



03/23 9:00 am Tony Casubolo  
(Milton family)

**VIGIL FOR SUNDAY**  
4:30 pm Anthony DeSantis  
(family)

**PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD**

03/24 8:00 am Annemarie Proehl  
(Phil & Pat)

9:30 am Marco Monteiro

11:00 am Dominick Cavoto  
(Howard family)

6:00 pm Maria Corasaniti  
(M.J. & Angelo Bruno)

03/25 9:00 am For the parish

03/26 9:00 am For our college students

03/27 9:00 am Marco Monteiro

**HOLY THURSDAY**

03/28 9:00am MORNING PRAYER  
7:00pm LORD'S SUPPER  
10:00pm NIGHT PRAYER

**GOOD FRIDAY**

03/29 9:00am MORNING PRAYER  
12:00NOON STATIONS OF THE CROSS  
3:00PM PASSION OF THE LORD  
8:00PM "THE FOURTEEN STEPS"

**HOLY SATURDAY**

03/30 9:00am MORNING PRAYER  
8:00PM EASTER VIGIL

**EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD**

03/31 8:00 am Ralph Cocchia (5<sup>th</sup> Anniv.)  
(Wife & family)

9:30am Jerry Butler (19<sup>th</sup> Anniv.)  
(Wife, Rose)

11:00 am Marion Pollastro  
(Bob & Judi Dennehy)

6:00 pm Giuseppe Giglio  
(family)

**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

**NEW ALTAR SERVER TRAINING** – We are in need of new Altar Servers. Any child that has already made the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion may be an altar server. If you are interested, classes will be April 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> at 7PM. Questions, contact Kathy Rohr in the REACH office [reachstjerome@optonline.net](mailto:reachstjerome@optonline.net) or 203-846-2111.

**EASTER ALTAR FLOWERS**

Our Easter Sunday Altar Flowers are in memory of Dorothy Webb, given by her granddaughter, Laura Mastrianni.



**WEDDING BANNS**

The banns of marriage are announced for the first time between Marina Cenatiempo and Anthony Faugno.



**WEEKLY OFFERTORY SUMMARY**

March 17, 2013	\$ 4,979
Total March to date	39,913
March offertory budget (Including Easter)	63,000

Thank you all for your wonderful generosity in this Lenten season.

**THE LADIES GUILD** will hold their meeting on Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup> at 1:00pm in the Church Hall. All women of the parish are invited to come.

The May meeting on May 6<sup>th</sup> will be our Baby Shower for Birthright. Please come and bring a gift of diapers, onesies, nighties, etc. Let's make it a huge success!

**PASTORAL COUNCIL NOMINATIONS NEXT TWO WEEKENDS.**

Next weekend the Election Committee of the Pastoral Council will begin seeking nominations for the St. Jerome Pastoral Council. The term will be for two years beginning this September. For the next two coming weekends, **April 6-7 and 13-14**, nomination forms for you to fill out will be available at the entrances to the church.

**DIOCESAN CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARIES**

– The Diocese of Bridgeport will celebrate a Mass commemorating significant marriage anniversaries ending in "0" or "5" beginning with 10 years. Mass will be held at **Saint Theresa Church, Trumbull, on Sunday, April 21, 2013 at 3:00pm.**

The Mass will include the renewal of marriage vows and presentation of commemorative certificates.

Couples who have or will be celebrating an anniversary ending in "0" or "5" beginning with 10 or anyone celebrating **50 PLUS years during the months of January-June** are invited to register with St. Jerome by **April 10, 2013**.

**LAURALTON HALL** an all-girls Catholic College preparatory school in Milford, will host **Discover Lauralton on Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 – 3:30pm.** Register at [www.lauraltonhall.org](http://www.lauraltonhall.org) by Friday, April 12. For further information, please call (203) 877-2786 extension 144.

**ADORATION AND SILENT PRAYER IS EVERY DAY FROM 4:00-5:00PM, IN THE CHURCH. COME AND SPEND QUIET TIME WITH OUR LORD.**

### **RANDOM THOUGHTS**

I am writing this on Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, but you will be reading it on Palm/Passion Sunday. As you know, every Passion Sunday we listen to one of three Gospels for the story of the death of Jesus. This year it is Luke and although the basics of the story are the same for each Gospel, which one is proclaimed makes a difference. In Cycle A, we read Matthew's version of the story, one that he basically inherits from Mark. It is only these two Gospels that have the words "My God, My God, why have you abandoned me?" Those words of Jesus on the Cross are so important because they allow us to realize that the Cross involved both physical and spiritual suffering. Jesus enters into the center of the human in both its' glory and hurt. What you may not realize though is that those sad words have their source in psalm 22. On the Cross Jesus is praying, and if you look up psalm 22, you will see that it is the voice of a Jewish person who is crying out to God in the midst of great suffering. "I am like water poured out, all my bones are wracked...my throat is dried up like baked clay...a pack of evil doers closes in upon me." But even though that psalm speaks of great suffering, it is not hopeless. Jesus, uses psalm 22 on the Cross because at the end the speaker says, "but you, O Lord, be not far from me, O my help hasten to my aid. Rescue my soul from the sword, my loneliness from the grip of the dog." On the Cross although Jesus suffers greatly, that does not mean that God has been unfaithful to Him. Always remember that Easter follows Passion Sunday as surely as the dawn follows the darkest period of the night. Also, dawn takes its time in arriving. The light appears gradually. So, it is with us in experiencing God's faithfulness after pain. Sometimes it takes a while.

But his year in Luke's version we do not hear those painful words of abandonment. This year on the Cross, the Lukan Jesus says "Father, forgive them they do not know what they do." The Lukan Jesus tells Peter to put away his sword and let it be. In Luke Jesus is so

**steeped in prayer, that unlike his disciples, he mediates forgiveness to all even in the midst of deep challenges.**

**The amazing thing about the Passion narratives is that each of them has something to say to us no matter where we are in the journey. Today, you get to hear of forgiveness, fidelity and prayer. Let it seep into you.**

### **REACH**

**Today, Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup>**

Grades 1-6 meet in the morning

Grades 7&8 meet in the evening

**Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>**

NO CLASS – Happy Easter!

**Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>**

Grades K-6 meet in the morning

Grades 7&8 meet in the evening

### **Volunteering at REACH**

We have a new volunteer sign-up system. Please check it out at <http://stjerome.ivolunteer.com> All volunteers must be VIRTUS trained by the Diocese. [www.virtusonline.org](http://www.virtusonline.org)

### **Family Gospel Connection**

Palm Sunday, also called Passion Sunday, marks the beginning of Holy Week. During this week, we prepare ourselves for Easter by prayerful reflection upon the events of Jesus' passion and death. During this week, your family might display a crucifix in a prominent place as reminder of salvation Christ won for us. This can also serve as the focal point for family prayer during Holy Week.

**Job Opening** Education & Hope is seeking a part time employee based in CT to provide some administrative and strategic support. If interested, please find the full job description and contact info on the bulletin board.

**Prayer Partners Needed** we are in need of Prayer Partners for the parish children receiving First Communion on May 11, 2013. There is a sign-up sheet in the back of church. Please write your name, email or phone number. You will be contacted shortly.

**TOTAL** – The teens and team of TOTAL would like to invite all of our parishioners to "The Fourteen Steps", Jesus' Way of the Cross, on Good Friday evening at 8:00pm. For the past 6 weeks, the teens of TOTAL have been working very hard to prepare this beautiful prayer for our parish. Good Friday is a sacred time and we know that you will find this evening, with our teens, holy and a blessing as we enter into the holy season of Easter.

**SOCIAL CONCERNS** Monday, March 25, the Committee will hold its monthly meeting for members and interested parishioners at 7PM in Rm 5. Please come and join us.