



# NORTH AMERICAN MARTYRS PARISH

Parish Office: 55 Pleasant Street Colebrook, NH 03576  
Office Hours: Please call for hours P: 603-237-4342 Fax: 237-8580  
Email: frcheneynamp@myfairpoint.net website: [www.nampnh.org](http://www.nampnh.org)

## St Albert Church W Stewartstown

Masses—Friday: 8AM, Sat: 4:30PM  
Sun: 8AM (Columbus Day to Memorial Day)

## St Brendan Church Colebrook

Masses—Thur: 8AM,  
Sun: 10AM

## St Pius X Church Errol

Masses—Sun: 8AM (Chapel open  
Memorial Day to Columbus Day)



*Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph —December 26th, 2021*

### PARISH STAFF

**Pastor:** Rev. Craig I. Cheney 603-538-9892

**Administrative Assistant:** Linda Dennis

**Sacristans:** Rick Clogston, Gary Jobes, Pierre Rousseau, Pat Dupuis

**Organist:** Odette Crawford & Therese Wright

**CCD Coordinator:** Christine Gilbert

**Seven Sisters Apostolate:** Helene Clogston  
[sevensistersapostolate.org](http://sevensistersapostolate.org)

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### SACRAMENTS

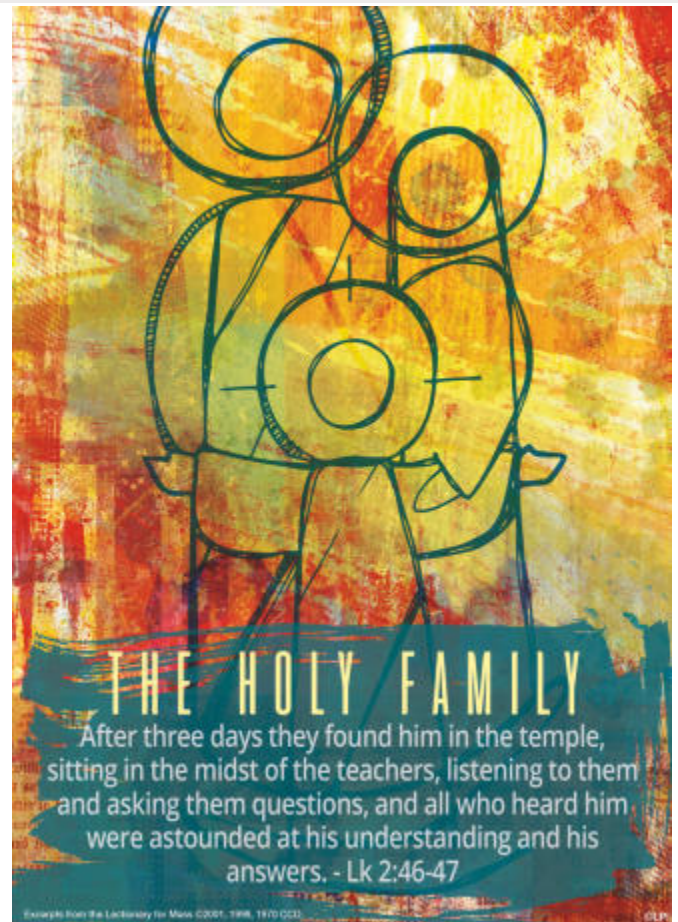
**Baptism:** Please call the Parish Office for an appointment.

**Marriage:** Please contact the Parish Office 6 months prior to your tentative date.

**Confessions:** Saturday 3:30 - 4:00 PM at St. Albert Church or by appointment.

**WELCOME**

**New Parishioners:** If you attend North American Martyrs Parish regularly & consider us your parish, please take a moment to register with us by calling the Parish Office as soon as possible.



Example from the Lectorian for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCC

**ST. ALBERT**



Sun., Dec. 26th 8:00AM  
**Zeb Madore** Req by Suzanne Madore & Family

**Lorraine Roy** Req by Jeanne Harvey  
**For a special Intention** Req by a Parishioner

Fri., Dec. 31st 8:00AM  
**Evelyn Jobs** Req by Gary Jobs  
**Noella Routhier** Req by Adrien Thibeault

Sat., Jan. 1st 4:30PM  
**Pauline Rodrigue** Req by Gaston Rodrigue

Sun., Jan. 2nd 8:00AM  
**Patricia Beauregard** Req by Francoise Bohan  
**Zeb Madore** Req by the Family

**ST. BRENDAN**

Sun., Dec. 26th 10:00AM  
**Joseph & Theresa Couture** Req by the Couture Family  
**Leona Beloin** Req by Suzanne Carrier

Thu., Dec. 30th 8:00AM  
**Mary Wright and Helen Rayner** Req by Richard Holt

Fri., Dec. 31st 4:30PM  
**Francis Bagley & John Bagley, Jr.** Req by Richard Holt

Sun., Jan. 2nd 10:00AM  
**Gerard L. Robitaille** Req by his Family  
**Annette Wheeler** Req by Rebecca Gray

**COOS NURSING HOME**

Wed., Dec. 29th 9:30AM  
**All Souls remembered on All Souls Day**

<b>Financial Report</b>	<u>12/19/2021</u>
Offertory	\$1408.00
60/40 Fundraiser	39.00
Donations	3000.00

*Thank you for your support of our parish!*

**60/40 WINNER:**

(St. Albert's Church) Congratulations to **Antonio Rioux** \$15.60  
*Please consider participating in our weekly Parish 60/40 Booster Club. Envelopes are available at the Church entrances. Put a DOLLAR in the envelope, fill out the front with your name & address and drop it in the weekly collection. Weekly winner will be mailed a check for their 40% winnings.*

**Sanctuary Lamp**

**St. Albert Church**

*For the intentions of the parishioners*

**St. Brendan Church**

*For Albert R. Maurais*

**Eucharistic Adoration**

Monthly, 8:30AM First Friday at St Albert Parish

**Each year, Pope Francis asks for prayers for a specific monthly intention. December's special intention is:**

**Catechists**

Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit. Pray to for Parents, the first catechists and prime example of Jesus to their children.

**The Annual Membership Club (\$100 yr) - pick up & fill out an envelope in the back of the Church and drop in the collection. Payable as one lump sum or 10 monthly payments of \$10. Drawing in December .**



**The Rosary is prayed 1/2 hour before each weekend mass at St. Albert's & St. Brendan's Church. All are welcome to join.**



**Open to the public – bring your friends!** We had to re-schedule our showing on the 19th so we invite you to “Come and See” what they saw and Hear what they heard, on Sunday the 26th! Today (or tomorrow—depending on what Mass you attend) is our last of 4 episode viewings and it’s an episode NOT TO MISS...and there is a bonus Christmas clip too! We invite you to come and see what has already been viewed over 160 million times. This #1 highest crowd-funded media project has brought Jesus and his 12 Apostles to life in homes around the world. Be moved by the Spirit of love, truth & Justice. Beverages & Snacks available.

## WORD OF GOD



### Readings for the week of Dec. 26, 2021

**Sun:** Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Col 3:12-21/Lk 2:41-52

**Mon:** 1 Jn 1:1-4/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

**Tue:** 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Mt 2:13-18

**Wed:** 1 Jn 2:3-11/Lk 2:22-35

**Thu:** 1 Jn 2:12-17/Lk 2:36-40

**Fri:** 1 Jn 2:18-21/Jn 1:1-18

**Sat:** Nm 6:22-27/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

**Next Sun:** Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

Link for reading information as well as other pertinent Universal Church resources: <http://uscgb.org/bible/readings>.

### Observances for this week:

**Sun:** The Holy Family

**Mon:** St. John, Apostle and Evangelist

**Tue:** The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

**Wed:** St. Thomas Becket, Bishop & Martyr

**Thu:** Personal Intentions

**Fri:** St. Sylvester I, Pope; New Year's Eve

**Sat:** New Year's Day; Mary, The Holy Mother of God; World Day of Peace

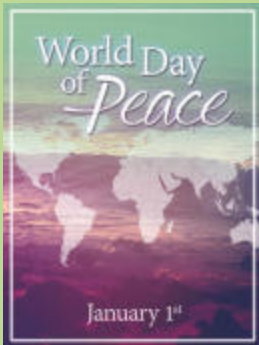
**Next Sun:** The Epiphany of the Lord; Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops & Doctors of the Church

**First Reading:** (1 Sm 1:27-28) Hannah, the mother of Samuel, and Samuel's father are portrayed as parents of deep prayer and great faith. How would you describe the faith of your mother or father?

**Second Reading:** (1 Jn 3:1) John teaches us that if we believe in Jesus and love one another, "we may be called children of God." How do you show gratitude for being part of this holy family?

**Gospel:** (Lk 2:46) Luke is the only Evangelist to preserve a story about Jesus from his youth. In this account, Mary and Joseph are filled with "great anxiety" as they searched for Jesus who they thought was lost. How do you seek God's help for the anxious moments in your family?

**LIVE THE LITURGY - OUR WEEKLY INSPIRATION** It was the best of times and it was the worst of times. Our families can bring out the best and the worst in us. This is true of our families of origin, the current family of which we are a part, the family of our church, our society, and the like. In all of our family experiences, what stands out as our most challenging memory? Everything human can be found on the pages of family life. But there is also a Divine story to be discovered as well. When life gets difficult and perplexing, today's Feast of the Holy Family stands to remind us that it is not just by human effort that we tread treacherous waters. We have to remember and learn from the Divine effort too. We need this perspective if our love lessons are going to be learned completely and well. We are all works in progress and we all come from homes that are broken by imperfection. In whatever life brings us and in whatever family we find ourselves, may the promptings we feel toward faith and hope lead us to greater love.



### **Pope Francis' Prayer for Peace** Lord God of peace, hear our prayer!

We have tried so many times and over so many years to resolve our conflicts by our own powers and by the force of our arms. How many moments of hostility and darkness have we experienced; how much blood has been shed; how many lives have been shattered; how many hopes have been buried... But our efforts have been in vain.

Now, Lord, come to our aid! Grant us peace, teach us peace; guide our steps in the way of peace. Open our eyes and our hearts, and give us the courage to say: "Never again war!"; "With war everything is lost". Instill in our hearts the courage to take concrete steps to achieve peace.

Lord, God of Abraham, God of the Prophets, God of Love, you created us and you call us to live as brothers and sisters. Give us the strength daily to be instruments of peace; enable us to see everyone who crosses our path as our brother or sister. Make us sensitive to the plea of our citizens who entreat us to turn our weapons of war into implements of peace, our trepidation into confident trust, and our quarreling into forgiveness.

Keep alive within us the flame of hope, so that with patience and perseverance we may opt for dialogue and reconciliation. In this way may peace triumph at last, and may the words "division", "hatred" and "war" be banished from the heart of every man and woman. Lord, defuse the violence of our tongues and our hands. Renew our hearts and minds, so that the word which always brings us together will be "brother", and our way of life will always be that of: Shalom, Peace, Salaam! Amen.

## DECEMBER

### Month of Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

O Most Holy Virgin, immaculate in body and spirit, look kindly on me as I implore your powerful intercession. O most Holy Mother, receive my prayers as I present them to God. O Mary, Mother of Jesus and our Mother, you intercede for us with your Son. O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee. Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception, pray for us. Amen



## CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

**Question:** Who reads the first and second readings at Mass?

**Answer:** The lector

*They won't all be this easy!*



## SAINT OF THE WEEK – EXAMPLES OF OUR FAITH

**St. Stephen | Feast Day December 26**

The Acts of the Apostles tells the story of St. Stephen, the first Christian martyr. A man filled with grace and power, he worked great wonders among the people. Some Jews debated with St. Stephen but could not match his wisdom and spirit. Eventually, a charge of blasphemy was brought up against him, and the local population demanded that he be tried and sentenced. He was seized and carried before the Sanhedrin.

Despite the danger he faced, in front of the Sanhedrin and his accusers, St. Stephen gave a long speech about the history of Israel and the blessings that God had given upon His chosen people. He talked about how Israel had become disobedient despite God's abundant mercy. This enraged his accusers, and eventually the crowd dragged him out of the city and stoned him to death.

Even in his final moments, St. Stephen displayed great forgiveness and even asked God not to hold the sins of his attackers against them. Hundreds of years after his death, he is still a role model for us to follow.

## Sharing Your Faith—

**Question:** I have been away from the Church for a few years and really want to get active again, not so much for me, but for my children. Is this a bad reason to come back to Church?

**Answer:** If you are on your way to the supermarket, and you are forced to detour from your usual route because of road work, does the food you buy taste different? Is the meal less filling? Are the vegetables less tasty? Of course not. In our faith journey, there are many detours called sin. Some are greater than others, some are even a bit longer. But God's grace comes to us in ways we understand and recognize and need. Your children leading you back to the Church is not as important as the fact that you are back.

This is an opportunity for you to renew, strengthen, and deepen your faith. Regardless of how we get to Church, or what draws us closer to God, the fact is we are there. Do what you need to do to get right with God and the Church. Go to confession, begin good family religious practices, and be involved in the ministries your parish offers. Be more than a lukewarm parishioner. Be the kind of Catholic you want your children to be.

### All in the Family

At first glance, we can often find the image of the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph and the Christ Child intimidating — who are we to aspire to that level of discipleship? How could we ever hope to conform ourselves to that mold?

Sometimes, it can even be painful — perhaps we hail from a broken family or struggle with a broken relationship within our family, or perhaps we long to be a mother or a father ourselves and that state in life has eluded us.



But the image of the Holy Family is, in reality, a beautiful invitation to us all, no matter our vocation or our state in life, and the example of Mary, Joseph and Jesus is rich with the symbolism of stewardship.

You need not be a biological mother who has carried a child in her womb to be a mother in spirit. Who in your world needs you to love them with the heart of a mother?

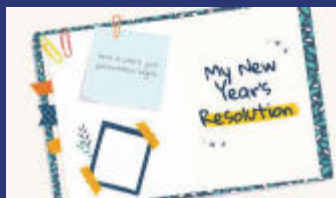
The same goes for fatherhood. The Church and the world are crying out for the courageous witness of Christian men like St. Joseph. Who can you love with the steadfast, selfless protection of a father?

Who in your life needs you to love them with the faithful, unconditional love of a son? Who needs your gentle and constant love as a daughter?

We are the Body of Christ, friends. Those of us rejoicing in heaven, those of us suffering in purgatory, and those of us struggling here on earth. We are the great family. Let us love each other well. — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

**Catholic Women's Club** For more information about the Catholic Women's Club please call Diane Little (603-237-8062).

Our parish website calendar of events continues to grow! Please bookmark this link so that you can easily look an event up. If you know of an event not listed please contact the Parish Office and share the details and we'll have it added! **[nampnh.org](http://nampnh.org)**



### **Please join us for Lectio Divina**

Every Wed. 6-7pm. We pray, read & discuss the upcoming readings for the next Sunday. Link: [us02web.zoom.us](https://us02web.zoom.us)  
Select—'JOIN A MEETING' - Meeting ID: 865 5109 7328  
Password: 156599

**You will be surprised how Sunday's readings come alive!**

If you would like to be added to the reminder emails—please share you email with the parish office.

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