

January 5, 2020

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 – Epiphany of the Lord

We may walk many roads when we search for God, and He leads us all the while. The men we honor today were not Jews. The Messiah wasn't coming for *them*, not in the minds of Jesus' contemporaries. These men were astrologers. They were adept at reading portents in the sky, a practice condemned in the Mosaic covenant. Still, to the best of their knowledge and awareness, they were seeking the truth. This truth led them to journey from their own homeland to honor a king they'd never met, one they couldn't be sure truly existed. "We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." Who do you know seeks God so tenaciously?

"Magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem," the Gospel tells us. Who are the seekers in your own life? Maybe it's your cautiously curious co-worker, the neighbor who unexpectedly found peace on a yoga retreat, or your desperately angry child who has chosen, for now, to go their own way. Perhaps they're not overtly headed for Jesus now, not yet. But they may well be seekers of truth in ways we didn't expect. Our invitation is to listen, inquire, and give directions when appropriate.

The magi and modern-day seekers can inspire us as well. When is the last time you sought God's truth so tenaciously? As believers, it can perhaps be easy to become desensitized to the Christmas season and to the miraculous reality we recently celebrated. Mass may have been lovely, but so was the succulent roast beef, the crisp smell of evergreen, and the warm glow of family. Consider asking yourself, "God, do I know you as well as I should? Would I journey as far as the magi to meet You, if I could? Do I journey to meet You daily in prayer? What do those answer say about me, and about our relationship?" Perhaps we, like the magi, can once again be "overjoyed" at seeing the Light of the World.

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Offertory -12/22/19: \$2,076.00

Offertory Last Week: \$2,589.00

Christmas: \$3,588.72

Online Giving Last Week: \$-0-

**Second Collection This Week for Maintenance
Second Collection Next Week for Fuel**

**JULY 1ST THRU NOVEMBER 30TH
(1ST five months of the fiscal year)**

**Offertory, Maintenance & Fuel Collections
amounted to \$62,287 this year compared to
\$66,938 last year, a decrease of \$4,651 or -7.0%.**

**Total Donations including Gifts, etc., amounted
to \$71,091 this year compared to \$72,548 last
year, a decrease of \$1,457 or -2.0%.**

Attendance Last Week:

4:30 p.m. 53 9:30 a.m. 100

ANNOUNCED MASS INTENTIONS:

Sat. Jan. 4 4:30 p.m. For Rev. Walter Miller requested by Theresa and Steve Aube.

Sun. Jan. 5 9:30 a.m. For Ortho and Bernard Emmons requested by Helen Cote.

Sat. Jan. 11 4:30 p.m. For the Parishioners of St. Jude and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parishes.

Sun. Jan. 12 9:30 a.m. For Fred Cook requested by Marie Cookson.

Please pray for all priests in your daily prayers, especially the following this week:

Sunday:	Rev. Justin Baker
Monday:	Rev. Albert Baltz
Tuesday:	Rev. William Beaudin
Wednesday:	Rev. Andrzej Bednarowicz
Thursday:	Rev. Richard Berube, SSE
Friday:	Rev. Leopold Bilodeau
Saturday:	Rev. Msgr. Bernard Bourgeois

Schedule of Counters: Monday, January 6, 2020

Lee Cross
Ann Thomas
Anne Donegan

Schedule of Ministries for January 11 and 12, 2020

4:30 p.m.	Greeters:	Dawn Griswold
	Altar Server:	Tegan Cooley Liam Cooley
	Lector:	David Pearson
	Extraordinary Min.:	Dawn Griswold Kelly Rohan-Cooley Steve Cooley
9:30 a.m.	Greeters:	Family Mass
	Altar Server:	Owen Cook Owen Fowler
	Lector:	Ethan Cook
	Extraordinary Min:	Ray Bouchard Heidi St. Peter Doug Taff

Calendar of St. Jude Events:

-1/05 Family Faith Formation at 9:30 a.m.
-1/09 Red Cross Blood Drive from 12:30 to 6:00 p.m.
-1/09 Parish Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Question of the Week: How has an encounter with the Lord led me in a new way? Am I willing to change my route in the future?

Red Cross Blood Drive: There will be a Red Cross Blood Drive at St. Jude's on **Thursday, January 9 from 12:30 to 6:00 p.m.** We are in need of food donations. Sign up sheets are in the lobby. To sign up to donate blood choose a timeslot online at <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/donation-time>. Walk ins are welcome but may have a slight wait.
**It is important to register online if possible as this allows the Red Cross to know what they can supply to the hospitals.

2020 Collection Envelopes: The collection envelopes for 2020 are available in the lobby of the church. 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.** Thank you.

Online Giving: With the beginning of a new year why not sign up to have your monthly offering amount automatically transferred from your checking account to St. Jude's account? If you are interested in online giving, please contact Marie at 482-2290. Thank you.

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 14 and 28** from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. Serving begins at 12:00 noon. All Seniors and Caretakers welcome.

Annual Diocesan Respect Life Mass: The Annual Diocesan Respect Life Mass will be held on **Saturday, January 18, 2020 at 9:30 a.m.** at St. Augustine Parish in Montpelier with Diocesan Vicar General, Monsignor John McDermott as Celebrant. Reception to follow. Vermont Right to Life will then sponsor a prayerful walk to the State House with program to follow inside. All are welcome.

3rd Annual Catholic Men's Conference: The 3rd Annual Catholic Men's Conference will be held on **Saturday, March 28, 2020** at St. Anthony's Church in White River Jct. The Keynote speaker is retirend Air Force Captain, Guy Gruters. Guy is a decorated Vietnam War veteran who spent five and a half years as a POW in Vietnam, and a lifetime Catholic. Other speakers include Msgr. John McDermott and Paul Kendall. There will also be opportunities for confession, Eucharistic Adoration, lunch, fellowship, and Mass with Bishop Coyne. Registration and more info at www.vermontcatholic.org/men.

Counters Needed: We are in need of more counters as many of our regulars have headed south or no longer wish to count. Counting is done on Monday mornings at 8:40 a.m. in the St. Jude Rectory. Folks work in teams of three. Counting is usually finished by 9:30 a.m. (usually earlier). It is a great way to meet some of your fellow parishioners and get to know those from Our Lady of Mount Carmel also. If you are interested or would like more info, please contact Marie at 482-2290 or email at marietcookson@aol.com.

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 during Lent for all those interested in being confirmed. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact the office at 482-2290 or email at stjude@gmavt.net and we will add you to our list and will notify you as we get closer to the start date. Adult Confirmation is held on Pentecost Sunday, May 31.



They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. — Mt 2:10-11

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

Taize: Prayer + Silence + Candlelight + Music = Taize Evening Prayer at St. Paul's Cathedral on 2 Cherry Street in Burlington this **Sunday, January 5 at 7:00 p.m.** Free Parking. All are welcome.

Bless Your Home and Household on Epiphany: It is traditional to bless your home and household on the Feast of the Epiphany. A traditional form of the Epiphany blessing involves using blessed chalk to write the letters C, M, and B, plus the year, above the main entrance of your home, like so: 20 + C + M + B + 20. The letters are the initials of the traditional names of the three magi, Caspar, Melchior and Bathazar. They also represent the Latin words *Christus mansionem benedicat*, which means "May Christ bless the house." The + represents the cross.

Engaging the Enneagram as Wisdom Practice: A practical engagement of the Wisdom lineage through the lens of the Enneagram. In collaboration with the Rock Point Wisdom Community with Jeanine Siler Jones as the guest speaker on **Thursday, March 12 through Sunday, March 15, 2020 at Rock Point Retreat Center in Burlington.** For more information, please see the flyer on the bulletin board. For questions and to register, please contact Craig at 863-3431 or csmith@diovermont.org.

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