

St. Jerome Church

The Sacraments are powerfully opportunities for us to encounter our Risen Lord. I love the Sacrament of Matrimony because I am not the minister of the Sacrament (the couple is) but am God's chosen witness. God is so good.



**Nineteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time
August 12, 2018**

**5550 Thornburn Street 310-348-8212 (messages)
Los Angeles, CA 90045 www.stjeromewestchester.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 **424 248-8867**
For calendar request email: juanitarw@gmail.com
Coordinator of Youth Ministry: Ijeoma Oti **323 207-9821**
Secretary/Bulletin Editor: Roxanne Shaw **424 625-3492**
rsaw@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

This remains an open wound.

Every year on the anniversary of the killing we gather together. We have a BBQ and the fellow peace officers continue to share memories and pledge support to the family of their fallen brother. Each year his daughter shares the impact of what it has meant to her growing up without her father and how these people's support has mattered. To hear her story, the events feel as fresh as last year, yet it occurred in 1997. Her identity seems wrapped up with the father of whom she has few actual memories (he was killed near her fifth birthday). She feels obliged to keep the spotlight on her father. Her mother is proud of how she has represented her father. I too feel obliged as I do love them and want them to know that others care. Yet, we have helped unintentionally re-enforce the daughter's responsibility as loving carrier of her father's memory. I wish she could put down the glasses which filter her experiences of life. She is so much more. I wish she could focus on the amazing that has been and is, rather than stewing on what has not been. Unless Jesus or her father show up, I fear the murderer may be taking another life.

I know people who have had their loved ones murdered. I know people who bear a wound of the taking of a spouse, child or parent which seemingly will never heal. I understand the desire for justice and for putting the murderer in a place where they can never again cause anyone else harm.

A part of their heart has been ripped out of their chest. They feel as though they will never again be truly whole. The murderers chance to continue enjoying the gift of life seems like acid in the wound. Unfortunately, even with their death, the wound remains and the empty place of their loved one continues to remove joy and peace.

"Get over it?" This sounds like an insult to the reality of love and life shared. It is an insult to the memory of the person and their relationship.

Whether the murderer is identified or not, convicted or not, sentenced or not, executed or not... they have power to overshadow the rest of the victim's family's lives. They are trapped. They are cocooned in a web of love, things which might have been, and anger. Closure? This is an illusion which can not be reached in this world.

We don't "get over" people we have loved. We can get more used to it, and work through it. Although constantly present, they can peacefully drift to the horizon of our consciousness. Their suffering and pain in this life is done... if they died with the Lord, they will live with the Lord. We can become more aware of the Communion of Saints. Those united with the Lord are now watching over us and praying for us. Their dying (unfair, undeserved and caused by evil) opens for them the martyr's path to heaven.

In sharing in a death like Jesus their test of life is done. They are at peace in the presence of Jesus and loved ones. We are the ones who still have the challenges of life and the struggles of love and forgiveness. We can remain ensnared in anguish... giving authority in our life to the one who has killed them.

Do remember. Do cry... but do smile. Our loved ones are good, and they want me... us to live, love, laugh and be with them one day. How does making a murderer a centerpiece of my life honor them or Christ?

"Father, forgive them. They know not what they do."

Yes, the killer was an idiot. Perhaps twisted of heart in ways I cannot imagine. Yes, it was not fair. Yes, it was not right. Yes, waves of tears continue to visit some days overwhelming me with the lives and love we shared.

I hope we are each able to uncover pity for this pathetic malformed child of God. I am not trying to make an excuse, but it is the reality. My fear is that if I fail to forgive, I may slowly become as twisted and malformed as that idiot.

Forgiveness doesn't mean it didn't hurt. Forgiveness doesn't mean I will forget. I need to forgive lest this wound become infected, dominate my life and become my identity.

Forgiveness does mean I will lay it at the foot of the cross trusting that through Jesus' power to transform dying to self to a gift of new life. Forgiveness does mean that I will place this burden of another's sin with the Lord. Although it is incredibly difficult some days, I choose to trust that He who willingly gave His life for me will continue to walk with me through these dark valleys. He will lead me to green pastures. Yet for me to walk with Him, I need to let anger and wrath drop from heart and take His hand. I need to forgive... if only to not carry this murderer in front of my eyes for the rest of this life... and perhaps eternity.

Traditionally the church taught that the state has the right to apply the death penalty as the last recourse. We know the death penalty hasn't led to an end of killing. My experience as priest has taught me it doesn't lead to closure. Pope John Paul II had said the death penalty could be used only in cases "when it would not be possible otherwise to defend society." But, he added, "as a result of steady improvements in the organization of the penal system, such cases are very rare, if not practically non-existent."

The Catechism now says the death penalty should not be used because it violates the dignity of the person and because "more effective systems of detention have been developed, which ensure the due protection of citizens but, at the same time, do not definitively deprive the guilty of the possibility of redemption."


Forgiveness is not easy but is the path of salvation. "Forgive us our trespasses and we forgive those who trespass against us."

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

On **Wednesday, August 15th**, we will celebrate the solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a Holy Day of Obligation. **Masses will be at 8:00am, Noon, and 7:00pm.** We celebrate our Christian belief that "The Virgin Mary, when the course of her earthly life was finished, was taken up body and soul into heavenly glory, and exalted by the Lord as queen of all things."



(Pope Pius XII, Munificentissimus Deus 1)

 St. Jerome parishioners were especially generous to the Mission Co-Op collection last weekend and we thank the visiting priest who spoke at all the masses. Your donation and prayers were greatly appreciated.

School Collection

We also thank those who remembered our monthly school collection. Since we missed collecting at some of the masses an extra collection for school support will be taken this weekend. Thank you for your consideration and generosity. Our children are our future!



St. Jerome Confirmation 2018-2019

Confirmation will begin in August with an orientation meeting dependent on the candidates' year in program. If your child is starting confirmation in the fall (Y1), we will be holding an orientation meeting on **August 26th at 3:30pm in the Parish Hall.** If your child is returning for their second year in the program (Y2) we will be holding the orientation meeting on **August 19th at 3:30pm in the Religious Education Building.**

If you have any questions, please contact **Ijeoma Oti** at sjaconfirmation@gmail.com or **323 207-9821**

Spirit and Truth

Join us for an afternoon of a afternoon of reflection on the impact on the LITURGY of African American Spirituality, the Civil Rights Movement, the Lead MeGuide Me Hymnal, and much more! The date is **Sunday, August 19th at 3pm in the parish hall.** Our presenter, Kim R. Harris, Ph.D. is a professor of Theology at LMU. Light refreshments will be served. All invited!



Engaging Spirituality

May you be strengthened in your inner being with the power of the Spirit that Christ may dwell in your heart...as you are being rooted and grounded in love.. Eph 3:16

**Are you deeply concerned about our world?
Are you looking for wisdom about how to follow
Jesus with integrity and open for spiritual growth?**

Engaging Spirituality is a prayerful process that invites us to draw this world down into ourselves, to hold it in prayer together, and to practice living deeply.

For more information and/or registration on Engaging Spirituality contact **Deacon Guy Wauthy at 714 602-6122, gwauthy@msn.com or Mrs. Juanita Rivera-Wiemken at 424 248-8867, juanitarw@gmail.com**

Senior Center

Mon., Aug 13: 12-4pm, Rosary, cards and social.

Wed., Aug 15: 12-4pm, cards and social.

Wed., Sept 5: Day trip to Harrahs Casino! \$10 per person—\$10 back on your player's card. **Call Allene at 310 823-4647**



Congratulations!

We offer our congratulations to

Christopher James Chambers

who was baptized into the Christian Community.

May God bless you!

Adult Faith Community Ministry

All adults are welcome to our meeting today, **Sunday, August 12th at 7:00pm in the Senior Center.** For information contact Debra Guzman stjeromeyam@gmail.com



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 on AUGUST 19th, 26th and 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.

Dear friends of St. Jerome Catholic Church,
Thank you for your support for our children and school. St. Jerome School is committed to providing the best educational experiences for all students, and we need some help before our new school year begins. We are looking to provide teaching staff with readily available supplies to help meet our educational Mission. We are currently asking for donations of new **Mac Book computers** and **Epson Eco-Tank printers** to help teachers provide superior instruction. This updated classroom support technology will allow teachers an opportunity to provide greater materials, explore learning objectives and plan effectively to meet and exceed our educational standards. We are asking the St. Jerome School and Parish community to help us achieve and live the traditions of a strong Catholic faith-based education producing culturally aware citizens of tomorrow ready for College, Career and Heaven. Any donations are welcome and can be placed in the collection basket, or brought to the rectory, with the memo referencing that it is for "School Support/Educational Technology".

Peace and Blessings,
Tom MacDonald, Principal

MASS INTENTIONS AND CELEBRANTS

Sat. 08/11—5:30pm FV Alfredo Manaois Sr. (M)
Sun. 08/12—7:30am SJ Ivan Jerome Feleciano (M)
9:00am FV Robert Lee Lucien III (M)
and Baby Madison Lee Swanson (M)
and Victoria Elizabeth Lucien (SI)
11:00am FB Bernadine Fulton (M)
5:30pm FB St. Jerome Parishioners (M)

WEEK DAY MASSES

Mon. 08/13—8am FV Margarita Zambrano (M)
Tues. 08/14—8am FB Vincent Butt & Family (SI)
The Assumption of The Blessed Mother
Wed. 08/15—8am FV Violeta Talag (M)
12 noon FB Carmen Bosnak (M)
7:00pm TBA Hilario Agot (M)
Thurs. 08/16—8am FV St. Jerome's Ministries (SI)
Fri. 08/17—8am FV St. Jerome's School Staff (SI)
Sat. 08/18—8am FB Donatus & Merglen Muoneke (SI)

CELEBRANTS SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEKEND

Vigil 5:30pm FV, 7:30am SJ, 9am FV 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	Leticia Bustillo	Robert Buchanan
Dionne Delahoussaye	Rorrie de la Vega	Valarie Dudley
Elizabeth Ezeana	Chris Ezeokoli	Lordes Flores
Frances Lalan	Benjamin Lopez	Robert Mallillin
Bob Migneault	Lourdes Muinos	Eurydice Mundy
Jerry Neubauer	Dorothy Polk	Pettit Family
Sam Quatto	Carlos Rodriguez	George Rodriguez
Larry Smith	Kondra Tapia	Sandra Walker

Deceased

Condolences are extended to the family and friends of

Violeta Talag

[sister of Imelda Wennstrom]

May she rest in peace.

Mini Retreat Invitation

Take a Vacation for the soul and be refreshed with a "mini retreat" led by Sr. Patricia Shaules, FSP on **Saturday, August 18th, 2pm– 4pm**. We will reflect on how we can keep connected to God throughout the day. A free will donation will be appreciated. The event will take place at Pauline Books & Media, 3908 Sepulveda Blvd. Culver City. To RSVP or for more information, please call **310-397-8676** or email culvercity@paulinemedi

Liturgical Ministries

Altar Server:	Randy Billups	randybillups@gmail.com
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 and 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.st-jeromeschool.org**

**The new school year begins:
August 27th-29th—Early dismissal at 12:30pm!**

Children's Choir Schedule



The Children's Choir will be singing on the following dates and mass times:

August 15th—8am mass

August 19th—9am mass

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

St. Jerome Monthly Soup Kitchen

Our next meal will be on **Saturday, August 18, 2018, 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!**



St. Vincent de Paul St. Jerome Conference Collection

Donations for helping the needy is a vital function of our St. Vincent de Paul— St Jerome conference Ministry and because of your past generosity we have been able to assist many in our community.

On **August 18th and 19th** there will be a special collection taken so we can continue our charitable works in our own parish neighborhood. There are special yellow envelopes located in the pews and on the table near the church entrances. We thank you for your support and generosity and are confident we will be able to continue successfully in this ministry.



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!**