

December 6, 2015

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 –Second Sunday of Advent

"Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." Today's Gospel reading references an ancient text from the Old Testament Book of Isaiah. There, a prophecy was made that John the Baptist would fulfill many years later; John is the "voice of one crying out in the desert." And the message that John's voice proclaimed, in preparation for the coming of the Messiah, was a message of repentance.

The passage from Isaiah gives us some clues into what this repentance is supposed to do. It is meant to change us into people who can properly welcome the Lord when he comes. Using the poetic image of a path, the text describes the kind of path that is suitable for the Lord. He shouldn't have to navigate valleys, scale mountains, wind around twists and turns on the road, or traverse rough, difficult terrain. Instead, he should be able to move easily on smooth ground. Residents preparing to welcome an honored guest ought to do what they can to make the journey pleasant. The analogy relates to our souls.

As we prepare to welcome the Lord this Advent season, we should make the "path" of our souls level, straight, and smooth. We should "fill" the valleys of laziness or despair with diligence and joy. The mountains of pride and greed should be made low with humility and generosity. The winding roads of dishonesty and manipulation "shall be made straight" with commitment to the truth. And the rough ways of our selfishness and stubbornness should be made smooth through charity and docility to the Holy Spirit. When we live our faith with sincerity and devotion, our souls are transformed. This Advent, may our souls become a pleasant path for Christ.

Liturgical Publications Inc.

Readings for the Week of December 6, 2015

Sunday: Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-6/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6
Monday: Is 35:1-10/ Ps 85:9-14/Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38
Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10/Mt 11:28-30
Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1, 9-13/Mt 11:11-15
Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-4, 6/Mt 11:16-19
Saturday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18-19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47
Next Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a/Is 12:2-6/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18

©Liturgical Publications

Offertory Last Week: \$2,156.00

Online Giving Last Week: -0-

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

Attendance Last Week:

4:30 p.m.: 74 9:30 a.m.: 132

ANNOUNCED MASS INTENTIONS:

Sat. Dec. 5 4:30 p.m. For Joseph Cioffi requested by his wife, Peggy.
Sun. Dec. 6 9:30 a.m. For the Intentions of the Donor.
Mon. Dec. 7 8:00 a.m. For Joseph Cioffi requested by his wife, Peggy.
Tues. Dec. 8 7:00 p.m. For John Miner requested by his wife, Jean.
Sat. Dec. 12 4:30 p.m. For Anne Gardner requested by her husband, George.
Sun. Dec. 13 9:30 a.m. For Tobey Hockridge requested by Nathan and Kimberly Fry.

Pray for Vocations

Schedule of Counters: Monday, December 7, 2015

John Calcagni
George Gardner
Ann Thomas

Schedule of Ministries: December 12 and 13, 2015

4:30 p.m.	Greeters:	Mona Giroux Cathy Bombardier
	Altar Server:	Josh Syverson Becca syverson
	Lector:	Mike Bullock
	Extraordinary Min.:	Mike Bullock
9:30 a.m.	Greeters:	Tom Giroux Sam Buzzell
	Altar Server:	Sophia Bisbee
	Lector:	Tom Giroux
	Extraordinary Min.:	Mark Cummings

Calendar of St. Jude Events:

-12/06 CCD Mass and Pancake Breakfast at 9:30 a.m.
-12/06 2nd Year Confirmation Class at 10:30 a.m.
-12/06 Kids At Christmas Gifts Returned
-12/07 The Madrigals from CVU
-12/08 Senior Meal at Noon
-12/10 Parish Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
-12/12 & 13 Babinelli Sunday

Question of the Week: As the Jubilee Year of Mercy begins, what twists and turns do I need to let God untangle in my life? What rough edges smooth out? What mountainous of pride bring low? What valleys of indifference and neglect fill with mercy for others?

Time Off: Bishop Coyne has directed that every priest should have a full day off each week. After consideration, Father Cray has decided to make that day Wednesdays. This will begin the first week in January 2016 and there will no longer be a daily Mass on Wednesdays.

Holiday Mass Schedules: The holiday schedule is as follows:

Immaculate Conception:

--Tuesday, December 8 at 7:00 a.m. at OLMC
--Tuesday, December 8 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Jude

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

--Thursday, December 24th at 4:00 p.m. at The Old Lantern
--Thursday, December 24th at 7:00 p.m. at St. Jude
--Thursday, December 24th at 10:00 p.m. at OLMC
--Friday, December 25th at 10:00 a.m. at St. Jude

New Year's Eve and Day:

--Thursday, December 31st at 4:00 p.m. at St. Jude
--Friday, January 1st at 10:00 a.m. at OLMC

St. Jude Craft Fair: There will be a Craft Fair at St. Jude Parish on Saturday, December 12 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Many items will be available. Please join us.

*****St. Jude's will also be running a canteen during the Craft Fair. We are looking for donations of hot dogs and rolls, soups, chips, sandwich fixings and baked goods. There is a sign up sheet in the lobby.**

Youth and Family Mass and Pancake Breakfast: Our next Youth and Family Mass and Pancake Breakfast will be this Sunday, December 6 beginning with the 9:30 a.m. Mass. The cost of the breakfast is \$8/adults; \$5/child; \$23/family (2 adults and 2 or more children).

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 8 and 22 from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. Serving begins at 12:00 noon. All Seniors and Caretakers welcome.

Lector Workbooks: The new Lector Workbooks for 2016 are available in the sacristy for all current lectors. If you haven't yet picked one up, please do so this weekend.

Men's and Women's Discussion Groups: The Women's Group will meet on Tuesday, December 8 at 10:00 a.m. in the rectory. The Men's Group will meet on Tuesday, January 5 at 7:00 p.m. in the parish hall. All are welcome.

Helping the Homeless: The Driver Family (Andrew, Chrissy and children) is collecting monetary donations for the homeless in our area. They are hoping to give 15 homeless families at COTS each \$100 in gifts cards (\$50 calling cards and \$50 Hannaford cards). They will be handing these out on Christmas Eve. They are accepting donations until December 20th. Look for the collection jar in the lobby. Thank you.

Kids At Christmas: Thank you to everyone who has sponsored a child. **The gifts are due back by this Sunday, December 6 following the 9:30 a.m. Mass.** If you have any questions, please feel free to call Marie at 482-2290 or email marietcookson@aol.com.

Parish Council Meeting: There will be a Parish Council Meeting this Thursday, December 10 at 7:00 p.m. in the rectory. All are welcome.

Madrigal Singers: The CVU Madrigal Singers will be performing at St. Jude's on Monday, December 7 beginning at 6:30 p.m. A free-will offering will take place to benefit the Madrigals. All are welcome to this Christmas event and sing-along.

Christmas Flowers: There are collection envelopes in the lobby for the Christmas Flowers. Your donations may be made in someone's memory. Please fill out the front of the envelope accordingly.



“Every valley shall be filled
and every mountain and hill shall be made low.
The winding roads shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth,
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

— Lk 3:5-6
Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

Opening of the Holy Door: You are invited to attend the ceremony for the opening of the Holy Door at St. Joseph Co-Cathedral on Sunday, December 13 at 3:00 p.m. To receive the plenary indulgence on that day (or any other day) the pilgrim must make a sacramental Confession; receive Holy Communion; pass through the Holy Door at St. Joseph with the intention of receiving the indulgence; and, pray at least one Our Father and one Hail Mary for the intentions of the Pope. You may receive this indulgence more than once during the year, but only once a day. The indulgence can be applied to yourself or to a soul in purgatory. NOTE: This is not a Mass, but a special procession led by the Bishop with the Rite of the Opening of a Holy Door. Light refreshments will be served in the parish hall afterwards. Please join Catholics around the world on this day for the inauguration of the Jubilee Year of Mercy in the individual dioceses. The Holy Door will remain open until November 2016 during which time group and individual pilgrimages are encouraged.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: The Light Is On For You: The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered on Wednesday, December 16 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at St. Jude Parish. This is a Diocesan-wide event held December 16 by each pastor.

Advent Penance Service: There will be an Advent Penance Service at St. John Vianney on Sunday, December 20 beginning at 7:00 p.m. There will be priests from the South Burlington Deanery available for Reconciliation.

Support Vermont Catholic Charities' 21st Annual Advent Appeal: Please join Vermont Catholic Charities in supporting the 21st Annual Advent Appeal. Your generosity is essential as the “Season of Giving” has no bounds for people in need. Whatever the season, there are basic needs to be met: food, shelter, and heat, to name but a few. With your help, Vermont Catholic Charities can make a difference in lives of those living on the edge. Many Vermonters are struggling to put daily bread on the table or to keep the lights and heat on in their homes. Last year, Vermont Catholic Charities provided assistance to over 1,407 individuals, including 645 children under the age of 16. During the Christmas season, support was given to 260 family households with 503 children under the age of 16. Whether your gift is \$10, \$100, \$1,000 or more, your gift will make a difference in the life of a needy family. To donation please mail a check to Vermont Catholic Charities, PO Box 226, South Burlington, VT 05407 or give online at www.vermontcatholic.org.

Helping Hands Sewing Ministry: The Helping Hands Sewing Ministry (St. Jude and the United Church) will be making distributions of adult smocks and walker bags to local nursing homes, etc., this month. Do you have a family member or know of anyone in our community that could use these items? Please contact Grace Link at 489-6200 with names or for more information.

Fabric Donations Needed: Helping Hands Sewing Ministry is in need of cottons, cotton blends and lightweight upholstery fabrics (at least ½ yd). If you have fabric you would like to donate or know of anyone who does, the HHSM would love to take the fabric off your hands. They are also looking for solid color sheets in good shape. If you have any of these items, please contact Grace Link at 489-6200.

Come, Follow Me: Bishop Coyne and the Office of Vocations will be hosting a Vocations Awareness Evening, “**Come, Follow Me**” on Sunday, December 6 at St. Joseph Co-Cathedral in Burlington. If you are a high school or college aged student who is discerning your vocation or if you are wondering just how to discern your vocation, join them for this evening of prayer, reflection and discussion; come and get answers to your questions.

World Apostolate of Fatima: Please come and join The World Apostolate of Fatima (Blue Army) on Wednesday, December 16 for an Advent gathering at St. John Vianney Church in South Burlington. Mass will begin at 5:00 p.m.; Rosary at 5:30 p.m.; followed by a pot luck dinner in the Parish Center (next to the church). They will do something fun; please bring in a gift to swap with each other (not required). Little gift can be handmade or homemade item, baked goods, a package of cookies, etc. Just come, your presence makes Our Lady happy. This is also a farewell to Fr. Joseph Lively, the Blue Army Spiritual Director, before he flies to Florida for the winter season. Please come and wish him well as he travels. Call Yorini with questions at 864-0561.

Vermont Rally for Life: You are invited to participate in the Vermont Rally for Life on Saturday, January 16, 2016 in Montpelier. Mass at St. Augustine Church in Montpelier beginning at 9:30 a.m., celebrated by Bishop Coyne; March: After Mass, participants will gather behind City Hall in Montpelier to begin the march down State Street at 11:00 a.m., ending at the State House; Rally: Bishop Coyne will present opening remarks in the House Chamber along with a Pro-life Youth Speaker.

March for Life, Washington, DC: The March for Life will be held in Washington, DC at the National Mall on January 22, 2016. Even if you can't travel, you can participate! In concert with the Annual March for Life, the U.S. Bishops invite all Catholics to pray for the protection of all human life by participating in a special novena called **9 Days for Life**, from January 16 through January 24. Join thousands of others in praying for the protection of all human life. Download the novena online or participate through Facebook, email, text message or an app. Join at www.9daysforlife.com. If you don't have a computer but would like a copy of the Novena, please contact Marie at 482-2290 and one will be sent to you.

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.

Christmas Eve Choir: All are welcome!! Adults and children, singers and instrumentalist. REHEARSAL will be held on Monday, December 21 at 7:00 p.m. in the church. Please call Michelle Keller at 482-6490 or John Penoyar at 482-3449 or leave your name on the sign-up sheet in the lobby 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.

Bambinelli Sunday: We will have a Bambinelli Sunday on the third Sunday of Advent, December 12 & 13. 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.

Hinesburg Community Christmas Concert: The Hinesburg Artist Series will present the annual Hinesburg Community Christmas Concert next Sunday, December 13 at 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.

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 Sunday, December 20 following the 9:30 a.m. Mass. 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, and New Year's Eve Masses.

Retirement Fund for Religious: Support elderly religious! A parishioner writes, “As a Catholic school student from grades K-12, I was formed to be the person I am by many religious brothers and sisters, and I am forever grateful.” Show your appreciation for the senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who made a positive difference in so many lives. Please give generously to next week's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious.

Lessons and Carols: Join the Saint Michael's Chorale on Friday, December 11 from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Chapel of Saint Michael the Archangel for their annual service of *Lessons and Carols*. This year's service features scripture readings and carols in Czech, Welsh and Rumanian, familiar carols sung by the congregation, and a special guest appearance by the Vermont Boychoir. College organist Susan Summerfield accompanies. All are welcome.

Salvation Army Dinner: Thank you to everyone for donated food and money for the Thanksgiving Dinner at the Salvation Army on November 25. We fed 120 clients. A special thank you to Peggy Cioffi, Donna, Hannah and Dan Shepardson, Alexis, Laurie and Chris Meyer, Anna, Owen, Jen and Sean Pelkey, Randy Kaiser and Tom Giroux who helped with the serving. We will resume these dinners in the spring.

Collection Envelopes: The collection envelopes for 2016 are available in the lobby. Envelopes are in alphabetical order. 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. Some of the numbers have been changed due to the fact that we ordered less this year in order to not have so many leftover and thrown out.** Thank you.

Project Rachel: Find hope and healing from abortion. Project Rachel is a healing ministry for individuals who have been affected by abortion, helping them to grieve, receive forgiveness, and find peace. For more information about Project Rachel or to speak to a trained Project Rachel professional, please contact 658-4118.