

December 17, 2023

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 – Third Sunday of Advent

Why do we believe in Jesus and the Catholic Church? Why should we continue to do so? We've never seen him face-to-face (at least not most of us, I assume). Most of us have never had mystical visions of angels or saints. We live in the same world as our atheist and secularists friends. Why do we believe in Christ if we've never seen him?

The simple, symbolic answer the Gospel presents to us this week might surprise us: we believe because of John the Baptist. Early in John's Gospel we hear: **"There was a man sent from God, his name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him."** The Baptist powerfully announces Jesus. This is a historical fact, and it is also now a *pattern* at work in our lives.

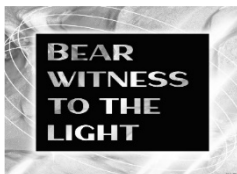
John the Baptist stands for the entirety of the old covenant, everything entrusted to the Jewish people. And yet he prophetically opens the door to something entirely new in Jesus, to the revival and fulfillment of God's promises. In every generation, and in every human life, God continues to do this. He has done it through people named Augustine, Francis, Catherine, Theresa, and countless others. In my life, the Baptist's spirit has come through persons named Eric, Paul, Mary, and Ron. I challenge you to name at least three people through whom God has announced the coming of Jesus in your life. Consciously thank God for their testimony. And let's commit ourselves to listening to the spirit of John the Baptist testify again this week so that we might more strongly believe in the light.

— Father John Muir

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Offertory Last Week: \$3,900.00 Maintenance: \$237.00
Immaculate Conception: \$143.00
Religious Retirement: \$557.00
Online Banking: \$410.00

Attendance Last Week:
Immaculate Conception: 12
4:30 p.m. 25 9:30 a.m. 62



MASSES AND INTENTIONS

Saturday December 16 (SJ)

4:30 p.m. For the repose of the soul of Grace
Link requested by Sue and Stan Haselton.

Sunday December 17

8:00 a.m. (OLMC) For the Parishioners of Our
Lady of Mount Carmel and St. Jude Parishes.

9:30 a.m. (SJ) For the repose of the souls of
Robert and Mary O'Brien requested by John and
Cathy O'Brien.

11:00 a.m. (OLMC) For the repose of the soul
of Bill Posey requested by Rosemarie Cartularo
and Larry Poitras.

Monday December 18 (SJ) 8:30 a.m.

Tuesday December 19 (OLMC) 5:15 p.m.

Wednesday December 20 (OLMC) 8:30 a.m.

Thursday December 21 (OLMC) 5:15 p.m.

Friday December 22 (SJ) 8:30 a.m. For the
Intentions of Cecile Auger requested by her
daughter, Marie Cookson.

Saturday December 23 (SJ)

4:30 p.m. For the repose of the soul of Mary
Gordon requested by Theresa and Steve Aube.

Sunday December 24

8:00 a.m. (OLMC) For the repose of the souls
of Alfred and Yvonne Gebo requested by Irene
Pierce.

9:30 a.m. (SJ) For the repose of the soul of
Hermine Giroux requested by the family.

11:00 a.m. (OLMC) NO 11:00 A.M. MASS!!

Calendar of Events:

-12/17 Advent Penance Service & Reflections at 3:00 p.m.

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

Sunday:	Rev. Christopher Micale
Monday:	Rev. John Milanese
Tuesday:	Rev. Curtis Miller
Wednesday:	Rev. Maurice Moreau, OFM, cap.
Thursday:	Rev. Thomas Mosher
Friday:	Rev. Robert Murphy
Saturday:	Rev. Timothy Naples

Schedules for December 23 and 24, 2023

<u>Greeters:</u>	4:30 p.m.	Dawn Griswold
	9:30 a.m.	Tom Giroux
<u>Lector:</u>	4:30 p.m.	David Pearson
	9:30 a.m.	Tom Buzzell
<u>EM:</u>	4:30 p.m.	Dcn. Patrick Leduc
	9:30 a.m.	Ray Bouchard
<u>Hospitality:</u>	9:30 a.m.	NO COFFEE HOUR

Holiday Mass Schedule: The holiday schedule is as follows:

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day:

Sunday, December 24 at 4:00 p.m. at The Old Lantern

Sunday, December 24 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Jude

Sunday, December 24 at 10:00 p.m. at OLMC

Monday, December 25 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Jude

New Year's Eve and Day:

Sunday, December 31 at 4:30 p.m. at St. Jude

Monday, January 1 at 10:00 a.m. at OLMC

Please note that Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve are on Sundays. Attending one mass on Sunday does not fulfill the obligation of the other mass. Also, because of the multiple masses on December 24 (morning and evening), there will be NO 11:00 a.m. Mass that Sunday.

Advent Penance Service and Reflection: There will be an afternoon Advent Penance Service with reflection talk this **Sunday, December 17 at 3:00 p.m. at St. Jude's** with Adoration and Confession. Reflection talk on Mary and Advent with Msgr. Richard Lavalley. Msgr. Lavalley and Fr. Zuccaro will be available for confession following the talk.

***Other Confession times are **Saturdays at 4:00 p.m. at St. Jude; Tuesdays at 5:45 p.m. at OLMC and Fridays at 9:00 a.m. at St. Jude's.**

Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration and Confession: There will be a Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration and Confession on **Tuesday, December 19** following the 5:15 p.m. Mass at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish.

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

Advent Booklets: There are Advent Booklets, "A Time of Holy Listening" available in the lobby of the church. Please feel free to take one for yourself and one or two for a friend or family member.



John answered them, "I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie." — Jn 1:26-27

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

Advent Bible Study: Lectio: Mary: The Bible and the Mother of God with Dr. Brant Pitre: Week 7: The New Rachel: In this week's session, Dr. Pitre shares a "new" understanding of Mary as the new Rachel. By examining the person of Rachel, Mother of Israel, in the Old Testament and Jewish tradition, we will gain a deeper love for Mary as Mother of the Church and our personal, spiritual mother. This group meets on **Monday evenings from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the St. Jude hall beginning November 6 through December 18.** All are welcome.

Red Cross Blood Drive: There will be a Red Cross Blood Drive at St. Jude's on **Thursday, January 4 from 11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** To schedule an appointment please call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit **RedCrossBlood.org** and enter **HINESBURG**. We ask that appointments be made if possible as we may not be able to accommodate walk-ins.

Knights of Columbus Scholarship: Knights of Columbus Scholarships Available for the 2024-2025 school year. Applications will be available beginning in JAN 2024. See details at this link: [KofCScholarships](https://www.kofc.org/scholarships)

FORMED

FORMED.org is a revolutionary online platform featuring the best Catholic videos, audio talks, eBooks and movies at **NO** cost to you. Visit **FORMED.org** to learn about these resources. To log in, go to **FORMED.org**, click "Sign up as a parishioner", enter "Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Charlotte, VT. Register your name, email, and your own password to create an account. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Marie.

***Did you know you can use Formed for at home on-line RCIA instruction? If you are interested in learning more about the faith, please contact Fr. Zuccaro.



LOOKING FOR A MUSICIAN TO HELP WITH MUSIC AT THE 11:00 A.M. MASS AT OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL. IF INTERESTED, PLEASE CONTACT FR. ZUCCARO AT 802-425-2253 OR SEE HIM AFTER MASS.

Vermont Advanced Directive Presentation: If you missed the Vermont Advanced Directive Presentation and would like a copy of the Advanced Directive, copies are available in the lobby of the church.

Senior Bingo: All Seniors (60+) and care companions (any age) are invited to a relaxed and fun morning of free bingo in the St. Jude Parish hall on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. **NO SENIOR BINGO ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26.** The next bingo is **Tuesday, January 9.** Prizes are provided by St. Jude's. Complementary snacks, hot coffee, tea and bottled water are available all morning. If you are a newcomer, to reserve a Grab and Go packaged full meal** contact Ted and Kathy Barrett at 802-453-3087 (leave a message) or email tedbarrett79@gmail.com by the Wednesday before the following bingo day.

**Please note: Meals are provided by Age Well, for a suggested donation of \$5.00 per meal now that pandemic funding has ended. We hope to see you soon.

Pickleball: Free weekly Pickleball is coming to St. Jude's starting **December 22 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.** Any skill level is welcome. They'll show you how if you have never played before. Contact Ted Barrett at tedbarrett79@gmail.com if you are interested. Equipment will be provided.

2023 Bishop's Appeal: The Bishop's Annual Appeal has begun. To learn more about this Appeal or to make a gift online visit: bishopsappealvt.org. We are at 97% (\$22,805) of our parish goal of \$23,502. The appeal supports so many ministries that help our parish, including emergency aid to households in financial crisis, religious education training, vocations, Catholic schools and so much more. Please help us reach our goal.



"O St. Bakhita, assist all those who are trapped in a state of slavery; Intercede with God on their behalf so that they will be released from their chains of captivity. Those whom man enslaves, let God set free."

USCCB, "Prayer to St. Josephine Bakhita"

Prayer for the Appointment of a New Bishop

Almighty God, Eternal shepherd and guide, in your love for us, grant to the Diocese of Burlington a shepherd who will lead us to be Christ's heart of mercy, voice of hope, and hands of justice. Help him to fill our minds and hearts with the truth of the Gospel, the power of the sacraments, and the desire to build up your holy Church. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.