

St. Jude the Apostle Parish

42 Dana Ave ♦ Wynantskill, New York 12198 ♦ 518-283-1162 ♦ <https://parishes.rcda.org/stjude>



Lord, as Advent begins, help me to put my eyes on You. Help me to open my ears to Your voice. And help me to open my heart to Your glorious presence. May I be attentive to You in every way You desire to come to me.

Sanctuary Votive Light

For all the Parishioners of St. Jude the Apostle Church
living or deceased

Saturday, December 7th, 2024-Mass 4:00PM

Mary Finelli

John Hardie, Ann & David Cannon

Kenneth McKeon (9th Anniversary), Family

Grace Forino, Pat Palmer

Rosane Farcher, Husband

Sunday, December 8th, 2024-Mass 10:00AM

Joseph Frost, Mom, Dad, Matthew & Tye

Mary Finelli, Family

Kenneth McKeon (9th Anniversary), Wife

Wednesday December 11th, 2024 –Mass 8:00AM

For all Priests, Deacons and Religious of
the Albany Diocese

Saturday, December 14th, 2024-Mass 4:00PM

Joseph & Pauline Ienco, Ann & David Cannon

Rosane Farcher, Husband

Dennis Carl, Carol & Joe Tenzky

Paula Karius, Brian & Patrice Gilooly

Randilee Constable, Julia Cardany & Leah Boggs

Sunday, December 15th, 2024-Mass 10:00AM

Joseph Frost, Al & Patti Mugrace

Mary Marxola, Family

Carol Maple, Family

Jack Miorin, Family

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Did you know that each Advent Candle has a name and special symbolism? The first Advent candle we lit last week is often referred to as the *Prophet's Candle* (*Isaiah waiting in HOPE for our Savior*). Today, the Second Sunday of Advent we light the second candle, which is the symbol of *FAITH*. The candle's name has its origins in the prophet Micah who prophesied Jesus would be born in *Bethlehem*. It is referred to as the *Bethlehem Candle*. I shall explain the other three, *Shepherd's Candle* (*Joy*), *Angel* (*Peace*), and *Christ's* (*Light*) candles as we come to them!

For me, the source of the *HOPE, FAITH*, in the wreath! There is a word in Hebrew passion, a tender mercy, forgiveness, a heal-ally defies description! It is used to express Hebrew word is *hesed* (חֶסֶד), endless love, which can flow into us, and *peace* and light to him, and to others in our



JOY, PEACE and LIGHT, symbolized in these candles, is which encompasses a love, faithfulness, a loyalty, coming which is so wide, so deep, and so eternal, that it virtu-God's love for us, and our loving response to Him. The For me, *hesed IS* the wreath for Advent! A circle of God's through us, so that we can become that *hope, faith, joy*, world!

Each one of us is like a candle on that Advent wreath, *Hesed!* We are grounded in, rooted in, connected with, an unfathomable source of endless love, gentle mercy, boundless compassion, healing, forgiveness, inspiring hope, granite faith, joy, peace and light. *Hesed* connects us to those four Advent candles in dialogue with each other! As feelings and actions are fused together in *hesed*, our faith and action can light the flame of Hope in the hearts of others as we all struggle with the challenges of life. *Hesed* is the self-sacrifice, gentle mercy and compassion, of faithfully responding to the often, unspoken needs of others. It is the unsung heroes and heroines who quietly attend to the needs of parents, children, and neighbors. *Hesed* is the word of gentle mercy, forgiveness and compassion in the reconciling phone call. God's *hesed* is mirrored in our lives and hearts when *our* embracing words and loving, mercy-filled actions fuse into one.

And so, my dear friends, as we light the second Advent *candle*, remember, it is not just a 'nice festive, season's ritual'! It is a symbolic reconnecting to the *hesed*, the never-ending wreath of God's gentle mercy, faithfulness, and love for each one of us.

JOINT BULLETIN COMING SOON

Starting January 2025, we will be sharing a combined bulletin with St. Jude the Apostle Church and St. Michael the Archangel Church. This is a way to collaborate and share important information about upcoming events, community outreach, and worship services between the two congregations, all within one bulletin. This will promote unity and awareness of each other's activities while still maintaining the distinct identity of each church. We believe this will be a positive step towards greater unity and collaboration.

St. Jude the Apostle Parish

Children's Christmas Pageant



The Annual Children's Christmas Pageant will be presented during Christmas Eve Mass on Tuesday, December 24th at 4:00 pm. We would love for your children to participate!

Rehearsals: Wednesday, December 4th and Wednesday, December 18th from 3:30 pm – 4:45 pm in the Church.

If your child(ren) is interested, please sign and return the permission slip below in the offertory basket during mass and/or arrange to have them attend both rehearsals.

(Grade _____), has my permission to participate in the Christmas Pageant on December 24th at 4:00 pm.

_____ Will attend rehearsals on December 4th and December 18th

_____ Will not be able to attend rehearsals, but will be at Mass.

Parent Name

Email Address

Faith Formation

Thank you to our Faith Formation families who recently helped stuffing the pillows for The Troy Center! Fun and fiberfill was flying as we filled over 50 gifts. A special thank you to Sharon Close, Phyllis Mescia, Mary Ann Gibson and the Crafty Ladies in helping us complete this mission of kindness.

Thank you so much for the huge response to our request for gloves and candy!! We will be spending this weekend putting snowmen together for the children at the Boys'/Girls' Club.

Faith Formation children will be singing before the 2:00 pm Christmas Vigil Mass at St. Michael's. Some will also be participating in the pageant at the 4:00 pm mass at St. Jude's Parish.



Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be made low. The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God." Luke 3:5-6

These, the words of the prophet Isaiah, were "Prepare the way of the Lord" and to "make this very descriptive image of John's minis-every winding road, and smoothes out the cle to God, making it easy to encounter the



spoken about the mission of Saint John the Baptist. John was to straight his paths." In prophesying this, Isaiah goes on to give try. It would be one that levels mountains and valleys, straightens rough terrain. In other words, John came to remove every obsta-Messiah.

How does John complete this mission? By calling the people of that time to the dry and empty desert where all the false allurements cease to exist. This is done by detachment from the many sins and temptations they faced. Their repentance was an act by which the people humbled themselves before God, admitted their sins and acknowledged their need for a Savior. This humble admission, coupled with the commitment to change their ways, prepared heart after heart for the grace and mercy that came through Christ the Lord.

Today, there are countless obstacles to grace that so many people encounter. Some have been drawn into the satisfactions of earthly riches and material comforts and find little need for God. Others have very little that this world can offer but are consumed with a desire for money and the passing comforts it promises. And still others are drawn into many other forms of sins and false satisfactions. But there are some who are like a dry and deserted desert, just waiting to soak up the gentle rain of God's grace. These are those who have sought to detach themselves from the false promises of this world and remain "empty" and "dry" so as to be prepared for the abundance of grace when it comes. These holy souls have heeded the call to repentance and have humbly acknowledged their need for the Savior.

Reflect, today, upon whether or not your soul is like that dry and barren desert, detached from all the false and passing satisfactions of this world, and prepared to soak up the mercy and grace of God alone. Repentance brings forth detachment, and detachment prepares the soul for God. When one is truly detached and free from the many obstacles to God, then the road from God to your soul will be straight and easily traveled. Reflect upon your soul today and where you see unhealthy attachments. Repent with all your heart so that you are among those most fully ready for an abundance of the grace and mercy of God.

Lord, I turn to You in my need and repent of the many lies and false promises of satisfaction in this world. Please free me from all that is not of You so that my soul will be more fully prepared to soak You and Your mercy up like a gentle rain upon a dry and barren desert. I open myself to You, my Lord. Come fill and satiate my soul. Jesus, I trust in You.

SCHEDULE OF CELEBRATIONS OF MASSES

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MASS SCHEDULE:

Monday, December 9, 2024 @ 8:50AM
Monday, December 9, 2024 @ 12:10PM
Monday, December 9, 2024 @ 9:00AM
Monday, December 9, 2024 @ 6:00PM
Monday, December 9, 2024 @ 6:00PM

-St. Jude the Apostle School
-St. Michael the Archangel Church
-Sacred Heart Church
-Sacred Heart Church
-St. Jude the Apostle Church



RECONCILIATION:

Wednesday, December 11, 2024 @ 11:00AM
Monday, December 16, 2024 @ 7:00PM

-St. Michael the Archangel Church
-Sacred Heart Church

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS SCHEDULE:

Tuesday, December 24, 2024 @ 2:00PM
Tuesday, December 24, 2024 @ 4:00PM
Tuesday, December 24, 2024 @ 4:00PM
Tuesday, December 24, 2024 @ 6:30PM
Tuesday, December 24, 2024 @ 8:00PM

-St. Michael the Archangel Church
-St. Jude the Apostle Church
- Sacred Heart Church
-St. Michael the Archangel Church
-Sacred Heart Church

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS SCHEDULE:

Wednesday, December 25, 2024 @ 8:00AM
Wednesday, December 25, 2024 @ 8:30AM
Wednesday, December 25, 2024 @ 10:00AM
Wednesday, December 25, 2024 @ 10:00AM

-Sacred Heart Church
-St. Michael the Archangel Church
-St. Jude the Apostle Church
-Sacred Heart Church

NEW YEAR EVE SCHEDULE – SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD:

Tuesday, December 31, 2024 @ 4:00PM
Tuesday, December 31, 2024 @ 4:00PM

-St. Michael the Archangel Church
-St. Jude the Apostle Church

NEW YEAR DAY SCHEDULE – SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD:

Wednesday, January 1, 2025 @ 8:30AM
Wednesday, January 1, 2025 @ 9:00AM
Wednesday, January 1, 2025 @ 10:00AM

-St. Michael the Archangel Church
-Sacred Heart Church
-St. Jude the Apostle Church



Diocesan Appeal

Thank you to all those who have generously donated to the 2024- 2025 Diocesan Appeal.

The Diocesan Appeal provides the financial resources that are essential for the Church's ministries such as vocations to the priesthood and diaconate, administrative support in the areas of human resources and finance and provides financial assistance to the Catholic schools within the diocese. We have received such support during our time of transition when Father Rice went on medical leave.

You may have received information on the appeal in the mail last week. We will also have an in-pew solicitation in late January. This appeal will run until June 2025.

FR. TIMOTHY ENNIS, O.CARM,
Sacramental Minister
timennis1962@hotmail.com

MRS. KELLY HESSON
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Charlie Hannan, Maintenance

Debbie Moore, Organist and Choir Director, dmoore6279@yahoo.com

ADVENT WREATH

If you would like to volunteer to light the Advent wreath before any of our week-end masses during Advent, please sign up on the paper on the bulletin board in the vestibule of the church.



Thank you!

THANK YOU to OUR ROSARIANS

Thank you to the Rosarian members that have been helping out in the Parish Office everyday! They not only have been a huge help to the parishioners of St. Jude, but a blessing to everyone that walks through the front doors.

THANK YOU!



During this season of thanks, St. Jude's Parish Family would like to thank the following:

- Dunkin for donating the donuts for our Veterans Day reception
- Stewart's for donating many items for our Craft Fair kitchen
- Our Faith Formation students for helping deliver the Thanksgiving turkeys to Joseph's House
- Paolo Lombardi's and Moscatiello's Restaurants for donating the bread and rolls that were blessed at our Thanksgiving Mass and given to our families.

We encourage you to support these local businesses for their generosity.

Knights of Columbus Advent Message, Membership & Bottle Drive

St Jude's Knights of Columbus wishes everyone a blessed Advent. Please remember to Keep Christ in Christmas and find the love, peace, and beauty of the season.

The Knights of Columbus' next meeting is Monday,
January 6, 2025

St Jude's Knights are raffling off a 50" ROKU TV. Just \$10 per ticket and only 100 tickets will be sold. Drawing will be held 1 week before Super Bowl Sunday. Text or call Joe at 286-1132 for a ticket or see any one of the Knights after mass.

Calling all men! Together we can make a difference. St Jude's Knights of Columbus welcomes new members. It is now easier than ever with a new online registration at KofC.org/JoinUs. Just enter your info, use the promo code 'Blessed McGiveney', enter 12637 and 'St Jude the Apostle' as the Council #/Name, and 3627452 as the referring member #. Be sure to watch for and respond to the confirmation email.

Please consider donating your empty bottles to the KOC. It's easy, saves time, and directly supports our Coats for Kids program. All you have to do is bring your empty bottles to the Wynantskill 6 Cent Redemption Center on the corner of Main Ave and Sharpe Rd and say that they are for the St Jude the Apostle Knights of Columbus men's club. They will sort and count the bottles. Last year we received over \$1,000 from the bottles. Thank you for your support!

Pope Francis Prayer Intention for December

For pilgrims of hope

We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

Memorial Tree

We are excited to have a memorial tree in memory of deceased members of our parish family at the Annual Town Parade and Memorial Tree Lighting ceremony again this year.

The official tree lighting ceremony will be held on Saturday 12/7 at 6pm.

Ornaments can be dropped off at the Parish Office, Monday-Friday between 9:30-2:30pm.

If you have any questions or would like to add a decoration, please contact Jessica Antalek (518) 229-3079.





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