



St. Jerome Norwalk
July 19, 2026
16th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Mass Schedule

Weekends

Saturday 4:00 pm
Sunday 8:00 am & 10:00 am
(10:00 am live streamed)

Confessions

Saturday 3:00-3:30 pm

Sacred Heart of Jesus Mass
at 9:00 am every first Friday
of the month

Devotion Mass followed by
Holy Rosary at 9:00 am every
first Saturday of the month

Monday - Friday

9:00 am Mass

Confession available after 9 am Mass
and anytime upon request

Mass of the Sick (Healing mass) at
5:00 pm every last Tuesday of the
month

Wednesdays

8:00 am Adoration of the
Blessed Sacrament and
benediction

To make a donation for the 2026 Bishop Appeal please visit

www.2026BishopsAppeal.org

or call 203-416-1470 with your phone or scan QR code

Goal: \$69,200 Pledged: \$69,200



Pastor's Desk

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

Gospel: Matthew 13:24–43

Growing with Patience in God's Kingdom

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus presents three parables that reveal the mystery of God's Kingdom: the wheat and the weeds, the mustard seed, and the yeast. Together, they remind us that God's ways are often different from our own. We tend to seek immediate solutions and quick results, but God works with patience, mercy, and quiet power. The parable of the wheat and the weeds addresses one of life's deepest questions: Why does God allow evil to exist? The servants want to remove the weeds immediately, but the master tells them to wait until the harvest. Jesus teaches that God is patient, allowing time for repentance and conversion. His desire is not to condemn but to save. While evil is real, God's mercy remains greater, and His justice will prevail in His perfect time.

This Gospel also invites us to look inward. Before focusing on the faults of others, we are called to examine our own hearts. Every one of us has "weeds" that need God's healing—pride, impatience, selfishness, resentment, or lack of forgiveness. Through prayer, the sacraments, and acts of charity, God gradually transforms us into the good wheat He desires us to be.

The parables of the mustard seed and the yeast offer another important lesson: God often accomplishes great things through small beginnings. A tiny seed becomes a great tree. A little yeast transforms the entire dough. Likewise, every act of kindness, every sincere prayer, every word of encouragement, and every sacrifice made out of love contributes to building God's Kingdom. Even when our efforts seem unnoticed, God is at work, bringing about growth that we may not immediately see.

In a world that values success, speed, and visible achievements, Jesus encourages us to remain faithful in the ordinary moments of daily life. Holiness is not always found in extraordinary deeds but in ordinary acts of love performed with extraordinary faith. As we gather around the Lord's table this Sunday, let us pray for patient hearts that trust God's timing, humble hearts that seek continual conversion, and generous hearts that never grow tired of doing good. May we faithfully sow seeds of love, peace, and hope, confident that the Lord of the harvest will bring His work to fulfillment.

"The righteous will shine like the sun in the Kingdom of their Father." (Matthew 13:43)

Prayer

Lord Jesus, help us to trust in Your wisdom and Your timing. Remove the weeds that hinder our growth, strengthen us to persevere in doing good, and make us faithful witnesses of Your Kingdom. May our lives become seeds of hope and love for everyone we meet. Amen.

God bless
Fr. Hygi.

Mass Remembrances

This week we pray for the following...

Weekend of July 18 & 19 16th Sunday of Ordinary Time

- +Ann & Wally Regan requested by Vento Family
- +Umberto and Teresina Librandi requested by Cathy Librandi
- +Mary and Tom Oess requested by Barbara Bagnato
- +Reynaldo Santos requested by Helen Santos
- +Joe O'Callaghan Sr. requested by Florence Loch

Monday, July 20

- +Zita Sebastian by Richard Maiberger

Tuesday, July 21

- +Cirilo Mendoza requested by Alejandra Mendoza

Wednesday, July 22

St Jerome Parishioners

Thursday, July 23

St Jerome Parishioners

Friday, July 24

St Jerome Parishioners

Weekend of July 25 & 26 17th Sunday of Ordinary Time

- +Joann Lindwall requested by Nancy and Kenneth Craw
- +Anna Pesce requested by DiCostanzo Family
- +Giovanni Casale requested by Casale Family
- Lawrence Mendoza requested by Alejandra Mendoza

Loss Group Meeting

Saturday, July 18, from 2:00-3:30 PM in the Parish Hall.

All are welcome!

HOW ARE WE DOING?

WEEKLY OFFERTORY

2026

Week of July 12

In-Pew	\$8,594
Online - Our Sunday Visitor	\$4,362
Total Weekly Offertory	<u>\$12,955</u>
<i>Budget</i>	<i>\$7,050.00</i>

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

Second Collection July 18th & July 19th for Co-Operative Mission Sunday

Co-operative Mission Sunday July 18th and 19th

Our Church is a mission Church. It is evangelizing in areas of the world where our brothers and sisters in Christ are struggling to meet their basic needs. War, famine, persecution, and in many instances, it is simply the lack of resources, are obstacles the faithful face each day. There are priests, religious brothers and sisters, and lay people who are devoting their lives to spreading the Gospel and caring for the spiritual and physical needs of the faithful in these lands. Would you please help them with your prayers and use that weekend's second collection to support them with your financial generosity? Thank you.

One-time credit card donations can be made on our website by visiting 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.*

ONLINE GIVING
SUPPORTS
ST. JEROME



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 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.

Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano, Bishop of Bridgeport will celebrate the **Annual Diocesan Wedding Jubilee Mass on Saturday, October 3, 2026 at 11:00 AM at the Cathedral of Saint Augustine** in Bridgeport.

Couples celebrating their 25th, 40th, 45th, 50th 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 or (203) 416-1454 and she will provide instructions on how to register.

🎵 **JOIN OUR CHOIR!** 🎵

DO YOU LOVE TO SING OR PLAY AN INSTRUMENT? OUR ADULT CHOIR IS LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS!

WHETHER YOU'RE AN EXPERIENCED MUSICIAN OR SIMPLY ENJOY SHARING YOUR TALENTS, WE'D LOVE TO HAVE YOU JOIN US.

PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE IF INTERESTED.



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

First Saturday

Devotion

Join us

Earthquakes Devastate Venezuela

Help Families Today!

On June 24, 2026, two powerful earthquakes struck northern Venezuela just seconds apart, causing widespread destruction across Caracas and surrounding states. The twin earthquakes—the strongest to strike the South American country in decades—flattened buildings, damaged roads and left families searching for safety. Within the first 12 hours, more than 160 deaths were reported, nearly 1,000 people were injured, and thousands of families were displaced. These numbers are sure to rise as the full extent of the damage becomes clearer. As aftershocks continued, the president

declared a state of emergency, schools and non-essential services were suspended, and Caracas' airport was temporarily closed after sustaining heavy damage.

As search and rescue efforts continue, Catholic parishes in Venezuela have opened their doors to shelter displaced families and provide emergency assistance. Through its longstanding partnership with Caritas Venezuela, CRS is supporting rapid assessments and preparing to deploy additional humanitarian workers to expand lifesaving relief for people who have lost homes, livelihoods and a sense of security.

How to Help



Donate online: crs.org/donate/venezuela-earthquake



Donate by scanning the QR code:



Donate by phone:
1-877-HELP-CRS



Donate by check:
CRS/Venezuela Earthquakes
P.O. Box 5278, Tipton, IA 52772-0517

Emergency Relief Priorities

The earthquakes have intensified humanitarian needs in a country already facing one of the region's worst humanitarian crises. An estimated 7.9 million people were already in need of assistance due to years of economic crisis, food insecurity and weakened public services.



Experience Camps offers free one-week summer camps for kids and teens who have experienced the death of a parent, sibling, or primary caregiver. This year's camp will take place August 18–23, 2026, at KenMont and KenWood Camp in Connecticut.

Each of the 16 cabins (8 girls and 8 boys) receives a Self-Care “Bunk Bag” filled with items the campers can use and share throughout the week. The St. Jerome Social Concerns Committee would like to support these campers by helping provide supplies for these bags. If you would like to participate, please bring your donation to the metal rack in the church hallway, located across from the stairway to the office. We are collecting: coloring books, puzzle books, sudoku books, Word search books, activity books (for boys and girls), crayons, colored markers and colored pencils. Our goal is to gather at least two of each type of item for all 16 bags. The collection for Experience Campers will run from June 27 through July 19, 2026. Thank you for helping brighten this meaningful week for these young campers.

The Social Concerns Committee is creating a list of local, reliable businesses that may be able to assist parishioners who need help with home repairs or other household needs. We are also gathering names of volunteers who would be willing to drive fellow parishioners to medical appointments or shopping trips. If you are interested in being included on either list, please contact the Parish Office and leave a message.

If any parishioner is in need of food please reach out to the Parish Office for assistance.