



**Sunday, September 3**

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

**Monday, September 4**

**Labor Day**

**Parish Office Closed**

**Tuesday, September 5**

Women's Bible Sharing, 9:00-10:00 AM, in the youth room at the school

Food Pantry, 6:30-7:30 PM

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

**Wednesday, September 6**

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

Food Pantry, 1:00-2:30 PM

Faith Life Registration Night, 6:30 PM, in the school

Women's AA, 7:00-8:30 PM, in the school

Knights of Columbus Meeting, 7:00 PM, in the parish center

**Thursday, September 7**

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

Praise Band, 7:00 PM, in the church

**Friday, September 8**

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

Healing Mass, 7:00 PM, in the church

**Saturday, September 9**

Men of St. Joseph, 7:00-9:00 AM, in the parish center

Movie: The Letter, 5:30-8:00 PM, in the youth room at the school

**Saturday September 2**

**4pm ~ Anthony Marino**, Birthday

Remembrance, requested by his wife & family

**Wanda Allen**, 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, requested by her daughter Ellie

**Sunday September 3**

**8am ~ Stephen F. Wasylak**, 8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary,

requested by Stephen Wasylak, Jr. & family

**Ann Marshall** requested by Olivia Comeau

**10:30am ~ Intentions of all our Parishioners**

**Monday September 4**

**8am ~ For All Souls in Purgatory**

**Tuesday September 5**

**8am ~ Maurice Martin** requested by a friend

**Michael Perruccio** requested by John & Christina Vogl

**Wednesday September 6**

**8am ~ Gloria Dalpe** requested by Lou & Marie Dalpe

**Thursday September 7**

**8am ~ Leon & Louise Bousquet** requested by their daughter Patty Kennedy

**Friday September 8**

**8am ~ No Mass**

**7pm ~ Healing Mass**

**Saturday September 9**

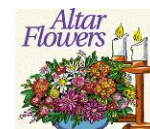
**4pm ~ In Honor of St. Joseph** requested by Donna Taylor

**Don Goyette** requested by the Goyette family

**Sunday September 10**

**8am ~ Patricia Dube**, 36<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, requested by Cyndee

**10:30am ~ Intentions of all our Parishioners**



This week the Altar Flowers are in memory of **Stephen F. Wasylak**, 8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, by his family



This week the Sanctuary Candle is in memory of **Stephen F. Wasylak**, 8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, by his family



My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This Sunday's Gospel comes directly after last Sunday's Gospel. If you remember, last Sunday, we heard Jesus ask His disciples about His identity. First, He asks them who people say He is. The disciples reply that some say John the Baptist or one of the prophets (see Matthew 16:14). He then says, "But who do *you* say that I am?" (Mt. 16:15, emphasis added). Simon Peter replies that He is the Messiah (the Christ), the Son of the living God (Mt. 16:16). Jesus says that Peter is correct, but that it was the Father in heaven who revealed this to him.

At the beginning of the Gospel today, Jesus says He must go to Jerusalem to "suffer greatly from the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised" (Mt. 16:21). While it may seem Jesus goes into a non-sequitur, it actually flows organically. As Bishop Sheen has commented, we know who people say Jesus is (a prophet), and we know who the Father says He is (the Messiah), but shouldn't we know who Jesus says He is? Jesus answers His own question: He is the Suffering Servant, the Priest-Victim.

This is not the type of Messiah that Simon Peter wanted, however. Peter immediately rebukes Jesus... and for that, Jesus says, "Get behind me, Satan!" (Mt. 16:22-23). Peter could not understand the need for the Cross.

We can be like Peter, too. Wouldn't we rather not have to take up our crosses to follow Christ? Wouldn't we rather have the light and easy burden? Certainly, our culture makes us more adept at following the easy path. Can you imagine the time before smart phones and Amazon Prime? In so many ways, we now have things quick and easy, at our virtual fingertips. And with that, comes the illusion that we are entitled to an easy, comfortable life. We don't want to have to suffer.

But, in the immortal words of the Man in Black, "Life is pain, Highness; anyone who says differently is selling something" (*The Princess Bride*). Everybody has to suffer. It doesn't matter – young or old, rich or poor, suffering will come to us in one form or another. Even if we surround ourselves with comforts and pleasure, we will eventually run up to the existential loneliness in our hearts. Many try to dull or escape that suffering with various substances, video games, or in some other manner, but in the end that will only heighten the loneliness and emptiness.

Jesus shows us that how we react to our suffering matters. If we do it like Him, we will find meaning in the suffering, and so the suffering be endurable. And how does Jesus react to His suffering? *He embraces it out of love.* Love is what makes the burden easy and light, for love is always focused outward on the other, not inward on the self. When we embrace our suffering and (as the old saying goes) offer it up for some purpose, we find that, while suffering is not enjoyable, it is bearable. Offering our suffering with Jesus' becomes redemptive – we share in the redemptive work of Jesus as we invite the grace poured out on the Cross to pour out into the world through us! Viktor Frankl discovered this while he was in the concentration camps of World War II – if you have a "why" you can endure any "what" – if you can find purpose, meaning in suffering, you can endure. Jesus' purpose and meaning in suffering was in order to save those He loves – all of us! If we can become like Him – join Him as suffering servants, as priest-victims, we won't reject the only way to the resurrection of life: through the Cross!

May we have the wisdom we need to see how we can find meaning in our crosses, and the courage to embrace them out of love for God, others and ourselves.

**Monday Night Teachings**  
**Jesus and the Eucharist**  
 During the National Eucharistic Revival  
 Strengthen your  
*Faith*

Join us Monday Nights at 7:00 PM  
 in the youth room  
 September 11<sup>th</sup> – October 30<sup>th</sup>.



## FAITH FORMATION

### OUR FAITH LIFE PROGRAM HAS BEGUN!

What a blessing and pleasure it is to begin another Faith Life year. The first month of the Family of Faith books we use are always committed to an orientation of sorts to the program. This program brings the family together to learn together about their faith and grow closer to Jesus! We will also take time to remember how important we are as Parents. We truly are the first teachers of the faith in our children's lives and the Church is here to support us in this great endeavor.

### You are invited to Registration Night!

If you are curious and would like to learn more about the program, please join us for Registration night.

It will take place on Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 PM in the cafeteria of the school. If you are not able to make this meeting, please reach out via email: [faithlifeformation@comcast.net](mailto:faithlifeformation@comcast.net) and we can talk 1-1 about the program.

God Bless you all and I will see you soon!

Adam Castor

Director of Faith Life

St. Patrick Parish

Pelham, NH



### BABY BOTTLE DRIVE



**St. Gianna's Place:** A Catholic Home for women in crisis pregnancies located in Hudson, will be holding a baby bottle campaign beginning September 16<sup>th</sup> until October 8<sup>th</sup>. Our doors have been open for 4 years and we've been able to offer a loving, formative and supportive home to over 20 women and their children during this short time! Your financial support is greatly appreciated in order to defray the costs of the day-to-day operations and educational programs we offer to our moms. If you would like to help, simply take home a baby bottle, fill it with your donation, and return it to the bin at the entrance of the church. With your support, we can change mothers' and their babies lives through the love and care of this community. Thank you!

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
 Annual Parish Picnic  
 Sunday, September 24, 2023  
 After the 10:30 AM Mass  
 Join us for Food, Fellowship, Kids activities

**Vocations**

"What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?" Are you being called to be a priest or deacon, brother or sister? Contact the Vocation Office at (603)663-0196 or email: [mmason@rcbm.org](mailto:mmason@rcbm.org)



### WOMEN'S BIBLE SHARING

Our Women's Bible Sharing group will resume weekly meetings starting in September and we'd love to have you join us! Our goal is to grow deeper in our faith while also building faith-filled friendships. The group will meet on Tuesdays from 9-10AM starting 9/5 and continuing weekly throughout the year. Each week, we focus on reading and discussing the readings for that week. "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, I am there in their midst." - Matthew 18:20 Please contact Jennah Costa with any questions [jennahcosta@yahoo.com](mailto:jennahcosta@yahoo.com) or (207) 431-4546.

#### 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 **\$39,320** toward our goal of **\$53,280**. We still need to collect **\$13,960**

**Troop 25** is conducting a collection drive in collaboration with the International Veterans Care Services (IVCS). The IVCS is a veterans charity located in Methuen, MA that provides food, toiletries, clothing, and transportation to veterans in the Merrimack River Valley. The troop is collecting personal needs items for this charity. A collection box is located in the front of the church. Collection dates will go from September 1 to September 30. Some items we are looking for include soap, shampoo, toothbrushes, toilet paper, and toothpaste. For any further questions or inquiries, please email David Kupcho at [davidkupcho@outlook.com](mailto:davidkupcho@outlook.com).

#### WITH PRAYERFUL SYMPATHY

We pray for Robert Vaillancourt and Alrick Hammar Jr. We extend our sympathy to their families.

### 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 8/20/23

Offertory Envelopes \$6,452

Offertory Electronic Giving \$2,137

**Total Offertory \$8,589**

Parish Collections for the week of 8/27/23

Offertory Envelopes \$7,462

Offertory Electronic Giving \$1,972

**Total Offertory \$9,434**

Maintenance 8/20 \$2,212

Faith Life 8/27 \$1,941

Assumption of Mary \$1,799

**Total Collected \$23,975**

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

### SECOND ENVELOPES FOR THE FOLLOWING WEEKS

#### Sept. 10 Utility

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

#### Sept. 17 Faith Life Formation

This collection helps with expenses for Faith Life.

#### Sept. 24 Evangelization

To help promote the faith in our community through Retreats, Community Dinners, Charity and so much more.

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



**Faith in Jesus Christ our Savior.** The Light of the World Retreat is coming to Saint Patrick's, October 20-23, 2023.



## **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](http://www.stpatricks-pelham.com)

### **Pastor**

Rev. Volney J. DeRosia - Ext. 15  
Email: [fathervon@comcast.net](mailto:fathervon@comcast.net)

### **Priest in Residence**

Msgr. Richard J. Kelley  
Email: [rkelly4372@gmail.com](mailto:rkelly4372@gmail.com)

### **Faith Life Director**

Adam Castor 603-635-1447 Ext. 14  
Email: [faithlifeformation@comcast.net](mailto:faithlifeformation@comcast.net)

### **Business Manager**

Therese Soucy - Ext. 11  
Email: [therese42852@comcast.net](mailto:therese42852@comcast.net)

### **Secretary**

Kathleen Jean - Ext. 10  
Email: [kathy7421@comcast.net](mailto:kathy7421@comcast.net)

### **Music Ministry**

Gary Williams 603-635-7669  
Email: [garywendy6@comcast.net](mailto: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](mailto:fathervon@comcast.net).

### **PRAYER LINE**

Please contact Lillian Murgia at 603-635-2634 or [Lmurgia\\_871@comcast.net](mailto: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](http://www.formed.org) to register, go to [pelham.formed.org](http://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](mailto:eqwright@comcast.net). More information online: [www.kofcpelhamnh.org](http://www.kofcpelhamnh.org)