

## St. Jude Thaddaeus

**\*\***St. Jude, known as Thaddaeus, was a brother of St. James the Less, and a relative of Our Savior. St. Jude was one of the 12 Apostles of Jesus.

Ancient writers tell us that he preached the Gospel in Judea, Samaria, Idumaea, Syria, Mesopotamia, and Lybia. According to Eusebius, he returned to Jerusalem in the year 62, and assisted at the election of his brother, St. Simeon, as Bishop of Jerusalem.

He is the author of an epistle (letter) to the Churches of the East, particularly the Jewish converts, directed against the heresies of the Simonians, Nicolaites, and Gnostics. This Apostle is said to have suffered martyrdom in Armenia, which was then subject to Persia. The final conversion of the Armenian nation to Christianity did not take place until the third century of our era.

Jude was the one who asked Jesus at the Last Supper why He would not manifest Himself to the whole world after His resurrection. Little else is known of his life. Legend claims that he visited Beirut and Edessa; possibly martyred with St. Simeon in Persia.

Jude is invoked in desperate situations because his New Testament letter stresses that the faithful should persevere in the environment of harsh, difficult circumstances, just as their forefathers had done before them. Therefore, he is the patron saint of desperate cases and his feast day is October 28. Saint Jude is not the same person as Judas Iscariot who betrayed Our Lord and despaired because of his great sin and lack of trust in God's mercy.

**\*\***(excerpted from: [www.catholic.org](http://www.catholic.org))

**\*\*\***The largest shrine in the United States dedicated to St. Jude is the **National Shrine of Saint Jude in Baltimore, Maryland**. This shrine has a St. Jude League feature that you might consider as an additional devotion to St. Jude. You can enroll yourself, someone else, even entire families. Both the living and the departed can be enrolled. Membership in the League provides significant prayers and remembrances:

- In one hundred annual Masses
- In monthly Novenas of Masses
- In the three Solemn Novenas each year
- In the four Perpetual Novena Services every Wednesday and the two every Sunday at the Shrine
- In the daily Mass offered on the tomb of St. Jude in St. Peter's Basilica at Vatican City

**\*\*\***(excerpted from: [www.st-jude-medal.com](http://www.st-jude-medal.com))

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## Saint Jude

*Patron of Desperate Cases*  
*Feast Day: October 28<sup>th</sup>*



*Dear Apostle and Martyr for Christ,  
you left us an Epistle in the New Testament.  
With good reason many invoke you  
when illness is at a desperate stage.  
We now recommend to your kindness (name of patient)  
whom is in a critical condition.  
May the cure of this patient increase his/her faith  
and love for the Lord of Life,  
for the glory of our merciful God. Amen.*

## ***Saint Jude is the Patron Saint of those in need!***

\*If you feel desperation or hopelessness in your life, you have just found a friend. St. Jude is the very special saint from whom you can experience a powerful fellowship of comfort, support and peace in your life.

### **WHATEVER YOUR PROBLEM, THE ST. JUDE NOVENA IS THE FIRST STEP TOWARD OVERCOMING YOUR BURDEN.**

Do you feel like you don't know where to turn? Perhaps you are faced with the following:

- ◆ illness or other medical problems
- ◆ difficult financial or employment situation
- ◆ problems with relationships
- ◆ depression, addiction or other difficulty

Sometimes we can't make it alone. Sometimes our problems seem bigger than the resources we have at our disposal. Before we can make real change happen in our lives, we need to be spiritually revitalized to face the challenge in front of us. And knowing about St. Jude and the power of his Novena is a wonderful way to get started.

The St. Jude Novena will inspire you to persevere in the face of your particular difficulty. You will be given a renewed feeling of purpose and be able to share your new experience of this St. Jude Novena to others who also need help. Hopefully this Novena will give you a refreshing sense of hope, and peace of spirit and mind. That is something that we all could use a little of today!

### **Any of the following prayers may be used as a Nine day Novena to Saint Jude**

#### **For Financial Assistance**

"St. Jude, please assist me in these difficult circumstances. I beg you to shine the light on the resources that I need to help meet my debts and satisfy my pressing obligations."

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### ***PRAYERS IN HONOR OF ST. JUDE***

Most Holy Apostle, St. Jude faithful servant and friend of Jesus the name of the traitor who delivered your beloved Master into the hands of his enemies has caused you to be forgotten by many but the Church honors and invokes you universally as the patron of hopeless cases and of things despaired of. Pray for me a sinner and make use, I implore you of that particular privilege accorded to you to bring visible and speedy help where help is almost despaired of. Come to my assistance in my great need that I may receive the consolations and help of heaven in all my trials, necessities and sufferings especially in these that I now ask of you **(mention your request)**. Grant that I may bless God with you and all the elect now and throughout all eternity.

I promise you, O blessed Jude, to be ever mindful of this great favor and I will never cease to honor you as my special and powerful patron and to do all in my power to encourage devotion to you. Amen.

O Lord Jesus Christ who through your blessed Apostle, St. Jude has brought us into the knowledge of your name, grant that by advancing in virtue we may set forth his everlasting glory and by setting forth his glory we may advance in virtue.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever. Amen.

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### **PRAYERS FOR PHYSICAL HEALING**

"St. Jude, you witnessed the healing power of our Lord Jesus.

You saw his compassion for the sick and dying.

You yourself touched the sick, shared the sorrows of the mournful, and encouraged the despairing.

You received this authority and healing power to work wonders, to cure the incurable, to make people whole.

We ask you to intercede with our brother, Jesus, to send his saving grace to heal the sickness and suffering of **(mention name)**,

to uplift his/her despondent spirits, and to instill hope in his/her heart. Amen"

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### **MESSAGE OF THANKS FOR A REQUEST GRANTED**

"Thank you God for answering my prayer; thank you St. Jude for interceding on my behalf. I will encourage devotion to you always."

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\*(excerpted from: [www.stjudenovena.org](http://www.stjudenovena.org))