



# St. Jerome Norwalk

## March 22, 2026

### 5th Sunday of Lent

## Mass Schedule

### Weekends

Saturday 4:00 PM

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

Saturday Devotion Mass  
followed by Holy Rosary.

9:00 AM on April 4th

Sunday April 12<sup>th</sup> at 3pm  
Second Sunday of Easter  
Divine Mercy Adoration

### 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 5PM  
on March 31st.

Parish Annual Lenten Retreat  
3/24 and 3/25 at 7pm

Communal penance service will follow  
the retreat on Tuesday, March 25.

### Wednesdays

8:00 AM Adoration of the  
Blessed Sacrament and  
benediction

*Diocesan Lenten Pilgrimage March 20<sup>th</sup> 6 pm followed by 7pm mass.*

2026 Bishop Appeal  
To make a donation please visit  
[BishopAppeal.org](http://BishopAppeal.org), or call 203-416-1470  
with your phone or scan QR code



Goal: \$69,200 Pledged: \$22,277 Percentage Goal: 32%

# Pastor's Desk

My brothers and sisters in Christ,

Today's readings speak powerfully to one reality we all experience—moments of dryness, discouragement, and even a sense of death within us. Whether it is the stress of daily life here in Norwalk, struggles in our families, the weight of ministry, or even silent battles within our hearts—we know what it feels like to be in a tomb. Yet into that very place, God speaks a word of life.

1. "I Will Open Your Graves" – Hope in Book of Ezekiel in the first reading, the prophet Ezekiel speaks to a people in exile—people who feel cut off, forgotten, and spiritually dead. God says: "I will open your graves and have you rise from them." This is not just about physical death. It is about situations that seem beyond repair: broken relationships, loss of faith, emotional exhaustion and spiritual dryness. Here at St. Jerome's Parish, some may come to Mass carrying heavy burdens—perhaps feeling like hope is gone. But God declares: "Your story is not over." God does not abandon His people in the grave. He enters it.

2. "The Spirit Gives Life" – Teaching of Epistle to the Romans. St. Paul reminds us that the difference between death and life is the Spirit of God dwelling within us. "If the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you... He will give life to your mortal bodies." This means we are not meant to live defeated lives. We are not prisoners of sin, fear, or weakness. The same Spirit that raised Christ is already at work in us. In our parish community, this Spirit is alive in the Eucharist we receive -in reconciliation that restores us and in acts of service to the sick, the lonely, and the poor. The question is not whether God is present—but whether we are open to His Spirit.

3. "Lazarus, Come Out!" – The Sign in Gospel of John. In today's Gospel, we encounter one of the most dramatic moments in Scripture: the raising of Lazarus. Lazarus is not just sick—he is dead. Four days in the tomb. No hope. No possibility. And yet, Jesus does something unexpected: He does not avoid the tomb. He does not rush past the pain. He stands before it—and He weeps. This is deeply important. Jesus is not distant from our suffering. He enters into it. Then He cries out: "Lazarus, come out!" And the dead man walks out.

4. What Is Your Tomb? This Gospel is not just about Lazarus. It is about us. Each of us has a "tomb": A habit we cannot break. A wound we cannot heal. A fear that paralyzes us. A faith that has grown cold. Jesus stands before that very place in your life today and calls you by name. Not tomorrow. Not someday. Today. "Come out."

5. "Untie Him and Let Him Go" – A Mission for the Community  
After Lazarus comes out, Jesus says something very important: "Untie him and let him go." This is where the parish comes in. At St. Jerome's Parish, we are called not only to hear Jesus' voice—but to help unbind one another: Through encouragement instead of judgment. Through presence instead of indifference. Through forgiveness instead of resentment, we become instruments of resurrection for each other.

6. A Word for Our Parish Today. As we continue our journey, especially in this Lenten season, the Lord is inviting our parish to move from routine faith to living faith. Move from fear to trust in God's power. Move from isolation to true community. No situation in your life is too far gone. No heart is too hardened. No grave is too deep.

Conclusion: My brothers and sisters, the message today is simple but powerful: God still opens graves. The Spirit still gives life. Jesus still calls the dead to rise. So whatever tomb you may be carrying today, hear the voice of Christ: "Come out." And trust that when you do, this community—and above all, God Himself—will help set you free.

God bless  
Fr. Hygi.

# **Mass Remembrances**

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

**Weekend of March 21 & 22** 5th Sunday of Lent

**Betty Voutsinas; Anna and Antoni Matusiewicz; Narciso Cruz;  
Edilio Peralta and Jose Ramon Peralta**

**Monday, March 23rd - Teresa Lopez Vargas**

**Tuesday, March 24<sup>th</sup>- Allan Seymour**

**Wednesday, March 25<sup>th</sup> - Dominick Vento**

**Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup> - In honor of Julianne Roberts**

**Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup> - Judy Classen**

**March 28 & 29** Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

**Mary C. Sullivan; Laura Mastrianni; Bertha Franklino; Krystyna  
Aleksiejczyk; Carmine Pauciello and Giovanni Casale**

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*Loss Group Meeting  
March 21, 2026  
1-2:30pm  
Church Hall*

*All are welcome!*

# HOW ARE WE DOING?

WEEKLY OFFERTORY	2026
Week of March 15	
In-Pew	\$6,290
Online - Our Sunday Visitor	\$3,601
Total Weekly Offertory	<u>\$9,891</u>
<i>Budget</i>	\$6,840.00

*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.*

## Bishop's Appeal Update

Our Bishop's Appeal goal is currently at 25%. Your support helps fund essential ministries across our Diocese, including Seminarians, Retired Priests, Catholic Schools, Faith Formation programs, underprivileged families, Catholic Charities, and other programs that serve both Compassion Missions and the Truth, Beauty, and Goodness of our Faith.

If we reach our parish goal of \$75,000 by June 14, St. Jerome will receive a \$5,000 grant for our own parish needs. Only the pledge needs to be made by June 14; payments can be completed later in the year.

Please consider supporting the Bishop's Appeal and helping St. Jerome reach this important goal.

## Holy Week Schedule

### Parish Annual Lenten Retreat at 7pm in Church

BREAKING THE YOKE: The Power of Healing Through Reconciliation

March 24<sup>th</sup> - Recognizing the Yoke – understanding the brokenness and need for reconciliation.

March 25<sup>th</sup> – Mercy and Forgiveness at the root of reconciliation followed by Communal penance

### Holy Thursday

April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 PM Mass of the Last Supper. Adoration after Mass concluding with night prayer at midnight

### Good Friday

April 3<sup>rd</sup> 12:00 PM Outdoor Stations of the Cross \*weather permitting

3:00 PM Passion of the Lord

### Holy Saturday

April 4<sup>th</sup> 1:00 PM – 2:30 Confessions

### Easter Vigil Mass

April 4<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 PM

### Easter Sunday Mass

April 5<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM 10:00 AM (live streamed -Facebook) & 12:00 PM

## Easter Egg Hunt Donations Needed

We are looking for Easter egg stuffers to help fill the eggs for Easter Egg Hunt. Small, individually wrapped candies or tiny trinkets are perfect. If you're able to contribute, please drop off your items by Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup> so we have time to prepare the eggs for the children.



<u>MARCH</u>	<u>FAITH FORMATION: GRADES K-6</u>	<u>MARCH</u>	<u>CONFIRMATION FORMATION (grades 7-8)</u>
Sunday, 3/1	Saint Jerome Faith Formation Session (9-11am)	Sunday, 3/1	Grade 7: All Saints (3pm to 5:15pm)
Sunday, 3/1	Grade 6 All Saints Session (3pm - 5:15pm)	Tuesday, 3/3	Grade 8: Saint Jerome (6:30-8pm)
Sunday, 3/8	Saint Jerome Faith Formation Session (9-11am)	Sunday, 3/8	Grades 7-8: Saint Jerome - Confirmation Formation (9am to 11a
Sunday, 3/15	Saint Jerome Faith Formation Session (9-11am)	Sunday, 3/15	Grades 7-8: Saint Jerome - Confirmation Formation (9am to 11a
Sunday, 3/22	Saint Jerome Faith Formation Session (9-11am)	Sunday, 3/22	Grades 7-8: Saint Jerome - Confirmation Formation (9am to 11a
Sunday, 3/29	Saint Jerome Faith Formation Session (9-11am)	Friday, 3/27	Grade 8: Confirmation Ceremony (6pm at Saint Philip Church)
		Sunday, 3/29	Grades 7-8: No Session

# Tabernacle Candle For Loved One

## Tabernacle Candle Memorial Offering

This is a special opportunity to remember and honor a loved one by sponsoring the lighting of our Tabernacle Candle. The offering is \$25, and the candle burns for seven days, beginning and ending on Saturday.

The name of your loved one, along with the requesting individual or family, will appear in the bulletin as follows: "The Tabernacle candle burning in the Sanctuary of the church this week is in memory of [Name], as requested by [Individual or Family Name]."

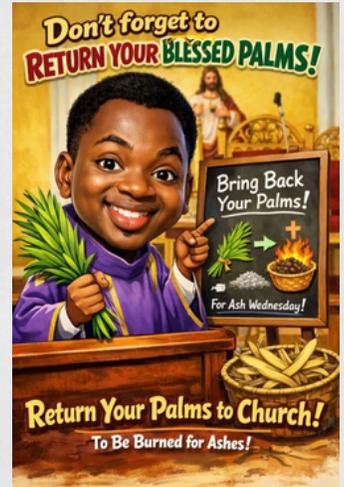
If you'd like to reserve a week or need more information, please send email to [office@stjeromenorwalk.org](mailto:office@stjeromenorwalk.org) or call at 203-847-5349.



## Votive Candle Offerings

Votive candles on our candle racks may be lit for your loved ones. The offering is \$2 for small votives and \$5 for large votives. Lighting a votive candle is a simple and meaningful way to hold someone in prayer throughout the day.

*2027 Mass Book has arrived please visit or call the office at 203-847-5349 to book a mass.*



**Mass at 9AM  
Rosary after Mass  
Confessions at 3 PM**

**First Saturday**

**Devotion**

*Join us*

**EVERY FIRST  
SATURDAY**



# St Patrick Day Luncheon

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all parishioners who helped make our St. Patrick's Day celebration. A special thanks to Kelly Pickering, Andrea Licek, Jeff Kress, Steve Filizzola, Honey Secchi, Renee Rajappa, Elie Elriachi, Joanna Elriachi, Joshua Elriachi, Cathy Mulford, Marie Pecoraro, Cathy and Chris Gallup for their time, and dedication. Your efforts were deeply appreciated and made a meaningful difference.



# ST JEROME UPDATES

*Dear Parishioners,  
As we approach the fourth weekend of our Mt. Foodmore collection, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude for your generosity. Thanks to your kindness, we have already collected over 700 items to share with our neighbors in need here in Norwalk.*

*For this week, we are inviting donations of canned and dried fruits and canned vegetables.*

*Social Concerns Meeting  
Our next Social Concerns meeting will be held on Monday, March 30 at 7:00 p.m. in the Church Hall.  
All are welcome to attend.*

## **Lenten Food Drive Announcement:**

Our Lenten food drive begins next weekend. Each week will be designated for a most needed food item category. Please see the schedule below. Your contributions will be greatly appreciated to help us build a mountain of food. Come check out Mt. Foodmore and see how it grows!

**Weekend February 28 and March 1: "Cereal Sunday"**  
(All types of dry cereal)

**Weekend of March 7 and 8: "Soupy Sunday"**  
(All types of canned and boxed soup)

**Weekend of March 14 and 15: "Sudsy Sunday"**  
(All types of cleaning products from laundry to toothpaste)

**Weekend of March 21 and 22: "Tutti-Frutti and Vegi-Rama"**  
(All types of canned and dried fruit and vegetables)

**Weekend of March 28 and 29: "Plenty O' Pasta"**  
(All types of pasta and sauce)



## **Lenten Cross**

**Our Lenten Cross is up in the front of the church. Please come and take a tag or two. The tags vary by color and call for acts of prayer, donation and kindness.**

**Please support those that support us!!!**

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