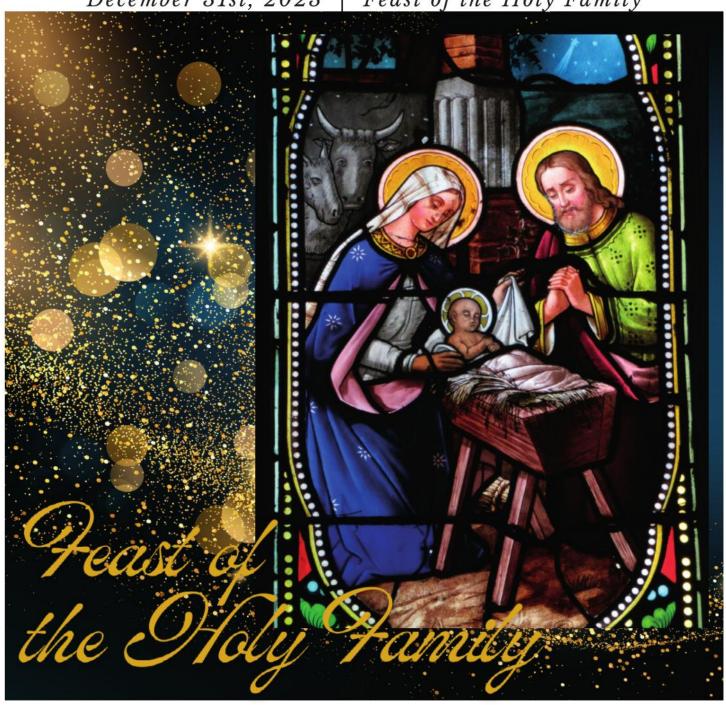
ST. JEROME ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH December 31st, 2023 | Feast of the Holy Family



MASS TIMES

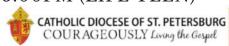
SATURDAY VIGILS: 4:00PM & 5:30PM SUNDAY: 7:30AM, 9:00AM (FAMILY LITURGY), 10:45AM, 12:30PM & 5:00PM (LIFE TEEN)

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

SATURDAY: 9:00AM

CONFESSIONS: SATURDAYS

3:00-3:45PM IN CHAPEL



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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we continue to celebrate the Christmas season, we note that this year marks the 800th anniversary of the creation of the Nativity scene in Greccio, Italy, by St. Francis of Assisi.

Pope Francis, in his recent book on the Nativity, wrote the following:

"The nativity scene is like a living Gospel rising up from the pages of sacred Scripture. As we contemplate the Christmas story, we are invited to set out on a spiritual journey, drawn by the humility of the God who became man in order to encounter every man and woman. We come to realize that so great is his love for us that he became one of us, so that we in turn might become one with him."

May we celebrate the wonder and awe of what God has done for us through His Son Jesus Christ.

Recall the words of the angel to the shepherds who were tending their flocks on that sacred night. "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a Savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord" ((Luke 2:10-11).

May God bless you and Merry Christmas!

Sincerely yours in Christ, Bishop Gregory Parkes

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

1/1/24 – *Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Masses – 7:00AM & 9:00AM Parish Office closed

*NOTE: There will be NO 5:00PM Sunday Mass scheduled for Dec 31st (New Year's Eve). Also, because the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (Jan. 1) falls on a Monday this year, it is NOT a Holy Day of Obligation, so our Mass schedule January 1st will be our usual daily schedule of 7:00AM and 9:00AM.

A Prayer for Families

Gracious God, help us to love each other fervently. Grow our love so deep that it is able and willing to overcome and forgive a multitude of misgivings. Inspire a spirit of hospitality in each of us and enable us to cheerfully share our home. We acknowledge that you have given each of us spiritual gifts, and ask for the grace to honor and help each other grow. Grant us patience in trial and gentleness in frustration. May we be a holy family in imitation of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Holy Family, pray for us! Amen.



MASS INTENTIONS Let Us Pray

Saturday, December 30th

- 9:00 AM † Shelley Sarabia Fr. Blum
- 3:00 PM Confessions
- 4:00 PM † Giovanni Stajano Fr. Blum
- 5:30 PM † Andrew Ermilio Fr. Cadrecha

Sunday, December 31st - Feast of the Holy Family

- 7:30 AM All the People of the Parish Fr. Cassian
- 9:00 AM † Carl Hawkins Fr. Cadrecha
- 10:45 AM † Ron Barretto Fr. Blum
- 12:30 PM † Matthew Moro Fr. Cadrecha
- NO 5:00 PM Mass

Monday, January 1st

- 7:00 AM † All the People of the Parish Fr. Cadrecha
- 9:00 AM † Tom Conlon Fr. Blum

Tuesday, January 2nd

- 7:00 AM Gertie Man Fr. Mike
- 9:00 AM † Agnes Erxlebent Fr. Cassian

Wednesday, January 3rd

- 7:00 AM † Phyllis Daly Fr. Cadrecha
- 9:00 AM † Carole Friel Fr. Mike

Thursday, January 4th

- 7:00 AM † Earl Dilley Fr. Tony
- 9:00 AM † Berta Pitt Fr. Cadrecha

Friday, January 5th

- 7:00 AM † Wayne Nundy & Bill Mooney Fr. Tony
- 9:00 AM † Jozef Pachowicz Fr. Cadrecha

Saturday, January 6th

- 9:00 AM Family Lineage of Karen Schnurr Fr. Cadrecha
- 3:00 PM Confessions
- 4:00 PM † Van Thomas Fr. Blum
- 5:30 PM † Don Dwyer Fr. Cadrecha

Sunday, January 7th

- 7:30 AM All the People of the Parish Fr. Blum
- 9:00 AM † Robert Maus Fr. Cadrecha
- 10:45 AM † Mary Stonestreet Fr. Blum
- 12:30 PM Robson Family Fr. Cadrecha
- 5:00 PM † Dana E. Grady Fr. Cadrecha

NEXT SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

FIRST READING:
Isaiah 60:1-6
PSALM: Psalm 72:1-2, 78, 10-11, 12-13
SECOND READING:
Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6
GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-12

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Check W. out!

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Nativities, and more!
Hours: Saturdays 3:305:30PM; Sundays 9:30AM12:30PM in the Gathering
Space in the Church

No Donuts

No coffee & donuts on 12/24 and 12/31.

^{*}Priest schedule subject to change.

^{**}If there is a Mass intention error, please contact the Receptionist in the Parish Office at (727) 595-4610.

Rosary honoring the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Holy Mother of God

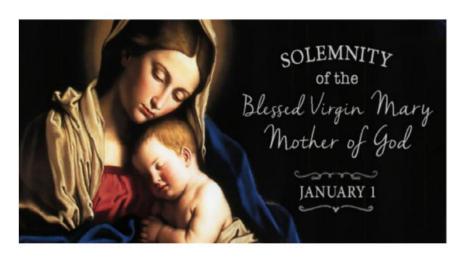
At the beginning of a new year, the Marian Spirituality Group at St. Jerome Catholic Church, invites us to contemplate Mary's divine maternity as an icon of peace.

Join us to pray the Rosary at The Grotto, dedicate our families to her loving care and honor Her as the Mother of God and the Mother of us all.

Sunday, December 31, 2023

Immediately after the 5:00 PM Mass Sponsored by the Marian Spirituality Group

If questions, please contact Sr. Lucia at the Parish Office.



Special Request Masses

Celebrated by Msgr. Muldoon

12/5/2023 Gwen Spretnjak +

12/6/2023 John Scullin +

12/7/2023 Michael Gary +

12/8/2023 Brent Millar +

12/9/2023 William Machnovitz +

12/10/2023 Ignacio Liwag +

12/11/2023 lan Leady

12/12/2023 William Joseph Lyons +

12/13/2023 Robet Eugene Berens +

12/14/2023 Enriqueta & Ibrahim Alava +

12/15/2023 Bruce & Kath Villeneuve



Our youth minister, Taylor G., loves the classic "O Holy Night. She says her favorite line from the song is

"Fall on your knees, O hear the angel voices. O Night Divine, O Night when Christ was born."

Taylor feels that this part "shows the true meaning of Christmas. We are supposed to adore and worship the Baby Jesus in the manger. It truly is a divine night when our Savior of the world is born. Jesus is the true meaning of Christmas."

Merry Christmas! May you fully celebrate this beautiful season every day.

Alpha is a chance to explore life and the Christian faith in a friendly, open and informal environment.

Come Taste and See!

You are invited to Alpha! Join us for a great meal and conversation with others who are exploring life and faith; no strings attached.

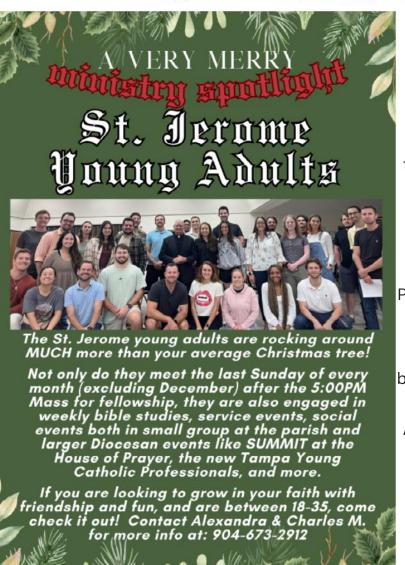
If you come, we won't call you after, write, or ask you to pick up the check, the ball is completely in your court. What do you have to lose?

Beginning Tuesday, 01/09/2024 at 6:30PM Parish Center at St. Jerome Catholic Church 10895 Hamlin Blvd., Largo Register: www.stjeromeonline.org/alpha-ministry

"Finding friends, peace, and purpose."







St. Ignatius' Spiritual Exercises for Everyday Life

January 10-February 14, 2024

Ms. Loretta Rieman (a parishioner of St. Paul Parish, St. Petersburg), a certified spiritual director, will facilitate a Zoom Retreat following the themes of St. Ignatius of Loyola's Spiritual Exercises. This opportunity is offered through the Franciscan Center in Tampa.

Zoom sessions will be every Wednesday from January 10 until February 14, 2024 from 2:00 to 4:00 PM. (These sessions will be recorded if you are unable to join the Zoom call during the scheduled hours.) Those participating will be praying and reflecting on each week's themes between Zoom sessions. We will follow the book Moment by Moment, A Retreat for Everyday Living by Carol Ann Smith, SHCJ and Eugene F. Merz, SJ. Participants are encouraged to purchase the book early.

For more info and to register go to https://www.franciscancentertampa. org, and click on the "Programs" tab and scroll down to find the "Moment by Moment" retreat info.

Stewardship

We are called to give to the Lord the time, talent, and treasure with which He has blessed us. An easy way to give to St. Jerome:

www.stjeromeonline.org or scan the QR Code by opening your camera and follow the link to our safe and secure online giving portal. From there, go to "offertory" and fill in your information to give.



December 17, 2023*

Offertory: \$24,586.62

• E-Giving: \$4,406.00 • Total Offertory: \$28,992.62

***CMA Cash: \$46.00

• ***Roof Cash: \$148.00

*Most recent offertory numbers available at publication.

RAISE THE ROOF A solid, lasting future

RAISE THE ROOF UPDATE

As of November 31st, our roof fund is now sitting at \$1,012,669.73. We have broken one million dollars! This is a substantial milestone! 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 much needed project for our parish to replace the Church roof.



A great Christmas gift to the parish would be funds towards replacing the roof!

TAX-FREE CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION



Need a tax break? Congress has permanently enacted qualified charitable distributions from your traditional IRA accounts for those 70 1/2 or older. These distributions can be used to satisfy all or a portion of your Required Minimum Distribution and are free of federal income tax. Also, these gifts help you avoid the Medicare high income surcharge and can help reduce your income taxes on your social security benefits. Distributions must be made directly from your IRA account to St. Jerome Catholic Church. For questions, contact our parish manager, Chris McBride at (727) 595-4610.

Ecumenical Prayer Service for Christian Unity

1/21/2024, 3:00-4:00PM, St. Jerome Church.

All are invited to attend the annual Ecumenical Prayer Service for Christian Unity, sponsored locally by the Community Ecumenical Committee of twelve local churches, here at St. Jerome Church, on Sunday January 21 at 3:00PM. Sponsored by the St. Jerome Ecumenical Ministry. Questions? Contact Sr. Lucia at Srlucia@stjeromeonline.org



Lifeline Ministries

Last week, Lifeline served a record breaking 118 families comprised of 433 people. Parishioners donated 169 bags of food for a total of 377 so far this month. We are grateful for your continued generosity to those who need food assistance.

- Boxed mashed potatoes
- Canned pork & beans
- Canned tuna/chicken/turkey
- Canned vegetables (corn, beans, carrots)
- Hearty canned soup
- Pasta/spaghetti
- Pasta sauce

- Peanut butter
- Cereal
- Canned fruit
- Beef Stew
- Jellies & jams
- Granola bars
- Peanut butter crackers
- Boxed mac & cheese



Health Care Ministry

Lost or confused about a medical problem, illness or concern? Don't know where to turn?

The Health Care Ministry of St Jerome can assist. We have knowledge and resources that can point you in the proper direction. Don't navigate the rough seas alone. Contact us at 321-403-3356 or email at healthministrysi@gmail.com.

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. Questions? Bill: knightsdmoj17249@gmail.com



GriefShare

The holidays can complicate grief. At GriefShare, 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

Rosary Group

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



National Human Trafficking Awareness Month

January 10th & 11th, 2024

Prayer Service: Wednesday, January 10th after 9:00AM Mass in the Church. **Wear Blue Campaign**: for January 11, National Human Trafficking Awareness Day. Please wear BLUE to show your support for an end to Human Trafficking.



Movie Night: Food Chains. This will be shown in the Parish Center Thursday, January 11th at 6:00PM with Q & A time after the showing. Fair trade items will be available before and after the presentation for you to browse or buy. We hope that you will be able to join us on Wednesday A.M. or on Thursday P.M.

5

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 at the Grotto, visit https://knightsdmoj17249.org/grotto and select "Buy a Brick".



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. Women eighteen or older who are practicing Catholics are invited to join. 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 community.

Interested? Claudia, President, 724-766-2615.

gloria in excelsis Deo!

Bethlehem Centre Spring Semester Coming Soon!

The Bethlehem Centre will be closed from December 23rd to January 2nd in observance of the Christmas season. If questions about the Bethlehem Centre, contact Tim Kunish at (727) 596-9394. Thank you!

Coming in January!! Let's look forward to: Portuguese Classes, Cardio Exercise Classes, and Relaxed Energy Classes. Watch the bulletin for more details!



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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).

New schedule for classes will be announced shortly.

www.stjeromeonline.org/baptism

Adult Confirmation Classes

Adult Confirmation preparation sessions are held for those active Catholics who wish to receive the sacrament of Confirmation. Meet Wednesdays at 6:00PM starting February 7, 2024, in the Parish Office. If interested, please call Sr. Lucia at the Parish Office: 727-595-4610.

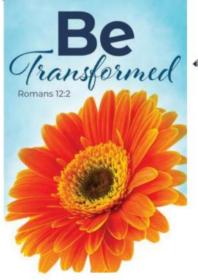




Ministry Appreciation Breakfast

SAVE THE DATE: January 27, 2024 9:00 a.m. Parish Center

Join us for a special breakfast celebrating YOU! A big thank you to all those wonderful volunteers who make our services and programs a reality. It is incredible to see what God does through you and you make an impact on the lives of so many people.





FEBRUARY 23 & 24, 2024

FRIDAY EVENING

6:00 PM TO 9:00 PM

SATURDAY

9:00 AM (MASS) TO 5:15 PM

St. Jerome Catholic Church Parish Hall 10895 Hamlin Blvd. - Largo, fl.

Cost: \$30.00

Ladies, come and be transformed & renewed in God's love as we prepare our hearts for Lent! Join other Sisters in Christ for a very special time of fellowship, praise and worship, inspired teaching, and healing prayer! Additional information flyer & registration form can be found in the Parish Office or on the Vine of Grace Retreat Ministry website at www.vineofgrace.org.

Questions call: Sr. Lucia at: 727.595.4610 or Erin at: 520.631.1408

youth Ministry December Calendar

Merry Christmas! We are off on December 31st: there will be no Life Teen or Edge. See you in the new year!

Usual Sunday Schedule

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

Marriage Troubles?

If your marriage has become troubled and stressed, unloving or uncaring; if you have grown cold and distant; even if you are divorced or separated, or are thinking about it, Retrouvaille can help, as it has helped tens of thousands of others. Our next program begins January 26-28, 2023. For more information, visit <u>www.HelpOurMarriage.org</u>, or call (727) 343-6701. Not counseling or group therapy. All contacts and names held in strictest confidence.



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.

Some Masses Livestreamed at: www.stjeromeonline.org & 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

Taylor Gunn, Youth Minister Rob Kidney, Youth Ministry Assistant youthministry@stjeromeonline.org

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



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Dr. Lori (Dolores) Puterbaugh, LMHC, LMFT

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