

# August 23, 2020

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 – 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time***

The only way to know God is to love God. Our minds will never fully grasp the mystery of God, but our hearts and souls can learn to love the mystery. Years ago, when life had a more innocent quality to it, we believed what we were told or witnessed, unless there was direct evidence otherwise. This was especially true if the information came from someone in authority. In a sense, we were a bit more gullible on one hand but also more trusting on the other. The latter is an admirable quality that sadly can be eroded when we realize we have been duped. With education and technological advances, we find ourselves more skeptical and less likely to too quickly accept and believe what we see and hear.

For all of the good that social media can do, it can also easily distort reality and truth. Photoshop and a myriad other technological truths can add to, fabricate, and make even the non-existent seem real. It is amazing. How far do we allow this obviously justifiable skepticism to take us? Questioning and doubting are healthy elements of any good relationship as long as we don't allow them to turn us away from a deeper experience of love and encounter. If we cannot get our minds around something or empirically justify or prove it, we tend to declare it a hoax, untrue, or unauthentic and walk away. The very same trust that can quickly be eroded is exactly what is essential for all of our relationships, especially our relationship with God. With all things and people that make a profound claim on us, we have to trust in the absence of knowledge. Full self-investment involves plunging completely into the unknown!

Simon Peter said to Jesus, "You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God." Peter came to this knowledge, which is not "head knowledge" because of the relationship he shared with Jesus and what God was able to reveal in and through that relationship. Peter simply "knew" because of love that this is who Jesus really is. The silent exchange of love between friends, and not an intellectual exercise of the mind, brought Peter to this place. When we stop and think about it, there are many things in life that we simply know but do not completely understand. When someone sacrifices their own well-being for another, it may not make intellectual sense when examined. But it makes a world of sense when it is carried out. The vastness of reality and an encounter with incomprehensible mystery all lead us to profound silence where we simply know something to be true. Have you trusted enough to allow your relationship with God to bring you to this place or are you still too skeptical?

LPI

**Attendance Last Week:**  
4:30 p.m. 20      9:30 a.m. 51

Offertory Last Week: \$1,638.00      Maintenance: \$135.00  
Feast of the Assumption: \$116.00  
Online Giving Last Week: \$300.00

## **ANNOUNCED MASS INTENTIONS:**

**Sat. August 22 4:30 p.m.** For Raymond Cote requested by his wife, Helen.  
**Sun. August 23 9:30 a.m.** For the deceased members of the Gruppi Family requested by the family.  
**Sat. August 29 4:30 p.m.** For the Intentions of Arnold and Jan Gratton requested by Sue and Stan Haselton.  
**Sun. August 30 9:30 a.m.** For the Intentions of Dan Smith and the Smith Family.

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

<b>Sunday:</b>	Rev. Avelino Vale
<b>Monday:</b>	Rev. Richard VanderWeel, SSE
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Rev. Peter Williams
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Rev. Robert Wiseman, CSC
<b>Thursday:</b>	Rev. James Zuccaro
<b>Friday:</b>	Priests Who Are Having Difficulty
<b>Saturday:</b>	Priestly and Religious Vocations

**A Prayer for Priests:** Gracious and loving God, we thank you for the gift of our priests. Through them, we experience your presence in the sacraments. Help our priests to be strong in their vocation. Set their souls on fire with love for your people. Grant them the wisdom, understanding, and strength they need to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Inspire them with the vision of your Kingdom. Give them the words they need to spread the Gospel. Allow them to experience joy in their ministry. Help them to become instruments of your divine grace. We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns as our Eternal Priest. Amen.

## **Counters for Monday, August 24, 2020**

Anne Donegan  
Theresa Aube  
Marie Cookson

## **Lectors for August 29 and 30, 2020**

4:30 p.m.      Wendy Koenig  
9:30 a.m.      Tom Buzzell

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

-8/23 First Communion at 9:30 a.m. Mass  
-8/29 Outdoor Mass at 4:30 p.m.  
-9/17 Red Cross Blood Drive from 12:30 to 6:00 p.m.

**Question of the Week:** How do I answer the question Jesus asks his disciples: "Who do you say that I am?"

**First Holy Communion:** We will be celebrating First Holy Communion for our three students who weren't able to receive their First Communion in May this **Sunday, August 23 at the 9:30 a.m. Mass at St. Jude's**. Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

**Registering for Mass Attendance:** Please remember to register if you are planning on attending Mass in the near future. With capacity being 77\*\* (see below) for each Mass at St. Jude's and 33 for each Mass at OLMC, it is important that folks register. You can register online at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904054faca62eaaf49-stjude> or contact Marie at 482-2290 (St. Jude), 425-2637 (OLMC) or email at [marietcookson@aol.com](mailto:marietcookson@aol.com). If you are planning on attending each week, please let her know and she will add your name so you don't need to register each week. She will automatically register you.

**PLEASE NOTE: MASKS ARE MANDATORY AT ALL TIMES IN THE CHURCH.**

\*\*After consultation with the Diocese and discussion with the parish council, St. Jude's Church COVID precautions, including mandatory mask usage and social distancing between family units, we are setting a limit of 77 persons in the church for any event. Please continue to sign up for weekend Masses by the processes listed above.

**Outdoor Mass: Saturday, August 29**, weather permitting, the 4:30 p.m. Mass will be an outdoor mass. We ask that folks register online at

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904054faca62eaaf49-stjude3> or contact Marie at St. Jude (482-2290) or Our Lady of Mount Carmel (425-2637) or by email at [marietcookson@aol.com](mailto:marietcookson@aol.com). Please bring your own lawn chair.

**Masks and social distancing are a must!!** In the event of rain, we will have mass inside the church. Maximum capacity is 77.

**Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration and Confession:** St. Jude Parish will have a Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration with the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament along with Confessions on **Friday, September 4** following the 8:00 a.m. Mass.

**Red Cross Blood Drive:** There will be a Red Cross Blood Drive at St. Jude's on **Thursday, September 17 from 12:30 to 6:00 p.m.** To schedule an appointment please call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter **HINESBURG**. We ask that appointments be made if possible as we may not be able to accommodate walk-ins due to the coronavirus.

\*\*It is important to register online if possible as this allows the Red Cross to know what they can supply to the hospitals.

**RCIA:** St. John Vianney Parish in South Burlington is hosting RCIA again beginning Wednesday nights in September. Contact Connie at [SJVGoodNews@gmail.com](mailto:SJVGoodNews@gmail.com) for more information. What is the RCIA? The term RCIA stands for the *Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults*. It is the Catholic Church's compilation of rituals and instructions for a person to be baptized and fully initiated into the Catholic Church. What is involved? Those who have made initial inquiries about the Catholic faith begin the formal RCIA process by becoming a Catechumen who plans to be baptized. Instruction in the Biblical Christian faith, with the essential teachings of the Tradition of the Catholic Church, is then given to them. Sacraments are administered at the Easter Vigil Mass whenever possible. Confirmation and Holy Communion are immediately given to newly baptized adults at the Easter Vigil



*"I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." Then he strictly ordered his disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.*

— Mt 16:19-20

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

**The Bishop's Annual Appeal:** Gifts to the Bishop's Appeal allowed the faith community to remain connected during the stay-at-home order. Donations supported the livestream of almost 200 faith activities in the following categories: 76 Mass and Liturgy, 79 Prayer, 18 Reflections & Talks and 10 Community Building. Many of these activities continue to be live-streamed. To make a gift visit: [www.bishopsappealvt.org](http://www.bishopsappealvt.org). The parish goal for St. Jude's is \$24,739 of which \$15,973 (65%) has been pledged. Thank you to everyone who has given thus far.

**Christ Our Hope Capital Campaign:** The *Christ Our Hope: Building a Vibrant Church* campaign is underway! Teamed with the rest of the parishes across the state, we will be joined together in our effort to strengthen our Catholic Church in Vermont and renew our own parishes. You should have received a letter with Frequently Asked Questions that hopefully answered many of your questions about the campaign and why we need to do this now. This week every registered parish household will receive a packet of campaign information from our parish. The mailing will include a gift request letter signed by Bishop Coyne, Fr. Naples and Fr. Zuccaro with instructions on how you can invest in the future of St. Jude Parish and strengthen the Catholic Church in Vermont. The request letter is an invitation **not** an expectation. We understand these are difficult times, but, as a Church, our needs have not diminished and for many they have increased. We first ask you to make the gift of prayer for the success of the campaign. We then ask you to consider our shared responsibility for the needs of our spiritual home, our parish and the future of our Catholic Church in Vermont. Finally, we invite those who can give to prayerfully consider a sacrificial gift beyond their usually offertory and Bishop's Appeal contribution. To learn more about the campaign visit: [www.christourhopevt.org](http://www.christourhopevt.org).

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