



# **St. Jerome Norwalk**

## **August 31, 2025**

### **22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

## **Mass Schedule**

### **Weekends**

**Saturday 4:00 PM**

**Sunday 8:00 AM & 10:00 AM (10 AM live streamed)**

**1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month**  
**9:00 AM Mass.**

**Next Mass on September**  
**6th.**

### **Confessions**

**Saturday 3:00 - 3:30 PM**

### **Monday - Friday**

**9:00 AM Mass**

**Confession available after 9 AM Mass and anytime upon request**

**Mass of the Sick (Healing mass) at 6PM on the last Tuesday of every month. Next mass on Sept. 30th**

### **Wednesday**

**8:00 AM Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and benediction**

**Outdoor Stations of the Cross open daily from 9-5pm (weather permitting)**

**Church is open for prayer Monday - Sunday from 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM**

**St. Jerome Church Festival & Raffle**

**September 28, 2025 11-2 PM**

**For raffle tickets go to [stjeromenorwalk.org](http://stjeromenorwalk.org) or call the office at 203-847-5349**

# Pastor's Desk

## Humility Before God and Neighbor - 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, today we gather to reflect on a virtue that seems simple but is profoundly transformative: humility. In the Gospel for the 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C, Jesus invites us to a depth of humility that overturns human expectations and aligns our hearts with God's mercy. As a parish, let us examine how humility broadens our gaze from self to neighbor, from pride to service, and from judgment to compassion.

Gospel context (Luke 14:1, 7-14): The pericope for this Sunday (Luke 14:1, 7-14) presents Jesus at a Sabbath meal and teaching about seating at the table. He notices how guests strive for the places of honor and warns: "When you are invited to a wedding feast, do not sit down at the place of honor. A more distinguished guest may arrive. ... Sit down at the lowest place so that when the host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up to a higher table.'" He then contrasts behaviors: inviting the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind to repay him back, and promising a reward at the resurrection of the righteous.

Key themes: Humility as social posture: Jesus reframes status and honor, urging us to choose the place of least, not for shame, but for trust that God will exalt in due time. True hospitality: The final instruction about inviting the poor and marginalized reveals a deeper truth—humility opens us to God's mercy and to neighbors we might otherwise overlook.

God's kingdom values: In God's economy, the last are first, and the first last; humility is not weakness but alignment with God's mercy.

Biblical anchors on humility: Philippians 2:3-4: Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

James 4:6-10: God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up.

Matthew 23:12: Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

Luke 18:9-14 (parabolic contrast): The prayer of the Pharisee and the tax collector teaches that humility before God shapes righteousness more than outward performance.

How humility bears fruit in parish life: In worship: Approaching the liturgy with reverence and attention, not as a performance, but as an encounter with the Living God.



# Pastor's Desk

In service: As Jesus invites us to invite the marginalized, our parish can be a place of welcome to the poor, the elderly, the immigrant, the single parent, the grieving, and those on the margins of society.

In community life: Humility fosters listening—listening to one another, to the clergy, to the needs around us, and to the movements of the Holy Spirit in our parish.

In leadership: Leaders and volunteers model servant leadership, choosing roles that require sacrifice, patience, and a transparent willingness to be corrected.

Practical homily points for St. Jerome's parish welcome ministry as humility in action: Encourage our greeters, ushers, and hospitality teams to serve with gentle dignity, especially to those who come with burdens.

Outreach to the marginalized: Organize regular service projects or a parish "table of mercy" where we share meals with the homeless or discouraged neighbors, echoing the call to invite the poor and the crippled to dine in God's kingdom.

Stewardship of gifts: Recognize and praise hidden gifts within the parish—those who quietly teach catechism, visit the sick, or maintain our parish grounds—without elevating any one person above another.

Confession and repentance: The psalms and the sacraments remind us that humility includes recognizing our need for God's mercy. Encourage honest confession and dependence on God's grace.

Illustrative anecdotes: A parish family once hosted a neighbor who had fallen on hard times. They invited him to meals, prayed with him, and listened to his story. Over time, he found employment and regained hope. The family did not broadcast their good deed; they chose the "lowest seat" in ministry, trusting that God would elevate what He blessed. A longtime catechist who rarely sought praise continued to teach children with patient zeal. When asked about recognition, they replied, "The worth of our service is not in applause but in the growth of the children's faith." Humility remained the hidden strength behind faithful catechesis.

Conclusion: Beloved in Christ, humility is not a denial of dignity but a true recognition of our dependence on God and our call to love others as He has loved us. As we listen to Jesus' exhortation in the Gospel for the 22nd Sunday in Year C, may we choose the place of service, invite the poor and marginalized to share in God's mercy, and allow God to exalt what He has blessed. Let St. Jerome's be known as a parish where humility is the daily posture, where the last are welcomed, and where God's grace abounds in generous, quiet service.

God bless  
Fr. Hygi

# **Mass Remembrances**

*This week we pray for the following...*

**Weekend of August 30 & 31 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Eileen Kennedy; Babe and Kay Ferris; Luciana Buono; Teresita Padilla Escoto; Jeanne Conlon**

**Monday, September 1<sup>st</sup> Vincent Michael Mendoza Jr**

**Tuesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> Harry Brownstein**

**Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> Betty LeCates**

**Thursday, September 4<sup>th</sup> Olga Iossa**

**Friday, September 5<sup>th</sup> Jack Durkin**

**Weekend of September 6 & 7 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Vincenzo Iannone Jr; Patrick McBrinn; Ann & Bramwell Wood; Giovanni Casale; Peter Gordan**

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*Loss Group  
September 20th  
Church Hall  
1:00-2:30 PM*

*All are welcome to join!*



# HOW ARE WE DOING?

## WEEKLY OFFERTORY

2025

Week of August 24

In-Pew	\$2,333
Online - Our Sunday Visitor	\$2,474
Total Weekly Offertory	<u>\$4,806</u>
Budget	\$6,850.00

*Note: Gifts, and Annual Offertory are reported at month end.*

One-time credit card donations can be made on our website by visiting [www.osvhub.com/Stjeromenorwalk/giving/funds](http://www.osvhub.com/Stjeromenorwalk/giving/funds) and click on my Account on top toolbar.

If envelopes are your thing, you can drop in the basket, drop off or mail those to the church office at any time!! *Thank you for your support.*

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**Goal: \$69,200 Pledged: \$71,395 Percentage Goal: 103%**



# Thank you!

A heartfelt thank you to all the parishioners who joined us for Fr. Hygi's Luncheon and generously brought refreshments to share. Your presence and contributions made the gathering truly special.

A special shout-out to Joanna Somma for the delicious cake—it was a highlight of the celebration!

We're also deeply grateful to Honey Secchi, Jeff Kress, Pat DiBartolomeo, Rosemary Romaniello, Florence Loch, Jean Pagliuca, Carol Caragine, Daniella O'Callaghan, Ronalee Grant, Gina Granata, Linda Lee and Steven Filizzola who helped with setup and cleanup. Your time and effort did not go unnoticed.

Thank you for helping make the day so memorable!







## **Faith Formation** **Classes begin on Sept. 14th**

## **Confirmation Prep** **Classes begin on Sept. 21st**

**Registration for our Faith Formation and Confirmation Prep program is now open on-line.**

This year, our program will cover grades  
Kindergarten - 12, and will  
include an OCIA program from adults who would like  
to receive their sacraments.

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Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano, Bishop of Bridgeport will celebrate the **Annual Diocesan Wedding Jubilee Mass on Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM at the Cathedral of Saint Augustine** in Bridgeport.

**Couples celebrating their 25<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 45<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup> and more years of marriage** are eligible to attend. All couples who are recognized at the Mass will receive a commemorative certificate in recognition of this important milestone in their married life in addition to pictures with the Bishop.

Sharon Colihan is coordinating the registration process for the Mass and is available to answer whatever questions you may have. She can be reached at [Sharon.Colihan@diobpt.org](mailto:Sharon.Colihan@diobpt.org) or (203) 416-1454 and she will provide instructions on how to register.





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### **Pastoral Staff**

Rev. Hyginus Agu -Administrator  
frhyginus@stjeromenorwalk.org

Rev. David Blanchfield -Visiting Priest  
Rev. Michael Hoag, SJ -Weekend Assistant

**Parish Staff** Office@stjeromenorwalk.org 203-  
847-5349 Cathy Gallup - Administrative  
Assistant Kathy Coyne - Funeral Coordinator  
Marie Beaumonte - Bookkeeper

### **Music Ministry**

office@stjeromenorwalk.org  
Lori Pearson - Director of Music

### **Newsletter/Social Media**

Communications@stjeromenorwalk.org  
Cathy Gallup

### **Parish Council**

Office@stjeromenorwalk.org  
Steven Filizzola - Chairperson

### **Finance Council**

office@stjeromenorwalk.org  
Bill Sweeney - Chairperson

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### **Sanctuary Candle**

May be memorialized for a donation of \$25.  
Please contact the office several months  
prior to the desired week.

### **How to find us...**

**Office:** office@stjeromenorwalk.org

**Elementary Religious Ed:**

faithformation@stjeromenorwalk.org

**Middle School Faith Formation -**

faithformation@stjeromenorwalk.org

**Newsletter/Social Media/Website -**

communications@stjeromenorwalk.org

203-847-5349  
23 Half Mile Road  
Norwalk, CT 06851

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### **Mass Times**

**Weekday** – Monday- Friday 9AM

**Wednesday 8AM -**

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and benediction.

**Weekend** – Saturday 4pm

**Sunday** – 8AM & 10 AM

**Holy Day of Obligation** – 9AM and 7PM

### **Altar Flowers**

May be memorialized for a donation of \$75.  
Please contact the office several months  
before desired weekend.

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### **Religious Education**

#### **Faith Formation - Grades K-6**

faithformation@stjeromenorwalk.org  
Steven Filizzola - Program Director

#### **Confirmation Prep Grades 7 & 8**

faithformation@stjeromenorwalk.org

#### **Youth Leadership and Mentorship Program**

faithformation@stjeromenorwalk.org  
Steven Filizzola - Program Director

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### **All Saints Catholic School Pre K - Grade 8**

203-847-3881

www.allsaintsnorwalk.com

139 West Rocks Road Norwalk, CT

Linda Dunn - Principal

### **OSV - Online Giving**

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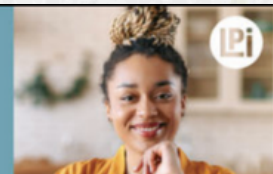
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