

*St. Jude Church*

***MINISTRIES***

2026

**ST. JUDE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

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Chattanooga, TN 37415  
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[www.stjudechattanooga.org](http://www.stjudechattanooga.org)

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Reverend Alex Waraksa

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***Family Life Coordinator***

Laura Bryant  
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**St. Jude Catholic Church is the spiritual home for over 1,000 families. Our Church community has a vibrant Parish life with dozens of ministries that will appeal to whatever it is you are looking for!**

**We also have a fully stocked library, Rosary Garden, Adoration Chapel, and facility rentals for Sacramental celebrations. There are also family events such as the Craft Fair, the Chili Cook off, the Parish breakfasts, as well as the numerous other ministries parishioners can be a part of.**

**While St. Jude Parish has many opportunities with which to be involved, there is always room to grow! If there is a ministry or club that you would like to start up at our Church, please call the Parish office at (423) 870-2386.**

**If there is a ministry you would like to join or learn more about, please call the Parish office.**

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*Lord, make us  
wise stewards, That we may recognize your gifts.  
Responsible stewards, that we may use them to build your kingdom.  
Courageous stewards, that we may not fear to do your will.  
And loving stewards, that we may hear your call  
to be one and grow as a family.*

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**Please make sure to read our weekly church bulletin as well as the boards in the vestibule for ministry announcements and club schedules.**

# **MINISTRIES FOR ADULTS**

## **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

Come spend an hour with our Lord. This ministry allows for volunteers to commit to one hour a week (or more if desired) in Eucharistic Adoration or to volunteer to be a substitute if a scheduled person cannot make it. Hours are Monday through Friday from 6am- 6 pm (except during Masses). You do not have to be a volunteer to visit the chapel and sit in Adoration.

## **Altar Society**

Teams of 6 to 10 parishioners clean and prepare the church for Masses and special occasions. Activities are performed during the day (usually on Saturdays), and each team works every 2 to 3 months.

## **Art and Environment**

Assist in decorating our Church by making liturgical banners and altar cloths as needed. Also help arrange flowers and provide a beautiful liturgical environment for special occasions, such as Christmas, Holy Week, and Easter.

## **Bereavement Committee**

Provide assistance to families at the time of a death of an immediate loved one. Support includes assisting at funeral Masses, visiting funeral home to pray the Rosary, providing and/or serving food on the day of the funeral, sending bereavements communications, etc.

## **Cheers for the Years**

Cheers for the Years is a social event that takes place on the last Saturday of the month (except during Lent). It is for people ages 60+ (give or take!) and allows for them to socialize for an hour with drinks and finger foods.

## **Children's Liturgy of the Word**

The purpose is to proclaim the Gospel message in a way appealing to children from Preschool through middle school. It is held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month during the Liturgy of the Word portion of 10:30 am Sunday Mass during the school year. Volunteers plan the liturgy and are called upon every 1 to 2 months. Materials and training are provided.

## **Council of Catholic Women (CCW)**

All parish women are automatically members of the CCW. This organization provides religious and social activities for parish women and practices discipleship through community works. Evening meetings are held monthly.

## **Facility and Grounds Maintenance**

We can always use someone who is handy and can perform maintenance and/or minor repairs to church property. Work times can be arranged to accommodate most schedules. Also, if you have a green thumb or just enjoy working out in the yard or garden this ministry is open to parishioners willing to take on a portion of the parish grounds such as a shrub or flower bed and maintain it by weeding, feeding, and replacing plants as necessary or by “adopting” a parcel to mow in order to keep our Parish grounds beautiful.

## **Good Samaritan Collection**

The Good Samaritan collection supports several local agencies that are in need of food or supplies. Parishioners are provided with grocery bags once a month with needed items listed on them and then they fill them as they are able and return them to the church the following week.

### **Haiti Mission**

Our St. Jude Haiti Mission is part of the Parish Twinning Program of the Americas (PTTA). We are paired with Paroisse Notre Dame De La Chandeleur in Gros- Morne, Haiti. This parish is in the northern mountains of Haiti and consists of many small villages scattered around the city of Gros-Morne.

Our mission is to serve those in need by:

- Providing resources and support in religious, educational, medical, and community development.
- Developing and maintaining real personal relationships between individuals and underdeveloped communities in Haiti
- Performing fact-finding missions to our sister parish each year
- Providing aid to the schools with funding, materials, and teacher salaries
- Sending shipments of donated goods in a yearly Sea Container
- Assisting our sister parish with needed construction projects

### **Knights of Columbus**

The Knights of Columbus is a fraternal service organization open to all Catholic men in good standing.

K of C council 8576 has been a part of St. Jude Parish since the early 1980's. Its mission is to serve God, our families, our parish, and our community. The K of C community programs and parish events are open to everyone. If you have any questions, feel free to ask any Knight or contact the parish office.

### **Lectors**

Proclaim scripture at assigned Masses. Mass preferences will be accommodated.

### **Legion of Mary Visitation**

Members strive for sanctification by means of prayer and active participation in the Spiritual and Corporal works of Mercy. This is under the guidance of the parish priest and dedicated to Mary Immaculate, Mediatrix of all Graces. The group meets weekly and all parishioners are welcome.

### **Liturgy of the Hours**

Liturgy of the Hours, or Divine Office, enriched by readings, is principally a prayer of praise and petition. All religious vocations are called to recite the Divine Office daily. All parishioners are invited to join in the Morning Prayer at 7:50 am in the chapel (before the 8:15 am weekday Masses.)

### **Meal Train**

As a participant in this ministry, you will have an opportunity to serve those with temporary needs who have upcoming surgeries, a new baby, have lost a loved one, or are suffering from illness or injury. When a need is identified in our parish family, an email with signup slots is generated and sent out to all volunteers.

### **Men's Prayer Group**

This is a prayer-based group that provides support and fellowship to men on their individual spiritual journeys. While this group is Cursillo-oriented, it is open to all men in the parish. They meet every Saturday morning at 6:30 am in the Parish Life Center.

### **Music**

Share your talent of singing or music with the church! There are various groups that provide music for weekend Masses and other liturgical celebrations. The rehearsal times will vary.

### **Parish Religious Ed (PRE)**

This program assists parents in guiding their children on their faith formation journey. PRE is open to all children from Kindergarten through Grade 8. Participants meet Wednesday evenings from September to May. Training and supplies will be provided to volunteer catechists.

### **Patriotic Rosary**

The United States of American needs prayers! Everyone is invited to join us on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month at 8:00am in St. Jude Church for the Patriotic Rosary which combines the Rosary with patriotic songs and historic quotes.

### **Respecting Life Ministry**

The mission of the Respecting Life Ministry is to foster a greater respect for all human life from conception to a natural death. This group works to promote resources and provide help for many different groups- families who have lost children, the elderly, the homebound, the Pregnancy Help Center, etc. Email [respectinglifeministry@gmail.com](mailto:respectinglifeministry@gmail.com) with any questions.

### **Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA)**

**Sponsor** - Serve as a companion to a catechumen or candidate seeking knowledge about the Catholic faith. Sponsors are asked to attend weekly sessions. Training is provided. Sponsors must be confirmed and actively practicing Catholics in good standing with the Church.

**Team Member** - Team members participate by providing coordination assistance, discussion facilitation and faith formation instruction.

### **Rosary Group**

Regular or occasional participation by any parishioner is welcomed. The group meets regularly after the 8:15am Mass to pray the rosary for petitions listed in the Chapel book, all the sick in the parish, and other intentions.

### **Rosary Makers**

This group makes rosaries for distribution throughout the United States. They meet the first Monday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Parish Life Center. Instructions and materials are provided. Frequent or occasional participation is welcomed, as well as making rosaries at home

### **Secular Franciscan Order**

A canonically established Order founded by St. Francis of Assisi for lay people who seek to live the Gospel life as modeled by St. Francis. Members meet once a month and are professed following a 3-year formation process.

### **Schoenstatt Devotions**

Schoenstatt is a family-oriented Marian spirituality that works to help renew the Church through education, evangelization and the Rosary Campaign. The group meets monthly and invites the Blessed Mother (and her divine Son, Jesus) into their homes by establishing a spiritual Covenant of Love with her. It is a way of life that leads to living the Gospel and growing in holiness.

### **St. Monica Novena**

St. Monica prayed for her son, St. Augustine, to convert to Christianity. Her faith and prayers over decades are believed to have led to his eventual conversion, and he became one of the great Doctors of the Catholic Church. Join parishioners in seeking St. Monica's intercession for help in family needs. This group meets every Wednesday evening at 6:00 in the Church. Materials are provided.

**Ushers**

Assist parishioners in finding seats, distribute collection baskets, and distribute church bulletins after Mass. Mass preferences will be accommodated.

**Welcome Committee**

Provide a friendly greeting to people as they arrive for Mass. Mass preferences will be accommodated.

**Women's Prayer Group**

This is a prayer-based group that provides support and fellowship to women on their individual spiritual journeys. While this group is Cursillo-oriented, it is open to all women in the parish. They meet every Saturday morning at 9:00 am in the Parish Life Center Library.

**YOUTH ACTIVITIES****Altar Servers**

Open to all youth 10 years old or above. Assist the celebrant of Mass as an altar server. Training is provided, and Mass preferences can be accommodated.

**Children's Liturgy of the Word**

This is open to all children from Preschool through Grade 6 during the 10:30 am Sunday Mass (except during the summer).

**Junior Legion of Mary Visitation**

Members become instruments of the Holy Spirit through a balanced program of prayer and works. But it isn't simply prayer and works; it's serving God through Mary and having fun! Meets weekly and all children ages 7-17 are welcome.

**Parish Religious Ed (PRE)**

PRE is open to all children from Preschool (age 4) through Grade 8. Participants meet Wednesday evenings from September to May. Teens may serve as classroom aides.

**Scouts**

St. Jude Parish has an active **Cub Scout** program. This program is open to children ages 6 to 11. There are several dens with various meeting times and locations.

**Boy Scout Member** - St. Jude Parish has an active Boy Scout program. This program is the oldest organization in St. Jude Parish and has 10 times the national average of Eagle Scouts. Scouting is open to all boys ages 10-1/2 to 18. They meet every other Sunday afternoon in the Scout Room of the Family Life Center and in addition have a monthly camping or outdoor activity:

**Girl Scout Member** - Be a good steward of your time by joining the Girl Scouts. Girls can join the Scouting program in Kindergarten and continue through middle school. There are several troops that meet after school and in the evening.

## **Youth Group:**

**Middle School Youth Ministry (VISIONS)** - A comprehensive Youth Ministry Program that encompasses catechesis, service opportunities, family dinners, retreats, excursions, fellowship and fun. Open to all parish 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders. It follows the PRE meeting schedule on Wednesday evenings from 6-7:30 in the Youth Room.

**Sr. High Youth Group** - Come and join your friends and make some new ones. This group is open to all youth Grades 9 to 12. Participate in meetings, prayer services, retreats, lock-ins, fundraisers, service projects, trips, and more! It meets on Sunday evenings after 5:30 Mass.