The Window

The Newsletter of St. James' Episcopal Church in Fremont, CA

Called to serve in new and loving ways

April 2013

What is this Resurrection Anyway?

In reality, do shouts of Alleluia! make the darkness disappear? Do our worries, stresses, and hardships dissipate with the rising of the Easter sun/ son? Is this what the Resurrection is all about?

To say the message of Easter is to not worry, that everything will be OK in the end and that our darkness turns to light when the Great Fire is lit would be to disrespect you as passive onlookers and to simplify the most profound and mysterious occurrence in our world's history.

The Resurrection is not a pacifier or a formula for comfort. Life is still not easy when we wake up Easter morning. On the contrary. As theologian Karl Barth says, "…life becomes deadly earnest and difficult wherever this word 'resurrection' resounds. Resurrection proclaims true freedom to us and lets us discover our prison chains. It tells us that the one and only refuge is God. But it tells us that only because it shows us that all our positions on life's battlefield are lost and that we must vacate them. Against this fact we try to defend ourselves. We do not tolerate this pronouncement upon our lives, inherent in the resurrection proclamation. For that reason we deny the resurrection, or we at least minimize it. We alter it into something human." *(Threatened by Resurrection, Bread and Wine, pp. 300-301)*

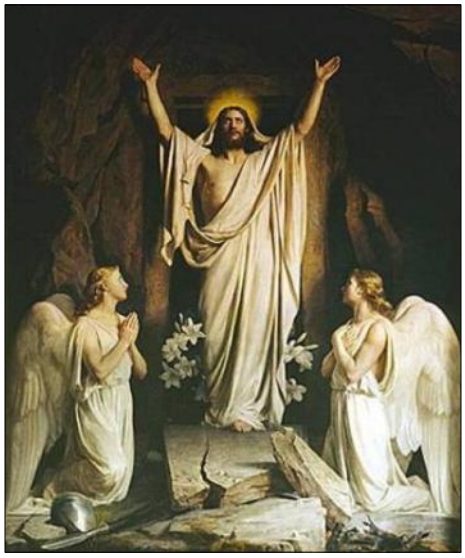
Discovering our prison chains may be a harsh way to put it, yet we all have them. We all have chains that keep us in fear, even in the light of the Gospel's command "Do not be afraid." We face situations that keep us stuck in a place that looks dark and foreboding. We find that our dependence on things blocks us from finding refuge in God. When these battlefields are bereft of Spirit, then as Barth says, we must vacate them in order to experience the true Resurrection of new life.

The Easter message is that Christ is Risen – not for the history books but for *us* so that we may participate in the renewal of our own lives. Christ is Risen so that we may see the Divine and know that the Divine walks with us in our surrender of our own darkness and imprisonment. The message may not bring us to happiness, but it will bring us to joy. It will bring us to deep living and authentic experience. It will bring us Life.

May you experience this year's Resurrection as personal. May you sing with joy at its coming, may you walk with courage in its Truth.

Blessed Easter.

Lori



Stewardship Corner

Celebrating the Earth-God's Creation

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth….God saw all that he had made, and it was very good." (Genesis 1:1,31).

God is the sole founder, owner and manager of the cosmic enterprise we call the universe. God's Word leaves no doubt about his uncontested ownership and control of all he has made, from the earth itself to natural resources to plants and animals. God's first assignment to humans was to work and take care of the earth *("The Lord took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it",* Genesis 2:15). God cares deeply about his creation and we, as God's stewards, are charged to take good care of the environment.

The first Earth Day, founded by Senator Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin, was celebrated April 22, 1970. Today, Earth Day is honored around the world with events and rallies, often scheduled the weekend before or after the 22nd. What can we do individually to help fulfill our responsibility to God and to make a difference?

You might make your own Contract with the Earth to:

- Buy Local and Organic Produce
- Change your Transit Mode (try walking, biking, riding the bus, or BART once in a while to get out of your car)
- Use Less Water (visit www.stopwaste.org for ideas)
- Cut Back on Energy (do an energy audit; replace light bulbs, lower your thermostat, turn off lights and appliances when not in use)
- Buy and Use Less Plastic (carry your own non-plastic water bottle; bring your own reusable bags for shopping)
- Recycle Everything (the "*usual*," toxics, medications, appliances, clothing, etc.)
- Attend an Earth Day Event to learn more (an Earth Day Celebration **"2013 Let's GO GREEN Together"** will be held in Fremont Saturday, April 20, in the Auditorium at Washington West–free and open to everyone)

Remember to ***Reduce, Reuse, Recycle***, and ***Respect*** the Earth!

Creator God, you have created our earth beautiful and bountiful for our sustenance and enjoyment. Teach us to care for it, to think carefully and unselfishly about how we steward it for the good of all your people.

Gail Blalock, Stewardship Chair

March Vestry Meeting

The vestry met on March 14th to continue our discussions on the work of the community. We discussed the opportunity of attending Bishop's Ranch for the Deanery-wide Vestry Retreat in January 2014, which will be our third consecutive year. Members of St. James' Deanery Representatives attended the meeting to join the discussion of Deanery wide projects which we'd like to support this year. This include an evensong, a visit to the A's baseball and a project for Habitat for Humanity – our support will be carried forward for discussion with the other Episcopal churches in Southern Alameda County.

As well as the regular reports, we voted on the allocation of funds to Abode Services from the proceeds of last January's concert by John McCutcheon. Funds for new folding chairs for the Parish Hall and a request by the Little Church Committee to allocate part of their budget for a sound system were also approved.

Remember that you can view the minutes of past meetings at any time on the St. James' Website.

Mike Scrutton, Junior Warden

Enter your ST. JAMES' ducks in the *"DUCKS for BUCKS"* benefit race

Help St. James' & Your Community!

If you haven't yet entered the Ducks for Bucks Race, there's still time. A letter was recently sent out enclosing a Duck entry form. If you've already purchased Ducks using the forms assigned to St. James', thank you. Additional forms are available in the Church office and Parish Hall, so take more to share with family and friends. Only the forms supplied through St. James' will benefit St. James'.

Again this year, you will receive a bonus Duck for every 5 Ducks you purchase. In addition to the Race prizes, there will be some prizes available only to St. James' Duck sponsors.

Once you've sent in your Duck entry envelope or left it at the Church (by Sunday, April 21), contact Tom or Gail Blalock (after Church on Sundays or call 490-7565) to receive a drawing ticket for each Duck sponsored.

Join in the fun and come to the Race on Saturday, April 27, at Lake Elizabeth -- it's a fun way to support St. James' and the Community.

Submitted by Tom Blalock

Photos by Bruce Roberts and Bobbie Tomkinson

Farewell to Bob Dobbin

Home Warming Update

Abode Services with its member churches through the Home Warming - Rapid Rehousing program is still facing tougher challenges finding apartments and homes that are affordable to the families that need them. Abode continues to serve families and vets to keep them off the streets and into favorable living arrangements.

In early March we had two houses here in Fremont that we needed to furnish for Abode Services Wellness Connection program. There was a family moving into one of the houses and three single adults sharing another house.

We teamed up with Our Lady of Guadalupe and First United Methodist Church. The storage container at St James' played a big part in furnishing the homes. Abode Services was able to supply new beds and we gave them lots of furniture, bedding, towels, lamps, chairs, couches etc. It took Scott Whitaker and I about 3 hours to load the rented truck and unload the furnishings for the two homes.

If you are doing Spring cleaning, downsizing, updating your home, please consider donating your gently used furnishings, linens, household items to St James' for the Home Warming - Rapid Rehousing Program. Feel free to contact Gregg Feeney, 510-795-1870 or Scott Whitaker 510-739-0904 to answer questions or accept donations.

Gregg Feeney

Photos by Bruce Roberts

Easter at Hillside Senior Care Center

Thank you to all those St James' folks who donated funds for the "Bunny Brigade". Ten people joined Lori to distribute the bunnies to the residents at Hillside Care Facility.

Those wind-up toys brought smiles to many faces. Entertainment was provided by three ukulele players and Polynesian dancers.

Submitted by Sandra, Lauren and Alice

Sacred Space

St. James should be very proud of their youth group, they're awesome.

Last month the Youth Group served lunch at Sacred Space, and serve they did. The Youth Group made bag lunches and also handed them out with big smile and hardy hand shakes.

Deacon John Trubina and his staff were very impressed with the way our young people went about being part of the service without any pushing or hesitation. They did some reading, praying and having Communion with all the regulars.

Mike and Jan Scrutton, you are the force behind these wonderful young people, our love goes out to you and all of your hard work.

A big thank you to our Youth Group and to Mike and Jan Scrutton. It was a proud moment to see your beautiful faces and your hard work at Sacred Space serving and loving...

Submitted by LeaMarie Ave

Photo by LeaMarie Ave

Music Notes

Thank you to the Adult Choir, the Children's Choir, and our guest singers and instrumentalists that performed during Holy Week and Easter. It was truly inspiring to hear the music, and St. James' appreciates your hard work and dedication.

A big thank you also goes out to the "St. James' Road Crew" which is comprised of Greg Miller, Bud Pearson, and Bruce Roberts. They did a fabulous job of setting up our sound system in every possible configuration for Holy Week. Your hard work is appreciated, guys.

I had a great time teaching the 2-week course, "Music 101", and it's follow-up course, "Music 102" during Faith Formation. It was great teaching so many people the basics of music reading. All of the participants did a great job and caught on quickly to the lessons! Bravo!

Even though Easter is over, the choirs will continue singing. The Children's Choir will sing on Mother's Day and the Adult Choir sings regularly at the 10:30am service. If you would like to sing with the choirs, tell me or any choir member. All people are welcome...this is church choir, not American Idol! Come join in and make a joyous noise to the Lord.

He is Risen! Alleluia!

Jennifer Carini, Music Director

Food and Fellowship Dinners

The next scheduled Food and Fellowship pot-luck dinner will be hosted by Gary and Lea at the home of Margaret Broun and Bob Bell located at 40749 Delores Place, Fremont, CA.

The theme for the evening [illegible] on the Go," everything Mexica[illegible]

There will b[illegible]e Fellowship Hall. We w[illegible]s, desserts and drinks.

More detai[illegible]ow. Please come join us Saturday, April 27th from 5:30pm to 8:00pm

CANCELLED

If you have any questions, please contact Gary via email ggg1944@yahoo.com or by phone (510) 894-1496. You can contact Lea via email at whirlwind54@yahoo.com

Submitted by LeaMarie Ave

Faith Formation Presents

Your Spiritual Toolbox

Spiritual – Comfort and Motivation. Affecting the human soul. Sacred. Unworldly. Religious. Calming.

Toolbox - A box or container for keeping tools. A set of tools.

So how do you obtain a spiritual toolbox? Do you buy it, build it, have it given to you?

And what do you put in it? Your hammer, a lathe, an adz, a tape measure, a set of plans or ideas, a set of practices? If your only tool is a hammer, everything looks like a nail? So, if you set your toolbox up with an assortment of tools, you may be able to deal with more than just nails?

Would you call a pair of knitting needles a spiritual tool? What about a treadmill? (Well, Ma, I always wondered about that boy.) What sets your mind at ease? Do you have a practice or set of practices that increase your closeness to God? Where does you mind go when you sit silently or when you go for a walk?

On April 7th, 14th, and 21th, Faith Formation brings you a series of discussions and presentations centered on Your Spiritual Toolbox, practices that affect your soul, that comfort you, that bring you closer to the Holy Spirit.

Meditation springs up as a common practice, and so does centering prayer. Walking the Labyrinth does it for some folks. Some practice with a trip to the ocean, or by the view and sounds of a quiet meadow. But what if you aren't close to the ocean or a quiet meadow – you know, stuck in noisy commute traffic or riding public transportation next to a smart phone talker. What to do then?

Come to Faith Formation in EB-1 on the dates above for suggested tools to fill your Spiritual Toolbox. As one remembers, the time will be 9:15am, caught in between at 8am service and the 10:30am service.

Photos by Bruce Roberts

Bruce Roberts

Jimmy Carter Teaches Sunday School.

And More.

Not only does former U.S. President Jimmy Carter teach Sunday School, but he also leads Bible Study at his church, the Maranatha Baptist Church in Plains, Georgia. Listen to a discussion on the Centrality of Love, Politics and Faith, Continuous Love, and Repetitive Forgiveness. Find out about the private faith of Jimmy Carter.

On an audio CD, Krista Tippett and Jimmy Carter will converse as Krista attempts to get a sense of the basic Christianity that formed Jimmy Carter's actions in the White House and since. I will lead the session discussion, and yes, there will be music, not the music you would expect.

Save the date, time and space: April 28 at 9:15am in EB-1.

Bruce Roberts

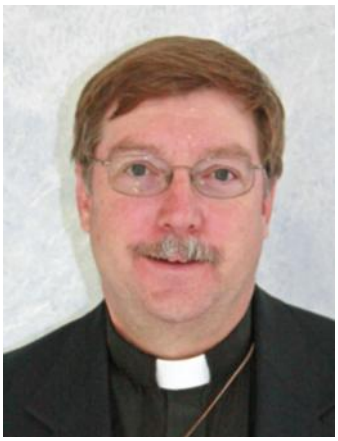
Financial Summary February 2013

Fund Balances	**2/29/2012**	**2/28/2013**
Operating Fund	$ 72,442	$ 37,724
Building Fund	$ 36,336	$ 58,154
Year To Date Summary Operating		
Pledges Budgeted	$ 39,468	$ 40,604
Pledges Paid	$ 36,272	$ 36,879
Unpledged Contributions	$ 1,001	$ 480
Other Op Income*	$ 1,888	$ 3,026
Total Operating Income	$ 39,161	$ 40,385
Total Operating Expenses	$ 40,061	$ 43,118
Income less Expenses	**($ 900)**	**($2,733)**

*Includes Fundraising

Getting to Know Ken Parris, Deacon

Deacon Ken Parris was born in New York City in 1962, the oldest of seven children; six boys and one girl. On Dec. 2 of that year he was baptized at St. Kevin Roman Catholic Church in Flushing. He grew up in South Florida where his family moved when he was a toddler. At 15, Ken moved to Oakland, where he graduated from Skyline High School in 1980. After high school, Ken found himself drifting away from organized religion but always felt a spiritual connection to God.



Ken joined Army ROTC at the University of California Berkeley, and in 1983 he was commissioned an infantry officer in the U.S. Army Reserve and was stationed on active duty at the Presidio of San Francisco.

However, having a servant's heart, Parris decided to pursue a career in law enforcement. He became a police officer trainee with the Oakland Police Department in 1985, graduated from the police academy that year and served Oakland for 27 years before retiring as a lieutenant in November 2012. Parris fondly looks back on his time as a police officer, viewing his service to the poor, weak, sick and lonely as an expression of the diaconal charism of the church.

Ken had returned to the church in 1987, following a transformative experience while working as an officer one Sunday morning when he felt an overwhelming sense of the presence of Christ while cradling a dying man in his arms. Driving home that morning, he passed Christ Church–Alameda and decided to pray for the man who had died. On that day he came back home to the church.

Ken became very active in lay leadership at Christ Church–Alameda, including as a delegate to the convention and deanery, junior warden, vestry member, acolyte master and lay Eucharistic visitor/minister.

At the urging of the parish, Ken entered the ordination process, graduating from the School for Deacons in May 1995. He was ordained to the Sacred Order of Deacons by Bishop William Swing on Dec. 2, 1995, exactly 33 years to the day following his baptism. He has served as a parochial deacon at Christ Church–Alameda, St. Anselm—Lafayette and St. Paul–Oakland and non-parochially as a law-enforcement chaplain.

Working as a peace officer in a city like Oakland presented many physical, emotional and spiritual challenges. In 1995, Ken helped found the Oakland Police Chaplain Corps and served as a chaplain for 18 years. Last year he became a departmental chaplain for the Alameda County Sheriff's Office.

A 37-year member of the Civil Air Patrol (CAP), U.S. Air Force Auxiliary, he is the current National Inspector General, headquartered at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala. He formerly served as the California wing commander and holds the permanent grade of colonel. He is as an adjunct member of the CAP Chaplain Corps, providing character-development instruction to cadets (ages 12 to 21) at a local squadron in Hayward.

Ken helped raise his three nephews and two nieces and is the proud great-uncle of a 20-month-old Cadence. He baptized the three youngest children and participated in the baptisms of the other three. Ken is also a former Big Brothers volunteer and maintains a father-son relationship with his "little brother," Jason, after more than 25 years.

His hobbies include reading, flying and traveling. Ken has been to Israel more than a half dozen times and has visited Canada, Mexico, Jamaica and Jordan. This summer he will go to Ghana, West Africa. Ken's travels have taken him across the United States, including Hawaii, which he calls his second home, and Puerto Rico.

Ken holds a bachelor's degree of theological studies from the School for Deacons; a B.A. in political science from California State University East Bay an A.A. with honors in social and behavioral science from Merritt College; and a Master Police Chaplain Certificate from the International Conference of Police Chaplains.

Editor

Your Presence Made a Difference
Thank You

I am sending this on behalf of Louis Chicoine, Executive Director, Abode Services.

Carol Guterman

Dear Friends,

Thank you for joining us at the Human Relations Commission (HRC) meeting last night to support restored funding for Sunrise Village Emergency Shelter. I wanted to let you know the important progress that was made at the meeting, thanks to your presence and support, and to share some information with you on next steps.

Human Relations Commission Meeting Summary

Last night, more than 40 community members came out to ask the HRC to reject proposed funding cuts that would result in closing Sunrise Village Emergency Shelter during the day and reducing services to the homeless adults and children in residence. **Citing the devastating impact that these cuts would have on vulnerable families and individuals, the speakers asked the commissioners to instead send the City Council a recommendation to fund Sunrise Village at $150,000.** This was the amount at which the City of Fremont first funded Sunrise Village operations in 1992, when it originally committed to the development of the shelter.

The commissioners listened. On April 16, the City Council will review **two possible recommendations** from the HRC on social services funding for the next three years. One recommendation adheres to the original projected HRC budget, and maintains the cuts to Sunrise Village. The other asks the City Council for more funding, so that the city can restore its $150,000 contribution to Sunrise Village. The Council will use these recommendations as the basis for its decision.

Your presence made a huge difference in the HRC's decision to ask the City Council for additional funding. During the discussion, several commissioners referred to the fact that Abode Services had clear community support, because you had come to stand with us in our request for restored funding. Thank you!

Next steps:

We are now looking ahead to the City Council meeting on **April 16 at 7 pm.** At that meeting, the Council will review the two recommendations submitted by the HRC and decide on funding levels for the next three years.

We need to let the City Council know that restoring funding for Sunrise Village is the right thing for the adults and children at the shelter, and the right thing for Fremont. Your presence at this meeting will help us get that message across to the City Council. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us and to bring friends.

We are currently working on strategies for this meeting, and will be contacting you as the date gets closer with more details. In the meantime, if you have any questions or comments about last night's decision or the upcoming City Council meeting, please don't hesitate to contact me at lchicoine@abodeservices.org or (510) 657-7409, ext. 206.

Again, thank you so much for your presence last night, and for all you do to help homeless families and individuals in our community.

Louis

Carol Guterman
Administrative Coordinator
Abode Services
40849 Fremont Blvd.
Fremont, CA 94538
Phone: (510) 657-7409, ext. 201
Fax: (510) 657-7293
cguterman@abodeservices.org

Submitted by Bruce Roberts

The next issue of ***The Window*** is in May. We welcome your **comments, essays, poems, photos, cartoons, newsworthy items of interest, art work, any group activity information and reviews**.

Email your submission to window@saintj.com by: **May Issue Deadline: April 15th**

For the most recent St. James' calendar, Go to:

Saint James' Calendar

The Rev. John Baker hikes El Camino de Santiago Trail.

Many of you will remember The Rev. John Baker, an interim priest at St. James and former local councilman in Fremont and former counselor at Ohlone college. He now lives in the State of Washington. John has asked us to keep him and Carol, his partner, in our prayers as they walk 350 miles on El Camino de Santiago Trail in Spain. He hopes to walk 3 miles an hour in order to complete this task. He has made little wood crosses of Koa wood from Hawaii to give out along the way.

He sent this prayer :
Lord, we are on the El Camino de Santiago Trail to find each other.
While you are walking with us, something happens to us and through us.
Please Lord, open our hearts for your love and let us give this love to people we'll meet.
Lord, open our eyes and minds for the wonder of your creation and the pain and problems that we will encounter.
Lord, open our hands to let us reach the other hands and let us help where ever it is necessary.
Lord, let our feet go safe steps on your trail of peace.
Lord, let us search and find and let us come back home safe and full of good experiences!
Lord, let this trail be a small step on the great trail to you.
Hey Lord, nice to know that we are on the Camino with you!
Thank you, dear God. Amen.
John signed his message to the St. James people. 'Be well, Si se puede.'

He left on March 18 and will return on May 2.

Note: Last year at St. James's movie night we viewed the movie "The Way", starring Martin Sheen, which told the story of one man's journey on this trail.

Nancy Svenson

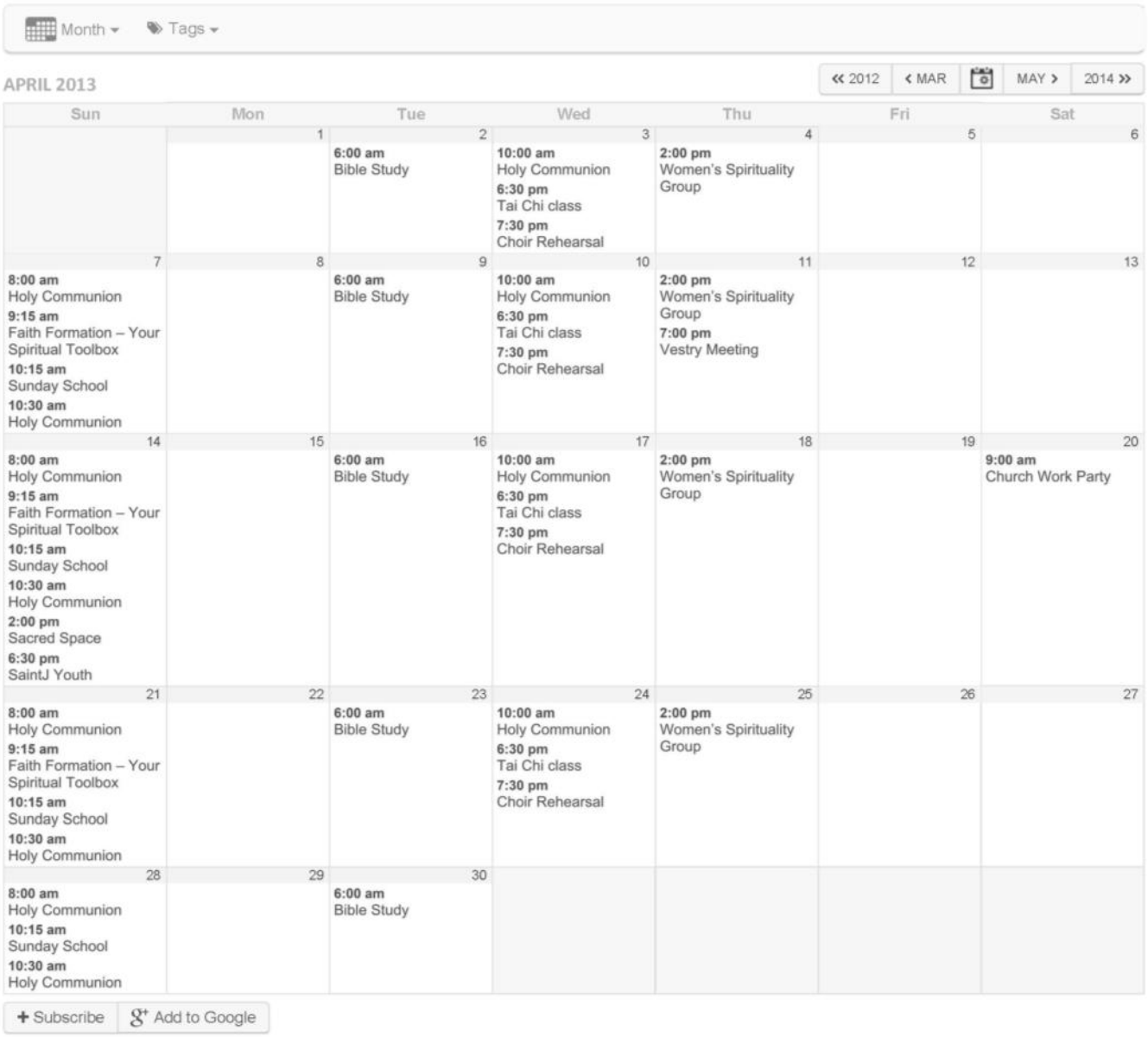
ABODE SERVICES NEEDS OUR HELP

Fremont City Council Meeting
City Council Chambers; April 16 at 7pm

Sunrise Village Emergency Shelter needs our help to maintain the 24/7 services it provides for the people it serves. The funding from the City of Fremont has been cut again in the next three-year budget jeopardizing the daytime services for women and children. Read the April Window articles for more information. Remember St. James' parishioners helped found these homeless services.

Contact Bruce Roberts if you can help by going to the City Council meeting on 4/16/13 at 7 PM. He needs a count as to how many can go. City Council chambers are limited in space.
Brucelroberts386@sbcglobal.net or 510-792-0233 or cell 510-402-8110

Parish Calendar



Most Holy God, we pray for:

Those Who Need Comfort and Healing: Philip, Dwarka, Dana, Brenda, Teri, Ed, Brad, Victor, Clayton, Peg, Lexie, Margaret, Robert, Megan, Catherine, Marco, Shawn, Sandy, Jan, Gloria, Barbara, Marilyn, Paula, Selina, Ann, Verna, Ami

Those Who Need Guidance and Direction: Nadia, Paula, Paul, Jordon, Deja, Rhonda, Kenny, Michael, Victor, Catherine, Daniel, Gloria, David, Lisa

Those Who are Traveling: Paul and Rhonda

Those in the Military: Scott, Jarrod, Bryan, Megan, Erica, Theresa, Mark, Tim, Louis, Military Children of ACBSM, the families and Marines of Dark Horse Battalion, Caitlin, Emily, Robin, Robert, Adam, Darren, Robert

Families Expecting Children: Candace, Ann and David, Jana and Mike, Erica, Amaya, Lacy, Tarha and Joey, Hoa and Erik

Those Who Have Passed Away: Jack, Esther, Bonnie, Brad

To add someone to the "Special Prayers" list, please complete a pew card and place it in the offering plate OR call /e-mail the Church Office. After six weeks, names are removed from the list. Please renew your request as needed.

Thank you

Please note: If your birth month or anniversary is in this month and your name(s) is not listed or the information is incorrect, please email the appropriate information to admin@saintj.com

April Birthdays

4 Bob Bell
6 Ann Jamison
7 Ian Fuller
8 Renee Whitehouse
Kaitlin Evans-Bodenrader
Doug Hamilton
Andy MacRae
10 EJ Hilliard
13 Allen Krimmel
14 Tim Feeney
15 Steve Thomas
Elyse Lovellette
Alan Saichek
16 Claudelle Francis
17 Tom Scrutton
18 Jimmy Singh
19 Daniel Wilcoxon
20 Ruth Poole
22 David Noddin
23 Karl Drescher
26 Elizabeth Hart
Michael Hart
27 Fred Schlag
28 Al Casas
Lea Marie Ave
Marnie Hartmann

April Anniversaries

Love is the condition in which the happiness of another person is essential to your own.

9 Mel and Alice Johnson
11 Ivy and Dwarka Sankar
19 Bud and Jan Pearson

SAINT JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Thornton Avenue at Cabrillo Terrace
PO Box 457
Fremont, CA 94537-0457
WEB: http://saintj.com

WORSHIP TIMES

SUNDAY SERVICES 8:00AM & 10:30AM
FAITH FORMATION SUNDAY 9:15-10:15AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:15AM
YOUTH GROUP SECOND SUNDAY 6:30PM
WEDNESDAY EUCHARIST 10:00AM

OFFICE HOURS

TUESDAY THROUGH FRIDAY: 9:00AM-1:00PM

STAFF

The Rev. Lori Walton ..... lori@saintj.com
The Rev. Ken Parris ..... deaconken@saintj.com
Music Director ..... music@saintj.com
Children, Teen & Family Coordinator…… .....
..... ctfcoord@saintj.com
Office Administrator .....admin@saintj.com
Treasurer .....treasurer@saintj.com
Newsletter submission .....window@saintj.com

VESTRY

Senior Warden ..... srwarden@saintj.com
Janet Fischer

Junior Warden..... jrwarden@saintj.com
Mike Scrutton

Christian Formation ..... christianformation@saintj.com
Alison Saichek

Social Ministries/Congregational Care .....socialministries-congcare@saintj.com
Gary Gearheart, Beverly Mosier, Donald Razzolini

Communications/Welcoming ..... communications-welcoming@saintj.com
Dave Nelsen, Jack Rux

Parish Life……..... parishlife@saintj.com
Bob Bynum, Ralph Locher

Facilities…..... facilities@saintj.com
Al Casas, Bud Spalding

Vestry Clerk: *Elizabeth Hart*

Other Important Coordinators

Eucharistic Ministers & Lectors: Janet Fischer
Children, Teen and Family Ministries: Jan Scrutton
Altar Guild: Ruth Poole
Treasurer: Lynn Locher
Ushers: Burtin Hart

The Window Staff

Ralph Locher
Marilyn Rose
Jack Rux
Penny Trant
Laura Winter