

January 8, 2017

The bulletin is also available online at olmcut.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 – The Epiphany of the Lord

"And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was." In our day and age, the star of Christmas has become a kind of decorative symbol that adorns manger scenes and Christmas trees. It suggests something good and bright and holy, a visual indicator that the "Light of the world" has appeared. But today, on the feast of the Epiphany, we recall that originally, this star was not just a pretty symbolic ornament. This star was a sign from God that intervened in the operations of the physical universe. The Magi understood that this star was sent from God to indicate where his Son would be born.

Of course it should not surprise us in this season of all seasons that God should choose to order the universe according to his purposes. Jesus has just been born of a virgin! God has just taken on human flesh. These events in themselves are extraordinary divine interventions--miracles that defy the standard operation of things. Why shouldn't God choose to send a luminous star where he wants it, when he wants it? Why shouldn't he reveal his plan through the things that he created in the first place?

The beauty of today's feast is found, in part, in the fact that the Magi were able to recognize this sign from God. They waited for it, they saw it, and they rejoiced in it: "They were overjoyed at seeing the star." We too should be overjoyed in this season of God's special revelation to us. We may need the eyes to recognize it, but truly we have waited for a Savior, we have seen his appearance at Christmas, and now it is time to celebrate! God is at work in our physical world. He has come here, now to save us. This is cause for rejoicing!

Liturgical Publications

ANNOUNCED MASS INTENTIONS:

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

Sun. Jan. 8 11:00 a.m. For Jean Morin requested by Larry and Jackie Gingras.

Sun. Jan. 15 8:00 a.m. For Lou Laberge requested by Paul and Diane Laberge.

Sun. Jan. 15 11:00 a.m. For the Parishioners of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St. Jude Parishes.

Offertory Last Week: \$1,267.00 Maintenance: \$30.00

Military Services: \$10.00 Salvation Army: \$20.00

Initial Offering: \$210.00 Solemnity of Mary: \$345.00

Electronic Giving: -0-

Christmas: \$290.00

(20%-Pastor, 20%-Diocese, 60%-Parish)

Second Collection This Week for Maintenance

Second Collection Next Week for Fuel

Pray for Vocations

Schedule of Counters: Monday, January 9, 2017

Margaret Titus
Gail Blasius
Marie Cookson

Schedule of Ministries: January 15, 2017

8:00 a.m. Altar Server: Anthony Seidita
Angelina Seidita
Lector: Chris Kogut
Extraordinary Min.: Michelle Filardi
Jeff Filardi

11:00 a.m. Greeters: Rosemarie Cartularo
Altar Server: David Tsounis
Lector: Yvette Tsounis
Extraordinary Min.: Winnie Geiger
Bill Geiger

Calendar of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Events

-1/08 CCD at CCS at 9:00 a.m.
-1/08 First Year Confirmation at 10:30 a.m.
-1/19 Parish Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
-1/22 Second Year Confirmation at 10:30 a.m.
-1/26 Liturgy Committee Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Question of the Week To what "strange lands" might God be inviting me to travel in this New Year to discover Christ? What gifts will I bring with me to offer there?

New Parishioners: If you are new to the parish or have never registered, won't you please fill out a parish registration form found on the table in the back? We are trying to update our parish records and have incomplete info on some families.

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

Rose (NOT PINK) Mass Vestments: Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish has received a Christmas gift of a set of rose-colored Mass vestments, including a stole and chasuble. They arrived with no indication of who donated them. Unless the donor wants to remain anonymous, would he/she/they please let Father Cray know who sent them. Our Lady of Mount Carmel will be right up to speed for Laetare Sunday, the fourth Sunday of Lent. They may also be used on Gaudete Sunday, the third Sunday of Advent. A twice-a-year luxury!

Collection Envelopes: The collection envelopes for 2017 are available in the back of the church. 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 them.

****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.**

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 "**Word Made Flesh, True Bread of Heaven: The Mystery of The Liturgy and The Eucharist**". Bishop Barron explores the ancient practices of the Church's worship that endure to this very day, and the notion that "all value is summed up in the liturgy, the supreme act by which we commune with God." Considered by the Catholic Faith to be "the source and summit" of its identity and mission, the Eucharist is the central practice of the Church's culture. Bishop Barron describes all the parts of the Mass, and shows how the Sacred Liturgy embodies the whole of the Faith in diverse places as Jerusalem, Rome, Chicago, Orvieto, Mexico City. 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, January 10 at 7:00 p.m.

Family Mass and Pancake Breakfast: There will be a Family Mass and Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, January 15 at St. Jude's. The cost of the breakfast is \$8/adults; \$5/child; \$23/family (2 adults and 2 or more children). All are welcome.

Parish Contributions for 2016: If you use offertory envelopes or are enrolled in online giving, a record of your 2016 donations to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish will be mailed to you later this month.

Red Cross Blood Drive: There will be a Red Cross Blood Drive at St. Jude's on Tuesday, January 19 from 12:30 to 6:00 p.m. There is an urgent need for blood. Please bring a friend and be sure to have your Blood Donor Card, Photo ID or two forms of ID.

Adult Confirmation Program: A new Adult Confirmation Program is being implemented in the Diocese. This is a 7 session process designed for those adults who received their First Communion/Reconciliation but were never confirmed. This program will run during Lent and Easter Seasons, leading to the reception of Confirmation on Pentecost from Bishop Coyne. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Fr. David Cray at 425-2253 or email at dgcroy@gmail.com.

Free Domestic Violence Workshop: The Diocese of Burlington is presenting a free workshop aiding in developing tools to reach out and help victims of domestic violence. This workshop is open to everyone. It will be held on Wednesday, February 22 from 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Holy Family Parish Center, Essex Junction. Lunch is included. Please call 658-6110 ext 1453 or vermontcatholic.org to register.

World Marriage Day 2017: The celebration of World Marriage Day in the Diocese of Burlington will take place on Sunday, February 5 at the 10:00 a.m. Sunday Mass at St. Joseph's Co-Cathedral in Burlington with recognition being given to those couples celebrating their Milestone Anniversaries in 2017 (5, 10, 15, 20, etc.). The form to sign up to attend this Mass or to request a special certificate is in the back of the church.



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 CCD.

Counters Needed: We are in need of help on Monday mornings at 8:30 a.m. to count the weekly collection. Many of our regular counters are no longer available to count especially since many go south for the winter. With enough people, you would only have to count every 4 to 6 weeks. It really isn't difficult and it's a chance for you to meet your fellow parishioners and those from St. Jude's. Counting is done in the St. Jude rectory. If you are willing to help out, please contact Marie at 425-2637 or email at marietcookson@aol.com. Thank you.

Annual Rally for Life: The annual Rally for Life will kick off in Montpelier on Saturday, January 21 at 10:45 a.m. as participants need to line up behind City Hall. Signs and banners will be provided. The march down State Street to the steps of the Capitol will begin at 11:00 a.m. and those who wish to attend but cannot participate in the outdoor portion of the event can find their way to House Chambers and wait for the group to join them. This year, the Rally for Life will feature women's voices, featuring Jewels Green of Philadelphia, Sarah Zagurski of Colorado and Amy Cochran of Vermont.

Why Ordinary Time: "Why Ordinary Time" presented by Josh Perry (Director of the Diocesan Worship Office) on Tuesday, January 10 from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Holy Family Parish Center, 39 Lincoln Street, Essex Jct. This is an Introduction to the new season of the Liturgical Year, Ordinary Time. An Extraordinary time to encounter the Risen Christ in the Sacraments of the Church.

Theology of Tap-Young Adult Group: Young adults between the ages of 21 and 35 are invited to Theology on Tap at Switchback Brewing Company in Burlington beginning at 7:00 p.m. on January 19. PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF LOCATION. This month's speaker will be Fr. Dallas St. Peter. For more info on this and other events that this group hosts, email burlingtonareayoungadults@gmail.com.

Christ the King School Open House: Christ the King School in Burlington will have an Open House on Thursday, February 2 from 5:30-7:00 pm. Teachers will be present and classrooms will be open with student work displayed. Guests will have the opportunity to get a feel for some of the great activities and learning opportunities that make CKS such a special place. Join us! CKS serves learners from pre-school (age 3) through 8th grade. Have questions about CKS? Email Mrs. Steel at osteel@cksvt.org or call 862-6696. Visit them online at cksvt.org or [facebook.com/cksvt](https://www.facebook.com/cksvt).