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*

OCIA (Order 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 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

29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Luke 18:1-8)

PRAY ALWAYS ... NEVER GIVE UP

We know we can never live without breathing, As we should know, we can't live without praying. When we stop breathing, our life comes to an end, Prayer nourishes our soul and peace we'll find.

Discouragement is the enemy of prayer, It can only come from Satan the tempter. Once discouraged, you disconnect from God's sight, It kills your spirit, and you are in a plight.

God already knows your prayers before you ask, There is no need for you to pretend or mask. He will answer your prayers in His own time, Patience you may need to wait until that time.

You may wish God to be an ATM card, So that getting what you want will not be hard. Prayer is manifestation of your trust, It will get you closer to God as you must.

Prayer recognizes God as your Father, He is your everything and there's no other. You can always hope in Him for He's faithful, In His love and mercy, He is bountiful.

Prayer will give you spiritual oxygen, Your soul will be nourished by God's loving Son! Make it a habit to pray without ceasing, You will please your God by your happy living.

QUESTIONS:

- 1. Which part of this poem reminds you of how you should pray?
- 2. What is in your prayer?
- 3. What causes you to stop praying?
- 4. What causes you to resume praying?
- 5. How can you improve your prayer life?

REFLECTIONS:

There are many things we know to be recommended for a happy life. We know, for example, that physical exercise is very important for good health. Who in the world does not know that smoking is injurious to one's health? We do not need anyone to tell us that excessive eating is hazardous and can shorten our lives. But sadly, we do not follow what we know and end up doing the opposite. For that matter, if we were to really live by what we know, our lives would be happier, more peaceful, and longer. One of the things man neglects to nurture is his soul. Human beings are a combination of body and soul. Unfortunately, the soul is often neglected or even forgotten. While every possible care is taken to look after the human body, little or no attention is given to the soul. Created in God's image, human beings are spiritual. Our lives can be only as good as the nourishment with which we feed our souls. We know that nutritious food is important for bodily health and neglecting healthy eating can be dangerous.

The only food that can nourish our soul is prayer. As earthly food nourishes our bodies, prayer energizes our soul. Prayer is the foundation of our spiritual life, as it helps us to recognize our limitations and weaknesses. However intelligent or gifted we

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MESSAGE FROM FR. ANTONY

may be, we are not in control of everything. We have no control over life and death. Prayer helps us to recognize God, on whom we depend, and keeps our lives in the right perspective. The best prayer is one of thanksgiving to God for all the blessings and graces that He gives us every day. We can never thank God enough, because numerous are the blessings that we receive from Him daily. The second most important prayer is one of sorrow or contrition for our sins. As mortal beings, we commit sin, which severs our relationship with God. Only prayer can keep our focus on Him so that we live always in His presence. Prayer helps us to listen to God, as it creates an interior silence in our hearts. Only in silence can God speak to us, and only in silence can we hear Him. Prayer makes us humble, and humility is the foundation of all Christian virtues.

We never hear of anyone saying that they are tired of eating and that they will give up eating for a few days because they need a break from food. However, we see many people who become tired of praying and they easily give up. You don't have to look very far to find such people. They are all around you, in your families, and among your friends or relatives. Have you, at this moment, given up praying? Have you developed a prayer habit? Do you consider prayer important in your life? We forget to pray because we do not see prayer as important. Prayer is found in the heart of a grateful person. A grateful person will never neglect prayer and will recognize what the good Lord has done for him or her. A person who does not pray is not a grateful person. He has a huge ego, which makes him think he is self-sufficient and does not need others, including God. It is prayer that can give us strength to do what we are doing. It is prayer that inspires us to reach out to people through charity. It is prayer that can keep us from making wrong choices in our lives. Prayer is like radar. It provides direction and purpose in life. I know of many people for whom prayer is very important and prayer comes to them as naturally as they hunger for food. Now these are people who grew up in families where prayer was given a prominent place. Their life was centered around prayer. Their parents were the best examples, and the children grew up in that prayerful environment. I will not hesitate to say that if parents are prayerful, the children will follow their example. Parents must understand the importance of prayer. I have seen many young parents struggling to feed their children who are addicted to their iPhones. Parents understand the importance of food for their children and sometimes they must force their children to eat. I wish they would make at least half the same commitment to teaching their children how to pray and make them pray as they make them eat their food.

Jesus prayed always and encouraged the disciples to pray without ceasing. Emphasizing the importance of praying, Jesus told the following parable of a judge who lived in a certain town. Full of self-conceit and arrogance, the judge neither feared God nor cared for any human being. A widow, who also lived in the town, came to him asking for a just judgment over a dispute she had with her adversary. For a long time, he refused even to give her an appointment. The widow persisted and never stopped coming to him seeing justice. Finally, the judge gave in, not because of his love for God or human beings, but because he wanted to get rid of her lest she should continue come and disturb him. The point Jesus wanted to make through this story was to never stop praying. If the unjust judge finally relented and granted a just judgment to the widow, how much more would His heavenly Father listen to our petitions. Never be discouraged in our prayers. Discouragement is the greatest enemy of prayer.

God does not function like an ATM card to answer all our prayers. He may answer some prayers immediately, may never answer other prayers, or may eventually answer prayers according to His timeline. Though He may not answer our prayers, it is important to remember that the only reason for this is that He knows what is good for us and what is not. He will answer our prayers in ways beyond our expectations or understanding, and He will do it in His time. Be patient! Whenever you are discouraged and want to give up praying, remember this is the work of the devil. This is one of the biggest tricks he plays on us. Keep in mind that he is not happy to see you praying to God. He does not want you to grow with God and follow Him. He will, therefore, make you doubt God and His promises. He will blind you from seeing the face of God. Once you are discouraged, you are not able to see your God. Every time you give up and cease to pray, you have become a victim of the devil. Be on your guard, therefore, lest you should fall into temptation. Even in the most trying and challenging situations, like death or sickness in the family, please do not give up on God. He will never abandon you, for He is faithful.



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#/

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 2025.

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

