

# December 18, 2016

The bulletin is also available online at [stjudevt.org](http://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 – Fourth Sunday of Advent**

"She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus." Joseph heard these prophetic words in a dream. They were words of anticipation, of what was to come. And in a sense, they ushered in a kind of Advent for Joseph. With this divine message, Joseph began a period of holy waiting. He now knew that the Messiah was going to be coming into his own home, and he had just nine months to prepare! We can only imagine how Joseph might have spent these precious days. Most likely he did more than prepare a physical home for his soon-to-be-born Son; he must have also used these days to prepare his heart, mind, and soul for such a tremendous mission.

Today, we stand in a position not all that different from St. Joseph. We also know that the Messiah will be arriving--not just in remembrance at Christmastime, but in reality at the second coming. But unlike Joseph, we don't have an exact timeframe. We don't know when Jesus will return. We just know that we need to be ready!

During the season of Advent we are challenged to recall this fact and strive to get our hearts in order. The days are short now until Christmas, and for all we know they might be short until Christ's return as well. What remains to be done? Aside from wrapping presents and planning parties, where do we yet need to tidy up our habits to properly celebrate the real meaning of this festive season? How can we make sure that we don't get swept away in the external preparations, forgetting the work that needs to be done in the invisible silence of our souls?

God may not speak to all of us directly in our dreams, but he does speak to us clearly through his word. May we recognize today the mission he has laid before us.

Liturgical Publications

**Offertory Last Week: \$2,925.00    Maintenance: \$122.00**  
**Religious Retirement: \$825.00**  
**Immaculate Conception: \$194.00**  
**Christmas Flowers: \$45.00**  
**Online Giving Last Week: \$390.00**

**Offertory Y-T-D Last Year: \$56,502.40**  
**Offertory Y-T-D This Year: \$63,027.92**

**Maintenance Y-T-D Last Year: \$4,578.03**  
**Maintenance Y-T-D This Year: \$5,287.85**

**Online Banking Y-T-D Last Year: \$6,763.00**  
**Online Banking Y-T-D This Year: \$8,839.00**

**Attendance Last Week:**  
**4:30 p.m.: 87    9:30 a.m.: 145**

## **ANNOUNCED MASS INTENTIONS:**

**Sat. Dec. 17 4:30 p.m.** For the Intentions of Cecile Auger requested by her daughter, Carmen Cote.

**Sun. Dec. 18 9:30 a.m.** For Hermina Giroux requested by her family.

**Sat. Dec. 24 7:00 p.m.** For Roger Strong, Jr. requested by his family.

**Sun. Dec. 25 10:00 a.m.** For Donald Boss Jr. requested by Jean and Donald Boss and family.

## **Pray for Vocations**

### **Schedule of Counters: Monday, December 19, 2016**

Dick Stowe  
Brenda Waters  
Ann Thomas

### **Calendar of St. Jude Events:**

- 12/20 Movie Night – Catholicism Series at 7:00 p.m.
- 12/20 Christmas Eve Choir Rehearsal at 7:00 p.m.
- 12/21 Reconciliation from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.
- 12/22 Puppet Show Rehearsal at 6:30 p.m.

**Question of the Week** What kind of Messiah does my own life's witness to Christ proclaim? One with fire and brimstone ready at hand, or one of whose comfort and healing I am an instrument?

**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 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.

**Holiday Mass Schedules:** The holiday schedule is as follows:

### **Christmas Eve and Christmas Day**

- Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. at The Old Lantern
- Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at St. Jude
- Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 p.m. at OLMC
- Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. at St. Jude

### **New Year's Eve and Day:**

- Saturday, December 31<sup>st</sup> at **4:00 p.m.** at St. Jude
- Sunday, January 1<sup>st</sup> at 8:00 a.m. at OLMC
- Sunday, January 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:30 a.m. at St. Jude
- Sunday, January 1<sup>st</sup> at 11:00 a.m. at OLMC

**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 and New Year's Day.

**Catholicism Series:** Please join us at St. Jude's in Hinesburg for another evening of "Catholicism-The Journey of a Lifetime". This week's episode will be **"A Body Both Suffering and Glorious: The Mystical Union of Christ and the Church"**. Bishop Barron explores the Catholic Faith's unique understanding of the relationship of Jesus Christ and the Church. Witness how the Mystical Body of Christ is a living organism that stretches from Rome to New York, Sao Paolo, Manila, and Namugongo, embracing humanity in all of its joys and sorrows. It is not necessary to have viewed the previous episodes to be inspired by this week's DVD. We look forward to many more spiritually enriching evenings. Please join us this Tuesday, December 20 at 7:00 p.m.

**Christmas Eve Choir:** All are welcome!! Adults and children, singers and instrumentalists. Please call Michelle Keller at 482-6490 or John Penoyer at 482-3449 if you are interested so that we have enough music for all. **Rehearsal will be Tuesday, December 20 at 7:00 p.m.** This group will sing for the 7:00 p.m. Mass at St. Jude on December 24.

**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 Thursday, December 22 at 6:30 p.m.** If you have any questions, please contact Shelly Underwood at 434-2408.

**Advent Penance Service:** There will be an Advent Penance Service at St. John Vianney on **Sunday, December 18 at 2:30 p.m.** There will be many priests available for Reconciliation.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation: Leave the Light On:** The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered on **Wednesday, December 21 from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. at St. Jude Parish.**

**St. Jude Craft Fair:** Thank you to everyone who furnished food, bought a spot as a vendor and helped out with the Craft Fair. Thank you to Nick Burroughs, Julia Daggett, Muellein Francis, Anna Pelkey, Andrew Driver, Henry Moreno, Kevin Boutin, Kathy and Ted Barrett who helped with this event and a very special thank you to Lisa Boutin who organized this event. It was a great community effort.

**Joan Bettis:** Joan Bettis is looking for someone to help her with her grocery shopping. Please contact her at 482-4862 if you have any questions, would like more information or are interested in helping her out. Thank you.

**Winter Coat Collection:** We are collecting **good** used children and adult winter coats, jackets, boots and snowpants (all sizes) for a local organization. If you have any of these items that your child(ren) has outgrown or you would like to get rid of, we would love to have them. We have a bin in the lobby. Thank you.

**Senior Meals:** St. Jude Parish offers lunches to area seniors on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> **Tuesday** of each month. The next senior meals are scheduled for December 27 and January 10 and 24 from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. Serving begins at 12:00 noon. All Seniors and Caretakers welcome.

**Steubenville East:** Save The Date for Steubenville East Conference on July 14 through 16, 2017 at the Tsonga's Center at UMass Lowell. Open to all high school students. This conference was attended by 3000+ teens last year. If your high school student is interested, or you are interested in attending as a chaperone, please contact Marie at 482-2290 or email at [marietcookson@aol.com](mailto:marietcookson@aol.com) and info will be sent to you.



*The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." — Lk 2:10-12*

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

**A Message from Marie:** Thank you everyone for the well wishes and prayers during my recent hospitalization. I am back to feeling well. I am very blessed to be a part of such a loving and caring community. Thank you.

**2017 Collection Envelopes:** The 2017 Collection Envelopes have not yet arrived. The envelope company has been called and it is our hope that the envelopes arrive before the end of the year. This is a new printing company (they bought out the company we have dealt with in the past) and they have been overwhelmed by the number of orders. In the event that the new envelopes don't arrive before the beginning of 2017, we ask that you place your donation in a plain envelope with your name on it. Also, if you would like to receive collection envelopes and haven't used them in the past, please contact Marie at 482-2290 or email at [marietcookson@aol.com](mailto:marietcookson@aol.com) and a box of collection envelopes will be assigned to you. Thank you for your patience in this matter.

**Annual Rally for Life:** The annual Rally for Life will kick off in Montpelier on Saturday, January 21 at 10:45 a.m. as participants need to line up behind City Hall. Signs and banners will be provided. The march down State Street to the steps of the Capitol will begin at 11:00 a.m. and those who wish to attend but cannot participate in the outdoor portion of the event can find their way to House Chambers and wait for the group to join them. This year, the Rally for Life will feature women's voices, featuring Jewels Green of Philadelphia, Sarah Zagurski of Colorado and Amy Cochran of Vermont.

**March for Life:** "March for Life" Pilgrimage registration is now "live" and accessible online at the Diocesan website. The Diocese will sponsor two Pilgrimage Buses (one for youth, one for adults). Please note that the Youth Pilgrimage is restricted to high school students (Grades 9-12) and their Safe and Sacred-certified chaperones. This trip will include visits to several shrines in the DC area and an overnight stay. \$150, includes transportation and lodging. **The deadline to register for the youth group bus is December 20.** A second bus for individual adults or those travelling with their families will offer a shortened visit with overnight bus travel in each direction. Cost is \$75. Registration links are at [www.vermonthcatholic.org](http://www.vermonthcatholic.org).