

December 8, 2019

The bulletin is also available online at stjudevt.org

We are a Welcoming Community of Believers, Hopers and Lovers. We are One Family in Baptism and the Holy Spirit, nourished with the Word of God and the Body and Blood of Christ. All are Welcome in this place!

Cycles of Faith – Second Sunday of Advent

What does it mean to be worthy? There are a few different ways to approach this question. Today's Gospel highlights two: the way of the Pharisees and the way of John the Baptist. Our faith values good works and discipleship. Perhaps, then, we "earn" our worth by adhering to the right doctrines and following the right pious practice. The Pharisees thought they were worthy. Due to their religious pedigree and proper procedures, they were self-satisfied. John the Baptist's words to them are strong. *"Do not resume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.'" Of course, Jesus (and John) don't omit the responsibility for moral behavior. John gives the Pharisees quite a strong warning in that regard. "Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance ... every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire."*

It's a question of attitude. Of disposition. It's a matter of the heart. If anyone would be worthy in this scenario, it's John the Baptist. Jesus himself will name him the greatest of prophets and a great man. John, however, recognizes his own lowly place in the grand scheme of things. *"The one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals."* The Pharisees take pride in being "better" than others. John embraces humility in Christ being "better" than him. We don't self-generate our own worthiness. We receive it as a gift from God.

In a few short weeks, we'll celebrate the birth of Christ. Bishop Ven. Fulton Sheen wrote about the Nativity in his "Life of Christ": "Because [Jesus] was born in a cave, all who wish to see Him must stoop. To stoop is the mark of humility. The proud refuse to stoop and, therefore, they miss divinity." God invites us to prepare our hearts this Advent. When you consider your own life, where are you looking for your worth? This Christmas, are you prepared to stoop?

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Offertory Last Week: \$2,144.75
Maintenance: \$684.50
Christmas Flowers: \$25.00
Online Giving Last Week: \$-0-

Second Collection This Week for Religious Retirement

JULY 1ST THRU NOVEMBER 30TH
(1ST five months of the fiscal year)

Offertory, Maintenance & Fuel Collections
amounted to \$62,287 this year compared to
\$66,938 last year, a decrease of \$4,651 or -7.0%.

Total Donations including Gifts, etc., amounted
to \$71,091 this year compared to \$72,548 last
year, a decrease of \$1,457 or -2.0%.

Attendance Last Week:

4:30 p.m. 73 9:30 a.m. 114

ANNOUNCED MASS INTENTIONS:

Sat. Dec. 7 4:30 p.m. For Joe Cioffi requested by his wife, Peggy.
Sun. Dec. 8 9:30 a.m. For the Parishioners of St. Jude and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parishes.
Sat. Dec. 14 4:30 p.m. For the Intentions of Cecile Auger requested by her daughter, Claire Auger.
Sun. Dec. 15 9:30 a.m. For Sherwood Dingman requested by the Fry Family.

Please pray for all priests in your daily prayers, especially the following this week:

Sunday:	Rev. Agnel Samy, HGN
Monday:	Rev. Sahaya Paul Sebastian
Tuesday:	Rev. Hermogenes Sargado, SDV
Wednesday:	Rev. Jon Schnobrick
Thursday:	Rev. James Shea
Friday:	Rev. Lourduraja Simeone
Saturday:	Rev. Dallas St. Peter

Schedule of Counters: Monday, December 9, 2019

John Calcagni
Judi Maculan
Marie Cookson

Schedule of Ministries for December 14 & 15, 2019

4:30 p.m.	Greeters:	Family Mass
	Altar Server:	Family Mass
	Lector:	Family Mass
	Extraordinary Min.:	Theresa Aube
		Kelly Rohan-Cooley
		Steve Cooley

9:30 a.m.	Greeters:	Paulette Noyes
	Altar Server:	Annaliesa Fry
		Isabel Fry
	Lector:	Mickey Wetzel
	Extraordinary Min:	Kim Fry
		Emily Dongean
		Ted Barrett

Calendar of St. Jude Events:

-12/08 Family Faith Formation at 9:30 a.m.
-12/10 Senior Meal at Noon
-12/10 Liturgy Committee Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
-12/10 Men's Discussion Group at 7:00 p.m. in the church hall.
-12/14 St. Jude Craft Fair from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
-12/14 & 12/15 Babinelli Sunday at all Masses
-12/15 "O Antiphons" at OLMC at 3:00 p.m.

Question of the Week: What can I do to bring harmony to my family, my neighborhood, the world?

No Daily Mass: There will be **NO** daily Mass on **Monday, December 9, Tuesday, December 10 and Monday, December 16** due to Father Cray being at St. Michael's for meetings.

Holiday Mass Schedules: The holiday schedule is as follows:

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day:

Tuesday, December 24 at 4:00 p.m. at The Old Lantern

Tuesday, December 24 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Jude

Tuesday, December 24 at 10:00 p.m. at OLMC

Wednesday, December 25 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Jude

New Year's Eve and Day:

Tuesday, December 31 at **4:30 p.m.** at St. Jude

Wednesday, January 1 at 10:00 a.m. at OLMC

St. Jude Craft Fair: There will be a Craft Fair at St. Jude Parish on **Saturday, December 14 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** Many items will be available. Please join us.

*****St. Jude's will also be running a canteen during the Craft Fair. We are looking for donations of hot dogs and rolls, soups, chips, sandwich fixings, baked goods, soda and bottled water. There is a sign up sheet in the lobby.**

Liturgy Committee Meeting: There will be a Liturgy Committee Meeting this **Tuesday, December 10 at 7:00 p.m.** in the rectory.

Men's Discussion Group: The Men's Discussion Group will be meeting this **Tuesday, December 10 at 7:00 p.m.** in the parish hall. All men are welcome

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel": On **Sunday, December 15 at 3:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, OLMC and St. Jude's** will present a collaborative program about the "O Antiphons of Advent". The Antiphons accompany the *Magnificat* canticle of Evening Prayer from December 17-23. The theology uses ancient biblical imagery of the Old Testament to proclaim the coming Christ from the past and into the present. Our Confirmation students will present and explain more about these prayers. The favorite hymn, "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" is a summary of the Antiphons. All are welcome.

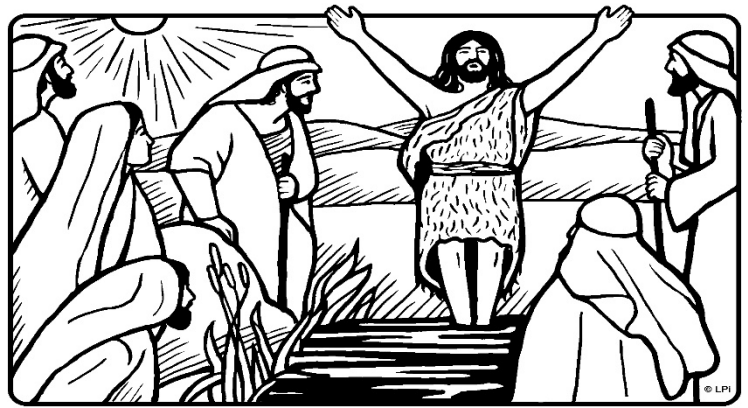
Kids At Christmas: We have **7 cards** left for children who are in need of items for Christmas. Won't you please help us out either by taking a card or by making a monetary donation? Please contact Marie at marietcookson@aol.com if you can help. Thank you.

*****Gifts need to be back this Sunday, December 8. If you need more time, please contact Marie to let her know.**

Bambinelli Sunday: We will have a Bambinelli Sunday on the third Sunday of Advent, **December 14 and 15.** Children and adults are asked to bring figures of the Christ Child from their Nativity sets to be blessed at Mass. This is an Italian custom and the Pope blesses the infant figures in St. Peter's Square during the Angelus on the third Sunday of Advent.

Helping Hands Sewing Ministry: The Helping Hands Sewing Ministry will be giving out sewing goods. If you know of anyone in your family or our community that could use a walker bag or adult smock, please contact Grace Link at graceplay@vt04.com. If there is a need please contact her by the first week of December. Thank you.

Ministries for Christmas Masses: The sign up sheets are in the sacristy for Altar Servers, Greeters, Lectors and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion for Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve.



John wore clothing made of camel's hair and had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. At that time Jerusalem, all Judea, and the whole region around the Jordan were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins. — Mt 3:4-6

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Madrigals: The CVU Madrigal Singers will be performing at St. Jude's on **Sunday, December 8 beginning at 11:30 a.m.** A free-will offering will take place to benefit the Madrigals. All are welcome to this Christmas event and sign-along.

Cleaning the Church: We will be cleaning the St. Jude Church in preparation of the Christmas Season on **Saturday, December 21 beginning at 9:00 a.m.** If you are interested in helping out, please contact Marie at 482-2290 or email at marietcookson@aol.com. Thank you.

Rosary: The Rosary is being said each Saturday at St. Jude's beginning at 4:10 p.m.

Advent Penance Service: There will be Deanery Advent Penance Services on **Sunday, December 8 at St. John Vianney at 7:00 p.m.; Sunday, December 15 at St. Mark's at 2:00 p.m.** and a **Concert featuring Ryan Tremblay on Wednesday, December 18 at St. John Vianney at 6:00 p.m. followed by confessions at 7:30 p.m.** Area priests will be available at these services.

Ryan Tremblay Concert: Catholic Musician and Speaker Ryan Tremblay will be at St. John Vianney Church in South Burlington at **Wednesday, December 18 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.** for a Concert and Evening of Prayer in the Parish Center. Adoration and Confessions will follow at 7:30-8:30 p.m. in the Church. The event is free with a free-will offering. All are welcome.

Knights of Columbus Christmas Party: The Knights of Columbus St. John Vianney Council invite Persons with Disabilities and their Caregivers to their Annual Special Christmas Party on **Sunday, December 8 from 1-3 p.m. at the St. John Vianney Parish Center.** Free Admission for all. Reservations are required. To register please email to tedbarrett79@gmail.com or call Ted at 802-453-3087.

FORMED.org: FORMED.org is a revolutionary online platform featuring the best Catholic videos, audio talks, eBooks and movies at **NO** cost to you. Visit **FORMED.org** to learn about these resources. To log in, go to FORMED.org, click on the tab "Enter Code", the code is **HHY6Z9** (cases sensitive). Register with your name, email, zip code and your own password to create an account. If you have any question, please feel free to contact Fr. Cray or Marie.

Calling All Puppeteers: There is a sign up sheet in the lobby for those wanting to participate in the Gospel presentation for the 7:00 p.m. Mass on Christmas Eve. You are never too old for this ministry. Rehearsal will be **Sunday, December 22 following the 9:30 a.m. Mass (10:30 a.m.)**. If you have any questions, please contact Donna Shepardson at dmshepardson56@gmail.com.

Christmas Eve 7:00 p.m. Choir: All are welcome! Adults and children, singers and instrumentalists. REHEARSAL will be held on **Wednesday, December 18 at 6:30 p.m. and Sunday, December 22 at 4:00 p.m.** Please contact Michelle Keller at 482-6490 or vtkeller@gmavt.net if you are interested in joining so that we have enough music for all.. This group will sing for the 7:00 p.m. Mass at St. Jude on December 24.

Religious Retirement: Support Aging Religious. Our second collection this week is for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Many senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for little or no pay. Today, religious communities often do not have enough savings to meet retirement needs. Your gift helps provide medications, nursing care, and more for tens of thousands of elderly religious. It also helps ensure younger members can continue to do good works of their elders. Please be generous.

Hinesburg Community Christmas Concert: The Hinesburg Artist Series will present the annual Hinesburg Community Christmas Concert on **Sunday, December 8** with two shows at **2:00 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.** at St. Jude's. Admission to the concert is free. Donations are greatly appreciated and all are encouraged to bring a non-perishable item for the Hinesburg Food Shelf.

Senior Meals: St. Jude Parish offers lunches to area seniors on the 2nd and 4th **Tuesday** of each month. The next senior meals are scheduled for **December 10** from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. Serving begins at 12:00 noon. All Seniors and Caretakers welcome.

Daily Mass at St. Jude's—Winter Weather: Once again the schedule for daily Mass at St. Jude's will follow the Hinesburg/Charlotte School System. If there is no school in Hinesburg and Charlotte due to the weather, there will be NO morning Mass on Monday or Friday mornings. Closings are found on the local radio and TV stations.

Advent Appeal – 2019: This year marks the 25th year of Vermont Catholic Charities Advent Appeal. Please join Vermont Catholic Charities in supporting the Annual Advent Appeal. The "Season of Giving" has no bounds for people in need. Whatever the season, it is a daily struggle for many Vermonters to maintain housing, stay warm or feed their families. This Advent Season, please help people in crisis, especially the most vulnerable among us—children, struggling parents, the elderly and the sick. With your help, we can make a difference in lives of those living on the edge. Last year, thanks to your generosity, VT Catholic Charities assisted more than 2,000 adults and 1,500 children through the Advent Appeal and Emergency Aid Program. Whether your gift is \$10, \$100, \$1000 or more, your gift will make a difference in the life of a needy family. To donate, please mail a check to Vermont Catholic Charities, 55 Joy Drive, South Burlington, VT 05403 or give online at www.vermontcatholic.org/adventappeal.

Advent Food Bags: We have Advent Food Bags. We are asking parishioners to take a bag or two and fill each bag with a day's worth of food for a needy family in our area. We will be collecting these throughout Advent. All food bags will be donated to the Hinesburg Food Shelf. Thank you.

Salvation Army Dinner: Thank you to everyone who donated food and milk for the Salvation Army Thanksgiving Dinner last week. We served around 80 meals. A special thank you to Peggy Cioffi, Joe, Franklin and Dominic Donegan, Laurie and Chris Meyer, Donna, Dan, Hannah and Chloe Shepardson and Marie Cookson for helping out with serving the meals.

Christmas Flowers: There are collection envelopes in the lobby of the church for the Christmas flowers. Your donations may be made in someone's memory. Please fill out the front of the envelope accordingly.

Red Cross Blood Drive: There will be a Red Cross Blood Drive at St. Jude's on **Thursday, January 9 from 12:30 to 6:00 p.m.** We are in need of food donations. Sign up sheets are in the lobby. To sign up to donate blood choose a timeslot online at <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/donation-time>. Walk ins are welcome but may have a slight wait.

St. Joseph's Residential Home: St. Joseph Residential Care Home in Burlington is seeking to hire housekeeper/maintenance technician. This position provides assistance to the Administrator, the residents and the employees in maintaining a clean and home like environment at the Home. Responsibilities include: keeping residents' rooms and common areas clean and maintained; disposing of trash; changing beds; and assisting residents when necessary. If you have the ability to manage your time efficiently, work well unsupervised, interact positively with residents and handle some basic maintenance from time to time, we would like to meet you! Must be willing to work evenings. For additional information, please feel free to call 802-864-0264, or email cbedard@vermontcatholic.org.

Opportunities to support Young Life: Young Life is looking for volunteers who would like to support sending our youth to Young Life camp next summer at Saranac Lake. Each year Vermont Teddy Bear allows the community at large to work during the Christmas season to raise funds which are then donated for a particular cause. With volunteering your time the money earned goes directly toward campership funds for our kids! Dates available to help out are: **Saturday, December 7, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Sunday, December 8, 12noon to 5:00 p.m.; Saturday, December 14 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; and Sunday, December 15, 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m.** This is actually a fun and rewarding time! Please consider supporting our youth in this valuable way. ~Another way to help raise funds for campership is by purchasing coffee. A portion of each sale will go towards supporting Young Life students ability to enjoy a life changing camp experience! Please visit <https://vt22.younglife.events/coffee-fundraiser> to check out the choices and to purchase. For more information or to register for VT Teddy Bear please email Tricia Sulva at majac@gmavt.net

Rice Prospective Parent Luncheon: On **Friday, December 13, 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.** parents with students of all ages are invited to learn more about Rice by attending their Prospective Parent Luncheon. Gain a unique perspective by dining with a Rice student while hearing from a Rice parent and various administrators. Seating is limited. To reserve your spot, **RSVP by Tuesday, December 10 at rmhsvt.org/admissions.**