



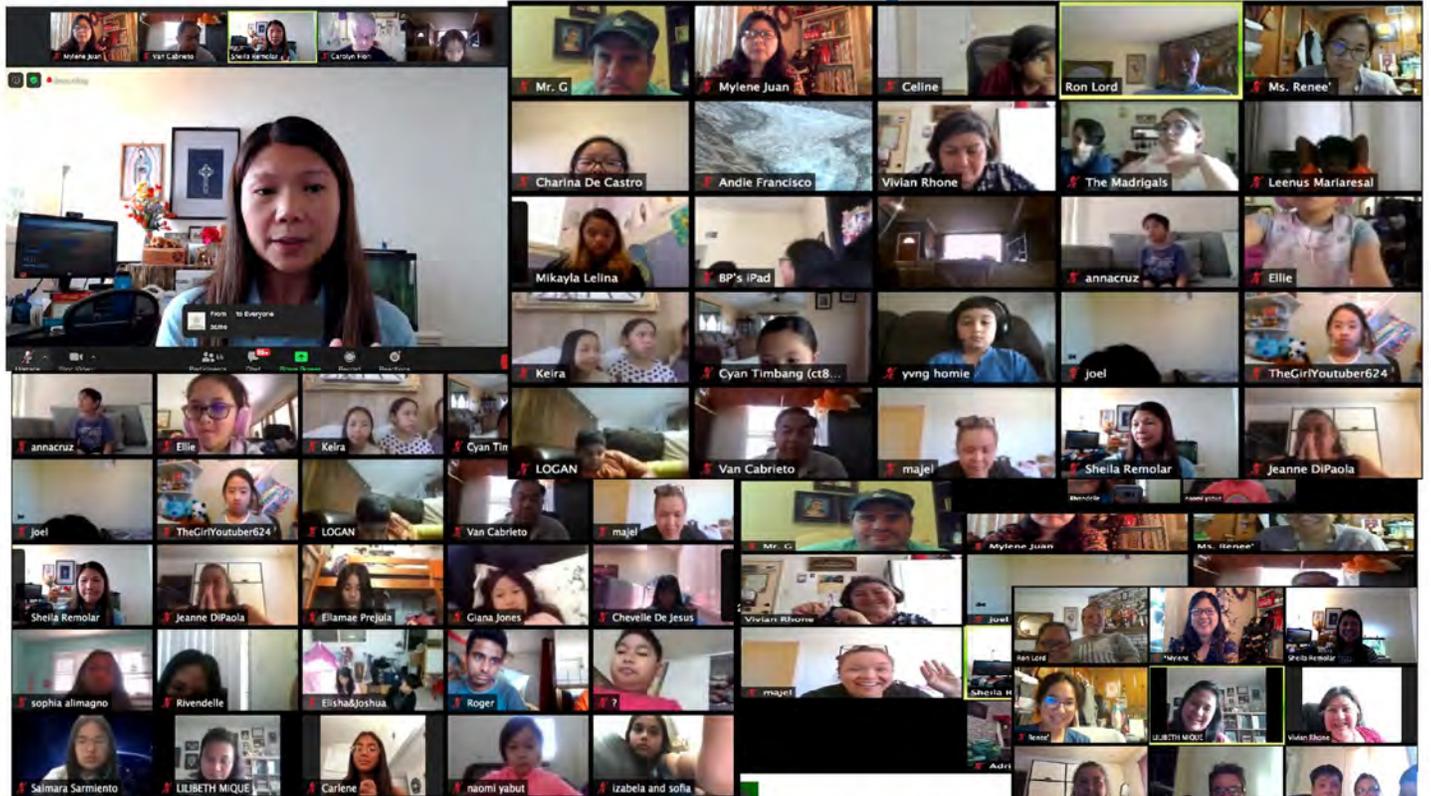
ST. JAMES THE APOSTLE CHURCH FAITH FORMATION

"CREATING GREAT MINDS
AND BIG HEARTS
TO SERVE AND LEAD"



SUNDAY,
JULY 19, 2020

More of Faith Formation Virtual Closing Activities 2019 - 2020



Third Joyful Mystery - The Nativity



Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; forgive those who trespass against us; tempt us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee, blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us in our needs, of our death. Amen. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, from the beginning, and ever, and forever, world without end. Amen.

O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, and lead all souls to heaven, especially those



Carolyn Fiori



Mylene Juan



Lilibeth Mique



MUSTARD SEED

Mustard is one of the smallest seeds,
It is counted among useless weeds.
When sown it grows into a big tree,
We can't judge something from what we see.

Jesus told the story of a mustard seed,
Its important message we should heed.
When fully grown the tree gives shelter-
To numerous birds as their caretaker.

Though the seed is insignificant,
And we regard it as insufficient.
It becomes amazingly useful
By becoming extremely mindful.

We should never disregard people,
Because their appearance looks simple.
One's worth is not measured by size,
Everyone is a very high prize.

It's unfortunate many think they are small,
That they can't do any good at all.
Sadly, they hide their many a gift,
And waste precious lives with no profit.

The Church came to be as a small seed,
Today millions of poor She does feed.
Say not again you're small or little,
You're God's children, He'll not belittle.

Questions:

1. Which line of this poem reminds you of your special gifts from God?
2. Which of those gifts have you previously considered insignificant?

Reflections:

God loves small things. When He decided to create man, He made him out of dust, a very small and insignificant portion of matter. God did not make man out of uranium or other precious materials. When He wanted a liberator to free the people of Israel from the clutches of slavery and misery, He picked Moses, a stammerer, who was not an orator like Mark Anthony. When God chose a mother for His Son, He went to the unknown village of Nazareth and selected poor Mary, who had no social status. He did not choose someone like Cleopatra, who had beauty and money. Jesus chose rustic fishermen of Galilee to be His followers rather than carefully recruiting the intellectuals of the time. He founded the Church on the apostles and trusted them to continue His mission on earth. See what has been achieved by these ordinary fishermen, who became fishers of men in the hands of God. The little seed that Jesus sowed in the fertile hearts of the apostles sprouted to become the biggest tree in the world with her members numbering more than 1.4 billion. Even though the Church faces ceaseless attacks, both from within and without, she still continues to grow as the largest organization in the world. When it comes to feeding the poor, ministering to the sick, housing the homeless and imparting education, the Church still holds the envious position of being the world's top provider in all those important areas. Small is beautiful for God and if we are pliable in His hands, He can do wonders with us.

All the three synoptic Gospels have recorded Jesus' parable in which He compares the kingdom of God to a mustard seed.

One of the smallest among seeds, it grows into a large tree of approximately twelve to fourteen feet in height. Though apparently very small and insignificant in its beginnings, when a mustard seed grows, it proves to be very useful. Birds make their nests on its large branches and the tree serves as their caretaker. You cannot judge something or someone from appearances. The messages Jesus communicated through this story is, like the mustard seed, the Kingdom of God had a very small beginning. His followers proved to be fair-weather friends, as all of them left Him when He needed them the most. They left Him to die as a criminal and nobody stood up for Him. An outsider, impartially looking at the continuation of His mission that Jesus left in the hands of His apostles, would have easily doubted its potential for growth. Jesus totally relied on His apostles with no backup plan. The authorities hunted down the followers of Jesus and put them to death. Who would have thought the Church would grow in the face of such horrendous persecutions? Who would have imagined the apostles would be transformed into the valiant men of the Gospels? As the fully-grown mustard tree gives shelter to the birds of the air, the Church, founded on this handful of apostles, has spread to every corner of the world. In spite of human errors that continue to embarrass the church, we cannot underestimate the good she is doing in the world. The growth of the church is phenomenal and beyond our expectations. God can achieve great things if you are docile and submissive to Him. God does not call the qualified. He qualifies the called.

No one is small in the sight of God. Everyone is very important and He does not belittle or discount any of us. When God brings our gifts and talents to fruition, we can do great things for Him. Look at the saints in the Church. All of them were very simple and ordinary men and women. The only difference we find in them is that they allowed God to use them.

They collaborated with God's plan for them. Look at St. John Vianney. He had so little intellectual ability that in the seminary he never passed a single course. See what God accomplished through him. He was a much sought after confessor and spiritual director. His name as a man of God spread far and wide and people often traveled great distances to seek his advice. It is not the size of your intellect, the place of your birth, or your family background that is important in the sight of God. Rather it is your ability to trust in God that matters most to Him.

Even a small idea can bring about tremendous impact in the lives of people. Did Mother Teresa of Calcutta, affectionately known as the mother of the poor, anticipate what impact her decision to serve the poorest of the poor would have by leaving behind the comfort of her secure life in a convent? Did William Wilberforce, supported by his mentor John Newton, see the far-reaching consequences of his decision to fight against slavery? Did Bill Gates know that he would make a tremendous breakthrough in the computer field when he invented Microsoft? In the sight of God, nobody is insignificant— especially you! Think about how people evolve in their professions. A person with a seemingly insignificant childhood ability, for example, in mathematics, can grow into an analytic professional capable of performing life-saving medical diagnoses. Even this pales in comparison with the good each of us can have in the lives of other people. Every

(Continued on page 3)



**MESSAGE FROM
FATHER ANTONY**



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On June 20, Holy Mass at St. James began to be celebrated outside. Since we're only allowed to have 100 people inside the church, it was decided to have Mass outside so no one will be turned away.

Holy Mass will be celebrated without singing and it will be short. You can attend the Mass standing, or bring your own chair. You can also attend the Mass from your cars. We will also have live-streaming. This will help you follow the Mass using your cell phones. Having it outside will help us maintain social distancing. Please also make sure you put on your masks.

**Saturday: 5:00pm,
Sunday: 7:00am, 8:30am and 10:00am
8:30am weekday Mass (wear your mask)**

PARISH CALENDAR

July 20	KofC Business Meeting 7:30pm
July 23	Bishop Begin Assembly 3546 Bus. Mtg 7:30pm
July 24	St. James Feast Day - Outdoor Mass 7:30pm
July 28	Pastoral Council 7:00pm
Aug 3	KofC Officer's Meeting 7:30pm
Aug 9	KofC Novena Prayer for the Unborn after 10am Mass
Aug 10	St. Vincent de Paul Meeting 7:00pm
Aug 17	KofC Business Meeting 7:30pm
Aug 25	Pastoral Council 7:00pm
Aug 27	Bishop Begin Assembly 3546 Bus. Mtg 7:30pm
Sept 12	Finance Council Meeting 11:30am
Oct 16	International Rosary 7:00pm (tbd)
Oct 17	Dinner Dance - Mother Teresa Center (TBD)
Dec 13	Parish Christmas Party - TBD MTC

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.

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.



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
 Masses 8:30am & 7:30pm
 Saturday 4:00pm or by appt.
 9:00 - 10:00am
 9:00 am-6:30pm
 6:30pm
 7:15pm
 7:30pm
 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

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



Have you checked out the Online Giving Page on the St. James website? You can go to <https://www.osvhub.com/sjapostle/funds> or click on the link on the page to get to Our Sunday Visitor, the organization that is managing the online giving for our parish. If you have any questions, contact Patrick Valath at (510) 579-6673 or pvalath@yahoo.com

(Continued from page 2) Message from Father Antony

opportunity you encounter to do good, no matter how insignificant it may seem, can have far-reaching implications. A word of encouragement to a child could mean the difference a lifetime of confidence and happiness as opposed to lack of belief and a sense of failure. A helpful hand to a starving family could mean generations of wonderful people, who might never otherwise have been born and who may change the world one day. A sense of belief and trust in God may save the thousands of souls you encounter for an eternity with God! Learn to recognize the smallest signs of good in others and in yourself—and respond. Each time you respond, you will open the possibility of a world of wonderful opportunity and goodness that you may never have otherwise imagined. There are miracles in front of us every day. All we need to do is allow ourselves to see the possibilities that God puts in front of us. Those possibilities are God's presence and gift to us, every day of our lives. Every moment and every thought the Holy Spirit plants in your heart is filled with those gifts.

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

My Dear Parishioners,
Greetings from Father Antony!
Let me begin by saying that I am happy to let you know that our Sunday Masses are going very well. We are really blessed to have a beautiful lawn in front of the church where we can celebrate the Holy Mass. We will continue this way until we are able to have the Mass celebrated in the Church.



UPDATE

The most important purpose of this letter is to update you on our Church Project. We are all familiar with the saying, Man proposes, God disposes! That is what happened to us. We were all ready to kick off the Capital Campaign on March 24th and we had our dear Bishop scheduled to come. But then you know what happened. Coronavirus forced us to put our project on hold. However, we have been able to accomplish a lot of things during this pandemic. I would like you to know of these important happenings:

- We had a virtual meeting with the Diocesan Review Board on April 8th, during which the Architect, Chris Kelly, showed them the preliminary drawings and designs. The Board was very satisfied and gave us the approval to go ahead. Chris Kelly continues to work on the design to get it to the final stage.
- On June 9th, the Executive Committee met with the Architect at the church. He showed us the improved drawings of the Church design. I must say Chris Kelly is doing a great job. Some of you have already seen the preliminary design. You will be happy with the latest design.
- Towards the end of June, we hired a Civil Engineer to do the survey of the land, which is mandatory before we meet with the Fremont City Council. The survey has already been completed.
- We now have a Landscape Architect on board.
- Many parishioners have already started contributing towards the pledge that they made to support the Capital Campaign.

I will continue to provide all of you with an update as things progress on our Church Project. These updates will also be available on our Website and Facebook page. I would like to thank all of you for standing by our parish and supporting its endeavors amid this challenging environment that we are in. Let us continue to pray for God's blessings and Mama Mary's protection for our families and the whole world.

May God Bless You!
Father Antony Vazhappilly

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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 Fiori Editor

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