

Our Roman Catholic Community



St. Patrick ~ Monson, MA [1878]
A National Catholic Historic Site [1999]

PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. John J. Brennan

Pastor

Deacon Gary Doane

Deacon Emeritus Bernard Pellissier

SUPPORT STAFF

St. Patrick's

Barbara St. Martin

Administrative Assistant

Superintendent, Bethany Cemetery

St. Christopher's

Christine Bolte *Administrative Assistant*



St. Christopher ~ Brimfield, MA [1953]

LORD'S DAY MASSES

4:00 PM Saturday ~ St. Patrick's

6:00 PM Saturday ~ St. Christopher's

8:30 AM Sunday ~ St. Patrick's

10:30 AM Sunday ~ St. Christopher's

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday and Wednesday 9:00 AM at St. Christopher's

Tuesday 8:00 AM and Friday 7:00 PM at St. Patrick's

Holy Day Masses

As Announced

ST. PATRICK: 413-267-3622 • Fax 413-267-0272
22 Green Street, PO Box 473, Monson MA 01057
Email: STPATMON@aol.com
Web: stpatstchris.org

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Monday ~ Friday 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM

ST. CHRISTOPHER: 413-245-7274
16 Sturbridge Rd., Rt. 20, PO Box 387,
Brimfield, MA 01010

Email: stchrisbrimfield@gmail.com

Web: stpatstchris.org

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Monday ~ Thursday 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM

MATRIMONY

Couples need to contact the pastor *one year prior to the marriage* to begin the Matrimony and Pre-Cana process.

BAPTISMS

The second and third Sundays of the month.

Attendance at a Baptismal class is required. Classes are the first Friday of each month at St. Patrick's rectory at 7:00 PM.

Please call the rectory of your parish to register for a class.

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

St. Patrick's ~ Saturday at 3:00 PM or by appointment;

St. Christopher's ~ Saturday following the 6:00 PM Mass or by appointment.

VISITATION OF THE SICK

Please inform either parish office if a loved one is hospitalized, in the care of a nursing facility, or confined to home and would like to receive the Sacraments.

ST. PEREGRINE NOVENA

Patron of those with cancer, Aids, and other serious illnesses; Mass, Novena and Veneration of Relic: Friday at 7:00 PM at St. Patrick's. Email intentions: StPereg4U@aol.com

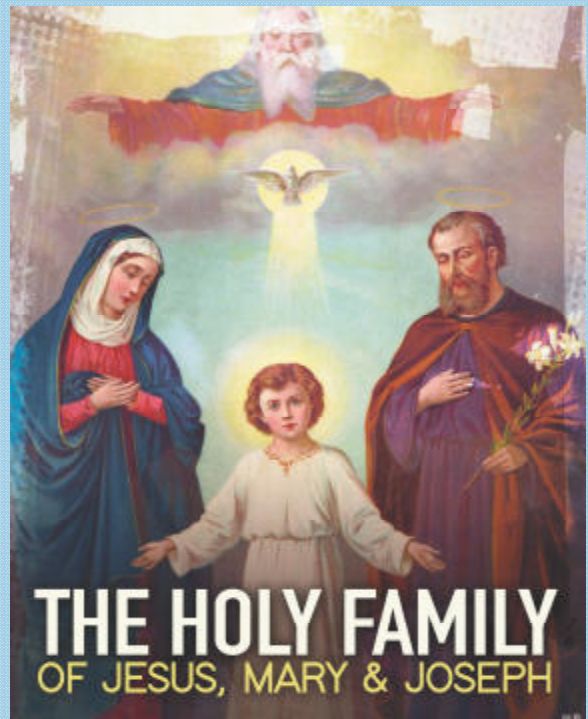
MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA

Tuesday at 8:00 AM Mass ~ St. Patrick's

Wednesday at 9:00 AM Mass ~ St. Christopher's

NEW PARISHIONERS

We welcome you to our Faith families. If you are new to one of our parishes, please register at the rectory. We want to get to know you and minister to you!





SATURDAY CHRISTMAS DAY
 4:00 P.M. NO MASS AT ST. PATRICK'S.
 6:00 P.M. NO MASS AT ST. CHRISTOPHER'S.
 (Due to Christmas)

SUNDAY THE HOLY FAMILY
 8:30 A.M. Harold & Edna Costa, req. by
 Their Daughter Susan.
 Nisio, Marie & Michael Uliana. req. by
 The Family.
 10:30 A.M. Mass at St. Christopher's.

MONDAY
 9:00 A.M. No Service.

TUESDAY
 8:00 A.M. Gabrielle Nutter, 1st Anniv., req. by
 The Family.

WEDNESDAY
 9:00 A.M. No Communion Service.

THURSDAY
 8:00 A.M. Prayers for Priests "Chalice of strength".

FRIDAY NEW YEAR'S EVE
 7:00 P.M. NO MASS. (Not a Holy Day of Obligation.)

SATURDAY
 4:00 P.M. James J. Brennan, 25th Anniv., req. by
 The Family.
 Susan Bonneville, req. by
 Laura Corriveau.

NEXT SUNDAY
 8:30 A.M. Carole Bressette, Birthday, req. by
 Her Husband and Family.

Due to the holiday bulletin submission schedule, collection totals for Dec. 18/19 and Dec. 25/26 will be in the Jan. 2nd bulletin.



Thank You!

We would like to thank the people who have given donations to help with the cost of the tree removal and especially for the repair of the church tower. Your generosity and support of St. Patrick's is greatly appreciated. Below is a report on what we have received so far.

Tree Removal: \$5,400.00 - 1,016.00 = \$4,384.00 needed
 Church Tower: \$24,480.00 + 9,800.00 = \$34,280.00
 \$34,280.00 - 23,720.68 = \$10,559.32 needed

**The rectory will be closed Friday, Dec. 31st.
 Have a Happy & Healthy New Year!**



**C.C.D. Classes
 Attention! No CCD Classes!**

There will be NO CCD Classes for grades 1-10 this Sunday, Dec. 26th and Sunday, Jan. 2nd due to the Christmas and New Year's Holiday.

Have a Merry Christmas and a happy and safe New Year. Classes will resume Sunday, Jan. 9th for all grades.

GRADES 1-6 will meet **Sunday, Jan. 9th from 9:30 to 10:45 A.M.** in Columbia Hall.

GRADES 7-10 will meet **Sunday, Jan. 9th from 5:30 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.** in Columbia Hall.



A Sincere Thank You

A special thanks to all involved in the **Christmas Pageant** at the 4:00 P.M. Mass. To our narrator, all parents, directors, helpers and to all the children who read at Mass and to all who presented the Christmas story in joy and reverence.



No Children's Mass

There will be NO Children's Mass in January. The next Children's Mass will be Sunday, Feb. 6th.



"The Giving Tree" ~ Thank You

We wish to thank all our parishioners who took an ornament from the "Giving Tree". The time spent looking, purchasing and wrapping the gifts has made this event a success again. You have helped bring the spirit of Christmas to so many children.



Church Cleaning

Monthly cleaning of the church will be back on the 2nd Saturday of the month. We need help, so if you can give us just 1 hour of your time **Saturday, Jan. 8th at 9:00 A.M.** just come. You don't have to sign up or commit to every month, but we do need more people to help.



Envelope Reminder!

Please make sure ALL your Church envelopes are in for the year by **Sunday, Jan. 2nd** if you want credit for them this year. They will be sent to the recording company **Tuesday, Jan. 4th** so that the **Annual Contribution Statements** can be done and sent back so that we can mail them to you (upon request) for your taxes.

Annual Contribution Report

If you would like to receive a year end summary of contributions for tax purposes, please fill out the form below and drop it in the collection basket.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

ENVELOPE NUMBER _____



**.St. Patrick Parish
Scouts BSA Troop 312
22 Green Street, Monson**

Scouts BSA is the traditional Scouting experience for youth in the fifth grade through high school. Service, community engagement, leadership skills and character development are important parts of the program as youth lead their own activities and work their way toward earning Scouting's highest rank, Eagle Scouts. If you are interested in joining this new *Scouts BSA Troop* or would like additional information, please contact any one of these leaders:

Committee Chair: Tony Esposito 413-267-9196
tonye.t312@gmail.com
Scout Master: Dennies Cuevas-Rivera 787-406-7683
dcuevas.md@gmail.com
Charter Organization Rep.: Ellie Matrow 413-267-3489
ematrow@icloud.com



**Catholic Inspirations
2022 Calendars
St. Patrick Church**

The new *Catholic Inspirations 2022 Calendars* are here for anyone who wishes to have these beautifully illustrated and informative calendars. From the beautiful art work, types of feast days, colors for daily Mass Vestments and many of the Saints days. Each month features a different scene of importance in our Catholic faith along with a brief scripture reading. Please feel free to take one, compliments of the Martha/Mary Bereavement Committee. You will find them in all of the vestibules of the church and also at the rectory. Enjoy them!!



Epiphany

Question:
Besides the Wise Men, what is significant about the Epiphany?

Answer:
Epiphany means "manifestation," or public display. The feast is usually celebrated January 6. In the US, it is celebrated on the Sunday nearest to January 6. It originates from a story unique to Matthew (2:1-12). Magi from the East come to offer homage to the newborn King, presenting him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

This part of Matthew's infancy narrative differs from Luke's account of the birth of Jesus. In Luke there are no Magi, star, nor gifts. Luke has Jesus being born in a stable after Mary and Joseph's long travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem. Matthew seems to have the family living in a house in Bethlehem, where the Magi find them.

Why these differences? They stem from the needs and concerns of the audience the authors were addressing, as well as the theological stance of each author. Knowing the original intention helps get at the correct interpretation of the text.

Since Matthew was writing primarily to a Jewish community, his concern was to show that Jesus did not come just for Jews, but for Gentiles as well. From his very birth, Jesus not only manifests himself to Jews, but also to Gentiles, who are prominently included in the manifestation, symbolized by the Magi and their journey. This is the most significant aspect of the feast of Epiphany. How do you manifest Jesus to all with whom you come into contact? ©LPi



**A light Shining in the Darkness!
So Many Thanks to All!!**

A very special "Thank You" and "God Bless You Abundantly" to all who assisted in making our celebrations of Christmas so wonderful and joyous~ To Deacon Gary, Deacon Bernie, Our Organist, Choirs, Folk Group, Our Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Readers, Altar Servers, Ushers and Collectors and to those who cleaned and decorated our Churches so beautifully. This was such a fitting tribute to the Blessed Babe of Bethlehem ~ and what a glorious reflection of the spirit of **St. Patrick & St. Christopher Parish Families**.

Thanks to all who attended and joined in prayer at our Masses, for your generous Christmas contributions and offerings.

To our parishioners, new and old, younger and older I am most grateful. Without the gifts of your talent, time and treasure, we would be truly poor. It is your presence and your presents that make our parish families so very rich. Thank you in the name of all the children who benefited from your generosity to the Angel Tree Ministry and The Giving Tree; and in the name of all those individuals and families fed from the Open Pantry and Food Bank. Thank you for your loyalty and your generosity during this past year.

Without peace Christ's birth is forgettable. Without peace, Christmas is a contradiction. Jesus, true Peace of the Father, has come to bring us peace.



Year of the Eucharist

"The holy Eucharist is the perfect expression of the love of Jesus Christ for man." ~Saint Maria Goretti For more information and videos go to www.yearoftheeucharist.net



Special Collection

**Next Week College of
Our Lady of the Elms**

A collection will be taken up at all Masses next weekend Jan. 1st and 2nd for the **College of Our Lady of the Elms**. For more than 85 years, **Elms College** has been the Catholic college in the Diocese, and has remained faithful to its mission to provide a college education rooted in faith. The need for your support continues to be great, and we urge you to be as generous as possible, as this collection will go directly to the Founder's Fund for Excellence, which supports student scholarships. There is an envelope in your packet for this purpose. More information is available at the **Elms College** website, www.elms.edu/give, or by calling 413-265-2213.



Catholics For The Unborn

Please join Catholics for the Unborn for a **Pro-life Vigil Thursday, Jan. 13th at 10 A.M.** in the Holy Spirit Chapel, St. Michael's Cathedral in Springfield. The vigil begins with Exposition, Recitation of the Rosary, the Divine Mercy Chaplet then Adoration. At 12 noon there will be Benediction followed by Daily Mass. Please support our efforts to protect innocent unborn life through prayer. Come for part or the whole vigil. For information call Marilyn at 413-567-6085.





SATURDAY CHRISTMAS DAY
 4:00 P.M. NO MASS AT ST. PATRICK'S.
 6:00 P.M. NO MASS AT ST. CHRISTOPHER'S.
 (Due to Christmas)

SUNDAY THE HOLY FAMILY
 8:30 A.M. Mass at St. Patrick's.
 10:30 A.M. Fr. Robert Riel, req. by
 The Berniers.
 William "Bud" Roberts, req. by
 The Friday Night Group.

MONDAY
 9:00 A.M. No Mass.

TUESDAY
 9:00 A.M. No Service.

WEDNESDAY
 9:00 A.M. Mass offered for the People..

THURSDAY
 9:00 A.M. No Service.

FRIDAY **NEW YEAR'S EVE**
 9:00 A.M. No Service
 No Masses ~ Not a Holy Day of Obligation.

SATURDAY
 6:00 P.M. James E. Brennan, req. by
 Tricia Uwazany.

NEXT SUNDAY
 10:30 A.M. James E. Brennan, req. by
 The Catholic Women's Club.

Due to the holiday bulletin submission schedule, collection totals for the weekend of Dec. 18/19 will be in next weekend's bulletin.



Monday Mass ~ Cancelled

There will be no Monday Mass and the Rectory will be closed.



Weekday Mass Reminder

To keep everyone safe, if school is cancelled or delayed due to inclement weather (in Monson or Tantasqua Regional), daily Mass will also be cancelled and the rectory will be closed.



E-mail Prayer Requests

"Prayer: (n) an address (as a petition) to God in word or thought; the act or practice of praying to God." ~ Merriam Webster. If anyone has any **prayer requests**, please e-mail Barbara bayers9746@charter.net.



A special THANK YOU to all who helped in any way with the Christmas Masses. From decorating the church to serving at the Masses. Merry Christmas!!



When they had fulfilled all the prescriptions of the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him. - Lk 2:39-40



ATTENTION!! NO CCD

There will be NO CCD classes **this Sunday, Dec. 26th and Sunday, Jan. 2nd** due to the Christmas and New Year's Holiday. Please have a Merry Christmas and a happy and safe New Year! We'll see you in class on Sunday, Jan. 9th.



Be a Prayer Partner!

We have 18 Confirmation students that need our prayers! Please see Chris after Mass or in the Rectory beginning January 2nd to pick a name. This will be anonymous! Write a note of encouragement each week for your Confirmation student and it will be delivered to the student during CCD. (Please don't give your name when writing your notes) Please pray for them daily, too! The Sunday before Confirmation, we will have the Prayer Partners meet their Confirmation student for the first time and have a light breakfast in the Parish Center. Please help make this a memorable time for them!



Presentation of the Gifts

Families and friends who have requested Mass Intentions are given the opportunity to present the gifts to Fr. Jack after the offertory is collected. Fr. Jack will come off the altar and at that point the family and/or friends may approach the offertory table at the front of the right-hand pew and present the gifts to him. *If more than one Mass is offered a representative from all parties may present.*



January Food Bank Donations

The last donation drop-off to the food bank contained 91 pounds of food! The people the food bank serves are so appreciative of the generosity of St. Christopher's Parishioners! Current needs expressed by the food bank include juices, drinks, and drink mixes. Peanut butter, jelly, fluff, canned meats (tuna, chicken, spam), and pasta and sauce are staples that are always useful to the food bank.



New Parishioner?

We see new faces all the time at Mass! If you are new to the area or the parish and would like to register, please take a "Welcome" card at the entrance to the church, fill it out and we'll be in touch to complete the process.

Annual Contribution Report

If you would like to receive a year end summary of contributions for tax purposes, please fill out the form below and drop it in the collection basket.

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