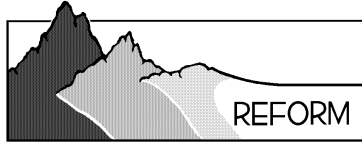


SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



MATTHEW 3:2

12/05	9:00 am	Lise Charette (John & Janet Silk)
	4:00 pm	Jim Quinn (Dwane & Andi Quinn)
12/06	8:00 am	Jose Rentas (Rentas family)
	9:15 am	Rich Lusniak (Helen Jablonski)
	11:00 am	Vincenzo Iannone, Jr. (The family)
	6:00 pm	Anne & Paul Kuczo
12/07	9:00 am	Andrew Cusack (Ninfa & Michael Trehubenko)
<b>VIGIL</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>FOR THE PARISH IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF MARY</b>
12/08	9:00 am	Maria Cristina Trofa (Maria Florio)
	<b>7:00pm</b>	Rosemarie Lepore
12/09	9:00 am	James J. Farrington (Farrington family)
12/10	9:00 am	Susan Marie & Samuel J. Testa (The family)
12/11	9:00 am	Anne Taverner (Husband, Mel)
12/12	9:00 am	John McManamon (Wife, Kit)
	4:00 pm	Kordas, Rossi, Gerardi & Tucciarone Families (Kordas family)
12/13	8:00 am	Barbara & Anton Bosill (Grandson)
	9:15 am	Mary (Mo) Devine (Mary Ann & Bill Stirling)
	11:00 am	Angela Ferrone
	6:00 pm	Carmella & Gaetano Palumbo (Daughter & family)

On the first Wednesday of each month, immediately following the 9:00 AM Mass, there will be an anointing of the sick in the sanctuary. Anyone with an ongoing medical condition or who is seriously ill, anticipating a medical procedure or operation, is welcome to come

**MISSION STATEMENT**

We the people of St. Jerome Parish, a Roman Catholic community, proclaim our belief in the message and mission of Jesus Christ. As disciples of Jesus we are called to proclaim the Kingdom of God and to work for its values in the local community and beyond. We are committed to: worship, religious education, shared faith and service. We welcome all people with respect, acceptance and support



**ALTAR FLOWERS**

The altar flowers for this weekend are in memory of Peter Lombardo, given by his wife Theresa and family.

If you would like to memorialize a family member or friend, flowers for our altar are a lovely gesture. The donation is \$50. Your intention will be announced, in the bulletin, the week before and also on the chosen weekend. If you would like to participate, please call Pat at the parish office at 203-847-5349 to schedule.



**MONTHLY OFFERTORY SUMMARY**

<b>November 22, 2009</b>	<b>\$ 5,321</b>
<b>November 29, 2009</b>	<b>4,737</b>
<b>November Total</b>	<b>54,541</b>
<b>November offertory budget</b>	<b>55,200</b>

Thank you for your very generous support of our parish! Due to the bulletin printing schedule, we cannot always include the latest offertory summary. That information will be printed the following week.

**REACH**

**Today, Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup>**  
 Grades K-6 meet in the morning  
 Grades 7&8 meet in the evening

**Next Week, December 13<sup>th</sup>**

Grades 1-6 meet in the morning  
 Grades 7&8 NO REACH (due to Confirmation)

**Christmas Pageant**

Calling all angels and shepherds... This year's pageant takes place on Christmas Eve at the 6:00PM Mass. Any child age 5 and older may participate. Practices are held each Sunday in December after the 10:30 Mass. **December 6 – brief song practice; December 13 – costumes and roles; December 20 – full rehearsal.** Any questions call Kathy Rohr at the REACH office at 203-846-2111 or email [reachstjerome@optonline.net](mailto:reachstjerome@optonline.net)

**Angel/Shepherd Costume AMNESTY**

If you have found one of our shepherd or angel costumes in your home, please return it to the REACH office...no questions asked. You can leave it hanging on the door if the office is locked. Several costumes have gone astray and we need them back. Please check your closets. Thank you.

**\*\*\*ANNUAL MAYAWORKS SALE OF GUATEMALAN HANDCRAFTS, DEC. 5&6 & DEC. 12&13. PROCEEDS**

**TO EDUCATION AND HOPE\*\*\*****Keep Jesus Warm**

Donations of warm hats & gloves for needy Norwalk children at 9:15 Mass and in class on December 20<sup>th</sup>!

**GOSPEL FAMILY CONNECTION**

During the season of Advent, we choose to add many activities to our family's schedule to prepare for our celebration of Christmas. John the Baptist reminds us that our repentance is another way in which we can prepare for the Lord's coming and our celebration of Christmas. Parish communities often offer a communal celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation during the Advent season. Your family might choose to participate in the communal celebration of the sacrament, or you might seek out this sacrament on an individual basis.

**TOTAL:** There is NO TOTAL tonight because of Christmas Caroling at the Regional Center in Silvermine today. A new calendar will be posted in the hallway soon. There is also NO TOTAL on Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup> due to Confirmation at 2:00PM.

Last Sunday, we had another planning meeting for our Emmaus Weekend. If your child is going to attend this wonderful weekend please send back the registration form that was mailed home. We need to start planning for food and supplies. The weekend for Emmaus is Martin Luther King weekend.

On Wednesday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, we will have rehearsal for all those making Confirmation on December 13<sup>th</sup> at 2:00PM. If a sponsor is unable to attend, a parent or sibling may fill in. The rehearsal will be held from 7:00PM to 8:30PM in the church.

On Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation with 41 of our teens who have been preparing since last year for this special day. Please pray for them as they continue on their journey to be becoming young adults in our St. Jerome community.

**WOMEN'S GUILD NEWS**

A sincere "thank you" to all parishioners for supporting our Annual Holiday Bake Sale. We are especially grateful to our gracious bakers! You helped make this event another success for our parish.

Women's Guild December Meeting will be held, in the rectory, on Monday evening, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00PM. We will help "trim the tree" and enjoy a pot-luck supper.

**RETIREMENT FUND HELPS SENIOR RELIGIOUS**

"As expenses continue to increase and economic difficulties tighten our income, we appreciate more and more the help of the Retirement Fund," notes a woman religious. Your tax-deductible donation supports the care of elderly and frail religious and helps to provide such basic necessities as prescription drugs and medical services. Please give generously to next week's second collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious. [www.retiredreligious.org](http://www.retiredreligious.org)

**ST. JEROME SOCIAL CONCERNS NEWS****Giving Tree project:**

If you want to purchase a Christmas gift for a child, tags will be posted on the GIVING TREE in the church sanctuary. Be sure to pick up a GUIDELINE SHEET explaining DETAILS of the program.

Gifts purchased and returned with these tags attached will be given to children from Norwalk for the Christian community Action program and to Julie's Kids from Education & Hope Foundation. This is our way of sharing the giving, hopeful spirit of the Christmas Holiday.

**ALL GIFTS MUST BE RETURNED BY 9:00 AM, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup>.** RETURN IS SATURDAY MORNING INSTEAD OF SUNDAY BECAUSE OF THE CONFIRMATION CEREMONY ON SUNDAY.

GIFTS SHOULD BE RETURNED UNWRAPPED WITH THE TAG FROM THE GIVING TREE ATTACHED. WE NEED TO KNOW THE FAMILY # AND CHILD'S NAME, AND GIFT SELECTION FOR SORTING PURPOSES.

Volunteers are needed to sort the gifts at 10:00AM on Saturday morning, December 12<sup>th</sup>, and also to deliver gifts to Christian Community Action on Monday, December 14<sup>th</sup> between 9:00AM and 5:00PM. Signup sheets are located on the Social Concerns bulletin board.

**DON'T FORGET OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN**

"When doing your Christmas cards this year, take one card and send it to this address. Think of how many cards these wonderful people who have sacrificed so much would get. Please send to: A Recovering American Soldier c/o Walter Reed Army Medical Center, 6900 Georgia Avenue, NW Washington, D.C. 20307-5001

**LAURALTON HALL** will present its annual "Christmas in Song" concert at 7:30PM Wednesday, December 15, in the Parsons Complex auditorium, 70 West River St., Milford. All are invited to attend this free performance which will feature members of Lauralton's Concert Choir, Advanced Vocal Ensemble, Freshman Choir, and Instrumental Ensemble.

Voluntary donations of non-perishable food items will be accepted at the door to be given to local, needy residents. Julie Kinsella, 203-877-2786, Ext. 154 [jkinsella@lauraltonhall.org](mailto:jkinsella@lauraltonhall.org).

**DIOCESAN PRAYER GATHERING**

Saturday, January 2, 2010 at the church of St. John, Blanchard Center, 1986 Post Rd., Darien – 1:00 Charismatic Prayer Meeting – 3:00 Celebration of Mass – Reception immediately following. Questions – Marilyn Dolcetti, (203)655-9481.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** – 1 State St., New Haven, will have on exhibit "A Latino Christmas". Nativities of Latin America from November 19, 2009- January 31, 2010.