

December 2023



Faith Formation Newsletter

ST. JUDE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
NEW LENOX, IL

Season of Advent

Dear Families,

Sunday, December 3rd marks the start of Advent and a new year in the Catholic Church. In the season of Advent, we prepare our hearts and homes for the birth of Jesus on Christmas. We wait in joy, hope and anticipation for Christ, the Light of the World that will fill our hearts and renew our spirits. One common tradition of our Catholic faith is the Advent Wreath. In Church, families take turns lighting the candles on the Advent Wreath before the start of each weekend Mass. At home, families can light the candles on their own Advent Wreath each week while praying and reflecting daily during Advent. However your family prepares this Advent season, may your focus be on Jesus Christ!

Don't forget to submit your Mass and Explore 4 reflections! As a friendly reminder, **children in grades 1 - 8** are expected to complete seven Mass and four Explore 4 reflections each year. **Attending Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation are expected of all Catholics**, as it stands as the **first precept of our Church**. Please submit these promptly to ensure your children experience and appreciate the Mass and our Catholic Community to the fullest.

To learn more about these reflections, **[CLICK HERE](#)**. Scroll down towards the end of this newsletter for some Explore 4 opportunities in December for your family. Thank you for your participation!

You are always in our prayers!

The St. Jude's Faith Formation Team

*Faith Formation and Parish offices will be closed for a staff retreat on
Wednesday, December 6th.*

All St. Jude offices will be closed for the Christmas holiday from Friday, December 22, 2023 through Tuesday, January 2, 2024.

[Click HERE for Mass and Reconciliation times](#)

Advent Parish Reconciliation Service - Wednesday, December 13th 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Special Masses in the month of December:

Immaculate Conception (a Holy Day of Obligation)

December 8th - 7:30 am, 9:30 am and 7:00 pm

December 24th (Sunday Obligation)

8:00 am and 10:00 am *****This is a change from the normal schedule*****

December 24th (Christmas Eve) - 3:00 pm, 5:00 pm and 7:00 pm

December 25th (Christmas Day) - Midnight, 7:00 am, 9:00 am and 11:00 am

December 31st (New Year's Eve) - 7:00 am, 9:00 am and 11:00 am

January 1st (New Year's Day) - 9:00 am



[Program Information](#)



Matthew 19:14



Faith Formation Sunday School

for ages 3 through Kindergarten

During the 9:00 am Mass on certain Sundays of the month

No class in December, meets January 7th and 21st

For more information and to register, email bkacor@stjude.org or call 815-463-4262



ST. JUDE CATHOLIC CHURCH
NEW LENOX, IL

Families Called To Table

Total Home Learning for Grades 1-6

**The Unit #3 Review is due by
January 26th.**

[Click Here](#) for parent resources
used for teaching at home.

***Resources include links to parent
lesson plans, eAssessments and
parent pages to use as you teach
the new unit at home.***

Families are asked to submit at
least 7 Mass and 4 Explore Four
reflections each year.

[Click here](#) to submit Mass and
Explore Four reflections.

Families Living Faith

In-Person Sessions Grades 1-6

***There are no elementary Faith
Formation sessions during the
month of December.***

**Your Unit #3 Review is due at
your January session.**

Sunday A - January 7th
10:15 - 11:45 am

Tuesday A - January 9th
5:30 - 7:00 pm

Wednesday A - January 10th
5:30 - 7:00 pm

Sunday B - January 21st
10:15 - 11:45 am

Tuesday B - January 23rd
6:00 - 7:30 pm

Wednesday B - January 24th
6:00 - 7:30 pm

Take time this month to make sure your unit #1 through #3 reviews are completed and your Mass and Explore Four reflections are up-to-date.

Junior High Youth Ministry

Confirmation Preparation



You will see the web accessible version of our Youth Ministry page here:
[Catholic Community of Saint Jude - Home](#)

Stewardship Opportunities:

***Feed My Starving Children service event
Register by December 15th:
[Sign-up: Feed My Starving Children Thursday, January 4, 2024 \(google.com\)](#)
(only a few spots left!)

Year 1 & Year 2 Teens

Small Group Session 4

December 3rd 4:45 - 6:15 pm

December 4th 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Mass Workshop

December 10th 4:45 - 6:15 pm

*Learn about what is actually happening and what we do during Mass.
(Mass attendance is requested and essential right after the workshop.)*

Attention Year 2 teens:

Sign up for your Confirmation retreat soon! (Only 1 retreat needs to be attended.) Click the link to sign up: [Catholic Community of Saint Jude - Confirmation. Retreats \(snappages.site\)](#)

December 16th 11:30 am - 6:00 pm

February 17th 11:30 am - 6:00 pm

Register ASAP; space *extremely* limited!
NOT FOR YEAR 1 teens!!!

All JH & HS families!

Please keep up to date with all Youth Ministry news and information through our LIFElong@StJude App: [App - Catholic Community of Saint Jude](#).

Questions about how to use the app? View our app tutorial video here:
[App Tutorial on Vimeo](#).

QUEST: High School Youth Ministry



[QUEST]



TEENS JOURNEYING TO A DEEPER LIFE IN **CHRIST**
HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY



**THEREFORE ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER
AND BUILD ONE ANOTHER UP,
JUST AS YOU ARE DOING.
1 THESSALONIANS 5:11**

**6:30 PM LIFE MASS EVERY SUNDAY
NIGHT + ALL ARE WELCOME!**

EVERY WEDNESDAY @7 PM SEPTEMBER - MAY
FOR FOOD, FUN, AND FAITH GROWTH



ALL YEAR STEWARDSHIP/SERVICE PROJECTS

- FALL DISCOVERY RETREAT
- WINTER XTREME RETREAT
- HOLY THURSDAY RETREAT

SERVICE + SOCIALS + CAMPFIRE

QUESTION. UNCOVER. ENCOUNTER. SERVE. TRANSFORM.

**We are actively recruiting teen (7th grade to young adult) readers,
musicians, greeters and servers for the 6:30 pm LIFE Mass. [CLICK HERE](#)
to volunteer!**



This is a great opportunity for our teens to get excited about their faith life! Whether you've been there before or not, this is a weekend you will never forget! Winter Xtreme - February 23 through 25 - is a 3 day experience with a cost of \$175 that covers transportation/meals*/lodging/and retreat activities.



HS QUEST CALENDAR

Wed., December 6th 7 PM in Franciscan Hall Getting Ready 4 the ☐
Sun., December 10th 6:30 PM LIFE Mass

Wed., December 13th 7 PM in Franciscan Hall Lo Fi Study Night
Sun., December 17th 6:30 PM LIFE Mass & Finals Are Over Open Gym
Wed., December 20th 7 PM in F. H. Christmas Party: Ugly Sweater & White Elephant
Sun., December 24th **NO LIFE Mass**
Wed., December 27th **NO QUEST Night**
Sun., December 31st **NO LIFE Mass**
Wed., January 3rd 7 PM QUEST Night Back in Franciscan Hall

St. Jude's Youth and Peace & Social Justice Ministries will be working together on a coat drive to help families in the Chicagoland area. Throughout December, St. Jude families are invited to donate new or clean, gently used winter coats which will be taken to St. Rita Parish for disbursement. Look for the large red decorated boxes in the Narthex starting the weekend of December 9th and 10th.

Explore 4 Opportunities

Christmas Family Movie Night!



A small but brave donkey named Bo yearns for a life beyond his daily grind at the village mill. One day, he finds the courage to break free, embarking on the adventure of his dreams. On his journey, he teams up with Ruth, a lovable sheep who has lost her flock, and Dave, a dove who has lofty aspirations. Along with three camels and some eccentric stable animals, Bo and his new friends follow the Star and become accidental heroes in the greatest story ever told -- the first Christmas. Rated PG!

Friday, December 15th

Doors open at 6:30 pm

Movie will begin at 6:45 pm

St. Jude School Gym
(enter through door #6)

Bring a camping chair,
pillow or blanket to sit on!

We will provide the popcorn
and drinks, feel free to bring
other snacks to share!

Registration Required by
December 12th!

We ask that families RSVP online
on the Faith Formation Event Page!
(see link below)

Wearing Christmas PJs and apparel
is encouraged but not required.

Questions?
Berni KaCor: 815-463-4262
bkaCor@stjudes.org

<http://stjudes.org/christmas-family-movie-night/>

Family Advent Wreath Making for those who registered will be held on Saturday, December 2nd from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm. Make your preordered Advent Wreath or pick up your kit in the gym.

The annual Giving Tree project will once again be having a ONE DAY drop-off of gifts on Sunday, December 3rd from 8:30 am - 4:00 pm at the south door of the gym (door #3).

We appreciate your support of this most worthy project to help those in need this Christmas. Financial donations can still be made online at studes.org/givingtree.

Thank-you to all our Faith Formation families who brought in items for the Giving Tree in November. Your generosity is overwhelming.

Thank-you to all the families who baked for the Christmas concert! There was wide selection of delicious treats for everyone to indulge in.



ST. JUDE SCHOOL GYM
241 W 2ND AVE - NEW LENOX, IL 60451

**\$8 KIDS
\$13 ADULTS**

PICTURES W/ SANTA,
CRAFTS, COLORING &
MORE

Pancakes, Sausage,
Eggs, Ham, Cheesy
Potatoes, Coffee,
OJ & More

ALL YOU CAN EAT
CASH BAR - MIMOSAS & BLOODY MARY'S

PURCHASE ADVANCED TICKETS @ [STJUDES.ORG](https://stjudes.org)



Advanced tickets have been sold out but walk-ins will be welcome (you may have a short wait). Enjoy a delicious breakfast made by our Knights of Columbus!

On December 9th from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm, the Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart in Frankfort is hosting 'A Santamental Christmas' for the whole family!
Registration encouraged at <https://fssh.net/give/>.

**A Mount Assisi Convent
Display of Christmas Nativity Sets
Open House**

**December 3, 2023
1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.**

**In Celebration of
the 800th Anniversary
of the
first
Nativity Display
In 1223
by
St. Francis of Assisi**



Joining with Franciscans around the world to celebrate this event, we invite you to Mt. Assisi Convent to see and appreciate the Nativity sets that were collected by the Sisters through the years, as well as some sets loaned for this display by friends and family. Because many of the Nativity sets are delicate, we request that you refrain from touching them, and that any child who attends be accompanied by an adult.

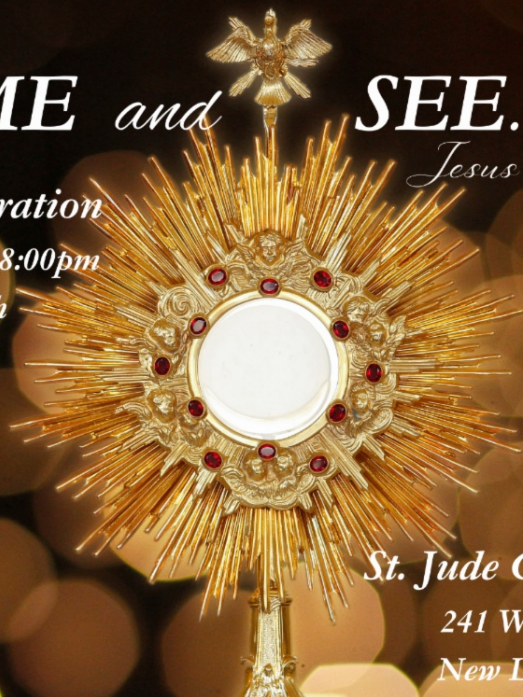
**Location: Mount Assisi Convent
13900 Main Street
Lemont, IL 60439
(630)257-7495**

COME and SEE...

Jesus is waiting for you

Eucharistic Adoration

**First Fridays: 7:00 -8:00pm
in the Church**



St. Jude Catholic Church

241 W. Second Street

New Lenox, IL 60451

Holy hours will include: short talks by priests, Scripture passages for meditation, quiet time to speak with Jesus, moments of reflection, music and more. Let Jesus bring you the happiness you seek! Next Holy Hour is Friday, December 1st! These holy hours are in addition to regular First Friday Adoration during the day and every Thursday afternoon.



YOU are invited to become an active member of our Music Ministry. Children grades 3 and up, teens and even parents - we have something that will be right for you!

[Click Here for more information](#) or contact John Berardi:

jberardi@stjudes.org

815-463-4209

Want to share our Faith with your children and others? Consider becoming an Elementary Catechist or Confirmation Mentor and spread the Word of Christ! Encourage your teens to become a catechist aide or teen mentor! We couldn't do this without you!

*Faith Formation Office
Hours*

Monday	9 am - 4 pm
Tuesday	9 am - 4 pm
Wednesday	9 am - 4 pm
Thursday	9 am - 4 pm
Friday	Closed

Evenings by Appointment

815-463-4260
www.stjudes.org

Connect With Us!



Berni Kacor - Administrative Coordinator
815-463-4262
bkacor@stjudes.org

Jackie Vanisko - Youth Ministry Assistant
815-463-4260
jvanisko@stjudes.org

Matthew Krumdrick - Director of Junior &
High School Youth Ministry, Grades 7-12
630-730-1368
matthewk@stjudes.org

Jennifer Lebhardt - Coordinator of Junior
High Formation, Grades 7-8
815-463-4266
jlebhardt@stjudes.org

Saint Jude Church | 241 West Second Avenue, New Lenox, IL 60451

[Unsubscribe](#) syaeger@stjudes.org

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by faithformation@stjudes.org powered by



Try email marketing for free today!