

December 18, 2016

The bulletin is also available online at olmvt.org

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 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

"She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus." Joseph heard these prophetic words in a dream. They were words of anticipation, of what was to come. And in a sense, they ushered in a kind of Advent for Joseph. With this divine message, Joseph began a period of holy waiting. He now knew that the Messiah was going to be coming into his own home, and he had just nine months to prepare! We can only imagine how Joseph might have spent these precious days. Most likely he did more than prepare a physical home for his soon-to-be-born Son; he must have also used these days to prepare his heart, mind, and soul for such a tremendous mission.

Today, we stand in a position not all that different from St. Joseph. We also know that the Messiah will be arriving--not just in remembrance at Christmastime, but in reality at the second coming. But unlike Joseph, we don't have an exact timeframe. We don't know when Jesus will return. We just know that we need to be ready!

During the season of Advent we are challenged to recall this fact and strive to get our hearts in order. The days are short now until Christmas, and for all we know they might be short until Christ's return as well. What remains to be done? Aside from wrapping presents and planning parties, where do we yet need to tidy up our habits to properly celebrate the real meaning of this festive season? How can we make sure that we don't get swept away in the external preparations, forgetting the work that needs to be done in the invisible silence of our souls?

God may not speak to all of us directly in our dreams, but he does speak to us clearly through his word. May we recognize today the mission he has laid before us.

Liturgical Publications

ANNOUNCED MASS INTENTIONS:

Sun. Dec. 18 8:00 a.m. For Nancy and Joe Blanchette requested by Joe and Peg Blanchette.

Sun. Dec. 18 11:00 a.m. For the Parishioners of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St. Jude Parishes.

Sat. Dec. 24 4:00 p.m. For the Parishioners of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St. Jude Parishes.

Sat. Dec. 24 10:00 p.m. For Joe Bettis, Donna Emerton and Connie Howard requested by Joan Bettis.

Offertory Last Week: \$1,660.00 Maintenance: \$110.00
Immaculate Conception: \$170.00 Christmas: \$10.00
Religious Retirement: \$931.00 Military Service: \$20.00
Priests' Benefit Fund: \$20.00
Bishop deGoesbriand Appeal: \$20.00
Electronic Giving: \$50.00

Pray for Vocations

Schedule of Counters: Monday, December 19, 2016

Margaret Titus
Linda Stowe
Marie Cookson

Calendar of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Events

- 1/08 CCD at CCS at 9:00 a.m.
- 1/08 1st Year Confirmation at St. Jude at 10:30 a.m.
- 1/22 2nd Year Confirmation at St. Jude at 10:30 a.m.

Question of the Week What kind of Messiah does my own life's witness to Christ proclaim? One with fire and brimstone ready at hand, or one of whose comfort and healing I am an instrument?

Holiday Mass Schedules: The holiday schedule is as follows:

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

--Saturday, December 24th at 4:00 p.m. at The Old Lantern

--Saturday, December 24th at 7:00 p.m. at St. Jude

--Saturday, December 24th at 10:00 p.m. at OLMC

--Sunday, December 25th at 10:00 a.m. at St. Jude

New Year's Eve and Day:

--Saturday, December 31st at 4:00 p.m. at St. Jude

--Sunday, January 1st at 8:00 a.m. at OLMC

--Sunday, January 1st at 9:30 a.m. at St. Jude

--Sunday, January 1st at 11:00 a.m. at OLMC

Ministries for Christmas Masses: The sign up sheets are in the back of the church for Altar Servers, Lectors and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion for Christmas Eve and New Year's Day Masses.

Help Needed: We are looking for help for the Christmas Eve Mass at the Old Lantern. This special Mass takes a village to make it happen. On Saturday, December 24 at 8:30 a.m. we need help transporting to and setting up at the Old Lantern. On Monday, December 26 at 9:00 a.m. we need help in cleaning up and breaking down. The sign up sheet is in the back of the church.

Christmas Eve Choir: All are welcome. Adult and children singers. Rehearsal is today at noon. Please call Marie at 425-2637 or email to marietcookson@aol.com if you are interested. We want to make sure we have enough music for everyone. This group will sing for the 4:00 p.m. Mass at the Old Lantern on December 24.

Winter Coat Collection: We are collecting **good** used children and adult winter coats, jackets, boots and snowpants (all sizes) for a local organization. If you have any of these items that your child(ren) has outgrown or you would like to get rid of, we would love to have them. Please leave in the vestibule. Thank you.

Advent Penance Service: There will be an Advent Penance Service at St. John Vianney on **Sunday, December 18 at 2:30 p.m.** There will be many priests available for Reconciliation.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Leave the Light On: The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered on **Wednesday, December 21 from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.** at St. Jude Parish.

Thank You: A very special thank you to the following folks who helped in cleaning the church for Bishop Coyne's visit and for the Christmas Season: Bob Danyow, Martine Richards, Colleen Armstrong, Tricia Sulva, Michelle Lussier, Heather Heitkamp, Lisa Beal, Holden and Scott Lalumiere and Beth and Brian Syverson. Everything looked wonderful.

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.

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 December 27 and January 10 and 24 from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. Serving begins at 12:00 noon. All Seniors and Caretakers welcome.

Catholicism Series: Please join us at St. Jude's in Hinesburg for another evening of "Catholicism-The Journey of a Lifetime". This week's episode will be **"A Body Both Suffering and Glorious: The Mystical Union of Christ and the Church"**. Bishop Barron explores the Catholic Faith's unique understanding of the relationship of Jesus Christ and the Church. Witness how the Mystical Body of Christ is a living organism that stretches from Rome to New York, Sao Paolo, Manila, and Namugongo, embracing humanity in all of its joys and sorrows. It is not necessary to have viewed the previous episodes to be inspired by this week's DVD. We look forward to many more spiritually enriching evenings. Please join us this Tuesday, December 20 at 7:00 p.m.

A Message from Marie: Thank you everyone for the well wishes and prayers during my recent hospitalization. I am back to feeling well. I am very blessed to be a part of such a loving and caring community. Thank you.

Christmas Flowers: There are collection envelopes in the back 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.

Steubenville East: Save The Date for Steubenville East Conference on July 14 through 16, 2017 at the Tsonga's Center at UMass Lowell. Open to all high school students. This conference was attended by 3000+ teens last year. If your high school student is interested, or you are interested in attending as a chaperone, please contact Marie at 425-2637 or email at marietcookson@aol.com and info will be sent to you.

Daily Mass at St. Jude's – Winter Weather: Once again the schedule for daily Mass at St. Jude's will following the Hinesburg School System. If there is no school in Hinesburg and/or Charlotte due to the weather, there will be NO morning Mass on Monday or Friday mornings. Closings are found on the local radio and TV stations.

Job Opportunity: The St. Joseph Kervick and Loretto Homes are hiring. They are looking for an RN or LPN. You will gain valuable hands-on experience, work in a friendly, team-oriented environment, and enjoy spending time with their happy residents. For more information or to complete an application, please call or email Richard Fritz at Loretto Home rfritz@vermontcatholic.org or call 802-773-8840 Ext. 18.



The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." — Lk 2:10-12

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

Advent Appeal-2016: Please join Vermont Catholic Charities in supporting the Annual Advent Appeal. The "Season of Giving" has no bounds for people in need. Whatever the season, there are basic needs to be met: food, shelter, and heat, to name but a few. With your help, we can make a difference in lives of those living on the edge. Many Vermonters are struggling to put daily bread on the table or to keep the lights and heat on in their homes. Whether your gift is \$10, \$100, \$1000 or more, your gift will make a difference in the life of a needy family. To donate, please mail a check to Vermont Catholic Charities, 55 Joy Drive, South Burlington, VT 05403 or give online at www.vermontcatholic.org. Thank you.

March for Life: "March for Life" Pilgrimage registration is now "live" and accessible online at the Diocesan website. The Diocese will sponsor two Pilgrimage Buses (one for youth, one for adults). Please note that the Youth Pilgrimage is restricted to high school students (Grades 9-12) and their Safe and Sacred-certified chaperones. This trip will include visits to several shrines in the DC area and an overnight stay. \$150, includes transportation and lodging. **The deadline to register for the youth group bus is December 20.** A second bus for individual adults or those travelling with their families will offer a shortened visit with overnight bus travel in each direction. Cost is \$75. Registration links are at www.vermonthcatholic.org.

Rice At Night: A Community Education Program: Are you interested in learning some new skills, or honing existing ones? Try an evening course at Rice Memorial High School. Adults and high-school students welcome! Course catalog available online at tinyurl.com/rice-at-night.

Pilgrimage to Spain and Portugal: Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Apparitions in Fatima. 12 Days: May 1-12, 2017. Visits to Lisbon, Fatima, Seville, Granada, Toledo, Madrid, Avila, Montserrat, Barcelona. Sponsored by the Diocese of Burlington. Hosted by Rev. Msgr. Peter Routhier and Fr. James Dodson. Cost is \$3459 from Boston. For a brochure with complete details or more information, please contact Rev. Msgr. Peter Routhier at 802-223-5285 or email st_augustine@comcast.net.