenance**
This collection helps with the Church and School grounds.
- Aug. 27 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.

WITH PRAYERFUL SYMPATHY
We pray for John Price. We extend our sympathy to his family.

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