

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: rkelley4372@gmail.com

Deacon

Deacon John Ross
Email: ualdrmlt@comcast.net

Faith Life Director

Adam Castor 603-635-1447 Ext. 14
Email: faithlifeformation@comcast.net

Business Manager

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Secretary

Kathleen Jean - Ext. 10
Email: kathy7421@comcast.net

Music Ministry

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

Jeanne Dyjak 978-394-8894
Email: jeanned34@gmail.com

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 November 3
 4pm **Matthew L & Matthew J Janos**
 33rd & 13th Anniversary, requested
 by Joan Janos

Sunday November 4
 8am **Nicholas Mitchell, 2nd**
 Anniversary, requested by his
 mother & father
 10:30am **Una Harrington, Birthday**
 Remembrance, requested by her
 family
Helen Taylor, 9th Anniversary,
 requested by the Taylor family
 6pm **Intentions of all our Parishioners**

Monday November 5
 8am **For all Souls in Purgatory**

Tuesday November 6
 8am **Theresa & George Straughan**
 requested by Doug & Laura
 Masson
Paul McLaughlin requested
 by the 8 O'Clockers

Wednesday November 7
 8am **Michael Cannon, 3rd**
 Anniversary, requested by his
 wife Connie

Thursday November 8
 8am **In Honor of St. Lucy**
Joseph Ferreira, 1st Anniversary,
 requested by his wife Molly
 Ferreira & family

Friday November 9
 8am No Mass

Saturday November 10
 4pm **Pauline Soucy** requested by
 St. Patrick Staff
Armand Berard requested by
 Doug & Laura Masson

Sunday November 11
 8am **Alexandre & Alma Boisvert &**
Family requested by Anita Hall &
 family
 10:30am **Intentions of all our Parishioners**
 6pm **Michael Taylor, Jr., Birthday**
 Remembrance, requested by the
 Taylor 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 10/28/18

Offertory Envelopes \$5,937

Offertory Electronic Giving \$1,312

Total Offertory \$7,249

Faith Life \$2,529

Total Collected \$9,778

As of Oct. 28th we have a deficit of **\$5,187**

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

SECOND ENVELOPES FOR THE FOLLOWING WEEKS

Nov. 11 Utility

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

Nov. 18 Catholic Campaign for Human Development

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development supports programs and services for persons with low income, both in NH and around the U.S. Grants support programs that address community problems, increasing educational opportunities, and the creation of jobs. A portion of this collection also supports Black and Indian missions in the U.S.

Nov. 25 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.

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Sunday, November 4

LOTW, 8:00 AM, in the school
 Coffee & Donuts, 11:30 AM, in the K of C Hall
 Children of Mary, 11:45 AM, in the meeting room
 Family Adoration, 12:45 PM, in the church
 Men & Women AA, 7:00-8:00 PM, in the school

Monday, November 5

LOTW, 6:30 PM, in the school

Tuesday, November 6

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

Wednesday, November 7

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, November 8

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

Friday, November 9

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

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL NOMINATIONS
 October is the month set aside for members of St. Patrick Parish to nominate others members or themselves to serve on the Parish Pastoral Council. Nominations forms are available in the front entrance of the Church. Please use a separate nomination form for each name submitted. Please submit your nomination by Sunday, November 11th.

MARCH FOR LIFE – A PILGRIMAGE OF FAITH

Join Fr. Von, hundreds of pilgrims from NH, and hundreds of thousands of pilgrims from across the nation to be a peaceful voice for those most vulnerable in our society who have no voice – the unborn. The trip to Washington, DC will take place on Thursday, January 17, 2019, the March on the 18th, and return early morning on the 19th. For more information, grab a registration form from the main entrance of the Church, or speak with Fr. Von (635-3525).



TURKEY CHEER

The Knights of Columbus Council 6902 is having their Annual Turkey Dinner and raffle on Saturday, November 17th, at St. Patrick Parish Center. Doors open at 5:00 PM. Dinner starts at 6:00 PM followed by our **raffles**: For tickets and to reserve a table of 8 please call:

John M. Costa 603-508-0579

James Dolan 603-635-7737

Tickets are also available at the door. Adults \$11.00/Seniors & Children \$9.00 per person. Donations for raffles are greatly appreciated. Please contact John M. Costa at 603-508-0579.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER

On behalf of Fr. Von and St. Patrick Parish, you are invited to a celebration of YOU! On Saturday, November 10th from 5:00-7:00 PM at the Parish Center. Kindly RSVP to Allyson Condon by October 27th at chris-ally@comcast.net or 978-621-2717. Spouses are welcome!

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

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This week is Vocation Awareness week. A vocation is God's calling for our lives. The universal calling is to holiness – God created each of us to be holy. This is important to remember: *you* were created to be holy. No one is exempt from this. Whether we choose to be holy or not is up to us. After the universal call to holiness, we each have different callings. God calls some to married life, others to consecrated religious life, some to holy orders, and some to single life in the Church. My vocation is not yours, nor is yours mine, but we all have a call from God.

The beautiful gift of the priesthood – through which we receive the Sacraments – has been wrought with controversies. At the heart of the matter, though, is that the priesthood is a gift to the Church. Even if we, weak men, have failed to live up to our calling, *the Lord* (and it is always about Him) still provides infinite grace to the Church and the world through the Sacraments. Even from the very beginning, we have seen the failures of the priests and bishops (Judas betraying Jesus, Peter denying Him, Thomas doubting the resurrection, and all of the apostles abandoning Jesus in Gethsemane), Jesus still chose to use these weak men as a means of His grace. (As an aside, please pray for us priests, for we are much under attack of the evil one who wants to take us down... for in taking down one priest, many people leave the Church... it's a most efficient battle plan of the evil one.)

In the midst of these controversies lies another one: why can't women become priests? It seems that the Church is being unjust in not allowing women to have this place of authority and prestige in the Church, hold them back by that "glass ceiling." Such holy Popes as St. Paul VI, St. John Paul II, and even in our day Pope Francis have stated that this is not a matter up for discussion, but is beyond the Church's authority to change. Why? I will answer this question to the best of my ability, but I pray that the Holy Spirit will enlighten our hearts so that my words are not only *true*, but also have the power of the conviction of the Gospel.

First, I want to say that no one is owed the gift of Holy Orders – no one deserves it: not me, not Peter Libasci, not Jorge Bergoglio (Pope Francis). This means that there is no injustice, for justice means that we get what is our due – but the priesthood is due to no one, for it is total gift, a calling (vocation) from God.

The most convincing argument I have heard is this: when Jesus, who is God, in union with His Father, chose the Apostles, **He chose only men**. This was not because of a shortage of good women candidates (His Mother Mary, Mary Magdalene, and others), but because He chose for it to be so. Some will claim that it was because of the culture and societal pressures that Jesus chose only men at that time – that the culture forced Him, or that the world would not be open to women priests. When looking at this, we recognize how Jesus constantly went against societal norms, and, as God, was not bound by culture – He acted in complete freedom. The other piece is that virtually all pagan religions had priestesses at the time of Christ; the world was used to having women in this role. For some reason, Jesus – who is God, who knows all, and has a beautiful plan for our lives – chose only men to be the priests and bishops. With this as the background, we have to say that it was not a mistake, and knowing God to be ultimately reasonable, He had a reason.

I don't claim that I know the reasons why Jesus chose to do what He did, but the Church has pondered over why Christ chose only men to be priests. At the heart of the reflection, it is not because "men are better at it than women." Actually, when I think about the different aspects of my "job" (the things I do), I know plenty of women that could do it far better than I do. Priesthood, though, is not a job, nor a list of tasks to do, but our faith tells us it goes to the depths of who the person is – it gets into ontology: the being of the person. Jesus, through the sacrament of Holy Orders, changes the person on the level of *being*. When reflecting on this change, the Church looks at Ephesians 5, where St. Paul speaks about relationship between husbands and wives and says that it is in reference to Christ and His Church, which is a great mystery. St. Paul says that Christ is the Bridegroom and the Church is His Bride (remember my oft spoken mantra: "God wants to marry us"). Our theology teaches us that the priest is *alter Christus* (another Christ) and acts *in persona Christi capitis* (in the person of Christ the head), in Holy Orders Jesus changes the man into Himself as *husband*. In this we see the depths of the mystery – that priest is bridegroom, and the Church is bride, that the priest truly is acting as "Father," not just in title, but that's the relationship he is called to have with the people of God.

Our reflection on this reveals that the priesthood *must* be male, because this is the revelation of how Jesus wants the priest to relate to the Church, in being the bridegroom who says to the Church, "This is my body given up for you." The priest acts in the person of Christ in that moment when He is husband to the Church – giving His Body for us.

I know this won't answer all questions or struggles. I hope, though, that it will help to shed some light onto this issue. If you continue to struggle with it, *keep struggling*, but ask God for insight, to know and accept His loving will.

CONSECRATION TO MARY

Are you interested in Consecrating yourself to Jesus through Mary? We will begin a 33-day period of preparation beginning this Monday, November 5th and concluding on Saturday, December 8th. You can do the preparation and Consecration at home. Books are available at the main entrance of the Church.

GOT TOYS?

St. Gianna's Closet is accepting toy donations for its annual used toy sale to be held on December 1, 2018 from 9:00 AM until Noon at St. Thomas Church, 26 Crystal Ave in Derry. Please consider donating your gently used toys to St. Gianna's. Toys can be placed in the bin outside the K of C Hall downstairs at St. Patrick's. Proceeds from this sale go to help the needy in our community through St. Gianna's Closet's outreach programs. If you have a large donation, it may be brought to Jen Harrington at 67 Susan Dr., Pelham. Simply leave your bagged donation on the driveway. Donations will be accepted through November 30th. Thank you in advance! For more information or questions, please contact Jen at 603-327-7894.

THEOLOGY OF THE BODY

Not only about sex and marriage, Theology of the Body touches on everything concerning our human experience. As one man comments, "Come find the answers you never received as a kid growing up." Join us Mondays at 7:00 PM in the youth room at the school on November 19th & 26th.

Contact Jackie at jacquelinehynes@gmail.com or 603-434-1385 to register, as study guides need to be ordered. See flyer at Church entrance for more information.

PRAYER WARRIORS NEEDED

Are you interested in making a difference in the Church? Do you want to help form the Church of the future? **We need Prayer Warriors:** people who are willing to pray, sacrifice, and offer up their daily sufferings for our students who will be receiving First Reconciliation and Confirmation this year. If you would like to sign up, or have questions, please contact Fr. Von at 603-635-3525 or fathervon@comcast.net

ECHO DOT THIRD GENERATION

St. Patrick Parish invites you to consider our electronic giving program as a way to automate your regular weekly offerings. Electronic giving is convenient for you and provides such-needed consistency for our church. There is no cost for you to participate. This program will allow your weekly offerings to continue on an uninterrupted basis. Online Giving lets you go to www.stpatricks-pelham.com at any time to set up an automatic donation plan, change your donation plan, make a one-time donation or view your online donation history. Please consider electronic giving. Authorization forms and additional information are available from the church office or on line at www.stpatricks-pelham.com. **Any family who signs up for Electronic Giving now through Monday, November 19th, either through VANCO Services or Automatic Withdrawal, will be entered into a drawing for an Echo Dot Third Generation. So register now to be placed in the drawing!** If you have any questions or for more information, please contact the parish office at 603-635-3525.



As an organization founded upon the mission of crossing all borders, JESUS aCROSS the Border is excited to host another bilingual event! This month we join the Portuguese community at St. Anthony's in Lowell, MA on November 16th. The evening begins at 7:30 PM with Eucharistic Adoration and acoustic Praise & Worship led by bilingual singer, Caroline Then. A young adult Mass will follow at 9:00 PM with Fr. Kevin Leaver of St. John the Baptist Parish in Peabody, MA as the main Mass celebrant. Following that, Pure in Heart Lowell will host the social event, which includes our signature networking pizza social. We are also hosting a pilgrimage to the national Shrine of Divine Mercy on Saturday, November 17th. More information can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/DivineMercy2018>