

February 23, 2020

The bulletin is also available online at stjudevt.org

We are a Welcoming Community of Believers, Hoppers 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 – 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Gospels continue to challenge us to the core. This is especially true in the way our social relationships have developed. Feeling safe and secure in the world are not things that come easily these days. Actually, we may find ourselves feeling more reservation, caution, reluctance, and fear than ever before. In a moment's notice, life can drastically change. When someone has been intentionally and violently hurt, especially someone we love, we can all too easily find ourselves very attracted to the Old Testament philosophy of "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth."

Intellectually, we know this is not what Jesus wants us to do. But on some level it just seems to make practical or even political sense. After all, why should we allow someone to get away with a heinously violent act? Yet, Jesus cannot be any clearer than he is with this! Offer no resistance to one who is evil. Turn the other cheek as well. When pressed into service, go two miles. Do not turn your back on one who wants to borrow. Love your enemies. Now, take a moment to reflect on all of this. Consider a horrible act of violence committed against someone you love. Listen. Think. Be honest. Can you do as Jesus directs?

We want to be holy. But we are more comfortable with a definition of holiness that can keep us saying our prayers and on our knees in church. We are not comfortable with a definition of holiness that has something to say about to how we react to and negotiate life. We like to keep a sharp and strong line between the secular and the sacred. In fact, we would prefer that the doors between them be kept closed. God wants us to be holy as He is holy. If God sees this one way and we see it another, then where does this leave us on our journey to God?

Our minds like the practical, worldly, and secular answers to things. They are more black and white and at first glance appear to make more sense. Holiness wells up from our souls and is beyond reason. It cannot be explained. It is something we just simply know comes as a result of deep prayer. The truly contemplative eye knows inwardly that what Jesus asks is true and then willingly does it. It may not be easy.

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**JULY 1ST THRU DECEMBER 31ST
(1ST six months of the fiscal year)**

**Offertory, Maintenance & Fuel Collections
amounted to \$77,345 this year compared to
\$88,419 last year, a decrease of \$11,074 or -
12.5%.**

**Total Donations including Gifts, etc., amounted
to \$92,540 this year compared to \$109,774 last
year, a decrease of \$17,234 or -15.7%.**

**Offertory Last Week: \$1,672.00 Maintenance: \$18.00
Online Giving Last Week: \$300.00**

**Second Collection This Week for Church in
Central and Eastern Europe**

Second Collection Next Week for Black and Indian Missions

**Attendance Last Week:
4:30 p.m. 67 9:30 a.m. 64**

ANNOUNCED MASS INTENTIONS:

Sat. Feb. 22 4:30 p.m. For John Barrett requested by Bob and Sandy Twombly.
Sun. Feb. 23 9:30 a.m. For the Parishioners of St. Jude and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parishes.
Wed. Feb. 26 7:00 p.m. For Shane Beal requested by his family.
Sat. Feb. 29 4:30 p.m. For Andrew Letourneau requested by Joan Ruppenthal.
Sun. Mar. 1 9:30 a.m. For Joseph Spagnolo requested by Johanna Shal.

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

Sunday:	Rev. Robert Little
Monday:	Rev. Joseph Lively
Tuesday:	Rev. Steven Marchand
Wednesday:	Priestly and Religious Vocations
Thursday:	Priests Who Are having Difficulty
Friday:	All Our Seminarians
Saturday:	All Deceased Priests

Schedule of Counters: Monday, February 24, 2020

Lee Cross
Anne Donegan
Linda Savalli

Schedule of Ministries for February 29 and March 1, 2020

4:30 p.m.	Greeters:	Joanne & Lee Cross
	Altar Server:	Tegan Cooley Liam Cooley David Pearson
	Lector:	Mike New
	Extraordinary Min.:	Kelly Rohan-Cooley Steve Cooley
9:30 a.m.	Greeters:	Tom Giroux Paulette Noyes
	Altar Server:	Owen Cook Ethan Cook
	Lector:	Sue McGuire
	Extraordinary Min:	Emily Donegan Ted Barrett Sue McGuire

Calendar of St. Jude Events:

- 2/25 Senior Meal at Noon
- 2/28 Stations of the Cross at 7:00 p.m.
- 2/29 & 3/01 Book Discussion Sign Up

Question of the Week: How can I allow the Spirit to guide me more fully? How will that affect how I treat both those who treat me well and those who mistreat me?

Ash Wednesday: Lent begins on **Wednesday, February 26**. Mass and distribution of ashes will be held at **OLMC at 7:00 a.m. and at St. Jude's at 7:00 p.m.** This is a great way to begin the Lenten season.

Fasting and Abstinence in Lent: Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of **both** fast and abstinence. The rule of fasting states that only one full meal a day can be taken. Two smaller meals, "Sufficient to maintain strength" are also allowed. Eating between meals breaks the fast but drinking liquids does not. Catholics aged 18-59 are bound to fasting. Abstinence refers to refraining from eating meat and applies to all Catholics aged 14 and older. **ALL** Fridays in Lent are days of abstinence.

Ash Wednesday Almsgiving Collection: There will be a special collection on Ash Wednesday to support Vermont Catholic Charities. This agency provides financial and emotional support to individuals and families throughout Vermont through the programs offered which include Counseling, Emergency Aid, Prison Ministry, Project Rachel and Residential Care Homes. A portion of the collection will go to help fund the Bishop deGoesbriand grants which are awarded to Vermont nonprofits who are making a difference in their communities. Please know that every gift—whatever the size—makes a difference. Thank you for your generosity.

Lenten Book Club: There will be a Lenten Book Group this Lenten Season. The book that is recommended is C.S. Lewis' "The Screwtape Letter" Described at Amazon as, "*The Screwtape Letters by C.S. Lewis is a classic masterpiece of religious satire that entertains readers with its sly and ironic portrayal of human life and foibles from the vantage point of Screwtape, a highly placed assistant to "Our Father Below."* At once wildly comic, deadly serious, and strikingly original, C.S. Lewis's *The Screwtape Letters* is the most engaging account of temptation—and triumph over it—ever written." Sign up for the book group will be the weekend of February 29 and March 1. In signing up you will receive a copy of the book at that time. A suggested donation of \$10 is appreciated but not required. **PLEASE NOTE:** If you would like to pre-register for this book club, please contact Marie at stjude@gmavt.net or 482-2290 and she will register you. Folks will read the book and the discussion session is planned for **Tuesday, March 31 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Jude's.**

Stations of the Cross: The Stations of the Cross will be held at St. Jude's every Friday evening during Lent at 7:00 p.m.

Stations of the Cross with Josh Perry: Josh Perry, from the Worship Department at the Diocese will be joining us on **Friday, March 13 at 7:00 p.m.** He will give a short reflection on the Stations of the Cross and lead us through the Stations. We encourage everyone, especially families, to join us for this evening.

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 **February 25 and March 10 and 24** from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. Serving begins at 12:00 noon. All Seniors and Caretakers welcome.



"You have heard that it was said, You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your heavenly Father." — Mt 5:43-45a

Excerpts from the Lecturnary for PM 11:0201, 1998, 1978 CCCD.

Christ Our Hope Campaign: Coming Soon: The *Christ Our Hope* campaign will raise funds to help our parish realize its vision and provide endowment funding for faith formation efforts and Catholic Charities emergency services throughout the state. You will be hearing more about these needs as we approach the campaign kickoff in April.

Taize Prayer Service: The Taize Community will hold an evening of music at St. Jude's on **Thursday, March 5 at 6:30 p.m.** There is **NO CHARGE** but a **FREE WILL OFFERING** basket will be available. All are welcome.

2019 Contributions: Because of the new changes in itemized deductions, most people will be unable to deduct their 2019 contributions on their tax return. If you would like a copy of your contributions for 2019, please leave your name and address on the sheet in the lobby of the church or email Marie at stjude@gmavt.net and one will be mailed to you.

Red Cross Blood Drive: There will be a Red Cross Blood Drive at St. Jude's on **Friday, March 20 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. ****It is important to register online if possible as this allows the Red Cross to know what they can supply to the hospitals.**

Lenten Retreat: A Lenten retreat day for anyone who works for or ministers in the parish including administrative assistants, bookkeepers, religious education leaders, maintenance personnel, music directors, parish volunteers including religious ed teachers and aides, greeters, lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, counters, musicians and singers, ushers and other parish staff and volunteers. The retreat will be facilitated by the Diocesan Department of Evangelization & Catechesis. Location and date in our area is **Saturday, March 7 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Immaculate Heart of Mary in Williston.** To register or for more info contact Valerie Parzyck at 846-5813.

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