



# St. Jerome Norwalk

## March 8, 2026

### 3rd 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 March 7th

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

*Please join us every Friday during Lent at 5:00 p.m.  
for  
the Stations of the Cross.*

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: \$15,105 Percentage Goal: 22%

# Pastor's Desk

My dear brothers and sisters of St. Jerome's Parish in Norwalk,

Today's readings speak to one deep human reality: thirst.

In the book of Exodus, the Israelites are physically thirsty in the desert. They are tired, frustrated, and afraid. They ask Moses, "Why did you bring us out here? Was it to let us die of thirst?" Their thirst quickly turns into complaint, doubt, and even anger at God.

In the Gospel from Gospel of John, we meet another thirsty soul — the Samaritan woman at the well. She comes to draw water at noon, alone, perhaps to avoid the whispers and judgments of others. But her real thirst is not for water. It is for dignity, truth, love, and hope.

And here, in Norwalk, in our own St. Jerome's Parish, we also know thirst.

Some are thirsty for healing — sitting in hospital rooms or waiting for diagnoses.

Some are thirsty for peace in their families. Some are thirsty for financial stability, meaningful work, or direction in life. Some are spiritually thirsty — coming to Mass faithfully yet longing for deeper intimacy with God. Thirst is not a weakness. It is a revelation. It shows us that we are not self-sufficient. We need God.

In the desert, God tells Moses to strike the rock, and water flows. The place is named Massah and Meribah — "testing" and "quarreling." Even in their complaining, God provides.

In the Gospel, Jesus does something extraordinary. He asks the Samaritan woman for a drink. This is the only time in the Gospels that Jesus says, "I thirst" — until the Cross. He makes Himself vulnerable. He crosses social, religious, and moral boundaries. Jews did not associate with Samaritans. Rabbis did not publicly speak with women. Yet Jesus sits at that well and begins a conversation that changes a life.

Notice something beautiful: Jesus first asks her for water before offering her "living water." God often begins with our ordinary needs before leading us to eternal ones.

At St. Jerome's, we are called to be that kind of parish — a place where conversations happen at the well. A place where no one is avoided because of their past. A place where people who feel isolated, judged, or forgotten can encounter Christ through us.

The Samaritan woman arrives alone, but she leaves as a missionary. She runs back to her town and says, "Come see a man who told me everything I have done." Her shame becomes her testimony. Her thirst becomes her mission.

And St. Paul reminds us in the Letter to the Epistle to the Romans that "hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts." Notice the image — poured. Like water. Like grace overflowing.

Paul also says something striking: "While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Jesus did not wait for the Samaritan woman to fix her life. He met her in the middle of it. That is how grace works. Brothers and sisters, perhaps today you feel like the Israelites — complaining in the desert. Or like the Samaritan woman — carrying hidden burdens. Or maybe you feel spiritually dry.

The Good News is this: Christ is already waiting at your well.

He is waiting in the Eucharist.

He is waiting in Confession.

He is waiting in prayer.

He is waiting in the neighbor who needs your compassion.

And just as God brought water from the rock, He can bring grace from the hardest places in your life. Here at St. Jerome's Parish, may we never be afraid of our thirst. Because our thirst is the doorway to encounter. When we admit our need, Christ pours living water into our hearts.

Let us ask today: Where am I thirsty? And am I willing to let Jesus meet me there? If we allow Him, He will not only quench our thirst — He will make us springs of living water for Norwalk and beyond.

God bless

Fr. Hygi.

# HOW ARE WE DOING?

WEEKLY OFFERTORY	2026
Week of March 1	
In-Pew	\$2,925
Online - Our Sunday Visitor	\$3,180
Total Weekly Offertory	<u>\$6,105</u>
Budget	\$6,840.00
<i>Note: Gifts, and Annual Offertory are reported at month end.</i>	
MONTH-END OFFERTORY SUMMARY	2026
Month of February	4 Sundays
Weekly In Pew Offertory	\$17,074
Online - Our Sunday Visitor	\$12,905
Gifts and Annual Offertory	\$496
Total Offertory and Gifts	<u>\$30,475</u>
Budget	\$37,657



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 17.3%. 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.

# **Mass Remembrances**

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

**Weekend of March 7 & 8 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent**

**Maria Regan; Diane Abruscato; Jean Somma; Vincenzo Iannone Jr;  
Agu family; Corazon Armonio; Dominick Vento**

**Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup> - Anna Ferreri Brownstein**

**Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup> - Nancy Trovato**

**Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup> - Dominick Vento**

**Thursday, March 12<sup>th</sup> - Parishioners of St. Jerome**

**Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup> - Frank Iossa**

**March 14 & 15 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent**

**Ann & Wally Regan; Fanni Marucci; Edmund & Mary Lucy Marinucci;  
Janis Glica Chuba; Robert J. Sullivan**

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

*Funeral for Dominick Vento  
March 11, 2026  
11:30 AM  
St. Jerome Church*

*All are welcome!*

# 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.

\$15,105 (22%)



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

**First Saturday**

**Devotion**

*Join us*

**EVERY FIRST  
SATURDAY**

# JOIN US MAKING A DIFFERENCE

## Lenten Activities

This coming weekend, **March 7 & 8**, is **Soupy Sunday**. We are collecting all types of canned and boxed soups for our **Mt. Foodmore** display in the front of the church. Please place your donations on the designated shelves in the church hallway. All items collected will be donated to the **Open Doors** and **Person to Person** food pantries in Norwalk.

Another meaningful way to practice your faith during Lent is by taking tags from our **Lenten Cross**, also located in the front of the church. These tags include suggested **Acts of Prayer, Acts of Kindness**, and **donation ideas** that support organizations caring for those in need here in Norwalk.

### 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.**



# St Jerome Events

<b><u>MARCH</u></b>	<b><u>FAITH FORMATION: GRADES K-6</u></b>
Sunday, 3/1	Saint Jerome Faith Formation Session (9-11am)
Sunday, 3/1	Grade 6 All Saints Session (3pm - 5:15pm)
Sunday, 3/8	Saint Jerome Faith Formation Session (9-11am)
Sunday, 3/15	Saint Jerome Faith Formation Session (9-11am)
Sunday, 3/22	Saint Jerome Faith Formation Session (9-11am)
Sunday, 3/29	Saint Jerome Faith Formation Session (9-11am)

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



## SAINT JEROME PARISH

Norwalk, Connecticut



SUNDAY, MARCH 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 11:15am

## ~ An Irish Lunch ~

With Activities for Kids

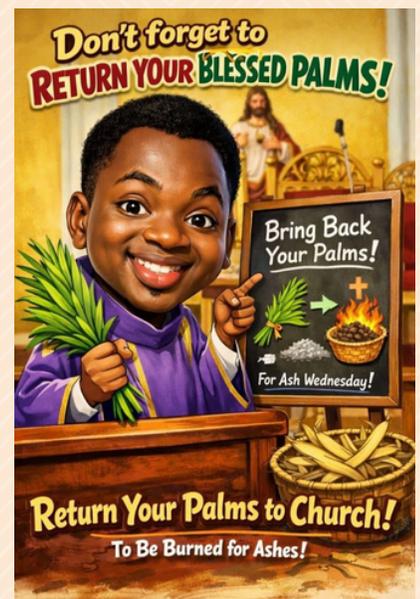


### TICKET INFORMATION

\$25 (adult).....purchased by Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>  
 \$10 (children 12-18).....purchased by Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>  
 \$0 (children under 12).....purchased by Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>  
 \$35.....purchased at door

**Please purchase tickets early!**

Ticket Sales end March 8<sup>th</sup> - Tickets limited to 150 guests



# DIOCESAN EVENTS

## Diocesan Men's Retreat — Radical Discipleship

Saturday, March 14, 2026 | 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM  
St. Catherine of Siena Church, Trumbull

All men of the diocese are invited to a powerful day of renewal focused on **spiritual friendship and radical discipleship**. The retreat includes **Mass with Bishop Caggiano**, Eucharistic Adoration, Confessions, small group discussions, and inspiring talks by **Fr. Agustino Torres, CFR**. Breakfast and lunch are included.

Register: <https://formationreimagined.org/event/radical-discipleship-diocesan-mens-retreat/>



## Lenten Concert of Sacred Music

Sunday, March 22, 2026 | 4:00 PM  
Cathedral of Saint Augustine, Bridgeport

As the Church enters Passiontide, all are welcome to a beautiful afternoon of prayerful music and reflection: **Choral Meditations on the Seven Last Words of Christ on the Cross**, featuring diocesan and cathedral choirs with guest instrumentalists.

**Free and open to all.**

For more information:  
(203) 368-6777 x22 or [william.atwood@diobpt.org](mailto:william.atwood@diobpt.org)

<https://www.bridgeportdiocese.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/Lenten-Concert-2026-Flier.pdf>



## Lenten Stational Churches Pilgrimage

The Diocese's Lenten Pilgrimage continues with **daily Masses in 30 churches** Feb. 18, 2026 (Ash Wednesday) through April 2 (Holy Thursday morning). For more info: <https://www.bridgeportdiocese.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/Lenten-Pilgrimage-Schedule-and-Locations-for-Masses.pdf>



Growing up in a deeply faith-filled family, **Emma Ratnaval** longed for a lifelong community rooted in Christ. After college, a simple invitation from a friend led her to a **Young Adult Ministry** gathering, an unexpected blessing that reconnected her with peers who desired holiness, authentic friendship, and a vibrant Catholic life.

Through choir, Bible studies, faith-sharing discussions, and joyful fellowship, Emma discovered a place where young adults pray together, support one another, and boldly live out their faith. This ministry also allowed her to share her gifts of music, leadership, and hospitality in service to God and His Church.

The Bishop's Appeal helps sustain ministries like Young Adult outreach, creating spaces where **young Catholics encounter Christ, form lasting community, and grow together** as One Church.

Emma's journey reminds us that when young adults unite in faith, the Lord brings joy, strength, and renewed hope to our parishes.



YOUNG ADULT SPOTLIGHT  
Emma Ratnaval

**MAKE YOUR GIFT TO THE BISHOP'S APPEAL TODAY!**  
[2026BISHOPSAPEAL.ORG](https://2026BISHOPSAPEAL.ORG)

## Join us for the FIE Annual Gala!

Foundations in Education



**Annual Spring Gala**  
Wednesday, April 15, 2026  
6:00 p.m.  
Woodway Country Club  
Darien, Connecticut



For more info contact Emily:  
[emily@foundationsineducation.org](mailto:emily@foundationsineducation.org)  
or call 203-416-1671 or visit:  
[www.foundationsineducation.org](http://www.foundationsineducation.org)

more information, please call 203-416-1671 or visit [www.foundationsineducation.org](http://www.foundationsineducation.org).

## Foundations in Education's Gala April 15, 2026

Foundations in Education invites you to join in celebration of Catholic education on Wednesday, April 15, 2026. Join Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano and celebrate our honorees – Invest in Education Foundation, empowering parents through Federal Tax Credit Scholarships; Catholic Academy of Stamford Principal, Patricia Brady; and Kolbe Cathedral Preparatory School Board Chair, Terry O'Connor. Proceeds support Foundations in Education's mission to strengthen and transform the mission of Catholic education in the Diocese of Bridgeport by providing tuition assistance to families in need, supporting innovation in academic programs, and fostering opportunities for the professional development of school leaders. To purchase tables, tickets and sponsorships or for

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

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