

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2019**  
**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Readings: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12

**“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!”**

MASS SCHEDULE					
Sun	Dec	8	9:00AM	Lester & Nell Griffon + By Les & Lynne Griffon	
Mon	Dec	9	9:00AM	Lawrence Bremer + By St Jude Prayer Group	
Thur	Dec	12	9:00AM	Rosemarie Thompson (health) By Ted & Carol Johnson	
Fri	Dec	13	12:00PM (noon)	Rosemarie Thompson (health) By Ted & Carol Johnson	
Sun	Dec	15	9:00AM	Paul T. Wannamaker + By The Wannamaker Family	

**To Schedule a Mass Intension**  
**Please contact the Church Office**  
**828-743-5717**

**SAINT JUDE - OFFERTORY**

(The Weekend of November 24, 2019)

Offertory: \$1292.00    Attendance: 147

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(The Weekend of December 1, 2019)

Offertory: \$2416.00    Attendance: 135

**The Ladies of St. Jude**

The Ladies of St. Jude meet from March-November on the 2nd Tuesday of the month in the Parish Hall at 10:00am. They support the Parish in their spiritual growth & outreach programs, assist with funerals, care for the sick and organize social and fellowship programs. For more information, please contact Mary Ann Massa at 919-605-4246.

**Prayer Blanket Ministry**

The Prayer Blanket Ministry's - Winter Schedule (November - May) meets on the 1st Tuesday of the month. They gather at 10:00am for a meeting in the upstairs classroom. You don't have to know how to sew, crochet or knit. If you need a prayer blanket, please contact the Church Office at 828-743-5717.

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

Jim Barton, Denis Benardello, Patricia Blasi, Lane Bolmer, Tom Borzell, Marian Michel Boyd, J. Randy Brooks, Karen Cameron, Dr. Jay & Jana Carpenter & The Carpenter Family, Tom Carrasquillo, Fr. Hugh Chikawe, Daniel Coffey, Dottie Collier, Sherry Cook, Terese Crawford, Margaret Daniel, Christopher Day, Katherine DeLage, Pat Delaney, Linda Denny, Judi Eisnagle, Mike Ezzell, Sandra Fischel, Gina Galetti, Gretchen Giesey, Jerry Goldberg, Jerry Gordon, Laura Gregory, Walt & Judy Green, Jackson Hall, Donald Haug, Matthew Hite, Amy Hoyle, Jo Hoyle, Katie Hoyle, Daniel Jacobs, Dakota Johnson, Treba Johnson, Bill Keadle, Suzanne Keenan, Cathy Keir, Joe Knauff, George Lee, Trentha Mackey, Marinka, Camerron Martin, Conor McCall, Janet McClory-Presley, Betsy McCloskey, Michael Monti, Ron Nelson, Lyla Ruby Newton & Coen Michael Newton & The Newton Family, Sheila Rinker, Cynthia Runberg, Sherman Runions, Russell Sands, Brendan Scallon, Jr., Elaine Schmid, Bonnie Jean Small, Lennis Smith, Ava Snyder, Leonardo Suarez, Kim Wagland, Cassie Watts, Meredith Worth.

**Military Prayer List**

Lt. Col. Fred Dufault (Afghanistan)  
 Captain Evan Shawler (Air Force Flight Surgeon)

**St. Jude Prayer Group**

The St. Jude Prayer Group meets on Fridays at 12:30pm following the 12:00(noon) Mass. We pray the Rosary, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, spend some silent time in Adoration, and pray for the needs of our Church and of our world. For more information, please contact Jane Miller at janem@tampabay.rr.com or 813-230-3500.

**Emaus Prayer Group**

Emaus Prayer is a spiritual movement of faith that is called to prayer, obedience and adoration of the Holy Sacrament. They meet each Wednesday at 6:00pm. For information contact Yuliana Vargas at 828-226-5083 or Efrain Morales at 828-226-1045.

**Spanish Prayer & Rosary**

The Spanish Prayer & Rosary meets on Friday evenings at 7:00pm. For more information, please contact Isela Vazquez at 828-331-7892.

## Today's Readings

**First Reading:** The prophet Isaiah lived 750 years before Christ. Despite the political unrest of that period, he looked forward to a kingdom so wonderful that even nature is at peace. This perfect world would be ruled by a descendent of King David. (As you listen to this reading, it helps to know that "Jesse" is the name of David's father) .....*On that day, a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse....* (Isaiah 11:1-10).

**Second Reading:** In the early days of the Church, some Jewish converts to Christianity continued to practice their Jewish traditions. Many of them were members of the Church in Rome, along with others who were Gentiles. They sometimes found it hard to get along. As Paul nears the end of his letter to them, he encourages them to live in harmony by drawing upon the Scriptures they had in common—what we have called the "Old Testament"...(Romans 15:4-9).

**Gospel:** Produce good fruit worthy of your baptism; Repent, for the reign of God is near .....*I am baptizing you with water, for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is mightier than I.... He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire...*(Matthew 3:1-12).



## Prepare The Way

Saint John the Baptist appears on the scene today as Advent enters its second week. The mysterious consumer of locusts and wild honey, John echoes the words of the prophet Isaiah as he calls for repentance in the face of the nearness of the kingdom of heaven. The rhythms of the Christian life are often confounding. Each year we meet the Baptist and hear his calls for repentance. Each year we see him pointing to the one who is coming after him, the Lord Jesus. Yet each year the words and actions of John the Baptist echo anew in our hearts, because we have fallen into old sinful traps again and again. Advent gives us the opportunity once again to turn away from our sinful ways and embrace the gospel way of life. John the Baptist invites us to prepare the way for the Lord, in whom we place our hope.

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## Retirement Fund For Religious

(2nd Collection - Dec. 8)

Our 2nd Collection today is for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Thousands of senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have spent years working in Catholic schools, hospitals, and agencies that serve those in need. They often received little or no pay for their good works. Now, their religious communities do not have enough savings for retirement and eldercare. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and more. It also helps to ensure that the younger religious can continue the good works of their elders. Almost 94 percent of donations directly aid senior religious and their communities. Your support can help advance the mission to ensure a safe, modest retirement for the senior sisters, brothers and religious order priests who have faithfully served our Church and world. Thank You!

## Knights of Columbus

The St. Jude Knights of Columbus meet at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall on the 1st Tuesday of the month. Please contact Joe Vergo (Grand Knight) for information at 239-777-8606.

## Ongoing Events - Knights

\***Raffle Tickets** -on sale for **\$5.00** following Mass. Shared proceeds will support local charities.

## Hispanic Ministry Calendar

Wednesday, Dec. 11, **Emaus**, 6:00pm

Tues., Dec 3-12, **Our Lady of Guadalupe Rosaries**  
Dec. 3 - Isela Vazquez's House - 7:00-9:00pm  
Dec. 4-12 - St. Jude Catholic Church - 7:00-9:00pm  
Thursday, Dec. 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe  
Celebration - Parish Hall - 7:00pm

## General Church Calendar

Monday, Dec. 9, **Mass**, 9:00am  
Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Tuesday, Dec. 10, **Ladies of St. Jude**, 10:00am  
Mtg in Parish Hall - Lunch at Mica's (Dutch-Treat)  
\$10.00 grab-bag gift - All Ladies are welcome  
RSVP ... Mary Ann Massa .. 919-605-4246

Friday, Dec. 13, **Prayer Group**, 12:30pm-1:30pm

Sunday, Dec. 15, **Christmas Brunch**, 10:00am