

# ST. JEROME ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

September 24, 2023 | Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Ignorance of Scripture is



## Ignorance of CHRIST.

-St. Jerome

Happy Feast of St. Jerome, Sept 30th!

### MASS TIMES

SATURDAY VIGILS: 4:00PM & 5:30PM

SUNDAY: 7:30AM, 9:00AM (FAMILY

LITURGY), 10:45AM, 12:30PM &

5:00PM (LIFE TEEN)

MON.-FRI.: 7:00AM & 9:00AM

SATURDAY: 9:00AM

CONFESSIONS: SATURDAYS

3:00-3:45PM IN CHAPEL



CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ST. PETERSBURG  
COURAGEOUSLY *Living the Gospel*

10895 HAMLIN BLVD | LARGO, FL 33774

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Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

**Happy Feast!** This Sunday is our annual St. Jerome Feast Day and International Festival at 1:30PM in the Parish Center. I wish everyone a happy feast day and invite you to join us in celebration. Below is a brief biography of our patron saint. An expanded version is on our website.



Saint Jerome was born in Strido, Dalmatia (Croatia) in 347. After being educated by his father, he was sent to Rome to study classical literature and rhetoric. While there, he was baptized by Pope Liberius in 366. While in Rome, he eagerly studied Greek, Latin, history and philosophy and built his own library, diligently copying most of the works he read. Leaving Rome in his early twenties, he traveled to Trier in Gaul and transcribed the works of St. Hilary. After returning to Aquileia, he continued his theological studies. About 373, he made a pilgrimage to the east, arranging to take in cities in Asia Minor. Reaching Antioch in Syria, he arranged to stay for several months. There he pursued humanistic and monastic studies, although he soon turned from the classics to Christian writings. Then he moved to the desert of Chalcia, southeast of Antioch, living as a hermit for five years. Now he included his much-loved study of Scripture and copy work. As a young man, Jerome did not easily forget the delights of Rome and found himself homesick for a world of thought, study, and discussion. However, he had a deep spiritual experience in a dream and was accused of being a "Ciceronian, not a Christian". He then decided to study Hebrew to overcome this temptation.

He translated Scripture directly from Hebrew and organized a workshop dedicating himself to the Bible and Theology; however, this dedication was not always kept. It was in Bethlehem that he began his productive literary period, both his Biblical commentaries and his work on the Latin Bible. In addition to this work, he helped establish monasteries. The needy were not neglected and his work on Scripture continued. Jerome translated most of the Old Testament from Hebrew and some from Greek. His greatest achievement was, of course, the translation of the Bible, still used by the Catholic Church today. He also wrote Scriptural commentaries, biographies, a history of writers and corresponded greatly. In addition to his Biblical work, he wrote extensively on varied topics, translations, heresies and commentary including all the prophets, books of the Bible and polemical treatises. Saint Jerome died in 419 and was buried under the Church of the Nativity close to the site of the birth of Jesus. Now his relics rest in the Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore in Rome. In 1989, he became a Father, and Doctor of the Church. His feast day is observed on September 30th. He is the patron saint of librarians.

St. Jerome reminds us that "**ignorance of scripture is ignorance of Christ.**" This week, I challenge you to spend a little extra time reading the Bible, whether it be five minutes a day, or one day for 20 or 30 minutes. You can even stop by the Adoration Chapel to pray if it helps you. Whenever you choose to do it, know that Christ is deeply longing to encounter you in the Scriptures.

Before you read and pray, perhaps start with this simple prayer,  
**"Come, Holy Spirit, please speak to me. Your servant is listening."**

Chris McBride  
 Parish Manger

## St. Jerome Feast Day & International Festival

Sunday, September 24th, 1:30-4:00PM, Parish Center

Food ~ Music ~ Dance ~ Traditional Attire ~ Raffle

Questions? Call the Parish Office or Carrie C.:610-751-0139

## Saturday, September 23rd

- 9:00 AM † Garrett McKernan - Fr. Cadrecha
- 3:00 PM Confessions
- 4:00 PM Johnston Family - Fr. Blum
- 5:30 PM † Fred Streng - Fr. Cadrecha

## Sunday, September 24th

- 7:30 AM All the People of the Parish - Fr. Cadrecha
- 9:00 AM † Geri Morgan - Fr. Blum
- 10:45 AM † Regina St. Amant - Fr. Waters
- 12:30 PM † Ann & Harry Newhook - Fr. Blum
- 5:00 PM † Joseph McGlone - Fr. Cadrecha

## Monday, September 25th

- 7:00 AM † Catherine Tsacrios - Fr. Blum
- 9:00 AM † Hans Ott - Fr. Cadrecha

## Tuesday, September 26th

- 7:00 AM † Joe Windishman - Fr. Tony
- 9:00 AM † Vera Hafner - Fr. Blum

## Wednesday, September 27th

- 7:00 AM † Michelle Gaunipa - Fr. Mike
- 9:00 AM † Marion Cappola - Fr. Cadrecha

## Thursday, September 28th

- 7:00 AM † Kathleen Thomas - Fr. Tony
- 9:00 AM † Paul Xerri - Fr. Cadrecha

## Friday, September 29th

- 7:00 AM † Mary Trignani - Fr. Cadrecha
- 9:00 AM † Antony Maisano - Fr. Blum

## Saturday, September 30th

- 9:00 AM † Ed and Julie Yarb - Fr. Cadrecha
- 3:00 PM Confessions
- 4:00 PM Bates Family - Fr. Cadrecha
- 5:30 PM † Eileen Anne Ballard - Fr. Blum

## Sunday, October 1st

- 7:30 AM † Deceased Benefactors of St. Jerome - Fr. Blum
- 9:00 AM All the People of the Parish - Fr. Cadrecha
- 10:45 AM † Giuseppe DeFilippis - Fr. Blum
- 12:30 PM † James Kinney - Fr. Waters
- 5:00 PM † Brian Walsh - Fr. Cadrecha

*\*Priest schedule subject to change. \*\*If there is a Mass intention error, please contact the Receptionist in the Parish Office at (727) 595-4610.*

### NEXT SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

FIRST READING:  
Ezekiel 18:25-28  
PSALM: Psalm 25:4-5, 6-7,  
8-9

SECOND READING:  
Philippians 2:1-11

GOSPEL:  
Matthew Mt 21:28-32

"Do not let your deeds belie your words, lest when you speak in church someone may say to himself, 'Why do you not practice what you preach?'"

- St. Jerome

### August 500 Club Winners

1st Place - David Bourgeois  
2nd Place - Kathy Ferguson  
3rd Place - Donna Siler

Thanks for supporting our parish!





St. Jerome  
LIFE TEEN



Follow us on Instagram!  
@saintjeromeyouth

## September

EDGE- We have begun our semester on "Sacraments" with games, teaching, small groups and closing prayer time.

Life Teen- We have begun our quarter on "Community" with games, teaching, small groups and closing prayer time.

### Youth Ministry Sunday Events:

- EDGE Middle School- 3:30-4:45PM in the Education Building
- Youth Mass- 5:00PM
- Family Dinner (middle, high and parents) - 6:00PM
- Life Teen High School- 7:00-8:30PM



## The Seven Sorrows of Mary - A Reflection by Erica Tighe Campbell (Artistan, Be A Heart)

For years I ran from experiencing any sort of negative feeling. I drowned it out with alcohol - just a couple of drinks a night. I wanted life to only be happy. I longed for a time without sorrow and pain. I ran and ran. I threw a fit because I thought that if I followed "the rules" and was "good" then there would only be joy. But as I got sober and had to face life as life was, I came to understand that there is no joy without sorrow. Living a life with God means turning our face toward the sad things, toward the hard things, toward the pain. God doesn't promise that life will be free of difficulties, God only promises that we won't be alone in it.

And here is our mother. Jesus's mother. A mother who knows the depths of sorrows as she watched her beautiful son be killed on a cross. She watched the sweat and blood drip from his body. This body that was birthed from her own. She knows deeply the mother's greatest sorrow. She sits with us. She is here today just as she was then.

**It takes deep courage to allow ourselves to feel the sorrowful things.** It takes deep courage to not run and drown it all with vices. It takes deep courage to say "this is really sad and I am sad" and (this month) on the feast of Our Lady of Sorrows, we are reminded that we do not suffer alone.



*Our Lady of Sorrows, pray for us.  
(The iris is known as the sword lily and is associated with Our Lady of Sorrows)*

The 7 swords represent 7 great sorrows Mary experienced:

- *The prophecy of Simeon (Luke 2:25-35)*
- *The flight into Egypt (Matthew 2:13-15)*
- *Loss of the Child Jesus for three days (Luke 2:41-50)*
- *Mary meets Jesus on his way to Calvary (Luke 23:27-31; John 19:17)*
- *Crucifixion and Death of Jesus (John 19:25-30)*
- *The body of Jesus taken from the Cross (Psalm 130; Luke 23:50-54; John 19:31-37)*
- *The burial of Jesus (Isaiah 53:8; Luke 23:50-56; John 19:38-42; Mark 15:40-47)*



## Saint Rafael Retreat Post Abortion Healing – Project Rachel

Project Rachel is a confidential healing ministry for the many people, both men and women, who have been impacted by an abortion decision. Upcoming healing program: One Day St. Rafael Retreat: 8:00AM– 5:00PM Saturday, September 30 at St. Jerome Church. \$20 registration fee. Contact Joyce for details; pre-registration is needed: 813-690-3516. Please leave a message and your call will be returned within 24-48 hours.

## Bethlehem Centre Returns! New Fall Schedule

*Bethlehem Centre 2023-2024 Calendar*

### Mindful Motion Exercise - Chair

- Each Wednesday 10:00-11:00AM
- From 9/6/2023 through 7/17/2024
- Education Building Main Hall

### Mindful Motion Exercise - Floor

- Each Friday at 10:00-11:00AM
- From 9/22/2023 through 7/19/2024
- Education Building Main Hall

### Art

- Each Thursday 10:00-1:00PM
- From 9/7/2023 through 7/18/2024
- Education Building Art Room
- Each Friday 10:00-1:00PM
- From 9/22/2023 through 7/19/2024
- Education Building Art Room

### Mahjong

- Each Friday 12:30-3:30PM
- Ed Kilroy Building
- From 9/8/2023 through 7/19/2024

### Spanish

- Each Wednesday 10:00-11:00AM
- Education Building Art Room
- Beginning in October TBD

### NEW: Zumba Gold Exercise Class

Zumba Gold exercise class is designed to burn calories, exercise muscles, and have fun. Classes begin on Wednesday, September 27th from 11:30AM-12:30PM.

\$5.00 per class



## 40 DAYS FOR LIFE.

From **September 27–November 5** our diocese is participating in 40 Days for Life, a worldwide mobilization to pray and fast for an end to abortion....resulting so far in:

- Over 20,000 babies saved from abortion
- Over 200 abortion workers converted
- Over 100 abortion centers closed

**How does St. Jerome parish help every year?** Our parish commits to one day of providing the volunteers to stand vigil near one of the designated abortion sites. We are assigned to 28960 US Hwy 19 N in Clearwater, where we stand, pray and hold signs facing thousands of cars passing by!

Through the years the response is more and more positive, so we know we are close to where God wants us to be. We just need a few more people to join us on **Wednesday, October 18!** Sign up sheets are near all entrances in the Church. If you can't come then, sign up for another day at [40daysforlife.com/clearwater](http://40daysforlife.com/clearwater). If you are unable to do either, please pledge to pray and fast for this effort. Thank you!



September 24 is Priesthood Sunday! We give thanks for our priests and pray that God continues to bless the Church with dedicated and faith-filled priests. **✠**  
**Prayer for Priests and Future Priests**  
*Eternal Father, we lift up to You all the priests of the world. Sanctify them. Heal and guide them. Mold them into the likeness and holiness of Your Son, Jesus, the Eternal High Priest. May their lives be pleasing to You in Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.*  
**#CourageousVocations #PriesthoodSunday**

## Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Sessions have Begun!

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Faith Formation sessions have begun, welcoming over a hundred children and their families! Many of our sessions are full and space is limited in each Atria which serves children from birth to twelve-years-old. If you are interested in learning more about this amazing resource at our parish, please contact Stephanie Martin at [faithformation@stjeromeonline.org](mailto:faithformation@stjeromeonline.org).



*Aiden B. working with The Good Shepherd and His sheep.*



### BAPTISM CLASSES & INTRO TO CGS

We rejoice with our families blessed with the birth or adoption of a child or anticipating a newborn. We offer Baptism Classes on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30PM in the Parish Office Conference Room.

Call the Parish Office (727) 595-4610 to register. In addition, we would also like to arrange for you to tour our Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Toddler Atrium and other Atriums. (Info provided at the Baptism Class).

Upcoming Baptism Classes: October 10, November 14, & December 12  
[www.stjeromeonline.org/baptism](http://www.stjeromeonline.org/baptism)

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## Stewardship

Stewardship is more than being a good manager of one's time, talents, and treasure. The discipline of biblical stewardship calls us to use all these gifts in the way the Lord desires: to employ them not for us, but for His glory. Thanks for sharing His gifts!

**September 17, 2023**

• Offertory:	\$15,092.00
• E-Giving:	\$4,041.00
• Total Offertory:	\$19,133.00
• ***CMA Cash:	\$50.00
• ***Roof Cash:	\$194.00

# RAISE THE ROOF A solid, lasting future



## RAISE THE ROOF: CURRENT STATUS

**As of 7/31, we have raised \$936,435.73 for our Roof Campaign!**

*We are blessed to have the Diocese be the financial record keepers of our campaign.*

We are working hard towards the goal of **\$1.4 million**. Thanks for pledging today so we can quickly complete this needed project!

## Catholic Ministry Appeal

The Catholic Ministry Appeal supports many of the ministries of our diocese. What a great way to serve God's people today!

We accept all major credit/debit cards as well as direct debit payments through our secure online giving system. Donor managed online giving is available with:

1. Our diocesan website at: [GivetoMinistry.dosp.org](http://GivetoMinistry.dosp.org)
2. QR Code - Donors can scan the code and be redirected to our secure online giving page.
3. Make checks payable to the Catholic Ministry Appeal.

### St Jerome Current Status

(As of September 18, 2023)

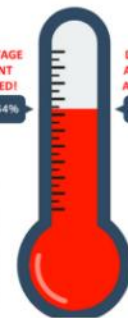
GOAL: \$229,153

PERCENTAGE AMOUNT ACHIEVED!

64%

DOLLAR AMOUNT ACHIEVED!

\$146,034



## The Divine Mercy of Jesus Knights of Columbus Council 17249

The Knights meet on the second Wednesday of each month in the Parish Center. We are very active in serving the community, our parish, and growing in faith.

For more information, visit our website at <https://knightsdmoj17249.org>. To order a brick to be placed in front of the Grotto, visit <https://knightsdmoj17249.org/grotto> and select "Buy a Brick".

## Greeter & Welcome Desk Ministry

Ministers of Hospitality are needed as Greeters and to serve at the Welcome Desk. Thanks to all who have been involved in Hospitality/Welcome Ministries at St. Jerome. We want to grow the Greeter and Welcome Desk Ministry and are welcoming individuals, couples or families to serve in this important ministry. This is a wonderful way to meet new people, get involved in our parish family, and do YOUR part to make St. Jerome Parish a welcoming place to worship. To learn more, sign up at the Welcome Desk or call the Parish Office.



# OCIA

*Order of Christian Initiation of Adults*

Are you someone or do you know someone who...

- Has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic?
- Has a child over the age of seven who has not been baptized?
- Was baptized Catholic as a child, but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist?



We offer an opportunity to come together in a small group to learn more about the Catholic faith. Sessions focus on the teachings and experience of the Church and prepare individuals to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist typically during the Easter season.

You are welcome to participate in the process with your questions, your insights and your faith story in a warm, welcoming setting. For information, please contact the Parish Office.

## ADULT CONFIRMATION CLASS AND CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Are you an adult who has not celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation? Adult Catholics (ages 15 years and older) who have been baptized, received First Eucharist and are practicing their faith but have not celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation are Invited to participate in a preparation program.



In the Sacrament of Confirmation, the individual's baptism is reinforced and sealed. This sacrament, like baptism, may only be celebrated once. It is closely linked with baptism in that there is an anointing with oil (Chrism), laying on of hands, and a special activity of the Holy Spirit. When celebrated apart from Baptism and First Communion, the bishop, or a priest designated by him, is the minister of Confirmation.

The preparation program consists of six sessions in which you, the adult, will be advised of the process for this preparation and what is required of you. Begins October 12th!

For further information and to sign up please contact Sister Lucia at 595-4610 or email her at [srlucia@stjeromeonline.org](mailto:srlucia@stjeromeonline.org).

## Catholics Come Home

*Experience love & acceptance by coming home to the Catholic Church!*

If you are a Catholic who has been away from the Church and Sacraments, please consider Catholics Coming Home. This ministry provides a relaxed group setting to discuss your concerns and desire to reconnect to the Church. St. Jerome Parish is offering a four week series beginning October 11, 2023, at 6:00PM in the Parish Office Library.

For more information, please contact Sister Lucia Brady at 727-595-4610 or complete the form below. You are missed, and we hope you will join us.

*Yes! I would like to learn more about Catholics Coming Home!*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to the St. Jerome Parish Office by September 20th by mail, in person, or email to [Receptionist@stjeromeonline.org](mailto:Receptionist@stjeromeonline.org). The Parish Office is open Mon-Fri from 9:30AM to 4:30PM. The form can also be dropped in the collection baskets at Mass.







### Enjoy Bingo!

Join us every Thursday afternoon in the Parish Center; doors open at noon. See old friends, make new ones, test your luck! Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. If questions, contact Bill at: knightsdmoj17249@gmail.com

### Sunday Morning Bible Study

Join us for a study of the Gospel of John! Begins 11/26 from 10:30-11:45AM in the Parish Center. Sign up: call Parish Office 727-595-4610. Register by Nov 1 & order study book (\$12). Tell Parish Office if you need financial assistance.



### The Columbiettes, Divine Mercy of Jesus Council

The new Columbiettes, Divine Mercy of Jesus Auxiliary, is growing with 40 members to date! More women are committed to join this fall. If you are a woman, eighteen years old or older, and a practicing Catholic, please consider joining us. Our purpose is to assist the Knights in their commitments as well as establish our own projects. We want to assist those in need in our parish and our community. If interested, contact either Claudia, President, 724-766-2615, or Denise, Vice President, 352-226-7151.



Rosary Group

### Rosary Group Mon-Wed

We welcome all to pray the Rosary each Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday following the 9:00AM Mass. Questions? Contact either Virginia 727-393-6063 or Mary Pat 727-517-4289. You can also pray a Pro Life Rosary in the Chapel at 7:00PM Wednesday evenings!



Welcome back to GriefShare, where we support each other on our journey of grief. We meet on Tuesday mornings from 10:00-11:30AM in the Education Building Art Room. You don't have to walk alone. Questions? Judy: 727-595-4610.

### Lifeline Ministries

Last week, Lifeline served 86 families comprised of 295 people and Parishioners donated 136 bags of food for a total of 330 bags so far this month Unfortunately, due to excessive after hours pilfering, we had to move the donation bin near the chapel into the main church. Hopefully, this move will alleviate the problem. We are grateful for your continued generosity in helping those who need food assistance.



- Peanut butter
- Cereal
- Canned fruit
- Beef Stew
- Jellies & jams
- Rice (2 lb bags)
- Pasta/spaghetti
- Pasta sauce
- Boxed mashed potatoes
- Canned pork & beans
- Canned tuna/chicken/turkey
- Canned vegetables (corn, beans, carrots)
- Boxed mac & cheese
- Hearty canned soup

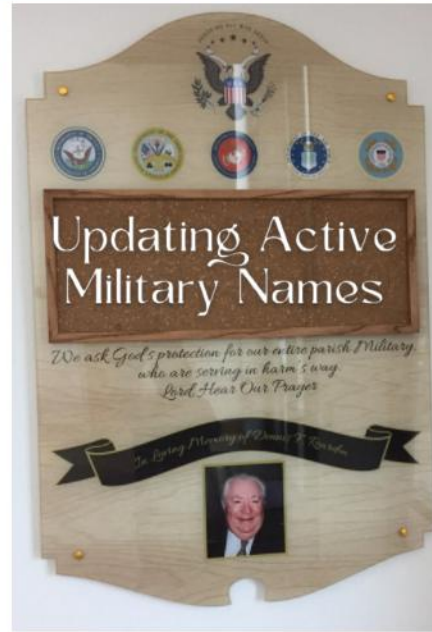
# Music Ministry



Calling all singers & musicians: join our 2023-24 season! Make a joyful noise to the Lord!

- **Chorale:** Rehearsal Thursdays at 7:15PM; Mass Sundays at 10:45AM
- **Spirit Singers:** Rehearsal Thursdays 5:30PM; Mass 1st & 3rd Sundays 9:00AM
- **Bell Choir:** Rehearsal Tuesdays at 7:00PM; Mass 2nd & 4th Sundays at 9:00AM
- **Praise Ensemble:** Rehearsal Thursdays at 6:15PM; Mass Sundays at 12:30PM

Contact Tom Kurt or Erica DiCeglie: 727-595-4610



The time has come to update our military plaque with names of parishioners who are serving in the military so we can remember them in prayer on the Military Plaque in the Gathering Space. Contact the Parish Office to submit active service parishioners' names.

## PARISH INFORMATION

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Friday, 9:30AM-4:30PM

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Second Sunday of the Month after the 12:30PM Mass in the Church, or by request.

CONFESSIONS: Saturdays 3:00-3:45PM-Chapel.

HOLY HOUR & BENEDICTION: Every Thursday, every First Friday, and every First Saturday 9:30AM-10:30AM; also Livestreamed.

Masses celebrated in the Church and Chapel are Livestreamed at: [www.stjeromeonline.org](http://www.stjeromeonline.org) and [www.facebook.com/StJeromeLargo](http://www.facebook.com/StJeromeLargo)

## CLERGY

Fr. John Blum, Pastor  
Fr. Robert Cadrecha, Parochial Vicar  
Deacon Fred Kunder

## PARISH STAFF

Chris McBride, Parish Manager  
Rita Gianninoto, Assistant to Parish Manager  
Pat Kunish, Sacramental Coordinator & Receptionist  
Sylvia Cummings, Receptionist  
Tracey Swaine, Administrative Assistant  
Tom Kurt, Music Director  
Erica DiCeglie, Associate Music Director  
Francesca Ani, Life Teen Mass Musician  
Maintenance: Michael Shaughnessy & Bruce Villeneuve  
Sarah Williford, Bulletin Editor

## EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

Phyllis Steele, Administrator, (727) 596-9491

## ASSISTING PRIESTS

Msgr. Brendan Muldoon, Pastor Emeritus  
Fr. Michael O'Brien, In residence  
Very Rev. Joseph Waters, JV, JCL  
Fr. Anthony Nyong

## BETHLEHEM CENTRE

Tim Kunish, Coordinator, (727) 596-9394

## FORMATION TEAM

Sr. Lucia Brady, OSC, Pastoral Care & Life Long Faith Formation  
Stephanie Martin, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Coordinator  
[faithformation@stjeromeonline.org](mailto:faithformation@stjeromeonline.org)

Taylor Gunn, Youth Minister  
Rob Kidney, Youth Ministry Assistant  
[youthministry@stjeromeonline.org](mailto:youthministry@stjeromeonline.org)

For Sacraments, contact the Parish Office (727) 595-4610



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