

## PARISH INFORMATION & SCHEDULES

### Office Phone 510-792-1962 - 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 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](mailto: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 the office 510-792-1962 (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](http://www.sjapostle.net)

[office@sjapostle.net](mailto:office@sjapostle.net)

Fr. Antony Vazhappilly, Pastor

## PARISH CALENDAR

### Monthly Meetings

**Knights of Columbus Officer's Meeting**

First Monday 7:30pm

**Knights of Columbus Business Meeting**

3<sup>rd</sup> Monday 7:30pm

**St. Vincent de Paul**

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday 7:00 pm

**Bishop Begin Assembly 3546**

Business Meeting, 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday 7:30pm

**Pastoral Council**

4<sup>th</sup> 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** 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after 10am Mass

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

United Conference of  
Catholic Bishops Website

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

## 3rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Luke 1:1-4, 14-21)

### *JESUS IN HIS NATIVE VILLAGE*

Jesus came to be known far and wide,  
He became a name no one could hide.  
He grew in people's admiration.  
People came without hesitation.

Jesus was a young man of thirty,  
To listen to Him, they were thirsty.  
Men of all ages came to listen,  
Just to see Him, women would hasten.

Nazareth was an unknown village,  
Birth of Jesus was a privilege.  
Here the Son of Man spent His childhood,  
In His place, He was misunderstood.

He came to the synagogue one day,  
People stood up and began to pray.  
They were amazed at what Jesus read,  
No one read like Him, they all agreed.

People then talked about His background,  
They knew everything about His household.  
They knew from where Joseph and Mary came,  
There was nothing special for them to name.

His own relatives thought He was mad,  
To keep Him bound, they tried very hard.  
Hence, He wasn't accepted in His village,  
With His people, He had no good image.

#### **QUESTIONS:**

1. Which part of the poem reminds you of a personal experience of rejection?
2. What do you feel when you are rejected?
3. Why do you think Jesus visited Nazareth, knowing in advance His rejection was assured?
4. What does God ask of you through knowledge of this Scripture?

#### **REFLECTIONS:**

There is an old joke that Jesus was grounded by His parents, Joseph, and Mary, for 18 years after He was lost and found when He was twelve years old. His parents had taken Him to the temple in Jerusalem and, without His parents' knowledge or permission, He remained there while His parents departed with the caravan. His parents had already made a one day's journey toward home when they realized that Jesus was missing. They were terribly worried and anxious until they found Him after three days of searching: "After three days they found Him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions." Nothing else is known about His life from the age of 12 to 30, with this exception: "Then He went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But His mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man."

Jesus reappears in Scripture when He is about 30 years old and is beginning His public ministry. He began His mission by being baptized by immersion in the Jordan River by John, who initially protested baptizing the Messiah. As Jesus emerged from the water, there was an extraordinary manifestation as a voice from heaven proclaimed, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased" (Matthew 3:16-17). After the baptism, "the Spirit drove Him into the wilderness" (Mark 1:12). There

**JANUARY 26, 2025**



**MESSAGE  
FROM  
FR. ANTONY**

He spent 40 days and nights in preparation for His three years of public life, which would culminate with His agonizing death on the cross. With great spiritual power, Jesus would return to Galilee, where He would teach in many synagogues. His name spread through the region and more people began to come and listen to Him teach. They were vocal in their praises for Him and there was widespread speculation about where He had gotten His wisdom and knowledge. They were amazed at what He did and taught. Women would bring their children so Jesus would bless them. Jesus became a widely sought-after as a healer. People brought the blind and lame, the mute and the possessed. They all went back thanking Jesus for the complete cure they had experienced.

Jesus' mission of preaching and teaching became more widely publicized after John the Baptist, His cousin, had been imprisoned by Herod Antipas, the ruler of the regions of Perea and Galilee. It may seem that He inaugurated His public ministry at Nazareth on a Sabbath day, reading aloud the portion of Isaiah 61:1-2, a well-known Messianic prophecy of His work in Israel. After He finished reading, "He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. And He began to say to them, 'Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing'" (Luke 4:20-21). It is hard to say how much the people understood. The prophet Isaiah lived in 740 B.C. and his ministry was mostly centered in Jerusalem. Under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, he had already prophesied of the coming of Jesus, the Savior of the world. The passage that Jesus read was the prophetic message of the prophet about the Messiah to come. It was ironic that, after waiting for the Savior for 700 years, when He finally came, the Jews did not accept Him for the simple reason that He was born of Joseph and Mary, who they believed did not have the social credentials to be the parents of the Messiah! The Jewish Scribes and leaders were confounded simply because Jesus was born into a poor family.

Many admired Jesus' eloquent sermons and were amazed at the miracles He performed. Some even wanted to make Him their king when they saw Him feeding thousands of people with just a few loaves of bread and a couple of fish. It would be natural to expect the people of His own village, where He grew up, to be proud of Him and become His followers and disciples. For one thing, Nazareth came to be known only because of Him. Until Jesus, it had never been mentioned in the Old Testament. There is an interesting story about Philip telling Nathanael that he had found Him of whom the prophets had spoken. Surprised, Nathanael said, "Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?" Philip said, "Come and see" (John 1:45-46). This highlights how obscure the birthplace of Jesus was. Nazareth was a small hamlet with a small population.

Many in the village eagerly anticipated seeing Him after having received so many wonderful reports about His works. As He spoke, everyone in the synagogue listened with rapt attention, unable to take their eyes off Him. For a moment, they must have felt proud for this son of their soil. But, such good sentiments did not last long. Inasmuch as they admired His ability to speak, they could not understand how a poor Nazarene, son of Joseph and Mary who they knew very well from His childhood, could speak with such authority. Jealousy crept into the hearts of some of them who instigated others against Jesus. As a result, He was rejected by the people and departed. He could not perform many of the miracles He would have loved to do for the faithful among His people. Jesus probably knew everyone in the village, yet it was the only place He found Himself unwelcome, which prompted Him to say, "Truly I tell you; no prophet is accepted in his hometown."

To feel rejected is a very painful experience. You can only understand how deep this feeling is through personal experience with close relationships such as a spouse, friend, or children. Jesus had returned to His native birthplace but was not accepted on account of His parents, who did not come from the wealthy class. Such things still happen even in the 21st century. People are rejected because of color, ethnicity, or religious affiliation. If anyone has the misfortune of going through such terrible experiences, think of Jesus who will tell us, "If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first" (John 15:18). It is not about what and who they say you are, that is important. Instead, it is what you think you are that will make a huge difference. Others may put you in a box, but they can do it only if you let them. When Jesus was rejected by His own people, He was not discouraged and continued his mission. It helped Him learn a big lesson that "A prophet is accepted by everyone except by his own people." How true! If you have had an experience like this, console yourself because your Master and Lord went through it before you! Jesus knew He was His Father's beloved Son. Remember, you are God's beloved who accepts you as you are! That is enough!



**St. James Parishioners  
You are invited  
to have  
Our Lady of Fatima  
statue  
in your home  
for two weeks.**

Please sign up at:

[https://www.signupgenius.com/  
go/10C0B44AEA62EA2F4C25-50112309  
-pilgrims#/](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B44AEA62EA2F4C25-50112309-pilgrims#/)

If you have any questions, please call  
Judi Domingo at **510-767-9548**

**THE DIVINE MERCY  
APOSTOLATE  
OF ST. JAMES PARISH**

invites you to welcome **The Divine Mercy and Mother of Mercy** into your home. We bring the images to your home, for your special prayers, intentions, for sick family members and prayer of heartfelt Thanksgiving.

The following are the dates available for the Year

Jan 26

Feb 9 & 23

March 9 & 23

April 6

May 4 & 18

June 1, 15 & 29

July 13 & 27

Aug 10 & 24

Sept 7 & 21

Oct 5 & 19

Nov 2, 16 & 30

Dec 14 & 28

**For contact information :**

**Marie Rapp 510 574 6939**



2025.