The Window

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

Called to serve in new and loving ways

October 2020

3:00am Fire Alarms

The other morning, early, like 3:00am, the fire alarm in our bedroom went off. Not those sharp little chirps that tell you the battery needs replacing, but a full on screeching alarm. It only sounded three times and stopped (we figured the open windows let in some of the residual smoke from the fires), but it was enough to jolt us out of a sound sleep. It was a harsh and rude awakening, and for me, anyway, the end to that night's slumber.

My heart has been heavy these past weeks for reasons you all know so well. I am not alone in this despair. At the time of this writing, there is violence and sickness and unrest around every corner. Fires still scorch our earth, causing me to wonder what will be left once it has had its fill. Our political system seems wrecked. Even from a dispassionate viewpoint, it appears as if our democracy is being stretched to the breaking point. The heat wave and lack of air conditioning hasn't helped, and in the midst of this current pain, I have been doing a deep dive into our history as a nation, learning about the interactions between European Americans, my own ancestors, and the African people, Asians, Native Americans, and Latinos. It is not a pretty picture.

It has been like a 3:00am fire alarm jolting me out of my slumber, and I am left with that feeling that I believe so many of us have - how do we reconcile the love we have for our country, a country that symbolizes the best of who we can be, with the history of destruction, a history that is bleeding into our current day?

I believe the answer is that we embrace the United States, our beloved country, while we work to make her the nation she was meant to be. We look to the ideals of equality and freedom and we do not rest until we can grow her up into being just that - a country of equality and freedom. We let that darned fire alarm wake us out of our slumber and make a choice to be a part of shaping the future. We educate ourselves and others, we speak out when necessary, and we vote for the people and policies that will further the dream of America.

In every circumstance and situation, both positive and negative, there is much to learn. This is the great blessing of these days - the opportunity to grow, to stretch, to be our best. Those fire alarms are not by chance - they are God's insistence that we wake up and pay attention. They are God's call for us to expand our vision and widen our arms.
(cont. on pg. 2)

3am Fire Alarm, cont.

They are the reminder that there is always something more to learn.

Jesus taught us to love - to love God, to love ourselves, to love our neighbors, to love our enemies. That pretty much covers it. Love. Love everyone. And sometimes, this love means looking at the hard truths so that we change, and our love becomes a lived-love and not one in word alone.

God bless this beautiful and broken world. God bless our own lives to be lives that make a difference and enact change.

Lori+

Music As Prayer

Perhaps each of us slips back to a fantasy place at times like these. Outside, the sky is orange and obscured; the air is thick and perilous to breathe. Pandemic stalks the nation, and rampant politicization makes it difficult to converse reasonably with others, leaving bitterness and anger to replace comforting dialogue. Where do you go when you need to get away from the searing present in order to find solace for your soul?

Ever since I was a child, I have found refuge in music—specifically, classical music, which became my ticket to a world of order, sublime beauty, and solace. Surrendering to a well-performed piece of classical music allowed my mind to soar, to reflect, to sort things out. Most of all, such music has the power to move me to peaceful quiet, and also to give me the catharsis of emotions that readily makes me weep with a mixture of joy and other feelings too deep for words. Listening to music transforms my whole being and cleanses my spirit.

That is why for me, great music continues to be one avenue to the presence of God. I believe it is as great a gift to human life as was ever entrusted to mortals. As prayer takes shape within me, it courses through my intellect; its words can become either my offerings of meaning, or language itself may become a stumbling block to spiritual immediacy. Music, however, flows through my heart and into those hidden recesses whence springs love for others and my apprehension of beauty. My mind brings reason to my quest for God; music can be the key to such spiritual intimacy as transcends the limits of words. I almost imagine that the Lord's first words of creation could have been a song sung over the abyss.

If I could, I would sing all my prayers.

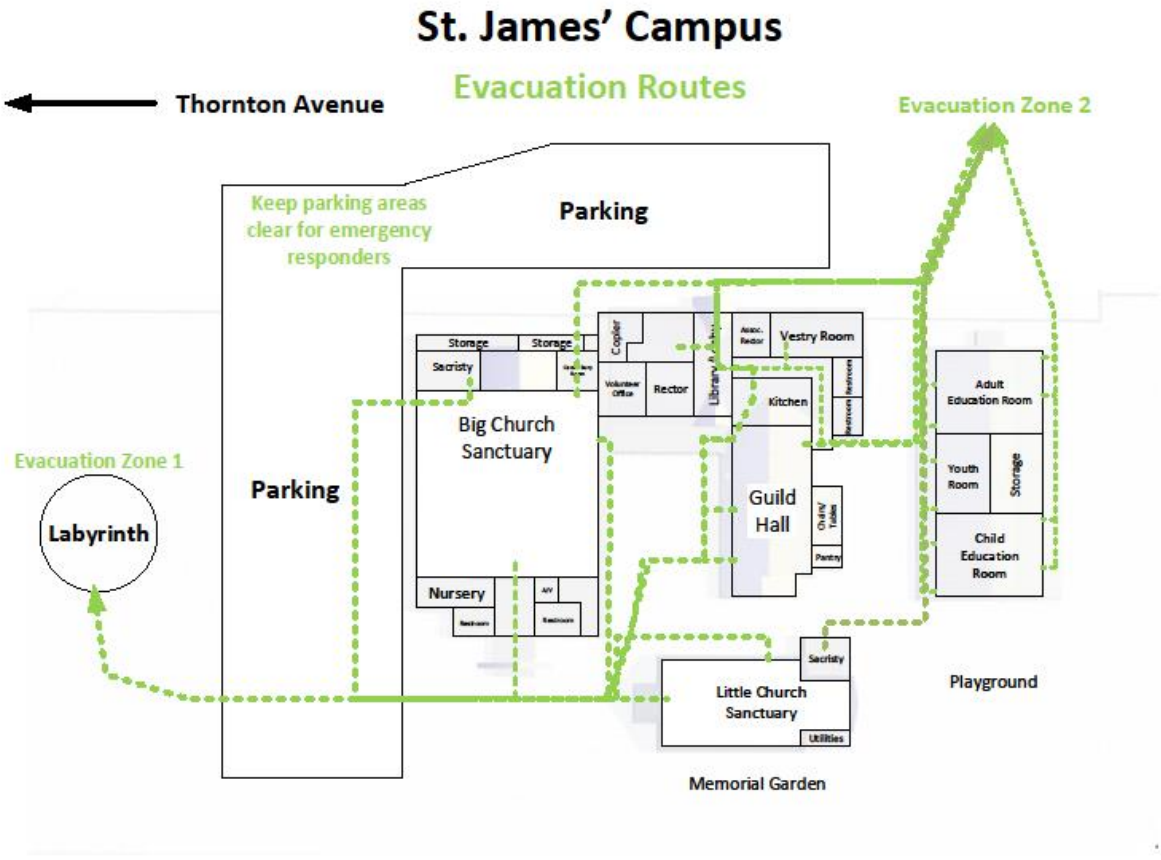
~Bill+

Disaster Preparedness Update

Picture this ……. Sunday's 10:30 service at St. James' would soon be over. And you are looking forward to meeting many of your friend at the parish hall just across the Pat…… wait! What was that?? Did the pew just move …. EVERYTHING IS MOVING….what was it I learned? DROP, COVER AND HOLD, this must be the big one!!!! WNEN WILL IT END! ….. THERE it stopped, I've got to get out of here, WHERE DO I GO?

Below you will see that we have answered that question with Greg Miller's map of the campus showing the preferred way to leave. Look at them, study them; they could save your life.

Disaster Preparedness Team



And now some warm weather advice from Jill:

A full freezer can remain cold for up to 48 hours if the door is kept closed. If it's not full, it'll only remain cold for 24 hours. One way to keep it full is to store bottles of water in your freezer. This also creates block ice that can be moved to your refrigerator when you need room for more food. Once it melts, you have additional fresh water.

WORSHIP, FORMATION, FELLOWSHIP
The Ways We Are Church Together

WORSHIP

Sunday Morning Service Live Stream!
Join our service live-stream at 8:25am on Sunday at saintj.com, or join our Zoom "watch party" (see below). The service can be joined at any time on Sunday from 8:25am, or watched during the week.

Watch Parties at 8:30am and 11:00am
Watch the Sunday Morning service with others! Log into Zoom at 8:30am or 11:00am to watch with others, and then stick around for coffee hours. Email Jennifer at music@saintj.com for the Watch Party/Coffee Hour link.

Wednesday 10:00am Service
Celebrate the Liturgy of the Word with prayers and sermon discussion in real-time on Zoom. Join us! Email Rev. Lori at lori@saintj.com (odd Wednesdays) or Rev. Bill at bhale@saintj.com (even Wednesdays).

Wednesday 1:00pm Connecting with Others Bible Study
Watch a short video and have a rich conversation with other parishioners. Email Rev. Lori at lori@saintj.com if you'd like to join us.

Morning Prayer 8-8:30am. Monday-Friday
Join Rev. Bill for Morning Prayer via Zoom. Contact bhale@saintj.com for the link.

FELLOWSHIP

Coffee Hours at 9:00am and 11:30am
Our coffee hours follow our Watch Parties, and are a great way to check in and say hello to others. Email Jennifer Ravera at music@saintj.com to get the information.

Thursday 12:00pm Home Alone Group
For those who are living alone, meet us on Thursdays during lunchtime to say hello. Email Rev. Bill at bhale@saintj.com for information.

Thursday Night 7:00pm Social Hour
Grab a drink and link in to Zoom to socialize with others and see how everyone is doing. Email Jennifer Ravera at music@saintj.com for details.

Audio Sermons and Online Resources
While we have suspended in-person worship services, you can still experience Sunday's Morning Prayer and sermons. Go to our website for online worship resources, or search in iTunes for "Saint James' Fremont" and subscribe to our weekly sermon podcast. We are also building a library of links to curated resources there to enrich our life in community while apart. Go to: https://saintj.com/wp/worship/online-worship/.

Embolden: to give (someone) the courage or confidence to do something or to behave in a certain way.

How does my faith give me the courage to take bold actions?

There are many grim challenges confronting each of us these days, including but not limited to: a pandemic, racial unrest, economic upheaval, high unemployment, political turmoil, homelessness, hunger, and a multitude of climate change disasters. As Thomas Paine wrote back in 1776: "*These are the times that try men's souls*"; and now, just like 244 years ago, it will require a **"soul"** commitment (on my part and yours) to actively transform our world for the better. How are today's events 'trying our souls'? Where will my courage and motivation come from?

Many of today's dire challenges require us not only to combat physical dangers but ethical ineptitude, and a bold agenda is needed to eliminate the despairing messages of hopelessness, inequality and entitlement as we replace those messages with kindness, mercy and dedication to the betterment of all. Not impossible tasks, but still daunting.

I believe that following my faith's tenets and spiritual direction and by seeking out the "Heartbeat of God" will deliver opportunities of moral strength to enact positive change and generate messages of hope and understanding right here in Fremont. I also believe that with the support of our Saint James' community, together we can step up with kindness, resilience, and determination to improve what is needed for our community and our world.

In this time when everyone is hunkering down in self isolation and social distancing, it is hard to imagine how we can effectively participate. But we can make a difference if we educate ourselves about the issues and facts before us, step out of our comfort zones, and act boldly in support of actions that we can initiate or help fund. No one person can solve all the problems. But one person taking the bold steps toward action in areas where their faith leads them can make a difference, and a community taking steps together can have an exponentially more significant impact.

In a recent interview, Steve Kerr, coach of the Warriors, set a guideline regarding the Black Lives Matter movement when he said: "We have to get to the crux of it, address it and acknowledge it, as opposed to feeling oblivious to it and feeling like we are not part of it. Even though we might feel like we are good people and not racist, we have to do our part" (to confront prejudice and racism). We must boldly participate and become a team player on humanity's team.

Boldness equates to action. We individually can self-isolate, wear masks and keep social distance while we wait for a vaccine during the pandemic. But we can also assist others who are adversely affected by the pandemic (i.e. self-quarantined shut-ins who need help grocery shopping, rides to doctor appointments, contact food banks to contribute food items, etc.). We must find ways to help others. In some cases, we can donate money through support organizations that are focused on specific needy areas; and if we cannot donate money, donate time to help a support organization's message and efforts. And, in politics, we need to become honestly aware of the issues and vote for the candidates who are committed to actions that have a moral compass.

(cont. next page)

Embolden (cont.)

There has been significant discussion on TV talk shows about what has happened to the "Soul of America." We at Saint James' must do our part to generate statements of faith, hope and love toward others. Let us together be the messenger of these bold, vital messages.

Thank You, Penny Trant!

For the past 12.5 years, Penny has been a primary creator of this newsletter, The Window. You could always identify the issues created by Penny by the animated graphics, adding a cheerfulness and playfulness to each issue. As with anything Penny does, she poured her heart into her ministry, blessing each of us as we opened the pages of The Window to read about the various goings-on of the church. Thank you, Penny, for your years of service to the hospitality, fellowship and communication of the Church!

~Lori+

In my role as primary proofreader of the newsletter, Penny was always fun to work with. She listened to my comments, and incorporated the revisions with grace in her style. I miss you Penny - thanks for your hard work and joy in sharing your skills.

~Laura

Diocesan Resolutions 2020

As the Resolutions Committee Representative to the Southern Alameda Deanery and a member of Saint James', I am sending this note rather than having our regular Faith Formation session or Zoom session.

I want to encourage this Congregation to engage our Convention Delegates in conversations on the 2020 Resolutions. They are listed at https://diocal.org/2020-resolutions. This site also lists proposed Constitution and Canon changes.

Two or more of these Resolutions address the historic moral issues of racial injustice and are in need of your immediate prayerful attention.

Six documents are being presented for vote on the Convention Floor:

1. **Mandate Anti-Racism & Racial Reconciliation Training for the House of Delegates**
2. **Climate Change – Carbon Intensive Lending**
3. **Support for the Emmett Till Act/Anti-Lynching Act**
4. **Financial Reporting Transparency**
5. **Assessing the Church's Response to COVID-19**
6. **Recognition and Celebration of Juneteenth As A Diocesan Feast Day**

Please note, these documents are still in discussion. The final five will be designated shortly.
Again, please check the DioCal website for updates.

There is a "Comments" section at the end of each resolution. Please feel free to add your comments, and, at the same time talk to our Parish Representatives to Convention. They need to know our position, as a congregation on these important issues. This year's Convention will held online, and, all materials, Convention Journal, including agenda, etc., will be available on line in early September. The Convention will be held **October 16-17.**

You can share your thoughts with our St. James' Convention Delegates at stjdeanery@saintj.com.

Please continue to be well, safe, and careful in this most perilous time in World history. May God Almighty shelter all Her Creation in Her safe and loving embrace. I love and miss being with you all my Dear Friends.

E J Hilliard
Resolutions Committee Representative & Member,
Faith Formation Committee

Morning Prayer

Bill Hale is inviting any member of the parish to join him in the service of daily Morning Prayer, Monday through Friday, at 8am. The service begins on p. 75 of *The Book of Common Prayer* and will follow the prayer book lectionary (currently at p. 983). Use of the Daily Office allows individuals to pursue a course of daily Bible reading, read through the Psalter in about six weeks, pray the collects proper to each day and season, and most important of all, to engage in prayers for the Church, the world, and those remembered by our parish.

If you are interested, please contact Bill at bhale@saintj.com.

If you want to see what a typical day's liturgy looks like, please click on this link:

https://www.missionstclare.com/english

What's Happening on Campus

The outside door leading to the AV room needed to be replaced, and Jim Cunningham & Dave Nelsen were up for the job!

Vestry Highlights

Submitted by Monique Manjarrez, Jr. Warden

The Vestry met on September 17th via online conferencing. During Oral Communications, Sylvia shared that she was contacted by the producers of the John McCutcheon music program about a possible way to do the concert virtually. Sylvia is still gathering details about how we can participate. We approved the August Vestry minutes, the August financial reports, and accepted the August staff and ministry reports.

Jan Scrutton shared information about a possible outreach project that would benefit underserved children that are currently in distance learning. She shared information about the Fremont Education Foundation Distance Learning Campaign that is designed to support quality distance learning for FUSD students and educators. The Vestry voted to approve a $1000 donation to this campaign on behalf of St. James' Church. The other program she shared was information about an Internet Essentials program that is being done by Comcast that allows sponsors to pay the monthly bill for basic internet service for families that qualify for the program (low income families). At this time, Jan is still gathering information about this program, as well as exploring ways for parishioners to donate (i.e. sponsor a family). The Vestry voted to continue exploring this and potentially signing a contract to sponsor 25 families in this program for the duration of one school year.

Lori shared that the church received a donation that will specifically be used for improved cameras for our virtual services. Lori shared that she is exploring a way to possibly pre-consecrate communion hosts at a service in October for distribution to therefore be consumed at a future Sunday service. The idea is to have the congregation consume communion together at a specific service (virtually).

The Vestry discussed and approved the replacement of light fixtures outside the Education Building and Church. The Vestry also approved paying the repair bill for the freezer when it recently broke down. Janet shared she did a little research on replacing our commercial refrigerator which is also old and having issues. The Vestry approved the expenditure of up to $1600 for a new refrigerator. The Vestry discussed the Stewardship program for the Fall and how they might do this virtually. Lori shared a few days of vacation she is taking in late September and October.

The Vestry adjourned with Compline led by Bob Doherty.

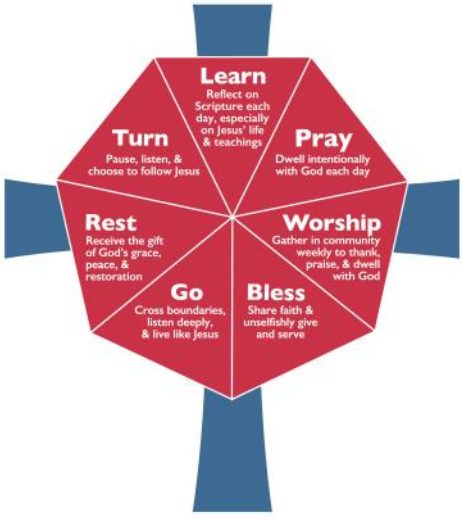
The Feast of St. Francis
Sunday, October 4

We will have a virtual video blessing of our pets. Watch live-stream at 8:30am, or at any time via video. Links on the home page: saintj.com.

MEET A MINISTRY:
Stewardship

Most churches are made up of ministry groups, and St. James' is no different. Each group has a particular focus, adding to the overall fabric of our community. Some groups attend to our spiritual formation, others create hospitable spaces for worship and fellowship. Some tend lovingly to our buildings and grounds and others create liturgy for our common worship. Undergirding all of this is the ministry of stewardship. Stewardship, the care of the financial health of St. James' is a ministry that, if it were to disappear, the rest would suffer. The stewardship committee reminds us of the importance of supporting our spiritual home with our treasures and with our hearts. The committee is small, but mighty. It is made up of our Pledge Secretary, Mike Scrutton, our Rector, Lori Walton, our Treasurer, Lynn Locher, and the Vestry. Amongst other things, Mike gathers data on our income, primarily from pledges, and helps us see where we can strengthen our giving. Rev. Lori reminds us that giving a portion of our finances to the church is not only necessary for the life of the church but is a spiritual exercise that brings us closer to God and strengthens our Christian walk. Lynn compiles our budget and financial projections, giving us a picture of what the financial need for the upcoming year will be. The Vestry participates by making stewardship a priority in their fall tasks. They give witness to how they engage (financially and otherwise) through monthly newsletter articles and verbal statements, and they offer gratitude towards each person that helps us meet our financial goals. Ultimately, however, the stewardship committee is made up of all of you - members of St. James' Episcopal Church who offer a portion of your treasure for the building of the Body of Christ.

~The Rev. Lori Walton



THE WAY OF LOVE
Practices for Jesus-Centered Life

Financial Summary August 2020			
Fund Balances	**$43,708.00**		**$44,074.00**
Operating Fund	$52,044.64		$107,593.76
Building Fund	$61,319.57		$33,659.08
Pledges Budgeted	$223,600.67		$228,709.32
Pledges Paid	$214,826.27		$241,041.57
Unpledged Contributions	$5,205.50		$11,421.44
Other Op Income	$12,274.35		$60,432.20
Total Operating Income**	$232,306.12		$312,895.21
Total Operating Expenses	$229,853.00		$254,881.67
Income less Expenses	**$2,453.12**		**$58,013.54**

** 2020 Includes $54,895 from Paycheck Protection Program Loan

RECIPES
From Jim Cunningham

Fish and Chips for Two – English Style
with tartar sauce and mashed peas
Takes about 1 hour start to finish
This recipe puts all store bought fish and chips to shame. It is absurdly delicious.

Ingredients:
2 - large Russet potatoes or equivalent
2 - serving size cod fillets cut into 1" wide pieces. Pre-salt and set aside
1 - medium bowl of batter mixed to a double cream consistency.
½ bag frozen English peas (enough for two) with ½ sliced shallot or small onion
1 potion home made tartar sauce for the fish

Directions:
1. Mix batter, set aside. Mix tartar sauce and set in refrigerator.
   Batter : 1 T. Flour, 1 T. corn-starch, ½ t. baking powder, salt and pepper, a little water to make a paste. (beer can be used for more flavour)
   Tartar sauce : 3 dollops of mayonnaise, ¼ diced shallot, capers, 2 gherkins - chopped fine, 1 T. Worcestershire sauce (2 anchovies can be used instead), 2 T. lemon juice, a little dill, salt and pepper.
2. Peal and cut potatoes into 1/2" square slices – full length
3. Set to boil in large pot of salted water. Boil 3 – 4 minutes and drain. Leave aside.
   When I omit this step I always regret it. It makes them soft inside, crisp outside.
4. Set the peas & shallot to simmer in a small pot of salted water with a sprig of mint.
5. Preheat a large skillet and add about ½ cup canola and or olive oil.
6. Fry potatoes about 5 minutes. Do not let them brown. Take them up, set aside.
   Allow to cool to room temp.
   Preheat oven to 250º
7. Pat the fish pieces dry then add to batter and stir to coat the fish.
   Fry in the same oil as the potatoes until golden brown.
   Take up into oven proof dish and set in the warm oven.
8. Return the potatoes to the skillet after removing floating crisps from oil.
9. Fry the potatoes until they are golden brown, turning gently. About 20 minutes.
10. While they are cooking drain the peas.
    Add 1 T. Butter, salt and pepper and a little cream then mash a little.
    Not to a cream but ½ mashed.

Serve

Katie likes ketchup with the chips. Additional salt wasn't needed it you boiled the chips in salted water before frying.

Always @ St. James'

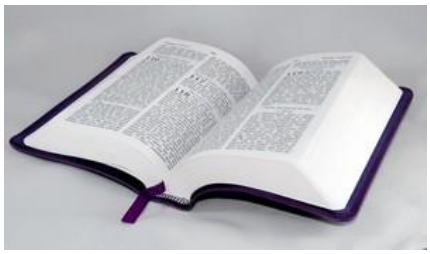
Children and Youth

Check current events at:
https://saintj.com/wp/ministries/childrens-programs/
or email Jan Scrutton, jan@saintj.com

Bible Studies

Monday morning Bible Study continues via zoom meetings, 11:00-12:00 each Monday. Our guide is *Our Journey With Luke: The 50 Day Bible Challenge,* by The Rev. Marek Zabriskie. Contact Rev. Lori by emailing lori@saintj.com to get the link to the Zoom meeting**.**

We also have a **Wednesday afternoon** Bible Study at 1:00pm, also via Zoom. Lori will send out a link to a short video and discussion questions. Email Lori to be added to this list as well.



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

Email your submission to newsletter@saintj.com by: **October 15th**

Blessing Bags for Distribution

In this time of need, let us remember those who have no shelter. Our Blessing Bags are available for you to give away. Each bag contains toiletries, food, socks, and a mask. We're using reusable cloth bags that can also serve as a backpack.

If you would like to contribute to the cost of the bags or the contents, please give a donation to the Rector's Discretionary Fund. Please note we are not taking donations other than monetary donations. This allows us to purchase what we need and to be consistent with what we are offering. Blessing Bags are available for you to pick up most Wednesdays between 10:00 AM and 1:00 PM on the patio. Make sure you wear your mask and practice social distancing when picking up and distributing the bags.

News For October

St. James' Prayer List

Most Holy God we pray :

For Those in the Military:

Jarrod, Megan, Erica, Theresa, Mark, Tim, Louis, Caitlin, Emily, Robin, Adam, Dave, Shawn, Ethan, Paul, Matthew, Johnny, Johnathan, Darren

For Essential Workers:
Evelyn, Jeff, Brian, Samir, Mary Frances, Josephine, Mary, Polly, Alice, Bozena, Angela, Darcia, Melissa, Mary, Tammy, Heidi, Mana, Tessa, Alex

For Those Expecting Children:

Megan and Josh

For Those Who Need Comfort and Strength:

The Sullivan Family, Angel, Amy, Joe, Nina, Jason, The Ramacciotti Family, The Burns Family, and all of our amazing teachers!!!

For Those Who Need Guidance and Direction:

For Those Who Need Healing:

Ron, Julie, Gail, Craig, Linda, Diane, Barry, Bill, Chae, Alyssa, Marcus, Katie, Margo, Ivy, Vickie, Adrienne, Edward

For Those Who Have Passed Away:

Carlene, Thomas, Armando, Mary Lou, Teresa, Judy, Nicholas

And for all of us impacted by the current pandemic.

To add someone to the "Special Prayers" list, please call / email the Church Office. After six weeks, names are removed from the list. Please renew your request as needed. Thank you.

10/1 Jeffrey Bert
10/6 Lynn Locher
10/7 Mary Casas
10/8 Keith Westra
10/9 Margaret Rainey
Beth Scrutton
10/10 Cathy Knotts
10/19 Bud Pearson
Sherea Westra
10/22 Samir Kalitta
Alyssa Koonze
10/23 Marilyn Rose
Lauren Zarovy
10/25 Gloryanne Bryant
10/28 Leticia Rodarte
10/29 Joan Kimber
Kyler Westra

10/15 Dave Nelsen & Linda Zetterholm-Nelsen
10/20 Meg & John Amouroux

SAINT JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Thornton Avenue at Cabrillo Terrace
MAIL TO: PO Box 457
Fremont, CA 94537-0457
http://saintj.com
Tel: (510) 797-1492

WORSHIP TIMES

SUNDAY SERVICE: LIVE-STREAM AT 8:30AM WITH RECORDED SERVICE AVAILABLE TO VIEW THEREAFTER.
HTTP://SAINTJ.COM

MORNING PRAYER 8-8:30AM
MONDAY-FRIDAY VIA ZOOM.
CONTACT bhale@saintj.com FOR THE LINK

WEDNESDAY EUCHARIST 10:00AM
VIA ZOOM. CONTACT lori@saintj.com FOR THE LINK

OFFICE HOURS

WEDNESDAYS 10:00AM TO 1:00PM

STAFF

The Rev. Lori Walton, Rector ..... lori@saintj.com
The Rev. Dr. Bill Hale, Associate Priest
……..…..bhale@saintj.com
Jan Scrutton, Children and Youth Minister
..... jan@saintj.com
Ron Cook, Office Administrator .. .admin@saintj.com
Jennifer Ravera, Music Director.....music@saintj.com
Lynn Locher, Treasurer ..... treasurer@saintj.com

VESTRY

Senior Warden .....srwarden@saintj.com
Sylvia Ma

Junior Warden .....jrwarden@saintj.com
Monique Manjarrez

Bob Bynum
Bob Doherty
Janet Fischer
Tim Fortescue
Mary Francis Leopold
Jim McConnell
Sally Morgan
Laura Winter

Vestry Clerk: *Elizabeth Hart*

***The Window* Staff**

Janet Fischer
Laura Winter
Article submission:
newsletter@saintj.com

Other Important Coordinators

Eucharistic Ministers & Lectors:
George Siegmann
Eucharistic Visitors: The Rev. Lori Walton
Altar Guild: Katie Cunningham
Ushers: Burtin Hart
Facilities: facilities@saintj.com

Convention Delegates

Email our delegates at:
stjdeanery@saintj.com
John Amouroux
Meg Amouroux
Jim McConnell
Ken Trant
Scott Whitaker

Alternates to Convention

Penny Trant
Elaine Vallecillo-Miller