



St. Jerome Norwalk
May 17th, 2026
7th Sunday of Easter

Mass Schedule

Weekends

Saturday 4:00 pm

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

Confessions

Saturday 3:00-3:30 pm

Saturday June 6th at 9am
Devotion Mass followed by
Holy Rosary

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 May 26, 2026

Wednesdays

8:00 am Adoration of the
Blessed Sacrament and
benediction

2026 Bishop Appeal
To make a donation please visit
BishopAppeal.org, or call 203 -416-1470
with your phone or scan QR code



Goal: \$69,200 Pledged: \$33,574 Percentage Goal: 49%

Pastor's Desk

Dear brothers and sisters of St. Jerome Church,

This Seventh Sunday of Easter always has a particular feeling to it. Ascension Thursday has just passed. The Lord has returned to the Father, and yet Pentecost has not yet arrived. The Church finds herself in an in-between moment — waiting, praying, hoping, trusting. And perhaps that is exactly where many people are living right now. Some are waiting for healing. Some are waiting for clarity. Some are waiting for work, reconciliation, strength, or peace in their families. Some are waiting for God to answer prayers that seem to have gone unanswered for a long time. Today's readings speak directly into that experience of waiting. In the first reading from the Acts of the Apostles, we see the disciples gathered together after the Ascension. Jesus is no longer physically with them. They do not yet fully understand what comes next. But they remain together in prayer with Mary, the mother of Jesus. They do not scatter in fear. They do not give up in disappointment. They wait together in faith. That is an important word for us. Christianity is not lived alone. The Lord gathers us into communion. Especially in uncertain times, the Church becomes a place where we hold one another up in prayer. Then in the second reading from the First Letter of Peter, we hear something surprising: "Rejoice to the extent that you share in the sufferings of Christ." Peter is not glorifying pain for its own sake. Rather, he is teaching us that when suffering is united to Christ, it is no longer meaningless. The world often sees suffering as failure, abandonment, or weakness. But the Cross teaches us otherwise. For the Christian, suffering can become a place of communion with Jesus. Many parishioners here know that truth personally. You know what it means to carry burdens quietly — caring for aging parents, worrying about children or grandchildren, grieving losses, dealing with illness, loneliness, financial pressures, or anxieties about the future. Peter reminds us today: God has not abandoned you in those moments. Christ is especially close to you there. But it is the Gospel — Jesus' great prayer in John 17 — that draws us deepest into the heart of today's message. This Gospel is often called the "High Priestly Prayer" of Jesus. We are listening to Jesus speak to the Father on the night before His Passion. And what is remarkable is this: before He suffers, before He dies, before the disciples fail Him and scatter, Jesus prays for them. And He prays for us. "Father, keep them in your name... so that they may be one." Jesus knows the fragility of the human heart. He knows fear will come. He knows division will threaten the community. He knows His followers will struggle in the world. And so He prays not first for success, not for power, not for comfort — but for unity. "That they may be one." Those words are urgently needed today. We live in a culture deeply fractured by politics, anger, suspicion, ideology, and isolation. Even families are divided. Even the Church can experience tensions and wounds. But Jesus tells us that unity is not optional for Christians. Unity is part of our witness. That does not mean uniformity. It does not mean we all think exactly alike. But it does mean we choose charity over contempt, mercy over judgment, forgiveness over resentment. The unity Jesus desires begin in ordinary ways: speaking kindly at home, refusing gossip, being patient with one another, listening before reacting, praying for those we disagree with, remembering that every person is someone loved by Christ. And notice something else in the Gospel: Jesus says, "I gave them your word." The disciples will remain strong only if they remain rooted in God's word. The same is true for us. We cannot live only on news headlines, social media, political arguments, or endless distractions. Our hearts become restless and anxious when they are fed only by the noise of the world. But the Word of God steadies us. Prayer steadies us. The Eucharist steadies us.

The presence of Christ steadies us. That is why Sunday Mass matters so much. Every week, the Lord gathers us again — not because we are perfect, but because we need Him. He strengthens us as He strengthened the first disciples waiting in prayer after the Ascension.

And finally, there is one more beautiful truth in this Gospel. Jesus speaks to the Father with complete trust. Even as the Cross approaches, He knows He is not alone. His life rests in the Father's hands. That is the invitation for us this week. To trust that Christ intercedes for us. To trust that He has not abandoned His Church. To trust that even in times of uncertainty, the Holy Spirit is coming. The disciples waited in prayer, and Pentecost changed everything. If we remain close to the Lord — in prayer, in unity, in faith — the Holy Spirit will continue to renew our hearts, our families, and our parish community here at St. Jerome's. May Mary, who prayed with the disciples in that upper room, teach us how to wait with faith. And may Jesus Christ, who prays for us even now before the Father, keep us united in His love. Amen.

God bless

Fr. Hygi.

Mass Remembrances

This week we pray for the following...

Weekend of May 16 & 17 7th Sunday of Easter

**Monsignor Malanowski; Dominick Vento; Joan Leskovsky;
Pecoraro Family; Gabriella Moglia**

Monday, May 18 - Tom Oess

Tuesday, May 19 - Arthur Pinto

Wednesday, May 20 - Yozef Olechnicki

Thursday, May 21 - Reynaldo Santos

Friday, May 22- Hoang Pham

Weekend of May 23 & 24 Pentecost Sunday

**Kim Beninbasco; Felix Glica; Catherine DeFelice; Franco Ialeggio;
Deneill Pascarelli**

*Loss Group Meeting Parish Hall
May 16th 1:00pm to 2:30pm*



*This week the Sanctuary Candle
is offered in Memory of
Mark Errico*

HOW ARE WE DOING?

WEEKLY OFFERTORY

2026

Week of May 10

In-Pew	\$2,911
Online - Our Sunday Visitor	\$3,224
Total Weekly Offertory	<u>\$6,135</u>
<i>Budget</i>	\$6,940.00

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

*Second collection
Catholic Communication
Campaign
May 16th and 17th*



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.*

Bishop's Appeal

Bishop Appeal has started. 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 exceed our parish goal of \$69,200 by June 14, St. Jerome will receive a 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.

MOTHER'S DAY BLESSING



SAVE THE DATE

Join us as we come together to honor Fr. Mike before he transitions to his new assignment with the Jesuit community in Massachusetts.

Sunday, June 7, 2026 at 10:00 AM Mass.

A parish gathering will follow immediately after Mass downstairs in the Church Hall.

Shhh... We are planning a special surprise for him — a photo book filled with memories from throughout the years.

Please share your photos with us as soon as possible. You may drop them off at the Parish Office or office@stjeromenorwalk.org.



FAITH FORMATION



Sunday, May 17th Schedule

- **K–6th Grade: Classes at St. Jerome**
- **Grades 6 & 7: Classes at All Saints from 3:00–5:15 PM**
- **Confirmation Prep (Grades 7–8): No classes at St. Jerome**

SOCIAL CONCERNS

DIAPERS AND BABY WIPES DRIVE – MAY 1-16

In honor of Mother's Day, Social Concerns Committee is running our annual collection of baby diapers and baby wipes to be donated to Malta House, our neighbor on West Rocks Rd. Since its inception in 1998, Malta House has welcomed over 900 single mothers and their babies with a nurturing home environment, support services, and independent living skills. Mothers at Malta House receive counseling, financial education, and parental development followed by transitional and post-residential support.

Malta House is in constant need of diapers, sizes 3,4,5,6, and 7, and baby wipes. You may drop off your donations to the hallway and volunteers will deliver them to Malta House. Thank you for helping!

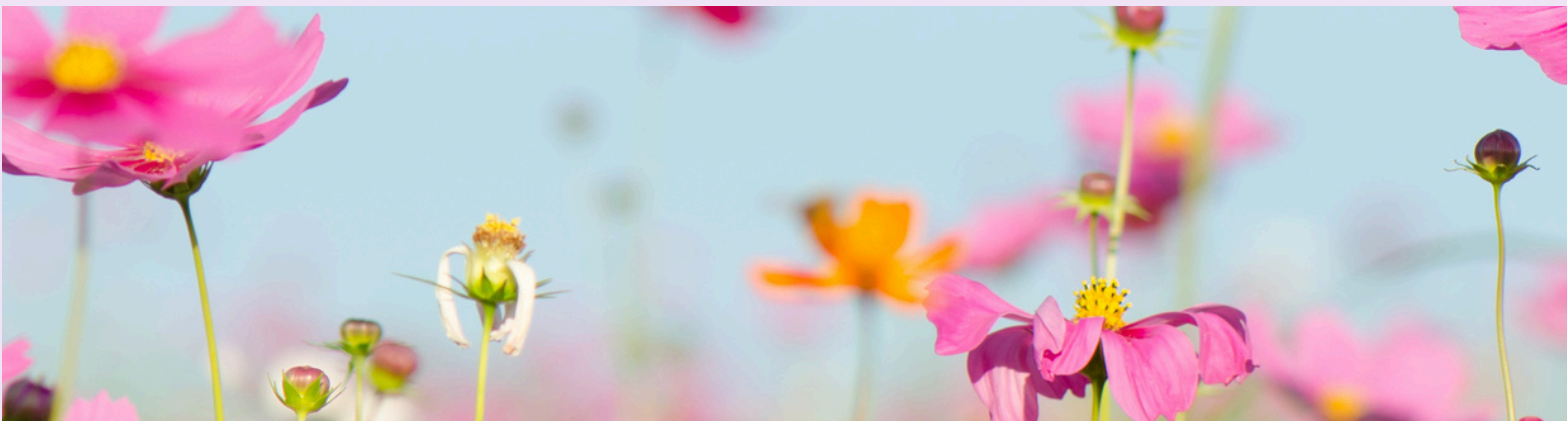
Social Concerns Meeting.

Monday June 1th 7:00pm in Parish Hall

We welcome any parishioners who wish to help plan our upcoming projects to join us.

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.



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.

What is the Saint John Vianney Trust?

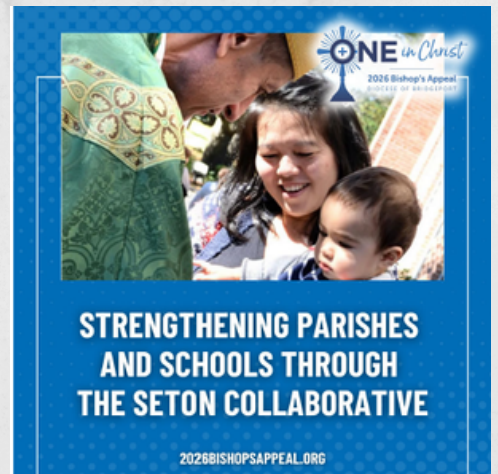
Faced with the rising number of retired priests, as well as skyrocketing medical costs, Bishop Caggiano established the St. John Vianney Trust as a dedicated 501(c)(3) to support retired priests of the Diocese of Bridgeport. This fund supplements the priests' pension, covering the costs of rising living expenses. Our goal is to raise \$2.5 million annually to meet our priests' growing needs.



Make a Legacy Gift
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priests in your estate
planning

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"Kindness to a father will not be
forgotten." *Strach 3:14*



ONE in Christ
2026 Bishop's Appeal
OFFICE OF PARISHES

**STRENGTHENING PARISHES
AND SCHOOLS THROUGH
THE SETON COLLABORATIVE**

2026BISHOPSAPPEAL.ORG

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

First Saturday

Devotion

Join us

**EVERY FIRST
SATURDAY**



Please support those that support us!!!

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