



# The Friends of St. Jude

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The mission of the Shrine of St. Jude is to further the devotion to St. Jude Thaddeus, "Patron of Difficult Cases," and to support the education and formation of worthy students for the Dominican Priesthood and Brotherhood.

Our Lady of Lourdes Novena, February 2010

## Special Points

- Letter from our Director: Fr. Martin Walsh, O.P.
- Novena Masses:  
M-Sat: 8:00 am & 5:30 pm  
Sun: 11:30 am
- Novena Preacher: Fr. Dominic Briese, O.P.
- Spiritual Healing
- A Prayer for Healing

## Calendar of Novenas 2010

- Our Lady of Lourdes Novena (preached) Feb. 3-11, 2010
- Easter Novena (not preached) April 3-11, 2010
- Mother's Day Novena (not preached) May 1-9, 2010
- Father's Day Novena (not preached) June 12-20, 2010
- St. Anne Novena (preached) July 18-26, 2010
- St. Jude Novena (preached) Oct. 20-28, 2010
- St. Jude Pilgrimage Oct. 23, 2010
- Christmas Novena (not preached) Dec. 25- Jan. 2, 2011

## Our Lady of Lourdes Novena

### Dear Friends of St. Jude,

*Got Christ? He does a body and soul good.* So says Fr. Dominic Briese, O.P., former director of the Shrine of St. Jude, who returns to preach the Novena in honor of Our Lady of Lourdes from February 3 – 11, 2010. We are excited both at Fr. Dominic's return and by the subject of "healing" that will be the theme of his preaching.

It is a blessing that Our Lady will provide the context within which we will explore this theme because in our Catholic tradition we closely associate her with the grace of spiritual and physical healing. This is especially, powerfully manifest at the shrine to her honor in Lourdes, France.

Two years ago, I visited that holy shrine for the first time, and witnessed at first hand the remarkable faith of the pilgrims many of whom no doubt returned home with the joyful rewards of being healed in a way they did not expect – perhaps physically, yes, but often spiritually, which is even more the message.

All of us are in one sense or another in need of healing. Yet, according to the great

Dutch teacher Henry Nouwen (1932-1996), we are all also healers who can reach out and offer health to others (*The Wounded Healer*, p. 27). We do so by "first, the faithful tending of [our] own woundedness and second, the willingness to move to the aid of other people and to make the fruits of our own woundedness available to others."

With this in mind, on the Saturday during the Novena (Feb. 6), we will join with our ill loved ones to highlight the Novena theme in a unique way: We will hold a "devotional day" under the banner **Healing for Mind, Body and Soul**. We will begin at the grotto of Our Lady at St. Dominic's Church, home of the Shrine, follow with a precession in the neighborhood, returning to the Shrine for devotions, sharing, anointing and closing Benediction.. Some of us will walk with loved ones who are ill, others will dedicate their walk to loved ones who are too ill to participate. But all of us by our prayers and actions that day will unite with our loved ones and, together with them, be brought into closer union with Jesus the Healer. We hope to see you there.

The Novena in honor of Our Lady of Lourdes will offer special Masses and prayers. Masses are at 8:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday. Fr. Felix Cassidy, O.P. will lead a recitation of the Rosary before every Mass, and there will be blessing with the relic of St. Jude following each Mass. We will also have priests available before each Mass for the Sacrament of Confession. It promises truly to be nine days of grace under the patronage of Our Lady and St. Jude.

Please send in your petitions and join us in prayer, whether in person or in spirit. We are always moved by the great variety of needs set forth in your letters and petitions, and are privileged to present them at the altar of St. Jude who intercedes for us and will do so again in a special way during the Lourdes Novena.

Sincerely in Christ and St. Jude,

*Fr. Martin Walsh O.P.*

Fr. Martin Walsh, O.P.



## Novena Preacher: Fr. Dominic Briese, O.P.



*“This mission helps all people to feel they can touch God’s healing ...”*

Fr. Dominic was born in Mineola on Long Island, New York. He entered the Order of Preachers (Dominicans) in 1988 and was ordained a priest in June 1996. Fr. Dominic has served in a variety of ministries within the Western Dominican Province, as pastor, Newman Center director, and St. Jude Shrine director, among other assignments.

“I have a very positive view of how God graces our Catholic Community,” Fr. Dominic says. “God heals us through the Sacraments of Anointing and Reconciliation. Once healed, we are then encouraged to be fully alive in Christ by recalling our Baptism, celebrating

Eucharist, and reaffirming our Confirmation as full witnesses to Jesus in the world.” A cancer survivor, he situates healing at the center of his preaching ministry. As a member of the Province’s Preaching Band, Fr. Dominic enjoys traveling the country giving missions and retreats. “This mission helps all people to feel they can touch God’s healing and go forth to share the Good News of Christ...”

Fr. Dominic’s eagerness to share the Good News has led him to produce two CDs, one on the Rosary and Healing Mass, and the other, called “Family Insights,” which helps families rediscover values for living in these times. He

is now producing a third CD, and we pray for the success of this effort. (The CDs are available from the Shrine gift shop.)

Fr. Dominic is a graduate of the University of Utah with degrees in Business Finance and Labor Management – academic achievements that well commend his membership on the Province’s Finance Council. Between ministries he enjoys studying, praying, golf and traveling. He offers a “travel tip:” “With God, always be ready for a great adventure!”

(You can learn more about Fr. Dominic and his ministry by logging on to his website [briese.opwest.org](http://briese.opwest.org).)

## Spiritual Healing

Healing of physical illness, especially a serious illness, is something always to be cherished, a special gift of life that can often determine our happiness. But our faith teaches us that spiritual healing, as it relates to the healing of mind, heart and soul, is of equal significance.

Financial dislocation, emotional loss, death of a beloved spouse, fear caused in the elderly by predation or dishonor, loss of one’s home, loss of loved ones or neighbors, severe parental anxiety over the well-being of a child, fear of the future because of present upheaval: these and similar circumstances often deplete our spiritual resources so

that we find ourselves more than ever in need of the spiritual healing that alone can pull us through.

We can attest strongly to this here at the St. Jude Shrine from the letters and petitions we receive each day. Our first response is prayer, and so each week the Friars and staff gather and present each of these petitions to our God through the kind agency of St. Jude Thaddeus.

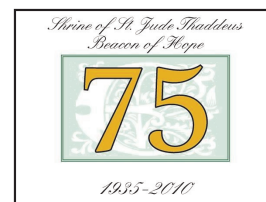
It is especially gratifying when we are able to pray in thanksgiving because one of our friends has written to say they have been healed of their emotional or spiritual malady. One Friend of St. Jude, grieving at the death of a spouse of over 50 years, and having a hard time adjusting to life

on her own, found healing in the simple act of journaling each day. Another got over the loss of long-time neighbors who had lost their home to foreclosure by devoting himself to praying the Daily Office of the Church.

What these friends and others tell us is that they made a conscious decision to deepen their devotional lives. They turned their attention as it were inside out, turning from their inner suffering toward the one who merits our attention: God the Healer. Thus they opened themselves up to the inner working of the Holy Spirit, helped by prayer, quiet time, journaling and other spiritual disciplines. Another Friend of St. Jude told us that this spiritual discipline enabled

him to see with inner clarity that his suffering was being caused by a sin he was holding on to. He was able to locate the sin, where its roots were, and how it could be transformed. A remarkable revelation.

We repeat here what one writer says: *If this should happen to you, give praise and thanks to God. Let yourself go in the praise of God! It’s fun, and it’s right!*



**Test your knowledge of scripture and the culture. Match the quotations on the left (all having to do with some form of healing) to their source. (Answers at bottom of page.)**

#1. Christ is the true 'doctor' of humanity, whom the heavenly Father sent into the world to cure mankind, marked in body and spirit by sin and the consequences of sin.

#2. It is as healthy to enjoy sentiment as to enjoy jam.

#3. Although the world is full of suffering, it is also full of the overcoming of it.

#4. All healing is first a healing of the heart.

#5. Love heals everything, and love is all there is.

#6. Healing is a matter of time, but is sometimes also a matter of opportunity.

#7. I have seen what they do, but I will heal them anyway! I will lead them. I will comfort those who mourn.

#8. The greatest healing therapy is friendship and love.

#9. The practice of forgiveness is our most important contribution to the healing of the world.

#10. The soul is healed by being with children.

#11. The words of kindness are more healing to a drooping heart than balm or honey.

#12. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.

#13. To heal from the inside out is the key.

#14. ...This is what the LORD, the God of your father David, says: I have heard your prayer and seen your tears; I will heal you....

#15. It is not God's way that great blessings should descend without the sacrifice first of great sufferings.

#16. 'For I will restore you to health and I will heal you of your wounds,' declares the Lord, 'Because they have called you an outcast, saying: "It is Zion; no one cares for her." '

#17. Healing takes courage, and we all have courage, even if we have to dig a little to find it.

#18. There is something beautiful about all scars of whatever nature. A scar means the hurt is over, the wound is closed and healed, done with.

#19. The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles. The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

#20. To holy people the very name of Jesus is a name to feed upon, a name to transport. His name can raise the dead and transfigure and beautify the living.

#21. O Holy Spirit, descend plentifully into my heart. Enlighten the dark corners of this neglected dwelling and scatter there thy cheerful beams.

#22. What does love look like? It has the hands to help others. It has the feet to hasten to the poor and needy. It has eyes to see misery and want. It has the ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of men. That is what love looks like.

Psalms 34:17-18

Blessed John Henry Newman

Hubert H. Humphrey

Hippocrates

2 Kings 20:5

Fyodor Dostoyevsky

St. Augustine

Gary Zukav

Gilbert Chesterton

Wynonna Judd

Isaiah 57:18

Sarah Fielding

Harry Crews

St. Augustine

Marianne Williamson

Isaiah 53:5

Blessed John Henry Newman

Carl Townsend

Pope Benedict XVI

Tori Amos

Jeremiah 30:17

Helen Keller

#1. Pope Benedict XVI, #2. Gilbert Chesterton, #3. Helen Keller, #4. Carl Townsend, #5. Gary Zukav, #6. Hippocrates, #7. Isaiah 57:18, #8. Hubert H. Humphrey, #9. Marianne Williamson, #10. Fyodor Dostoyevsky, #11. Sarah Fielding, #12. Isaiah 53:5, #13. Wynonna Judd, #14. 2 Kings 20:5, #15. Blessed John Henry Newman, #16. Jeremiah 30:17, #17. Tori Amos, #18. Harry Crews, #19. Psalm 34:17-18, #20. Blessed John Henry Newman, #21. St. Augustine, #22. St. Augustine.



### A Prayer for Healing

Lord Jesus, we your beloved come to you for healing.  
You teach us your brothers and sisters,  
who are poor, anxious and so alone,  
to seek, to knock, and to ask.

See my wounds that I bring to you for your healing.  
You are compassionate and forgiving to the sick and the lost.  
You are the Good Shepherd who seeks and finds us;  
the true bread of heaven who feeds us.  
Nourish, dear Lord,  
my weary soul by your Word of life and light.

You are the Way, the Truth and the Light.  
Guide me, teach me, illumine my darkness,  
and loosen my tongue that I may praise and bless you  
with faith and trust in your love for each one of us,  
no matter who we are,  
or how many others we have disappointed or failed.

May we come to you for Spirit and Life  
to help set us back on our feet,  
and to direct us towards  
what is true, good, and of service to others.  
May my minutes, hours, and days  
be infused with your strength.  
I believe your hands stretch over me  
now in my weakness and sins,  
raising me up, forgiving me, healing me.

May my life at this moment share in your saving will.  
Let your will be alive in me  
that I may do your will always.  
You are Jesus Christ the Healer,  
Jesus Christ the Lord.

Amen

Fr. Francis Goode, O.P.  
St. Dominic's Parish, San Francisco



### How to Put the Shrine of St. Jude Thaddeus in Your Will

Please remember the Shrine when you prepare your will or trust or your estate plan, and ensure your participation in our mission for years to come. Bequests are free of estate tax, and can substantially reduce the amount of your estate claimed by the government. A bequest can be a specific dollar amount, securities, a piece of property or all or part of the residue of your estate. Please contact your attorney, or call Stedman Matthew for more information, at (415-931-5919).



### *Our Lady of Lourdes Spiritual Bouquet*



*Dear Father,*

*Please remember* \_\_\_\_\_

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*so that they may share in the Novena of Masses at the Shrine of St. Jude in observance of the Our Lady of Lourdes Novena, February 3-11, 2010.*

*Donation:* \_\_\_\_\_

Please place this slip with your donation in an envelope and return it to the Shrine of St. Jude either by mail or by depositing it into the black candle collection box at the Shrine.