

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

APRIL 7, 2024

Divine Mercy Sunday

PARISH CALENDAR

May 5	Youth Concert
Aug 24-25	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 4th Sunday after 10am Mass



COLLECTIONS

March 31, 2024

1st Collection	\$12,767.00
Special Collections	\$11,586.00

2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER (JOHN 20:19-31) CELEBRATE MERCY SUNDAY

Divine Mercy Sunday comes as a reminder,
To us of how much Jesus loves every sinner.
That there is no one beyond His love and mercy,
With Jesus, all our problems will become easy.

Jesus treated everyone with loving kindness,
And showed special compassion to those in sickness.
He welcomed all without first checking their background,
With people of different needs, His daily life would surround.

He showed no preferential love to anyone,
And empty handed He would send away no one.
Rich or poor Jesus saw them all as God's children,
Turning from their sins, He made them heirs of heaven.

Divine Mercy Sunday calls us to examine,
If our life to others is an inspiration.
How like Jesus, we reach out to those who're in need,
And never turn our back on those whom we must feed.

With our love and kindness, we can make a difference,
And can bring hope to the hopeless with our patience.
We're recipients of God's love and benevolence,
We are safe only with God's mercy and guidance.

Let's make a culture of mercy and compassion,
And like Jesus, treat all with care and affection.
We receive God's mercy without any cost,
Let us be merciful to those who are lost.

Questions:

1. When you look at another human being, what do you see?
2. How would you perceive a human being who you were told was God's beloved?
3. How do these questions affect your view of human beings you may encounter today?

Reflections:

We cannot celebrate the feast of the Divine Mercy Sunday without thinking of and thanking two great souls in the Catholic Church: Sr. Faustina, who nurtured, nourished, and strengthened this devotion for many years, and Pope John Paul II, who promoted and proclaimed it as a universal devotion in the Catholic Church. On April 30, 2000, the Canonization of Faustina Kowalska took place, and the second Sunday of Easter was officially designated as the Sunday of the Divine Mercy in the General Roman Calendar. On April 22, 2001, which



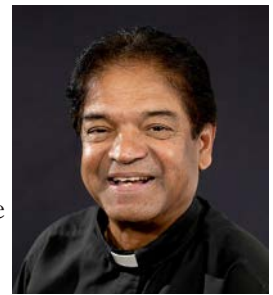
was one year after establishing Divine Mercy Sunday, Pope John Paul II re-emphasized its message in the resurrection context of Easter. Jesus said to St. Faustina one day:

“Humanity will never find peace until it turns with trust to Divine Mercy.” Divine Mercy is the Easter gift that the Church receives from the risen Christ and offers to humanity. The devotion to Divine Mercy grew rapidly after its designation by Pope John Paul II and is now widely celebrated by Catholics. Christ appeared to this Polish nun in a series of visions that took place over almost eight years. Among those visions, Christ revealed the Divine Mercy Novena, which He asked Sister Faustina to pray for nine days beginning on Good Friday. That meant that the novena ended on the Saturday after Easter, the eve of the Octave of Easter. Thus, the Feast of Divine Mercy was born.

Man has always rebelled against God and turned away from Him by betraying His love and trust. In His mercy, God never abandoned mankind but rather continued to offer eternal salvation to all. According to the book of Genesis, God placed the first human beings, Adam, and Eve, in a kind of paradise called the Garden of Eden. But, they fell from that lofty state of grace through the serpent's temptation, and their human nature was thereby corrupted by pride and disobedience. Even though they were cast out of the Garden of Eden and became subject to toil, pain, and death, God showed His love with a promise of mercy. The seed of the woman would one day spring forth someone who would crush the evil serpent's head, a prophetic foreshadowing of the Messiah who was to come. Again, in the story of Noah and the Flood, we see not only Divine justice, but Divine Mercy at work. By saving Noah and his family in the Ark, the human race was thereby given a second chance. The merciful

love of God was revealed again in the story of Abraham pleading for mercy with God upon Sodom and Gomorrah in Genesis 18. The Lord promised Abraham that if He could find only 10 righteous persons in that whole city of wickedness, He would not destroy the city for the sake of the ten.

Every page in the New Testament speaks of the mercy of Jesus who never turned down anyone who came to Him for help. Rich or poor, He welcomed them



**MESSAGE
FROM
FR. ANTONY**

(Continued on page 3)

all and treated them in the same measure. In His mercy and compassion, He fed the hungry people who had come to listen to Him. Another of the merciful acts of Jesus was the calling of Matthew, a “publican” by profession and tax collector for the Imperial Roman authorities. To the scandalized Pharisees, Jesus replied: “The healthy do not need the doctor but the sick do ... I have not come to call the righteous but sinners” (Matthew 9:12-13). Turning to the Pharisees, Jesus adds: “If you would have understood the meaning of the words, ‘It is mercy that I want and not sacrifice,’ you would not have condemned those who were without fault.” In His mercy, Jesus even prayed for those who were persecuting and killing Him on the cross and asked His Father to forgive them without any conditions. Ultimately, He offered repentance and spiritual rebirth even to the worst of sinners.

By placing the feast of the Divine Mercy on the octave Sunday of Easter, Pope John Paul II highlighted the importance of the feast. It should give us the message that no sinner is beyond the mercy of God. “I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent” (Luke 15:7). This is the message that we should spread and promote among the people who may be groping in the darkness of sin. Jesus will never abandon us, however low we may have stooped in our sinfulness. Look at how mercifully Jesus embraced and brought into heaven the thief crucified at His right. There are many who despair today because they are afraid of God’s punishment. They are under the clutches of the devil who lies to them that they are beyond God’s love and mercy. The feast of Divine Mercy should be celebrated with eternal hope for all who feel lost in sin.

I can imagine Jesus telling each one of us, “Do likewise.” This means to live according to His perfect and holy will without sin, like Him. We breathe and live only because of His mercy and love. Too often, our pride blinds us from seeing the centrality of Jesus in our lives and instead are deluded into believing in our own abilities. A grateful heart can see the mercy of God, and thereby, the true sense of power and creation governing our lives. We must see our brethren as they truly are – eternal beings made in the likeness and image of God. The more Christ-like we become, the more like Him we are going to be.

I would like to end by sharing a personal experience I had with someone. This happened many years ago and I have forgotten the name of the person. Let me call him Matthew for our

reference. He was dying of cancer and for many years, he had abandoned the church and never attended the Holy Mass or received the sacraments. He was baptized and raised a Catholic. He told me he was an altar server when he was young. He called the parish as he wanted to talk to a priest. I went. Matthew asked me to pray for him and talk to God for him. He told me to tell God that he was sorry for the way he treated Him. I assured him that I would be happy to do that. “Is there anything else?” With tears, he told me that he wanted to be saved. I remembered the words of Teresa of Avila who said in the context of a suicide, “Between the bridge and the river there was time and space enough for the mercy of God.” Matthew died a few days later and as he wished, I am sure, he is living with Jesus and His mother Mary now in heaven. No one is beyond the



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

**Stations of the Cross during Lent
Women of the Cross
March 22, 2024**



**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