

**Sunday, December 14 – Third Sunday of Advent**

8:30 – Living & Deceased of Holy Name Society

10:30– Parishioners of St. Jude

12:00– Richard Torpey

**Monday, December 15 – Advent Weekday**

7:00 – Eleanor Fuehrer

**Tuesday, December 16 – Advent Weekday**

8:30 – John Nice

**Wednesday, December 17 – Late Advent Weekday**

7:00am – Adelene Bettinger

7:00pm – Communion Service

**Thursday, December 18 – Late Advent Weekday**

8:00am @Holy Cross; 8:30am @ St. Mary

**Friday, December 19 – Late Advent Weekday**

8:30 – Dominic Cardamone

**Saturday, December 20 – Late Advent Weekday**

4:30 – Emery, Susan & Fr. Paul Gencur

**Sunday, December 21 – Fourth Sunday of Advent**

8:30 – Parishioners of St. Jude

10:30– Michael Janowicz

12:00– Joseph & Mary Provoznik & Sons

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**Readings for December 21:** 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16; Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38.

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**IN SYMPATHY**

Please pray for Donald Stiles, Rose Meecha and Bert LaCrosse and for the consolation of their loved ones.

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**ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY HAS** Christmas cards and postcards for sale. The cards picture our beautiful church in a Christmas setting. They are available in the Gathering Area at the west entrance. Cards are \$5 for a box of 20 (or can be purchased individually for 25 cents each). Postcards are 6 for \$1.00 or 25 cents each. Any questions call Fran at 365-6163.



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**ST. JUDE SENIORS**

St. Jude Seniors will meet on Tuesday, Dec. 16 at Noon in the Family Center. A tureen luncheon will be served with members asked to bring casseroles, desserts and salads in a Christmas theme. Election of officers will be held, so bring a friend and enjoy the afternoon as we welcome the Blessed Christmas season.



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**OPLATKI:** Christmas Wafers are available in the Sacristy or Rectory. Donations \$2.00.

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**Sunday, December 14**

Giving Tree Sort & Deliver – Carrabine at 1:00pm

A & R Christmas Dinner – FamCtr at 2:00pm

Confirmation Session – Church at 6:00pm

Communal Penance Service – Church at 7:00pm

AA – Carrabine at 7:30pm

**Monday, December 15**

PSR – Carrabine at 6:15pm

Social Concerns – Rectory at 7:00pm

**Tuesday, December 16**

St. Jude Seniors – FamCtr at Noon

**Wednesday, December 17**

St. Vincent dePaul Society – Rectory at 7:30pm

**Thursday, December 18**

Holy Name Society – Rectory at 7:00pm

**Saturday, December 19**

Food Collection – Gathering Area

**Sunday, December 18**

Food Collection – Gathering Area

Cub Scout Meeting – Carrabine after 10:30 Mass

AA – Carrabine at 7:30pm

**FAMILY PERSPECTIVES**

John the Baptist was a man of faith “sent by God to testify to the Light so that all might believe.” Men: when others see you as a brother, husband, son, uncle, stepfather or grandfather, what do they learn from you about responsibility, commitment, caring, nurturing and love? Are you a witness to the Light?

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**GIVING TREE PROJECT**

Today, December 14<sup>th</sup> after the noon Mass, the traditional “moving of the gifts” will take place.



The Giving Tree

This beautiful mound of gifts will be moved to Carrabine Hall (with your help) then sorted and distributed to needy families and individuals in the community as well as over 19 community agencies. This project is successful because of the caring members of St. Jude Parish. Your generous support throughout this holiday season has been greatly

appreciated not only by the Giving Tree Committee, but also by all those in need who have been assisted.

Special thanks goes to the Cannarella family who continue to organize and manage this wonderful project. Their hours of service and dedication are most greatly appreciated. Thank you to all the volunteers who come back year after year because it just wouldn't be Christmas at St. Jude without the Giving Tree. And thank you most of all, to those who donated so generously and kindly. May your holiday be filled with the joy and peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ.



On December 1st, the school liturgy team helped the school celebrate an Advent Prayer Service. The school community gathered in the gym around a Christmas tree. As students from each homeroom added decorations to the tree, the liturgy team explained the significance of the various decorations. The tree was lit to remind us that Jesus is the light of the world. Stars, angels, bells, round bulbs, candy canes, and gifts were added, with the significance of each item explained as the decorations were placed on the tree. The students concluded with the thought that Jesus became what we are so that we could become what He is!

**ST. JUDE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM**

**Fill Your Christmas Stockings With Certificates.** We carry grocery, gas, drug stores, fast food, restaurants, home improvement, department stores, and specialty stores in stock. PLUS this will be the last week you can still order other certificates and get them before Christmas. Why shop around when you can shop at St. Jude?

**Sales:** At Church: Saturdays 4-6pm & Sunday 9:15-Noon. At the Rectory: Mon-Fri 8am-Noon and 1-3pm.

**PSR NEWS**

Monday, December 15<sup>th</sup> will be the last class for PSR before the Christmas break. Classes will resume on **Monday, January 5, 2009.** Please note this is earlier than previous years.



During this Advent Season, please prayerfully consider a year-end gift to the St. Jude Building Fund or an additional gift to help our parish community continue with valued programs. It is with your support that we can continue to serve the members of this parish. Please note that your gift can help lower your tax liability this year if it is received before December 31<sup>st</sup>. Thank you for considering helping St. Jude Parish in this way. May the joy of this season of giving be in your hearts and with your family.

**Stewardship of Treasure Summary**

Amount needed per week:	\$18,000
Regular Collection for Dec. 7:	\$17,836
Difference for the week:	- \$ 164
Number of Envelopes:	671
Year-To-Date Totals	
Amount Budgeted	\$414,000
Total Sunday Offertory:	\$373,665
<b>Difference:</b>	- <b>40,335</b>
Outstanding Mortgage Balance:	\$650,760
Building Fund Account Balance:	\$ 93,904
Monthly Mortgage Payment:	\$ 8,021

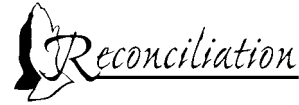
**Thank you for your generosity!**

*From the Pastor's Desk*

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT – GAUDETE**

The Church has always used light as a symbol for Jesus who is presented in Scripture as the "light coming into the world." John the Baptist, in humility said, "He must increase, but I must decrease."

This Sunday, the rose candle is lit, symbolic of the theme **Rejoice** (in Latin, Gaudete). Rose reminds us of the joy and hope that Jesus brings to our darkness.



**CLUSTER ADVENT Penance SERVICE**

Advent calls us to Reconciliation. Part of preparing ourselves for the coming of Jesus into our lives is to "clear the path and prepare the way." All are invited to share the peace and joy that comes with letting go of your sins, hearing that you are forgiving and beginning anew in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The Elyria Cluster's Penance Service will be here at St. Jude, tonight, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm.



*Holiday Schedule*

**Christmas Vigil – Wednesday, December 24**

- 4:30 pm Contemporary Choir
- 7:00 pm Children's Choir
- 10:00 pm Traditional and Bell Choirs

**Christmas Day – Thursday, December 25**

- 10:00 am
- 12:00 Noon

**ROSARY FOR LIFE**

The Rosary for Life will be prayed in the chapel after the 10:30 Mass today, December 14. Please join us.



Each year we extend an invitation to the parish community to contribute to the Christmas Flowers. Special envelopes are included in your monthly packet or just use a plain envelope and mark it "Christmas Flowers". Thank you!



This month's Food Focus is on items needed for the Christmas and New Year holiday meals. In addition to items for those meals, candy, cookies and other seasonal treats are also appreciated and welcome. Please bring your donations to the Gathering Area December 20 & 21. Thank you for your support of the hungry of our area.

**COMMEMORATIVE BRICK**

The Outdoor Stations of the Cross just west of St. Jude Church have many more commemorative bricks available. These bricks are a great way to commemorate births, sacramental events and memorialize loved ones. Many people express their thanksgiving to God with a brick. New bricks are engraved several times a year and forms are available in the Gathering Area near the Pieta statue or at the rectory. Each brick has room for 3 lines with 12 letter/spaces on each line. Bricks are \$100 each. Please contact Kim at the rectory 366-5711 with any questions.

**SIGN OF PEACE**



It's the flu and cold season. If you have caught 'the bug' and don't want to share it with others, please feel free to refrain from hand-shaking at the Sign of Peace. Instead, please extend a greeting of peace through a smile or nod to your neighbor.

**2009 Entertainment Books are going fast! Last chance to purchase one will be Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>!!** This book offers thousands of dollars in coupons for formal dining to fast food, Cedar Point specials, movies, golf, and much more – all for only \$25!!!! Stop by M-F 8–3pm or call Kim, 366-5711, to set up other arrangements.



Please notify the rectory when you have a new phone number or address. It's very important to keep our records updated and it also keeps postage expenses down. Thank you!

**HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS**

If you know of anyone who may be homebound due to a prolonged illness, disability, or convalescence after hospitalization, please contact Deacon Frank at 366-5711 ext. 104. These are difficult times and there are many good reasons for hope and healing in our lives. We can plan a visit or have Eucharist brought weekly.

**Pray For Peace**

Please pray for peace in our world. But also remember that "peace" means not being hungry or lonely, cold or homeless, sick or afraid. Help your St. Vincent de Paul Society give our neighbors that true sense of peace with a donation, a check in the collection basket, or your offering in the poor boxes near the church doors.

**DID YOU KNOW** for your convenience, you can have your offertory gift electronically transferred from your bank directly to St. Jude Church on a monthly basis? If you are interested please call the Rectory office and we will be happy to mail you the authorization form.



**DECORATING**

As Christmas time comes upon us, an annual St. Jude tradition also comes. Please join us on Tuesday, December 23 at **9:00am** in the Church to help decorate for Christmas. Any questions, please call Mary Anderson 365-5064 or Jeanne Frey at 365-6879.

**REMEMBERING THOSE IN THE ARMED FORCES**

Please keep the health and safety of the members of our Armed Forces in your thoughts and prayers.



God grant that they may return home safely and soon. Eric Armitage, Sgt. Mark A. Baker, Airman Michael E Bobola, Maj. Monica Cater, Sgt. Ronald Combs, Lt. Col. Scott Connors, Pvt. Peter Crissman, Capt. Brian Dickenson, Lt. Sarah Dickenson, Daniel Engel; Sarah Forbush, L.Cpl. Michael Hetrick, Ensign William Hurd, Kenneth

Justen, S. Sgt Charles R. Kalo, Audrey Keiffer, Pvt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Jason Koenig, Capt. Brandon Leifer, Staff Sgt. Mat Mach, SPC Martin McCloud, Cpl. Cory Menges, Comdr. Leo Murphy, Sgt. Zachary Osborne, Lt Richard J. Pelesky, Maj. Rick Schilke, Pvt. Thomas Edward Sedor, Capt. Stephanie Sido, Nicholas Sine, Brian Speer, Staff Sgt. Tracey Tackling, Petty Officer Carl VanDyke, Cpt. Nathaniel Waggoner, Capt. Dean Wood. Please feel free to submit names of service members by calling the rectory or dropping a note in the collection basket for inclusion here.

**RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS**

Religious give thanks. "As our retirement expenses seem unending and every increasing, reminding myself of the generosity of the people who make this assistance possible softens my concern," writes the president of a religious community in Dubuque. Please be generous in your support of the appeal for the Retirement Fund for Religious.

**PARISH REGISTRATION**

It is our policy and desire to serve the needs of St. Jude parishioners. We welcome you. Families and young adults (age 18 and over) should make an effort to become registered members of the parish. Even if you are not in a position to contribute regularly, it is important to be registered for us to take care of your pastoral needs (funerals, baptisms, weddings, etc.) To register, please call the rectory or drop a note in the collection basket and we will be happy to assist you.

**STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT**

Each of us has his or her own role to play in the coming of the kingdom of God. John the Baptist was called to be the herald of the Messiah, preparing the way of the Lord. To what is the Lord calling me?



[www.saintjudeparish.org](http://www.saintjudeparish.org)  
Your parish website...stop by and see what we have to offer.  
Your online source for information about your parish!

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

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