



# Shrine of Saint Jude Thaddeus

Dominican Friars

## *EASTER NOVENA 2022*



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Greetings from the Shrine where we daily keep you and your own special intentions in our prayers. Since we just celebrated Lent, it reminded me of how gardeners tend to prune plants during dormancy. Doing so results in a vigorous burst of new growth in the springtime.

That's what LENT was all about, spiritually speaking, that is. It's the time for pruning our lives morally and spiritually in order to enjoy new life now at Easter.

Before Lent, we may have lain spiritually dormant for a while. And Lent was the time to renew our spiritual and moral lives in order to enjoy the fruit of the resurrected life at Easter, a life more abundant in goodness which is the path to eternal happiness.

**With Saint Jude as the special patron of hope, we keep our eyes focused on the unchanging God of love, who we know through the certitude of our faith, would never do anything contrary to love or to our salvation. St. Jude is our patron of this hope.**

The Easter mystery reveals the great love that God has for us: that Jesus, in and through His passion and death, conquered Lucifer and rose triumphant from the tomb! In His passion and death Jesus wished to identify Himself with all human misery. He is the poor man who is hungry, thirsty, and naked. He is the sick, the stranger deprived of His country, the man deprived of His liberty. We have a God who identifies with our suffering and came to redeem it.

Satan's primary objective is to prevent Jesus' word from affecting the human heart. He does this by distracting us from our primary purpose: to grow in goodness, by tempting us with false views of happiness and causing discontent rather than gratitude. Now, with Saint Jude as our blessed patron of hope, we rejoice in Christ's victory over death!

**The Dominican Friars here at the Shrine, along with our wonderful staff, wish you a joyous and blessed Easter Season and invite you to join our Novena that starts on April 17!**

In His love and peace,

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

