



# SAINT JUDE MESSENGER

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE ROSARY SHRINE OF SAINT JUDE

VOLUME VI, ISSUE II

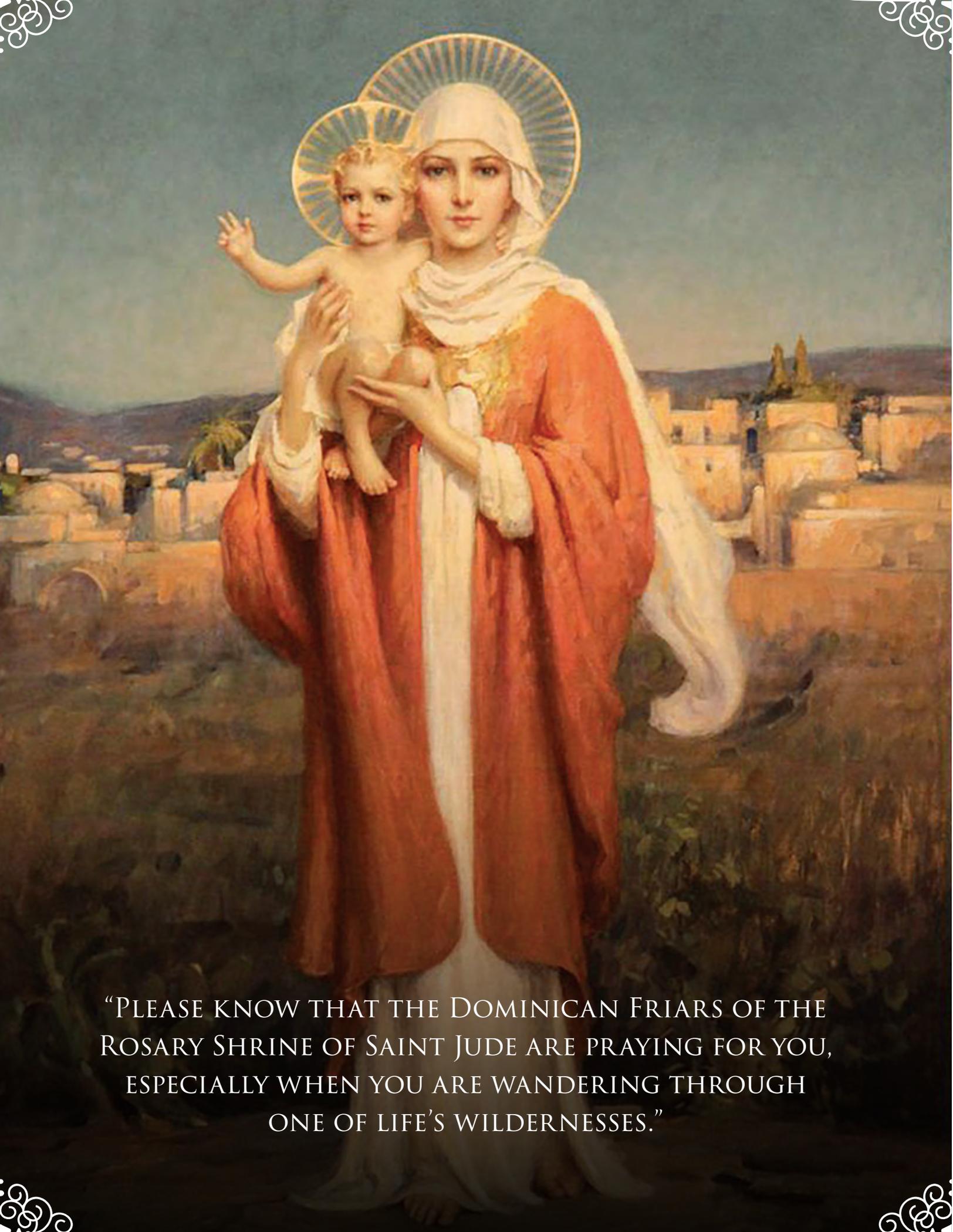


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“PLEASE KNOW THAT THE DOMINICAN FRIARS OF THE ROSARY SHRINE OF SAINT JUDE ARE PRAYING FOR YOU, ESPECIALLY WHEN YOU ARE WANDERING THROUGH ONE OF LIFE’S WILDERNESSES.”





# DIRECTOR'S LETTER

Dear Friend of Saint Jude,

André Trégret, 70, left home for a day hike one Thursday and, despite being an experienced hiker, became lost for five days without food or water. The French mountain range across which André wandered is known as “Sainte-Baume” after the remote cave where Mary Magdalene lived for thirty years following the Ascension of Christ. Her grotto, a popular pilgrimage site, was placed in the care of the Dominican Order in 1295.

Saint Mary Magdalene is closely connected to Saint Jude and the Dominican Friars. After Good Friday, when it seemed all hope was lost, Mary Magdalene was the first to share the good news of the Resurrection to Saint Jude and the other Apostles. Saint Jude must have recalled that moment throughout his life. This is why Mary Magdalene is referred to as the “Apostle to the Apostles,” and was proclaimed co-patroness of the Dominican Order.

Mary Magdalene knew that the Church needed prayer, and her vocation was to remain cloistered in the cave to inflame the rest of the Body of Christ with the Divine Love that flows from contemplation. She was seen as the perfect model of penitence, especially in the middle ages, as this hymn shows:

INFIRM TO HEALER THEN DRAWS  
NEAR, / SHE BRINGS A FLASK OF  
PERFUMES DEAR; / AND FROM DISEASE  
OF MANY KINDS, / AT WORD OF  
HEALER, CURE SHE FINDS.

In other words, her love for Christ, which led her to the empty tomb, opened up healing for her. As she sought to care for Him, He cared for and cured her. Her penitence and complete trust in His mercy brought her to the point where the risen Christ opened her eyes and mind to His new life, and sent her with the healing news of the Gospel to the Apostles.

After losing his way and ending up on the ridge, André found himself without food or water. For five days he tried different paths, but always ended up back at the same ridge. He hoped a passing police helicopter would spot him waving his wind-breaker, but to no avail.

By Sunday evening he was completely exhausted. Sitting to rest, he found an apple in his bag that he thought he had already eaten. It gave him the strength to press on.

In the middle of the night, André finally stumbled on the Dominican hostel for pilgrims to Sainte-Baume. The two friars who welcomed him in had seen news reports of the missing hiker and had been praying for him every day.

Please know that the Dominican Friars of the Rosary Shrine of Saint Jude are praying for you, especially when you are wandering through one of life's wildernesses.

*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!*

## SAINT JUDE AND CORONAVIRUS

I prayed for a fast recovery for my aunt who had COVID19, and my uncle who suffered a heart attack in the same week. Within two weeks, they were both okay to come home. Thanks be to God and Saint Jude!

-Meliza

Just last week I had a terrible fever and lost my sense of smell. I was very scared after reading that some people don't get it back. I asked Saint Jude to pray to Jesus for me for forgiveness and to regain my sense of smell. After three days I did, and I am doing better with my fever. Thank you, Saint Jude.

-Marie

## DIFFICULT TIMES

My family had been facing a difficult time for many months. I was staying faithful and praying but beginning to lose hope that things would ever get better. I remembered an old college roommate once telling me about how in a desperate time she had been helped by Saint Jude. I found a Saint Jude prayer card I had been given and began to pray daily to Saint Jude. Within a week my prayer was answered. I am eternally grateful for this favor received and I will never forget it all the days of my life.

-Mel

My son and his wife struggled with their marriage. They almost lost each other. I made a shrine to

Saint Jude and prayed to him daily. Today, my son and his wife are happily married.

-Martha

Many years ago, I prayed that our son would come back to the United States; he had been living in Tokyo for many years. After praying to Saint Jude for nine days, I received a phone call from our son. He told us he was moving back to the United States. Thank you, Saint Jude, for answering my prayers.

-Gloria



**Anonymous** My oldest daughter was abusing drugs at the age of 18. My family and I started to pray to Saint Jude for help. After a year, my daughter decided to go into rehab on her own. I will forever be grateful to Saint Jude for his intercession.

Amen. ❤️ 🙏 🌸



### THREE MIRACLES

Saint Jude has answered my Novenas with three miracles so far: I received my dream job, was given success in business, and had my passion for life restored. Saint Jude's Novena has never failed me and always brings miracles!

*-Chris*

### A HIDDEN PRAYER

My husband's cousin prayed to Saint Jude for the restoration of our marriage. He lived with us and knew our struggle. We would not have known how deeply he was hurting and praying until the candle holder in our home where he placed weekly candles for us fell on the head of his Saint Jude statue and knocked it off, revealing a note that was inserted there. At first we thought the note was from the factory, but it turned out to be a handwritten prayer for us. By then we had been happily reconciled for a year.

*-Jen*

There is not enough I can say to thank Saint Jude for his intercession to Jesus for His help for my 22-year-old grandson. My grandson got himself in trouble with the law and was charged with a felony. If convicted, he would have faced up to five years in prison. I prayed and prayed to Saint Jude and I never gave up. Because of Saint Jude and our merciful Lord Jesus Christ, my grandson's charges were reduced to misdemeanors and he received only two months jail time with fines and probation.

*-Juanita*

### SHIPWRECK

My neighbor and friend, who passed away in May 2020, had been a passenger on the SS Andrea Doria when it was hit by another ship off the coast of Massachusetts and sank. While he was in the water, he prayed to Saint Anne for his life and survived. He dedicated himself to Saint Anne and placed her statue in front of his home, always with fresh flowers. He frequently visited her shrine in Massachusetts. He and his wife died together in a nursing home on the same day.

*-Mary*



ON 25 JULY 1956, THE SS ANDREA DORIA COLLIDED WITH THE MS STOCKHOLM OFF THE COAST OF NANTUCKET WHILE BOUND FOR NEW YORK CITY. 46 PASSENGERS DIED.

### A TRUE MOTHER

My wife almost died in 1961 giving birth to our fourth child. I bought her a beautiful Miraculous Medal and had it blessed. In 1995 she had open heart surgery; again I almost lost her. We prayed the Rosary together every day. Jesus gave us His mother to be our mother and a true mother she was. My wife was an orphan and she often remarked that Mary was her mother as she had never known any other. My wife passed away in 2014 at the age of 81 as we were ready to celebrate 61 years of marriage. Our blessings were too many to count but we always knew that Mary was at our side watching over us.

*-Eugene*

### SAINT JUDE ANSWERS A HIGHER PRAYER

My husband and I decided we would like to live closer to our children. As we were getting older,

we chose a lovely senior community with assisted living options available if needed.

We received a chaplet from the Rosary Shrine of Saint Jude and used it to pray to Saint Jude that we would be able to sell our house. Well, that did not happen, and we took it off the market in early February, hoping to re-list it this spring. When the coronavirus outbreak hit, we realized that Saint Jude answered a higher prayer, as we are able to quarantine comfortably in a remote location. Had we sold our house quickly, we would now be in that senior housing complex, restricted from leaving our apartment. We are reminded that sometimes when it seems like our prayers are not being answered, the best course of action is to be patient and see what God has in store for us!

-Agnes



### SAINT JUDE WATCHES OVER PETS

Our cat Coco went missing. She is never gone for more than a day, so I started a Novena to Saint Jude. People gave up hope, as there are foxes that live near our street. On the ninth day of the Novena we received a call from a lady saying she had our cat. She was in an entirely different suburb! Coco was skinny, but my mom went and picked her up and brought her home safely. She is safe and well.

-Tania

My elderly dog had a corneal ulcer, lost collagen, and had an extremely thin cornea. The veterinarian thought she'd need surgery. After my prayer to Saint Jude, her eye healed remarkably. The vet was shocked, due to the age of my dog, that she

had healed so well that surgery was no longer needed. I am so thankful and blessed!

-Maria

### THAT'S NOT HER NAME!

Saint Jude helped me when I almost lost my baby. I was told she would not survive. She was born at seven and a half months. She spent two weeks in the NICU. I was in a different hospital. The entire time, I prayed to Saint Jude. I begged him to help her. She was tiny and her lungs were not developed. I did not get to meet her for a whole week after she was born. When I first saw her in the incubator, she had a little tag that said "baby girl." I told the nurse, "That's not her name. Her name is Judith!"

-Olga

### A MYSTERIOUS ITEM, FOUND

Several years ago a friend let me borrow an expensive item. During an outing, I lost the item in 18 inches of brackish water and did not realize I lost it until I made it back to my truck. The item was lost somewhere underwater in an area about 50 by 200 yards wide. I panicked. All I could do was retrace my steps and see if I could feel it under the water. No luck. I prayed to Saint Jude to help me find it. The following week I went back. After a good bit of searching, I finally stepped on it and found it. After sitting in the water for a week there was no damage whatsoever. I cleaned the mud off and gave it back to my friend. There is more to the story, as the area I was in was closed to the public, but things fell in place and I was able to get back in. Thank you Saint Jude for interceding on my behalf.

-Tom

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

# A MEMORARE MIRACLE

BY JOHN KILCOYNE

In 1981 I began to do hospital visitations to the sick.

One summer, I walked into a ward in Bethesda Hospital and looked at a man in his early fifties with so many tattoos on his body that they dominated his entire figure. I'll call him "George." He had "white power" written down the side of his arms and tattoos on his face, including a swastika. As I looked down at the man, I thought, "God, what are you doing to me here?"

George asked me what I was doing there, using more profanity than language. I told him I came to pray with him, and that I hoped he didn't mind. I don't remember his exact response, but it was laced with profanity.

I took out my Memorare holy card and proceeded to pray the Memorare while looking down at the card, not wanting to look at George and see his response. When I finished praying, I looked up at him, and tears were streaming down the side of his face.

He looked at me and he said, "I grew up in Philadelphia, and my mother, when I was a child, prayed the Memorare with me every night before bed."

George was in the hospital as a cardiac patient. He was to be operated on the next morning, and so we prayed and talked, and I gave him my holy card so that he could continue to pray the prayer of his childhood memory.

After his operation, we continued to meet, pray, and talk together. We got on the subject of mothers and how wonderful mothers are. I asked him if his mother was alive, and mentioned that my mother was not.

He said, "I really don't know. I haven't talked to her for maybe twenty years."

"Have you ever tried?" I asked.

He said, "Maybe my sister knows. She lives somewhere around here, but I haven't talked to her in ten years."

"Maybe you should try to get in touch with her," I said.

The next day I visited the hospital, a nurse greeted me and said she would try to help George locate his sister. A few days later he was released.

Three months passed. One day I walked into the ICU and saw George. I said, "George, what are you doing here? You're back!"

## LEAVE A LEGACY OF HOPE



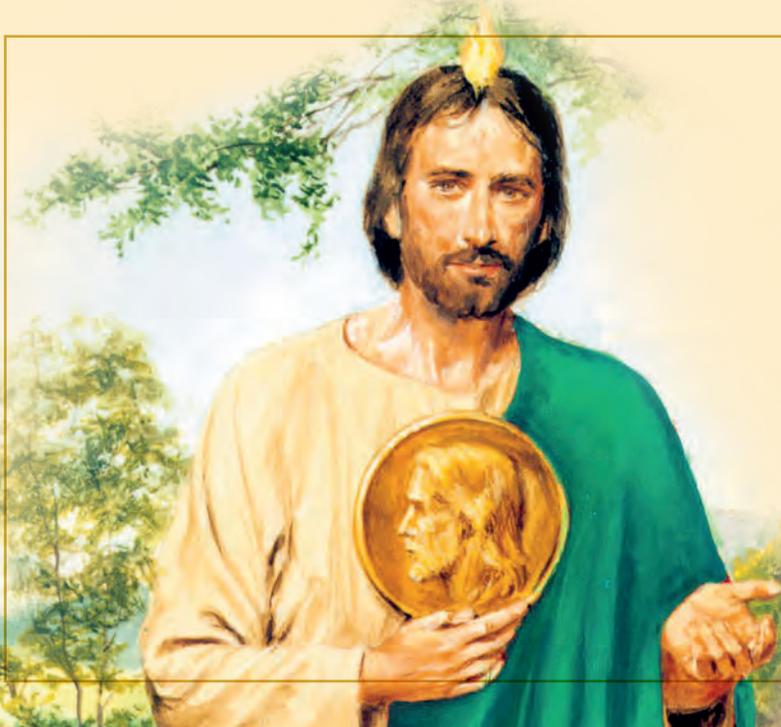
Help us continue our mission of spreading devotion to Saint Jude through a gift in your will.

To learn more, contact Diana Kilarjian,

Director of Gift Planning:

(646) 350-0108

[diana.kilarjian@dominicanfriars.org](mailto:diana.kilarjian@dominicanfriars.org)



“The first operation didn’t quite work,” George explained. “I’ve got to go through a whole series of operations.”

We prayed the Memorare again. George was to be operated on in two days, and I suggested to him, “How would you like it if I have Father come in and give you the sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick?”

He said, “No way. No priest in the world wants to hear my confession.”

“Well, you know, I bet Father Richard would, he’s pretty good,” I said.

“Are you sure?”

“Trust me on this, George. He’s never failed me in the past.”

I called Father Richard. He went immediately to George and administered the sacraments. The next day George went through his operation. I went to see him afterwards, but he wasn’t conscious. I prayed the Memorare by his bed and I had the feeling that he was aware of it. When I came back the following day and saw a black sheet draped over the bed, I knew George had died.

Several months later, my wife and I were at a fish fry at a neighboring parish. Having traveled a lot in my career, I’ve often eaten alone; so whenever I see someone dining alone, I invite them to sit with me. An elderly lady was sitting by herself, and I asked her if she minded if my wife and I joined her for supper. She accepted. Before we started eating, I suggested that we pray. After praying, I looked down, and there on the table in front of the woman was a Memorare card. I recognized it as the same one I had given George.

I said “Oh that’s an interesting thing! Where did you get... Is that one of your favorite prayers?”

“Oh yes, this card was given to me by my son who recently died,” the woman said. She went on to tell me that she had been contacted by George through a nurse, and was living with him and ministering to him the last few months of his life. For me, it was a memorable encounter with the Holy Spirit and the Lord.



### THE MEMORARE

*Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother; to thee do I come; before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me.*

*Amen.*

# WHY IS SAINT JUDE THE PATRON OF HOPELESS CASES?

BY PHILIP KOSLOSKI

*This article was originally published in Aleteia and has been reprinted with permission.*

During the 1st century, “Judah” was a common name among Jews, and when Jesus called 12 men to become his Apostles, he chose two with the name Judah. Based on the original Greek text this was rendered in Latin as “Judas” and for many centuries there wasn’t a linguistic separator between Judas Iscariot and Judas Thaddeus.

“THE FIFTH ALTAR MUST BE FOR THADDEUS WHO WITH THE PURITY OF HIS HEART WILL UNDOUBTEDLY CONQUER THE DEVIL.”

As a result, early medieval Christians normally did not pray to the Apostle Judas Thaddeus, because they were afraid of praying to Judas Iscariot, the

traitor! Their fear was so great that Judas Thaddeus became one of the least known Apostles.

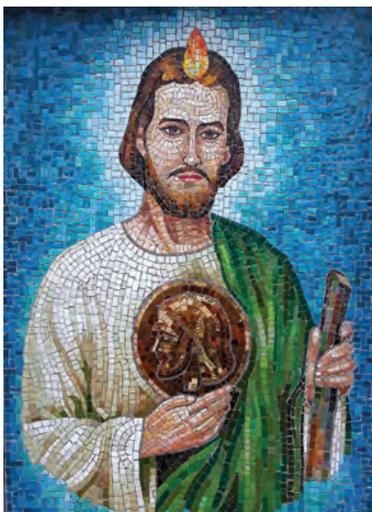
Eventually the English language made a slight distinction between the two Apostles and gave Judas Thaddeus the name Jude. Additionally, prior to this linguistic distinction Saint Jude’s intercessory power was revealed to various saints.

For example, according to writer Donald Thorman in his book *Saint Jude: Saint of the Impossible*, “In one vision, Our Lord told Saint Bridget to turn to Saint Jude with a great deal of confidence, for, said the Lord, ‘In accordance

with his surname, “Thaddeus,” the amiable, loving, he will show himself most willing to give help.’ In another vision, Christ commanded the Swedish holy woman to dedicate an altar to Saint Jude in her church. ‘The fifth altar,’ He said, ‘must be for Thaddeus who with the purity of his heart will undoubtedly conquer the devil.’”

It’s uncertain when Saint Jude became associated with hopeless and impossible cases, but what is true is that countless miracles have been attributed to his intercession. His reputation for the impossible is so great, that he is known among a wide variety of Christians for his miraculous intercessory power.

Here is a common prayer to Saint Jude that can be prayed for whatever impossible case you find yourself in.



*Most holy Apostle, Saint Jude, faithful servant and friend of Jesus, the Church honors and invokes you universally, as the patron of difficult cases, of things almost despaired of, Pray for me, I am so helpless and alone. Intercede with God for me that He bring visible and speedy help where help is almost despaired of. Come to my assistance in this great need that I may receive the consolation and help of heaven in all my necessities, tribulations, and sufferings, particularly [make your request here] and that I may praise God with you and all the saints forever. I promise, O Blessed Saint Jude, to be ever mindful of this great favor granted me by God and to always honor you as my special and powerful patron, and to gratefully encourage devotion to you. Amen.*



## THE VIRTUE OF HOPE: LETTER FROM THE ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

Dear Friend of Saint Jude,

My name is Brother Martin Davis, O.P., and I have joined Father Gabriel Gillen, O.P., at the Rosary Shrine of Saint Jude. I am humbled by the opportunity to serve such a dedicated group of pious men and women who share a deep devotion for Saint Jude and the Catholic Faith.

Over the past months, we have faced a whole variety of difficult challenges. These challenges have laid bare the brokenness of our world, our society, and even ourselves. In the midst of such brokenness, we can gain a new appreciation for the theological virtue of hope.

The Catechism says that hope is the virtue “by which we desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness.” This supernatural desire makes for powerful patience, endurance, and joy in the midst of trials.

We can see this on a natural level when we consider the intense desire of hard-working athletes, musicians, students, and so forth. When athletes really desire to run the race well, they are able to endure all sorts of difficulties for the sake of the goal.

The same is true for the theological virtue of hope. If we fervently desire the kingdom of heaven, trials and tribulations will become easier to endure. This does not mean that the trials we face are not real problems or something to be taken lightly, but it does mean that a person fully immersed in God’s saving grace has a tool at his or her disposal for pressing on to eternal victory.

The virtue of hope sometimes does not get the full attention it deserves. In the midst of our current

problems, it might be worth incorporating prayers for hope into our routine. For example:

*Lord God, grant me the grace to have such a firm hope so as to endure all things for the sake of Your kingdom. Make me desire communion with you and the saints so much that the trials of this life become easier to bear.*

*Saint Jude, Patron of Hopeless Causes, Pray for Us.*

Know that you are in my prayers,

Brother Martin Davis, O.P.  
Associate Director, Rosary Shrine of Saint Jude



# THE DEATH OF HOLY ONES

BR. JOSEMARÍA GUZMÁN-DOMÍNGUEZ, O.P.

*Brother Josemaría attended the University of Notre Dame, where he majored in Italian Literature. During his junior year he studied in Bologna, Italy, Saint Dominic's burial place, and there discerned a call to the Order of Preachers. He currently serves as the Deacon of the Rosary Shrine of Saint Jude.*

*"Precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of His saints" (Ps 116:15 RSV). So says the holy Word of God. What can this mean?*

It certainly does not mean that God loves death. He is, after all, the living God, the fount of all life. He created men and women that we might share His abundant life. Death only entered the picture when our first parents turned away from the Lord and rejected His offer of life through sin. So death is an effect and punishment for that original denial.

So what does the psalm mean when it says that the death of the saints is precious in the eyes of the Lord?

First, that the Father looks with favor on the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ His Son, the Holy One who came to save His people from their sins. The loving and obedient death of Jesus on the Cross was the remedy for Adam's sin and its effects, which we inherited. Through His death we can once again have access to God's life. So the Father rejoices not at the death of His beloved Son but at the salvation that the Crucified Son worked for our sake.

Second, there is a similar rejoicing for God when the saints, those loved by God to live like Christ, enter into their own passion and death. Again, God does not love that they suffer but that they do so with a share of the same love and obedience that Jesus had on the Cross. The Father sees in His saints other Christs, united to His beloved Son, Who with the Son accomplish the world's salvation through their suffering. Every saint could

say with Saint Paul, "I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ on behalf of His body, which is the Church" (Col 1:24). The suffering and death of God's holy ones are mysteriously joined to the sacrifice of Jesus and truly help in His work of salvation. This is one reason why we usually celebrate canonized saints on the date of their death, which was traditionally called their *dies natalis*, their birthday into eternal life.



This month of November when we remember all of God's saints and we pray especially for all the deceased and those who are dying, let us keep in mind that the death of the saints is precious in God's eyes. Let us beg the Father for the gift to love Him like Christ did, so that sharing in His Cross at the hour of our death, we may come to live with Him forever.

**ENROLL YOUR DEPARTED LOVED ONES IN OUR NOVEMBER POOR SOULS REMEMBRANCE USING THE ATTACHED ENVELOPE.**



SEND US YOUR INTENTIONS FOR OUR  
 SAINT JUDE CHRISTMAS NOVENA  
 OF MASSES:  
 DECEMBER 17 - DECEMBER 25

## 2020 WINTER/SPRING NOVENAS

JAN 2 - 10: SAINT JUDE NEW YEAR'S NOVENA

JAN 14 - 22: INFANT OF PRAGUE NOVENA

FEB 3 - 11: OUR LADY OF LOURDES NOVENA

FEB 17 - MAR 29: LENTEN MASS REMEMBRANCE

MAR 27 - APR 4: EASTER NOVENA

MAY 1 - 9: MOTHER'S DAY NOVENA

JUN 12 - 20: FATHER'S DAY 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.



## SPECIAL SAINT JUDE TOTE BAG OFFER

**Get ready for the holidays with this stylish tote bag featuring our patron saint!**

Use the enclosed reply envelope to place your order. A donation of \$5 or more is kindly requested to cover shipping.