

SAINT

PATRICK



St. Patrick Parish

Living Catholic Tradition in Nashua

29 Spring St., Nashua, NH 03060
Tel. 603-882-2262 Fax: 603-577-9817

Website: www.stpatricksnashua.org

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Michael Kerper
Pastor

Rev. John Healey
Priest-in-Residence

Rosemary Daly, Office Manager
Jean Dickson, Bookkeeper
Gary McDonald, Music Director
Rel. Educ. Paul & Jennifer Murano

St. Vincent de Paul Society
Help for those in Need
Tel. 603-821-5267

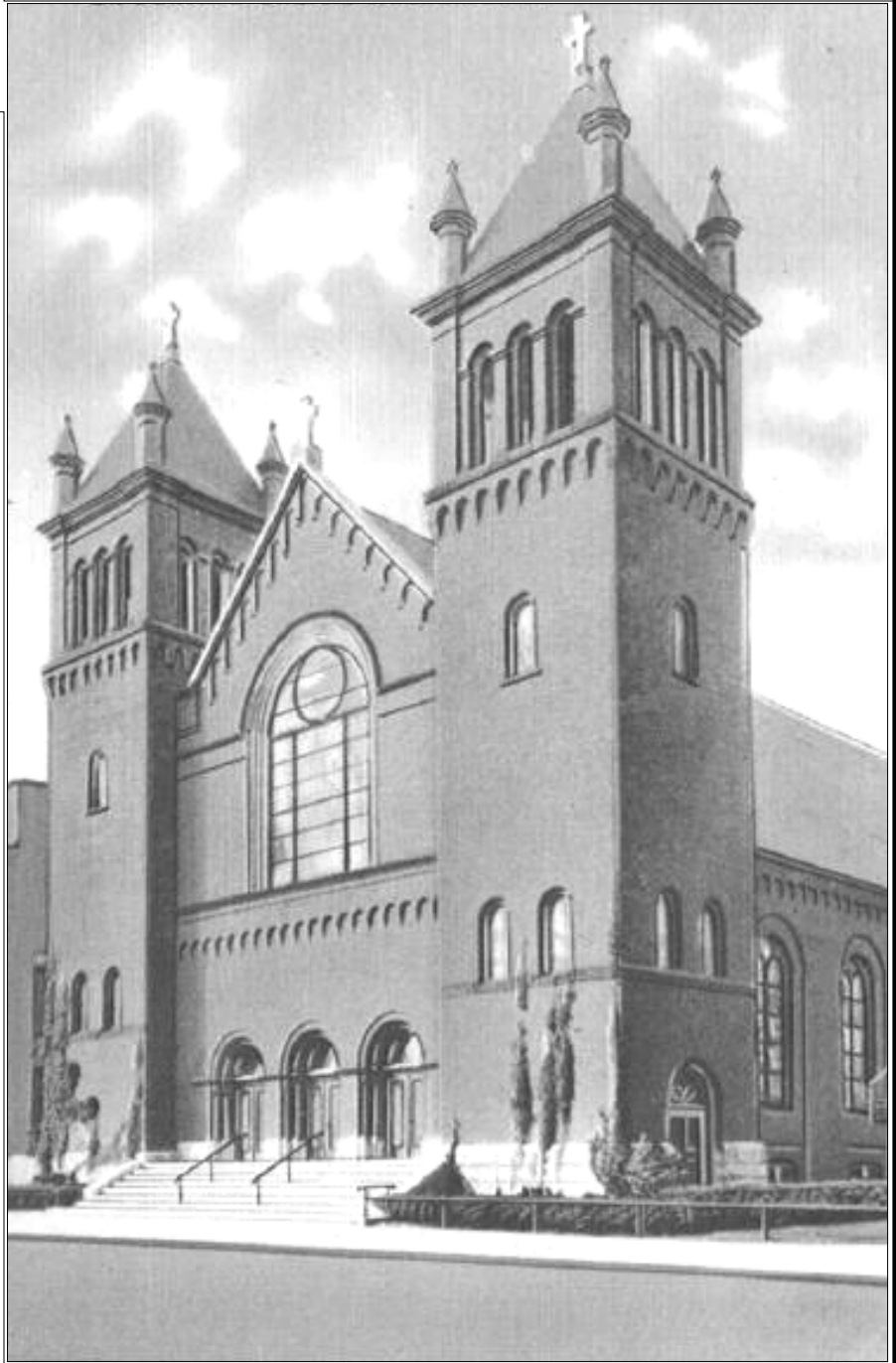
Mass Schedule
Mon. - Fri. 12:05 PM (Daily Mass)
Sat. 4:00 PM (Organ & Cantor)
Sun. 7:00 AM (Quiet Mass)
9:30 AM (Organ & Cantor)
12:00 PM (Organ & Choir)

Latin Mass (Extraordinary Form)
Sat: 8:00 AM
Second Sunday of each Month
at 12:00 PM

Confession
Sat.: 3:00 PM
Sun. 9:00 & 11:30 AM
Tues. through Fri. 11:30 AM

Office Hours
Mon. - Thurs. 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Fri. - 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Cemetery Office
Mon. - Thurs. 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Tel. 603-881-8131



**LITURGICAL CALENDAR
& INTENTIONS**

Saturday, Dec. 19, 2015 - Vigil ~ 4th Sunday of Advent

4:00 PM **Jean Dolan, Gertrude Walsh and Pauline Goy**
By the John Goy Family

Sunday, Dec. 20, 2015 ~ 4th Sunday of Advent

7:00 AM **Roger J. Robert**
By Dennis and Lena Robert

9:30 AM **Hannah Rita Hickey, 7th Anniv.**
By Judith Spaulding

12:00 PM **People of the Parish**

Monday, Dec. 21, 2015 ~ St. Peter Canisius

12:05 PM **Mary Ann Revenstein**
By Paul McDermott

Tuesday, Dec. 22, 2015

12:05 PM **Alice Downey**
By the Family

Wednesday, Dec. 23, 2015 ~ St. John of Kanty

12:05 PM **Matthew P. Ennis, Jr.**
By his wife Kathy Ennis

Thursday, Dec. 24, 2015 ~ CHRISTMAS EVE

4:00 PM **Priest's Intention**

12:00 Midnight **Priest's Intention**

Friday, Dec. 25, 2015 ~ CHRISTMAS DAY

7:00 AM **Priest's Intention**

9:30 AM **Priest's Intention**

Saturday, Dec. 26, 2015 - Vigil ~ Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

4:00 PM **Adam and Evelyn Gureckis**
By Judy Gureckis Farrar

Sunday, Dec. 27, 2015 ~ Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

7:00 AM **Claire Gagnon**
By a Friend

9:30 AM **Estelle Gosselin (living)**

12:00 PM **People of the Parish**

Thank you for respecting God's Holy Presence by keeping mobile phones and other electronic devices outside of this Sacred Place.

GIFTS FOR THE LORD'S WORK

Weekend of Dec. 12 & 13

Due to the Christmas holiday, the offertory tally sheets for the weekend of December 12 and 13 were not available at the time the bulletin went to the publisher. The offertory information for the weekend of December 12 and 13 will be in next week's bulletin.

THANK YOU!

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S OFFICE HOURS

In observance of Christmas, St. Patrick Parish offices will close at 12:00 noon on Wednesday, December 23, 2015. Offices will reopen on Monday, December 28, 2015 at 9:00 AM. The schedule of Masses for Christmas Eve (Dec. 24) and Christmas Day (Dec. 25) are posted in the bulletin and on our website.

In observance of the New Year's holiday, St. Patrick Parish offices will close at 12:00 noon on Thursday, Dec. 31, 2015 and reopen on Monday, January 4, 2016 at 9:00 AM. Masses for The Feast of the Holy Mother of God are posted in the bulletin and on our website.



ST. PATRICK & HOLY CROSS CEMETERIES



St. Patrick Parish has two beautiful cemeteries located in Hudson, NH - St. Patrick Cemetery on Derry Road and Holy Cross Cemetery on Ledge Road. For more information on available lots, please contact Margie Gray at 603-881-8131.

Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 20, 2015

UPCOMING LATIN MASSES

12:00 Noon

January 10, 2016

The Holy Family

Saturday Mornings

8:00 AM

(Church opens at 7:30 AM)

December 12, 2015

Within the Octave of the Immaculate Conception

December 19, 2015

Vigil of St. Thomas (anticipated)

December 26, 2015

St. Stephen

LATIN/ENGLISH MISSALS AVAILABLE

1962 Roman Catholic Daily Missals in Latin and English are available for purchase for \$50.00. Contact Jack McGreevy at 603-888-5824 for more information or to obtain your missal.

MARRIAGES

Brian Daly
and Anna Stauble

NATIONAL PILGRIM VIRGIN STATUE HOME VISITATION TRAVELING KIT

The World Apostolate of Fatima, an organization devoted to Our Lady of Fatima and her message of conversion, offers individual families the opportunity to host a home visitation of the Pilgrim Virgin Statue. The Pilgrim Virgin kit includes a 27" Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima with three doves and gold crown; a 90 minute DVD: "Apparition at Fatima;" an 80 minute DVD documentary: "Fatima;" 2 paperback booklets: "Pilgrim Virgin Home Visitation Program;" WAF USA Spiritual Guide; Pieta Prayer booklet; a bottle of Holy Water; a plastic covered Apostolate of Fatima Information Booklet; and a Journal Book - "Our Lady's Visit to Our Home." If you are interested in hosting the Pilgrim Virgin Statue for a week or two, please contact the Parish Office at 603-882-2262 to make arrangements.

Music & Texts for Vigil Mass at 4:00 PM

Liturgy of the Word Missalette

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Texts and Readings pgs. 36 - 37

Collegeville Hymnal

Processional: #179 O Come O Come Emmanuel
verses 4/5/6

Communion Antiphon: pg. 37

*Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son;
And his name will be called Emmanuel.*

(Isaiah 7:14)

Recessional: #173 O Come Divine Messiah



CHRISTMAS WAFERS

The Christmas wafers used by Lithuanian and Polish Catholics are available for pick up. They have been and placed in the Sanctuary. You will find them in front of the Blessed Mother's altar.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE

Thursday, Dec. 24, 2015

4:00 PM

Organ and Cantor

12:00 Midnight

Traditional Latin Mass

With Traditional Christmas Carols

(A Latin-English program will be provided)

Church will open at 11:00 PM

CHRISTMAS DAY

Friday, Dec. 25, 2015

7:00 AM

Quiet Mass

9:30 AM

Organ and Cantor

CONFESSIONS

Saturday, Dec. 19 - 3:00 - 4:00 PM

Sunday, Dec. 20 - 9:00 AM & 11:30 AM

Tuesday, Dec. 22 - 11:30 AM to 12:00 PM

Wednesday, Dec. 23 - 11:30 AM to 12:00 PM

Thursday, Dec. 24 - 2:00 to 3:00 PM

NEW YEAR'S DAY MASS SCHEDULE

*January 1st is the
Feast of Mary
The Mother of God
(a Holy Day of Obligation)*

NEW YEAR'S EVE

Thursday, Dec. 31, 2015

4:00 PM

NEW YEAR'S DAY

Friday, January 1, 2016

7:00 AM

9:30 AM



WEEKLY READINGS

Dec. 21 through Dec. 27

Monday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56

Wednesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66

Thursday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79

Friday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 (18-25)
Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20

Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 (1-5, 9-14)

Saturday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10; Col 3:12-21 (12-17) or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Below is a list of Parish meetings being held in the Parish Center this week. (PAL uses the gym Monday through Saturday, unless otherwise arranged in advance).

Sunday, Dec. 20: Religious Education classes grades 1 through 6 in all classrooms and outer gym area.

Monday, Dec. 21: Religious Education classes grades 7 through 12 in all classrooms and outer gym area.

Sunday, Dec. 27: NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES GRADES 1 THROUGH 6 - CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

Monday, Dec. 28: NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES GRADES 7 THROUGH 12 - CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY.

Please note: Schedule is subject to change. To schedule a meeting or an event in the Center, please contact Rosemary Daly in the Office at 603-882-2262.



Community News

PILGRIMAGE TO ROME AND ASSISI WITH BISHOP LIBASCI

April 18-26, 2016

Join Bishop Peter A. Libasci and the Diocese of Manchester as they celebrate the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy with a pilgrimage to Italy from April 18-26, 2016.

Bishop Libasci will lead a pilgrimage in honor of the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy announced by Pope Francis I. Visit the Holy Doors of Rome, participate in a Papal Audience, tour the Eternal City, and pray and renew your faith in tranquil Assisi. Space is limited, so reserve your spot today! Registration deadline is February 28, 2016. (Single - \$3,895; Double - \$3,350; Triple - \$3,250; Quad - \$3,195). Contact Canterbury Pilgrimages at (800) 653-0017 to make your reservation or for information.

CORPUS CHRISTI CHAPEL ADORATION

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 12:00 Noon to 8:00 PM
43 Franklin Street, Nashua, NH

CORPUS CHRISTI FOOD PANTRY

Corpus Christi Food Pantry is located at 43 Franklin, St., Nashua, NH. Our pantry is able to provide temporary help to families in need, usually 3 days of meals, because we are blessed with donations such as yours. Shelf ready or canned meat such as Beef Stew, ham, Spam, Vienna Sausage; cereal, pancake and muffin mixes, healthy granola or breakfast bars, Macaroni and Cheese, instant potatoes, pasta, rice, canned fruit and vegetables are some of the items we would be grateful for this month. Please contact us at (603) 882-6372 or at Corpuschristifp@outlook.com with any questions. Your continued generosity is greatly appreciated!

Domestic Work: The Blessed Virgin's "Pre-Christmas Retreat"

On the Sunday before Christmas this year we hear the story of the Visitation -- the meeting between Mary, who was pregnant with Jesus, and Elizabeth, who was pregnant with John the Baptist. We usually stop with the very pleasant scene of the mutual greeting exchanged by Mary and Elizabeth. We quickly forget the rest of the story: three months of hard domestic labor done by Mary. At the time, she was perhaps 14 or 15 and carrying a baby. Can you imagine Mary's ordeal as she cared for a much older woman who was pregnant for the first time of her life?

In the Middle Ages some theologians debated whether Mary, the Mother of the Lord, had ever perspired. Some imagined her as a privileged lady of leisure. But St. Luke's clear remembrance of her as housemaid, midwife, and visiting nurse to Elizabeth strongly suggests that she did indeed sweat. Her knuckles probably got raw from scrubbing floors; and her knees and back probably ached from the hard work she did for three months in the home of Zachariah and Elizabeth.

We must always remember, then, that the Blessed Mother's "pre-Christmas retreat" consisted of back-breaking work even while she carried the Son of God within her own body.

There's great meaning for us here. The "domestic captivity of Mary" teaches us that ordinary work and the tedious care that we give to others is somehow holy, somehow touched by the Divine.

Mary's sweating, aching and endless work before the first Christmas was a preview of what her own son would do. "Like mother like son." After Gabriel had announced to Mary that she would conceive and bear a son, she said, "Behold, the handmaid of the Lord." She identified herself as a "handmaid," which translates the Greek word *doule*, which literally means slave.

Jesus himself was also identified as a slave. He died a slave's death. Indeed, in the reading from the Letter to Hebrews today, we hear Jesus say that his whole purpose was to give himself totally to God. Not just in words but deeds.

During the Christmas Season, there's lots of work, visiting, cleaning up. Some people spend much of their lives as caregivers to the elderly, difficult children, and those in need. All of that work and care is sanctified; it's all holy because it was done by Mary who bore the Son of God.

Did Mary sweat? Did Jesus sweat? Who knows for sure? We do know, however, that all their simple and hidden deeds of love intermingle with ours and reflect the goodness of God who unites Himself with Humanity at Christmas.

Fr. Michael Kerper

Note: Our church contains a very beautiful depiction of the Visitation in the stained glass window on the north side, second from the sanctuary. Please, take a look.