

January 3, 2016

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We are a Welcoming Community of Believers, Hoppers 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 saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." These Magi did not know the person they were seeking to honor. They had not met Jesus, but had embarked upon a long and arduous journey in order to come into his presence. Although they were not from among the Jewish people who had received the ancient promises of a Messiah, they were nonetheless anticipating his arrival. And when they found him, "they were overjoyed." Their quest had come to its moment of fulfillment when "they saw the child with Mary his mother."

For those of us who have been raised Christian since our infancy, it's important to reflect on the joy of the Magi. They found Christ as a result of great effort and expense. The very trials of their journey, and the hope that was fulfilled when it was successful, made them appreciate their encounter with Jesus in a profound way as "they prostrated themselves... and offered him gifts." Converts to the faith may have a kind of advantage in comprehending the experience of the Magi. But cradle Catholics may need to exert a bit more effort to share in the wonder. Even when Jesus has always been a part of someone's life, it is still important to stand in awe of him. On the feast of the Epiphany of the Lord, we meditate on what it means to "find" Jesus. For some of us, this means remembering a conversion experience, but for others it means imagining what life would be like without him, and then rejoicing in the fact that he is truly with us. No matter how we found the Lord, we too should fall down on our knees in adoration and offer him the precious treasures of our lives: our fervent devotion and our will to serve him.

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Readings for the Week of January 3, 2016

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12
Monday: 1 Jn 3:22-4:6/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Mk 6:34-44
Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Mk 6:45-52
Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19-5:4/Lk 4:14-22a
Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Lk 5:12-16
Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Jn 3:22-30
Next Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11 or Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7 or Acts 10:34-38/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

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Offertory Last Week: \$1,168.00 Christmas: \$4,087.37
Electronic Giving: \$50.00

Second Collection This Week for Maintenance
Second Collection Next Week for Heat

ANNOUNCED MASS INTENTIONS:

Sun. Jan. 3 8:00 a.m. For the Parishioners of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St. Jude Parishes.
Sun. Jan. 3 11:00 a.m. For Thomas Wright requested by the Zahn Family.
Sun. Jan. 10 8:00 a.m.
Sun. Jan. 10 11:00 a.m. For the Parishioners of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St. Jude Parishes.

Pray for Vocations

Schedule of Counters: Monday, January 4, 2016

Jacqueline Jones
Lollie Krawitt
Gail Blasius

Schedule of Ministries: Sunday, January 10, 2016

8:00 a.m.	Altar Server:	All CCD Servers
	Lector:	Tricia Sulva
	Extraordinary Min:	Bob Danyow Susan Zahn Tricia Sulva
11:00 a.m.	Greeters:	Cyndy Marshall
	Altar Server:	
	Lector:	Bill Geiger
	Extraordinary Min:	Winnie Geiger Bill Geiger

Calendar of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Events

-1/10 CCD Classes at CCS at 9:00 a.m.
-1/10 2nd Year Confirmation at 10:30 a.m. at St. Jude
-1/21 Parish Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
-1/24 1st Year Confirmation at 10:30 at St. Jude

Question of the Week: What "recalculation" of my schedule or priorities must I make to answer the challenge of today's Gospel to chart a direct route to a personal encounter with God-made-flesh?

Time Off: Bishop Coyne has directed that every priest should have a full day off each week. After consideration, Father Cray has decided to make that day Wednesday. This will begin the first week in January 2016 and there will no longer be a daily Mass on Wednesdays.

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.

Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration: St. Jude Parish will have a Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration with the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Friday, January 8 following the 8:00 a.m. Mass.

Jubilee Year Of Mercy For Lay Ministers: You are all invited to attend the Jubilee Year of Mercy celebration recognizing Lay Ministries in the Diocese of Burlington at St. Joseph Co-Cathedral on Sunday, January 17 at 3:00 p.m. This celebration is going to focus primarily on Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors and Acolytes (Liturgical Lay Ministry). This celebration will include Solemn Vespers (Evening Prayer) and Eucharistic Exposition. Confessions will be made available for those people desiring to receive the Holy Year indulgence. Light refreshments will be served after. The Holy Door is now blessed and is open for group and individual pilgrimages throughout the year. (Please note this is not a Mass.)



Collection Envelopes: The collection envelopes for 2016 are available on the back pew. 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. Some of the numbers have been changed due to the fact that we ordered less this year in order to not have so many leftover and thrown out.** 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 12 and 26 from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. Serving begins at 12:00 noon. All Seniors and Caretakers welcome.

Fabric Donations Needed: Helping Hands Sewing Ministry is in need of cottons, cotton blends and lightweight upholstery fabrics (at least ½ yd). If you have fabric you would like to donate or know of anyone who does, the HHSM would love to take the fabric off your hands. They are also looking for solid color sheets in good shape. If you have any of these items, please contact Grace Link at 489-6200.

Pasta Dinner: There will be a Pasta Dinner at St. Jude's on Saturday, January 9 following the 4:30 p.m. Mass. Cost of the Pasta Dinner is \$10/adult; \$7/child and seniors; \$30/family (2 adults and 2 or more children). All are welcome.

Red Cross Blood Drive: There will be a Red Cross Blood Drive at St. Jude's on **Wednesday, January 13** from 12:30 to 6:00 p.m. By donating blood from January 1 to January 31 you are automatically entered for a chance to win autographed New England Patriots Merchandise. There is an urgent need for blood, especially this time of year. Please bring a friend and be sure to have your Blood Donor Card, Photo ID or two forms of ID.

Thank You From Marie Cookson: Thank you for the birthday wishes, cards and gifts for my recent birthday. It was wonderful seeing so many of my friends, family and fellow parishioners at my party. I am truly blessed to have all of you in my life.

Rental Space Available: Mater Christi School in Burlington has space for rent in the evenings and on weekends. Spaces that are available are the gym, dining room, computer lab and library. These are great spaces for retreats, prayer gatherings, CYO basketball and classes. If interested or for more information, call Trisha Pidgeon at 658-3992 or email her at tpidgeon@materchristischool.net.

Epiphany Party: Young adults age 21-25 join in for a celebration of the baby Jesus on Saturday, January 9 at 1:00 p.m. at St. Mark's Parish, 1251 North Avenue, Burlington. This event is Potluck so please bring a dish to share.

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 CCO.

Vermont Rally for Life: You are invited to participate in the Vermont Rally for Life on Saturday, January 16, 2016 in Montpelier. Mass at St. Augustine Church in Montpelier beginning at 9:30 a.m., celebrated by Bishop Coyne; March: After Mass, participants will gather behind City Hall in Montpelier to begin the march down State Street at 11:00 a.m., ending at the State House; Rally: Bishop Coyne will present opening remarks in the House Chamber along with a Pro-life Youth Speaker.

March for Life, Washington, DC: The March for Life will be held in Washington, DC at the National Mall on January 22, 2016. Even if you can't travel, you can participate! In concert with the Annual March for Life, the U.S. Bishops invite all Catholics to pray for the protection of all human life by participating in a special novena called **9 Days for Life**, from January 16 through January 24. Join thousands of others in praying for the protection of all human life. Download the novena online or participate through Facebook, email, text message or an app. Join at www.9daysforlife.com. If you don't have a computer but would like a copy of the Novena, please contact Marie at 482-2290 and one will be sent to you.

Project Rachel: Find hope and healing from abortion. Project Rachel is a healing ministry for individuals who have been affected by abortion, helping them to grieve, receive forgiveness, and find peace. For more information about Project Rachel or to speak to a trained Project Rachel professional, please contact 658-4118.

Year of Encounter Workshop on Social Issues: Join in on Saturday, January 16, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at St. Michael's College for the "Year of Encounter Workshop on Social Issues". They will examine Pope Francis' inspiring messages on the issues of immigration, criminal justice, and racism. Sponsored by Vermont Interfaith Action and the Society of St. Edmund, this workshop will combine scripture study, story, and discussion to explore how community organizing techniques can help the faithful live out Catholic social teaching and take action in our communities. For more information or to register for this workshop, contact Marie at 482-2290 (parish office) or email at marietcookson@aol.com and information will be sent to you.

Tai Chi Level 2: A Tai Chi Level 2 class will beginning Monday, January 4 through Wednesday, February 24 at 11:30 a.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays at St. Jude Parish. It is Tai Chi for Arthritis, Fall Prevention and Health and is intended for those who have already taken the Level 1 class or have had previous experience with Tai Chi.