

September 20, 2020

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 – 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

If I work for five hours, I expect to get paid for five hours. If I work for two, I expect to get paid for two. What if we worked for a company that paid everyone the same amount regardless of how long they worked? How would we feel going home with the same pay for working eight hours as my co-worker did for working only two hours? Secular wisdom would have a huge problem with this and a visit to the Labor Board would quickly pursue. But this is God's wisdom and God's ways.

We sometimes think that if we pray more, better, or more fervently and go over and above with the practice of our faith, God will somehow reward us and present us with some kind of merit badge. We are so wrong. Spiritual practices have only one true purpose: to deepen our love for God. In deepening our love for God, we also increase our ability to see God's presence around us, living life more purposefully and contemplatively. What if God chooses to treat someone who has come on the scene of faith later in life the same as someone who has devoted their whole lives to it? Does it really matter? If we have the merit badge notion of faith, we can find ourselves feeling a little arrogant and even jealous of folks who have not followed the same path that we have. We can even see ourselves as the privileged few who have a corner on the faith and fully possess it.

That thinking doesn't square with God. God is all about mercy in abundance and is ready to take anyone to himself regardless of when they come. He is only happy that they have come home and delights in their return. After all, if you really and truly love someone, does it matter what they will give you in return or what you receive as a benefit? If relationships were assessed based upon productivity, they would lack authentic love. We invest too much self interest in our prayer and neglect to see it as an opportunity to pursue our Lover and deepen the intimate bond we have with God.

When we breathe our last, all that is of consequence is union with God. If my love for God is real, I am going to want to live the Gospel, abide by the commandments, practice my faith, forgive and love my neighbor, and care for the environment, regardless of how much time it takes or benefits me. We want God to think and behave as we do, and in doing so, we set ourselves up for disappointment. God has a totally different agenda and that's okay.

Attendance Last Week:
4:30 p.m. 25 9:30 a.m. 51

Offertory Last Week: \$2,242.00
Catholic University: \$61.00 Maintenance: \$188.00
Online Giving Last Week: \$645.00

JULY 1st THRU AUGUST 31st
(1st two months of the new fiscal year)

Offertory, Maintenance & Fuel Collections
amounted to \$22,312 this year compared to
\$24,901 last year, a decrease of \$2,589 or -
10.4%

Total Donations including Gifts, etc.,
amounted to \$28,996 this year compared to
\$28,759 last year. Gifts to the parish more
than doubled over the period.

ANNOUNCED MASS INTENTIONS:

- Sat. Sept. 19 4:30 p.m.** For Robert and Mary O'Brien requested by John and Cathy O'Brien,
Sun. Sept. 20 9:30 a.m. For JP Giroux requested by the family.
Tues. Sept. 22 5:15 p.m. (OLMC) For Robert Johnson requested by Linda and Dick Stowe.
Thur. Sept. 24 5:15 p.m. (OLMC) For Debra Jusick requested by Tom and Brenda Forsyth.
Sat. Sept. 26 4:30 p.m. For Richard Dubois II requested by the family.
Sun. Sept. 27 9:30 a.m. For Victoria and Arthur Matte requested by the family.

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

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| Sunday: | Fr. Roger Charbonneau |
| Monday: | Fr. Thomas Aquinas Chinnappin, HGN |
| Tuesday: | Fr. Hugh Cleary, CSC |
| Wednesday: | Fr. Frank Connors |
| Thursday: | Fr. Paul Couture, SSE |
| Friday: | Fr. John Crabb, SJ |
| Saturday: | Fr. David Cray, SSE |

Counters for Monday, September 21, 2020

Anne Donegan
Gail Blasius
Marie Cookson

Lectors for September 26 and 27, 2020

4:30 p.m. Mike Bullock
9:30 a.m. Tom Buzzell

Calendar of St. Jude Events:

- 9/21 Liturgy Committee Meeting at 10:00 a.m.
- 9/27 Confirmation Retreat & Rehearsal at 3:00 p.m.
- 10/01 Confirmation at St. Joseph Cathedral at 7:00 p.m.
- 10/04 Blessing of the Animals at 3:00 p.m.

Question of the Week: How can I magnify Christ in myself?
How can I imitate God's generosity?

Registering for Mass Attendance: Please remember to register if you are planning on attending Mass in the near future. With capacity being 77 for each Mass at St. Jude's and 33 for each Mass at OLMC, it is important that folks register. You can register online at

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904054faca62eaaf49-stjude> or contact Marie at 482-2290 (St. Jude), 425-2637 (OLMC) or email at marietcookson@aol.com. If you are planning on attending each week, please let her know and she will add your name so you don't need to register each week. She will automatically register you.

PLEASE NOTE: MASKS ARE MANDATORY AT ALL TIMES IN THE CHURCH.

Mass Registration: Beginning the weekend of **October 3 and 4**, those attending weekend Mass at St. Jude's will no longer be required to register for Mass. Those attending OLMC will still need to register and the weekly email with the registration link will still be sent out for the OLMC Masses.

Liturgy Committee Meeting: There will be a Liturgy Committee Meeting on **Monday, September 21 at 10:00 a.m.** in the rectory.

Blessing of the Animals: There will be a Blessing of the Animals on **Sunday, October 4 at 3:00 p.m.** in the St. Jude parking lot in observance of the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi. Everyone is invited to bring their pets for this blessing. Please be sure that pets are on a leash or in a carrier.

St. Jude Prayer Chain: St. Jude Parish has a prayer chain for anyone who request prayers for themselves or a loved one. Please contact Marie at 482-2290 or marietcookson@aol.com to add a name to the prayer chain.
**If you would like to be a part of the prayer chain in praying for others, please contact Marie at the number or email above.

Confirmation: Confirmation for our St. Jude and Our Lady of Mount Carmel students will take place on **Thursday, October 1 at 7:00 p.m.** at St. Joseph's Cathedral. These are the students who should have been confirmed in the spring. Please keep them and their families in your prayers as they take the next step in their Catholic faith.

Salvation Army Meal: St. Jude Parish will be doing a Salvation Army Dinner on **Wednesday, October 14**. We will be serving Shepherd's Pie, Tossed Salad, Rolls, Fruit Breads, Dessert and Milk. Because of the coronavirus, we will NOT be serving as space is limited. We will bring the food down to the Salvation Army that day so all food needs to be at St. Jude's by 3:00 p.m. If you can help with preparing food, please contact Marie at 482-2290 or email at marietcookson@aol.com.

The Bishop's Annual Appeal: Gifts to the Bishop's Appeal allowed the faith community to remain connected during the stay-at-home order. To make a gift visit: www.bishopsappealvt.org. The parish goal for St. Jude's is \$24,739 of which \$16,223 (66%) has been pledged. Thank you to everyone who has given thus far.

Bulletins, The Word Among Us, Living Faith Magazine and Priest Prayer List: We have many resources available that we cannot at this time leave in the lobby due to COVID-19. If you would like the weekly bulletin, monthly "The Among Us" and Priest Prayer Lists and/or the quarterly "Living Faith Magazine" sent to you, please contact Marie at 482-2290 or 425-2637 or email to marietcookson@aol.com and you will be added to her lists.



“**D**id you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what is yours and go. What if I wish to give this last one the same as you? Or am I not free to do as I wish with my own money? Are you envious because I am generous? Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

— Mt 20:13c-16

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

Eucharistic Mission at St. Mark Parish: Please join them for Eucharistic-centered mission at St. Mark Parish in Burlington on **September 21 and 22 at 7:00 p.m.**, led by Fr. Lance Harlow. Come encounter the love of Jesus and learn about the beauty and centrality of the Eucharist. All are welcome! Both evenings will include Eucharistic adoration, Benediction, and an opportunity for confessions, with several priests available. The mission will follow COVID-19 protocols, and will also be live-streamed at stmarksvt.com. For more info, contact the St. Mark parish office at 864-7686 or stmark@vermontcatholic.org.

Christ Our Hope Capital Campaign: Proverbs 28:27 “He that giveth unto the poor shall not lack: but he that hideth his eyes shall have many a curse.” God calls us to support the most vulnerable among us and the *Christ our Hope: Building a Vibrant Church* campaign offers us the opportunity to do that. A portion of the dollars raised will fund an endowment for Catholic Charities so it may expand its ability to serve the needy. This is a pressing need because Catholic Charities cannot serve on average 70 families or 280 people per month. Beyond that need, the campaign offers great hope at home here at St. Jude's. Sixty cents of every dollar will come back to us so we may address our needs to fund the Pastor's Discretionary Fund, to fund a new Parish Maintenance Account for high ticket items, supplement the offertory loss during the COVID-19 shut down and create a Parish Investment Account. While considering your gift, it's worth remembering that a key provision of the CARES Act states that a donor may deduct 100% of any gift to a qualified charity against their 2020 adjusted gross income. Please note this deduction expires at the end of 2020.

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 Marie.