

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

Offices located in the school near the carport

Pastor

Rev. Volney J. DeRosia - Ext. 15

Email: fathervon@comcast.net

Deacons

Deacon John Ross

Email: ualdrmf1t@comcast.net

Deacon Tom Lavallee

Email: tl3450@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

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 fathervon@comcast.net or (603)-635-3525.

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday

4PM

Sunday

8AM, 10:30AM, 6PM

WEEKDAYS MASS SCHEDULE

Monday through Thursday

8am

Fridays during Lent

6pm

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

During Lent on Sundays

7:30-7:45am, 10:00-

10:15am and 5:30-5:45pm

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: <http://www.nhknights.org/>

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	March 25
4pm	Hudson & DiGiantommaso Families requested by their families
Sunday	March 26
8am	Intentions for all our Parishioners
10:30am	Chase Gosselin , 12 th Anniversary, requested by his family
6pm	Ryan Moulton requested by Ray & Rose Graham
Monday	March 27
8am	George & Theresa Straughan requested by George & Judy Demarais
Tuesday	March 28
8am	Nancy Frechette requested by Lillian
Wednesday	March 29
8am	Mary Ann Crete requested by her Godchild Robin
Thursday	March 30
8am	Alfred Robert DiGrazia requested by Armand & Joan Berard
Friday	March 31 in the school
6pm	Fr. John Sledziona , 1 st Anniversary
Saturday	April 1
8am	Women of Mary
4pm	Michael J. Taylor, Jr. , 11 th Anniversary, requested by the Taylor family
Sunday	April 2
8am	Robert Hall requested by his family
10:30am	Ruth Foster Lavigne , 4 th Anniversary, requested by her family
	Dominick Nicastro requested by Rosemary Dole
6pm	Claire Morin requested by Doris A. Houle

EASTER MEMORIALS

Don't forget your Easter Memorials. The deadline is Monday, April 10th.

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 3/19/17 \$6,628

Faith Life \$1,612

Total funds collected for this week for parish expenses \$8,240

Thank you for supporting our parish
~Fr. Von~

SECOND ENVELOPES FOR THE FOLLOWING WEEKS

Apr. 2 Capital Improvements

This collection helps with projects around the parish.

Apr. 9 Utility

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

Apr. 16 Maintenance

This collection helps with the Church and School grounds.

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

SPIRITUAL ADOPTION

Everyone loves the beauty and innocence of a baby. As an expression of that love, St. Patrick Parish announces an adoption program for young and old alike. The members of St. Patrick Parish Family will have the opportunity this weekend "spiritually" to adopt a child who is newly conceived this month. Not all newly conceived babies are allowed to be born. In fact, more than 4,000 babies lose their lives to abortion each day. It is these babies you are being asked to "adopt". You may "adopt" a child individually or as a family by signing up this weekend. You will be asked to name the child for whom you will be praying, thereby recognizing the humanity of the baby. You will be asked to pray for your unborn child and for all unborn children, for the power of prayer is great. You will receive monthly reports through the parish bulletin describing your baby's development and your child will be born in December. There are millions of unborn babies desperately in need of your prayers. Won't you please "spiritually adopt" one and share the love for life that God has given you?

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, March 26

Coffee & Donuts, 11:30 AM, in the K of C Hall
 Children of Mary, 11:45 AM, in the meeting room
 Baptism, 12:00 PM, in the church
 Biology of the Theology of the Body, 4:00 PM, in the church

Monday, March 27

The Wild Goose, 7:00 PM, in the school classroom

Tuesday, March 28

Food Pantry, 6:30-7:30 PM

Wednesday, March 29

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

Thursday, March 30

AA, 7:00 PM, in the K of C Hall
 Praise Band, 7:30 PM, in the church

Friday, March 31

Fish Bake, 5:00 PM, in the parish center
 Mystery Players, 7:30 PM, in the church

Looking for Choirs Members

If you or someone you know would like to join the Saturday 4:00 PM choir, please join Jeanne in the Knights of Columbus Hall from 2:45-3:45 PM. Please contact her at jeanned34@gmail.com or 978-394-8894.

THE WILD GOOSE

The Ancient Celts had a name for the **Holy Spirit**: The Wild Goose. Join Fr. Von in this video series by **Fr. Dave Pivonka, TOR** in growing closer to the **Holy Spirit**.

Mondays at 7:00 PM in the Youth Room on March 27th, April 17th & 24th, May 8th, 15th & 22nd, June 5th. For more information, call 603-635-3525. Special guest – Sr. Agnes Therese Davis, TOR (originally from Keene, NH) will be here to lead the program on April 17th.

FEARFULLY AND WONDERFULLY MADE

What they didn't tell you in Sex Ed.

Join us this Sunday at 4:00 PM in the Church for Speaker Vicki Thorn. Vicki Thorn is the foundress of Project Rachel and the executive director of the National Office of Post-Abortion Reconciliation & Healing located in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Additionally she has written and spoken about the sociological changes in society since 1960 and the spiritual and psychological wounds carried by Gen X and Gen Y as a result of those changes. Recently she has been doing presentations to high school groups, college students and adult groups on her recent research on the Biochemistry of Sex or the Biology of the Theology of the Body.

PARISH EASTER EGG HUNT

On Sunday, April 9th, following the 10:30 AM Mass, all children of the parish are invited to join us in a Easter Egg Hunt. We will have a short story time about Jesus, the Lamb of God, followed by an egg hunt on the Church grounds. Bring your baskets! A special prize will be awarded to the child who finds the "winner" egg! Children ages 2-12 are invited to join the hunt. Teen volunteers are welcome to help with the hiding.

For more information, or to register your children, please contact Tabatha Desrosiers at desrosiersmom@aol.com

WOMEN OF MARY

Women of all ages are invited to join us in honoring Our Lady for First Saturday Devotions on April 1st. 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.

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

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This weekend we hear about the man born blind and how Jesus heals him. The very first spoken word in this Gospel is, **“Who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?”** (John 9:2). Ahh, the problem of evil! This problem has been asked over and over again throughout the millennia! Why is there evil in the world? This question gets to the core and heart of our existence on this earth.

Some see physical evil (pain, suffering, sickness, death) as a direct and immediate result of moral evil (sin). This means that they believe someone gets sick because they *did something wrong*. For them, this is the only answer that makes sense – if God is all-good, all-powerful, and all-knowing, then any evil that happens to people (like being born blind) *must* be as result of the person’s evil acts – this man sinned or his parents did.

What are the results of this attitude? I’ve seen a few of results to this belief. One reaction is *superiority* and *judgment* over people who are suffering. When people live well and without suffering, they may *look down* on those who are suffering, seeing them as “sinners”. The logic goes that they *must deserve* what is happening to them – they must be evil or bad. Another result is that of the *Prosperity Gospel*. This line of thinking says that if I am faithful to God and do everything good (and I do mean “good” and not “well”), then God will bless me *in this life* with money and comfort and pleasures; things will go my way, and I’ll have little or no troubles.

What are the results of believing this (that physical evil is a direct and immediate result of moral evil) when that physical evil happens to “me”? I try to be good, but I’m not prospering the way I think I should. I get sick, lose my job, or a family member dies unexpectedly. The question comes up, “Why is this happening to me?” And then this common question: “*What did I do to deserve this?*” The assumption is that for this evil to happen to me, *I must have done something wrong*. The only other explanation is that *God is UNJUST*. This can lead to one of two results: I always feel guilty for something (which I may not have done), or I begin to resent God, hate Him, or even deny His existence.

This belief that physical evil (pain, suffering, sickness, death) is a result of moral evil (sin) doesn’t coincide with lived experience, nor the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and so it doesn’t make sense.

In today’s Gospel, Jesus puts the lie to this line of thinking: **“Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him”** (John 9:3). *There is another way!* The suffering of this world may not be part of the initial plan of God (see Adam and Eve *before* the Fall in the Garden of Eden), but God can AND DOES now use suffering for His glory.

We see this first and foremost in the life of Jesus Himself. Jesus was the most perfect man, the one who never sinned, yet He died a most cruel and horrific death. He endured this not because He sinned, but to show us His love for us. He experienced the depths of every pain and suffering we have ever experienced or ever will experience. He shows us that there can be meaning in suffering – meaning which shows forth love. Which is more loving, someone who says, “I love you, Baby; you make me feel so good,” or someone who says, “I love you so much I would die for you”? Obviously, the one who says, “I would die for you.” Which is more loving, someone who says, “I would die for you,” or someone who *actually* risks his life to save his beloved? Jesus didn’t just say, “I love you” nor did He say, “I would die for you,” He actually did it; He died for you and for me. He shows us, not in spite of His suffering, but BY HIS SUFFERING how much He loves us.

We do not believe in the “prosperity Gospel.” Those who have lived closest to Almighty God have been the ones who have endured poverty and suffering and brokenness the most – Mary, Joseph, and all the saints throughout the centuries. When we ask, “What did I do to deserve this?” we miss the point. We all have sinned, and receive less than we deserve. The question is, “Since I live in a broken world, where things do not, will not, cannot go the way *I want them to*, how will I make use of this suffering to show love to God and others?” If we surrender our suffering to God, He can help us find meaning – *make* meaning with Christ for our suffering.

THE SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

Join us this Friday, March 31st at 7:30 PM in the Church for A Dramatic Presentation of the Mystery Play Rosary Meditation.

Please note: 6:00 PM Mass will be in the School.

MOVIE: FINDING FATIMA

Join us for a Documentary about the events of Fatima this Saturday, April 1st 5:30 PM or Sunday, April 2nd at 12:00 PM in the school.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

The St. Patrick Women's Guild grants three \$500.00 scholarships each year to graduating seniors who will be furthering their education. Applications for these scholarships are now available in the Guidance Office of Pelham High School and in the Parish Office and in the Sacristy. Applications should be turned into the Guidance Office at Pelham High School or to St. Patrick's Parish Office by May 5, 2017, the Friday after April vacation.



Where: St. Patrick School
When: July 10th – 14th
Time: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Ages: 5-12

Registration for **Vacation Bible School** are now available in the front entrance of church. Volunteer opportunities available now. If you or your teen would like to help in this wonderful ministry or for more information, please contact Christine Lemieux at christine@lemieux-design.net

PENNY SALE IS COMING....

St. Patrick Women's Guild will be sponsoring their 22nd Penny Sale on April 22nd & 23rd. Proceeds from this sale help to support our various charities such as the Food Pantry, scholarships to graduates, and adopted daughter in Africa, Samaritans Purse, projects at St. Patrick's Church and so much more. If anyone would like to donate **new items** to the Penny Sale, please bring the items to St. Patrick's Office or call Therese at 635-3525 or 635-2117. So don't forget to keep the dates open and join us on April 22nd & 23rd.

FISH BAKE

The Knights of Columbus will be serving fish dinners each Friday through Lent: March 3rd through April 7th from 5:00-7:00 PM in the Parish Center. The dinner is a freshly baked piece of haddock with green beans, mashed potato and a roll. Prices are \$11.00 for adults, \$10.00 for seniors. Take-out orders, please call 635-3829 any time after 4:00 PM.



Please share the joy of Easter and join in this fun, heart-warming project as we once again help the Easter Bunny deliver baskets to children who, because of circumstances beyond their control, may not receive baskets at all. We plan to supply baskets to our Food Pantry families as well as children living at near-by shelters. If you'd like more information regarding specific needs, please contact Cheryl at cdbrunelle@comcast.net or 603-635-3610, Baskets can be dropped off in the chapel between now and Monday, April 3rd.

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Want to win an IRobot Roomba 980? Want to help the Knights of Columbus fill their Scholarship Fund. You can purchase one chance for \$5, or five chances for \$20. We will be selling tickets at each of our fish dinner events every Friday until April 7th. We will be selling tickets after Mass on these two weekend: March 18th & 19th and March 25th & 26th. The winner will be drawn at 7:00 PM at the final dinner on April 7th. This is a \$900.00 Robotic Vacuum cleaner that will clean an entire floor of the house at the touch of a button, or can be scheduled to do so any time of day and night. It has an app for your smart phone to control settings, schedule, and control cleaning jobs whether you are home, or away.

Sponsor A Teen

Steubenville East is a three-day retreat specifically for teens. It shows them what a relationship with Jesus Christ truly looks like and challenges them to drop their "nets" and follow the one who made them. The cost for each teen to attend this retreat is \$250. If you would like to sponsor one of our 42 attendees this year and help make this retreat possible, please mail or drop off a check at the parish office. An investment in the youth of The Church is an investment in the future of The Church! God Bless you all and thank you for your generosity.

First Saturday Mass is this Saturday, April 1st at 8:00 AM