



St. Jerome Norwalk
October 19, 2025
The 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Schedule

Weekends

Saturday 4:00 PM

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

1st Saturday of the month
9:00 AM Mass.

Next Mass on November 1st

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 the last Tuesday of every
month. Next mass on Oct. 28th

Wednesdays

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

All Souls Mass
Sunday, November 2nd
8 AM and 10AM

Pastor's Desk

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

In today's Gospel from Luke, we encounter a simple, almost stubborn parable about persistence in prayer. Jesus tells of a widow who keeps appealing to an unjust judge: "Give me justice against my adversary."

The judge, initially, has no fear of God and no respect for people. Yet because she keeps pestering him, he grants her justice, not out of righteousness, but to put an end to her continual coming. Jesus then adds a crucial line: "And will not God give justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them?"

Two quick points stand out before we enter the deeper meaning.

The stubbornness of prayer. The widow refuses to be silenced by discouragement or by the perception that her pleas are futile. Her perseverance is a sign of trust and hope. She does not abandon her need; she takes it to the frontlines of justice repeatedly.

The character of God's response. Jesus contrasts the unjust judge with our heavenly Father, who is not reluctant but eager to help. God's justice is not a begrudging concession but a loving, attentive care for his children.

Let us reflect on what it means to pray with perseverance, and how God invites us into a deeper relationship through prayer.

1) The Call to Persistent Prayer: St. Luke places this parable immediately after Jesus teaches about the coming of the Son of Man. If the coming of the Kingdom is near, our prayer must be near as well—ongoing, expectant, faithful. Persistence is not stubbornness for its own sake.** It is trust that God hears, even when answers seem delayed. Prayer as relationship.** The widow's persistence is a sign of a relationship with the judge; likewise, our persistence expresses a relationship with God, who desires communion with his people. Jesus invites us to examine: Do we pray with the same tenacity that the widow shows, not to force God's hand, but to align our hearts with his will?

2) Faith that Hopes for God, Not Fortune: The widow seeks justice, not wealth or power. Her motive is righteous: to be protected, to be heard, to live with dignity. In the same way, our prayers should be rooted in a desire to participate in God's will—a will that brings justice, mercy, and peace. When we pray, we bring our needs—personal, family, church, and world—before the Father who loves us. Perseverance in prayer is a form of hope that refuses to yield to fear or despair. St. Paul reminds us in Romans 12:12 to "rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer." Our parish community in Norwalk is called to embody that steadfastness, especially in the face of times that test our faith.

Pastor's Desk

3) Trust in the Father's Goodness: Jesus' question at the end—"And will not God give justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night?"—is a gentle rebuke to our doubts. God is not like the unjust judge. He is Father, who desires to give good gifts to his children. God's timing may be different from ours, but his care is unwavering. Persistent prayer heals our perception: it teaches us to discern his will, to grow in virtue, and to become more attentive to the needs of others. Our trust deepens when we recall that Jesus himself prayed, often in the stillness of the night or the solitude of the garden, submitting to the Father's plan even when it seemed difficult.

4) A Call to Corporate and Personal Prayer at St. Jerome: As members of St. Jerome Parish in Norwalk, we are invited to renew our commitment to prayer at both personal and communal levels.

Personal prayer: Carve out daily time for conversation with God—through Scripture, contemplative silence, and the Our Father. Let your petitions begin with praise and gratitude, then move to intercession for others.

Communal prayer: Let us foster a culture where parishioners support one another in prayer. Prayer partners or a weekly intention list for the sick, the homebound, and those facing challenges.

Regular offerings of the Rosary, Adoration, and opportunities for quiet Mass or healing services.

Community outreach that responds to social justice needs, echoing the widow's call for justice in her own time.

Prayer-witness in our parish can become a beacon for Norwalk: when people see a community that deeply trusts God, that prays persistently, they glimpse the Kingdom breaking into our daily lives.

5) An Invitation to Respond: Today, I invite you to respond in concrete ways: Choose one intention to pray for this week with consistent daily prayer. Write it on a card and place it near your prayer space as a reminder. Join or renew commitment to an ongoing prayer group at St. Jerome. If you're not sure where to start, speak with one of our parish leaders after Mass. Practice perseverance in small things: forgive quickly, act with mercy, support a neighbor in need. Persistent holiness grows through everyday acts. Let us imitate the widow not only in persistence but in righteousness of motive: longing for God's justice to touch our world, beginning with our own hearts.

6) Final Blessing: May the Lord grant us the grace to persevere in prayer, to trust in his perfect timing, and to witness his justice in our lives and in our community. May St. Jerome intercedes for us, guiding our parish into deeper faith, hope, and love. And may the peace of Christ, which passes all understanding, guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Amen.
God bless
Fr. Hygi.

Mass Remembrances

This week we pray for the following...

Weekend of October 18 & 19 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Joseph Calderon; Richard Cielez; Peter Gordan; and Tommaso Socci

Monday, October 20th - Parishioners of St. Jerome

Tuesday, October 21st - Margaret Mary Caragine

Wednesday, October 22nd - Parishioners of St. Jerome

Thursday, October 23rd - Parishioners of St. Jerome

Friday, October 24th - Thomas Conti

Weekend of October 25 & 26 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Ann & Wally Regan; Anna Vona; Mary Chuba; In honor of Andrew Pearson;
Mary Di Meglio; and Albert Bruno**

*Loss Group
October 18, 2025
Church Hall
1:00-2:30 PM*

All are welcome to join!

MEETING

The Social Concerns Committee next meeting is on Monday, October 27th at 6:30 PM. Emily Crosby from Experience Camps CT will come to speak about this special organization that provides a free, one-week summer camp for children and teens who have experienced the loss of a parent, sibling, or primary caregiver to help them navigate their grief. The committee wants to raise awareness about the mission of Experience Camps and explore ways our parish community can support their work. All interested parishioners and anyone who would like to learn more are warmly encouraged to attend.



The Food Pantries at Person To Person & Open Doors are in need of items to distribute to their clients. If you want to help people in need in Norwalk, you can leave items in the boxes in the church hallway beginning October 18 - October 27. Suggested items are canned beans, tuna, chicken, canned soups, rice and cereal. Thanks for your help.



MISSIONARIES OF HOPE *among the Peoples*

"The Pontifical Mission Societies are the primary means for awakening missionary responsibility among all the baptized [and for] supporting ecclesial communities in areas where the Church is young," Pope Leo XIV

Celebrated every year on the second-to-last Sunday of October, World Mission Sunday is the day when Catholics around the world unite to support the missionary work of the Church. Established by Pope Pius XI in 1926, it remains the only annual global collection that directly supports the 1,124 mission territories where the Church is young, struggling, or persecuted. On this day, every parish, in every diocese, in every country, joins in prayer and giving to ensure that missionaries can continue their vital work—building churches, forming priests, supporting catechists, and serving communities in need.

www.PontificalMissions.org/wms



FAITH FORMATION & CONFIRMATION PREP SESSIONS

OCTOBER	FAITH FORMATION: GRADES 1-6	OCTOBER	CONFIRMATION FORMATION & YOUTH GROUP	
Sunday, 10/19	Saint Jerome Faith Formation Session (9-11am)	Sunday, 10/19	Grades 7-8:	Saint Jerome - Confirmation Formation (9am to 11am)
Sunday, 10/26	Saint Jerome Faith Formation Session (9-11am)	Sunday, 10/26	Grades 7-8:	Saint Jerome - Confirmation Formation (9am to 11am)
NOVEMBER	FAITH FORMATION: GRADES 1-6	NOVEMBER	CONFIRMATION FORMATION & YOUTH GROUP	
Sunday, 11/2	Saint Jerome Faith Formation Session (9-11am)	Sunday, 11/2	Grade 7:	All Saints (3pm to 5:15pm)
Sunday, 11/2	Grade 6 All Saints Session (3pm - 5:15pm)	Tuesday, 11/4	Grade 8:	Saint Philip - Confirmation Prep (6:30-8pm)
Sunday, 11/9	Saint Jerome Faith Formation Session (9-11am)	Sunday, 11/9	Grades 7-8:	Saint Jerome - Confirmation Formation (9am to 11am)
Sunday, 11/16	Saint Jerome Faith Formation Session (9-11am)	Sunday, 11/16	Grades 7-8:	Saint Jerome - Confirmation Formation (9am to 11am)
Sunday, 11/23	Saint Jerome Faith Formation Session (9-11am)	Sunday, 11/23	Grades 7-8:	Saint Jerome - Confirmation Formation (9am to 11am)
Sunday, 11/30	No Session - All Grades	Sunday, 11/30	All Grades:	No Session



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Orders due by November 2 for pre thanksgiving delivery.

We appreciate your support!

HOW ARE WE DOING?

WEEKLY OFFERTORY

2025

Week of October 12

In-Pew	\$2,436
Online - Our Sunday Visitor	\$5,445
Total Weekly Offertory	<u>\$7,881</u>
<i>Budget</i>	<i>\$6,925.00</i>

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 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.*

Second Collection

World Mission Sunday
October 18 & 19th

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