

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: Juan "Jappy" Francisco
(415) 269-5973.

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 31, 2024 Easter Sunday

PARISH CALENDAR

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 24, 2024

1st Collection \$6407.00

Special Collections \$2014.00

EASTER SUNDAY (LUKE 24: 13-35) HE IS RISEN

The news spread far and wide like a wildfire, "He's risen," the words echoed far and near. At the news, people came out, some in tears. Many women knelt in humble prayers!

The rulers had His grave guarded by men- To make sure His body wouldn't be stolen. Puny men wanted to divert God's plan, They didn't know the power of the Son of Man.

Mary Magdalene first saw the tomb empty, She ran to Peter who's having morning tea. Peter and John rushed to the tomb heart broken, All that they saw in the tomb was His linen.

Mary stood outside the tomb inconsolable, Jesus missing in the tomb was unthinkable. She took Jesus only to be a gardener, At His greeting, Mary recognized the Master.

Mary is the first witness to the resurrection, And announced it to everyone's jubilation. Jesus appeared to the apostles in private, And breathed on them and gave them the Holy Spirit.

The Spirit changed the apostles into brave men, They went and influenced the world like a leaven. The church will ever be known as Apostolic, And will touch many lives as it's charismatic.

Questions:

1. What is diverting you from being close to God?
2. What will it take for you to overcome these diversions?
3. Which stanza of this poem strengthens you most?

Reflections:

"He is risen," is the greatest news that the world has ever received. Jesus' resurrection changed the lives of the apostles totally. Those cowardly men of Galilee, who had abandoned Jesus when He needed them the most, suddenly became the bravest men that the world has ever seen. After the arrest of Jesus, they had given up hope in Jesus and all of them, with the exception of John, had run away looking for hide-outs from the Pharisees, who they thought would come after them. They feared imminent death at the hands of the same men who had arrested and condemned

Jesus to crucifixion. Peter, who had promised to defend Jesus against all possible threats to His life, was the first one to deny Him. Thomas, who had seemingly exhibited rare courage by saying "let us also go that we may die with Him," was nowhere to be seen after Jesus' arrest. This only shows how human they were. Three intense years with the Lord did not transform them into perfect people. They remained slow learners and understood very little of what Jesus told them. If they had listened to Him and understood what He had prophesied about the death He would be facing, they would have remained steadfast in their love for Jesus and would not have abandoned their Master. Jesus had clearly told them that, three days after His death, He would rise. They did not pay attention to this because their hearts were not set on Him. They were still fighting among themselves to find out who would be the greatest. Suddenly everything changed for them. Suddenly, they understood things that really mattered in their lives. From then on, they vied with each other to die for the carpenter's Son. Peter, as if to compensate for his denial of Jesus, declared that he was not worthy to die like his master and chose to be crucified upside down, head down and legs up.

"He is risen," is the happiest news that mankind has received. His rising from the dead changed everything in our lives. It brought us the greatest hope. It gave us a new meaning to all our sufferings. Even in the darkest moments of our lives, we can still have a ray of hope because the resurrection of Jesus opens the door of Heaven for us. Our sufferings will not follow our death, and suffering can be offered as the best means of sanctification for our souls, which often grope in the darkness of sin and ignorance. The cross for the Romans was a symbol of shame and death. It was an instrument of punishment and execution for criminals. They reduced Jesus to the level of a criminal. With His resurrection, He transformed the cross from a symbol of shame to a symbol of hope. We can never compare the sufferings that come our way with the glory that awaits us in heaven.



The enemies of Jesus tried with all their power to prevent Jesus from rising. Blinded by their own egos and selfishness, they could never understand or accept Jesus. They thought by eliminating Him all their problems would be over and the existence



**MESSAGE
FROM
FR. ANTONY**

(Continued on page 3)

of Judaism would not be challenged any more. They feared Jesus would attract the entire world to Himself, leaving the synagogues empty. They did not want to take any risk. They even sought special permission from the authorities to post soldiers to guard Jesus' tomb so that no one would steal His body and claim Him to be risen from the dead. They thought they could alter the plan of God and outwit the Almighty! From the beginning of creation, man has rebelled against God. The sin of Adam and Eve was not a mere sin of disobedience against God. They wanted to show their ability to live without God. It was a rebellion against God's authority in their desperate struggle to be equal to God. Satan lured and tempted our first parents with a terrible lie; that the moment they ate the forbidden fruit, their eyes would be opened, and they would become equal to God. Their punishment was an expulsion from the garden, and sin, suffering, and death came into the world. This rebellion continues even to this day, and efforts are made to destroy the supremacy of God on earth. Man wants to sing his own praises and glories with the assumption that God is obsolete and outdated. From the moment Adam and Eve disobeyed, they declared a war against God, their own creator, and this war has continued ever since. Man forgets that the apple they ate did not open their eyes. Instead, it only caused sin to enter the world, and it has only gotten worse since then. A life without God can only distance us from Him and further drag us into a sinful world.

By rising from the dead, Jesus brought us salvation and made us an Easter people. As Easter people we can find true joy and peace only in Him by following the Gospel teachings. By His death and resurrection, He destroyed sin and death. He died for our sake so that we can be heirs to His kingdom. Jesus' rising from the dead is at the center of our Christian hope. As St. Paul reminds us: "And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is vain" (1 Corinthians 15:17). And, if He had not been raised, his teachings would have resulted in nothing, and his promises would not have been fulfilled. But the Lord is alive, He walks by our side, and He reminds us, through the Easter liturgy, that pain and death are not the last word for us. That is why we must rejoice, and full of joy, sing with the psalmist: "This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice in it and be glad" (Psalm 118:24). The reality of the cross will always be present in the world and in our own lives. But let us not forget that there is no glory without a cross, no victory without sacrifices. Strengthened by this hope and infected with this shared joy, let us live from now on as a people already resurrected. Let us be new men and women who know how to find, amid the darkness of the world and of our own hearts, that light that never sets, the light that vanquishes

every darkness. Jesus Christ is the Lord of history and the Lord of our own lives.

I would like to close by quoting St. Augustine of Hippo, "We are Easter people and 'Alleluia' is our song." Jesus has conquered sin and death and therefore, we should be the happiest people in the world. Unfortunately, this is not so in a fast-changing world where materialism seems to be growing faster than ever before. We are supposedly the chosen people but to put it in the words of Bishop Fulton Sheen, "We are a frozen people without hope and joy." Many Christians today have become cold and indifferent to God and His Son. Easter presents to us an opportunity to examine whether we are a chosen people or a frozen people.



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

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 of 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.



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 mercy every moment of our lives. **Amen**

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

**TOGETHER WE'RE
STRONG & NEVER ALONE**

2nd St James the Apostle Youth Spring Concert

ST JAMES GOT TALENT

05 MAY 2024

CONCERT FROM 3-6:00PM



**Raffle, Fishball, Boba, Ginataan,
Lumpia, Binatog Vendors Atbp**

GET YOUR TICKETS NOW \$25