

December 27, 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 –The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

"He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them." We might be tempted to think that Jesus more or less raised himself. As the Son of God, it might appear on first glance that earthly parents would be a mere formality for this particular child. But it wasn't so. Mary and Joseph had real influence, and real authority, over their son.

Although Jesus apparently understood from a tender age how he related to God ("Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?"), he also knew that he owed appropriate respect to his parents. This is why he stayed in their home in Nazareth and was obedient to them. And because of this obedience, clearly Mary and Joseph must have been deeply influential in his life. Their direction, their teachings, their example, and their rules would all have shaped Jesus in his humanity. It was thanks in no small part to the matriarch and patriarch of the Holy Family that Jesus "advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man."

We should be advancing in these ways too! And those of us who are parents are likewise called to direct and guide our children to develop as Jesus did, not only forming our sons and daughters to succeed in the eyes of men, but also leading them on the path of "favor before God." The Holy Family serves as a beautiful model for us in this regard. They help us learn how to submit our lives to the loving leadership of our heavenly Father. But more than this, Mary and Joseph also serve as intercessors who, like any faithful family member or friend, want to pray with us and for us. Let us turn, then, to the intercession of the Holy Family asking that our families may be holy too.

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Readings for the Week of December 27, 2015

Sunday: 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28 or Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24 or Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52
Monday: 1 Jn 1:5--2:2/Ps 124:2-5, 7-8/Mt 2:13-18
Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-3, 5-6/Lk 2:22-35
Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-10/Lk 2:36-40
Thursday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-13/Jn 1:1-18
Friday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
Saturday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1-4/Jn 1:19-28
Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

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Offertory Last Week: \$2,231.25
Online Giving Last Week: \$235.00

Second Collection Next Week for Maintenance

Attendance Last Week:
4:30 p.m.: 90 9:30 a.m.: 155

ANNOUNCED MASS INTENTIONS:

Sat. Dec. 26 4:30 p.m. For Victor Giroux requested by Helen and Francis Dupoise.
Sun. Dec. 27 9:30 a.m. For a Special Intention requested by Steve Cote.
Thurs. Dec. 31 4:00 p.m. For Emmanuel and Celinda Nadeau requested by Marie Cookson.
Sat. Jan. 2 4:30 p.m. For Fr. Walter Miller requested by Theresa and Steve Aube.
Sun. Jan. 3 9:30 a.m. For Anne Gardner requested by her husband, George.

Pray for Vocations

Schedule of Counters: Monday, December 28, 2015

Stan Haselton
Lee Cross
George Gardner

Schedule of Ministries: January 2 and 3, 2016

4:30 p.m.	Greeters:	Cathy Bombardier Mona Giroux
	Altar Server:	Patton Griswold
	Lector:	Sue Hoepfner
	Extraordinary Min.:	Peggy Cioffi Donna Shepardson Judy Thibault
9:30 a.m.	Greeters:	Wendy Koenig Greg Tomczyk
	Altar Server:	Emma Destito Max Destito
	Lector:	Rodney Strong
	Extraordinary Min.:	Sue McGuire Stephanie Buzzell Tom Buzzell

Calendar of St. Jude Events:

-1/04 Kindergarten to 8th Grade CCD Classes at 6:30 p.m.
-1/05 Men's Discussion Group at 7:00 p.m.
-1/07 Liturgy Committee Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
-1/08 Eucharistic Adoration at 8:00 a.m.
-1/09 Youth and Family Mass followed by Pasta Dinner

Question of the Week: What very human aspect of my daily family life can I make holy this week by seeing it as part of God's unfolding plan for me and those I live with?

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.

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 New Year's Eve and Day schedule is as follows:

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

Jubilee Year Of Mercy For Lay Ministers: You are all invited to attend the Jubilee Year of Mercy celebration recognizing Lay Ministries in the Diocese of Burlington at St. Joseph Co-Cathedral on Sunday, January 17 at 3:00 p.m. This celebration is going to focus primarily on Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors and Acolytes (Liturgical Lay Ministry). This celebration will include Solemn Vespers (Evening Prayer) and Eucharistic Exposition. Confessions will be made available for those people desiring to receive the Holy Year indulgence. Light refreshments will be served after. The Holy Door is now blessed and is open for group and individual pilgrimages throughout the year. (Please note this is not a Mass.)

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.

Men's and Women's Discussion Groups: The Men's Group will meet on Tuesday, January 5 at 7:00 p.m. in the parish hall. The Women's Group will meet on Tuesday, January 12 at 10:00 a.m. in the rectory. All are welcome.

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

Youth Mass and Pasta Dinner: The next Youth and Family Mass will be held on **Saturday, January 9 at the 4:30 p.m. Mass.** This will be followed by a Pasta Dinner. Cost of the Pasta Dinner is \$10/adult; \$7/child and seniors; \$30/family (2 adults and 2 or more children). If you would like to help with the Pasta Dinner please contact Lisa Boutin at 879-2896. We hope to see you there.

Red Cross Blood Drive: There will be a Red Cross Blood Drive at St. Jude's on **Wednesday, January 13** from 12:30 to 6:00 p.m. Sign up sheets for food donations will be out in the upcoming weeks. There is an urgent need for blood, especially this time of year. Please bring a friend and be sure to have your Blood Donor Card, Photo ID or two forms of ID.

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.



He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man.

— Lk 2:51-52

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

Nate Fry: Click on this link, <https://vimeo.com/141578430>, to find out about Saint Jude parishioner Nate Fry's work in Kyrgyzstan, the Ala Archa Eco-Leadership Project. The project will bring together the concepts of social-ecological management and sustainability education, mountain adventure and leadership skills in a two week-long experience in August, 2016. Incidentally, it also features cooperation between an American University, UVM, and faculty and students in a former Soviet Socialist Republic, and the leadership of a devout Roman Catholic (that would be Nate) in a country that is more than 80% Muslim with only 1,500 Catholics served by seven Jesuit priests and five Franciscan sisters.

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.

Tai Chi Level 2: A Tai Chi Level 2 class will begin Monday, January 4 through Wednesday, February 24 at 11:30 a.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays at St. Jude Parish. It is Tai Chi for Arthritis, Fall Prevention and Health and is intended for those who have already taken the Level 1 class or have had previous experience with Tai Chi.

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.