

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

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. (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

PARISH CALENDAR

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

United Conference of
Catholic Bishops Website

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

4th SUNDAY OF EASTER (John 10:27-30)

MY SHEEP HEAR MY VOICE

The name Good Shepherd best suits the Son of God,
He is always faithful to His every Word.
As Shepherd, His love for the sheep is total,
He defends them even when times are fatal.

He does not run away from any dangers,
And does not, in any way, act like strangers.
For His sheep, He readily lays down his life,
He's ready to protect them from every strife.

The Shepherd is attentive to every sheep,
In His watchful eyes everyone He does keep.
He is with them even under scorching heat,
The Shepherd anticipates danger when they bleat.

As a good Shepherd, He doesn't count the cost-
To protect His loving sheep from being lost.
He has special love for the sheep that wander,
He would go after them in rain or thunder.

The sick sheep on His shoulders He does carry,
His heart goes out to the sick without tarry.
He never gives up on those who are unfaithful,
He is never tired of being merciful.

The diligent sheep always follow His voice,
Following His voice is always the best choice.
He grazes His sheep in the verdant pastures,
His faithfulness surpasses all the pastors.

QUESTIONS:

1. Which stanza helps you hear your Shepherd's call?
2. What surprises you most about God?
3. What hope does God give you?
4. What happens when you ignore your Shepherd?
5. What happens when you listen to your Shepherd?

REFLECTIONS:

The sixth graders in a particular school had a declamation competition and the teacher selected Psalm 23, the Lord is my Shepherd, for the performance. All of them were excited and nervous when the day arrived for them to show their abilities. The entire student body, teachers, and parents filled the hall to capacity. It was a very impressive performance with everyone vying with each other for first prize. The last one to perform was Johnny who, as soon as he began, went blank and could not remember a word. Before he left the podium, he said, "The Lord is my Shepherd and that's all I want to know." Johnny received the greatest applause of the evening.

Yes, the Lord is my Shepherd and that's all we need to know. The most cherished picture of our Lord that comes to my mind is when I think of Jesus as the good Shepherd, walking with a sheep on His shoulders. This is a very moving image because you immediately see the mercy, love, and compassion of Jesus. As our Shepherd, He never tires of devoting as much time, energy, and sacrifice as needed to take care of his sheep. He never gets discouraged with the disobedient sheep that stray and become lost. He is ready to leave all the rest of them and look for the lost one until He finds it. A hired shepherd, on the other

MAY 11, 2025



**MESSAGE
FROM
FR. ANTONY**

hand, does not take responsibility by defending and protecting the sheep when wild animals attack them; instead, he runs away when he senses danger. This is because he does not love his sheep and is not committed to look after them. He works for money and that is all he cares for.

The Good Shepherd has the welfare of the sheep uppermost in His heart. He knows them by name and is ever ready to defend them, even to the point of laying down His life for them. He knows when they are in danger because He follows them very closely and will never leave them. Jesus is the Good Shepherd, and every baptized Christian is His sheep. This is the most apt analogy and description of our relationship with Jesus, the Good Shepherd. What a beautiful image! As our Shepherd, Jesus loves us with total and unconditional love. He is closer to us than we are to our thoughts. In order to save us from our sins, He died on the cross so that He would conquer sin and death. His death on the cross was His greatest expression of His love for us. No one, before or since, has shown such sacrificial love in the world, and no one ever will. Tragically, despite our Lord's mystical and eternal sacrifice, too many men and women fail to see our Lord's infinite love for us. Instead they are more deeply steeped in sin, which only paves the way to evil.

One of the most painful paradoxes among the Christians is that they do not listen to the voice of the Shepherd. There are too many distractions in their lives, and they are caught up in too many voices luring them to quick fixes. They are deceived into believing these quick fixes will solve all their problems. The more they seek these shortcuts to their happiness and peace, the further they drift into depression and frustration. It's like a man who drinks to forget his problems, waking up in the morning with many more problems. He attempts to forget by drinking again. Sadly, he will never realize that he has messed up his life and his family. This is the story of Christians in the world who know that Jesus has all the solutions to all their problems but go everywhere else seeking peace and joy in their lives. Unless we take care of our souls, there is no way we can find joy and peace. Unless we learn to use the wealth and money as God's gifts intended for righteous purposes, we can end up worshiping money as God!

A child who does not learn to listen to his parents will have problems listening to them when he grows into an adult. Most likely he will end up doing the wrong things. It is very important that children be taught to listen to their parents, which is the first step in learning to listen to God. Listening is a gift and listening to Jesus is more than just a gift. It is a grace. Parents are going through a terrible crisis in these modern times. Many parents do not know where to draw the line when it comes to disciplining their children, and in many cases, the root cause is that those same parents do not have God as their top priority in life. If you examine their often lengthy "to do list," you will most likely see no time whatsoever reserved for prayer. The only way we can teach our children how to listen to the Shepherd is to teach them how to pray. Basically speaking, prayer is listening to the voice of God. While it is really disheartening to see an increasing number of Christians failing to listen to the Good Shepherd, you can help bring back the lost sheep by setting an example as a prayerful Christian.

Let us now briefly look at the gospel of the day. According to the culture of the time, people considered a person's name to be more than a simple label to identify that person. They believed that something of the person's identity was tied up in the name, that the name expressed something of the person's essential character. The point of this verse is that the Good Shepherd knows the sheep with the same kind of intimacy that we have with friends and neighbors. For example, Mary Magdalene recognized the risen Christ only when Jesus called her by name. G. A. Smith, in *Historical Geography of the Holy Land*, tells of watching shepherds in Judea. Several shepherds would converge on a water hole and the flocks would get intermixed. Smith wondered how the shepherds would separate them once again into their individual flocks. The answer came when it was time for a shepherd to move on. He would use his distinctive call, the sheep from his flock would make their way to him, and he would lead them out. While inside the sheepfold, the sheep have the protection of its walls. When the shepherd leads them out of the sheepfold, the shepherd is their only protection and all that they need if he is a good shepherd. Whenever he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him for they know his voice. Once the sheep have recognized the shepherd's call and have separated themselves from the other flocks and gathered around the shepherd, the shepherd leads them out of the sheepfold to pasture and water. He leads rather than drives them ensuring that the path is safe. They will by no means follow a stranger but will flee for they don't know the voice of strangers. They have learned to trust their shepherd. We see something similar with babies who readily accept their mother or father but reject being held by strangers.

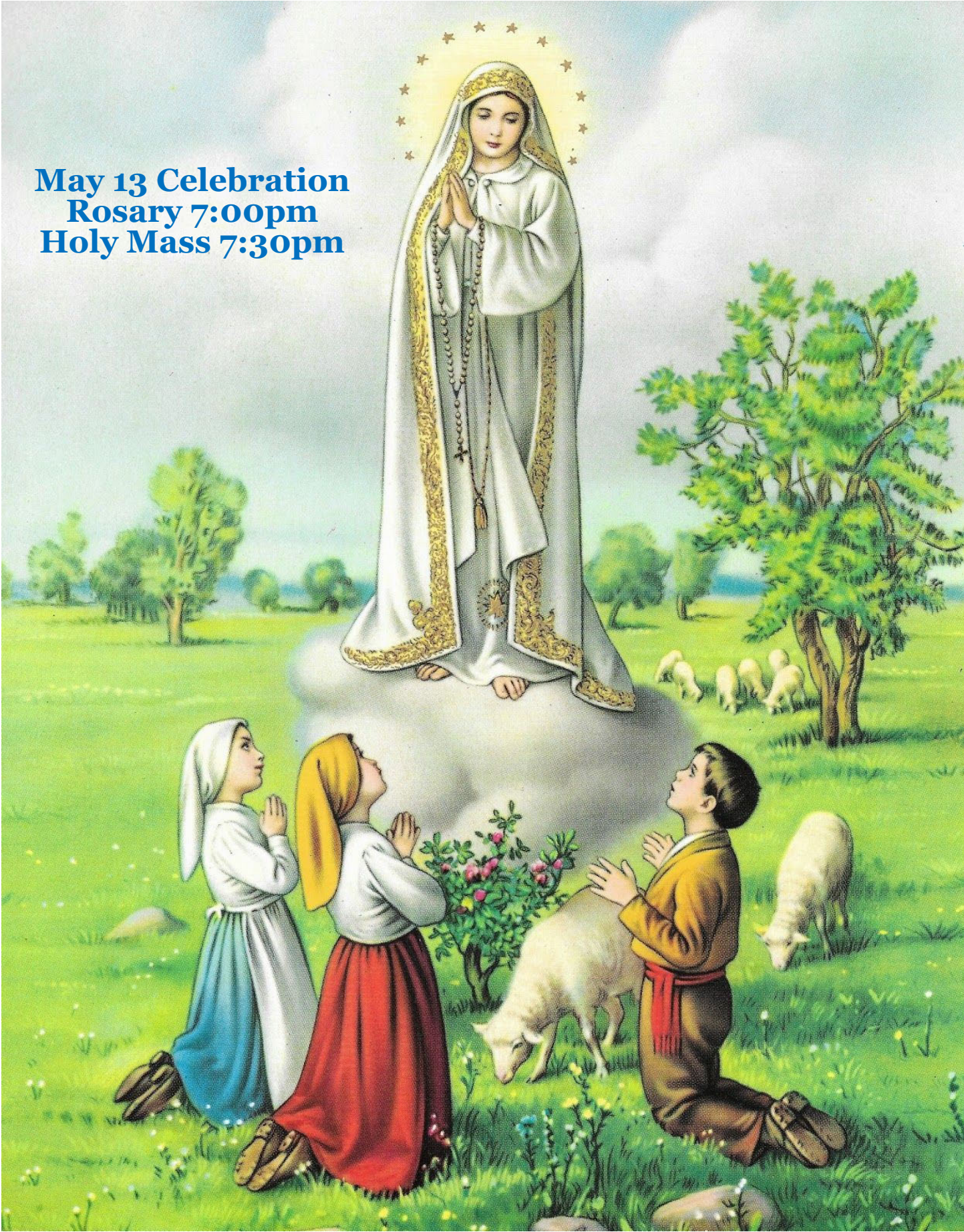
Jesus then changed the metaphor. He was the shepherd but is now the gate. "Most certainly, I tell you, I am the sheep's door. All who came before me were thieves and robbers, but the sheep didn't listen to them. I am the door. If anyone enters in by me, he will be saved and will go in and go out and will find pasture. The thief only comes to steal, kill, and destroy. I came that they may have life and may have it abundantly." Of whom did Jesus speak? Surely not the great historical figures of the faith! He refers to the Pharisees and wealthy Sadducees. They were the thieves and bandits. But there was no lack of others. Jesus warned of false prophets. At the time of writing, late in the first century, the church was struggling with antichrists and false

prophets. Jesus was warning His followers of this danger. God can admit to his kingdom anyone He chooses, but Jesus' disciples have the responsibility for proclaiming that Jesus is THE door, THE way, THE truth, and THE life. "If anyone enters in by Me, he will be saved." That is the purpose of the sheepfold, a safe haven in a dangerous world.

We do not lack for examples of thieves and bandits in the church today. The church suffers from televangelists who promise wealth for the sheep but reap wealth for themselves. The Catholic Church has suffered because of the sins of a few rogue priests. Every preacher is tempted to pack the pews by telling people what they want to hear instead of proclaiming truth from the Bible. All these are "thieves and robbers" who "steal, kill, and destroy." They steal that which does not belong to them and kill the trust of those who believed them and destroyed their faith.



May 13 Celebration
Rosary 7:00pm
Holy Mass 7:30pm





**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.