

C H U R C H O F

380 E. Roselawn Avenue
Maplewood, MN 55117

St. Jerome

Weekend Masses

Saturday 4:30 PM
Sunday 9:30 AM

Weekday Masses

Mon. thru Fri..... 7:15 AM
Wed. (Sep.-May) All School..... 9:45 AM
Saturday 8:00 AM
Holy Days 7:15 AM & 5:30 PM

Eucharistic Adoration

Monday 5:00 AM to Thursday 6:00 PM

Baptisms by appointment

Sacrament of Reconciliation *by appointment* or
Saturday 3:30 to 4:00 PM

Marriage (*available to parishioners of 6 months or greater*). Arrangements must be made at least 9 months before proposed marriage date.

Anointing of the Sick, as announced/requested

Contact Information

Parish Office 651-771-1209
Fax 651-771-3466
Website www.stjerome-church.org
Email..... secretary@stjerome-church.org
FB www.facebook.com/stjeromecatholic
School. 651-771-8494
Fax 651-771-3466
Website www.stjermeschool.org
Kids' Korner Daycare.....651-771-1023

Pastoral Staff

Fr. Victor Valencia.....Pastor

Administrative Staff

Joanne LambParish Secretary

Music

Mary Beth Hess Music Director

Faith Formation

xxxReligious Ed Coordinator
Florence Amena Confirmation
xxx Children's Liturgy

School

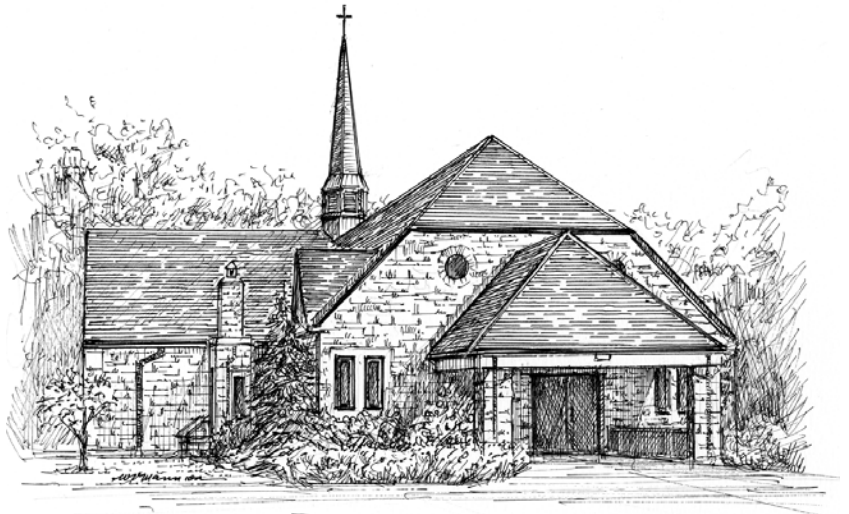
Anne Gattman Principal
Grace ZappaPreschool Director
Sue CostelloSchool Secretary
Nay Paw School Secretary

Maintenance

Rick Gahm..... Supervisor

Safe Environment coordinator

Marie Joseph.....651-771-8494
Victim Assistance Hotline.....651-291-4475



December 22, 2024





WELCOME TO THE CHURCH OF ST. JEROME

The Church of St. Jerome would like to welcome all visitors and anyone who has recently moved into our community. We invite you to become members of our parish.

If you are interested in joining our parish or have any questions, please contact the parish office at 771-1209.

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

On the fourth week of advent we shall reflect on another very important character in the infancy narrative of Jesus Christ. It is the blessed virgin Mary. She plays a very significant role in the Christmas story and has a very important part in our faith journey.

The gospel story this Sunday give us two indications why Mary plays a significant role in our faith tradition. IN the Jewish tradition and even in many contemporary cultures, it is customary that younger relatives greet older relatives first. The older, have to be recognized and respected. In the case in our story, it is Elizabeth, the older, that greeted Mary, the younger. Because Mary is the mother of the King, and Mary is the mother of the Lord come in the flesh. Mary is the mother of God. Elizabeth is overwhelmed with the fact that she has the honor of the mother of her king visiting her. Elizabeth is humbled by the presence of Mary.

in the Gospel of Luke chapter 11:27-28, a woman is going to say to Jesus, “blessed is the womb that bore you and the breast that nursed you.” And Jesus will in turn say, “blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it.” Mary is blessed not only because she's the mother of the Lord. She is blessed because she has full trust in the Lord, submitted herself to the plan of God confident that what is said to her is going to happen. At the root of her blessing is because of her faith. What does Elizabeth say? “Blessed is she who believed that what was spoken to her from the Lord would be fulfilled.”

These and many more are reasons why Mary has a special place in our heart and in our spiritual journey. We are only three days away from our celebration of the birth of Jesus.

All the stories we hear during the advent season points to the most important figure of Christmas: Jesus Christ who is the fulfillment of God the Father’s promise to bring salvation and redemption of the humankind from death restoring us back to life. Merry Christmas, everyone!

Fr. Victor

Sending out Christmas cards, please update your address list:

Sr. Clarice Gierzak
225 Frank Street, Apt. 211
St. Paul, MN 55106-6747

Fr. Ken Ludescher
225 Frank Street, Apt. 203
St. Paul, MN 55106-6747

PRINCIPAL CORNER

Dear St. Jerome Parishioners,

Our school is closed for the Christmas Holiday from December 21, 2024-January 5, 2025. We wish you a blessed and joyful Christmas!

I would like to share about a mission trip that is happening during the Christmas break and into the new year. You have come to know our Karen students. Ms. Marie Joseph and I are joining Fr. Seraaphim and several of our Karen colleagues on a trip to Thailand December 27-January 9.

Ms. Marie Joseph is our science and art teacher at St. Jerome School. She is traveling with me on this trip. We are planning to teach lessons to the children and help our Karen traveling partners conduct a retreat in each camp. We'll also be able to celebrate Christmas and the New Year. St. Jerome School families have donated many items for gift bags for the children in the camps. We plan to speak with the parents about the opportunities within the St. Paul area for strong community and an excellent Catholic education at St. Jerome School.

Our students are excited that we will know what Thailand is all about. They are also teasing us and warning us of “huge hornets” and other things to be worried about. Marie and I know that this trip will hold blessings we are still unable to name. God has blessed us with this beautiful connection to the Karen, and I know he holds many promises for us from this trip. The best part for me is the opportunity to know and understand the stories of my students, their families and my colleagues. People who I dearly care about and treasure as part of my life .



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Peace and blessings to you,
Anne Gattman, Principal

DECEMBER EVENTS

- December—Adopt a Family
- Dec. 24—Christmas Eve Mass 4pm and 10pm
- Dec. 25—Christmas Day Mass 9:00am
- Jan. 1—New Year’s Day Mass 9:00am



4TH WEEK OF ADVENT: Love



Father, all-powerful God, Your eternal Word took flesh on our earth when the Virgin Mary placed her life at the service of your plan. Lift our minds in watchful hope to hear the voice which announces his glory, and open our minds to receive the Spirit who prepares us for his coming. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

CHURCH DECORATOR NEEDED



Angela, our talented church decorator, is stepping down in January. We are looking for someone to take over. She would like to train you over the Christmas season. This person, with help from others, keeps flowers in the church, changes banners and decorates the altar. Please contact the parish office if interested.

ADVENT TREE OF GOOD DEEDS

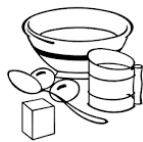
During Advent, there are two trees on the altar with a basket of ornaments next to them. As you, a parishioner, perform a good deed during advent, place an ornament on the tree thereby decorating the tree with 'good deeds' done.



What is the meaning of:

- Advent: Coming, approach, arrival
- Emmanuel: God is with Us
- Maranatha: O Lord, Come
- Bethlehem: House of bread

HOLIDAY BAKE SALE & PANCAKE BREAKFAST



HOLIDAY BAKE SALE & PANCAKE BREAKFAST



Thank you to all who worked the pancake breakfast and bake sale.

Thank you to those who donated all the cookies. And Thank you to those who came and supported these events!



BOOYA—Frozen quarts for SALE \$16

Do you need gift ideas for that person who has everything.



We have BOOYA or sale.

Purchase in parish office.

BOOYA



A big thank you to all Scrip Shoppers!

Thanks to all of you, we raised over \$500 for the church with this most recent sale! We made more than any other physical sale this year and topped last year's total. This could not have been done without your help!

May you and all the recipients of your gift cards have a most joyous Christmas and New Year's! We will be back with another physical sale in March, and Scrip is always available to order online! Anita Kennedy



Congratulations to **Eva Shelby Vasquez** Her Quinceañera mass was Saturday December 14.

NEW DIRECTORY IN 2025



Sign up now to have your picture taken for the new directory. Sign up on the parish website.

GIVING TREE



This year the parish will sponsor families from the Ramsey County Family Sponsorship program. Each family receives:

- 1 clothing item per child
- 1 toy item per child
- * 1 parent gift
- * 1 grocery gift certificate

We are doing a **virtual giving tree**. Please donate the money to pay for a gift or two. We have a family who will purchase the gifts and then we will host a gift wrapping afternoon. Please place your donation in the basket in the back of the church or send to the parish office marked "giving tree".

So far we only have 1 family. A mom and 4 girls. **2 more families of 4 have been added.** **We are supporting 3 families this year.**

PARISH EVENT CALENDAR
December 23-29

Monday	Parish Office Closed
Tuesday	Christmas Eve Parish Office Closed 4:00pm Christmas Eve Mass 10:00pm Midnight Mass
Wednesday	Christmas Day Parish Office Closed 9:00am Christmas Day Mass
Thursday	10:00am Rosary at nursing home 6:30pm Small Group
Friday	9:30am Small Group
Saturday	
Sunday	Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph



MASS INTENTIONS

Monday	7:15am Jerry & Lori Lonetti
Tuesday	7:15am 4:00pm Christmas Eve 10:00pm Midnight
Wednesday	9:00am Christmas Day
Thursday	7:15am Nancy Valento
Friday	7:15am
Saturday	8:00am 4:30pm Lucy Baker
Sunday	9:30am Members of the Parish

LITURGICAL ROLES

Schedules can also be found at
www.stjerome-church.org (calendars/schedules)

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Eve	4:00pm	J Zielinski, C Anyanwu, B Cardinal
	10:00pm	T. Zappa
Day	9:00am	E or T Schoenecker
Sat.	4:30pm	S. Yackel
Sun.	9:30am	E. Schoenecker

LECTORS:

Eve	4:00pm	K. Faschingbauer
	10:00pm	Y. Clintsman
Day	9:00am	S. Cardinal
Sat.	4:30pm	C. Geis
Sun.	9:30am	R. Klutzke

ALTAR SERVERS:

Sat.	4:30pm	A. Bonghan	P. Bonghan
Sun.	9:30am	R. Odhiambo	C. Zorobi
		M. Murphy	Z. Odhiambo



Contributions for the week of
Dec. 12-17

Weekly Contribution: \$9525

CHURCH RENOVATIONS

We will be having second collections the months of December to raise money to pay for the renovations to our church building. In your church envelope packets are envelopes labeled **Building Fund**. Use those envelopes to help fund our renovations. There are extra envelopes at the entrance of the church.

AS OF December 17: WE HAVE COLLECTED
\$119,932

To subscribe

1. Visit FORMED.org
2. Click Sign Up
3. Select "Sign Up As A Parishioner"
4. Find **St Jerome Catholic Church** by parish name, address, or zip code
5. Enter your email - and you're in!



By now you have all the gifts bought, (maybe not paid for), wrapped and under the beautifully decorated tree. For sure all the Christmas cards are in the mail. You have set aside time for spiritual growth in Advent. Okay, maybe this is not you and you have some details to finish. Here is a resource with four short videos, they will help quiet the stress for a few minutes. Just click on the Advent tab at the top of the home page at Formed.com and you will find it and many other choices.

Advent: Word Studies | The Bible Project

Catholics have long observed the Advent season by meditating on peace, hope, joy, and love. Study these rich biblical words with the Bible Project's Advent series.

EUCHARIST ADORATION CHAPEL

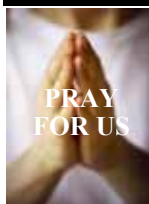
Advent is a perfect time to add an hour of Adoration to your weekly prayers. Please stop in for a visit with Jesus in the Eucharist. The Adoration Chapel is open 8 am Monday through 6 pm Thursday. A PERMANENT ADORER IS NEEDED Thursday at 4 pm. If you could help with this hour, or if you have questions, please call Lorraine at 651-772-2997.



LOW GLUTEN HOSTS



If you need low gluten hosts, please tell an usher at least 10 min before mass starts so that the priest can be told.



Fr. Cletus Basekela, Patricia Cokley, Gayl Chrysler, Cathy & Don Deiman, Kirk Duellman, Nora Ettl, Karen Geretschlaeger, Sr. Clarice Gierzak, Mary Gross, Clarice Holthaus, Sharon Heffernan, David Hendricks, Janis Horski, Patricia Johnson, Richard (Les) Johnson, Kevin Jones, Eugene Kaufhold, Lily Kehler, Von Kern, John & Linda Kostohryz, Mary Laumeyer, Steve Lauinger, Andrew Lenze, Morgan Lenze, Fr. Ken Ludescher, Nancy Masson, Vern & Dorothy Mayer, Patrick McGuigan, Chad McLellan, Brian Michalitsch, Nancy Miller, Nolan Mullaney, Greg Negard, Marlyss Petersen, Enrico Pirri, Shannon Presler, Terri Quitter, Patrick Roth, Rick Peiffer, Theresa Richardson, Cynthia & David Schluender, John Schluender, Michelle Schoenecker, Don Schwantes, Mike Spangenberg, Craig Steineck, Lori Storla, Joyce Theilhorn, Greg Votel, Danica Weller, Jim & Evelyn Wendt, Beverly Wermus, Eric Witzel, Kevin Yackel

PRAY FOR OUR SERVICE
MEN AND WOMEN



Jack Butler
Grace Wegleitner
Eric Dickson