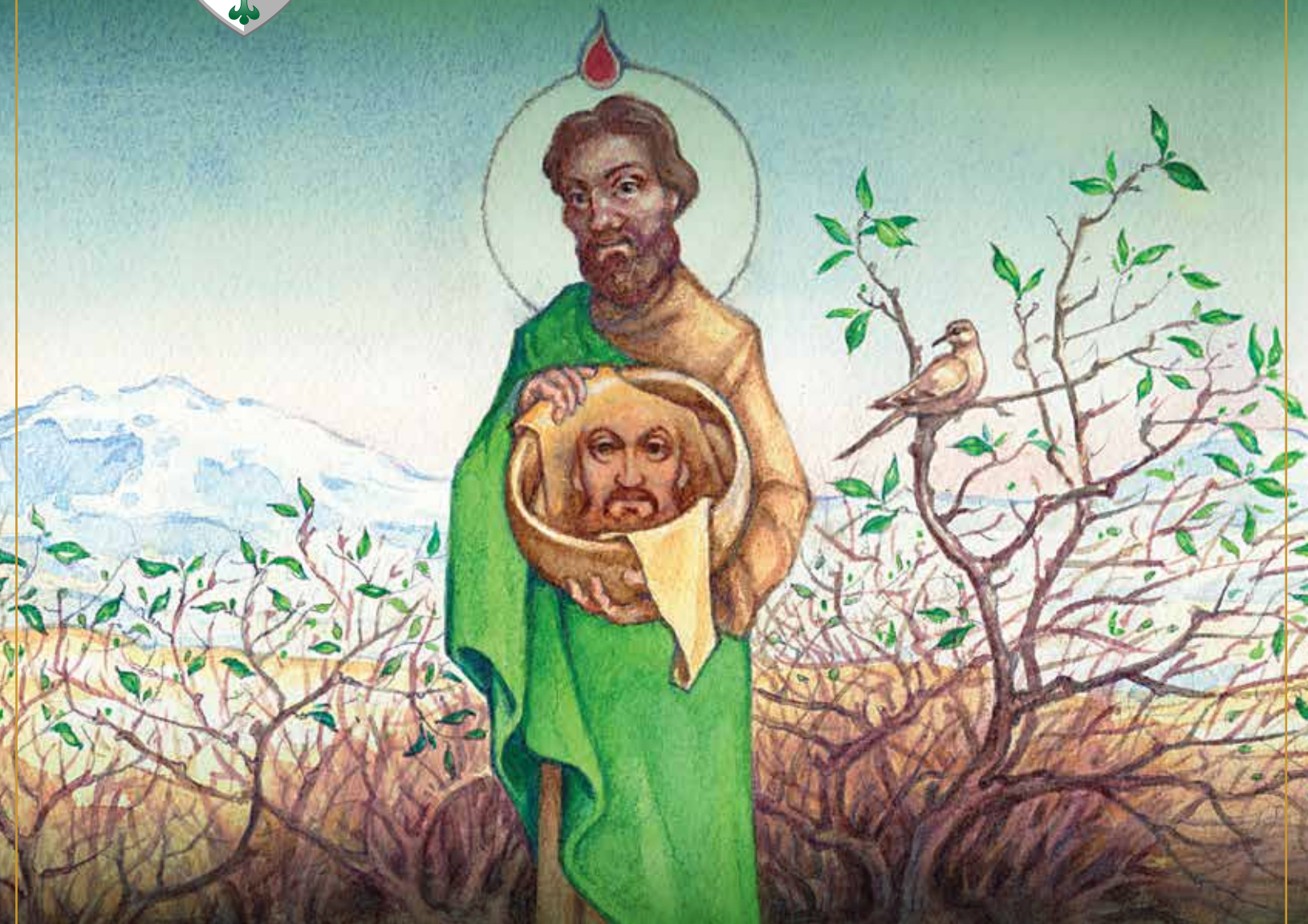




# THE SAINT JUDE MESSENGER

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE ROSARY SHRINE OF SAINT JUDE



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"GOD HEARS EVERYTHING YOU SAY. HE JUST DOESN'T GIVE IT TO YOU WHEN YOU WANT IT. YOU'VE GOT TO KEEP PERSEVERING AND KEEP COMMUNICATING WITH HIM."

THE FRONT COVER ART DEPICTS SAINT JUDE CARRYING A SHROUD IMPRINTED WITH THE HOLY FACE (SEE ARTICLE PAGE TEN). ORIGINAL ILLUSTRATION BY ANTHONY SANTELLA.



# DIRECTOR'S LETTER

If it wasn't for Father Peter Colapietro, I would not have learned about several great Saint Jude stories. Back in 2012 Father Pete introduced himself as he sat down next to me on a flight to Rome. He shared with me that he hated flying and asked if I'd stay up talking with him. That might not sound like a big request but it was already evening and I had had a hectic day. I was looking forward to catching up on some sleep before the following day in the Eternal City. I had heard stories about this salty, larger than life character. He was nicknamed the Pope of 42nd Street because if you walked down that block in Manhattan you'd see Father Pete sitting on the front steps of Holy Cross Church speaking to everyone in the neighborhood. So I decided to offer up a night's sleep as my little cross and said, "Sure." The next 8-and-a-half hours literally and figuratively flew by!

One of the stories he shared with me was about a teenager named Mickey who had given up hope when his younger brother Joey was diagnosed with cancer at 17 and told he had six months to live. His grandmother taught him about the Patron Saint of Lost Causes, and Mickey began praying to Saint Jude for a miracle. His brother lived.

Mickey Rourke went on to become a famous actor in the 1980s. But, by the mid-1990s, his career had floundered. In 1994, Mickey was in a state of despair, and about to commit murder and suicide. He went to Holy Cross Church on 42nd street to leave his suicide note under the statue of Saint Jude. Instead, he ran into Father Pete, who talked him out of it.

Years later when his brother died at the age of 50, Rourke stopped praying for several years. Father



ACADEMY-AWARD-NOMINATED ACTOR MICKEY ROURKE

Pete finally told him, "Mickey, nobody gets a pass. Everyone's gonna lose a mother, a father, a brother, a sister, an aunt, an uncle, a spouse. I know how you feel deep down inside. God hears everything you say. He just doesn't give it to you when you want it. You've got to keep persevering and keep communicating with Him. You've got to talk to God before the house burns down."

Mickey learned that everything is truly in God's hands. Though both his academy award nomination and Fr. Pete's death, Mickey remained devoted to God and Saint Jude.

*Father Gabriel*

Father Gabriel Gillen, O.P.  
Director, Rosary Shrine of Saint Jude

# Thank you, Saint Jude!

LETTERS FROM PATRONS OF THE ROSARY SHRINE OF SAINT JUDE

*For generations, Catholics have publicly thanked Saint Jude for favors received through his intercession. In these pages, patrons of the Rosary Shrine of Saint Jude carry on the tradition!*

## Believe in Miracles!

I recently experienced a serious medical condition. Had major surgery been required, the outcome would have been in question. I received a Novena card and Chaplet with prayers to Saint Jude asking for his intercession. I'm sure that praying to Saint Jude was one of the reasons the outcome—without surgery—was positive.

-Don

## Exorbitant Bills

I had exorbitant medical bills from two life-threatening illnesses over the past several years. These bills, and my inability to pay them, have ruined my credit. My husband and I needed to find an apartment, and had difficulty, both because of my credit and because I am disabled and cannot climb a lot of steps. I prayed to Saint Jude, and to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and my prayers were answered! Thank you, Saint Jude, and my Blessed Mother Mary for interceding for me!

-Donna



**Ron.** Dear Saint Jude, my son is getting off of drugs thanks to you and Jesus and Mary. He may live on his own soon. Thank you! ❤️❤️❤️❤️

## Saint Jude's Healing Hands

I visited the Shrine of Saint Jude in Saint Dominic's Church in October 2021. I prayed the Rosary and the Chaplet of Divine Mercy facing the main altar. Afterwards, I toured the inside of the church, and my final stop was the statue of Saint Jude Thaddeus. I prayed to him for relief from a migraine and touched both his hands, which were extended, after I said my prayer.

Some time later, I visited the website and saw that on the statue of Saint Jude his hands are not extended, but bent upwards holding his staff and an image of the Lord. I don't know if this was a miracle, but I felt relief from the migraine after touching Saint Jude's hands.

-Amie

Our son was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia at 12 years old. My brother introduced a friend of his to our family, who would visit our son and taught him to pray to Saint Jude for a cure. He is now 19 and there is no evidence of the disease!

-Linda

## Heartsick

Coming from a large family, my only brother and I find ourselves, in our later years, the only

ones left. We have lost so many loved ones, and many of them in recent memory. I lost my husband of thirty years two years ago. My brother and I are all the family each other has in the world.

Recently, my brother (age 69) was experiencing some physical difficulties. He had a cardiac stress test, and the results were ominous. He was scheduled for an invasive cardiac catheter test to see what was wrong with his heart.

I was heartsick with worry. My brother struggled with his weight all his life, and his dietary habits were poor. Plus, my late husband also had a weight and diet problem, and had died of heart failure; I was still grieving that loss.

I tried to prepare myself for the worst. Then I remembered the booklet of prayers to Saint Jude the Rosary Shrine of Saint Jude had sent me. I prayed them earnestly. As the date for his test approached, I began and completed the Novena to Saint Jude.

On the day the test results arrived, I was astonished. They showed that he had had a 'false positive' stress test for heart disease. But this was not the miracle; people make mistakes, even in the medical sciences. This was a happy mistake.

The miracle was when his cardiologist said to him, "Sir, I envy you! You have the strong, healthy heart of a 20-year-old! Not even a hint of heart disease!" What are the odds, given his weight, age, and lifestyle?

I joyously credit Saint Jude and his intercessory prayer to our Lord for my brother's life and I pray that others will take heart from my experience.

-Patty

## *A Tough-Love Miracle*

My brother was a heavy drinker. It started after he lost his wife at a young age, and he was left to juggle raising his 12-year-old son and working. Unfortunately, he turned to drinking, and it got out of hand. I prayed to Saint Jude to intercede for me to our Lord and help him turn away from this addiction.



God answered my prayer with a miracle, and my brother was stricken with pseudogout (a painful disease). His doctor told him never to touch alcohol again or he could die.

It's been two years since then, and my brother is back to his kind and gentle self. My nephew is now 25 years old and an accomplished auto mechanic. Both are living happily together and it's all because Saint Jude heard my plea.

-Beverly

## *God can Bring Good out of our Faults*

I'm responsible for caring for my elderly mother, who has dementia. My sister, whose house we were staying at, always criticized me for being messy and for emptying the clean towels from the dryer onto the laundry room floor.

One day I had to leave mom for 20 minutes as I drove my nephew to a little league game. I put her in a comfortable chair, and told her to stay put until I returned. As I was driving back from the ballfield, I could see through the window from the road that the chair was empty. I prayed to Saint Jude that mom would be okay.

Inside the house, I looked down the hallway and saw mom's legs sticking out from a doorway. She had fallen, and I always knew that a serious fall would be the end for her. As I rushed over—again praying to Saint Jude—I saw that she had fallen into the laundry room onto the pile of towels I had left on the floor. She was completely fine and was even laughing!

God can bring good even out of our faults. The next time my sister criticized me for being messy, I reminded her that it saved mom's life.

-Brian

## 40 Days of Prayer

I had been looking for a job for more than a year that would allow me to work from home. My father had recently passed away, and I did not want to leave my aged mother by herself. My mother and I prayed for 40 days to Saint Jude by praying one Our Father on the first day, two Our Fathers on the second day, all the way to praying 40 Our Fathers on the fortieth day. On the last day, I was hired at a good job that would allow me to work remotely. I can now pay my mortgage, car, and other bills. I can also go to daily Mass and bring Holy Communion to my mother. Thank you, Saint Jude, for helping me pray to God for His mercy and blessings.

-Theresa

## 39 Years of Anguish

For 39 years I suffered from a binge eating disorder. I did everything on the planet to get well—including a five-month stint at a premier eating disorder clinic in Manhattan—and spent more money than I care to count seeking a cure. Finally, I prayed to Saint Jude, and my prayers were answered. I no longer binge eat, am reducing my weight gradually, and have found freedom from 39 years of anguish.

-Elizabeth-Anne

## Accepted

Our grandson, a senior in high school, has been working incredibly hard to be admitted to West Point after graduation. He is an excellent student, but he did not apply to other schools for admission.

His focus is solely on West Point. His whole family has been praying that if this was the right thing for him spiritually, mentally, emotionally and physically, he would be accepted. He was notified on Friday that he was!

-Jill

## Call her "Jude"



Many years ago, my Mom married and had three boys. She longed for a girl. So, she prayed to Saint Jude that her next pregnancy would be a girl. She promised Saint Jude that she would name the little girl after him. So here I am, a girl named Judith; usually called "Jude" by my siblings and my husband. But Saint Jude wasn't done. My Mom had two more girls after me, followed by two more boys.

-Judith

I truly believed that I would never conceive a child. At 35 years old, I started praying to Saint Jude and I was amazed when I found out that summer that I was pregnant! I now have an amazing son and I thank Saint Jude for answering my prayers.

-Susan

Share your Saint Jude story by using the reply envelope included in this issue, emailing [rssj@dominicanfriars.org](mailto:rssj@dominicanfriars.org), or contacting us on Facebook at [facebook.com/rosarysaintjude](https://www.facebook.com/rosarysaintjude).

# STRUGGLING WITH AN ADDICTION? PRAY THIS PRAYER TO SAINT JUDE.

BY PHILIP KOSLOSKI

*This article originally appeared at Aleteia.org and is reprinted with permission.*

**A**ddiction comes in many different forms and affects people from all walks of life. It isn't easy to overcome and always requires an interior process of healing.

Ultimately God is that source of healing, whether it occurs at a meeting of fellow addicts or through hours and hours of counseling. He is there with open arms, ready to accept a person back into His fold.

Another way to draw closer to that healing is through a life devoted to prayer, daily opening up our hearts to God and asking Him to come down to heal us. A powerful intercessor in this realm of addiction is Saint Jude, known as a patron saint of desperate cases. He works tirelessly for those who

are most in need of help and brings the healing touch of God upon them.

Here is one such prayer to Saint Jude for those suffering an addiction of any kind. Pray it daily and let God flood your heart with His infinite love and mercy:

*God of life, You made me in Your perfect image, to live in Your love and to give You glory, honor and praise. Open my heart to Your healing power. Come, Lord Jesus, calm my soul just as You whispered "Peace" to the stormy sea.*

*Saint Jude, most holy Apostle, in my need I reach out to you. I beg you to intercede for me that I may find strength to overcome my illness. Bless all those who struggle with addiction. Touch them, heal them, reassure them of the Father's constant love. Remain at my side, Saint Jude, to chase away all evil temptations, fears, and doubts. May the quiet assurance of your loving presence illuminate the darkness in my heart and bring lasting peace.*

*Amen.*



## LEAVE A LEGACY OF HOPE



Help us continue our mission of spreading devotion to Saint Jude through a gift in your will.

To request your complimentary brochure, please complete the enclosed reply card or contact Rossano Rovello, Director of Gift Planning:

(646) 350-0108

[rrovello@dominicanfriars.org](mailto:rrovello@dominicanfriars.org)



# I'M A SAINT JUDE MIRACLE

BY JULIAN LUNA III

In February 1981 I was 31 years old, living in Laredo, Texas, and in very good health. One evening, during a Valentine dance, I was dancing in a Twist and Shout contest. As I left the event, I heard a sound coming from my chest area. At first I thought it was just congestion since it was cold outside. The following day, when I returned home from work, I was still experiencing a congestion sound from my chest. I asked my wife to listen to the sound. She became very alarmed and asked that I go to the emergency room to have it checked out.

Before we left, I called a friend who was a physician. My friend told me that he was playing tennis with a cardiologist and that both of them would meet me in the emergency room.

I met them in the hospital, and after several tests, the cardiologist said that the sound was coming from my heart and was a honking murmur. He suggested that I leave immediately for a heart hospital in San Antonio, which was 150 miles away. He recommended a helicopter, and I told him that I needed to say goodbye to our four children and pack for the trip.

I went back home and said goodbyes not knowing if it was going to be my final farewell. The kids were left with my mother-in-law and my sister while my wife drove me to the Santa Rosa Medical Center in San Antonio, where I was met by the medical staff at the front door.

They quickly conducted tests. The results were that I had ruptured the cuspid valves from my aorta. Because the cuspid valves were gone, the blood flow was enlarging my heart chamber.



ROSARY SHRINE OF SAINT JUDE DONORS MARY LOU AND JULIAN LUNA III WERE MARRIED FOR 51 YEARS, AND HAVE SIX CHILDREN WITH SIX SPOUSES AND 12 GRANDCHILDREN. MARY LOU PASSED AWAY ON APRIL 24, 2021 AND IS REMEMBERED IN THE PRAYERS OF THE DOMINICAN FRIARS AT THE ROSARY SHRINE OF SAINT JUDE.





The next morning the cardiac surgeon walked into the room and asked how I was feeling. I told him my heart felt like an engine missing a spark plug. He told me in blunt terms that my heart was beginning to fail. He then told me there were three options. The first was drug therapy, but I would not likely survive the treatment. The second was a ball valve, which would be risky since the cuspid valves were missing. The third option was a brand new device called the ‘Saint Jude valve,’ but only after opening my chest would he be able to tell if it was the right fit.

My wife Mary Lou, who had always been a devoted follower of Saint Jude and named our son after him, said “yes!” It was a sign to her and to me.

Early the next morning I was prepared for an operation to remove the aortic valve and replace it with a Saint Jude valve. After several hours, the operation was complete.

This was 1981, and these operations were a new frontier, but that evening I was walking through the hospital halls in my gown. That evening, the surgeon told me that the operation had been a success, that I was the youngest patient he had

ever treated, and that I could return to work in a few weeks. However, in seven years, he said, I would probably need another operation to replace the valve.

Well, February 2021 marked my 40th anniversary with the original Saint Jude valve. God blessed me with a loving wife, six children, and 12 grandchildren. I truly believe that I am a Saint Jude miracle!

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“THE CARDIAC SURGEON  
WALKED INTO THE ROOM AND  
ASKED HOW I WAS FEELING. I  
TOLD HIM MY HEART FELT LIKE  
AN ENGINE MISSING A SPARK  
PLUG. HE TOLD ME IN BLUNT  
TERMS THAT MY HEART WAS  
BEGINNING TO FAIL.”

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# SHROUD, PAINTING, OR MEDALLION? THE MYSTERIOUS ICONOGRAPHY OF SAINT JUDE THADDEUS

BY FATHER GABRIEL GILLEN, O.P.

You may have heard of the Holy Shroud of Turin, the Tilma of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico, and the Miraculous Veil of Saint Veronica. These images have miraculous origins; they were not painted by human hands.

The earliest paintings of Saint Jude depict him as bearing a cloth imprinted with the image of Christ (see front cover.) Later paintings make it appear that Saint Jude is wearing a medal around his neck.

According to tradition, King Abgar of Edessa wrote a letter to Jesus, asking Christ to visit and cure him. Jesus declined the invitation, but promised a future visitation by one of His Apostles. The promised Apostle turned out to be Saint Jude Thaddeus, who brought a painting of Jesus and healed the king.

However, a later version of the legend from the 6th century (Acts of Thaddeus) recounts that the image was not a painting but a burial

shroud folded twice and then fourfold. Saint John Damascene also described the Holy Image of Edessa as a large garment. It is interesting to note that the Shroud of Turin has this same fourfold pattern. Centuries later, in 994, the cloth was transferred from Edessa to Constantinople. Emperor Constantine VII described the image on it as “extremely faint, more like a moist secretion



THE HOLY FACE OF JESUS CHRIST IS SHOWN IN THE CATHEDRAL OF SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST IN TURIN, ITALY.

“RECENT SCIENTIFIC STUDIES REVEAL THAT THE SHROUD OF TURIN CONTAINS 20 DIFFERENT PLANT POLLENS THAT ARE FROM THE ANATOLIA AND URFA REGIONS OF EDESSA IN MODERN TURKEY. THESE POLLENS ARE NOT FOUND IN EITHER JERUSALEM OR EUROPE.”

without pigment or the painter’s art.”

Recent scientific studies reveal that the Shroud of Turin contains 20 different plant pollens that are from the Anatolia and Urfa regions of Edessa in modern Turkey. These pollens are not found in either Jerusalem or Europe. There are excellent historians who have amassed a good deal of evidence making a strong case for the Shroud having been in Edessa.

So was the King of Edessa healed by a painting of Christ or was it the miraculous image of the Holy Shroud? Saint Jude may have carried both to Edessa or he may have simply folded the large Shroud so that only the face of Christ showed. If so, the most practical way for him to carry the Shroud at the time would have been in a basket. Perhaps this explains all the paintings of Saint Jude carrying the image of Christ’s face on something round, like a medallion.

Whatever the case, we know that Saint Jude still carries out miracles in our own day. May we continue to seek his intercession when all hope seems lost!

# THE NEXT TIME YOU PRAY MAY BE THE TIME GOD ANSWERS

BY BRO. BARTHOLOMEW CALVANO, O.P.

Saint Jude is the patron saint of hopeless causes. Many of us seek his intercession after weeks, months, or years of unanswered prayers. Why does God not answer our prayers? Jesus says, “everyone who asks, receives; and the one who seeks, finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.” (Luke 11:9-10) Is there any explanation to be found?

Sometimes, God does not answer our prayers because we are asking wrongly (James 4:3). We are asking for things that will hurt us instead of help us. As a good Father, God will not give us something that will be harmful to us even if we ask Him for it.

That something is harmful can be hard to see at times. How can healing from an illness or a disability hurt us? There are times when a person is drawn closer to God precisely through an illness, or families are strengthened in caring for a loved one with a disability. God is more concerned for our spiritual health than our physical health.

What about when we ask for spiritual goods? What about the parent or grandparent asking for their child or grandchild to come back to church? Surely, this is a good thing to ask for. In this instance it is necessary to have faith that God loves us and has a plan for us. Sometimes we see parts of that plan, but here on earth we will never see it all. The saints in heaven see God and see the plan that He has known from eternity.

None of our prayers are wasted. Our prayers cannot cause spiritual or physical healing. Our prayers ask God, the divine physician, to provide healing. God is the one who is able to heal. He heals whom He wills and, sometimes, He wills



BRO. BARTHOLOMEW CALVANO, O.P., HAS BEEN PRAYING FOR YOUR INTENTIONS AT THE ROSARY SHRINE OF SAINT JUDE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. HE AND NINE CLASSMATES WILL BE ORDAINED PRIESTS THIS MAY!

to heal people in response to our prayers. Not necessarily the first time we pray, or the tenth, or the hundredth, or even the thousandth time we pray, but perhaps the next time we pray will be when God chooses to act.

Remember the parable that Jesus tells of the persistent widow (Luke 18:1-8). He speaks of the necessity to pray always without growing weary. Many who have recourse to Saint Jude are weary. If you're one of them, be renewed in trusting the Lord! Jesus gives rest to the weary and burdened (Matt 11:28), so continue to cast all your cares on Him because He cares for you (1 Pet 5:7). God knows when best to act and makes all things work to the good for those who love Him (Rom 8:28).



SEND US YOUR INTENTIONS FOR OUR  
SAINT ANNE NOVENA OF MASSES:  
JULY 18 THROUGH JULY 26!

## 2022 SUMMER/FALL NOVENAS

JUL 18 – 26:  
SAINTS ANNE & JOACHIM NOVENA

SEP 8 – 16:  
BLESSED MOTHER'S BIRTHDAY NOVENA

SEP 29 – OCT 7:  
HOLY ROSARY NOVENA

OCT 20 – 28:  
SAINT JUDE FEAST DAY NOVENA

MONTH OF NOVEMBER:  
POOR SOULS MASS REMEMBRANCE

DEC 17 – 25:  
CHRISTMAS NOVENA

## PRAYER FOR THE INTENTIONS OF ROSARY SHRINE OF SAINT JUDE PATRONS

*“For all the intentions entrusted to the intercession of Our Lady of the Rosary and Saint Jude the Apostle: that the Lord will ease the burden and suffering of those in difficult and desperate circumstances and give them grace and peace.”*

This prayer is included at all weekend (Vigil/ Sunday) Masses at Saint Dominic’s Church in Washington, DC, where the Rosary Shrine of Saint Jude is located.

The Rosary is also prayed daily for the intentions of patrons of the Rosary Shrine of Saint Jude, and on Fridays there is veneration of the first-class relic of Saint Jude following the midday Mass.



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