



*Christmas 2022*



*My Dear Friend of St. Jude,*

**I write to invite you to enroll your loved ones in our special Christmas Novena.** Why? Because the first words addressed to mankind regarding the birth of Christ focused on “peace” as the angels greeted the shepherds: “Glory to God in the highest and peace on earth to people of good will” (Luke 2:14), and I hope for that peace to extend throughout your family and friends.

‘Peace’ is also the last blessing bestowed by Christ on His apostles before His ascension: “Peace is my farewell gift to you” (John 14 :27). And again, Jesus reminds His followers, “I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world” (John 16:33). And when He rises from the dead and appears to His apostles who are locked away in fear, He greets them again with “peace” (John 20:21).

In all these verses the Lord wants us to keep our attention focused on our faith in Him and His power to defeat evil. As we await His birth, we have been given St. Jude as our special patron of hope, so that amid a troubled world, we are not without hope. Let us remember His Power of grace to deliver us from evil!

Let us draw close to St. Jude in times of trouble and seek his intercession that we in Christ may be a people of peace, never returning evil for evil but learning to bless those who are against us in any way. This is the way of the Lord. This was the way of the Apostles such as St. Jude, who gave his life for the truth and peace of the Gospel.



**Let us pray for each other during our Novena of Christmas starting at Holy Mass on Christmas Day, December 25<sup>th</sup> to January 2<sup>nd</sup>, when we celebrate God becoming man to retake His creation.**

All of us here at the St. Jude Shrine pray that through the intercession of our Holy Patron, St. Jude, the Lord may fill your hearts with the joy, hope and peace of the Child Jesus.

Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!

*Rev. Emmerich, O.P.*

Rev. Emmerich Vogt, O.P.  
*Director*



*Scan this code using your phone camera to participate online*

**P.S. Enroll your loved ones in the Christmas Novena today, and in your kindness, please also remember the Dominican Friars in your prayers as well!**