

St. Jerome Catholic Church- Pastoral Ministries

116 Denbigh Blvd., Newport News, VA 23608



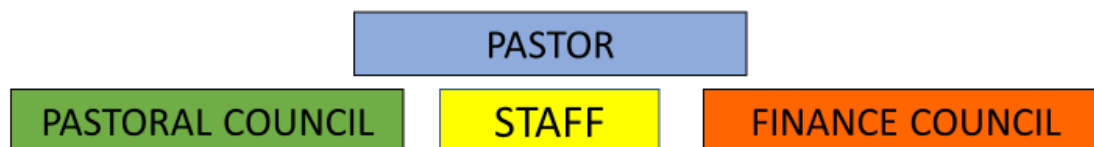
Since the Lord calls each of us to stewardship, we invite you to find one or more [ministries](#) that speak to your volunteer spirit and that you consider serving a minimum of one year, unless the ministry indicates otherwise.

“Do the will of God from your heart, giving your service with goodwill as to the Lord rather than human beings.”- Ephesians 6:7

Updated Apr 2024

PASTORAL MINISTRY
ST. JEROME CATHOLIC CHURCH

"I have come to serve, not to be served." Matthew 20:28



MINISTRIES AND SERVANT LEADERS

LITURGY AND WORSHIP

Servant Leader: Ivy D. Lee Pastoral Representative:

CHRISTIAN FORMATION AND EVANGELIZATION

Servant Leader: Margie Curtis Pastoral Representative:

SOCIAL APOSTOLATE (JUSTICE AND PEACE)

Servant Leader: Regina Asaro Pastoral Representative:

FELLOWSHIP, HOSPITALITY, AND COMMUNITY LIFE

Servant Leader: Carrol Kelley Pastoral Representative:

YOUTH APOSTOLATE

Servant Leader: Margie Curtis Pastoral Representative:

STEWARDSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT

Servant Leader: Joseph Petro, Jackie Kronstain Pastoral Representative:

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE

Servant Leader: Margie Curtis Pastoral Representative:

SOCIAL AND PASTORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Servant Leader: Andrew Buckles Pastoral Representative:

VOCATION AND SPIRITUAL LIFE

Servant Leader: Deacon Eric Palm & Denise Palm Pastoral Representative:

ETHNIC MINISTRY

Servant Leader: New Pastoral Representative:

TEMPORALITIES (Care for Environment/Renovations)

Servant Leader: Davis Chase, Patrick Foxe, James Suer Pastoral Representative:



Pastor's Message

A Ministry with a heart....

"If any of you need wisdom, you should ask God and it will be given to you." **James 1:5.**

Ministry matters, the precious time and talents that we share are perfect gifts we can offer back to God for enabling us with talents for service. Being aware of these capacities, we become empowered to realize that it is God who qualifies us amidst our human imperfections. For this reason, the ministry that we share is a sign of God's gentle reminder that He is gradually preparing for a sacred journey called ministry.

Now is the moment to again flourish in the new horizon of our pastoral life as a community at St. Jerome. We are filled with hope to explore new possibilities to become faithful stewards of God's creation. Let us not be afraid to walk into the waters with Jesus calling us! Though how strong the winds will be, Jesus is there waiting and with hope we can make it through.

Let us therefore be grateful to God for calling us into the ministry of service. When we put ourselves to sacred work, we become transformed and will possess the heart of Jesus. Love, holiness and ministry, may all these three be ours as we serve HIM!

One with you,
Father George Prado

Father George Prado, Pastor

Mass Schedule

Saturday: 5:00 PM
 Sunday: 8:00 AM, 11:00 AM
 Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday: 8:00 AM
 Wednesday: 6:30 AM
 Holy Days as announced
 Confessions: 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM on Saturday or by appointment
 Prayer of the Rosary before 5:00 PM and 11:00 AM Masses

Additional Liturgical Information

Baptism class is offered on the last weekend of the month, call the office to schedule.

Adoration of the Blessed Eucharist is the first Thursday of the month from 8:30 AM - 6:30 PM

August 2024: We will begin a 24 hour adoration on the first Thursday from 8:30 a.m. Thursday through 8:00 a.m. Friday.

Office Staff

Rev. George Prado	Pastor	frgeorge@stjeromennva.org
Deacon Eric "Grimm" Palm	Deacon	deacon@stjeromennva.org
Margaret "Margie" Curtis	Director of Religious Education/ Youth Minister	margie@stjeromennva.org
Patricia Van Hee	Music Minister	pvanhee@stjeromennva.org
Andrew Buckles	Bookkeeper	abuckles@stjeromennva.org
Lenny Woynicz	Janitor	n/a
Charlita Russet	Janitor	n/a
Jim Suer	Maintenance Technician	jsuer@stjeromennva.org

Prayer of St. Jerome Catholic Church Community

My Church is composed of people like me.
I help make it what it is.

It will be friendly, if I am.
Its pew will be filled, if I help fill them,
It will do great work, if I work.

It will make generous gifts to many causes,
If I am a generous giver.
It will bring other people into its worship and fellowship,
If I invite and bring them in.

It will be a Church of loyalty and love,
Of fearlessness and faith,
If I, who make it what it is,
Am filled with these qualities.

Therefore, with the help of God,
I shall dedicate myself
To the task of being all the things
that I want my Church to be.

Bless my journey, Lord God,
That I might build the Church through
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

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PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

The Parish Pastoral Council consists of twelve nominated members from the registered parishioners who have completed a discernment process, and a youth member that is appointed, the pastor and deacon. The Parish Pastoral Council is the structure through which parishioners can participate in searching out God's vision for the parish. Continuously, the council is called to discern, to articulate and to sponsor ministries devoted to developing the unique personality of the parish as it evolves in fulfilling our mission statement. Finally, this visionary body serves in an advisory capacity to the Pastor.

Commitment: Mandatory 3 years: Must be a registered member of the parish, who is in good standing; and to agree to the following: have name placed in nomination or may nominate yourself; attend scheduled orientation and discernment process; attend Pastoral Council Retreat; attend monthly council meetings at 6:30pm on the third Thursday of each month; and be visible by attending parish activities as often as possible.

Skills: Active listener, good communication skills, ability to accept different viewpoints, can work well with a diverse group, willingness to learn, possess at least one of the gifts of the Lord and a sense of humor.

Gifts: administration, ability to delegate, leadership, communicate well with a diverse group, discernment, generous with time and talents.

Number needed: 12 discerned, 1 appointed, the pastor and the deacon. 15 members.

“Do not grow weary of doing what is right.”-2 Thessalonians 3:13

Essential Characteristics of a Parish Pastoral Council

1. A parish council is advisory to the Pastor. Members of the council strive to bring the voices, needs and concern of the entire faith community to its work. Under the leadership of their pastor, they work in concert with one another to serve the needs of the whole parish.

2. A parish council is prayerful. A council is not simply a group of people who pray together, but a group who prays in order to discern the will of God for the parish community. A portion of each parish council meeting should be set aside for quality prayer and formation. Prayer and formation take place within the parish council meetings and at retreats or days of reflection.

3. A parish council is pastoral. Through Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist all Christians are called to be Christ in the world. The parish council tries to provide appropriate resources and methods to serve the people of the parish as they engage in the mission of the Church.

4. A parish council is representative. Each council member endeavors to listen to parishioners and then faithfully present their concerns, ideas and questions to the parish council. The parish council is a representative body rather than a body of representatives. The council strives to represent varied aspects of the parish life so that faith needs are met.

5. A parish council is discerning. The council functions in an atmosphere of prayer and openness to the Holy Spirit in order to become and remain grounded in faith and responsive to the Church's mission. Trusting in the power of the Holy Spirit, council members set aside their individual opinions and prejudices and listen to one another and to other parishioners.

6. A parish council is prophetic. The parish council must have the courage and foresight to set the direction for the parish community, challenging the parish to grow in response to the gospel. Council members should read the signs of the times and interpret the path the parish should follow on its faith journey, communicating this forthrightly to the pastor. The pastor for his part should respond and not ignore the advice.

7. A parish council is enabling. The council endeavors to foster the faith growth of individual Catholics of the parish and the broader community.

8. A parish council is collaborative. The parish council challenges its members, the parish staff, committees, organizations and other groups in the parish to work together. A clear, common understanding of the parish's mission fosters collaborative actions. All parishes must seek ways to collaborate with the diocese, other parishes in their cluster or LPA, their community organizations, and their congregations for the common good of the broader Church.

FINANCE COUNCIL

The Parish Finance Council shall consist of at least 5 members of the parish community. The members are to be selected for their expertise in financial matters, economics,

general business management, banking, law, insurance, accounting and financial investment. In addition, members are to have prudence, uprightness and knowledge of the Catholic faith that will enable them to put into practice the message of the Gospel. No parish staff person, paid or volunteer, may serve on the Parish Finance Council. Parish administrative persons should serve as advisors to help the Finance Council accomplish its work. Excluded from the Parish Finance Council are those who are related to the pastor or have a family or legal relationship to a parish employee engaged in financial administration. The Parish Finance Council shall assess the need for external consultants to aid in the Council's work and advise the pastor to engage them

Commitment: At least 3 years, but it is not mandatory. Must be a member of our parish and in good standing. And they will be selected by our pastor according to the norms of law (C. 537). The members selected should be conscious they share in the mission God has entrusted to the church (C. 204). They hold an ecclesiastical office, they should be in full communion with the Catholic Church (C.145, #2; 149;205;228; and 1282). Members will need to attend regular monthly meetings as well as to be flexible and attend meetings that may arise due to any unforeseen circumstances.

Skills: Active listener, good communication skills, able to work with a diverse group, assertive. Expertise in financial matters, economics, general business management, banking, law, insurance, accounting and financial investments.

Gifts: Ability to delegate, be an effective leader, generous with time and talents.

Number needed: At least 5.

LITURGY and WORSHIP MINISTRY

Members of the Liturgy Committee are the staff members and/or Chairs of the ministries that appear below. The Liturgy Committee plans, prepares, implements, evaluates, and educates about all aspects of the liturgy in order to promote more reverence and meaning in the spiritual life of our parish. The Liturgy Committee works to enhance and enrich the worship experiences of our parish, whether the focus is the regular Masses, the Liturgical Seasons, Reconciliation Services,

Anointing of the Sick, or the various Holy Days of Obligations. The Liturgist Chair appointed by the pastor will chair the Liturgy Committee.

Altar Guild/Linens:

This group of volunteers takes extraordinary care of the altar linens, vestments, and other appointments that the priest uses in Sacred Liturgy .

Altar Servers:

The Altar Servers will assist at all of the weekend Masses (Saturday at 5:00pm, Sunday at 7:00am, 9:00am and 12:00pm). The Altar Servers will also assist the Pastor at funerals, weddings, and Special Liturgies.

Arts and Environment Committee:

This committee coordinates and executes the plans for decorating the Church in such a way that the environment reinforces and communicates the liturgical tone of the season. Additionally, the committee has the responsibility of preparing the Blessed Sacrament Chapel for special feast days, Expositions, and Marian observances.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (to include homebound, nursing homes, and hospitals):

These members assist the Celebrant by preparing the bread and wine for distribution of the Eucharist in both forms (hosts and cup). EMHCs that serve to the homebound, nursing homes and hospitals maintain a vital connection between parishioners no longer able to be present for Mass. They pray with them and give them communion.

Lectors:

Our lectors proclaim the Word of God from both the Old and New Testaments. They are responsible to prepare to proclaim the Word of God by reviewing and practicing their assigned readings to be clear about the texts' meaning and to be as accurate as possible about pronunciations and appropriate cadence.

Music Ministry/Adult Choir:

This ministry provides the parishioners with resounding vocal support in every phase of the Liturgy.

Greeters:

This ministry is one of hospitality, where we welcome arriving parishioners and visitors with a warm "Welcome" or "Good Morning/Afternoon", as we create an atmosphere of friendliness and inclusion.

Ushers:

These volunteers assist with the seating of the people at the various Masses. They carry and pass the collection baskets during the appropriate time(s) during Mass. They also assist with the efficient flow of traffic during communion. Following each Mass, the ushers refresh the Church for the next Mass.

Christian Formation & Evangelization

Integral to growth and life of a parish is its dedication to Christian Formation. St. Jerome is no exception. Therefore, the church has developed a variety of religious education programs that require volunteerism at the highest level. For instance, this ministry needs volunteer assistants and teachers to continue our sacramental preparation classes: baptism, preschool, confirmation, elementary, Edge (middle school), Life Teen (high school), the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA), Rite of Christian Initiation of Children (RCIC), and marriage prep. Additionally, we have weekly Bible studies. These adult faith formation programs help to facilitate the spiritual growth of our parishioners. At the same time, the programs serve as stepping stones that lead the participants to answer

the Father's call to holiness and eternal life. The Christian Formation group offers workshops, seminars, retreats, and other activities that will both strengthen and shape the liturgical life of the parish.

Knights of Columbus:

The Knights of Columbus is a Catholic, Fraternal, Social, and Charitable organization founded in 1882 by Fr. Michael McGivney in New Haven, Connecticut. Today, over 1.6 million men throughout the world are members. They and their families are the foundation of the Catholic Church. There are four degrees in the order, representing virtues of charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism. The Knights of Columbus, the world's largest Catholic family fraternal service organization, provides members and their families with volunteer opportunities in service to the Catholic Church, their communities, families and young people. Our Local Council is Walter Pollard Council 5480.

St. Monica's Group

A group that meets to pray for the return of those that have fallen away from the church. These individuals meet every Monday at 5:00 p.m.

Seven Sisters Apostolate

A call to strengthen the Church by ensuring that a Holy Hour is prayed each day of the week for the sole intention of a specific priest or bishop. Each woman participating is assigned a day of the week to spend an hour in prayer for our parish priest.

Men's Group

A time for men to come together and share, discuss and grow in their faith with other men. This group meets once a month on the second Wednesday for discussion, socialization and growth.

Mom and Me

A time for mom's and their little ones to get together once a month. The moms get a chance to share and grow in their faith with other moms, and the little ones get a chance to meet and play with children their age. They meet once a month on the third Monday at 9:30 a.m.

Social Apostolate (Justice and Peace Ministry)

This committee comprises all the ministries that appear below, and keeps the parishioners aware of local, national and international social issues that need our attention. They also provide a forum for the parishioners to participate in Justice and Peace issues and special events like Lenten projects during Lent and Backpack preparation in August. These numerous outreach ministries enable the parish to extend the love of Christ to our parishioners and the community at large.

Bereavement Care Services:

This therapeutic ministry provides an environment where the persons who have suffered a loss or losses can have their feelings validated and supported. These sessions enable

the bereaved to reflect on their loss as they move toward healing, growth, and well-being. Further, the ministry encourages participants to use existing support systems or to seek and to create additional sources of support to meet their individual needs.

Funeral Preparation Ministry:

This ministry requires that the Chair meet with families to help plan the funeral Mass for their loved ones. The Chair provides the priest with the background information of the deceased. Coordination with the music Minister, Lector, and the Extraordinary Ministers is vital for providing support to the families before, during, and after the service.

Funeral Reception Ministry:

This invaluable group plans, prepares, and coordinates the necessary food to serve to the bereaved family and those attending the funeral. Additionally, they decorate the Fellowship Hall, layout the food and table necessities, monitor the movement of people and food in order to serve everyone in as efficient a manner as possible.

Card Ministry:

This ministry focuses on sending prayers and thoughts to the newly sick parishioners. Cards are sent via mail to the address given to the church for the person that is sick. Parishioners call the church office to request this service.

Christmas Gift Ministry:

This ministry focuses on children in our community that are less fortunate. We have a budget set aside and volunteers are active mainly during the November/December months. Gifts are purchased and distributed to the children in time for Christmas.

Food Pantry:

This is a ministry in which parishioners donate food and food items to our Food Pantry. Susan Yungbluth runs the pantry at St. Jerome and may be contacted through the church office.

Fellowship, Hospitality, and Community Life Ministry

Creating an atmosphere of friendliness and belonging is crucial for a parish to survive and grow; therefore, our Fellowship Ministry works closely with our key ministries at St. Jerome to ensure that everyone feels welcome. Additionally, they assist with the Parish Picnic sponsored by our Pastoral Council. Other Church wide activities include special receptions, seasonal dinners, and so forth.

Faith Community Nurse/Parish Nurse Ministry (FCN/PN):

Nursing promotes an intentional health ministry for individuals in their faith community from birth through death. A FCN/PN is a registered nurse (RN) who has completed a course in holistic ministry and who provides special health promotion services to help individuals in gaining optimal mental, physical and spiritual health.

Gardens at Warwick Forest Ministry:

Volunteers in this ministry must enjoy working with the elderly who need special attention. Monthly Mass and monthly Bingo are provided for the residents, who eagerly anticipate both events. Bingo prizes are donated by parishioners and supplemented as needed by the church.

Legislative Advocacy:

This ministry is a crucial initiative of the Justice and Peace Committee. Through information received from the Diocese of Richmond and the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops, these knowledgeable volunteers attempt to keep parishioners aware of important legislative action and issues that may impact the quality of life of all, especially parishioners

Respect for Life (Pro-Life Ministry):

Central to the Catechism of the Catholic Church is the Church's teaching on the dignity of the human person and the culture of life. This group unwaveringly supports the pro-life stand that our community, our society and our government must support life from conception to the grave.

PORT:

People Offering Resources Together is a ministry that our parish participates in throughout the winter nights. The church operates like a shelter for the homeless for a week at a time. There are 6 partner churches that staff and prepare meals.

FISH:

Friends In Service Here is a ministry that may provide financial assistance to those in need. The chairperson is responsible for interviewing those that are requesting assistance and meeting with several of the office staff to decide how we can best serve the needs of those that have been interviewed. There is paperwork that we require and a budget that we must adhere to.

Youth Apostolate

Integral to growth and life of a parish is its dedication to Christian Formation. St. Jerome has developed a variety of youth religious education programs that require volunteerism at the highest level. This individual would be responsible for building and nurturing relationships with the youth by attending school and sports events when possible. They would coordinate and/or participate in annual activities with the youth, such as Steubenville, Mission Trip, Lock-ins, Catholic Mass at Bush Gardens, summer activities and

Catechists

Volunteers consisting of adults, young adults and high schoolers to work with elementary aged children to help them learn and grow in their faith. All volunteers are required to receive and maintain Virtus training through the Richmond Diocese.

Edge and Teen Life Catechists

Volunteers consisting of adults and young adults to work with middle and high school aged youth to help them learn and grow in their faith. All volunteers are required to receive and maintain Virtus training through the Richmond Diocese.

Young Adult Ministry

Consists of Catholics between the ages of 18 and 35 to keep them active and “tuned in” to their faith. Currently there is a Young Adult Book Club that meets once a month on the third Sunday.

Children’s Liturgy

This takes place during the Sunday 9:00 a.m. Mass for children ages 3-6. Two or three adults each week would go out with the children during the readings to share the readings at their level. There are normally 3 or 4 teams of adults to rotate Sundays.

Vacation Bible School

The focus of VBS is for elementary aged children. Volunteers consisting of adults, young adults and middle and high school students are needed to lead small groups in activities based on the theme for the year. Vacation Bible School normally takes place for 1 week in the summer, usually late July or early August.

Stewardship and Development

Church Cleaning Ministry:

Volunteers come and clean the church and entrance areas each Saturday morning. Tasks include vacuuming, dusting, window washing, and general tidying up; no experience necessary, just come with a willing heart! Explore how little time is involved and experience how the Lord blesses when we serve.

Gardening Angels:

This team of parishioners commit themselves to enhancing the appearance of the landscaped areas of our Church grounds. Their hope is to promote healing of the human soul, to aid us in experiencing God through the beauty and wonder of nature. Also, the Gardening Angels hope that their landscaping renewal will evoke awe, reverence, and inner fulfillment for everyone in the parish, as well as all who visit.

Nursery:

Our nursery enables parish families to attend Mass on Sundays, which gives them the opportunity for spiritual growth while leaving their child in a caring and loving environment. Child Care is provided Sunday mornings for infants at least 6 months old (typically mobile infants) until the child reaches kindergarten age. For programs outside Sunday mornings, nursery care might extend through elementary age children. Parents who use the nursery on Sundays are asked to volunteer their services so that we can have a successful child care center.

Office Volunteers:

Volunteers report to the office to help with various office responsibilities, such as bulk mailings, inserting flyers into the bulletin, and so forth.

Columbaria Trustee Ministry:

In keeping with the spiritual and practical changes within the church, St. Jerome has organized a Columbaria Committee. This committee will maintain the columbarium program. The cost of sites/niches is also part of the current project, as well as any other assigned responsibilities.

Marriage and Family Life

St. Jerome offers Sacramental Preparation classes to individuals and families that desire them. The various classes have their own facilitator and scheduled times. Anyone seeking a class please contact the church office.

Small Church Communities

Family Mission Trip/Service Days Ministry

Social and Pastor Communications Ministry

Ministry responsible for ensuring communication of St Jerome mission and vision as well as Pastoral communications. The pastor oversees all communications the church sends out.

Website Management: *Point of Contact - Andrew Buckles in the office.
abuckles@stjeromennva.org*

Church Bulletin: *Point of Contact - Andrew Buckles in the office.
abuckles@stjeromennva.org*

Vocation and Spiritual Life Ministry

Creating a culture of vocations in St Jerome's Community. Vocation Ministry education to create effective, hands-on, easy-to-implement resources to foster the promotion of vocations in the parish and in families.

Ethnic Ministry

The Ethnic Ministry is the pastoral chief advisor on ethnic communities, ethnic diversity and the inclusion of ethnic communities in the St Jerome community. Ethnic communities make a huge contribution to our economic and social fabric. This ministry looks at events and social interactions to celebrate diversity in our parish.

Temporalities Ministry

Advisory Committee appointed by the Pastor to assist with environment, maintenance, and renovation of the Parish plant facilities.

When a capital improvement such as remodeling, rebuilding or renovation is needed for the church, the pastor convenes an advisory committee of active members of the parish ministries to serve on the renovation committee. Their work spans the entire project from feasibility to completion.

Environment

Maintenance

Renovations
