

St. Jerome Church

23 Half Mile Road Norwalk, CT 06851

203-847-5349

*And his mother kept all these
things in her heart. - Lk 2:51*

MISSION STATEMENT

We the people of St. Jerome Parish, a Roman Catholic community, proclaim our belief in the message and mission of Jesus Christ. As disciples of Jesus we are called to proclaim the Kingdom of God and to work for its values in the local community and beyond. We are committed to: worship, religious education, shared faith and service. We welcome all people with respect, acceptance and support.

SABBATH MASSES

Saturday 4:00 PM
 Sunday 8:00 AM
 9:15 AM Family Mass
 11:00 AM
 6:00 PM (September—June)

DAYS OF OBLIGATION

Holy Day 9:00 AM, 7:00 PM

WEEKDAY MASSES

Mon-Sat 9:00 AM

HOW TO FIND US.....

Parish Website: www.stjeromenorwalk.org
Parish Email: office@stjeromenorwalk.org
DRE email: dre@stjeromenorwalk.org
REACH email: reach@stjeromenorwalk.org
TOTAL email: total@stjeromenorwalk.org
Bulletin/Social Media:
communications@stjeromenorwalk.org
Fr. David: frdavid@stjeromenorwalk.org
Fr. Rojin: frrojin@stjeromenorwalk.org

 **Parish Facebook:** [stjeromenorwalk](https://www.facebook.com/stjeromenorwalk)
REACH & TOTAL Facebook:
[REACH.TOTAL.stjerome](https://www.facebook.com/REACH.TOTAL.stjerome)

 **Parish Twitter:** [@StJeromeNorwalk](https://twitter.com/StJeromeNorwalk)
REACH & TOTAL Twitter:
[@REACHstjerome](https://twitter.com/REACHstjerome)

 **Instagram:**
[stjeromenorwalk](https://www.instagram.com/stjeromenorwalk)

PARISH STAFF

PASTORAL STAFF ~ 203-847-5349

Rev. David Blanchfield, Pastor
 Rev. Rojin Karickal, Parochial Vicar
 Rev. Michael Hoag, S.J., Weekend Assistant

PARISH OFFICE ~ 203-847-5349

Office Hours, Mon-Fri 9:00 AM—1 PM
office@stjeromenorwalk.org
 Natalie Raduazzo, Administrative Assistant
 Kathy Rohr, Administrative Assistant

BULLETIN/SOCIAL MEDIA

Kathy Rohr
communications@stjeromenorwalk.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ~ 203-846-2111

Director of Religious Education (DRE)

Kathy Coyne
dre@stjeromenorwalk.org

REACH

reach@stjeromenorwalk.org

TOTAL Joe and Daniela O’Callaghan

Youth Ministers
 203-847-0321
total@stjeromenorwalk.org

MUSIC MINISTRY

Tom Sullivan

PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON

Dan Loch • 203-846-3980

FINANCE COUNCIL

Jerry Holdridge • 203-966-3658

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

203-847-3881 Pre K—Grade 8

139 West Rocks Road
 Norwalk, CT 06851
 Linda Dunn, Principal

FAITH DIRECT—ONLINE GIVING

866-507-8757 www.faithdirect.net

Sign up using our church code: CT46 or visit our website at www.stjeromenorwalk.org/Faith-Direct-enrollment.pdf



12/29 9:00 am for our area First Responders

VIGIL FOR SUNDAY

4:00 pm Dana Vigilante Glander
(Rosalind Serna)

THE HOLY FAMILY JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

12/30 8:00 am for the safety of all travelers

9:15 am Mark Regan
(Pat & Frank Hauptman)

11:00 am Mary & Robert Pelletier
(family)

6:00 pm Frank D'Alessandro
(Dennehy family)

12/31 9:00 am for our Parishioners

VIGIL FOR THE HOLY DAY

4:00 pm for Peace in 2019

**THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY,
THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD**

1/1 9:00 am for St. Jerome Parish

11:00 am for our country

1/2 9:00 am Sarah Stover
(Fauci family)

1/3 9:00 am for our Service men & women

1/4 9:00 am Deniel Prorokovic (healing)
(Friends)

1/5 9:00 am Beverly Caprio

VIGIL FOR SUNDAY

1/5 4:00 pm Irene Toth
(Rubsam family)

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

1/6 8:00 am for Deceased family members

9:15 am John Butler
(family)

11:00 am Sahara Calisaya
Vincent Mendoza, Jr
Teodosio Lopez
(Pacheco & July Mendoza)

6:00 pm Frank D'Alessandro
(Guerrara family)

**Please note beginning on 1/12
there will no longer be a
9AM Mass on Saturday mornings.**

Altar Flowers

Altar Flowers may be memorialized for a donation of \$50. Please call the Parish Office several months prior to your desired date.

Adoration & Silent Prayer

Every day between 4:00PM and 5:00PM.

Contemplative Prayer

Wednesday evening at 7:00 PM.

Come spend some quiet time with the Lord.

Perpetual Novena

Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal takes place each Monday following morning Mass

Rosary & Divine Mercy Prayers

Monday through Saturday after daily Mass

Baptisms

Please call the parish office during regular office hours to schedule.

Required Pre-Baptism

Class at 7PM third Monday of the month. Please register ahead of time by calling the office.

Reconciliation

One hour before vigil on Saturday. Also **anytime** by appointment.

Marriages

Please contact the Parish Office at least six months in advance.

Anointing of the Sick

First Wednesday of each month, immediately following the 9:00 AM Mass, in the sanctuary. Anyone with an ongoing medical condition or who is seriously ill, anticipating a medical procedure or operation, is welcome to come.

Gluten Free Hosts

If you require a gluten-free host, please see the officiating priest before Mass.

Bringing up the Gifts at Mass

If the Mass intention has been requested by you or for your loved ones, and you would like to bring up the Gifts at the Offertory, please let the ushers know that you are present and would like to bring up the gifts.

Widows' Support Group

1:00 PM on the second Tuesday of the month in the Kevin Eidt Youth Room.





Fr. David's Random Thoughts.....

I am writing this on Thursday, December 20th, but you will be reading it for Sunday, December 30th, the Feast of the Holy Family. Tomorrow night is New Year's Eve and Tuesday the Feast of Mary the Holy Mother of God. New Year's Day always seem a little strange to me. It is both a Holy Day and a civil holiday. On Monday, New Year's Eve, we will have a 4pm vigil Mass and on the Holy Day, Mass will be at 9am and again at 11am. On that day some people come to Mass to honor Mary on her Holy Day, some come to start the New Year in proper relationship with the Lord, and some come for both.

On New Year's Day, I encourage people to do a review of the previous year, looking for moments when you felt thankful, as well as for those times you felt the nearness or absence of God. If on the two previous New Years Day's you had told me what lay ahead, I would have shuddered (in 2016 prostate cancer, in 2017 a knee broken in Israel.) Yet both years were filled with moments of joy and support. Looking back, I would not have changed either year. The experience also teaches me that worrying about things is an unnecessary burden. My experience of life is that we get through things and often feel the support of the Lord and of others in those seemingly dark times.

At the end of Mass on January 1st, there is a special blessing that goes back to Aaron in the Old Testament. The priest will say, "May the Lord bless you and keep you. May He make his Face to shine upon you. May He give you his peace." That is my wish for all of you as we enter into the journey that will be 2019. No one, except the Lord, knows what joys and sorrows it will bring. But be confident that the Lord will walk it with you, shepherding you, guarding you, holding you up and giving you His steadfast love. Do not be afraid, and watch for signs of His presence each day.



THIS WEEK AT ST. JEROME.....

Sunday	12/30	
Monday	12/31	Vigil for the Holy Day 4:00 PM
Tuesday	1/1	Holy Day 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM
Wednesday	1/2	Contemplative Prayer 7:00 PM Women's Scripture Group 7:30 PM
Thursday	1/3	
Friday	1/4	
Saturday	1/5	Men's Group 7:00 AM

WEEKLY OFFERTORY SUMMARY

Christmas Offertory will be reported in the next bulletin

December Offertory Budget **\$74,600**
(including Christmas)

As always, thank you for your generous support of our parish especially during this Christmas season.



We pray for those who bravely serve our country. God bless them and their families. Our service people include:

PFC Devon Barker, United States Army
PFC Andrew Chimento, United States Army
Sgt. Jason Kulik, United States Army
SSgt. Cameron Prescott, USAF
Pvt. Patrick Ruther, CTARNG
SSG Hendrik P. Sorensen, ARNG
Airman Lauren A. Sorensen, USN
LCpl. Jack H. Whitney, USMC

TUITION RAFFLE

Notre Dame Fairfield is excited to announce the 2018-19 Tuition Raffle. **The Grand Prize of \$15,000 can be used for tuition (for up to two students) for ANY K-8 school, ANY high school, ANY college or university.** Schools must be accredited and located in the U.S. Additionally, it can be used to pay back college loans! Prize will be transferred directly by Notre Dame to an institution designated by the winner. Winner may designate self, family, or friends. Student(s) must be named within four years of the drawing. Eligible expenses include tuition, room and board, books and school related fees. Prize is not redeemable for cash.

Tickets are \$100 each and can be purchased at ND or by visiting <https://notredame.ejoinme.org/2018tuitionraffle>

The winning ticket will be drawn on March 16, 2019 during the Notre Dame Lancer Legacy Gala. Winner need not be present to win. Only 500 tickets will be sold. A minimum of 250 tickets must be sold for the raffle to proceed. If fewer than 250 tickets are sold, the raffle will be canceled and ticket holders will receive a full refund.

Contact marzik@notredame.org or 203-372-6521 ext. 242 for more information.



“CLEAN SLATE” KICK-OFF

Please join us as CONECT kicks off the “CLEAN SLATE” Campaign. Sign-up sheets

are located in the church hallway to join CONECT at 3:00 PM on Sunday, January 6, at Mt. Aery Baptist Church, 73 Frank St., Bridgeport. We will launch our effort to pass “Clean Slate” legislation in Connecticut to automatically expunge criminal records for returning citizens after a certain period of time (3 years after misdemeanors and 5 years after a non-violent felony). We will come together to hear personal stories, gather with key legislators and allies who will champion this reform with us, and begin the new legislative session with a strong start to further Criminal Justice Reform in Connecticut. We are hoping for at least 10 parishioners to attend. Car-pooling leaves the rear parking lot at 2:15 PM on January 6.



The Parish Offices will be closed from Monday, December 24th THROUGH Tuesday, January 1st.

2019 Religious Calendars are available on the tables in the rear of church and in the hallway. Please take one.



TWEETS OF THE WEEK

@Pontifex “Be like Saint Joseph: a man of dreams, not a dreamer; a man of silence, because he respects God’s plan. #SantaMarta

@BishopCaggiano “Pain and suffering will pass, but God’s love never passes. God’s love lasts forever.”

@JamesMartinSJ “Gospel: ‘For I am an old man and my wife is advanced in years.’ Zechariah says when he hears his elderly wife is pregnant (Lk. 1:5-25) Dec. 19. Their son will become John the Baptist. No matter what age we are, God can work with us. Even for the oldest, God is never finished with us.”



January 13—next parent/child class

By the January 13th meeting, all children should have completed up through Session 10. Please email the **'interactive session quiz'** results to the REACH office for our attendance roster.

Still having problems locating the quizzes, please email the office for a link (reach@stjeromenorwalk.org).

Everyone at the REACH office wishes all of our families and friends a very blessed and peaceful Christmas!

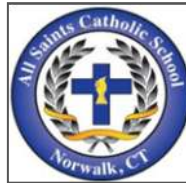


- TOTAL meets on January 6th.
- The TOTAL team would like to wish you all a blessed, peaceful, and joyful Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.
- Applications are being accepted for Emmaus 41 taking place on January 18, 19, and 20. This weekend is open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors. If you are interested in attending, please contact Joe or Daniela O'Callaghan. Space is limited so please send in your deposit and application as soon as possible. **Any teen who has already attended a weekend is welcome to attend this year as a team member.** You can help with Kara, Liturgy, Auxiliary, or in the kitchen.
- We have some t-shirts leftover from Night in a Box. If you'd like to purchase one for \$10, please contact the REACH office or Daniela O'Callaghan at total@stjeromenorwalk.org. We have a long sleeved t-shirt available in small only and a short sleeved in S, M, L. See samples on the bulletin board in the hallway.



REUSABLE GROCERY BAGS

There is always great need for Reusable Grocery Bags at the food pantries. Please consider buying some for the clients at Person to Person. Not only does it reduce the need for plastic bags, many clients without cars use the bus and walk to carry their food home.



"Take-A-Look Tuesdays" at

All Saints Catholic School

Interested in finding out more about All Saints Catholic School in Norwalk? Stop by our "Take-A-Look Tuesday" Open House, held every Tuesday from 8:30-10am. Each week, parents and students are on-hand to give tours and answer questions about our curriculum, activities, after-school program and tuition assistance. No appointment necessary. All Saints Catholic School, PreK through Grade 8. 139 West Rocks Road, Norwalk. 203-847-3881. www.allsaintsnorwalk.com



CHRISTMAS IN POLAND

For the 14th consecutive year, the Knights of Columbus Museum is showcasing the art and traditions of a world region as the focus of its annual

Christmas exhibition.

The Polish observance of Christmas is rich in tradition. Festivities begin December 24 with a Christmas Eve Dinner, known as *wigilia*, and continue through February 2 with the celebration of Candlemas. Singing *kolędy* (Polish carols) and making *szopki* (Polish Nativity scenes) are among the many activities associated with the holiday.

Christmas in Poland features more than 100 items including crèches on loan from the Glencairn Museum (Pennsylvania), the International Marian Research Institute at the University of Dayton (Ohio), the Loyola University Museum of Art (Illinois), the Museum of International Folk Art (New Mexico), Museo del Presepio of Rome/ Italian Friends of the Crèche Association and private collectors.

On exhibit at the Knights Museum through February 3rd. Located at One State Street in New Haven.



Fr. Mike's Book Club

The Spring reading list is now available for Fr. Mike's book club. Please take a flyer from the envelope on the bulletin board in the Hallway.