

Mass Intentions

12/07 9:00 am Barbara Blanchfield

VIGIL FOR SUNDAY

4:00 pm Anna Matusiewicz (1st Anniv.)
(Soja family)

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

12/08 8:00 am Robert & Dorothy Callahan
(Blair family)

9:15 am Tony Casabulo
(family)

11:00 am Pat DiMeglio
(Frances Balestriere)

6:00 pm John Dillane
(Beth Olson)

CELEBRATION OF FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

12/09 9:00 am Deceased mothers & fathers
7:00 pm For our mothers

12/10 9:00 am For the parish

12/11 9:00 am Samuel, John & Susan Marie
(family)

12/12 9:00 am John Zaso

12/13 9:00 am Angela Ferrone

12/14 9:00 am Chris Groener

VIGIL FOR SUNDAY

4:00 pm Philomena Allegreta
(Frances Balestriere)

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

12/15 8:00 am Christopher Gordan
(Hank & Joanne Obst)

9:15 am Ugo DiDemetrio
(family)

11:00 am Angela & James Ferrone

6:00 pm John Dillane
(Peter & Domenica Gioiella)

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

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



ALTAR FLOWERS

The altar flowers for this weekend are in memory of Peter and Hortense Gioiella, given by the family.

WEEKLY OFFERTORY SUMMARY

December 1, 2013	\$ 6,127
December offertory budget	77,700
(including Christmas)	

For the fiscal year to date (July 1 through November 30), the actual received offertory is **\$7,000 less than the budgeted offertory of \$207,800.**

As always, thank you for your generous support of our parish.

REACH

Today, Sunday December 8th

Grades K-6 meet at 9:15 Mass followed by class
Grade 7&8 large groups meet at 6:00 Mass followed by class
Grade 7&8 Fr. David's group meet at 6:00 Mass followed by class.

Next Sunday, December 15th

Grades 1-6 meet at 9:15 Mass followed by class
Grades 7&8 large groups—follow email instructions
Grades 7&8 Fr. David's group meet at 6:00 Mass followed by class.

******REACH is now on FACEBOOK (REACH St.Jerome) ...Like us! And TWITTER (@REACHStJerome) !! Follow us!**

If you are a REACH Volunteer...

All volunteers must take a one time class that is mandated by the Diocese. This class is offered at various parishes around the Diocese. A full list and class registration can be found at <https://www.virtus.org> under the 'registration' tab. You must pre-register on-line.

Tuition (REACH and TOTAL)

Invoices for outstanding balances for REACH and TOTAL have been mailed. Payments are currently being accepted. Please make sure your account is up to date. Any concerns or payment arrangements should be directed to Kathy Coyne for REACH or Daniela O'Callaghan for TOTAL.

Christmas Pageant—Angels & Shep[herds—Save the Dates

The Christmas Pageant takes place at the 6:00PM Mass on Christmas Eve.

All children age 5 and up are invited to be angels and shepherds.

Rehearsals will be held on the two Sunday's prior:

1. Sunday, Dec. 15th at 11:30 in the Hall (just after REACH).
2. Our Only Full Rehearsal will be Sunday, December 22nd at 11:45 AM beginning in the Hall (**Note—there is NO REACH this day).

TOTAL meets this Sunday and again on December 15. On November 24, 47 teens received the sacrament of Confirmation with Bishop Frank Caggiano presiding. We would like to congratulate all our confirmands and their families and hope the gifts of the Holy Spirit will always be with them. Our Confirmands are: Adriel **JOSEPH** Alvarado, Matthew **JOSEPH** Arduino, Devon **JOSEPH** Barker, Kirsten **FILOMENA** Barrese, Brian **NICHOLAS** Beaumonte, Emma **MARYANN** Bieling, John **CHRISTOPHER** Bloise, Brendan **AUGUSTINE** Brown, Shannon **ELIZABETH** Buttling, Lauren **CHRISTINE** Capone, Alexa **Hope** Chiapetta, Miles **PATRICK** Cooper, Adrian **JOSEPH** Corbo, Evan **JOSEPH** Cybart, Michael **John** Denke, Ashley **Elena** Evans, Julia **ADRIENNE** Favazzo, Brianna **LAWSON** Fitzgerald, Timothy **PATRICK** Furgiuele, Robert **CHRISTIAN** Gasparini, Jessica **GENEVIEVE** Giglio, Jessica **NOREEN** Gorman, Francesco **JOHN** Gurnari, John **MICHAEL** Hazzard, Harrison **ANTHONY** Hefferan, Madeline **LENA** Hefferan, Theo **JOSEPH** Jordanides, Jeremy **FRANCIS** Leung, Jennifer **NICOLE** Lyons, Thomas **OLAF** McDewitt, Dakota **ANN** Meyer, John **MARK** Morabito, Alyssa **GRACE** Perschino, Kevin **PETER** Pisacrita, Kyle **JAMES** Pisacrita, Allison **CAROLINE** Pitasi, **MATTHEW** Ravichandran, Catherine **NANCY** Robinson, Christina **VICTORIA** Ronzitti, Emma **CHRISTINE** Spahr, Sean **DAMASCUS** Sullivan, Cara **MICHAELA** Trimboli, **PHILIP JOSPEH** Uva, Erin **MARGARET** Vallerie, Michael **JOHN** Vallerie, Teague **JOHN** Whalen, Dan **GABRIEL** Wood.

ST. JEROME'S LADIES GUILD will meet at the rectory on December 16th at 12:30 PM to decorate the Christmas tree. All are asked to bring a lunch type dish to share and a wrapped grab bag gift.

GIVING TREE INFORMATION—Tags for our Annual Giving Tree project are ready for you to select. Tags contain gift information for Julie's Kids in Guatemala thru her Education and Hope program and also Norwalk Children thru the Person To Person program. After selecting a tag be sure to pick up a Guideline sheet from the basket near the tree. All gifts must be returned unwrapped by **NOON ON SATURDAY DECEMBER 14th**. Volunteers are needed to help with gift sorting beginning at noon on 12/14. Volunteers are also needed to transport Person to Person gifts on Dec. 16th between 9AM & 5PM. Sign up sheets are on the bulletin board at rear of church entrance. Also needed plastic bags. Place them in the box behind curtains near rear church entrance.

NEXT WEEKEND'S FOOD DRIVE WITH A NEW OFFER:

Our monthly food drive will take place next weekend, Dec. 14th-15th. To help ease your shopping during this busy holiday season, Social Concerns Committee will be selling cartons of 10 chicken noodle soups for \$10 after all Masses, in the hallway. You may purchase a package and it will be added to our donations. Other needed food items included: canned yams, canned pumpkin, dried beans, beef ravioli, jello, and fresh produce—potatoes, carrots, apples, squash, and onions. Your donations help put holiday meals on the tables of the hungry families right here in our Norwalk community.

EVENING OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

On December 13 at 7PM St. Jerome will host an evening of lessons and carols. Lessons and Carols is an English tradition of prayer to prepare for Christmas. There will be readings from the scripture and carols sung. We hope you will join us for a relaxing evening of prayer, song and candlelight. Afterward there will be a reception in the Church Hall.

There will be a sign up sheet, in the hall, for anyone willing to bring a treat to share.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

The RCIA program will begin on **Wednesday, January 8th** and meet weekly until Easter. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming Catholic, please contact Stephan Grozinger at 203-227-7813 or sbgrozinger@gmail.com. We are expanding the program this year to invite those who may be curious about Catholicism but are not yet ready to commit to being baptized at Easter, and lapsed Catholics who wish to engage with the issues that caused them to leave and renew their faith. The program will include an exploration of important scripture passages, the Mass, prayer, and faith life in general. If you know of someone who is curious about Catholicism and may be willing to take the next step, please let them know about this opportunity.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS wants to develop a group of members from St. Jerome. Men: Please join us. Take a card from the table in the back of the church. We will answer any questions you may have regarding the Knight of Columbus.

*****THE VOLUNTEERS CORNER****

Volunteers needed for the 4:00 Christmas Eve Mass. Also, we ask our Eucharistic Ministers to sign up in the sacristy for the Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. We need eight people to be ushers for the 4:00PM Mass on Christmas Eve. The sign-up sheet lists the number of ministers needed for each Mass. We need a team of helpers in the parking lot to guide the people who will be coming. Also needed are greeters to welcome all who come. Sign up sheets are in the hallway. This is the largest Mass of the year—all help is appreciated. The sign up sheet will be posted in the hallway this week.