

CHURCH & PARISH OFFICES

12 Main St.
Pelham, NH 03076
603-635-3525 (office)
603-635-3919 (fax number)
Website: www.stpatricks-pelham.com
Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30-4:00

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
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Faith Life Director

Adam Castor 603-635-1447 Ext. 14
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Business Manager

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Secretary

Kathleen Jean - Ext. 10
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Music Ministry

Gary Williams 603-635-7669
Email: garywendy6@comcast.net

FORMED

To help you grow in your faith go to www.formed.org
to register, go to pelham.formed.org

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

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

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: www.kofcpelhamnh.org



- Saturday March 30**
 4pm **Therese Bedard** requested by Donna Smith
- Sunday March 31**
 8am **Rev. John Sledziona, 3rd** Anniversary, requested by Donna Smith
 10:30am **Chase Gosselin, 14th** Anniversary, requested by his family
 6pm **Intentions of all our Parishioners**
- Monday April 1**
 8am **For all Souls in Purgatory**
- Tuesday April 2**
 8am **Helen Baldino** requested by the Haggerty family
- Wednesday April 3**
 8am **Helen Munson** requested by a friend
- Thursday April 4**
 8am **George & Theresa Muldoon** requested by Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Clark
- Friday April 5**
 8am **Kuma, Edward & Stella Sun** requested by their family
 6pm **Dennis Lessard** requested by his family
 7pm Stations of the Cross
- Saturday April 6**
 8am Women of Mary
 4pm **Michael J. Taylor, Jr.**, requested by the Taylor family
Frank Agrella, 33rd Anniversary, requested by his daughter Barbara Barrett
- Sunday April 7**
 8am **Rena Cayer** requested by the Bedard family
May T. Gabriel requested by Ronald & Patricia Nowakowski
 10:30am **John Castelhana, 22nd** Anniversary, requested by his daughter
Alexander Bebris, Birthday Remembrance, requested by his family
 6pm **Intentions of all our Parishioners**

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 3/24/19

Offertory Envelopes	\$5,521
Offertory Electronic Giving	\$974
Total Offertory	\$6,495
Maintenance	\$1,371
Total Collected	\$7,866

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



Weekly Offerings

SECOND ENVELOPES FOR THE FOLLOWING WEEKS

- Apr. 7 Capital Improvements**
 This collection helps with projects around the parish.
- Apr. 7 Free will offering for Steubenville East Youth Conference**
- Apr. 14 Faith Life Formation**
 This collection helps with expenses for Faith Life.
- Apr. 21 Utility**
 This collection helps with the cost of utilities for the Church, Rectory, Parish Center and School.

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

The Deadline for the Easter Memorials is Monday, April 15th.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, March 31

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
 Cluster Penance Service, 2:00 PM, at St. Matthew Parish
 Men & Women AA, 7:00-8:00 PM, in the school

Monday, April 1

Teaching on Suffering, 7:00 PM, in the youth room at the school

Tuesday, April 2

Food Pantry, 6:30-7:30 PM
 Women's Guild Meeting, 6:30 PM, in the parish center

Wednesday, April 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
 Bible Sharing, 9:00 AM, in the school classroom
 Food Pantry, 1:00-3:00 PM
 Women's AA, 7:00-8:30 PM, in the school
 Knights of Columbus Meeting, 7:00 PM, in the K of C Hall

Thursday, April 4

Men's AA, 7:00 PM, in the K of C Hall
 Praise Band, 7:00 PM, in the church

Friday, April 5

Fish Bake, 4:00 PM, in the parish center
 Stations of the Cross, 7:00 PM, in the church
 Men & Women AA, 7:00-8:00 PM, in the school

EASTER TRIDUUM SCHEDULE

Holy Thursday, April 18

Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7:00 PM
 Adoration following Mass until Midnight

Good Friday, April 19

Confessions: 12:00-2:45 PM
 Adoration of the Cross: 3:00 PM
 Divine Mercy Novena: 4:30 PM
 Stations of the Cross: 7:00 PM

Holy Saturday, April 20

Divine Mercy Novena: 3:00 PM
 Easter Vigil: 8:00 PM
PLEASE NOTE: NO 3:00 PM CONFESSIONS AND NO 4:00 PM MASS

Easter Sunday, April 21

Masses: 8:00, 9:30 and 11:30 AM
PLEASE NOTE: NO 6:00 PM MASS
 Divine Mercy Novena: 12:45 PM

St. Gianna's Place, a NH-based home for mothers in crisis pregnancies, is celebrating its opening with a benefit banquet on May 1st from 5:30-9:15 PM at the Executive Court Banquet Facility, Manchester, NH. Our guest speaker is the renowned James Wahlberg. Reservations are \$60 per person/\$600 per table before March 15th and \$65 per person/\$650 per table thereafter. Make checks payable to St. Gianna's Place and mail to Banquet Reservations, 3 Jersey Street, Londonderry, NH 03053. Visit stgiannasplace.org for details.

VOCATION

"God is making His appeal through us." Does a life dedicated to furthering the grace of reconciliation in Christ for others appeal to you? Contact Fr. Matthew Mason at the Vocation Office at 603-663-0196 or email: mmason@rcbm.org
 Website: www.liveinblackandwhite.com

<u>Acts of Mercy</u>	
<u>How many</u>	<u>Spiritual</u>
___	Instruct the uninformed
___	Counsel the doubtful
___	Admonish sinners
___	Comfort the sorrowful
___	Bear wrongs patiently
___	Forgive offenses
___	Pray for the living and the dead
<u>How many</u>	<u>Corporal</u>
___	Feed the hungry
___	Clothe the naked
___	Give drink to the thirsty
___	Shelter the homeless
___	Comfort the imprisoned
___	Visit the sick
___	Bury the Dead

Confession during Lent: Sundays 7:30-7:45, 10:00-10:15 AM and 5:30-5:45 PM.
 Reconciliation Service this Sunday, March 31st at 2:00 PM at St. Matthew in Windham
 Confession on Wednesday, April 10th at 7:00 PM

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This weekend's Gospel is a familiar one. It is popularly known as the Parable of the Prodigal Son. However, some have named it the Parable of the Prodigal Father. The word *prodigal* is not commonly used in popular American English except as connected with the parable. It is an adjective that describes someone who spends money or resources freely, recklessly, wastefully. What has motivated people to call the father *prodigal* is his mercy! The father pours out his mercy freely, recklessly, even wastefully. Let's look at the parable.

The younger of the two sons is unhappy with his life. He is impatient, and, in essence, tells his father that he wishes the father were dead... he can't wait for his inheritance. When a priest in the Holy Land started to share this story with a couple of young Muslim boys, one of the boys immediately said, "His brother should have killed him right on the spot for having said that to his father." This points to a very different culture than our own here in the United States, and gives us a much better understanding of the culture to which Jesus was speaking. For the younger son to say this, it was incredibly disrespectful to his father, and would have shocked the hearers of the parable. And yet, Jesus says that the father did not smite his son, but gave him the inheritance, and let him go.

After "running on empty" for some time, the boy comes to his senses and turns home. The Gospel tells us,

While he was still a long way off, his father caught sight of him, and was filled with compassion. He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him. (Luke 15:20)

Note a couple things about this part of the parable: the father caught sight of him "while he was still a long way off." That means that he was looking for him, waiting for him, gazing upon the horizon, hoping against hope that his son would return. Another thing to notice is that he doesn't wait for his son to come to him; rather, he throws away his dignity, and runs out to his son. This is what love does!

After the son gives his half-hearted confession, the father says,

Quickly bring the finest robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Take the fattened calf and slaughter it. Then let us celebrate with a feast, because this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again; he was lost, and has been found. (Luke 15:22-24)

This indicates that the son was *not* going to be a hired hand, but the father restores him as his son again.

What great mercy!

Then there's the older son. He has worked tirelessly for his father, but refuses to come into the feast. When the father comes out, he gets angry with his father. When referring to his brother, he says, "your son." The father says to him,

My son, you are here with me always; everything I have is yours. But now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found. (Luke 15:31-32)

Note that the father says "your brother," trying to reestablish the relationship between the brothers. Also note that the father goes out to meet his older son, in much the same way that he went out to meet his younger son.

Of course, the father in the parable is God the Father, and we are the two sons. Jesus is showing the incredible mercy that God the Father is willing to pour out, and how far He is willing to humble Himself. When we spit in His Face, like the younger son did, saying that we only want what will give us short term happiness, God doesn't refuse nor does He "smite" us for the insult. When we are far away from Him, He is constantly watching and waiting, hoping for that day when we will be open to relationship with Him. As soon as we turn in longing for Him, wanting to turn from our sin (even for the selfish reason of hunger), He runs out to meet us. His grace pours out in superabundance on us as soon as there is just a crack open to Him. When we return, He embraces us and returns us to His family as son or daughter. Even if we're like the older brother who is resentful and upset because he doesn't have his own way after years of fidelity, God the Father comes out to meet us where we are and wants to restore our relationship with Him and with those around us.

What wasteful mercy God pours out on us! We don't deserve it. Most times, we don't even care about it, as we go along in our little sinful, self-centered lives... and yet He continues to waste His mercy on us. God does not tire of forgiving; it is we who grow tired of asking for forgiveness.



EASTER BASKETS

Drop off Deadline: Monday, April 8th

Reminder: Drop off deadline for Easter baskets is Monday April 8. Baskets may be left in the chapel. For more information, regarding specific needs, please contact Cheryl at cdbrunelle@comcast.net or 508-864-8084 (call or text).

UPCOMING STEUBENVILLE EAST FREE WILL OFFERING

Every year thousands of teens gather on the UMASS Lowell Campus for one reason; to draw closer to Jesus. Every year we have a group go from our parish and it is truly life changing for them. We will have our annual free will offering to support our teens after Masses on April 6th & 7th. We are always so humbled by your giving and these teens truly depend upon it. **Thank you** in advance and, above all, we ask that you continue to keep our group in prayer.

ROOMBA RAFFLE!

The Knights of Columbus are raffling off an iRobot i7 Roomba robot vacuum. This is an \$800.00 value of the latest model just released and the smartest Roomba yet. You can tell it to clean a specific set of rooms instead of always having to clean everything. Tickets are \$5.00 each, or five for \$20.00 benefits both our support of Seminarians and our Parish's Bereavement Group. We will be selling raffle tickets after all the Masses this weekend March 23rd & 24th and the weekend of March 30th & 31st.

LIVING AS A CATHOLIC MAN IN TODAY'S CULTURE

Join us for a daylong retreat for men on April 13th, at 9:00 AM at St. Matthew Parish, Windham, NH. The cost is \$10.00 and lunch is included. The retreat will conclude with Mass at 4:00 PM. To register or for more information email at stmattretreat@gmail.com



FISH BAKE

The Knights of Columbus are running their annual Lenten Fish Bake again. The event will take place on the following Fridays during Lent, April 5th & 12th. It is in the Parish Center and runs from 4:00-6:45 PM. The meal consists of baked haddock with cracker crumb topping, mashed potatoes, green beans, roll and butter. Meal prices are \$11.00 and \$10.00 for seniors (over age 65). Take-out meals can be ordered by calling 635-3829 after 4:00 PM. Hope to see you there.



On the Christian Meaning of Human Suffering Salvifici Doloris

Join Fr. Von in studying St. John Paul II's letter about making sense of suffering in our lives. Monday nights: **April 1st, 8th, 22nd & 29th at 7:00 PM** in the **Youth Room** at the **school**.

For more information, contact Fr. Von fathervon@comast.net or 603-635-3525.



The Penny Sale is Coming...

St. Patrick Women's Guild will be sponsoring their 24th Penny Sale on April 13th & 14th. This year we will be in the school and entrance will be under the carport. Proceeds from this sale help to support our various charities such as the Food Panty, scholarships to graduates, an 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 down to St. Patrick's Office or call Therese Soucy at 635-3525 or 635-2117. So don't forget to keep the dates open and join us on April 13th & 14th at St. Patrick School.