

ST. JEROMES, HYATTSVILLE



Please remember in your prayers, the sick and the shut-ins of our parish community, especially...Muriel Adams, Sheila Armentrout, Johnnie Aquilino, Daniel Birch, Liz Burdick, Betty Cahill, Esther Carboni, Carol Colliere, Margaret

Crandall, Frances DeStefano, Paul Emmons, Martha Farnie, Margaret Federighi, Ruth Frazier, Frances Gray, Tony Green, Eileen Harrington,, Charlotte Houston, Elinor Jackson, Larry Jackson, , Rita Kline, Joseph Lipovsky, Larry Lorditch, Linda Lorditch, James McMahon Carol Mills,, Alice Moran, Nita Mullins, Chris Needham, Marie Needham, Wilbert Noel, Maria Olquin, Rita O'Dea, Carla O'Mara, Thomas O'Mara, Sarah Proctor, Peter Randall, Alan Richwald, Sister Germana, Brandon Joseph Romaine, Robert Schultz, Jenny Stepanek, Mary Temarantz, Brooke Wanex, Vickie Whalen-Romaine and family, Tony Zangla, and those known to you alone, those confined to hospitals and nursing homes, those suffering with cancer or depression, that they may know the Father's love through other's care and prayer. If you wish to be included on this prayer list, please call the Rectory (301/927-6684). To remove your name from this prayer list once you are on the mend, call the Rectory with the Good News!

WEEK OF

DECEMBER 24 – DECEMBER 30, 2007

Mass  for the Intentions  for the Week

MONDAY:

8:00 A.M. Sr. Helen Dych, SND
 12:00 p.m.
 4:30 p.m. Eugene Herbert
 7:30 p.m. Special Intention
 Midnight For the people of St. Jerome's Parish

TUESDAY:

8:00 A.M. Margaret Dee
 11:00 a.m. Loretta Bevington

WEDNESDAY:

8:00 A.M. Patrick Sullivan
 12:00 p.m. Joe Heidenberg

THURSDAY:

8:00 A.M. Thomas Haley
 12:00 p.m. Edward Koch

FRIDAY:

8:00 A.M. Mary Kiefer
 12:00 p.m. William O'Dea

SATURDAY:

8:00 A.M. Alfred Smith
 4:30 P.M. Colleen Roulit Baron

SUNDAY:

7:30 A.M. Joseph Heidenberg
 9:30 A.M. Jim Gambino
 11:30 A.M. For the people of St. Jerome

Readings for the Week of December 23, 2007

Sunday: Is 7:10-14/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24
 Monday: Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Lk 1:67-79
 Tuesday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25
 or 1:18-25
 Midnight: Is 9:1-6/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14
 Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20
 Day: Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18
 or 1:1-5, 9-14
 Wednesday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Mt 10:17-22
 Thursday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
 Friday: 1 Jn 1:5-2:2/Mt 2:13-18
 Saturday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Lk 2:22-35
 Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Col 3:12-21
 or 3:12-17/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

CELEBRANT'S SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2007

4:30 P.M. Music Ministry Father Jim Stack

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2007

7:30 A.M. Father Jim Stack

9:30 A.M. Folk Group Father Jim Stack

11:30 A.M. Choir Father Jim Stack



Behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you

are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." - Mt 1:20-21

Problems? Worries? Concerns?

Bring them to Jesus and Leave them at St. Jerome's Church – open all day for Eucharistic Adoration every Friday until 4:30 p.m. Stop in for a visit to the God of Power and might and bring your children too. There is the 8:00 morning Mass followed by a Holy Hour of Prayer. The day ends with Evening Prayer and Benediction at 4:30 p.m. You can stop for a short visit or longer. Teach your children the greatest power on earth – the power of Prayer

The kingdom of heaven is at hand...heal the sick."

Matthew 10:7

Healing Mass

Sunday, January 6th at 4:00 p.m.

St. Jerome's Church Father Jim Stack, Celebrant
 Levels of Healing – Physical, Spiritual, Emotional, Psychological, Relational. In addition to the regular Sunday Liturgy, there will be laying on of hands and anointing after Communion.

"...only say the word and I shall be healed."

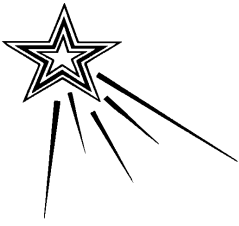
I have made the statement over the years that I will be available after Mass for anyone who would like to be prayed over for inner healing or prayer of any type. I have asked that you call on me if you need God's healing presence in your life. As the Mass takes place at St. Jerome's, I will need the support of your prayers so the Holy Spirit will work through my hands and bring His healing graces to us all. –Father Jim

Mass for Peace is celebrated each 1st Friday of the Month at Holy Redeemer Church in College Park at 7:30 p.m. This Mass will continue until our Troops are out of Iraq.

150th Jubilee Apparition of Our Lady of Lourdes

The faithful of the Archdiocese of Washington are invited to commemorate the 150th Jubilee of the Apparition of Our Lady of Lourdes, which will occur on February 11, 2008. Through the graciousness of the Holy See, parishioners who visit one of the 11 Archdiocesan pilgrimage churches before or on February 11, 2008 and fulfill certain conditions will have the opportunity to receive a plenary indulgence. For more information, go to www.adw.org.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Jesus is Coming!

'Twas the night Jesus came
and all through the house,
Not a person was praying,
not one in the house.
The Bible was left
on the shelf without care,

For no one thought Jesus would come there.
The children were dressing to crawl into bed.
Not once ever kneeling or bowing their head.
And Mom in the rocking chair with babe on her lap,
Was watching the Late Show as I took a nap.
When out of the east there rose such a clatter,
I sprang to my feet to see what was the matter?
Away to the window I flew like a flash,
Tore open the shutters and lifted the sash.
When what to my wondering eyes should appear,
But Angels proclaiming that Jesus was here.
The light of His face made me cover my head
Was Jesus returning just like He'd said?
And though I possessed worldly wisdom and wealth,
I cried when I saw Him in spite of myself.
In the Book of Life which He held in His hand,
Was written the name of every saved man.
He spoke not a word as He searched for my name,
When He said "it's not here,"
my head hung in shame.
The people whose names had been written with love,
He gathered to take to His Father above.
With those who were ready He rose without sound,
While all of the others were left standing around.
I fell to my knees but it was too late.
I'd waited too long and thus sealed my fate.
I stood and I cried as they rose out of sight,
Oh, if only I'd known that this was the night!
In the words of this poem the meaning is clear,
The coming of Jesus is now drawing near.
There's only one life and when comes the last call,
We'll find out that the Bible was true after all...

B – basic
I – Instruction
B – before
L – leaving
E – Earth.

(Philippians 4:13)

"In Him who is the source of my strength I have strength for everything."

Peace – Father Jim



ST. JEROME'S GIVING TREE

We thank those of you who have taken an ornament from the tree in the vestibule of the Church. If you forgot to bring your gift this Sunday, please drop it by the Rectory office this week. If you see any ornaments left on the tree, please help us help those in need. May our Infant Savior bless each one of you for your kindness.



Christmas Schedule of Activities for Monday, Christmas Eve:

Confessions: 10 am to 11 am & 1–2 p.m.

Christmas Eve Masses will be at

4:30 p.m.: Children's Liturgy;

7:30 p.m. and

12:00 Midnight

(doors open at 11:30 p.m.)

Masses on Christmas Day will be at 8 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.



Christmas TV Mass

If you know someone who is homebound, invite him or her to share in the Christmas liturgy through a special Christmas TV Mass. The Mass will air on Christmas Day on WHUT Channel 32, 11:00 a.m.-noon and in St. Mary's County, on cable channel 10, 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. If you are homebound and would like to receive a free newsletter for our TV Mass viewers or need a Sunday missal, please contact Krystyn Schmerbeck at the Archdiocese of Washington's Office of Communications at 301-853-4517.

Rally for Life and Youth Mass

The Archdiocese of Washington will host the annual Rally for Life and Youth Mass on Tuesday, January 22, 8:45 a.m.-11:30 a.m. at the Verizon Center. Doors open at 7:00 a.m.; opportunities for Confession begin at 8:00 a.m. and a rally featuring popular Catholic recording artists is at 8:45 a.m. Mass begins at 10:00 a.m. Admission is free. Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. Please allow extra time for security (only small backpacks are allowed inside). The program will end in time for the March for Life. For more information, call the Archdiocese of Washington Life Issues Department at 301-853-4555.

Men's Vocation Retreat: February 1-3, 2008

Archbishop Wuerl is sponsoring a retreat for men in their 20's-40's who are considering a call to the priesthood at Theological College, Friday evening, Feb. 1 to noon on Sunday, Feb. 3. The retreat will allow men time away from the daily grind and provide an opportunity for prayer and reflection to examine God's call. If you feel Jesus may be calling you, why not give Him a weekend? It will cost you nothing more than your time. To register or for more information, contact Msgr. Rob Panke, Director of Priest Vocations, at 301-853-4580 or vocations@adw.org

Choose Life

"He became a child, so that the word could be grasped by us. In this way God teaches us to love the little ones. In this way he teaches us to love the weak. In this way he teaches us respect for children. The child of Bethlehem directs our gaze towards all children who suffer and are abused in the world, the born and the unborn. Towards children who are placed as soldiers in a violent world; towards children who have to beg; towards children who suffer deprivation and hunger; towards children who are unloved. In all of these it is the Child of Bethlehem who is crying out to us; it is the God who has become small who appeals to us. Let us pray this night that the brightness of God's love may enfold all these children. Let us ask God to help us do our part so that the dignity of children may be respected."

--Pope Benedict XVI, Homily, Midnight Mass, Christmas 2006

ST. JEROME'S SCHOOL NEWS

REMINDER: School accounts must be kept current in order for us to maintain our budget! Tuition accounts are due on the first of each month and payable in the Rectory office (across the street from the school)

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2007

December 24: Christmas Eve Children's Liturgy, 4:30 p.m.
December 24-31, Christmas Vacation.

Classes resume after Christmas on January 3, 2008

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2008

January 3 – Classes resume
January 7: Elementary School Tuition Assistance Applications are
Online at: <http://www.adw.org/education/assistance.asp>
January 11: End of 2nd Quarter
January 14: Parents Meeting for First Penance & First Communion
January 16: Report Cards Distributed
January 21: Martin Luther King Remembrance, No Classes
January 22: MARCH FOR LIFE
January 27: Catholic Schools Week Liturgy, 9:30 a.m. Church
January 28: Catholic Schools Week
February 2: MARDI GRAS! 6PM to 12:00 Midnight!
February 4: First Confessions, 7:15 p.m., Grade 2 and CCD
February 6: Ash Wednesday, Liturgy 9 a.m.
February 11: Confessions, Grade 3-8
February 12: Progress Reports, #3
February 18: Presidents Day, No Classes
February 19: Acre Testing, Grades 6 and 8

Child Protection in the Archdiocese of Washington

Child protection is a priority of the Archdiocese of Washington, which has the most comprehensive child protection policies in the nation. This policy calls for prevention, quick response, and pastoral care. **All employees and volunteers who have substantial contact with children must attend child protection workshops and undergo a criminal background check, and those who suspect child abuse must report it to the authorities.** The policy (in English and Spanish), workshop schedules and reporting, fingerprinting and other information are available online at www.adw.org. (click on "Protecting Our Children"), and from your parish office and parish school principal. Anyone who has experienced harm from a person working or volunteering for a Church entity is encouraged to report this to the authorities and to contact the Archdiocesan Director of Child Protection Services, Ms. Marcia Zvara, 301-853-5328, so we may provide assistance.

DID YOU KNOW

Grocery certificates are available after Mass each Sunday and weekdays at the Rectory Office during regular business hours. These Certificates earn money for our church and school at no cost to you! The parish earns 5% profit for each one you buy! If 400 families bought \$20.00 each week at a 5% profit this would equal \$400.00 total profit per week or \$20,800 total profit per year! Fifty dollars per week would earn \$52,000. for one year! Buying certificates is an easy habit to start, and a great way to help generate needed funds for the parish! Thanks!

Visit the **NEW Catholic Standard and ElPregonero** websites! Informative, interactive, exciting and fun! Log on to www.cathstan.org or www.elpreg.org to get started. It's all available online!

PARISH NEWS

WELCOME the newest members of our parish family who have recently registered at St. Jerome's! Mr. & Mrs. Prosper Dondasse, Mr. & Mrs. Matthew McKnight, Mr. Michael Murray, Mr. & Mrs. Michael Lueken, Mrs. Kristi A. Yarnell, Mr. Peter Boccardi, Mrs. Macarena Cantelas, Mr. & Mrs. Michael Campbell, Mr & Mrs. Seaver Warner.

WELCOME VISITORS

Help to make the parish a more evangelizing community of faith! Welcoming newcomers is important if we are to help people feel at home in our parishes. Greet those around you and introduce yourself to someone you haven't met before. Tell them you look forward to seeing them again next week and that you will be looking for them – and do it! Make someone feel at home! Chances are they will want to come back!

Heartfelt Thanks!

The Ladies of St. Jerome Boutique wish to thank everyone who participated in the Annual Raffle. The Christmas tablecloth was won by The Collins Family of this parish, and the Youth Quilt was won by Alice Kelly of Gabriells, Md. We thank you for your support and invite you to join us at our weekly sew-sew gathering after the first of the year.

St. Jerome's Café



The following items are needed for the Café: cans of tuna fish, spaghetti sauce, mac & cheese. Items may be left on the Outreach

Table in the vestibule of the Church or taken to the Rectory. Our sincere thanks for your generous donations to help those in need.

ALL IRISH NEED APPLY!

The Ancient Order of Hibernians, the largest and oldest Irish-Catholic Organization in the USA has Divisions meeting in the Archdiocese of Washington. If you are interested in your Irish-Catholic heritage, music, culture and are 16 or older, please consider joining us! For more information call George Rogers (301) 805-1775 for information on the Ladies AOH call Mary Corkery (301) 229-1451.

Retreat Opportunity for High School Boys

The Vocations Office of the Archdiocese of Washington is offering an opportunity for high school boys to attend the Mount 2008 retreat at Mount Saint Mary's University in Emmitsburg, MD, February 8-10. Cost is \$55 and registrations must be received by January 10. Mount 2008 is an annual Eucharistic-centered retreat designed for high school- and college-age Catholics. With the theme, "**Seek the Face of Christ**," Mount 2008 will encourage participants to come to know Jesus as a friend, and to encounter His love and mercy in prayer, the Word of God, and the Holy Sacraments of the Catholic Church. The speakers for this year's retreat include Fr. Peter Mitchell and Todd Lemieux. The Mount 2008 website is <http://mount2008.com/>. For more information and to register, contact Father Mark Smith, Associate Director of Vocations, at msmith@adwparish.org.



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CHURCH NAME: **ST. JEROMES**

CHURCH CITY: **HYATTSVILLE**

ROUTING CODE: **Y**

RUN NUMBER: **2**

FILENAME: **04-0937.04b**

PHONE NUMBER: **301-927-6684**

FAX NUMBER: **301-927-9167**

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CURRENT FORMAT: EBSWUN

Comments:
