

December 24, 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—Fourth Sunday of Advent

"Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus." Today is the last Sunday of the Advent season, and we hear in the Gospel the anticipation of the feast we will celebrate in just one day. Christmas is coming! Jesus is on his way!

We have had weeks to prepare for this momentous occasion, and now we are on the very verge of its arrival. The children in our midst can hardly contain their excitement as they wait to wake up on Christmas morning. The thrill of this coming moment is meant to remind us of the joy and anticipation we should all feel as we await the coming of Christ. Yes, Christmas is a great feast, but there is more here than a remembrance of the past or a fabulous party in the present. There is a looking-ahead as well. We celebrate as we anticipate.

Much as Mary must have waited in wonder during the nine months of her pregnancy, we wait in hopeful expectation as Christians looking forward to being reunited with our Savior. Our future is full of hope. The deflating melancholy that afflicts many people after a holiday runs its course need not be the experience of the Christian waiting for Christ. We are always looking forward to something! There is never a moment when we have no cause for joy. Our lives are lived in a kind of unending advent as we stand in watchful waiting.

Let us remember this as we enter into our Christmas Eve gatherings and festivities. As we join with family and friends to share in the good things of this life, may we carry with us the joy of knowing that even better things lie in store for us who welcome the infant Jesus into our hearts and homes.

Liturgical Publications

Offertory Last Week: \$2,792.50 Maintenance: \$20.00
Immaculate Conception: \$25.00
Christmas Flowers: \$115.00 Christmas: \$50.00
Religious Retirement: \$997.00
Online Giving Last Week: \$385.00

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 – DECEMBER 17

Offertory Y-T-D Last Year: \$64,460.92
Offertory Y-T-D This Year: \$63,421.42

Maintenance Y-T-D Last Year: \$5,642.85
Maintenance Y-T-D This Year: \$5,745.50

Online Banking Y-T-D Last Year: \$8,707.00
Online Banking Y-T-D This Year: \$12,028.00

Attendance Last Week:
4:30 p.m.: 80 9:30 a.m.: 145

ANNOUNCED MASS INTENTIONS:

Sat. Dec. 23 4:30 p.m. For Therese Richard requested by her husband, Ronald, and Family.

Sun. Dec. 24 9:30 a.m. For the Parishioners of St. Jude and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parishes.

Sun. Dec. 24 7:00 p.m. For Roger Strong Jr. requested by the family.

Mon. Dec. 25 10:00 a.m. For Donald Boss Jr. requested by his parents, Jean and Donald Boss.

Fri. Dec. 29 8:00 a.m. For a Special Intention requested by Theresa Greenough.

Sat. Dec. 30 4:30 p.m. For the deceased members of the Auger, Nadeau & Cookson Families requested by M. Cookson.

Sun. Dec. 31 9:30 a.m. (No Intention)

Pray for Vocations

Schedule of Counters: Wednesday, December 27, 2017

Stan Haselton

Lee Cross

Anne Donegan

Schedule of Ministries: December 30 & 31, 2017

4:30 p.m.	Greeters:	Joanne & Lee Cross
	Altar Server:	Theo St. Peter
		Jack St. Peter
	Lector:	Heidi St. Peter
	Extraordinary Min.:	Hollis St. Peter
		Heidi St. Peter
		Joanne Cross

9:30 a.m.	Greeters:	Ann & Aidan Thomas
	Altar Server:	Max Destito
		Emma Destito
	Lector:	Aimee Frost
	Extraordinary Min.:	Chris Destito
		Stephanie Buzzell
		Tom Buzzell

Calendar of St. Jude Events:

-01/05 Eucharistic Adoration at 8:30 a.m.
-01/07 2nd Year Confirmation Class at 10:30 a.m.
-01/11 Red Cross Blood Drive at 12:30 p.m.

Question of the Week: How can I take the gift of Jesus that I have been given and share this gift with others?

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 **January 9 and 23** from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. Serving begins at 12:00 noon. All Seniors and Caretakers welcome.

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.

Holy Hour Of Eucharistic Adoration: St. Jude Parish will have a Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration with the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on **Friday, January 5**, following the 8:00 a.m. Mass.

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.

Thank You: Thank you to the following folks who helped to clean the church last Saturday in preparation of the Christmas Season: Anna Pelkey, Holden and Scott Lalumiere, Ray Bouchard, Jeanne Jensen, Susan Marino and Marie Cookson. The church looks wonderful.

Hinesburg Food Shelf: With the recent Food Drives the Hinesburg Food Shelf has been quite well supplied. However, they are in need of split peas. Ham is the main meat being distributed currently and this seems to be a time when people are into making soup. Any donations are greatly appreciated.

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.

Adult Confirmation: Are you an adult who has been baptized and received your First Communion in the Catholic Church but were never confirmed? We will be holding a 7 session preparation class in the spring for all those interested in being confirmed. If you are interested or would like more info, please contact the office at 482-2290 or stjude@gmavt.net and we will add you to our list and will notify you as we get closer to the start date.



And the angel said to her in reply, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God."

— Lk 1:35

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

Regional Listening Sessions with Bishop Coyne: As a part of our preparation for the Diocesan Synod, Bishop Coyne will be holding three regional listening sessions in January. These will be similar in format to the parish listening sessions, but with the Bishop present to hear people's input. The one in our area is **Saturday, January 13 from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.** at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Burlington. All are welcome.

Synod Delegates – First Preparatory Meeting with Bishop Coyne: Bishop Coyne will hold his first preparatory meeting with the delegates to the Diocesan Synod on **Saturday, February 3 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. The delegate for St. Jude Parish is Doug Taff with Jeanne Jensen as the alternate.

Re-engaging the Occasional Catholic: A Presentation by Bishop Coyne on **Wednesday, January 17**, will be offered at Holy Cross Parish in Colchester from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. This presentation will also be available via livestreaming on the Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington Facebook Page <http://www.facebook.com/vermontcatholic.com>.

Annual Mass and Rally for Life: The annual Mass and Rally for Life will be on **Saturday, January 13** in Montpelier. Bring family and friends to Montpelier for the Rally for Life Mass to be celebrated by Bishop Coyne at St. Augustine's at 9:30 a.m. There will be a warm-up immediately following the Mass in the church hall. The Mass is sponsored by the Diocese of Burlington. At 10:45 a.m. participants will begin to line up for the traditional march to the State House. Those who do not wish to join the march can head directly over to House Chambers. Once seated, participants will hear from the featured guest speaker, Ryan Bomberger of the Radiance Foundation. Light refreshments will be offered in the State House cafeteria. The March and State House Rally are sponsored by the Vermont Right to Life Educational Trust Fund and there is no charge to attend.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter: "The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me." Let your spirits be augmented by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next weekends are March 16-18, 2018 in Isle LaMotte, VT and January 19-21, 2018 in South Kingstown, RI. For more information, call Gary and Lynn Root at 802-456-8114 or visit them at <http://wwwmevt.org>.