

*Christmas 2021*



*“Reflect on the Power of God’s grace given us in and through our baptism into Christ.”*

Dear Friends of St. Jude,

I never cease to be amazed by the wonders of science. Recently scientists sent another probe to the planet Mars. The closest Mars ever gets to earth is about 34 million miles. Imagine sending a probe 34 million miles and it sending back images of Mars. It takes those photos about 7 minutes to reach earth. Astounding. And when you think of the marvels that science has given us with the smart phone. It’s incredible that we can take a photo with our smart phones and send it thousands of miles, from coast to coast, and it gets there in no time! Really amazing. But sadly, the one thing science will never be able to achieve is the defeat of evil and death. Every day in the News we see that our world is inhabited by unbearable evil which man does not have the power to defeat. Do we ever give thought to the fact that, despite great scientific advances, the 20th century was the evilest in the history of mankind! More people were slaughtered in the 20th century than in all the other centuries added together! 55 million in World War II alone. What can deliver us from the terrors of the last century?

Man, nor his science has the power to defeat evil. A Power had to be introduced from outside the Universe, and that’s what we Christians celebrate at Christmas. God became man to deliver His creation from cosmic evil.

During this season of grace, it is important for us to reflect on the Power of God’s grace given us in and through our baptism into Christ. The Church on earth is called the Church militant because we are at war with demonic evil. Whether we like it or not, each of us is involved in this cosmic struggle against evil.

Every day in the News we see that our world is inhabited by unbearable evil. Let us as Christians rejoice in our gift of faith and embrace whatever it takes for us to root out evil from our lives. Christ came to retake His creation. Let us celebrate His birth with deep gratitude for the salvation He offers us.

In Christ and St. Jude,

Rev. Emmerich Vogt, O.P.  
Director