

Saint Kathryn Parish

4 Dracut Road, Hudson, NH 03051 • Tel (603) 882-7793 • Fax (603) 595-1465





Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I've already heard it! "Father, Christmas is over. Why is the baby Jesus still out?"

I think it's a wonderful question. Although we're hearing the Gospels of the public life of Jesus, it's an ancient tradition in the Church for us to continue the

celebration of Christmas for forty days until the feast of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2nd. So while we are back in green and the Gospels are about an adult Jesus, we continually remember His coming among us and we mark the days before His presentation in the Temple of Jerusalem and the encounter with Simeon and Anna. Until February 2nd, we'll still have a little bit of Christmas at our fingertips! We didn't forget a thing – instead, we are remembering the event fully!

During this month of January, we continue to show our respect and love for all human life. Many Catholics and other people who treasure the gift of life will join the March for Life in Washington, DC on January 27th, and many will have participated in it in Concord, NH yesterday, January 14th. It's amazing that these marches have grown over the years and that there are so many who still haven't heard or understood the message of life as a gift from God. Although there are many who protest these marches, there are so many who have remained faithful to the cause of proclaiming that all life has value – from the moment of conception until the moment of natural death. It's difficult to be a part of a society that first devalued life in the womb, and now speaks of euthanizing those who are challenged by age, sickness, or disability. It's a horror to consider that we belong to a world where humans take the place of God and insist that if a person is "inconvenient" (I'm not sure I even know what that means) that we have the right to eliminate them.

At the end of December, a priest for whom I was named as durable power of attorney passed into glory. When the nursing home called to recommend that we consider hospice care for him, I really struggled with the decision. I knew it was right, and I knew that he understood the value of redemptive suffering, but who was I to make decisions about his care? The night after I got the call about placing him in hospice was a sleepless one. I knew it was best; I knew he would be peaceful; I knew he would have the sacraments of the Church. But was I playing God? Was he really ready for that kind of care? Needless to say, the moment hospice became a part of his care, I observed a peace in him and when he was called home to God, I knew that everything the staff, the hospice care nurses, the diocese, and I had done for him was right. He flew into the arms of God in absolute peace. While I had to make some difficult decisions, it was to preserve his dignity in life until the moment God called him in death.

In the days that followed, I thought a lot about those who shared with me in the sacrament of Penance that they had aborted a child. In each of those confessions, those who had the procedure or procured it for someone else talked about the circumstances and the regrets. A few others told me that they weren't aware of the Church's position on abortion until very recently. I'm so grateful for God's great love for us – that forgiveness and His gracious mercy is available for anyone who asks. As I listen to those stories, my heart breaks with the one whose confession I'm hearing. The tremendous love of God will not allow a single person who comes to Him to be rejected. Rather, it is that same love that keeps tugging at all of us to trust in Him and to rediscover the dignity of our own lives and the dignity of every single person.

Maybe as we all look at the infant Jesus at the feet of Our Lady, we'll be reminded of One who became the most vulnerable among us, whose very existence was threatened time and again, and who continually trusted in His Father. It's a good lesson for us that while life is fragile, it is such a gift, not to be taken lightly or taken into our own hands. Thank you Jesus for this great gift of life and love!

Until next week....God bless!

Father Joe



Saturday, January 14

Vigil (Second Sunday in Ordinary Time)

4:00PM – +Harvey Sproul, *by Mr. and Mrs. Carl Urban*

Sunday, January 15 (Second Sunday in Ordinary Time)

8:30AM – Healing Blessings for Lena Lajoie, *by Leo and Lauraine Hudon*

10:30AM – For the People of the Parish

6:30PM – +William Souza (17th Anniversary), *by Denny Maffia*

Monday, January 16 (Weekday)

8:30AM – Birthday Blessings for Sarah Gonzalez, *by Bruce and Sheila Schofield*

Tuesday, January 17 (Saint Anthony the Abbot)

7:00PM – +Anthony Francis Adams (66th Anniversary), *by John, Ginny and Wendy Adams*

Wednesday, January 18 (Weekday)

8:30AM – +John Pietrowski (29th Anniversary), *by his parents*

Thursday, January 19 (Weekday)

7:00PM – +Donald Jefferson, *by Chris Haigis*

Friday, January 20 (Saints Fabian and Sebastian)

8:30AM – +Therese Marie Paquette, *by Cathleen Gill*

Saturday, January 21 (Saint Agnes)

8:30AM – +Bob Docks, *by Paul Girard*

Vigil (Third Sunday in Ordinary Time)

4:00PM – +Sylvia Fortier, *by Lauraine and Leo Hudon*

Sunday, January 22 (Third Sunday in Ordinary Time)

8:30AM – +Donald Jefferson, *by Mary Brotzki*

10:30AM – For the People of the Parish

6:30PM – +Lisa Dube and Jeanne Lamarande, *by Cecile Adams*

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

For our men and women in formation for religious life:

- Sister Faustina Kolbe Burda, DMN
- Roxanne Day
- Diane Dube
- Sister Athanasius Munroe, OP
- Brother John Mark Solitario, OP
- Brother Marius Strom, TOR

Sunday, January 15th

Religious Education, Group 1/RMs 1-6 (10:00A-12:00N)

Religious Education, Grade 10/Hall B (4:15-6:15P)

Religious Education, Grades 7-9/RMs 2,3,6 (4:30-6:00P)

Youth Group/Hall A (7:30-9:00P)

Monday, January 16th

Parish Offices and Store Closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

Tuesday, January 17th

RCIC/RM 3 (4:00P)

Cub Scouts/RMs 2, 3, 5 (6:00-8:00P)

Boy Scouts/Hall B (7:00-8:30P)

RCIA/RM 1 (7:30P)

Wednesday, January 18th

Adoration/Chapel (5:30-8:15A and 1:00-7:00P)

Evening Prayer and Benediction/Chapel (7:00P)

K of C Planning Meeting/RM 3 (7:00-10:00P)

Thursday, January 19th

Coming Home to Catholicism/RM 1 (7:00-8:30P)

Friday, January 20th

Mom's Rosary Group/RM 1 (9:30-11:00A)

Saturday, January 21st

Confirmation Retreat/Parish Hall (9:00A-4:00P)

REFLECTING GOD'S GENEROSITY TO US

Offertory	\$10,458.03
Online Giving	\$ 2,760.00
Total	\$13,218.03

*Thank you for your generosity to our parish.
Our weekly budget is \$11,900.00.*



STOP AND PRAY

For our Parishioners in the Armed Services:

Frank Cunniff Clare Handy Zack Hurley
David Jarry Joshua Keller Zach Keller
Thomas Laste

For our beloved dead:

Gloria McKenney Rose Ann Morris José Miro
Frank Benjamin Cawthorn Fred McCarthy
Lucille Atkinson

For the sick and our homebound:

Lena Lajoie Karen Wilder Jeremy Swanson

Pray for our Deacon-Candidates:

Joseph Dion Randy O'Neill

MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARY MASS

February, as you know, is the month of Saint Valentine's Day. There are so many opportunities to celebrate human love, including the renewal of marriage vows and the promise of commitment for engaged couples. That's why we are pleased to announce that we will be hosting a *Celebration of Marriage* in honor of **World Marriage Day** on *Saturday February 11, 2017*. The evening will begin with Holy Mass at 4:00 p.m. followed by renewal of vows for our married couples and witness to the promises for our engaged couples. We will then share in a wonderful meal, dessert, and brief reflections on marriage in our parish hall. We hope that all married and engaged couples will plan to attend this fun-filled evening as we celebrate marriage, share in prayer, reflection and fellowship together as a community! Registration is required because our space is limited. Forms can be found in the narthex of the church. Get yours today!

For any of those "romantic" kind of guys out there – wouldn't this be one of those special moments that you might "pop the question" to your intended? How cool would that be! Just don't let her know what the dinner is for.....

FORMED

Sign up today at <https://formed.org>. Our code is 748649. (Go to "Register: Sign up free using your parish code." Then enter the access code.) Share this information with your family and friends. There are talks and lectures, Catholic movies, aids to prayer, the entire Symbolon, Lectio and Catholicism series. This is our parish gift to you, so please share it with family and friends and grow in the faith!

PARISH LIBRARY

There is a wonderful selection of books in our parish library. Have you taken advantage of these solid theological and spiritual works?

There is a smattering of everything in our library, from catechetics to biographies to theology to liturgy and Mariology. There's no time limit for how long you can borrow a book, but we ask that you remember to return it when you finish with it. There are also some videos and Bible studies available, so make full use of our fine library!

PARISH OFFICES CLOSED

The parish offices will be closed on Monday, January 16th to observe Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. The offices will reopen on Tuesday, January 17th at 8:00 a.m.

While talking about parish business, please remember that if you have information to include in the bulletin, it must be submitted in writing (email is fine) no later than Monday afternoon.

SEMINARIAN FUND COLLECTION

We've all heard the expression, "The future is in your hands." Never before has this been more true. As one generation of priests is preparing to retire, our diocese is helping to educate the next generation. Education comes at a price, however. The diocese invests approximately \$300,000 annually on tuition, room and board for our seminarians. The annual Seminarian Collection is the primary source of that funding and 100% of every dollar goes toward supporting the education and formation of our young men studying for the priesthood.

The usual training for a young man seeking to become a priest starts with a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy; for those who have already completed their undergraduate degree in another discipline, one or two years of Pre-Theology are required instead. Four additional years of theological studies in the seminary typically lead to a Master of Divinity degree; after the third year of Theology the candidate is ordained a transitional deacon. After successful completion of the fourth year of Theology, the deacon is ordained to the priesthood.

A gift of \$100 would almost cover the cost of educating one seminarian for one day. Could you donate enough for one day – or even a half-day? Please make a contribution to the Seminarian Education Fund. For those interested in planned giving, please contact Patrick McGee at 603.669.3100 or pmcgee@rcbm.org.



The date is set! July 14-16, 2017 is the time for Steubenville East – an experience that you won't want to miss. Plan to join thousands of other young people (those who have graduated from eighth grade through those who have graduated from high school) for a life-changing three days.

Steuvenville East will take place at the Tsongas Center at UMass Lowell and will feature great speakers and musicians, including Chris Mueller, Jon Niven, Father Jose Robles-Sanchez, Leah Darrow, Joel Stepanek, and Kelly Colangelo.

For those from our parish who have attended in the past, you know that this is a weekend that has been fun, informative, and uplifting. If you're a teen (or would like to be an adult chaperone) and want a spiritual boost, this is an opportunity for you. Interested in learning more? Please contact Father Joe at frjoe@stkathryns.org.

VOCATION BIRTHSTONE ROSARIES

This week, *Jean McGranahan* will be praying the traveling rosary for our parish seminarians and permanent deacon candidates and *Ed and Mary Gleason* for vocations to the religious life. Thank you to all who are part of this ongoing spiritual support for our men in formation for the priesthood and diaconate and for our religious in formation.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OPEN HOUSE

Nashua Catholic Regional Junior High School: Thursday, February 2, 2017 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. 6 Bartlett Avenue, Nashua, NH.

Presentation of Mary Academy: 182 Lowell Road, Hudson, NH Registration open NOW for 2017-2018 age 3 through Grade 8. Contact Admissions Director, June Nolet at 603.889.6054, opt. 2 www.pmaschool.org.

Infant Jesus School: 3 Crown Street, Nashua, NH has begun registration for the 2017-2018 school year. Please call the school office at 603.889.2649 for more information or to schedule a tour.

Saint Christopher School: 20 Cushing Avenue, Nashua, NH. Contact school through their website, stchrischoolnh.org/

Ministry Fair A New Year's Revolution

Have you been making the same New Year's resolution year after year? Have you been saying that you'll get more involved in one aspect of parish life or another, but just never get around to it? Well here's a chance to see what opportunities are available here at Saint Kathryn's!

Join us on Sunday, February 5th following the 10:30 a.m. Mass in Hall B for our Ministry Fair and be amazed at the number of volunteer opportunities that are available here at Saint Kathryn's. Come on! Shake that old complacency and check us out!

Joining a ministry not only enriches your own life with fun and friendship, but also enhances the lives of those reached by your charitable works. Remember, Lent is also right around the corner; might God be calling you to serve in a new way? A member of each ministry – from Intercessors to Youth Group to the food pantry to choir – will be available to give you information, answer your questions and even sign you up if you are interested. For a quick glance of some of the ministries that will be represented, go to <https://www.stkathryns.org/a-z-list-of-all-ministries>
Ministry coordinators: If you have not yet been contacted by Charlene Maniotis regarding a space at the fair, please email her at charlene.maniotis@stkathryns.org or call her at 603.882.7793. Get connected and grow Saint Kathryn's groups!

Be prepared especially that day for our first "Cakers and Shakers" Event! The Boy Scouts are hosting their annual pancake breakfast on the same day, so plan to grab a bite to eat and visit the ministry tables. Be fed on the "Bread of Life" at Holy Mass, then enjoy a hearty breakfast, and then, when your belly and spirit are full, check out (and sign up for) one of our ministries. Let's just consider this an "all-in-one" day!

CONFIRMATION RETREAT

Please join us in praying for our young people who will take part in their Confirmation retreat on Saturday, January 21st. This is an important spiritual moment in the lives of our Confirmation candidates. Your prayers are so important!

LECTIO: PRAYER/FINDING INTIMACY WITH GOD

In the last year, we've delved into two experiences of Lectio with Lectio: Eucharist and Lectio: Peter. This winter, we'll add yet another dimension to our experience of Lectio with Lectio: Prayer.

We'll be exposed in a new way to an ancient tradition in our Church known as "Lectio Divina," which is Latin for "Holy Reading." In this, we'll have an opportunity to read the Sacred Scriptures and discover what treasures they possess. In this six-week series, we'll cover the following topics:

February 23 Prayer: An Intimate Dialogue

March 2 Guigo's Ladder: A Way of Ascent

March 9 Lectio and Meditatio: Climbing the First Rungs

March 16 Oratio: Conversation with God

March 23 Contemplatio: The Gaze of Love

March 30 Resolutio: Putting Love into Action

Sessions will be held from 10:30 a.m.-12:00 noon and again from 7:45-9:15 p.m. in Hall B. Pre-registration is helpful but not required.

COMING HOME TO CATHOLICISM



Have you, or do you know of someone who has been away from the Church but is looking for a way to return without

being "conspicuous"? Maybe there are questions about the faith or reasons (or not!) for having taken a hiatus. Sometimes it just takes one person to say, "Hey, my parish has a way for you to ask questions and maybe return to the Church!"

This program provides a safe, non-judgmental environment to share what may have caused a rift with the Church and to discover that not everything that you've heard in the past about Catholicism is necessarily true.

Are you interested? Do you know someone who may be interested? Share this information with someone and join them. Maybe you'd like to find your way home! This is the final week that folks can join the process, so if you've been thinking about it—now is the time!

The next session takes place on Thursday, January 19th from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in Room 1 of the parish center. Come on down!

RELIGIOUS GOODS STORE NEWS

As the store staff look forward to the coming year, it seems like a good time to update our patrons on our plans for product changes and updates to the store. This will be our second year in operation and we are going to try and further refine our product offerings, to carry merchandise that reflects your needs, and also expand some categories to offer a wider selection of items we already carry.

We will be expanding our Catholic book and literature offerings starting this week. When you stop in, you should see a much wider variety of all kinds of books to deepen your faith, offer you some excellent recreational reading, and help you understand the beautiful Catholic faith we share. One of the books we have is *Day by Day with the Catechism*. It offers a reading from the Catechism and a biblical quotation to give more meaning and understanding to both scripture and the Catechism. If you have ever wondered how "scripturally based" our faith is, this book of short daily readings will show you how everything we believe is based solidly on the Bible. Please also let us know if there are any particular books you would like us to carry.

We offer a booklet called *The Catholic Devotional* with every purchase made at the store. These books are made possible in part by the generosity of the advertisers who contribute to the publication costs. In many of the books there are local businesses in our area that have contributed. Please take a moment to see who these businesses are and consider using their services when the need arises.

We have a few Catholic fine art calendars for 2017 left in stock at the store. They sold amazingly well and are very beautiful. We would like to offer the few we have left at a nice discount for anyone in need of a calendar. Please check the store and pick one up for the coming year.

JESUS ACROSS THE BORDER IN LOWELL

Young adult Catholics: Join with other 18-35 year olds for an evening of adoration, confession, and Holy Mass featuring Brandon Fitts of the LIFT Ministries Band. The event will take place at the Saint Joseph the Worker Shrine, 37 Lee Street in Lowell, MA on Friday, January 20. Adoration will begin at 7:30 p.m. with Confession available. Holy Mass will be celebrated at 9:00 p.m. with a pizza social and fellowship to follow. For more information, please contact Billy Beauchesne at JESUSaCROSStheBORDER@gmail.com.

Saint Kathryn Parish ☩ 4 Dracut Road, Hudson, New Hampshire 03051-5006
Telephone: 603.882.7793 Fax: 603.595.1465
Website: www.stkathryns.org Facebook: Saint Kathryn's Church

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Joseph M. Cooper, Pastor	frjoe@stkathryns.org
Deacon Raymond V. Marcotte, Permanent Deacon	deacon.ray@stkathryns.org
Sister Janice Rooney, SNDdeN, Catechetical Leader	sr.janice@stkathryns.org
Jeanette Cassidy, Religious Education Secretary	jeanette.cassidy@stkathryns.org
Charlene Maniotis, Parish Secretary	charlene.maniotis@stkathryns.org
Janis Sigman, Accountant/Bookkeeper	janis.sigman@stkathryns.org
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Rick Wickham, Business Manager	rick.wickham@stkathryns.org
Rick Balboni, Religious Goods Store Manager	rick.balboni@stkathryns.org

PARISH OFFICE

Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m. Closed Friday/Weekends

PARISH RELIGIOUS GOODS STORE (WINTER HOURS)

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:00 p.m. Sunday Masses: 8:30 a.m.; 10:30 a.m.; 6:30 p.m.
Daily Mass: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday: 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, Thursday: 7:00 p.m.

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Tuesday, Thursday: 6:30-6:50 p.m.; Saturday: 9:15-10:00 a.m. and 3:00-3:45 p.m. Also by appointment.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Catechesis takes place with the parents prior to scheduling a date for the baptism. For more information, please contact Deacon Ray in the parish office.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Engaged couples should contact the parish office at least six months in advance of the proposed date of the wedding. Please refer to the marriage policy as found on the parish website.

SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK/COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND

Arrangements may be made for Communion to the Homebound or for the Sacrament of the Sick by calling the parish office. The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick should be celebrated at the outset of an illness or when there is a change in the person's condition. The Sacrament should also be received prior to surgery.

PROTECTION OF CHILDREN POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The diocesan policies are available by calling the parish office or by consulting the diocesan website at www.catholicnh.org.

OPEN FOR YOU!

The main door of the Church is open daily from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; the Emmaus Chapel, in the office building, is open 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. daily.

Welcome! If you are new to our community, we hope you have felt welcome! If you are a visitor - occasional or frequent - we're glad you joined us! If you're considering parish membership introduce yourself to the pastor after Holy Mass to get the process underway!

**ST. KATHRYN PARISH
HUDSON, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

03-0779

January 15, 2017 – Week 8