

St. Jerome Church

"Ephphatha! Be opened." Immediately the man's ears were opened and he began to speak plainly.



**Twenty-Third Sunday of Ordinary Time
September 9, 2018**

5550 Thornburn Street
Los Angeles, CA 90045
310-348-8212 (messages)
www.stjeromelax.org

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Monday -Thursday 8:30am-noon; 1pm-4:30pm
Friday - 10am-1:30pm
Rectory Phone Number: **310-348-8212**

SCHEDULED SERVICES

Daily (Mon-Sat) Mass - 8am
Sunday Masses - 5:30pm (Vigil), 7:30am, 9am, 11am, 5:30pm
Confessions - Friday 9-10am and Saturday 4-5pm
Holy Hour - Wed 6:30pm with Our Lady of Perpetual Help prayers at 7pm
Rosary - following 8am daily Mass
First Friday-Eucharistic Adoration follows Mass, Benediction at 10am.

RECTORY STAFF

Our Pastor: Fr. Bill Bolton **424-543-4681**
Associate Pastor: Fr. Valentine Ibe **424 209-9961**
Our Deacon: Senior Deacon Guy and Helene Wauthy
JustFaith, Engaging Spirituality, Social Justice/Clue **714 602-6122**
Business Manager: Juanita Rivera-Wiemken **x 303**
For calendar request email: juanitarw@gmail.com
Coordinator of Youth Ministry: Ijeoma Oti **x 313**
sjlaconfirmation@gmail.com
Secretary/Bulletin Editor: Roxanne Shaw **x 301**
rshaw@stjeromewestchester.org

SCHEDULING SERVICES (310-348-8212)

Anointing of the Sick: call the rectory
Baptisms: Must call rectory 6 weeks in advance to schedule
Communion to the Sick and Homebound: call the rectory
Funerals: contact the rectory to set date and time
Anniversaries, Quinceañera, Memorials: call the rectory
Weddings - Call the rectory 6 months in advance to set the date.

EDUCATION AND FELLOWSHIP

Adult Faith Community stjeromeyam@gmail.com
Coordinator of Youth Ministry Ijeoma Oti 323 207-9821
sjlaconfirmation@gmail.com

Youth Ministry (Teens) and Confirmation
Religious Education and Sacramental Prep for Children

Sacramental Preparation for Adults (RCIA): 310-348-8212
St Jerome's Catholic School (pre-K to 8th gr): 310-670-1678
Principal: Mr. Tom MacDonald
SCRC Prayer Mtg (7pm Fri): Mr. & Mrs. Muoneke 323-294-1940
Senior Center: Allene Muccia 310-348-8212
Sunday School for Toddlers (11am Mass): Obi Nwabuzor
Tuesday Evening (7:30-9pm) Bible Study:
Alan Bernstein 310-645-5355 or Steve Picard 310 487-2724

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

Catholic Daughters: Kathy Fitzpatrick 310-703-2519
Knights of Columbus: Tony Holloway 323-295-4287
Knights of Peter Claver: Devron Carter 310-256-0101
Ladies Auxiliary of Peter Claver: Bonnie Hall 323-295-2432
St. Vincent de Paul Society: Morris Bernstein 310-908-9204

LIFE, CHARITY, JUSTICE & PEACE MINISTRIES

Creation Sustainability Jacqueline Welsh 310-283-8258
Detention Ministry (Restorative Justice):
Mr. & Mrs. Muoneke 323-294-1940
Food Pantry LAX: Johnny Albano 310-641-8871
Immigration: Noreta Jose 310-367-6557
Respect Life: Louise Meehan 310-641-0842
Safeguard the Children: call the rectory 310-348-8212
Voice in the Wilderness Tom Lenert 310-649-3245
Soup Kitchen (Every 3rd Sat.): Jude Ramlochan 310-348-9380

Our mission is to SHARE God's message with all people, to OFFER support to those in need, to PROMOTE Christian values and commitment to the family, to FOSTER a loving and welcoming environment enriched by culture and age diversity, and to DEEPEN spiritual growth through sacraments, prayer and service.

From Fr. Bill

"If your priests guide it well and make themselves worthy of their lofty mission, the future will be resplendent and an untold number of souls will be saved. But on one condition – that your sons remain devoted to the Blessed Virgin, and that they all keep the virtue of chastity which is so pleasing to God." These were St. Dominic Savio's words to Don Bosco in a dream some twenty years after Dominic's death. Please note that due to the prophetic nature of many of Bosco's dreams, which came true, Blessed Pope Pius IX ordered St. John Bosco to write down all his dreams.

In my training as a Salesian we were taught that chastity was one of the essential Ten Diamonds which must be the garment of those who work with the young. The Diamond of Chastity was found on the back (the backbone or spine) which enabled youth ministry and the minister to stand or fall. Chastity is a calling and a lifestyle which requires developing the skills of prayer, fasting, and penance (self-discipline), as well as the frequent use of the resources of Eucharist, Confession and Devotion to our Blessed Mother. Chastity is not the absence of love or relationships but the commitment to be loving-kindness to those to whom we are sent. Our concern for helping them save their souls. We are sent as shepherds to journey with and educate those in our care: signs of God's love for the young.

In Don Bosco's time, if you fell regarding chastity with a young person, you were gone. He would not allow wolves among the shepherds.

I remember taking the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory in 1975. It was required of all who were preparing to enter the Salesian Seminary. I still recall the questions about how I feel when I see blood and something about a soap dropping game which I had never heard of. Later we were each individually interviewed. I was surprised about how much the test had revealed about me. I was allowed to go forward in the seminary program, but not all were. I can state that at my time in the seminary there were efforts to prevent wolves from being let among the sheep. I know that in the 1980's Behavioral Assessments were added as an additional tool for discernment and helping protect the young people we were sent to serve.

1984 was the first abuse case I was aware of. It was a lay teacher at one of our schools in Canada. As I had previously worked at the school, I knew the victims. I might have killed the teacher if given the chance. Fortunately, the other men in prison removed the possibility by killing him.

Some psychologists and psychiatrists from the 1960's through the 1980's thought that people with these "tendencies" could be treated and rehabilitated. I understand why bishops would believe in the possibility of conversion and rehabilitation as mercy and forgiveness are at the core of being Christian. (I wish they had used Bosco's one strike rule.) For men working often with young people...

well, to put them into an near occasion of sin, is itself sinful. (e.g. Alcoholics shouldn't be sent to bars.) We now know that the money spent on programs, psychologists and psychiatrists only masked the behavior rather than "healing" it.

Since then we have instituted Virtus Training for all involved in working with young people. If I knew, what I now know... I could have prevented some of the abuse which occurred in Canada. Honestly, anyone doing that kind of behavior with young people never even entered my mind. The warning signs were there, but I did not see what I wasn't looking for.

If you get the opportunity I encourage you to get Virtus Trained. Yes, it is three hours, but I wish back in the day this too had been a requirement of our training. I regret not knowing and being able to protect those I love.

The Archdiocese of Los Angeles has put in place programs and practices to minimize the possibility of further abuse of children. Since the early 1990's men are no longer "rehabilitated" and returned to service. Accusations are taken seriously and with so many now established as "mandated reporters of child abuse," civil authorities are no longer kept out of the loop.

The progress we have made in helping create what now might be the safest environment for children around does not diminish, justify or excuse the crimes and sins of unfaithful shepherds nor the untold souls which might be lost as the consequence of the scandal which becomes a stumbling block for those seeking Christ. Those who hate the church feel justified. Those who are unsure may move away. I am sure that all Catholics, like I, are filled with disgust and disappointment at the sins which have been committed on the innocent little ones by those who should have been good shepherds rather than wolves given access to the sheep. That these events are years old give those whose trust was betrayed no consolation.

The Latin phrase "Corruptio Optimi Pessima" is linked to my sadness. "The corruption of the best is the worst of all." We who are baptized and called to be disciples showing the way. Even more is expected and required of those called to priesthood. Not that they are "better" but have a greater responsibility. Please keep those ordained as your servants in prayer. There can be no excuse. "Better a millstone be tied around your neck and be cast into the sea than cause one of these little ones who believe in me to stumble."

Yet, my faith is in the Lord, not in mortal man. God help us. Hope is doing the good thing, the Godly thing even when we see no light at the end of the tunnel. Faith helps me trust that God will give me and His church what is needed to be His flock. Love is ultimately what I am called to live... working to help others get what is best for them... and dying to ourselves that they might have life.

Let us keep each other in prayer. May we never forget that if you need to hide or sneak, you already know something is wrong.



NEW RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

It is more important than ever to form our young children in the Faith. Please register your child for our RELIGIOUS EDUCATION classes which will be held on SUNDAYS beginning this Fall for grades K-8.

Registration will take place this Sunday, SEPTEMBER 9th from 8:30 to 12:30 in the Parish Hall. All public,

charter and home school children are encouraged to enroll - especially those who have not made First Communion. Do bring a copy of your child's baptismal certificate.

Call or text 323-207-9821 for questions or additional information. Thank you for keeping your promises.

Celebrate Our Lady of the Rosary

Have you ever wondered how the Rosary came to be? Do you know the graces attached to saying the Rosary? Do you know the miracles that have occurred around the Rosary?

You are invited to a very special presentation given by the members of the St. Jerome Cenacle of Our Lady. Mark your calendar for **Sunday, October 7th, from 10:15am to 11am. in the Hall.** We will conclude the presentation with a procession while praying the Rosary at the outdoor shrine of Mary. Bring the whole family to celebrate this Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary!

Congratulations!

We offer our congratulations to **Onyinyechi Michelle Nwagbo** who was baptized into the Christian Community. May God bless you!



Engaging Spirituality Invitation

All Parishioners who wish to deepen their spirituality are cordially invited to attend the one-hour presentation of the Engaging Spirituality program that will be offered at St. Jerome starting in October. The presentation will take place this upcoming **Monday, September 17th, from 7:30pm sharp to 8:30pm, in the Religious Education Center.** Light refreshments will be served at 7:15pm, preceding the presentation. All are welcome!

St. Jerome Bible Study

On Tuesday, September 11, at 7:30pm in the Religious Education Center there will be an information night and orientation session for the launch of a 10-week study of the Book of Deuteronomy. Deuteronomy, one of the five books of Torah and understood as absolutely essential by our Jewish brothers and sisters, was very important to Jesus and forms the basis for many of Jesus' teachings, yet is often overlooked or misunderstood by Christians. Through the story of the Israelites, from their exodus from Egypt and their journey to the Promised Land, Deuteronomy reminds us that we are not only individuals but a community of God's people who are called to remember and love the Lord, and care for each other. The cost for this study is \$20 for materials. All are welcome! No experience necessary. For more information, please call **Alan Bernstein (310.645.5355)** or contact **Steve Picard (sjpicard526@att.net).**

Senior Center

Mon., Sep. 10: 12-4pm, Rosary, cards and social.

Wed., Sep. 12: 12-4pm, September Birthday Celebration!

Wed., Sep. 19: Noon, Communal Anointing of the sick.

Call Allene at 310 348-8212

Adult Faith Community

Would you like to renew your relationship with God? Have you ever wanted to deepen your relationship with the Church?

Come to our topic discussion to find out **this Sunday, September 9th at 7pm in the RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CENTER.** No homework and all materials will be provided at the meeting FREE. Please contact **Debra Guzman at stjromeyam@gmail.com**

VIRTUS Training At St. Jerome

Our children need a loving and safe environment in which to learn play and grow. All St. Jerome volunteers are required to be trained to identify situations that may pose a threat.

Has your VIRTUS certificate expired? If you attended a class before September 23, 2014, then you are required to renew your VIRTUS certificate.

"Keeping The Promise Alive," (recertification only) will be held on Sunday, **September 23rd at 10:30am to Noon, in the Religious Education Center.**

"Protecting God's Children for Adults," is the 3 hour session for 1st time VIRTUS training. **This session will also be on Sunday, September 23rd from 1pm-4pm.**

To sign up, please call the rectory at 310-348-8212 or email Roxanne at rshawstjeromewestchester.org

SAFEGUARD THE CHILDREN

Archbishop Gomez Urges Prayers for Victims and New Efforts to Purify the Church.

The recent reports regarding abuse in the Church serve as a reminder of the importance of continuing our efforts to be diligent in the prevention of abuse in our Church and in society.

Our prayers and support are with victim-survivors, their families and all impacted by this evil. Archbishop José H. Gomez urges prayers for abuse victims and new efforts to purify the Church:

"We are aware that this is a sad and confusing time for the Church in this country. In recent days and weeks, we have heard new revelations about sin and abuse in the Church. This is a time now for prayer and repentance and a time for examining our conscience, especially for those of us who are bishops and priests. And all of us need to pray for every person who has been hurt by the Church, and we need to work to help them heal. Let us ask the intercession of our Blessed Mother Mary, the Mother of the Church. May she help us to have the courage we need to purify the Church and renew our love for holiness and our devotion to Jesus Christ and his Gospel."

For more information on the Archdiocese's policies and protocols concerning abuse prevention, the protection of children and young people, and Victims Assistance Ministry, visit <http://www.la-archdiocese.org/org/protecting/Pages/default.aspx>. For particular help, call Assistance Ministry at 213-637-7650.

MASS INTENTIONS AND CELEBRANTS

Sat. 09/08—5:30pm FB	Jason Cerofeci (SI)
Sun. 09/09—7:30am FV	Louella Guevarra (SI)
9:00am SJ	Margaret Wareham (M)
11:00am FV	Lorenza Teodoro (M)
5:30pm FB	St. Jerome Parishioners (SI)

WEEK DAY MASSES

Mon. 09/10—8am FV	Etelvina Medina (SI)
Tues. 09/11—8am FB	Jane Elanor Larsen (M)
Wed. 09/12—8am FB	Violeta Talag (M)
Thurs. 09/13—8am FV	Frances Lalan (SI)
Fri. 09/14—8am FV	Nina Meuel (M)
Sat. 09/15—8am FB	Tres Scott (M)

CELEBRANTS SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEKEND

Vigil 5:30pm FV, 7:30am SJ, 9am SJ, 11am FB, 5:30pm FB

Fr. Bill (FB) Fr. Valentine (FV) Jesuit Priest (SJ)

Memorial (M) Special Intention (SI) Thanksgiving (T)

Prayers For The Sick



Mary Alcuran	Rebecca Bank	James Bennett
Vincent Butt	Robert Buchanan	Dionne Delahoussaye
Rorrie de la Vega	Valarie Dudley	Elizabeth Ezeana
Chris Ezeokoli	Lordes Flores	Mary Gibson
G. Johnson Family	Frances Lalan	Benjamin Lopez
Robert Mallillin	Eileen La Casse	Bob Migneault
Eurydice Mundy	Jerry Neubauer	Dorothy Polk
Sam Quatto	Carlos Rodriguez	George Rodriguez
Larry Smith	Kondra Tapia	Sandra Walker

Deceased

Condolences are extended to the family and friends



Mrs. Joan Kasparian,



former teacher and Vice Principal of St. Jerome School.

Services for Mrs. Kasparian will be held at

Visitation Church on September 21, 2018, at 10:00am

May she rest in peace.

Listen to a 24 hour Catholic Radio Station

AM Station 930—Immaculate Heart Radio

CATECHIST NEEDED

Is the Holy Spirit calling you to share your Catholic faith with our parish children grades K-8th? This is a very rewarding experience, so look inside and see if this is for you. Faith formation training will be given to you to assist with teaching the Faith. For more information, call **Ijeoma Oti at 323-207-9821 or sjlaconfirmation@gmail.com**

Liturgical Ministries

Altar Server:	Rectory Office	310-348-8212
Eucharistic Min.:	Tina Gustavson	310-649-1474
Hospitality:	Joyce Holt	310-649-5586
Lectors:	Cathy Fitzpatrick	310-337-6929
Music:	Jim Drollinger	310-617-2465
Ushers:	Tina Gustavson	310-649-1474

St. Jerome School



St. Jerome School is accepting applications for Pre-K, Transitional K & Grades K thru Grade 8. Applications may be downloaded from our website or you may visit the school office to pick one up. Please call **310-670-1678** or visit **www.stjeromelax.org**

Coffee and Donuts



Families from our 8th grade class are sponsoring coffee and donuts after all the Sunday morning masses. Come join us in the hall!
"Donuts make great company. They're not self-centered at all." *badum-tss

St. Jerome Monthly Soup Kitchen

Our next meal will be on **Saturday, September 15th from 10:30am to 12 noon.**



If you wish to donate funds, kindly leave your donation at the Rectory, or send a check to St. Jerome, 5550 Thornburn St. Los Angeles, CA 90045. Note Soup Kitchen Funds in the memo section of your check. **Thank you!**

Catholics Care about climate change and it time to take action together! Take the pledge to:



Learn about and educate others about the causes and moral dimensions of climate change.

Assess how I as an individual, my family, parish and school contribute to climate change by energy use, consumption, waste, etc.

Advocate for Catholic principles of solidarity and stewardship of God's creation in climate change discussions and decisions, especially as they impact those who are poor and vulnerable.

Visit: www.catholicclimatecovenant.org
<http://crs.org/public-policy/climate-change.cfm>

If you're interested to join the Creation Sustainability Ministry, contact Jacqueline Welsh at 310 283-8258.



Knights of Columbus Council #3744 TRIPLE "B" DINNER



(Bourbon, Burgers, and Beer)

When: Friday, September 14, from 5:30pm-8pm

Where: Knights of Columbus Hall

8049 W. Manchester Ave, Playa Del Rey

Price: Starts at \$12 a plate (Burger, Fries, Salad)
additional charges for adding bacon, blue cheese, etc

50/50 split the Pot Raffle Drawing!



2018 Holiday Craft Faire

St Jerome Parish is planning its Holiday Craft Faire for the weekend of **November 10th & 11th**. If you would like to reserve a table as a vendor or know of someone who would be interested in reserving a table, **please call Joyce at 310 649-5586 or Joan at 310 670-7801!**