

December 13, 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 – Third Sunday of Advent

Did you ever stop and realize that there is no earthly gain that can ever really satisfy us? Think of winning the Lotto. On this side of the winning ticket, it's all about the money, the new car, house, vacations, bank accounts, and infinite pleasures. The possibility of acquiring all of these earthly securities brings us back again and again to the purchase of a ticket. Then, one day we win! Our dreams are fulfilled, and happiness is on the horizon. Then one day, we wake up and realize that nothing has really changed, and I am not as satisfied as I thought I was or would be. I find myself living in my incompleteness and with my profound sorrow and grief. I did not find joy.

Glimpses of joy are possible but not by material means. They are brought to us through incredible experiences of connection that bring us face to face with real and authentic faith, hope, and love. And, they are glimpses and do not last. The moment we find ourselves looking back at them, they are gone, and we find ourselves remembering the moment in memory. To carry joy within us is to realize that it is not something I create, manufacture or even acquire. It is not able to be purchased. It is a gift. My need for joy mirrors my need for eternity, for a Creator who has a claim on the very essence of who I am and desires a home within me. As C. S. Lewis discovered, joy is a surprise that speaks to my very soul and is given as gift by the God who loves me.

The beauty of Advent is found in discovering the beauty of the gift of joy. God has visited his people for no other reason than to show them where and how to find joy! All of our human and earthly joy experiences are always only glimpses. They never satisfy us, sustain us or fulfill us. It is only God who is the joy of my soul. Real, Divine experiences of joy catch us off guard, make us stop and become aware, bring a feeling of awe and rightness and have an eternal Otherness about them. Nothing created by humans can ever come close to this. We probably will not fully realize the truth of all of this until we actually meet God face to face in heaven one day. Then, in that sacred moment when our hearts leap for joy we will understand what we have been tirelessly searching for all along. Intense gratitude will most surely follow.

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Offertory Last Week: \$3,785.85 Maintenance: \$992.00
Campaign for Human Dev.: \$25.00
Religious Retirement: \$50.00 Priest Benefit: \$25.00
Immaculate Conception" \$60.00 Christmas: \$145.00
Online Giving Last Week: \$545.00

**Second Collection This Week for
Retirement Fund for Religious**

JULY 1st THRU OCTOBER 31st
(1st four months of the new fiscal year)

Offertory, Maintenance & Fuel Collections
amounted to \$42,545 this year compared to
\$50,137 last year, a decrease of \$7,592 or -
15.1%

Total Donations including Gifts, etc.,
amounted to \$53,610 this year compared to
\$57,751 last year, a decrease of \$4,141 or -
7.2%

Attendance Last Week:

4:30 p.m. 22 9:30 a.m. 41

MASSES AND INTENTIONS

Sat. December 12

4:30 p.m. (STJ) For Robert and Mary O'Brien
requested by John and Cathy O'Brien.

Sun. December 13

8:00 a.m. (OLMC) For the Parishioners of Our Lady
of Mount Carmel and St. Jude Parishes.

9:30 a.m. (STJ) For Arnold Gratton requested by his
wife, Janice, and family.

11:00 a.m. (OLMC) For Joseph Migliardi requested by
Rosemarie Cartularo and Larry Poitras.

Mon. December 14 8:00 a.m. (STJ) For James Case
requested by his wife, Irena.

Tues. December 15 5:15 p.m. (OLMC)

Wed. December 16 8:00 a.m. (OLMC)

Thur. December 17 5:15 p.m. (OLMC)

Fri. December 18 8:00 a.m. (STJ) For Jean Dastalto
requested by her children.

Sat. December 19

4:30 p.m. (STJ) For Therese Richard requested by
her husband, Ronald.

Sun. December 20

8:00 a.m. (OLMC) For Joe and Nancy Blanchette
requested by Joe and Peg Blanchette.

9:30 a.m. (STJ) For Hermina Giroux requested by the
family.

11:00 a.m. (OLMC) For Donald Haman requested by
his wife, Sue, and family.

Calendar of St. Jude Events:

-12/12 & 12/13 Bambinelli Sunday at all Masses

-1/07 Red Cross Blood Drive from 12:30-6:00 p.m.

-1/08 Eucharistic Adoration at 8:30 a.m.

Question of the Week: When and where do I recognize the presence of the Lord in the world?

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

Sunday: Rev. Agnel Samy, HGN
Monday: Rev. Joseph Sanderson
Tuesday: Rev. Steven Scarmozzino
Wednesday: Rev. Jon-Daniel Schnobrich
Thursday: Rev. Sahaya Paul Sebastian
Friday: Rev. James Shea
Saturday: Rev. Dallas St. Peter

Counters for Monday, December 14, 2020

Gail Blasius
Theresa Aube
Marie Cookson

Lector for Weekday Masses for December 14 thru 18, 2020

Marie Cookson

Schedules for December 19 and 20, 2020

Lector: 4:30 p.m. Heidi St. Peter
9:30 a.m. Rodney Strong

UPDATE: Contact Tracing and Registering for Mass

Attendance: Until further notice we ask everyone to give us their names and contact info in the event there is a need for contact tracing. This includes weekend and daily masses and funerals. We will have folks helping at the weekend masses and we ask everyone to sign the sheet in the doorway if they come in for daily mass. This is a mandate from Gov. Scott and Bishop Coyne. Thank you for helping us to keep everyone safe.

***While at St. Jude's you no longer need to pre-register, you do need to leave your name and contact info with those checking you in. We are encouraging folks who attend mass at St. Jude's to pre-register if possible. Those attending Our Lady of Mount Carmel must pre-register. Registration online is at

<http://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 want her to register you. **PLEASE NOTE: MASKS ARE MANDATORY AT ALL TIMES IN THE CHURCH.**

Christmas Masses: This year all Christmas Eve and Christmas Masses will be held at St. Jude's. The total capacity for each mass is 125. **REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.** If you aren't pre-registered, you may not be able to attend the Mass you desire. Masses will be at 4:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve and 10:00 a.m. on Christmas Day. Registration for Christmas Masses is

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904054faca62eaaf49-stjude3>. If you prefer for Marie to pre-register you, please call 482-2290 (St. Jude), 425-2637 (OLMC) or email at marietcookson@aol.com.

Congregating in Entryway: Please **DO NOT** congregate in the entryway/lobby before or after Mass, impeding parishioners from entering or exiting before or after Mass. Thank you.

Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration and Confession: Our Lady of Mount Carmel will have a Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration with the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament along with Confessions on **Tuesday, December 15** following the 5:15 p.m. Mass.



John answered them, "I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie." — Jn 1:26-27

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

Message from Fr. Zuccaro: As we move into these uncertain winter months, I want you to know that we at St. Jude Parish are here for you. We miss you. We invite you to come back to Mass if you have been away, even if it is one of our weekday Masses with fewer people present. If you are unsure about attending Sunday Masses during this time of pandemic, simply call the rectory, and a minister in the Church will meet you at the church to offer Holy Communion. I am also available to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation or the Anointing of the Sick. For Catholics, the Sacraments are instituted by Christ to give us grace. Pope Francis reminds us that Communion is not a reward for good behavior but medicine for the sick. We all need Christ's help during these difficult times. Take time out each day for your own prayer. Pray as a family before meals. Watch Mass online if you don't feel safe coming to Mass, and join in the online offerings that our parish and diocese offer. I am here for you and pray daily for you. This is my duty and blessing for me as a parish priest.

Bambinelli Sunday: We will have a Bambinelli Sunday on the third Sunday of Advent, **December 12 and 13**. Parishioners 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. The Blessing will happen following the homily at each mass.

Confession Times: Confession is available Saturday afternoons at 4:00 p.m. at St. Jude, Tuesday following the 5:15 p.m. Mass at OLMC, and Friday following 8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Jude, or by appointment. There will also be an afternoon opportunity for pre-Christmas confession held **Sunday, Dec. 20, from 3:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. at St. Jude.**

Red Cross Blood Drive: There will be a Red Cross Blood Drive at St. Jude's on **Thursday, January 7 from 12:30 to 6:00 p.m.** To schedule an appointment please call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter **HINESBURG**. We ask that appointments be made if possible as we may not be able to accommodate walk-ins due to the coronavirus.

**It is important to register online if possible as this allows the Red Cross to know what they can supply to the hospitals.

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 \$18,853 (76%) has been pledged. Thank you to everyone who has given thus far.

Advent Appeal -2020: 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. With your help, we can make a difference in lives of those living on the edge. *Help people like Molly and Jimmy keep the heat on. Molly and Jimmy have a 10 year old daughter and were excited to welcome a new baby. Unexpectedly, Molly lost her job due to COVID-19 while Jimmy's hours were reduced. They were out of fuel. We helped with a fuel delivery and provided a food card to ensure the family had heat and food so they could focus on welcoming their new baby.* Whether your gift is \$10, \$100, \$1000 or more, your gift will make a difference in the life of a need 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.

Christ Our Hope Capital Campaign:

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| Parish total: \$199,290 | Percentage to goal: 15% | Campaign total: \$30,342 |
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Have you been thinking about a gift or pledge to the *Christ Our Hope* campaign? There is still time to join thousands across the Diocese who already have made donations. With your help at St. Jude Parish, the gifts and pledges received so far have moved us closer to funding 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. The *Christ Our Hope* campaign is focused on building vibrant parishes, and we pray that our projects will strengthen us for the future. You can return your completed pledge form or go online to christourhopevt.org/donate to make a gift.