



# *Saint Jude* Parish

2022 Guide Book & Directory

5924 Bridgetown Rd. | Cincinnati, OH 45248-3108 | 574-1230

# St. Jude Parish

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5924 Bridgetown Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45248-3108

Rectory and Office 513-574-1230; Fax: 513-598-2109

School 513-598-2100; Fax: 513-598-2118

Website: [www.stjudebridgetown.org](http://www.stjudebridgetown.org)

This is the new St. Jude Parish Guide Book & Directory for 2022/2023. Its purpose is to answer your questions when you seek information about our parish and school. Each year our staff members work diligently to ensure that this guide book and directory reflects current information that you may need, including contact information for our parishioners. You will also find many advertisers who make this publication possible, some of whom are members of this parish, and others who continue to be strong supporters of St. Jude Parish. Please support these businesses whenever you can.

Parishioners are requested to notify the parish office whenever their address or telephone number changes, or if they are moving out of the area, so that we can keep our records up-to-date.

St. Jude and St. Aloysius Gonzaga now share one pastor as part of the Archdiocese Regionalization.

## St. Jude

Pastor: Fr. Donald Siciliano

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Gerard Hiland

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Martin Bachman

Secretary .....	Mrs. Trisha Popov.....	574-1230
Business Manager .....	Mr. Ken Schultz.....	Ext. 121
Office of Music Ministries .....	Mr. Greg Williams.....	Ext. 118
School Principal .....	Mr. Louis Eichhold.....	598-2100
Director of Parish School of Religion.....	Mrs. Cindy Weidner.....	574-1230
Head of Maintenance .....	Mr. Tom Perrmann.....	574-1230
Sacristan .....	Mrs. Holly Heinrich.....	574-1230
Cafeteria .....		Ext. 232
Concession Stand .....		Ext. 235
Undercroft.....		Ext. 119
After School Program.....		Ext. 233

## A History of St. Jude Parish Community

In 1956, during the papacy of Pope Pius XII, and at the direction of the Most Rev. Archbishop Karl J. Alter, St. Jude Parish began as a 16.25 acre tract of land on Bridgetown Road. On September 8, Msgr. Stanley Bertke was appointed to organize this new parish. In early October, the members of St. Jude Parish celebrated their first Mass in the Bridgetown Public School gymnasium.

Construction on a new parish “plant” began with ground breaking ceremonies on July 28, 1956. The design was a combination church and school. The first floor was used for church seating on Sunday and a classroom on school days. The basement served as a cafeteria. This temporary church was to be converted into a gymnasium later.

Parish Council voted to build a new church in 1968 and by the following March construction had begun. Parishioners watched with anticipation as our present church was built. On a Sunday in July 1970, the cornerstone was placed. Finally, on Sunday, September 20, 1970, the new church was dedicated.

Our most recent undertaking is the new Parish Center built with money raised through our Capital Campaign Fund. The Parish Center houses a new gym, plus computer, art and music rooms for the school children. Also there are three meeting rooms for our organizations.

The windows of the church are both beautiful and meaningful. Two types of stained glass are used. The large front windows and the windows in the sanctuary are of faceted glass. The great window over the front entrance depicts the Holy Trinity with the large Christ figure, our Lord, the Redeemer, in the center. The left panel depicts God the Father, Creator.

The right panel has the Holy Spirit and the fiery tongues of Pentecost. The creation panel shows the symbolic hand of God from which emanates the sun, moon and stars, and humankind with its co-creation, sputniks and space ships.

The sanctuary windows show the seven sacraments. From left to right are Baptism, Confirmation, Reconciliation, Eucharist, Matrimony, Holy Orders and Anointing of the Sick.

The windows in the west side of the body of the church depict the Annunciation, the Birth of Christ, Jesus in the Temple, the raising of Lazarus, the Feeding of the Multitude, the Last Supper, Gethsemane, the Crucifixion, and finally the Resurrection.

The opposite side has scenes from the Old Testament that have some similarity with the scenes of the New Testament. They are: Noah's Ark, Abraham offering his son in sacrifice, Moses and the Ten Commandments, Elisha raising the dead son of the Shunamite woman, Moses and the manna from the sky, and water from the rock, Melchisedech offering bread and wine, the suffering Job and his love of God, Moses and the serpent, and Elijah raised to heaven in a flaming chariot. In 1976, two long-awaited statues were also added to the church - the Sacred Heart and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.

Our patron saint, St. Jude, has very little known about him. He was a cousin of our Lord, an apostle, one of the inspired writers of the New Testament, and a martyr for the faith. Perhaps, the most important history of St. Jude is the supernatural action of God that has taken place after his death through his intercession. He is recognized as the patron of difficult and hopeless causes.

We, the parishioners of St. Jude have been so blessed to have such a place to come and worship our God and Lord. "O Lord, how lovely is your dwelling place o'er all the earth." For this and His many blessings, we humbly thank the Lord for bestowing His abundant grace on us.

## Parish Membership

**Registration** - If you would like to register as a member of St. Jude Parish, either go to our website, [www.stjudebridgetown.org](http://www.stjudebridgetown.org) under the Resource tab to New Parishioner Registration and follow instructions, or if you do not have access to a computer call the parish office and a registration card can be mailed.

**Changes to Personal Information** - We ask that you notify the office anytime your personal information (name, address, phone number, etc.) changes. In this way the office will ensure you receive information you need as a member of St. Jude.

## Worship

At St. Jude the Apostle Parish, the worship we offer and celebrate together is given very high priority. It is the primary reason that our parish exists. Our baptismal call as followers of Jesus Christ is to give Him due praise and thanksgiving. As members of a Catholic community, we are called to worship Father, Son, and Holy Spirit as a community. We are called to celebrate our faith as a family. Our schedule of services follows.

### **To fulfill the Sunday obligation:**

Saturday evening - 4:30 p.m. (except on Holy Saturday)

Sunday morning - 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

### **Weekdays:**

Tuesday & Friday - 8:30 a.m. Mass (Monday-8:30 a.m. Communion Service)

### **Holy Days that are always a day of obligation:**

Immaculate Conception December 8: Vigil Mass 7:00 p.m.

Holy Day Masses 8:30 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

Christmas

- Eve Masses 4:30 & 11:00 p.m.
- Day Masses 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

### **Holy Days of Obligation: (when solemnity occurs on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday)**

Assumption of Mary

- Vigil Mass (August 14 - 7:00 p.m.)
- Holy Day Masses (August 15 - 8:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.)

All Saints

No Vigil Mass

- Holy Day Masses (November 1 - 8:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.)

Mary, Mother of God

- Vigil Mass (December 31 - 4:30 p.m.)
- Holy Day Masses (January 1 - 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.)

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has decreed that whenever January 1, the solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, or August 15, the solemnity of the Assumption, or November 1, the solemnity of All Saints, falls on a Saturday or on a Monday, the precept to attend Mass is abrogated. St. Jude's normal weekday Mass schedule will prevail when these solemnities are not Holy Days of Obligation.

### **Other Holy Days: (not obligatory)**

- Ash Wednesday - 8:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- Holy Thursday - 7:00 p.m.
- Good Friday - 2:00 p.m. Liturgy of the Passion
- Holy Saturday - see the bulletin for the time of the Easter Vigil
- All Souls' (November 2) - 8:30 a.m.

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**Civic Holidays:**

Memorial Day, Independence Day, and Labor Day-8:30 a.m.

Thanksgiving

- Eve - 7:00 p.m.
- Day - 9:30 a.m.

**Penance Schedule:** Saturday 3:30 p.m.

**Please Note:** Times are subject to change. Always check the bulletin or the webpage [www.stjudebridgetown.org](http://www.stjudebridgetown.org) for updates.

## St. Jude Elementary School

**Facts** - St. Jude School is a Catholic school which shares, with the parents, the Church and the community, the responsibility to guide and direct students in their development as Christian-Catholic persons. It is chartered in the State of Ohio, and all curriculum is in compliance with the Archdiocese Department of Education.

St. Jude School offers a 9-year (grades K through 8) sequential program wherein children are recognized for their unique individual worth, and encouraged, directed and assisted in their growth toward maturity. The integration of our religious faith is emphasized in developing the whole child spiritually, intellectually, physically and socially.

St. Jude School also offers Kindergarten with half-day morning or afternoon sessions. Call the school for more information.

**Schedule:** 7:50 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

**Lunch:** Brown bag; hot lunches available.  
milk, water and snacks are sold.

**Bus Transportation:** Provided by Oak Hills and Three Rivers School Districts to those living at or more than a 2-mile distance from the school.

**Dress Code:** Uniform skirts and jumpers, white or red polo shirts are required for the girls. Boys are also required to follow a code for type and color of clothing.

**Registration** - To request registration for your child, call the school office. It is preferred you register your child early before the school year, although enrollment is possible throughout the year. You need not be a registered St. Jude parishioner for your child to have the opportunity to attend our school. However, the tuition fee and the eligibility of your child to attend St. Jude will be guided by the St. Jude Parish School Admission Policy (next page).



**Admission Policy** - No student will be excluded from St. Jude due to sex, race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry. On the other hand, parents who seek admission for their children to avoid desegregation will be denied. In questionable cases, the decision of the Pastor will be final.

Non-parish families may enroll their children in the school provided there is room for them. Non-members who enroll their children must pay full tuition.

St. Jude is a parish school, built and supported by members of the parish. Therefore, active parishioners have the primary right to enroll their children. If a situation occurs where a waiting list develops, students will be accepted according to the guidelines.

These guidelines identify the priority in which enrollment will be accepted in St. Jude School:

1. Children of parents having a history of support for the parish.
  - a. Fidelity to Sunday worship with the parish community.
  - b. Involvement in the parish ministries and activities or committee works.
  - c. Consistent financial support of the parish through the Sunday collection.
2. Children having older brothers and sisters in the school.
3. Children of families registered in the parish.
4. Child is a member of a parish that does not have a designated Catholic school.
5. Children of non-parishioners.

We also encourage you to discuss your education needs directly with the school administration.

**Tuition Policy** - The following monetary policies will be followed:

1. Members of St. Jude Parish will pay the tuition amount as determined by the Finance Committee of St. Jude Parish.
2. Non-active members of St. Jude Parish who choose to take part in a Christian-oriented education will pay the full tuition cost of educating the child as determined by the Finance Commission of St. Jude Parish.
3. Non-Catholics who choose to take part in a Christian-oriented education here at St. Jude School will pay the full per capita cost of each student as determined by the Finance Commission of St. Jude Parish. Non-Catholic students will be expected to take part in all the activities of the educational process at St. Jude School, including religion classes and activities.

**Tuition - As of the 2022-2023 school year**

Families with 1 child .....	\$3,765
Families with 2 children .....	\$7,440
Families with 3 or more children .....	\$11,070
Non-Active Members .....	\$5,035



**Kindergarten morning or afternoon sessions only:**

Per child- .....	\$2850
Non-active member per child- .....	\$3830

**Kindergarten Morning Session with extended day**

Per child- .....	\$4185
Non-Active member per child- .....	\$5660

Kindergarten is a self-supporting program and therefore cannot be combined for the multi-student discount offered to students in grades 1-8.

There is also an After-School Care program that starts at school dismissal until 6:00 p.m. for an additional fee. Contact the school office at 598-2100 for more information.

At registration a non-refundable fee of \$50.00 per family is due. This registration fee increases to \$100.00 when the registration comes in after the time of registration. We use an outside company for tuition payments. (No payments will come to the parish or school offices). The payments will all be completed online through ACH or credit card transaction. Once you register for the school year you will be receiving an email from Facts as an invite to register in the system. Once in the system you will be able to choose a payment plan, pay in full with a 3% discount or a 10 month or 12-month payment (the last two plans will have a \$46 fee associated with them).

Our tuition fees are based on active and non-active church support. Our standard for parents with children in school requires that they volunteer a certain amount of time toward the church and the school. In addition, our standard requires that they support the parish in general by using the donation envelope each week, and we ask each family to attend a minimum of 36 Sundays of the year here at St. Jude Parish.

Those who do not maintain these requirements are considered non-active members and are subject to the non-active tuition.

**Parent Teacher Organization** - The St. Jude Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) is a body of parent representatives working with the school administration and faculty to keep parents abreast of recent trends and new developments in the St. Jude School. Its purpose is to provide support to the students and teachers.

PTO supplies a variety of services and goods through a volunteer-based organization directed by Board Members and the school principal. Several field trips and other educational programs are sponsored by the PTO to enhance the school environment and benefit all the children. Fundraising events, sales from the Gift Certificate program (gift cards from various merchants are sold after each Mass), etc., also provide revenues that are continually reinvested in the school.

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**PTO Membership** - Primarily draws from fathers, mothers, and guardians of the pupils of St. Jude School, and members of the faculty. Since it is a parish organization, membership includes all members of St. Jude Parish. Executive Committee-President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Pastor and School Principal. Any parishioner can serve as an officer on the PTO board.

**Safe Parish** - All adults who work with children in any regular capacity, either as paid staff or volunteers are required by the Archdiocese to register for a Safe Parish session. To register for this please go to [www.aocsaferenvironment.org](http://www.aocsaferenvironment.org). The Safe Parish session is an online course. When you create your account in Safe Parish you will initiate the background check. The cost of the online background check is \$25. The process is quick and easy plus it will give the Diocese a more thorough check. Please remember this is for the safety of our children. Any questions contact the school at 598-2100 or the business manager at 598-2103.

For more information on any aspect of St. Jude School, please call the school office, 598-2100.

## Religious Education

### YOUTH

**St. Jude Elementary School** - A complete Catholic education program is contained in the curriculum at the school and taught on a daily basis. It is an objective of the school to “provide for the child’s spiritual growth by affording prayer opportunities, participation in the liturgy, the reception of the sacraments and an understanding of Catholic doctrine.”

**Parish School of Religion (PSR)** - This program provides religious education for students in grades 1-8 who do not attend a parochial school full-time. Classes are held on Sunday mornings 9:30-10:45 a.m. beginning September and ending in April. PSR teaching opportunities and classroom assistants are available.

**Religious Education for Learning/Physically Impaired Persons and Teens** - Religious education is available for a variety of learning or developmentally impaired children during regular PSR classes on Sunday mornings. Teens and some children needing accessible buildings are going to neighboring parishes for religious education. Arrangements and referrals for all of the above are provided on an individual basis. Please contact our DRE.

# Sacramental Preparation

## YOUTH

**Infant Baptism** - We are happy to baptize your child/children here at St. Jude. Parents wishing to have their child/children baptized should call the parish office to make reservations to enroll in the parental preparation program. This program consists of one meeting held the First Monday of every other month at 7:00p.m. in meeting room 3 of the parish center. The program offers an opportunity to meet other parents and to understand more fully the choice they are making in sharing the gift of faith with their children.

Expectant parents are asked to call the parish secretary approximately 4 months before the anticipated birth date to enroll in the class.

Parents who have attended the preparation program may call the parish office to make an appointment for the baptism. Baptisms are celebrated every weekend either during a Mass or right after a Mass. If the parents are having their child baptized after a Mass, they are expected to attend that Mass. During Lent, baptisms are only offered after Masses.

**First Reconciliation Preparation** - Children in grade two and older receive First Reconciliation instruction during the fall in regular religion classes in both the elementary school and PSR. Students celebrate their First Reconciliation during a Communal Reconciliation Service in early December.

**First Eucharist Preparation** - First Eucharist is celebrated annually in the spring here at St. Jude. It is available for parishioners in 2nd grade and older. It may be celebrated either in the large group or in families. Preparation is integrated into regular class time in both St. Jude School and PSR programs.

**Confirmation Preparation** - A comprehensive program is provided for both St. Jude School and PSR 8th grade students. Instruction is integrated into the regular religion class time. Parents and sponsors are involved throughout the process. Candidates, sponsors, and parents are asked to attend Spirit Sunday, a Sunday afternoon program in early October.

We would be happy to work with you to ensure your child's/children's needs are met. Please call the Director of Religious Education for more information.

## ADULT

**Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)** - Adults wishing to convert to the Catholic religion should enroll in this program (Catechumenate) which provides the ingredients for a complete journey of faith: Faith, Conversion, Liturgy and Community. It is the celebration of the key moments of conversion within the heart of the candidate. It involves prayer, instruction, and the formal celebration of acceptance in the Church at the Easter Vigil. The RCIA is continuous from September through Pentecost. Each Sunday at the 8:30 a.m. Mass they meet and then continue their instruction until 11:00 a.m. We also encourage any adult Catholics who wish to "re-acquaint" themselves with their Catholic religion to enroll in this program. Please call the parish office for details, or to enroll.

**Marriage Preparation** - Congratulations if you are anticipating an upcoming wedding! There are two components to marriage preparation here at St. Jude. One is joining up with a Marriage Ministry Couple who will help you prepare for your married life. The other is Pre-Cana conference which is required by the Catholic Church. If you would like to have your wedding here at St. Jude, we ask that either the bride or groom be a registered active parishioner for at least six months before arranging a date for your marriage. To get started in your preparation process, please call the parish office at least six months before your wedding date.

**Other Sacraments** - If you or someone you know, of high-school age or older, is already a Baptized Catholic but has not received one or more sacraments, we would be happy to help you/them prepare and receive “first” Eucharist, Reconciliation or Confirmation. Please call the Director of Religious Education.

**Anointing of the Sick** - The Sacrament of Anointing is meant for those Christians whose health is seriously impaired by sickness and old age. Through the anointing, the Church supports the sick in their struggle against illness, continuing Christ’s work of healing.

If possible, the sacrament should be requested at the beginning of a serious illness so the person can participate actively and fully. The presence of family members and others from the community highlight this prayer of the Church as a healing encounter with the Lord. Anointing may be repeated as dictated by the condition of the person, whether during the same or a different illness.

If you would like to celebrate the Sacrament of Anointing, or know of someone who would benefit from it, just call the parish office and ask to speak to the priest. If this is an emergency, please make sure you communicate that at the time of your call.

**Eucharist in the Home** - Our Eucharistic Ministers are happy to accommodate the needs of those parishioners whose health or physical condition prevents them from receiving Eucharist during Mass. If you are unable to attend Mass, but would like to receive the Eucharist, please call the parish office to arrange for a home visit.

There were times in the past when families or other groups celebrated a Mass or Eucharistic Liturgy in the home. In recent years the Church has discouraged this practice, since it excludes the balance of the parish community. If you would like to learn more about the Church’s current teaching, call the parish office.



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## Commissions

**Finance** - The Finance Commission is responsible for forecasting, keeping track of and reporting the financial status of the parish. The Finance Commission helps the pastor in all major expenditure decisions. It is responsible for assisting in determining how the parish will distribute major funding, including building/grounds maintenance and improvements, school expenses, etc.

Although this organization is not responsible for finding ways to meet expenses, it does make recommendations to parish organizations on how to ensure fiscal stability. An example would be providing help to the Pastor on setting annual stewardship objectives.

**Worship** - The Worship Commission is responsible for the planning, preparation, and evaluation of our liturgical celebrations. Most activities of this commission are carried out through the individual organizations that, together, make up the commission. Please see “Worship” under the “Ministries” heading below.

## Ministries

**WORSHIP** - The works of the Worship organizations are many and varied and offer opportunities for all parishioners to be involved. All are extremely important to the proper and reverent liturgical celebrations in our parish.

**Music Ministry** - The primary musical instrument in our worship is the human voice. Each of us are ministers of music at our liturgical celebrations as we all lift our voices together in sung prayer. The Music Ministry is involved in the leadership of these voices, and their musical accompaniment, in sung prayer. There are many ways to become involved in this ministry:

**Cantors & Song Leaders** lead the assembly in sung prayer at Mass.

**Ensembles** are welcome. Parishioners interested in forming a more structured group of this type, and being worked into a schedule, are encouraged to call the Music Office.

**Instrumentalists** of all ages are invited to share their talents with the rest of the assembly. Organists, pianists, guitarists, bassists, percussionists, and woodwind players could be used on a regular basis; players of other stringed, and brass instruments are typically used seasonally and on special occasions.



**Choirs** of children, youth and adults regularly lead song at Sunday Masses and on Holy Days.

- **The Sunday Children's Choir** is open to all children in grades 3-8. No audition is necessary. This choir normally rehearses every other week on Tuesday evenings, September - May at 6:30 p.m. in the church, and usually sings at Mass once each month (more frequently near Christmas and Easter). Extended and extra rehearsals are sometimes required to prepare for special occasions.
- **The School Children's Choir** is open to all students of St. Jude the Apostle School in grades 3-8, with their teachers' and parents' permission. This choir normally rehearses during the school year every other week on Tuesday afternoons from 2:30-3:30 p.m. in church and leads the music at school Masses and liturgies.
- **The Youth Choir** is open to all students from junior high through college. Contact the Music Director for more information 574-1230, ext. 118.
- **The Adult Choir** is open to anyone 9th grade and older. No audition is necessary. The Adult Choir rehearses weekly on Wednesday evenings, September - May at 7:00 p.m. in the music room in the parish center. The Adult Choir sings at the 11:00 a.m. Mass on Sundays and at other special liturgical celebrations.

Anyone interested in learning more should call the Music Office - 574-1230, ext. 118.

**Altar Attendants** assist the presider (and the community) during liturgical celebrations. Typically, altar attendants are grade school age (5th grade and older), but an altar attendant can be any age. If you have an interest in becoming an altar attendant, please call the parish office.

**Art & Environment** is the group responsible for the decoration, preparation, and maintenance of our worship "space," the church, especially during Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter. The sacristan (the person with overall responsibility for the worship environment) is always in need of ideas, and "helping hands." If interested, please call the parish office.

**Mass Coordinators** - Each liturgical celebration has a coordinator. This involves helping to set up the sanctuary area, preparing those items needed for the celebration, and removing items back to the sacristy for cleaning after the celebration has concluded. The coordinator also oversees all the liturgical ministries for a certain celebration.

**Eucharistic Ministers** distribute the Body and Blood of Christ to the assembly at Mass. Some brief training is required. If interested, please call the parish office.

**Eucharistic Ministers to the Homebound** distribute to those unable to attend Mass for health or physical reasons. Some brief training is required. If interested, please call the parish office.

**Lectors** proclaim the Word of God to the assembly at our liturgical celebrations. Lectors are normally scheduled once every seven weeks for the Saturday and Sunday Masses. If you would like to be involved in this ministry, please call the parish office.

**Ushers and Greeters** are those who perform one or more of the following services at Mass:

- Greeting parishioners at the doors as they arrive
- Helping seat the assembly
- Distributing programs, bulletins, and other handouts
- Taking up the collection
- Ordering the procession with the gifts and the communion procession
- Distributing weekly bulletins and handouts at the doors as the assembly leaves
- Straightening up the worship area as needed

Although we can always use more volunteers in the typical “ushering” activities, we are in particular need of people to help welcome parishioners as they come to church. If you have the inclination to serve in one of these capacities, and especially if you enjoy smiling and saying “hello” to people, we could use your help. Please call the parish office for more information.

**The Bereavement Ministry** - The Bereavement Ministry provides a very real opportunity to reach out to parishioners who have suffered the death of a loved one. We meet with the family to plan the Liturgy of Christian Burial and attend the liturgy and function as greeters, lectors, Eucharistic ministers, servers, etc.

This is a vibrant ministry and a very important one. We welcome new people. Questions or interest call the parish office, 574-1230.

## Social Service

St. Vincent de Paul Society is founded on the two Great Commandments: Love God and Love your Neighbor as Yourself. The society seeks to meet the more immediate needs of individuals and families who are dealing with difficulties. Outside the group of members, all assistance is confidential. If interested in becoming a member, call the parish office. If you find yourself in difficult times, do not hesitate to call the St. Vincent de Paul by contacting the parish office. Remember, your privacy will be respected; all activities are kept confidential. Give the organization a chance to help.

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## Socials and Service

### YOUTH

**Girl Scouts** - Our Girl Scout program meets the developmental, educational, emotional and social needs and interests of girls in Kindergarten through high school. Girl scouting builds girls of courage, confidence and character who make the world a better place. If you are interested in joining as a scout or as an adult helper, please call the parish office.

### Athletic Association

The Athletic Association is the parish organization devoted to the successful planning and management of a comprehensive and well-rounded sports program that all parish children can benefit from. The Athletic Association ideals go beyond the playing field by strongly supporting high academic standards, emphasizing good sportsmanship and the team concept. The Athletic Association goes even further by selecting coaches and assistants who will instill the highest moral values and always conduct themselves as positive role models for our child athletes to emulate. The Athletic Association is devoted to continue providing a team with this atmosphere for every child in the parish who wants to participate in sports.

The Athletic Association sports program currently sponsors teams in elementary school football; boys and girls basketball teams, instructional through high school; boys' baseball, instructional through high school; girls' softball, instructional through high school; girls' volleyball, third grade through eighth grade; boys' volleyball, fifth through eighth grade; boys' and girls' soccer, elementary through high school; and a boy and a girls track program. Signups are conducted several months before the season by each sport's coordinator.

The Athletic Association policy emphasizes that the sign-up deadline be strictly adhered to since the number of sign ups is pivotal in determining team numbers and sizes. Notice of the sign ups is always provided through the church bulletin. The Athletic Association's meetings are open to the entire parish and held in the undercroft and begin at 8:00 p.m. Meetings are always scheduled on the second Wednesday of the months of January through May (May being the board election meeting) and August through December. Board meetings are limited to board members only, however parishioners may request a special meeting with the board by contacting the Athletic Association President to schedule a time, if the situation warrants. As a reminder of upcoming meetings, the date and time of meetings is always included in the school's newsletter, the "Hey, Jude," the weekly church bulletin and another reminder is sent home with the students.

The Athletic Association policy is that all parishioners of St. Jude are automatically members. There are no fees, dues or other requirements. The executive board (some of whom are elected, some appointed) is responsible for final decisions. However, it is a goal of the board to have all decisions reflect the opinions, wishes and goals of the majority at large who attend the open meetings, where all matters related to the sports program are openly presented and discussed.

The Athletic Association's ultimate wish is for all parishioners to support and participate with us to continually develop a stronger, more cohesive athletic program. By attending the meetings, parishioners can make suggestions, voice their opinions, and become more a part of the program and make a difference. Even if they attend the meetings and do not say one word, a statement of support will be made. Become an active member - the kids need your support.

We'll see you at the meetings!

### **High School (9-12) Youth and Junior High (7-8) Youth Ministry**

- The purpose of the St. Jude Youth Ministry is to draw young people to responsible participation in the life, mission, and work of the faith community, and empower them to live as disciples of Jesus Christ in our world today, by fostering their personal, spiritual growth and affirming their faith, gifts, energy, and fresh ideas. Students, who have the desire to grow in faith, and leadership in Christ through service, are encouraged to become a part of this program. Specific information concerning any activities can be found in the Sunday bulletin.

### **ADULT**

**Adult Faith Formation** - As adult Catholics, we are called to continually grow in our faith and enter into a deeper relationship with God. Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the Adult Faith Formation Team seeks to nourish this growth in knowledge, love, and communion with God. Various faith building presentations, study groups, forums, and pilgrimages are offered throughout the year. If you are interested in learning more about Adult Faith Formation activities at St. Jude, please call the parish office at 574-1230.

## Parish Fundraising Activities

No Catholic parish can survive in today's world without aggressive fundraising activities. Those parishes with elementary schools feel this need even more acutely than others.

At St. Jude, our four major sources of funding are our weekly bingo, the annual festival, Saturday and Sunday Mass collections and tuition.

**Bingo** - Friday night bingo will be held on the 1st & 3rd and 5th Fridays of the month. Bingo at St. Jude is a tradition as old as the parish itself. It has been the source of much success in paying off the bills of the parish. Without it we would be in dire circumstances. For example, parents of elementary school students today are required to pay a part of the total tuition costs, with the balance covered at least in part by bingo proceeds.

Activities begin at 7:00 p.m. every Friday, and last until about 10:00 p.m. in the undercroft of the church. We offer the newest in bingo equipment to ensure that when a "bingo" occurs we have it without a doubt. Monitors and electronic recall allows for accurate winners. Refreshments are available at very minimal costs.

We also sell \$.25, \$.50 and \$1.00 "instant winner" tickets, some of which provide some very attractive payoffs. Our facility is nonsmoking. State law mandates no one under 18 may attend or play bingo.

We encourage you to come join us on Friday night, help the parish and enjoy some recreation at the same time. We can also use all the volunteers we can get to handle the refreshment area, sell "instant winners," and generally assist our regular bingo teams. If you would like to volunteer some of your time, don't call ahead. Just come to the back of the undercroft and see any of the workers in the kitchen. They will be glad to find you something to do.

**Festival** - We have one festival annually, the first full weekend in June. Our festival is well known for its diversity, special children's booths, our Bulldog Auction and good food. We have the undercroft for regular Poker and other "games of chance," another for Jumbo Poker and a wide range of prize and food booths. A special dinner is available on Sunday evening that always gets rave reviews.

Many individual organizations host their own booths, but there is always a spot for another volunteer; someone to chair, or at least manage a booth for a few hours during the weekend.

Chairing a booth is a great way to meet and become acquainted with your fellow parishioners. Managing a booth for just a few hours can be lots of fun as well, with only a minimal investment of your time. You can be sure your time is well spent, helping St. Jude provide for the fiscal need of its parishioners. If you would like to learn more about the Festival, or would like to be involved in this activity, please call the parish office.

## Communication

One way to stay in touch with St. Jude activities is the weekly Bulletin. These are available for everyone at all entrances to the church. The front page provides a list of Pastoral Staff, the weekly Mass and reconciliation schedules, and information on those things most important to the parish membership. Within the bulletin are a variety of articles from organizations both within and outside the parish, advertising coming events and providing status on important aspects of parish life. Many organizations because of their size depend solely on the bulletin to communicate activities, needs, contacts, etc. If you want to stay advised of the comings-and-goings in St. Jude, we strongly recommend you do not leave church without one.

You should also be aware that anyone may place a notice or an article in the bulletin. We focus on those areas of interest to the general membership. If you have something that fits that category, please have your article to the parish office by 12:00 noon on Tuesday, for inclusion in the bulletin for the upcoming weekend. You may also e-mail your article to [trish.popov@thestjudeparish.org](mailto:trish.popov@thestjudeparish.org). If you would like to advertise in the bulletin, spaces are available for a nominal fee. Call the parish office for details.

Another way to stay in touch is our website: [www.stjudebridgetown.org](http://www.stjudebridgetown.org).