

## 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 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](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 or email [MTC@sjapostle.net](mailto: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](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>

## 5th SUNDAY OF LENT (John 8:1-11)

### *THE WOMAN CAUGHT IN ADULTERY*

It was a sunny and promising morning,  
Under the bright sun, the temple kept shining.  
The people around Him soon became a crowd,  
Jesus began to teach, speaking very loud.

There then appeared a group of noisy people,  
Who dragged a helpless woman to the temple.  
She was made to stand in front of everyone one,  
Watching the defenseless woman, some had fun.

The Scribes and the Pharisees had hidden plans,  
Behind this sad drama, there were evil hands.  
To accuse Jesus this was only a trap,  
They would never want this to be a mishap.

The woman was accused of adultery,  
Death by stoning was the only penalty.  
Every Jew faithfully followed Mosaic Law,  
But no one saw the woman in great sorrow.

Jesus was made judge over this poor woman,  
They wanted His judgement to be inhuman.  
In either way, they thought Jesus would blunder,  
They knew Jesus did not have a safe answer.

He said, "One without sin could be the first to stone."  
One by one they all went home dropping their stone.  
These people still had their hearts hard as a stone,  
But the woman went home ready to atone.

#### **QUESTIONS:**

1. Which phrase of this poem helps you see the origins of murder?
2. How much innocent blood stains your soul?
3. If you died right now, how would God judge you?
4. When will you go to confession and confess the mortal sins you have committed?

#### **REFLECTIONS:**

The story of the woman caught in adultery is entirely in keeping with Jesus' relationship to sinners. One of the things that shocked the Pharisees was when Jesus called the sinners and the tax collectors. He called Matthew, the tax collector, to be His disciple. He accepted the sinful woman who anointed him at a Pharisee's house. He made a Samaritan the hero of one of His parables and a tax collector the hero of another. He went to the house of Zacchaeus, a tax collector, for dinner. He held a conversation openly with the Samaritan woman at the well. The episode of this sinful woman took place at the Jerusalem temple during the Feast of Tabernacles, which was like a harvest festival during which people lived in makeshift dwellings made of tree branches to commemorate God's care for them in the wilderness and during the harvest. It was a joyful festival in which music and dance played a significant part. It is during this joyful celebration that the Scribes and Pharisees created an ugly scene by bringing a woman caught in adultery to Jesus and demanded that He determine what could be done to her, whether they should stone her in accordance with Mosaic Law or set her free. They wanted to find a reason to kill Jesus and they had sent officers to arrest him which the officers refused to carry out because "No man ever spoke like this man!" The Pharisees were malicious and this was a trap to accuse Jesus. The law with which they were trying to punish the woman also required the execution of the man who was her partner in sin. This story makes no mention of the man. In that patriarchal

**APRIL 6, 2025**



**MESSAGE  
FROM  
FR. ANTONY**

society, people were more likely to excuse the man for a sexual sin. These Scribes and Pharisees needed only this woman for their nefarious purposes. It is really Jesus who is on trial here. The Scribes and Pharisees had seen Him deal mercifully with sinners and hoped that He would be merciful to the woman which would go against the existing Mosaic Law. That was the trap.

Every contrived plan to accuse and arrest Jesus had failed, and the Pharisees and other leaders were desperate. They came up with the plan to use a woman of ill repute to trap Jesus. They must have spied on her in order to catch her red-handed, which, of course, immediately placed their own souls in a state of mortal sin, having broken the 5th and 6th commandments. They were instantly unworthy to even stand in the presence of their Lord and demand He pronounce His divine judgement. They were all guilty of murder in their hearts: not just of the woman, but of their Lord who they would eventually crucify.

All this happened one morning as Jesus was ministering to a large crowd. They interrupted Him by forcing a half-dressed woman to the ground in front of Him, demanding that He pass final judgment on her. Jesus knew this was a feeble-minded attempt to trap him. Their logic was that if Jesus would tell them not to stone her to death, He would violate the Mosaic Law. If He chose, instead, to abide by the Mosaic Law, then He would contradict the love, mercy, and compassion He had been teaching. These small-minded, murderous men were blinded by their lack of faith, not realizing that they were trying to outwit God Himself! They were instead shocked to see Jesus remaining calmly seated, writing something with His fingers on the ground all the while. He sat up and looked straight into the eyes of everyone in the crowd, reading their sinful hearts and proclaimed, "Let the man among you who has no sin be the first to cast a stone at her." They couldn't believe what they heard. In an instant, they were all utterly defeated and forced instead to confront their own sin! The elders who had become obstinate in their wickedness started dropping stones, one by one.

We must keep in mind that these men were not interested in reforming this woman, nor did they care for her welfare. It is even possible that many of them knew this woman from their own adulterous visits with her. None of them was willing to understand or show mercy to the woman. They were willing to murder her with their wicked plan to murder Jesus. See the depths to which human beings fall when they are spiritually blind. This is still happening today in nearly the same way. Look how many hypocrites objectify human beings and sexually degrade themselves and many others, and then in the name of mercy and freedom, promote murderous abortion and infanticide in ways that even the Nazis didn't contrive. These people are even worse than those who wanted to stone the woman and crucify Jesus, because at least the Pharisees didn't try to pretend that stoning was a protection of her rights and health! Many of these same people come into our church and present themselves for communion and never show up in the confessional! How much love and compassion remains in the world today?

See how Jesus suddenly changed the scene, from bloody murder to mercy and forgiveness. Jesus was able to see beyond her sinfulness. He saw what she was capable of becoming with His mercy and compassion. As the woman stood in front of Jesus, she experienced God's mercy and perfect love. Jesus saved both her body and soul from death and invited her into everlasting life by telling her to go and sin no more! She would never be the same because of her personal encounter with Jesus, her Savior. She arrived in front of Jesus a public sinner despised by society and left transformed and transfigured. She saw the path to holiness and would stop at nothing short of becoming a saint, for she had received the gift of faith from Jesus, her Savior.

What did Jesus write as He listened to the accusations against the woman? No one knows for sure. It may be better to ask what He could have written with His fingers. Possibly, He had written the sins of those wicked men as they stood exposed in front of Him, the Son of Man. They could not hide anything from Him, God Incarnate. Or, He could have written the words of mercy and compassion with which He would soon be absolving the sinful woman. One thing is clear from this encounter: Jesus exemplifies the importance of silent reflection. Through the silence He created, He also gave the accusers an opportunity to examine their conscience so they could possibly be open to transformation and conversion. God speaks to you only in the silence of your heart. What about you? Are you willing to admit the sins in your heart that could easily lead to your spiritual death? When will you next be going to confession with tears of repentance?

Jesus was not interested in engaging the Pharisees in an academic dispute about an interpretation of the Mosaic Law. His only purpose was to save souls and reveal to mankind that salvation is only found in God's love and mercy. Jesus, in His response, neither failed to respect the law nor departed from His characteristic meekness. The final dialogue is very important. Jesus asked her, "Has no one condemned you?" "No one, sir," she replied. Jesus said, "Nor do I condemn you. You may go. But from now on, avoid this sin." Mercy and compassion will never fail. We can overcome evil only with love and mercy. Had Jesus pronounced judgement at that moment, all of them would most certainly have been punished. But, He was infinitely merciful toward them, even more so than toward the woman. His wisdom was getting not only her, but all present to repent of their sins.

March 27, 2025

**Letter of Appreciation and Gratitude**

*Honoring the Our Lady of Compassion and Protection (OLCP) Prayer Group*

**Dear Cora and Tito Lorenzo,**  
**Dear Fr. Antony Vazhappily,**  
**Dear OLCP Members,**

On behalf of the St. James the Apostle parish community, I extend our deepest gratitude and heartfelt appreciation for your many years of devoted service, faith-filled leadership, and generous hearts.

To **Cora and Tito Lorenzo**, thank you for lovingly opening your home and hearts for so many years as hosts and stewards of the *Our Lady of Compassion and Protection (OLCP)* prayer ministry. Through your hospitality, OLCP became a sacred refuge for those seeking comfort, prayer, and community. Under your leadership, this ministry grew into a strong and faithful spiritual family, centered on Marian devotion and united in trust in the Lord's mercy.

Founded during a time of great need for spiritual healing and connection, OLCP became more than a weekly gathering—it became a movement of faith. Through rosaries, novenas, intercessions, and shared intentions, the group touched the lives of countless parishioners and friends, offering a beacon of compassion, hope, and unity.

I would also like to offer special recognition and thanks to **Rev. Fr. Antony Vazhappily**, Pastor of St. James the Apostle Catholic Church, who served as the **spiritual guide of OLCP**. Your pastoral support, sacramental presence, and guidance over the years helped nurture OLCP's mission and deeply enriched the spiritual lives of all its members. Your wisdom and dedication have been a constant source of inspiration to the group and to our wider parish family.

As the OLCP prayer ministry now comes to a close in its original form, I humbly and joyfully honor the **end of a sacred era**—a time marked by faithful perseverance, heartfelt intercessions, and the quiet strength of community prayer. Though the home-based gatherings may conclude, the spirit of OLCP lives on. **The ministry will continue as a prayerful organization within the St. James parish community**, remaining rooted in faith, fellowship, and devotion to our Blessed Mother.

I am especially grateful to **all the members of the OLCP prayer ministry** for your **collective and generous monetary gift** toward the construction of the new church. Your support is a

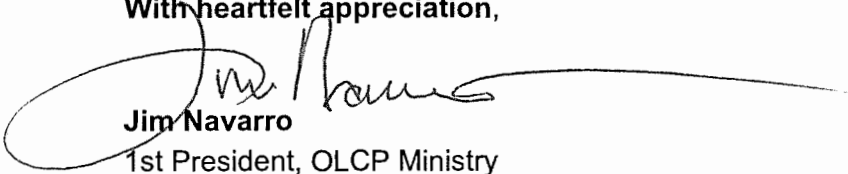
meaningful reflection of your commitment to our parish and the spirit of unity that OLCP has nurtured throughout the years.

I also want to extend my heartfelt thanks to **Cora and Tito for your leadership in guiding the OLCP members** during their spiritual journeys. **Your gifts (both spiritual and monetary)** are beautiful testaments to your enduring faith and love for all who came into contact with you, your home, and family. It will help shape the spiritual home of future generations and will stand as a lasting legacy of your devotion.

**Fr. Antony**, we thank you once again for your instrumental role in the growth of our parish, especially for your work in securing generous donations and leading us forward with vision, faith, and compassion.

With profound gratitude and love, I thank each of you for your faithful witness, your generous spirits, and your enduring devotion. May God bless you abundantly for the light you have brought into our community.

**With heartfelt appreciation,**



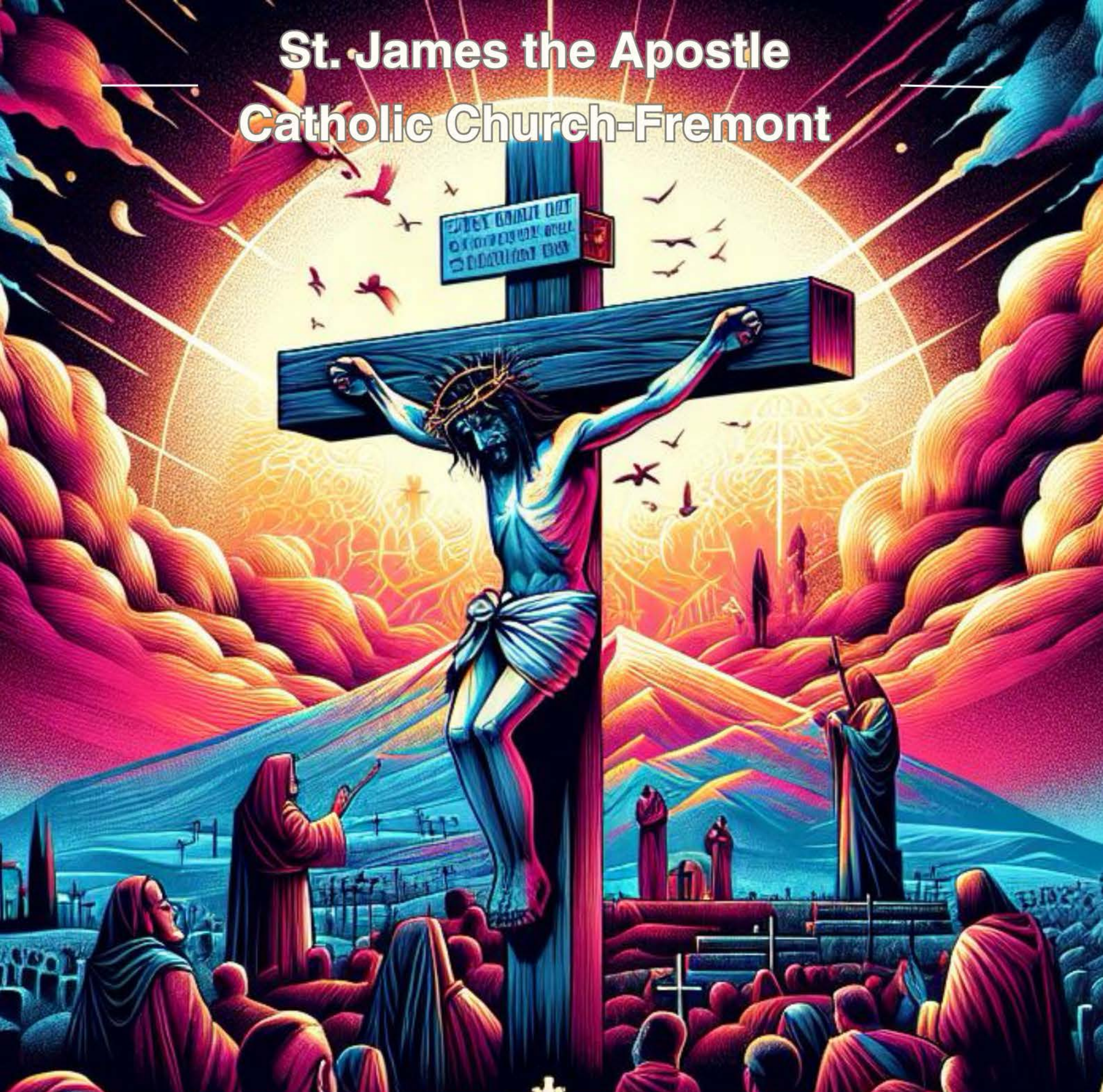
**Jim Navarro**

1st President, OLCP Ministry  
OLCP / St. James the Apostle Catholic Church

cc: **Rev. Fr. Antony Vazhappily**



**St. James the Apostle  
Catholic Church-Fremont**



**Sunday April 13th 5:00 PM**

**By OLV Novena Ministry**

**PASSION OF THE CHRIST**

**Live Performance**

**34700 Fremont Blvd, Fremont, CA 94555**



# Holy Spirit Church and School

1st

## CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT

Proceeds go to St. Vincent de Paul

**SATURDAY, MAY 3RD AT 11 AM**

HOLY SPIRIT SCHOOL, PARISH CENTER  
37588 FREMONT BLVD, FREMONT

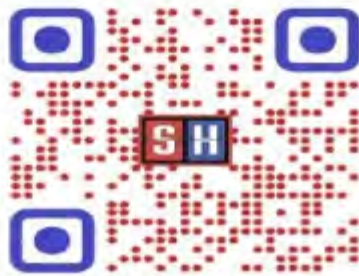
**FEES:**

Adults \$60/team  
Kids (14 & under)  
\$40/team

**PRIZES FOR ADULTS:**

1st : \$300  
2nd : \$150  
3rd : \$75

**Food and Drinks available for purchase**  
For questions contact [TFEZLER@AMPF.COM](mailto:TFEZLER@AMPF.COM)



**Scan QR Code to register!**



**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.



The Divine Mercy Apostolate of St. James Catholic Church invites you to join us during  
**Divine Mercy Novena, April 18 - April 27, 2025**

April 18 – Good Friday	After the Good Friday Liturgy at 1:00PM, the Divine Mercy Novena begins
April 19– Holy Saturday	After the 8:30AM prayers
April 20 – Easter Sunday	After the 12:00PM Mass
April 21 – Monday	After the 8:30AM Mass
April 22 – Tuesday	After the 8:30AM Mass
April 23– Wednesday	After the 8:30AM Mass
April 24 – Thursday	After the 8:30AM Mass
April 25 – Friday	After the 8:30AM Mass
April 26 – Saturday	After the 8:30AM Mass followed by Exposition of Blessed Sacrament, Benediction and Reconciliation
April 27 – Sunday	<b>Divine Mercy Sunday Feast Day</b> 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**

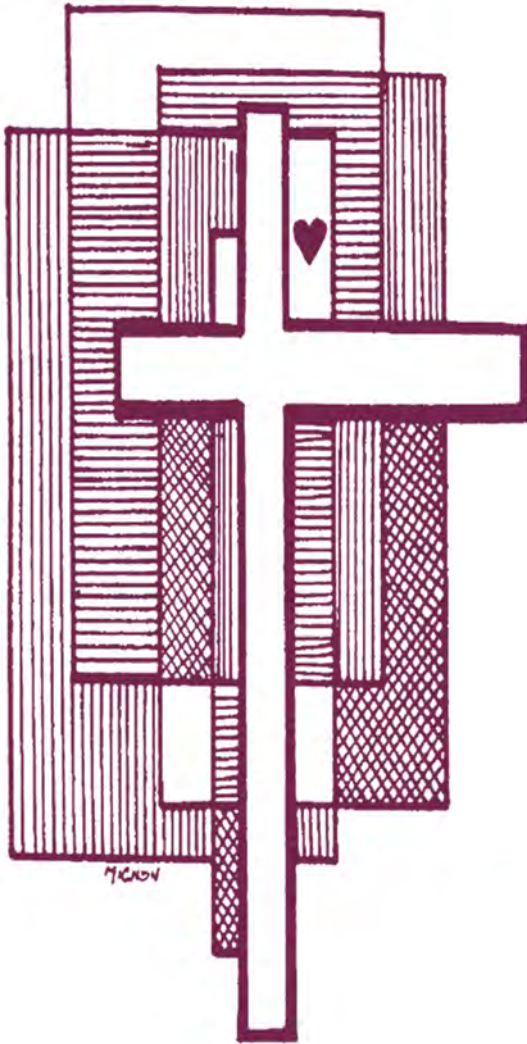
# Holy Week Schedule

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

April 14, 15, 16

Morning Mass - 8:30am

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## Easter Tridium

### Holy Thursday, April 17

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

7:30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

Adoration until Midnight

### Good Friday, April 18

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

Black Nazorene Procession



3:00pm Divine Mercy Novena Day #1



#### Evening Services

7:30pm Good Friday Liturgy with Communion

### Holy Saturday, April 19

8:30am - 10:00am Retreat/Recollection

(No Mass)

After the 8:30 Prayers

Divine Mercy Novena Day #2

7:30pm Easter Vigil

## Easter Sunday, April 20

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

Divine Mercy Novena Day #3