

PARISH INFORMATION & SCHEDULES

Office Hours:

Monday through Friday: 9:00am to 12noon
Sundays: 9:30am to 11:30am.

Mass Schedule

Monday-Saturday Mass: 8:30am
Saturday Evening: 5:00pm
Sunday Masses: 8:30am, 10:00am,
12:00noon

Bible Study

Thursdays at 7:30pm in the Rectory.

Registration in the Parish

Warmest welcome to all who worship in our Community.
Please complete a registration form available online.
(Parish Info)

St. Vincent de Paul

If you or someone you know is in need, please consider calling 510-796-5494.

Knights of Columbus

For information, please contact: Tony Zaragoza
510-509-5413.

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 leave a message at the Parish Office at least 6 months in advance for weddings and 3 months in advance for Baptisms.

Baptisms

Please call to **make an appointment** with Fr. Antony. For details, please go to the Church website (Parish Info) or contact Jappy/Jan Francisco (415) 269-5973.
Baptism Preparation/Training class: Last Friday day of the month from 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm in the Small Chapel.
Baptism Celebration: Last Saturday of the month 11:30am in the church

Faith Formation

For questions or help with registration, please contact Sheila Remolar Reduta at (650) 743-5728 or sjtafaithformation@gmail.com

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)

Please contact FrancesAnn McKenney at 510-648-4876 or contact the parish office at 510-792-1962.

Funerals

We recommend using Catholic Funeral and Cemetery Services / Holy Sepulchre Cemetery and Holy Angels Funeral and Cremation Services. You may contact Bill Russell at 510-901-2191.

Mother Teresa Center Reservations.

Call 510-589-6909, email MTC@sjapostle.net. (No prices or quotes are given over the phone or in an e-mail.)



ST. JAMES THE APOSTLE CHURCH

34700 Fremont Blvd • Fremont, CA 94555

510-792-1962 • www.sjapostle.net

office@sjapostle.net

Fr. Antony Vazhappilly, Pastor

MARCH 10, 2024 4th Sunday of Lent

PARISH CALENDAR

Mar 16	Crab Feed
Aug 17-18	Festival
Sept 28	Dinner Dance
Dec 8	Parish Christmas Party

Monthly Meetings:

Knights of Columbus Officer's Meeting

First Monday 7:30pm

Knights of Columbus Business Meeting

3rd Monday 7:30pm

St. Vincent de Paul

2nd Monday 7:00 pm

Bishop Begin Assembly 3546

Business Meeting, 4th Thursday 7:30pm

Pastoral Council

4th Tuesday 7:00pm

Monthly Devotions:

First Friday begins at 8:30am Mass, adoration during the day, 6:30pm

Rosary, 7:30pm Mass

KofC Novena Prayer for the Unborn 2nd Sunday after 10am Mass

COLLECTIONS

March 3, 2024

1st Collection	\$8175.00
Special Collections	\$14,222.00

4TH SUNDAY OF LENT (JOHN 3:14-21) JUST AS MOSES LIFTED UP THE SERPENT

Israelites lived in slavery for many years,
Bound in chains, they faced daily poverty and fears.
They could own neither properties nor cattle,
Every day for them was a spiritual battle.

God heard their prayers and sent Moses as their leader,
He brought them out of Egypt and became their pleader.
But soon what God had done they began to forget,
Leaving Egypt, one by one, began to regret.

God would not accept His people's ingratitude,
And couldn't tolerate such negative attitude.
He sent deadly, fiery serpents as punishment,
People repented and would make an atonement.

Moses mounted a serpent image on a post,
Those who looked at it, God didn't allow to be lost.
It was just a symbol, God was the real Healer,
Thus, God saved them from such a terrible danger.

Jesus, the Son of God, was lifted on the cross,
Those who look at Him and believe will not be lost.
He is the only Way to our eternal Father,
In Him, we are healed from every evil power.

Let us lift up our thoughts to God in prayer always,
And thank Him for His Son whom we should daily praise.
Believe in Jesus; we shall be saved by our faith,
Those who do not believe they shall face Father's wrath.

Questions:

1. How was salvation prefigured by the experience of God's people in the desert with the serpents?
2. What must we do to walk through the door of Mercy rather than the door of Justice?
3. What are the conditions for salvation?

Reflections:

Let me begin by writing a little about Nicodemus. This Sunday's Gospel passage is taken from John's Gospel where Jesus speaks to Nicodemus. Nicodemus was a wealthy Pharisee who was a member of the Sanhedrin, the ruling body of the Jews in Jerusalem. This was the final court of appeals for matters regarding Jewish law and religion. This was the body which ultimately

condemned Jesus, yet they had to get Pilate to approve their sentence since the death penalty was beyond their jurisdiction under Roman law. Unlike other Pharisees who opposed Jesus tooth and nail, Nicodemus seemed to be a seeker who genuinely wanted to know Jesus. He came to speak with Jesus in the night for fear that he would be criticized if his meeting became

public. Jesus was able to enlighten him on the importance of being born again in the Holy Spirit, which proved to be beyond his comprehension. In this conversation, Jesus provided mankind with one of the most well-known and beloved verses in the Bible (John 3:16). We see Nicodemus again when he defended Jesus at the council by giving his opinion that Jesus should not be dismissed or condemned until they have heard from Him personally: "Does our law judge a man without first giving him a hearing and learning what he does?" (John 7:51). However, the rest of the Council would not listen, as they were thoroughly corrupted and were single mindedly pursuing the death of Jesus. The final appearance of Nicodemus in the Gospels is after Jesus' crucifixion in Chapter 19 of John. We find him assisting Joseph of Arimathea in Jesus' burial. Nicodemus brought 75 pounds of spices for use in preparing the body for burial and then assisted Joseph in wrapping the body and placing it in the tomb. The huge quantity of burial spices would seem to indicate that Nicodemus was a rich man and that he had great respect for Jesus.

John goes back to a strange Old Testament story which is told in Numbers 21:4-9. On their journey through the wilderness, the people of Israel murmured and complained against Moses and God. They grumbled against Moses for bringing them out of Egypt. Such an ungrateful uprising was punished by God, who sent a plague of deadly and fiery serpents. Thousands of Jews died of snakebites. The people repented and cried for mercy. God instructed Moses to make an image of a serpent and to hold it up in the midst of the camp. Those who looked upon the serpent were healed. John took that old story and used it as a kind of parable of Jesus. He says: "The serpent was lifted up; men looked at it; their thoughts were turned to God. Even so, Jesus must be lifted up and when men turn their thoughts to Him, and believe in Him they too will find eternal life." The only difference is that for Jesus the Cross



**MESSAGE
FROM
FR. ANTONY**

(Continued on page 3)

was the way to glory. Had he refused it, had he evaded it, had he taken steps to escape it, as he might so easily have done, there would have been no salvation for mankind. We must respond to this call of the cross and to Jesus' promise of salvation if we join Him on it. When you reach the gate of St. Peter, the ticket for entry will be the cross you carried. If you abandon your cross, you will be turned away.

In John 3:16, we have one of the most beautiful and beloved verses in the Gospel: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son so that everyone who believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." This is the very essence of the gospel and makes it clear that our salvation is totally dependent upon God's mercy. What many don't realize is that we will ultimately have to either walk through God's door of Justice or His door of Mercy. In order to be able to appeal to God's Mercy, we must walk the narrow road of holiness with discretion, the light of God, and with a wholehearted response to God's infinite love. The tremendous thing about this text is that it shows us God acting not for His own sake, but for ours, not to satisfy His desire for power, not to bring a universe to heel, but to satisfy His love. All are included in this vast inclusive love of God. As Augustine said it: "God loves each one of us as if there was only one of us to love."

The only reason why God sent His only begotten Son to the world was that through Him mankind would be able to respond to God's merciful offer of salvation. Salvation and eternal life are only available through faith in Jesus. Those who choose to not believe in Jesus and to not follow His way of holiness stand condemned. This is the eternal unchanging truth, and it is the duty of every bishop, shepherd, religious, and layperson to live according to this truth and to unapologetically speak this truth to all who approach them. John defined Jesus as the Light. All those who choose the Light and walk in the Light will be saved. Those who walk in the Light choose not to walk in sin. They can be recognized by the good deeds they produce. John says that even though the Light came into the world not everyone would choose to respond. If a man is confronted with Jesus and his soul responds to that wonder and beauty, he is on the way to salvation. But, if he is confronted with Jesus and he sees nothing lovely, he stands condemned. His reaction has condemned him. The man who reacts with hostility to Jesus has loved the darkness rather than the Light. Remember, every time you look

at Jesus, you stand revealed because under the Light of Christ, nothing can be hidden. In the Light of Christ, we shall know who we truly are. This explains why so many still choose to walk in the darkness. A man who is engaged in an evil task does not want a floodlight shed on it and him. But the man engaged on an honorable task does not fear the Light. By his reaction to Jesus Christ, a man stands revealed and his soul laid bare. If he regards Christ with love, even with wistful yearning, for him there is hope; but if in Christ he sees nothing attractive, he has condemned himself. He who was sent in love and mercy will come again in judgment.



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

United Conference of
Catholic Bishops Website

<https://bible.usccb.org/daily-bible-reading>

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 an online registration form on the website (sjapostle.net) FAQ

Name

Address

Phone

Email

Holy Week Schedule

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

March 25, 26, 27

Morning Mass - 8:30am

Easter Triduum

Holy Thursday, March 28

8:30am - 10:00am Retreat/Recollection (No Mass)

7:30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

Adoration until Midnight

Good Friday, March 29

8:30am - 10:00am Retreat/Recollection (No Mass)



Afternoon Services

12:00 - 1:00pm Personal Way of the Cross

1:00 - 3:00pm Good Friday

Liturgy with Communion

3:00pm Divine Mercy Novena Day #1



Evening Services

7:30pm Good Friday Liturgy with Communion

Holy Saturday, March 30

8:30AM - 10:00AM RETREAT/

RECOLLECTION

(NO MASS)

After the 8:30 Prayers

Divine Mercy Novena Day #2

7:30pm Easter Vigil

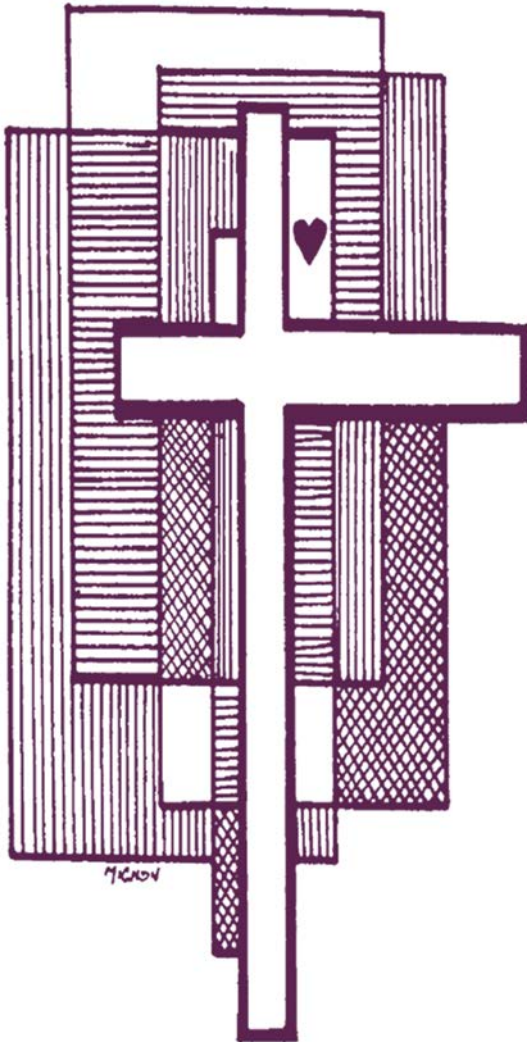
Easter Sunday,

March 31

Masses: 8:30am, 10:00am & 12:00 noon

Divine Mercy Novena Day #3

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The Divine Mercy Apostolate of St. James Catholic Church invites you to join us during
Divine Mercy Novena, March 29 - April 7, 2022

March 29 – Good Friday	After the Good Friday Liturgy at 1:00PM, the Divine Mercy Novena begins
March 30– Holy Saturday	After the 8:30AM prayers
March 31 – Easter Sunday	After the 12:00PM Mass
April 1 – Monday	After the 8:30AM Mass
April 2 – Tuesday	After the 8:30AM Mass
April 3– Wednesday	After the 8:30AM Mass
April 4 – Thursday	After the 8:30AM Mass
April 5 – Friday	After the 8:30AM Mass
April 6 – Saturday	After the 8:30AM Mass followed by Exposition of Blessed Sacrament, Benediction and Reconciliation
April 7 – Sunday	Divine Mercy Sunday Feast Day at the 12:00noon Mass. Please Join Us!

Mankind will not have peace until it turns with trust to My Mercy...Faustina



Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska **The Humble Instrument**

Sister Faustina was a young, uneducated nun in a convent of the Congregation of Sisters Our Lady of Mercy in Poland during the 1930s. She came from a poor family that struggled during the years of World War I. She had only three years of simple education, so hers were the humblest tasks in the convent, usually in the kitchen or garden. However, she received extraordinary revelations — or messages — from our Lord Jesus. Jesus asked Sr. Faustina to record these experiences, which she compiled into notebooks. These notebooks are known today as the *Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska*, and the words contained within are God's loving message of Divine Mercy.



Saint Maria Faustina

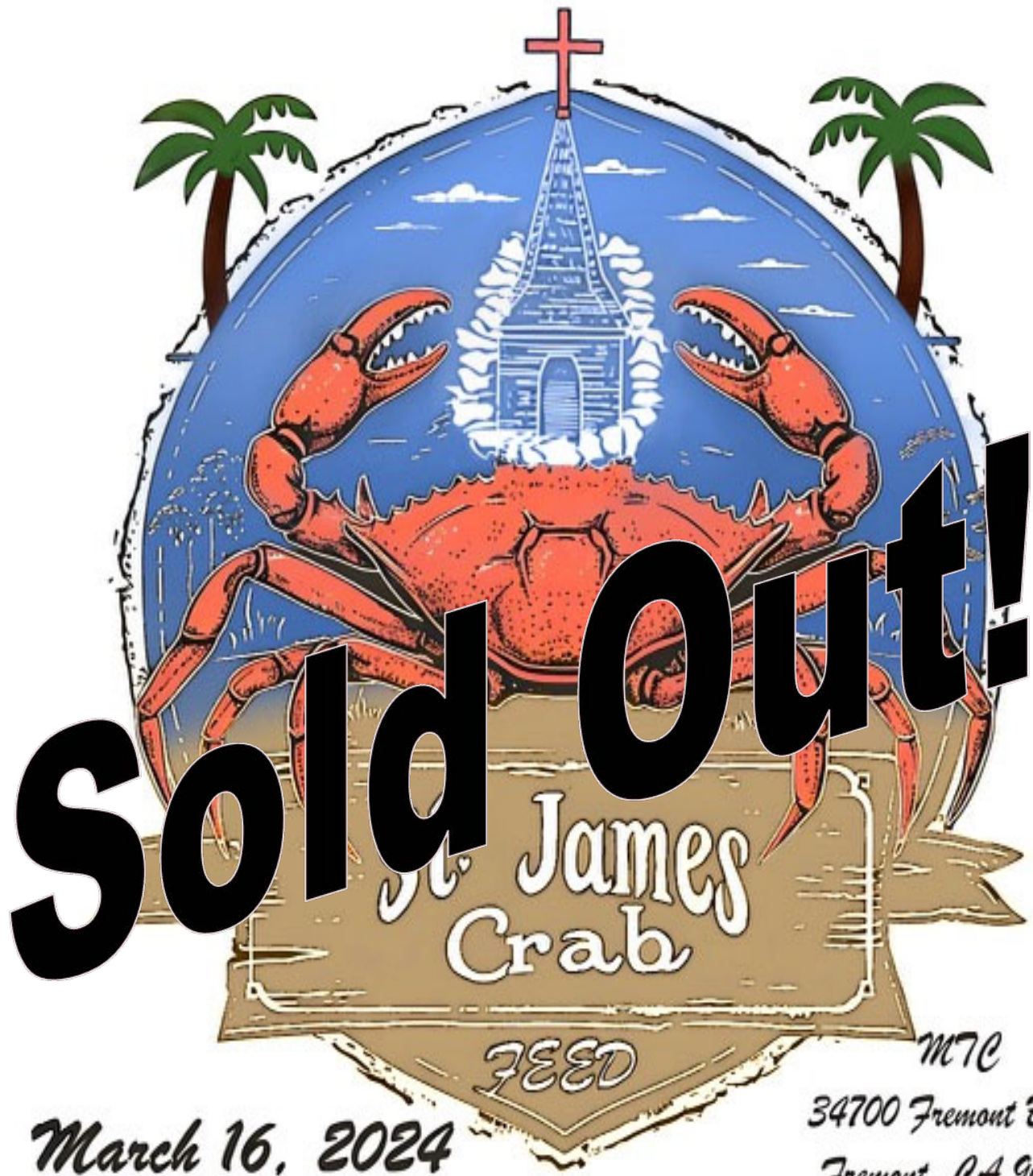
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Though the Divine Mercy message is not new to the teachings of the Church, Sr. Faustina's *Diary* sparked a great movement, and a strong and significant focus on the mercy of Christ. Saint John Paul II canonized Sr. Faustina in 2000 making her the "first saint of the new millennium." Speaking of Sr. Faustina and the importance of the message contained in her *Diary*, the Pope called her "the great apostle of Divine Mercy in our time."

Today, we continue to rely on St. Faustina as a constant reminder of the message to trust in Jesus' endless mercy, and to live life mercifully toward others. We also turn to her in prayer and request her intercession to our merciful Savior on our behalf. At the National Shrine of The Divine Mercy in Stockbridge, Massachusetts, we include the following in our 3 o'clock prayers:

Saint Faustina,

you told us that your mission would continue after your death and that you would not forget us. Our Lord also granted you a great privilege, telling you to "distribute graces as you will, to whom you will, and when you will." Relying on this, we ask your intercession for the graces we need, especially for the intentions just mentioned. Help us, above all, to trust in Jesus as you did and thus to glorify His



March 16, 2024

*34700 Fremont Blvd.
Fremont, CA 94555*

**Tickets on sale after weekend Masses. @\$75.00
Get your tickets now!! No tickets at the door.**

2024 Spring Prize Drawing



Sponsored by
St. James the Apostle Church
St. James the Apostle Council
Bp. Floyd L. Begin Assembly
Drawing Will be @ St. James Church on
Sunday, April 7, 2024 after 12pm Mass



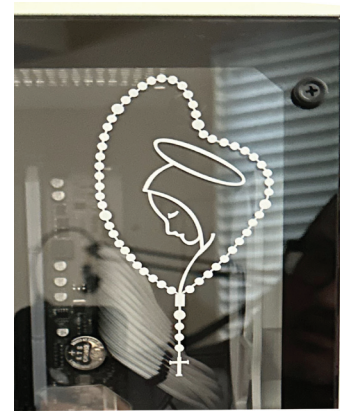
Grand Prize*: Gaming Computer worth \$3000



Specifications:
Panda White Case
RGB Fans
Ryzen 5 5600 processor
16 GB Corsair RGB RAM



2x NVME SSDs total 3 TB storage
MSI RTX 4060
AOC 27" LCD Monitor
Gaming Keyboard and Mouse
RGB Mouse mat



Wireless Game Controller
Corsair Headset
1080p Webcam
Built in WiFi
Bluetooth

Second Prize*: \$1000 cash Third Prize*: \$500 cash

***Need not be present to win. Winner is responsible for all applicable taxes.
Proceeds to benefit building our new and permanent Church!**

TICKET DONATION: \$10.00

SAT | MARCH 16, 2024

Second Annual
ST. JOSEPH CONFERENCE

**ST. JOSEPH &
THE HOLY EUCHARIST**

"Whereas Adam and Eve were the source of evil which was unleashed on the world, Joseph and Mary are the summit from which holiness spreads all over the earth."

Pope St. John Paul II



BISHOP
MICHAEL C.
BARBER, S.J.



BLESSED
CARLO ACUTIS
MAY 3, 1991 -
OCTOBER 12, 2006



MRS. ANTONIA
SALZANO ACUTIS
MOTHER OF
BLESSED CARLO ACUTIS



FR. DANIEL
WILLIAMSON, C.F.R.
(ENGLISH)



FR. THI HOANG
(VIETNAMESE)



FR. LUIS LOPEZ
(SPANISH)



FR. GREGORY LIU, O.P.
(MANDARIN)

7:00 AM	Check-In
8:00 AM	Holy Mass - St Joseph Church - Bishop Michael Barber, S.J.
9:00 AM	Continental Breakfast and Check-in
9:45 AM	Conferences (<i>In English, Vietnamese, Mandarin, and Spanish</i>)
10:45 AM	Break
11:00 AM	Adoration and Confession
12:00 Noon	Lunch and <i>The Wedding Feast of the Lamb</i> Explained
1:00 PM	Conversation with Mrs. Antonia S. Acutis (Mother of Blessed Carlo Acutis)
2:45 PM	Break
3:00 PM	Divine Mercy Chaplet and Closing Prayer



REGISTRATION



ST. JOSEPH PARISH/OLD MISSION SAN JOSE • 43148 MISSION BLVD, FREMONT, CA 94539
For more information and registration: www.saintjosephmsj.org/conference or call parish office 510•656•2364