

December 10, 2017

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—Second Sunday of Advent

"People of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him." John the Baptist commanded quite a crowd. What was the attraction? Was it his unusual appearance-clothed in camel's hair? Perhaps it was his bizarre eating habits-feeding on locusts and wild honey. Or maybe people were captivated by the Baptist's remarkable humility in the face of such huge popularity-"I am not worthy."

Unlike our modern fascination with standing in the presence of superstars, the crowds who flocked to John weren't looking for a thrill. They weren't lining up for autographs. They were lining up for baptism. And they were acknowledging their sins at the same time. John was proclaiming "a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins." And people came because they were longing to experience the freedom of that forgiveness.

John called them to conversion. To convert means to turn, in this case to turn away from sin. And the crowds were anxious to do so in order to "prepare the way of the Lord." For these first-century Jews, the imminent approach of the Messiah came with a call for conversion and they took this call very seriously.

Now, for us, as twenty-first century Christians, the Church, like John the Baptist, calls us to prepare and repent during this season of Advent. Will we take the call seriously? Will we examine the areas of our lives that need to change? Will we pray for God's help to overcome our habitual sin and to make choices based on generosity instead of selfishness? Now is the time to heed the message. Now is the time to "prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths."

Liturgical Publications

Offertory Last Week: \$2,953.00 Maintenance: \$710.00
Online Giving Last Week: \$1,193.00

Second Collection This Week for Religious Retirement Fund

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 – NOVEMBER 26

Offertory Y-T-D Last Year: \$60,102.92
Offertory Y-T-D This Year: \$56,127.57

Maintenance Y-T-D Last Year: \$5,520.85
Maintenance Y-T-D This Year: \$5,535.50

Online Banking Y-T-D Last Year: \$8,124.00
Online Banking Y-T-D This Year: \$11,353.00

Attendance Last Week:
4:30 p.m.: 80 9:30 a.m.: 151

ANNOUNCED MASS INTENTIONS:

Sat. Dec. 9 4:30 p.m. For Joseph Cioffi requested by his wife, Peggy.

Sun. Dec. 10 9:30 a.m. For the Parishioners of St. Jude and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parishes.

Sat. Dec. 16 4:30 p.m. For the Parishioners of St. Jude and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parishes.

Sun. Dec. 17 9:30 a.m. For Hermina Giroux requested by the Family.

Pray for Vocations

Schedule of Counters: Monday, December 11, 2017

John Calcagni
Stan Haselton
Brenda Waters

Schedule of Ministries: December 16 and 17, 2017

4:30 p.m.	Greeters:	The Stewart Family
	Altar Server:	Peter Stewart
		Nate Stewart
	Lector:	Sue Hoepfner
	Extraordinary Min.:	Mike Bullock
		Judy Thibault
		Joanne Cross

9:30 a.m.	Greeters:	Wendy Koenig
		Greg Tomczyk
	Altar Server:	Anna Ulager
		Owen Fowler
	Lector:	Wendy Koenig
	Extraordinary Min.:	Ted Barrett
		Doug Taff
		Emily Donegan

Calendar of St. Jude Events:

- 12/10 1st Year Confirmation Class at 10:30 a.m.
- 12/10 HAS Concert at 2:00 and 4:30 p.m.
- 12/12 Senior Meal at 12:00 noon
- 12/12 Liturgy Committee Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
- 12/14 Parish Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
- 12/16 Cleaning of the Church at 9:00 a.m.

Question of the Week: In what ways do I feel parched, spiritually or emotionally? How can Jesus' presence satisfy my thirst? How can I prepare myself for Christ's presence?

Rosary: The Rosary is being said each Saturday at St. Jude's before the 4:30 p.m. Mass beginning at 4:10 p.m.

Holiday Mass Schedules: The holiday schedule is as follows:

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day:

Sunday, December 24 at 4:00 p.m. at The Old Lantern
Sunday, December 24 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Jude
Sunday, December 24 at 10:00 p.m. at OLMC
Monday, December 25 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Jude

New Year's Eve and Day:

The Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God is NOT a Holy Day of Obligation this year because it falls on a Monday. However, Mass will still be celebrated as follows:

Sunday, December 31 at **4:30 p.m.** at St. Jude
Monday, January 1 at 10:00 a.m. at OLMC

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 12 and 26** from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. Serving begins at 12:00 noon. All Seniors and Caretakers welcome.

Kids At Christmas: Gifts need to be back today, **Sunday, December 10.** If you need more time, please contact Marie to let her know. Her info is on the yellow sheets attached to the card.

Cleaning the Church: We will be cleaning the St. Jude Church in preparation of the Christmas Season on **Saturday, December 16** beginning at 9:00 a.m. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Marie at 482-2290 or marietcookson@aol.com or leave your name on the sign up sheet in the lobby. Thank you.

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 announced in the coming weeks. If you have any questions, please contact Shelly Underwood at 434-2408.

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.

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.

Jay Peak Family Fun Package: We are again raffling off the Jay Peak Family Fun Package with a \$725.00 value. Tickets are \$1/each or a book of 6 for \$5.00. The drawing will happen after the holidays. Tickets are available after the weekend Masses or by calling Marie at 482-2290 or email marietcookson@aol.com.

Young Family Brunch: There will be a Brunch for all families with children, infants through 4th grade, at St. Jude's on **Sunday, December 17 at 10:30 a.m.** (following the 9:30 a.m. Mass). This is a chance for young families to meet other young families in our two parishes. **Please RSVP by Monday, December 11** to let us know how many will be attending, including children. Childcare will be available.

Bambinelli Sunday: We will have a Bambinelli Sunday of the third Sunday of Advent, **December 16 and 17.** Children and adults will 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.



John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey. And this is what he proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me." — M k 1: 4. 6-7 a

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2011, 1998, 1970 C.C.D.

Christmas Eve 7:00 p.m. Choir: All are welcome! Adults and children, singers and instrumentalists. REHEARSAL will be held on **Wednesday, December 20 at 6:30 p.m.** in the church. Please contact Michelle Keller at 482-6490 or vtkeller@gmavt.net 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.

2018 Collection Envelopes: The collection envelopes for 2018 are available in the lobby of the church. Envelopes are in alphabetical order. PLEASE NOTE: Due to more parishioners using Automatic Giving, we ordered less envelopes this year. Some parishioners have been reassigned new numbers. If you have not used the collection envelopes in the past but would like to do so now, please take a box without a name on it. **Please be sure to write your name and address on the envelopes for the first few weeks you are using them. Also, please do not use leftover envelopes from previous years.** Thank you.

Retirement Fund for Religious: Help care for elders. Elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests need your help. Many served for years in Catholic schools, hospitals, and parishes-often for little to no pay. Now there is a shortage in retirement savings. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious provides funding for medications, nursing care, and more. Please give to those who have given a lifetime. Thank you.

Hinesburg Community Christmas Concert: The Hinesburg Artist Series will present the annual Hinesburg Community Christmas Concert on **Sunday, December 10** with two shows at 2:00 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.

Young Life Update: Young Life is going strong as they continue to grow in Chittenden County! At CVU there are upwards of 30 teens who attend Bible study each week, called Campaigners. Almost half of the Campaigners belong to one of our Catholic Churches serving the CVU towns. Thank you to all for your continued support through your prayer and donations. This year's \$10,000 matching donation has been matched! There is also another \$10,000 matching opportunity for 2018. More info on next year's events to come in the coming weeks. Contact Tricia Sulva with any questions at majac@gmavt.net.