

# St. Jude the Apostle Parish

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



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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  
Ned Fitzgerald, Dan O'Connell

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 Marzola, Family  
Carol Maple, Family  
Jack Miorin, Family

Wednesday December 18th, 2024 –Mass 8:00AM  
Pat Harley (Birthday), Family

Saturday, December 21st, 2024-Mass 4:00PM  
Harold Cannon, Anne & David Cannon  
Jerri Richards, Husband  
David & Dortehea Castle, Castle Children  
Tony Carnivale, Family  
Rosane Farcher, Husband

Sunday, December 22nd, 2024-Mass 10:00AM  
John Ryan, St. Jude Knights of Columbus  
Irene B. Wiltsie, Julie Mullen  
Mary LuBinski, Eileen Barton  
Dennis Carl, Eileen Barton



# THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

This Sunday is traditionally called *Gaudete* Sunday, based on the Introit for the day: *Gaudete in Domino semper, iterum dico, Gaudete*, from Philippians 4:4 (“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, ‘Rejoice’”). Today, this theme is developed most fully in the second reading, which is from 1 Thessalonians. Let’s take a closer look at that reading and what is meant by the admonition to “rejoice.” It is surely more than feeling mere emotional joy. The goal is a deep, serene, confident and stable joy of the Holy Spirit.

The text says, “Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus. Do not quench the Spirit.”

Prayer without ceasing is a discipline of the all day long. He means that we should be day. To be grateful in all circumstances for those who love God, who are called all things bring forth blessings. The Holy Spirit quench his gift to us of being always grate-



mind. St. Paul does not mean that we should stay in a chapel living in conscious contact with God at every moment of our means that we must remember that “all things work for good according to his purpose” (Romans 8:28); even the painful wants this grateful spirit to be ours, and we ought not fully aware of God’s goodness.

The text says, “Do not despise prophetic utterances. Test everything; retain what is good.” First, the phrase “prophetic utterances” refers to Scripture. But there are also approved visions and prophecies that have been permitted us by the Church. Scripture is a prophetic declaration of reality. We ought not to despise God’s word in any way, but should accept it wholeheartedly. “Prophetic utterances” also refers to the teachings of the Church, the words of the Fathers of the Church, and the teachings of the saints down through the ages. There is a great deposit of faith that has been carefully collected and lovingly handed down from apostolic times. We, too, ought to seek out every instruction prophetically uttered by Mother Church, allowing nothing to fall to the ground. Approved apparitions, prophecies and spiritual works are also a source for us too; and we should seek out the witness of Mary and the saints of old who kept and handed on the faith.

The text says, “Refrain from every kind of evil. May the God of peace make you perfectly holy; and may you, entirely, spirit, soul and body, be preserved blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will also accomplish it.” The greatest source of sorrow in our life, the biggest killer of joy, is sin. To the degree that we indulge it, our joy is sapped, but to the extent that we allow the Lord to deliver us from sin and make us more and more holy, our joy becomes deeper and more lasting.

The words “holy” and “whole” are not far removed from each other. As we become more whole, more perfected, freer from sin, more holy and blameless, our joy deepens and we can increasingly “rejoice always.” God will do this for us if we are willing and if we ask him.

Thus the mandate, the exhortation, to “rejoice always” is a call to live a stable and serene joy rooted in prayerful gratitude.

## 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.

## 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.





Below is an update for activities coming up throughout Advent.

Snowmen for the Boys/Girls Club- We will be working on our snowmen at 10:30 after classes in the hall with our Confirmation students.

Pageant at St. Jude's 4:00 pm Christmas Vigil - Practice is scheduled for 12/18 from 3:30-4:45 pm. If you are interested and haven't yet signed up, please email me.

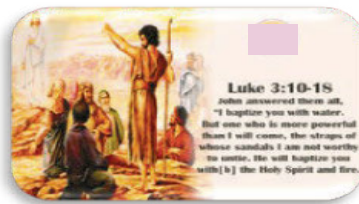
Singing at St. Michael's 2:00 pm Christmas Vigil - We will practice on Wednesday, 12/11 from 5:30-6:30 pm, and Sunday, 12/22 at 10:30 after classes. **We'd like more singers, so please let me know if your children are available!**



**T**he crowds asked John the Baptist, "What should we do?" Luke 3:10

Among those within the crowds who were asking Saint John the Baptist this question were tax collectors, soldiers and ordinary people. John gave an answer to them all, first telling them to turn away from the sins that they struggled with the most. Sin takes on many forms and often is closely associated with our daily duties in life. Some sins are sins of commission, meaning sins we commit by an intentional act. Some sins are those of omission, meaning a lack of certain virtues or a failure to do what we ought to do.

After addressing the particular sins then turns their attention to Christ. He and that "He will baptize you with giving the people a twofold com- turn your eyes to Him Who is coming repent, we must then fill the void



that those in the crowds were struggling with, John states to them that "One mightier than I is coming" the Holy Spirit and fire." In other words, John was mand. First, work to overcome sin. And second, to you. Repenting from sin is not enough. Once we within our souls with the presence of Christ.

Advent, just like Lent, is an important time within our liturgical year to heed these messages. Though it's true that we must work to overcome sin and turn to Christ every day of the year, God knows we need a special time each year when we give concerted effort to these spiritual endeavors. So before Advent passes you by, heed the words of the Baptist and take some time to examine your conscience thoroughly. Perhaps use a detailed list of the Ten Commandments or the Seven Capital Sins. Once you do that, seek out an opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Doing so is essential to a fruitful Advent season.

Once you thoroughly repent of the sins you struggle with the most right now, turn to the Savior of the World with special attentiveness to the miracle of the Incarnation this Advent. Spend time adoring the God Who came to us in the form of a little child. Meditate on this Gift. Gaze at a nativity scene prayerfully. Read the Scripture passages about the birth of Christ. Close your eyes and imagine yourself there at His birth.

Reflect, today, upon this twofold exhortation from John and apply it to your Advent preparations. Cleanse your soul in a special way from all sin this Advent. Then prayerfully ponder and meditate upon the reality we are preparing to celebrate. As John says, allow the Christ Child to truly "baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire" through your deepening devotion and prayer this Advent.

*My dear Jesus, please help me to see my sins as You see them. Help me to be attentive to every sinful action I commit and even those smaller sins of omission. As I ponder my sin, please draw me to Your mercy and grace so that I can then open the eyes of my soul more deeply to see You and to adore You more completely this Advent. Jesus, I trust in You.*

# SCHEDULE OF CELEBRATIONS OF MASSES

## 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.

## KINDNESS CHALLENGE

“Kindness Challenge” Help spread the word, encouraging all to share kindness. Read more at [www.rcda.org/kind](http://www.rcda.org/kind) Don't forget to share your Kindness #RCDAkind



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**Nicole & Don Heckelman, Sacristans, Heckdon5@netzero.com**

**Charlie Hannan, Maintenance**

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

## Knights of Columbus Advent Message, Membership & Bottle Drive

**St Judes 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.**

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

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St Judes 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.

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Calling all men! Together we can make a difference. St Judes Knights of Columbus welcomes new members. It is now easier than ever with a new online registration at [KofC.org/JoinUs](http://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.



**St. Jude the Apostle School students in grades 3-5 outperformed students at all local Diocesan & public schools on the 2024 NYS ELA & Math Assessments!**

At St. Jude the Apostle School, students in grades 3-5 take the New York State assessments in English Language Arts, Math and Science; the same as all private and public school students in New York State. However, at St. Jude the Apostle School, our students are NOT made anxious or stressed about their performance on these assessments. At our school, they are just one more way of determining the quality of our instructional practices and student performance levels. This assists our administration and faculty in remediating and challenging students based upon their individual level of skills mastery. At St. Jude the Apostle School EVERY child is treated and educated as an individual with unique learning styles and needs. With this approach, our students are more than prepared for ANY assessment they are given and are able to perform at a proficiency rate that exceeds that of ALL local schools and districts.



On Sunday, December 15th, the Blue Christmas Service at 3pm in OLV Church. This candlelight service of hope and comfort, acknowledges the difficulties many of us face—a loss or hardship such as death, an illness, a financial concern, loss of a job, an addiction, depression or other reasons that makes celebrating Christmas a struggle. In the midst of our pain and sadness, there is the promise and comfort of the Lord. Questions: Contact Angela, [ashehan1304@gmail.com](mailto:ashehan1304@gmail.com)

### Sacraments Available PARISH OFFICE (518) 283-1162



**BAPTISM**  
Please call the Parish Office



**RECONCILIATION/CONFESSION**  
Saturday 3:00–3:30pm. Individual Confessions: arranged by calling the Parish Office.



**MARRIAGE**  
Couples please call the Office six months in advance and prior to making reception plans.



Are you or someone you know interested in becoming a Roman Catholic? Never been Baptized, Baptized in another faith tradition or maybe Baptized Catholic but never received First Holy Communion or Confirmation? Please call the Parish Office for information.



**ANNONING OF THE SICK**  
Upon request and is administered at special celebrations during the year.

**PASTORAL CARE**  
Please call the Parish Office for visitation and Communion for the homebound.



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