

CHURCH & PARISH OFFICES**St. Patrick Parish**

12 Main St.

Pelham, NH 03076

603-635-3525 (office)

603-635-3919 (fax number)

Website: www.stpatricks-pelham.com**Pastor**

Rev. Volney J. DeRosia

Email: fathervon@comcast.net**Deacons**

Deacon John Ross

Email: ualdrnft@comcast.net

Deacon Tom Lavallee

Email: tl3450@gmail.com**Faith Life Director**

Adam Castor 603-635-1447

Email: faithlifeformation@comcast.net**Business Manager**

Therese Soucy

Email: therese42852@comcast.net**Secretary**

Kathleen Jean

Email: kathy7421@comcast.net**Music Ministry**

Stephen Caruso 603-401-0837

Gary Williams 603-635-7669

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

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

MASS INTENTIONS

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| Saturday | April 30 |
| 4pm | Intentions for all our Parishioners |
| Sunday | May 1 |
| 8am | Mary Larese , 5 th Anniversary, requested by the Raby family |
| 10:30am | Emile Martin , 5 th Anniversary, requested by his family |
| 6pm | Marietta Potter , 2 nd Anniversary, requested by her family |
| Monday | May 2 |
| 8am | In Honor of St. Joseph |
| Tuesday | May 3 |
| 8am | No Mass |
| Wednesday | May 4 |
| 8am | No Mass |
| Thursday | May 5 |
| 8am | Rita Delisle requested by the Parish Staff |
| 10:00am | Anne Murray requested by Jackie Hynes |
| 7pm | Intentions for all our Parishioners |
| Friday | May 6 |
| 8am | Kamil Karam requested by his family |
| Saturday | May 7 |
| 8am | Women of Mary |
| 4pm | Hudson & DiGiantommaso Families requested by their families |
| Sunday | May 8 |
| 8am | For all Mother's living and Deceased |
| 10:30am | Grace Buscema requested by her family |
| 6pm | Michael J. Taylor, Sr. , 26 th Anniversary, requested by the Taylor family |

BLESSING OF THE CHILD OF THE WOMB

All mothers and fathers who are expecting are invited to join the *Blessing of a Child in the Womb*. After the 10:30 AM Mass on May 8th, Fr. Von will bless the unborn babies as well as the mothers, fathers, and families gathered.

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 4/24/16 \$6,401

Faith Life \$1,522

Total funds collected for this week for parish expenses \$7,923

Thank you for your continued support
~Fr. Von~

SECOND ENVELOPES FOR THE FOLLOWING WEEKS

May 8 Catholic Communications

This collection supports diocesan and natural efforts to ensure a Catholic presence in the media as well as Catholic communications programs such as Parable Magazine and our diocesan website.

May 15 Fuel

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

May 22 Faith Life Formation

This collection helps with expenses for Faith Life.

May 29 Groundskeeping

This collection helps with the Church and School grounds.

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

Faith Life Registration and Schedule for 2016-2017 is on the Parish Website and in the Parish Office.

NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Starting on Friday, May 6th you are invited to pray the Novena to the Holy Spirit, leading up to the great Feast of the Holy Spirit – Pentecost. Please pray for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit in your heart, your home, our Church and our world. Novena prayers are available in the bulletin in the bulletin at the entrances of the Church.



Sunday, May 1

Talk on the Joyful Mysteries, 9:15 AM, in the Church

The Crowning of Mary, after the 10:30 AM Mass

Monday, May 2

Praise Band, 7:00 PM, in the church

Tuesday, May 3

Women's Guild Meeting, 6:30 PM, in the parish center

Food Pantry, 6:30-7:30 PM

Wednesday, May 4

Men's Morning Group, 6:00-7:00 AM, in the meeting room

Adoration 8:30-9:30 AM and 2:00-8:00 PM

Food Pantry, 1:00-3:00 PM

Knights of Columbus Meeting, 7:30 PM, in the K of C Hall

Thursday, May 5

AA, 7:00 PM, in the K of C Hall

Choir Practice, 7:30 PM, in the church

PRAYER SHAWL

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.

Thursday, May 5th is a Holy Day of Obligation
Masses are as follows: 8:00 & 10:00 AM and 7:00 PM

First Friday Mass is this Friday, May 6th at 8:00 AM

First Saturday Mass is this Saturday, May 7th at 8:00 AM

The Knights of Columbus will be collecting donations to Birthright on Mother's Day weekend, and handing out flowers to any mothers who wish to have one. Birthright is a non-profit organization whose philosophy is: "The essence of Birthright is love. Birthright is unique and committed to offering free, non-judgmental help to women facing unplanned pregnancies. Birthright offers love, hope and support to each woman, to help her make a realistic plan for her future and the future of her unborn child." Your generous donations were just over \$600 last year, and we hope you can match or exceed that this year. Please make any checks out to "Knights of Columbus Council 6902". To see more about birthright, please check out there website at: birthright.org/en/

Fr. Von will be doing a series of talks about the Mysteries of the Rosary. They will take place after the 8:00 AM Mass in the Church on the following weekends: May 1st, 15th, 22nd and 29th.



SAVE THE DATE!!
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
JULY 11TH - 15TH
More information to follow

WOMEN OF MARY

All Women of all ages are invited to join us in honoring Our Lady for First Saturday Devotions on May 7th. We begin with Mass at 8:00 AM, followed by the Crowning of Our Blessed Mother followed by the rosary at 8:30 AM and then join us for a potluck breakfast and fellowship.

For more information 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 main church.

FROM THE PASTOR

My dear brothers and sisters,

The first Sacrament I will look at in my series on the Sacraments will be **Matrimony**. Usually, we look at Baptism or Eucharist first; rarely is Matrimony the first Sacrament on the list. I choose this Sacrament with which to begin because it is the *form* for all the other Sacraments, in fact the whole Christian life. What do I mean by this?

In the beginning (as Genesis tells us) God created man and woman in His image and likeness. This means that we can tell something about God by looking at who we are – we reflect God’s life. It also means that in our study of God, we can come to know more about who we are. At the very heart and center of God is the greatest Mystery of our Faith – the Blessed Trinity. God, at the heart and core of who He is, is **relationship**. The eternal Father is eternally pouring out His love to the eternal Son, and the Son is eternally returning His love back to the Father. And that eternal love is so real that it is a *person*, the Holy Spirit. God created us to be in relationship – in a relationship of love. And the gift of marriage reflects the very heart of who God is – that the husband and wife join in such an intimate union of love that that love is so *real*, that nine months later you may have to give it a name. Pope Francis (in his new document *Joy of Love*) says:

The couple that loves and begets life is a true, living icon... capable of revealing God the Creator and Saviour. ... Seen this way, the couple’s fruitful relationship becomes an image for understanding and describing the mystery of God himself, for in the Christian vision of the Trinity, God is contemplated as Father, Son and Spirit of love. The triune God is a communion of love, and the family is its living reflection. (11, emphasis added)

Matrimony, then, is the form of all the Sacraments for all Sacraments are a way into the Heart of God – the gift of the Grace of His relationship poured upon us – and so we see most clearly how God as the *lover of our souls* comes to us, desiring to unite Himself to us... God wants to marry us.

Now, if marriage is an analogy of God’s love for us (not that God’s love is like marriage, but marriage is like God’s love for us) we need to look at *how God loves* so we can see what marriage is supposed to be. When we look at God’s love, we see four qualities – God loves **totally, freely, faithfully** and **fruitfully**. This is seen in the very life of the Trinity, but also seen in how He loves us as He pours out His life for us on the Cross. He holds nothing back – it is **total**. He chooses to go to the Cross and stay on the Cross – He is **free**. In His love for us, He thinks about us to the end – He is **faithful**. His sacrifice gives us eternal life – His love bears **fruit**.

These four qualities of God’s love must then be present in marriage: specifically in the **marriage vows** and the **physical renewal of the marriage vows** (did you know that the conjugal act is the renewal of the vows of your marriage?). This love speaks of **gift and reception** – *I give myself to you; I receive the gift of you to me*. So, marital love must be **total**. If you come to your vows saying, “I give part of me” or “I give everything, except...” or “I want all of you, except your fertility,” then the vows or the renewal of vows are a lie; they do not reflect the *total* love of God – it does not become the **“image for understanding and describing the mystery of God himself”** (*Joy of Love* 11). Marital love must be **free**. Coercion, pressure and manipulation have *no place* in the marriage vows or in their renewal; rather, there must be a free gift of self, a free reception of the other. Marital love must be **faithful**. Fidelity means more than actions (though what we *do* is vital), but also means our thoughts – Jesus says if we even *look lustfully* at others, we have committed adultery with them in our hearts (Matthew 5:28). Our imaginations must be given over to *gift and reception*. Marital love must be **fruitful**. Our marriages, if they are to reflect the love of the Trinity, are to build each other up and give each other *life*. Each renewal of our vows is also to be fruitful, and always *open* to the gift of life, in order that we not *lie* with our bodies. While we may not be at the point yet of reflecting God’s love in our marriages and renewal of vows, God’s grace is always present. Call upon the grace of the Sacrament of Matrimony for strength to live out the difficult call of dying to ourselves to live for God. God will answer!

In the first article, I mentioned that for validity of the Sacraments, there needs to be proper **matter, form** and **intention**. The matter are the *female and male bodies* of the bride and groom. The form are the *vows* given to each other (totally, freely, faithfully and fruitfully), and the intention is to enter into the marriage freely, without reservation, as long as you both shall live, and to be open to life.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

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 in to the Guidance Office at Pelham High School or to St. Patrick Parish Office by Friday, May 6, 2016.

PELHAM GOOD NEIGHBOR FUND ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Pelham Good Neighbor Fund will be awarding their 17th Annual Scholarship for \$2,500.00. The criteria to qualify is as follows:

- Formal Acceptance to a 2 or 4 year College
- Copy of Letter of Acceptance from the college
- Demonstrated Financial Need
- Provide High School Record of Academic Achievement

• Work, Community and/or School Activities
You can pick-up an application at the Guidance office at the Pelham High School. The application must be returned by Saturday, May 21, 2016 and mailed to:

Bonnie Ward
19 Clark Circle
Pelham, NH 03076

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

To Western Rockingham County churches, welfare offices and others interested, Catholic Charities will be facilitating a three-session financial fitness workshop on May 2nd and May 16th. The sessions will be held both in the afternoon (2-4 pm) and in the evenings (6-8 pm). The location of the sessions will be at the Catholic Charities Salem office, 95 Stiles Rd, Salem. If you know of someone who is interested in reviewing their financial fitness, please ask them to call 603-893-1971 or e-mail jnelson@nh-cc.org to register.

REINVIGORATE YOUR FAITH

Inspire your faith through a **Cursillo weekend**. The Spring **Women's weekend**: June 2-5. If you are interested in attending a Cursillo weekend, contact Fr. Von for more information (603-635-3525).



FIRST COMMUNION

First Communion Rehearsal dates and times:

We have set dates and times for upcoming First Communion rehearsals in May. These rehearsals are mandatory and I would ask that all families please attend the correct day and time. All rehearsals will take in the church.

For children receiving First Communion on **May 15th at 10:00 AM** – rehearsal is Wednesday, May 11th from 6:30-7:30 PM.

For children receiving First Communion on **May 15th at 1:00 PM** – rehearsal is Thursday, May 12th from 6:30-7:30 PM.

For children receiving First Communion on **May 21st at 10:00 AM** – rehearsal is Wednesday, May 18th from 6:30-7:30 PM.

For children receiving First Communion on **May 21st 1:00 PM** – rehearsal is Thursday, May 19th from 6:30-7:30 PM.

PRAYER LINE

St. Patrick Parish has an on-going Prayer Line. Many of our friends and family are going through difficulties; the loss of loved ones or personal problems and sickness. Our mission is to pray for them. If you want to pray for others or need prayer, you are welcome to e-mail Lillian Murgia at Lmurgia.871@comcast.net or call Rosemary Dole at 603-635-2486. Anyone wishing to serve on the Prayer Line, praying for other people, please contact, Lillian Murgia at 603-635-2634 or e-mail at Lmurgia.871@comcast.net.



The Pelham Food Pantry is in need of **Cold Cereal (no oatmeal)** and **Can Fruit**.