

This week at St. James the Apostle

May 31, 2020
Open Hand Open Heart Open Mind

**Congratulations to our Brother Knights on the
5 awards received during the
118th Annual "Virtual" State Convention held on
May 16, 2020.**



****Faith Activities Awards Division 4****

1st Place - Our Lady of Fatima

****Culture of Life Activities Awards Division 4****

1st Place - Novena for Life

****Family Activities Awards Division 4****

5th Place

****Community Activities Awards Division 4****

6th Place

****Best Service Programs in State****

St. James the Apostle Council #14541

PENTECOST - BIRTHDAY OF THE CHURCH

The Church was born on the day of Pentecost,
The Apostles thought that everything was lost.
Afraid, they were hiding in the upper room,
Their hearts were heavy with deep sorrow and gloom.

Suddenly there appeared a sound from heaven-
Like a strong wind, and the whole house was shaken.
The apostles were covered with tongues of fire,
Filled by the Holy Spirit, they were on fire.

They spoke different tongues prompted by the Spirit,
Some mocked, "They're under the influence of the spirit!"
All were amazed at the change in the apostles,
Suddenly they became Jesus' brave soldiers.

The Holy Spirit blessed them with different gifts,
Everyone marveled at their gift of the gaps.
They boldly preached about Jesus of Nazareth,
Their fears gone, they spoke with supernatural strength.

The apostles spoke with faith and conviction,
People had their hearts burning for conversion.
The apostles worked many signs and wonders,
The Church grew fast beyond everyone's wonder.

The early Church was built on strong communion,
United in Christ, people had a mission.
They shared everything for common distribution,
And supported the Church by their contribution

Questions:

1. Which stanza reminds you of your experience in church?
2. Why are you motivated to come to church?
3. What can you do to deepen your connection with the Holy Spirit?

Reflections:

It is hard to believe that Christ founded the Church on the rustic men of Galilee who, while they were with Him, did not seem to possess any extra-ordinary qualities of leadership. As a matter of fact, upon the death of Jesus, this cowardly band of men almost gave up their hope in Jesus and many of them returned to fishing, the only profession they knew well. Jesus had assured them that He would not leave them as orphans, but that He would send them a Helper, the Holy Spirit. For more than two millennia, the church has had the same administrative structure, making it the longest standing institution in the world with such a history. For this reason alone, there can be no doubt the Church has been sustained and guided by the third Person of the Holy Trinity. Jesus entrusted the Church to Peter, the rock, without any backup plan. Since then, Peter has been succeeded by 266 popes. Our newly elected Pope Francis is the first non-European pope, hailing from Argentina, whose election was a great surprise to

many people worldwide. Jesus did not call the qualified; rather, He qualified the ones He called. Indeed He did qualify the apostles by empowering them with the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Pentecost was the turning point in their lives, when the Holy Spirit came down mightily upon them and anointed them for the mission with which Jesus had entrusted them. Each left behind a brilliant legacy

of faithfulness, commitment, and unflinching sacrifice for the cause of the Gospels. The Church has been strongly anchored by the blood of the apostles, and no power in the world can ever destroy it.

From its inception, the Church has been constantly attacked by every possible problem or schism. Look at the church today; she has been divided into numerous divisions and denominations. Each group claims to have a monopoly on Jesus. Several crusades have been fought in His Holy and Blessed name, with the participants committing outrageous acts as though they were somehow doing a favor for Him. Man, blinded by selfishness and arrogance, has repeatedly blasphemed and misused the name of Jesus. I am sure Jesus is having a good laugh, watching the enemies of the Church in their futile effort to destroy what He built. Shamefully many of the enemies of the church are operating from within its rank and file membership. We are aware of the scandals that the church witnessed in the recent past, which severely tarnished the name of the church and her faithful. Those with vested interests will always try to defame the church. The church has survived all kinds of storms and turmoil for more than two thousand years, but despite this will continue to remain a force for good in the world until the end of time, because the Holy Spirit is the Custodian of the church.

Until Pentecost, the apostles had been earthly bound, with ambitious plans and dreams for their lives. In their human frailty they had nearly given up hope that Jesus would establish a new kingdom here on earth, and were likewise unable to grasp the idea of a heavenly kingdom. Pentecost changed everything. With the descent of the Holy Spirit onto the Apostles, they were transformed into a band of spiritual men fully committed to the Gospels. They were blessed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and began to work signs in the name of Jesus. They spoke languages they had never learned and spoke in those languages so that everyone could understand their preaching. The previously cowardly men of Galilee were suddenly changed into powerful orators, defending the life and death of Jesus, whom the people had crucified. They preached the Gospel of conversion just as their Master Jesus had done when he began His ministry, inviting people to turn away from sin. Their words were deeply sincere, and their lives confirmed their words, motivating many to join them. Thousands of new members were quickly added to the church, which grew and spread through the world like wildfire. The early Christians were a very united community, and there were no divisions or rivalries among them. Jesus was the unifying force, and they found joy in their service of others. There was no place for competition. They experienced a sense of belonging and ownership with the church. They contributed to the church because each one realized that they were living stones in the church.

Over the years the church lost its initial fervor and enthusiasm. Personality conflicts and competitions replaced what used to be committed and dedicated ministries. In this process, Christ has been slowly sidelined, and many people have forgotten that Jesus is the only reason for their existence and life. The Church without Christ is a dead church. The Church is not an institution, but is the Mother, who nourishes and sustains her children. A college girl told a friend, "I believe in God, and I believe Jesus is God's Son, but I don't believe in the Church." Her friend said, "But that's impossible! You can't separate Jesus and the Church. Both are one just like Jesus and His Father are one. You cannot have God for your Father if you don't have the Church for your mother." It is important to believe that the church is each one of us. But we must choose whether to represent God's live church by acting according to His will, or to be our own dead church by acting

(Continued on page 3)



**MESSAGE FROM
FATHER ANTONY**



In collaboration with local Bay Area officials and in service to the common good of our communities and our country, the Diocese of Oakland has immediately suspended all public Masses until further notice. St. James will remain open to provide a place for prayers and solace for people from 8:00am - 1:00pm. Regularly scheduled meetings are listed in the calendar below, for information only. Please contact the Ministry leader for information.



PARISH CALENDAR

May 30 Mother's in Heaven Live Streaming 5:00pm
June 1 KofC Officer's Meeting 7:30pm
June 5 First Friday
June 8 St. Vincent de Paul Meeting 7:00pm
June 14 KofC Novena Prayer for the Unborn after 10am Mass
June 15 KofC Business Meeting 7:30pm
June 21 Father's Day
June 25 Bishop Begin Assembly 3546 Bus. Mtg 7:30pm
June 30 Pastoral Council 7:00pm
July 24 St. James Feast Day - Outdoor Mass
Aug 15-16 St. James Festival
Oct 16 International Rosary 7:00pm
Oct 17 Dinner Dance - Mother Teresa Center
Dec 13 Parish Christmas Party - Mother Teresa Center

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Monday-Saturday Mass: 8:30am
Saturday Mass: 5:00pm
Sunday Masses: 8:30am, 10:00am, 12:00noon
Rosary before Mass: Monday - Saturday 8:05am
 Saturday 4:30pm
 Wednesday 7:10pm
 Sunday 8:00am and 11:40am
 2nd Sunday 9:30am
Holy Days of Obligation: Masses 8:30am & 7:30pm
Confessions: Saturday 4:00pm or by appt.
 9:00 - 10:00am
Every Friday Adoration: 9:00 am-6:30pm
First Fridays: Adoration 6:30pm
 Sacred Heart Novena 7:15pm
 Benediction 7:30pm
 Healing Mass 7:30pm
Our Mother of Perpetual Help: Mass & Novena, Wednesdays, 7:30pm

DEVOTIONS

Weekly:
 Bible Study Wed. 9:30 am (Kitchen)
 Divine Mercy Chaplet: Thurs, after morning Mass
In the Small Chapel:
 Legion of Mary Tues 9:30am
 Bible Study with a Difference Thurs. 7:00pm
 Charismatic Prayer Meeting 2nd & 3rd Fridays 7:00pm
Monthly:
 Divine Mercy Cenacle 7:00pm, 2nd and 4th
 Prayer Meeting Mondays (Small Chapel)
 Our Lady of Vailankanni First Saturday 7:00pm
 Sacred Heart 6:30pm 1st Friday



Please remember those in the Armed Services:

Evelyn Surla (Air Force) Spec. Tara Mueller, Sgt. Kristan Jofel T. Carado, Major Jenny Ryan, Captain David Evans

And Parishioners and friends who need our prayers or who are ill.

Bob Nehls, Ron Lord, Monica Horton, Arabella Horton, Danny Powell, Cody Maisono, John DiPaola, Evelyn Reyes, Frank Smith, Concha Garcia, Deacon Ernie Dandan, Joel Rivera, Melanie O'Connor, Katherine Gomes, Lydia DeGraf, Laura Skaff, Alice Ferreira, Agnes Harris, Ray Ballin, Martha Torres



To add or update this list, send an email to bulletin@sjapostle.net or phone the parish office at 510-792-1962 and leave a message.

IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW IS IN NEED, PLEASE CONSIDER CALLING ST. VINCENT DE PAUL 510-796-5494.



Message from Father Antony (Continued from page 2)

according to our own will. When we say "Thy will be done" are we truly expressing our intentions with regard to the church? We should experience both a sense of belonging to the church as well as a sense of ownership. These two characteristics are required to bring about a revival in the Church, which can only be a product of the Holy Spirit. Revival begins with me. One day, a Catholic pastor was standing by the gate of parish when he saw one of his parishioners walking home. When he saw the pastor he stopped and said, "Father, I have not been attending church for some time because I am fed up with those hypocrites who come to the church. I can't stomach them." As he turned to leave, the priest gently told him, "There is room for one more." As human beings we are all imperfect. But God embraces us all.

KNIGHT'S CORNER

Would you like to join the "Men in Blue Blazers?" The Knights of Columbus of St. James the Apostle Council No. 14541 is accepting applicants. A prospective candidate must be a practicing Catholic and at least 18 years of age. This is a great opportunity for single and married men to serve God and the parish's community activities, set an example for its youth and make families closer to God.



If you are interested and would like more information, please contact Roeli Iranzo, roeli.iranzo@icloud.com, 510-825-4098. Or ask a Knight! Thank you.

We are men of faith & men of action.

Missed a bulletin? Go to Parish Info on the St. James Website sjapostle.net. Get the weekly bulletin delivered to your email. Sign up at <https://www.jspaluch.com/BulletinSubscribe.aspx> - (Bulletin #000268)

St. James Bulletin and Website since 2007

Submission deadline is two weeks before publication date. E-mail articles to: bulletin@sjapostle.net.

Send information for the webpage to: webmaster@sjapostle.net.

Carolyn FioriEditor

Ericson RedutaWebmaster

Facebook: Search St. James the Apostle Church, Like the page. Please, NO tagging pictures.

ST. JAMES THE APOSTLE PARISH OFFICE HOURS

M-F 9:00AM TO NOON, SUNDAY 9:30AM - 11:30AM

REGISTRATION IN THE PARISH

Warmest welcome to all who worship in our Community. If you are not registered in the Parish, please complete a registration form available at church entrance or at the Parish Office or drop the form below in the collection basket.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the Parish Office when a parishioner is home-bound or hospitalized to arrange for Holy Communion and Anointing of the Sick.

MARRIAGES AND BAPTISMS

Please contact the Parish Office at least 6 months in advance for weddings and 3 months in advance for Baptisms.

BAPTISMS

To have your child baptized, please **make an appointment** with Father Antony. Come to the St. James Parish office or call the Parish Office at 510-792-1962. For more details, please go to the Church website (Parish Info) or contact Marcial Vasco 650-303-7106.

Baptism Preparation/Training class: First Saturday of the month from 11:00 am - 12:30 pm in the Small Chapel.

Baptism Celebration: Last Saturday of the month 11:30am-12:30pm in the church

FUNERALS

We recommend using Catholic Funeral and Cemetery Services / Holy Sepulchre Cemetery and Holy Angels Funeral and Cremation Services. You may contact Shirley Aldana @ 510-537-6600 X 133.

MOTHER TERESA CENTER RESERVATIONS.

Call 510-999-5940, email MTC@sjapostle.net, or leave a message at the Parish Office at 510-792-1962. (No prices or quotes are given over the phone or in an e-mail.)



Fr. Antony Vazhappilly, Pastor
Ernie Dandan, Deacon

Welcome, New Members!

We encourage you to register in the parish so that you can receive communication via email or regular mail.

Registration information is essential for the office to respond to requests, send important parish and diocesan information and verify donations for tax purposes. If you need a letter of good standing to be a sponsor or Godparent for a baptism or marriage, registration is very important.

Please fill out this form and place it in the collection basket and we will mail you a Parish Registration form. You can also find a registration form on the website (sjapostle.net) - Parish Info - Parish Membership.

Name

Address

Phone

Email

St. James the Apostle Catholic Church

Open Mind. Open Heart. Open Door.



Our Mission Statement

The community of St. James the Apostle Catholic Church, in response to God's call to faith, diligently seeks spiritual, emotional, social, and educational needs that sustain us in Christ. We reach out to others in a spirit of Open Mind, Open Heart, and Open Door, accepting and welcoming one another. We pledge our time, talent, and treasure to build our parish community.

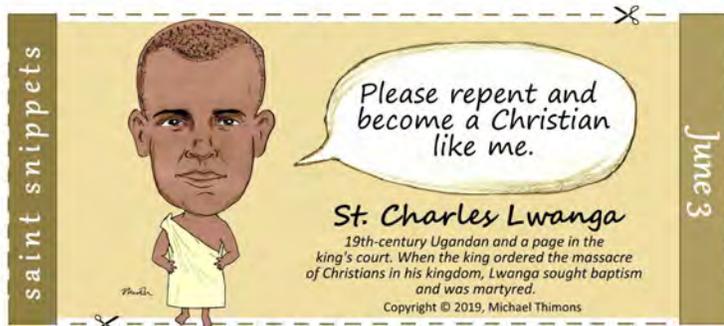
Check out the updated St. James website:

www.sjapostle.net

Under Parish Info, click on **NEWS** for all the latest updates and messages from Father Antony. You'll also find a News link towards the bottom of the homepage. Let us know what you think! Send us an email: sjwebteam@sjapostle.net



Big shout out to our webmaster: Ericson Reduta



SAINT CHARLES LWANGA AND HIS COMPANIONS (martyred 1886-87) June 3

"Master of Pages," reputedly the handsomest man in all Uganda, Charles Lwanga, lay catechist, courageously led about forty teenaged boys, Catholics and Anglicans, on a forty-mile forced march to martyrdom for their common Christian faith. Teaching each other the hymns of their different churches, they strengthened one another for the ordeal ahead. King Mwanga, himself barely twenty, had ordered them executed for being "those who pray." But these royal pages were the king's male harem, who, now Christians, refused what pious accounts demurely describe as his "unreasonable demands." Some were clubbed to death, most burned alive; the youngest, thirteen-year old Saint Kizito, whom Charles had often shielded from the King's lust; the most tragic, Saint Mbagwa, whose father was his executioner! In 1964, Paul VI canonized the young Catholics and praised their Anglican companions, recalling the heroism of early Christianity's African martyrs, which we modern Christians of far less faith never expected to see repeated. Forty years after the pope's words, what does our faith cost us? Heroism aside, how generous is our response?

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