

# January 10, 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 -The Baptism of the Lord

"After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened." What a treat to be in that crowd! Just imagine the experience of witnessing this manifestation of divinity! To SEE the Holy Spirit "in bodily form like a dove" and to hear the voice that "came from heaven" announcing Jesus' true identity. Don't we all long for this kind of miraculous clarity? Wouldn't it do wonders for our faith if we had such unmistakable certainty about who Jesus really is?

It's easy to imagine that the first Christians had it easier than we do. They got to be with Jesus in person, and to witness the miracles that went along with his years on earth. Because of this, we can quickly forget the benefits we enjoy that they did not. We live on the other side of the Resurrection, for example. The first followers of Christ believed in him BEFORE he rose from the dead. We, on the other hand, have the confidence of knowing that this man literally conquered death. We also have two millennia of Christian witness through the saints to pull upon. The first Christians had no idea what this new religion would produce, how many people would embrace it, or how it would change the world for the better. We know that Christianity has been fruitful beyond measure.

Today's Gospel informs us that it was only after they were baptized that the people witnessed the opening of heaven. Even Jesus himself was baptized before he heard this earthly confirmation of his heavenly origin. We who have been baptized, following the example of Christ, also have "access" to the voice of God. In the silence of our hearts, and through God's word in the Bible (another advantage we enjoy), heaven is "opened" for us as well.

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## Readings for the Week of January 10, 2016

Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22  
Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8/Mk 1:14-20  
Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20/Mk 1:21-28  
Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Mk 1:29-39  
Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11/ Mk 1:40-45  
Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/ Mk 2:1-12  
Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/ Mk 2:13-17  
Next Sunday: Is 62:1-5 /1 Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-11

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**Offertory Last Week: \$1,781.00 Maintenance: \$486.00**  
**Christmas: \$517.00 Salvation Army: \$172.00**  
**Initial Offering: \$131.00 Solemnity of Mary: \$349.00**  
**Fuel: \$60.00 VT Catholic: \$24.00**  
**Electronic Giving: \$337.00**

**Second Collection This Week for Heat**  
**Second Collection Next Week for Natural Disasters in USA**

## ANNOUNCED MASS INTENTIONS:

**Sun. Jan. 10 8:00 a.m.** For the Parishioners of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St. Jude Parishes.

**Sun. Jan. 10 11:00 a.m.** For Joan and Andy Jamieson requested by the OLMC Parishioners.

**Sun. Jan. 17 8:00 a.m.**

**Sun. Jan. 17 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 11, 2016

Jacqueline Jones  
Gail Blasius  
Cyndy Marshall

### Schedule of Ministries: Sunday, January 17, 2016

8:00 a.m.	Altar Server:	Hadley Stockwell Eliza Merrill
	Lector:	Chris Kogut
	Extraordinary Min:	Sheila Duffy Wanda Bean
11:00 a.m.	Greeters:	Jacqueline Jones
	Altar Server:	
	Lector:	Kathy Nolan
	Extraordinary Min:	Jacqueline Jones Tricia Sulva

### Calendar of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Events

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

**Question of the Week:** Have I set aside fixed time for daily prayer, morning and evening, as part of my baptismal commitment? When do I find myself praying spontaneously in the course of each day?

**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.

**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.)



*After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. — Lk 3:21-22a*

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

**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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> **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:** Due to the inclement weather and a serious illness of Lisa Boutin's mother, the Pasta Dinner scheduled for this Saturday at St. Jude's was canceled and rescheduled for Saturday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>. 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.

**Special Collection for Natural Disasters in the USA:** The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has requested that Dioceses take up a special collection to support the work of Catholic Charities, USA in its efforts to assist the victims of the recent and future natural disasters in the United States. Our Diocese will take up this collection next weekend, January 16 and 17 at all Masses. The funds collected in this one-time special appeal for 2015-2016 storms and other natural disasters will be used to support the efforts of Catholic Charities USA, as they and their member agencies respond to immediate emergency needs for such necessities as water, food, shelter, and medical care, as well as to the long term need to rebuild and recover after widespread destruction and to the US Conference of Catholic Bishops for pastoral and reconstruction needs of the Church. Please be generous.

**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](http://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](mailto:marietcookson@aol.com) and information will be sent to you.