



## **St. Jude Church**

50 Edgewood Rd. NW  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52405  
319-390-3520

---

April 17, 2020

Dear Parishioners,

Alleluia! He is Risen! It is important to remember Jesus' victory over sin and death as our world continues to grind away during the COVID-19 pandemic. Jesus won the battle, it's game over! We just need to do our part to cooperate with the Holy Spirit to be on the winning team.

### **Celebrating Weekend Mass**

To facilitate our connection to Jesus and the Church, to help us stay on the winning team, St. Jude intends to continue celebrating Mass on Saturday evenings at 7:00 PM as long as conditions allow for it. This Mass is closed to the public, but is available to you in the following ways for you to pray:

- Live-streamed video at 7 PM via the parish website – [judes.org](http://judes.org),
- Live broadcast at 7 PM over radio on 88.7 FM,
- Videotaped and available anytime from the parish website, the parish Facebook page or the parish YouTube channel.

### **Access to our Church Building**

Due to the state of Iowa instructing all residents in our area to stay home for all but necessary work and essential errands, I decided for protection of parishioners, including staff, to close our church building to the public. However, if you still want to pray in the church, please contact me at [m.murphy@dbqarch.org](mailto:m.murphy@dbqarch.org) or call and leave a message at **319-390-3520**, and I will facilitate entrance into our church. I made this decision about church access because I want us to be aware of the risks we take to our physical health, as well as the health of others, when we leave home. But I also want us to be able to enter God's house and pray in the Eucharistic presence of Jesus.

### **Stewardship**

Thanks to all who continue to support St. Jude Church through financial stewardship. Thanks to all who continue to support Metro Catholic Outreach (MCO) with food donations. **IF** you are in a financial position to do so, please continue with your financial stewardship. As long as conditions allow for it, a staff member will be at the parish office Monday – Friday from 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM to accept financial contributions and MCO donations. Financial contributions may also be made via the parish website – [judes.org/donate](http://judes.org/donate). Additionally, parish staff and the finance council are actively working to address our finances during this challenging time.

**Staff Change**

Brian McGee, our Director of Faith Formation, RCIA, and Youth Ministry, will be leaving St. Jude. I am grateful for Brian's service for Jesus and the Church at St. Jude and wish him God's blessings in his future. Please see Brian's letter of resignation attached to this communication. However, Brian's not done yet, as you will see below!

**Faith Formation Opportunity for All Parishioners**

St. Jude Faith Formation will host an online 'check-in' for parishioners of all ages next week using Zoom, an online meeting tool. After a check-in with everyone (for children and youth this will be in a game format), there will be a brief discussion of Divine Mercy Sunday. Please contact Brian at [b.mcgee@dbqarch.org](mailto:b.mcgee@dbqarch.org) to register.

This year the second reading from Mass for the Easter season comes from the First Letter of Saint Peter. The conclusion of the second reading is appropriate for today's circumstance:

*Although you have not seen him you love him; even though you do not see him now yet believe in him, you rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, as you attain the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.*

We cannot see our brothers and sisters in the church at Mass, but we know we are with each other, united by the Spirit in prayer. Let's stay with each to attain the goal of our faith, the salvation of our souls.

Continue to have a happy, holy, and healthy Easter!

Father Mark Murphy



## **St. Jude Catholic Church**

50 Edgewood Rd. NW  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52405  
319-390-3520

---

St. Jude Parishioners,

After more than a year of careful discernment, deliberation, and prayer I have decided to resign from my position as Director of Faith Formation, RCIA, and Youth Ministry at St. Jude Parish effective July 1, 2020.

I have accepted a new position in New Hampton, Iowa and look forward to new challenges and experiences using the skills I've learned and developed at St. Jude Parish.

Thank you for the welcoming me into this Parish Community and supporting my efforts to share the Gospel message these past several years.

It is my hope to use my remaining months at St. Jude to continue laying the groundwork for future Faith Formation Programs and continuing to serve the Parish Community remotely in this time of crisis.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brian McGee". The signature is fluid and extends across the width of the page.

Brian McGee