



The Window

The Newsletter of St. James' Episcopal Church in Fremont, CA
CALLED TO SERVE IN NEW AND LOVING WAYS.

February 2010

MOVING FORWARD

This is my last "Moving Forward" article. It has been fun being on the Vestry for these three years. Thank you for letting me serve St. James' in this capacity. I am glad I was on Vestry and I am glad my term on the Vestry is up.

St. James' is doing well. I hope you have a chance to look at our Annual Report (www.saintj.com) almost 30 pages of wonderful ministries that happened last year, and I hope these ministries will continue for many years to come. St. James' continues to serve our congregation and our communities in worship, Christian Education, fellowship and social ministries. It is your contributions of time, talent and treasures that made these ministries happen. Please give yourselves and each other a great big hand for all the good works you did at and through St. James'. Thank you to everyone.

Although we are in an interim period, St. James' continues to grow. We see new faces each Sunday, many come back and become new members of the congregation. We had an Average Sunday Attendance of 131 in 2009. We also have good attendance in our Sunday-School, Godly Play. Our Nursery has been busy. Our Youth Group had a very good restart last year and they are enjoying their new Youth Space in EB#2.

St. James' is financially sound. You can review our 2009 year-end financial summaries as well as our 2010 budgets on our website (www.saintj.com). Without a rector, the Vestry took on more responsibility last year. We tried and I think we succeeded in being more transparent. Each cluster set goals in the beginning of the year, and I think for the most part, we have accomplished them.

The search for a new rector is making good progress. We are now accepting applicants through DioCal. Last December, when the Vestry was filling out the Church Deployment Office (CDO) Parish Search Request form, the National Church asked us to list four goals for our Parish. Here are the goals we put on that form:

- To actively provide pastoral and spiritual care for all our parishioners.
- To engage the whole congregation in lay ministry.
- To improve our stewardship of our facilities.
- To increase our average Sunday attendance 20% by 2016.

These are the goals St. James' has been working on and I hope will continue to work on going forward. This CDO Search form, together with our Parish Profile, are now published for our potential rector candidates to read. You can find our Parish Profile on our website www.saintj.com. This year, our Search Committee will screen the applicants, and will forward the top candidates for the Vestry to review. The 2010 Vestry will have the responsibility to call our new rector. More importantly, our 2010 Vestry will move us forward according to our visions, goals and aspirations. With God's grace and guidance, and with the leadership of our new Senior Warden, Jan Scrutton, I am certain St. James' will move forward and continue to grow and do God's work.

Sylvia Ma

Faith Formation in Lent

By Kathy †

As Lent approaches (Ash Wednesday is February 17), the Faith Formation Committee has planned the following opportunities for study, prayer and reflection:

On Sunday mornings for the faith formation time between services, Kathy+ will lead discussions on the scriptures appointed for the day. If you attend 8:00 am service, you will hear the readings and a sermon before class and have a chance to reflect on those readings in a different setting. If you attend 10:30 am service, this is an introduction of the readings and the Gospel lesson for the day's sermon before the event. The readings for the next week will be printed in the Green Pages.

For the evening program, we are hosting a chance to pray and reflect on the passage from Matthew 25 where Jesus tells us when we offer aid to the least of these, our brothers and sisters, we are offering it directly to the Lord. The five Mondays (February 22, March 1, 8, 15 and 22) will cover five separate topics. The topics (not necessarily in order of presentation) are Hunger, Poverty, Shelter, Global Crisis and the Environment. We will open the chapel at 5:30 pm and begin with a short service of a couple of scripture readings, a litany specific to the topic and a confession and absolution. Then the remainder of the time is in quiet until 6:00 pm and 6:30 pm when the short service is repeated. Quiet music will play in the spaces between the services. Information to guide our meditation and prayers will be written by members of the congregation and presented as handouts each Monday evening. There is no meal planned and there is no other program after we close the church at 7:00 pm.

We are most excited in presenting these offerings this season. They provide different models of study, prayer and reflection, good practices in the season of Lent.

St. James' New Senior Warden

According to the By-Laws of St. James', when we do not have a rector, the Vestry elects our Senior Warden from membership of the current Vestry. We need our new Senior Warden in place before our Annual Meeting on January 31, 2010.

After months of prayerful consideration, the Vestry nominated and unanimously elected Jan Scrutton as our next Senior Warden at the January Vestry meeting. Jan been on the Vestry for the past two years and has shown leadership in the Parish Life , as well as the Christian Formation clusters.

I am delighted with the Vestry's choice and certain that St. James' will be in good hands moving forward.

I know you will give Jan full support in her ministry. Her new role began after our Annual Meeting on January 31, 2010.

Sylvia Ma

Farewell to a Friend and Teacher

We will miss David's warm smile and gentle word and his strong faith.. We wish him all the best in his new travels and he leaves wonderful memories for St. James'. Please enjoy these pictures of his last day with our Parish.



Photos submitted by
Marilyn Rose



Hallelujah! The Great Storm Is Over. The 2010 John McCutcheon Concert

Southwest Flight 1818 slowly descended from 38,000 feet passing through great banks of clouds over the Sierras on Friday afternoon, January 22. The mountains themselves intermittently poked through showing their snowy brilliance. As the plane passed over Dublin and Livermore the hills looked like soft, translucent emeralds below as if we were in Ireland. Final approach over San Pablo Bay gave the passengers a display of gray, silver and yellow (the sun appeared yellow, not red, orange or brown) in the waning daylight as we passed over the Bay Bridge just west of Treasure Island. Spectacular views, all of them. I took a great breath of fresh, really fresh air as I exited the Oakland Air Terminal. Hallelujah! The Great Storm Is Over I thought to myself.

When John McCutcheon (and the rest of us attending the concert) sang those words just four days ago, they were a bit premature given the multiple storms that battered California in the intervening days. The seventh annual John McCutcheon Concert is over giving the Team a great amount of joy and a sigh of relief that we pulled it off once again. Talk about a TEAM effort. With no actual team leader or director this year, the team assembled itself to do the work we needed to do – and we did it!

Jim Cunningham told me that John's first song/story of the evening "Little Birdie" was his favorite folk song and he hadn't heard it in many years. Others told me this was John's best concert yet. Near the end of the intermission a man rushed up to me with two small pieces of paper in his hand. "Room at the Top of the Stairs" was scribbled on one and the other just said "Soup." Since the request basket had already been picked up by Tommy for John to examine, I told the man I would try to get them to John, but no guarantees. Of course John sang both of them in the second set. We all waited for our favorite songs; mine was "Not in My Name" and Linda Nelsen's as well – she gave John her own personal standing ovation for that song. I'm sure there are many other concert stories to be told. The folks I watched leaving the concert talked about one

song or another, or the effect of the evening on them, their faces lit up with excitement and joy.

How do I begin to extend the Team's appreciation to all who made the concert a success? First to John who gave blood at the Bloodmobile while Tommy set up the equipment and instruments – and then entertained us all with his art. Art is making something important. John's art is taking an experience, an event, an emotion and giving us a song or story, and he does it for us. That is his art – he makes those events, etc. important to us. To Tommy Slothower (John's Road Manager) without whom the concert could not happen. To Tim and Doc from Zamar Entertainment who provided sound and lighting for the seventh year.

What about the folks that John tried to thank during the concert? It reminded me of the big awards shows on TV where the person accepting the award has a list so long that the orchestra eventually drowns them out. John couldn't have thanked everyone as we would still be listening to the names. I'm going to give it a try with a beforehand apology to all whom I have missed. Sylvia Ma, Bud and Jan Pearson, Linda and Dave Nelsen, Joan Roberts, Gail and Tom Blalock, Jan Brandt, Al Casas, Kathy +, Debbie and Jon Fuller, Marnie Hartmann, EJ Hilliard, Brad Hoffman, Kathy Knotts, Ralph and Lynn Locher, Brenda Paddon, Jim McConnell, Greg Miller, Sylvia Wessel, Genore Schaaf, Greg Scheuffele, Maggie Shalar, George Vlastelica, Steve White, Meg Williams, Art Gallardo, Scott Kennedy, Dean Valentine, Linda LeGere, Johanne LaRocque, Jan Scrutton, Tom Scrutton, Ruth Poole and Lauren Doherty.

Thanks to all the door prize ticket buyers and especially the winners. With the Marilyn Rose comment, "He's better in person than on the DVD," THANKS to all who bought tickets and were entertained and educated by JOHN McCUTCHEON. Please explore his web site www.folkmusic.com.

Bruce Roberts

Ah, Lent Approacheth!

By Kathy †

A portion of time was set aside in the early Church to prepare people for baptism and their first communion. They would have been ushered out of worship before the communion service began until they were baptized. And many of the candidates for baptism were adults, so the preparation for BAPTISM was a confirmation of their faith too. You can see where this would go and how the rituals would evolve once the practice of infant baptism took hold.

Originally the preparation period was a few days to a couple of weeks. It was stretched out and evolved into the Lenten Season we have now. Trying to do the math around the 40 days can be tricky. If Sunday is not a fast day, how do you get 40 days out of Lent? For some people, the answer is to start counting the days of Lent from Ash Wednesday.

The following is a tentative schedule of worship for Lent and the ever-rapidly approaching Holy Week special services:

Ash Wednesday

7 AM	Service of Ashes/Communion	Chapel
Noon	Service of Ashes/Communion	Chapel
7 PM	Service of Ashes/Communion	Church



Stations of the Cross

(to be determined)

Palm Sunday

(only one service)

10 AM	Blessing of Palms, Communion Reading of the Passion Story	Church
-------	--	--------

Maundy Thursday

7 PM	Rite II Communion Service	Church
------	---------------------------	--------

Good Friday

7 AM	Prayers & Reserve Sacrament	Chapel
Noon	Stations of the Cross and Reserve Sacrament	Chapel
7 PM	Prayers and Reserve Sacrament	Church

Holy Saturday

9 PM	The Vigil of Easter	Church
------	---------------------	--------

Easter Sunday

8 AM	Celebration of the Resurrection	Chapel
10:30 AM	Celebration of the Resurrection	Church



**Shrove Tuesday
Pancake Supper
February 16, 2010**

Yes, it's that time again. Come and join Friends and Family for an evening meal of pancakes, sausage and eggs.

Shrove Tuesday is a day of celebration as well as penitence. It is the last day before Lent begins. Lent is a time of abstinence, of giving things up. So Shrove Tuesday is the last chance to indulge yourself and to use up the foods that aren't allowed during Lent. Pancakes are eaten on this day because they contain fat, butter and eggs which were forbidden during Lent.

It has been a tradition at St. James' that the men of the Church prepare this meal and clean up after. Please plan to join us between 6:00pm and 7:30pm on February 16th.

Suggested donation:

Adults \$5.00;

Children 5-12 \$3:00.

Dave Nelsen

The next issue of *The Window* is in March 2010. We welcome your **comments, pictures, essays, poems, cartoons, artwork, newsworthy items of interest, any group activity information and reviews.**

Email your submission to window@saintj.com
March Deadline: February 15th

**WORSHIP COMMITTEE
YOU Are Invited to Join the
Worship Committee!**

The Worship Committee meets (usually) on the first Wednesday of each month at 6pm in the Vestry room. Our purpose is to talk about how we worship, to be a sounding board for liturgical practices, provide support and a venue for clergy to evaluate services, as well as assisting the clergy in the practical aspects of putting together our worship services.

At our February meeting we will meet in EB1 and plan the services for Holy Week and Easter. We invite all interested parishioners to join us and be part of the worship committee. Please contact Janet Fischer or Kathy+ if you have any questions.

Thank you!

Janet Fischer



**CHILDREN'S CHOIR
RESUMES**

Please join the Children's Choir as we prepare for Lent, Easter, Mother's Day and the end of school. Rehearsals are in the Chapel from 12:00 noon to 12:30 on Sundays.

Check the calendar in the back of the Green Pages for specific Sundays. Children ages six to fourteen are invited to join. Parents, please come to the Chapel and enroll your child if you are interested.

Children's Choir will sing at the 10:30am Service on the following Sundays: February 28, April 4, May 9, and June 6. Information sheets are available at the time of registration. I hope to see some new faces in 2010.

Katherine LaRose
Director of Music

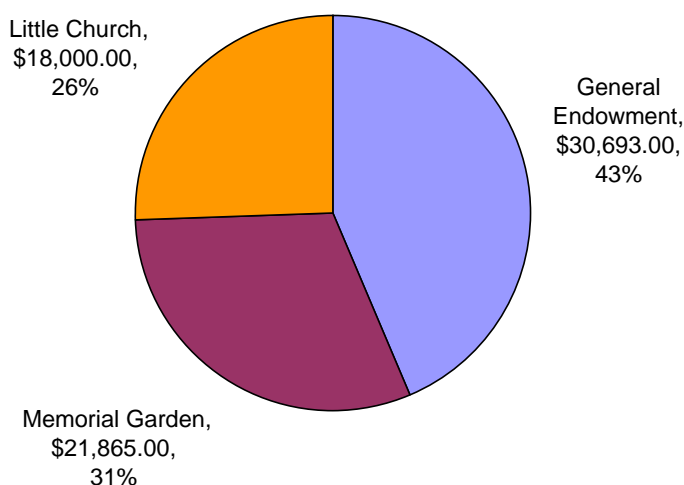
St. James' Endowment

The St. James' Endowment was established by the vestry in April 2003 to provide funds to enable the parish to more completely to fulfill its mission by developing ministries beyond what is possible through its annual operating funds. The Endowment Fund is a "True Endowment" which is maintained separately from other Church funds and employs the restriction that the principal shall not be invaded.

\$3,905 have been distributed to the Memorial Garden special interest fund, the little Church special interest fund and the vestry since 2006.

At the end of 2009, the principal value of the Fund had reached a balance of \$70,558 divided between Little Church, Memorial Garden and General Endowment as shown below.

Total Contributions and Make-up of Endowment Fund



The Endowment funds are invested in a variety of securities including bonds, stock funds, mutual funds as well as cash. Due to current market conditions the market value of our Endowment fund at the end of 2009 was \$67,884. This is \$2,674 below the principal value of the fund. Due to this deficit, no distribution will be made from the fund this year.

It may be difficult to feel positive about this situation. However, it wasn't long ago the deficit was over \$12,000. To me this indicates that the market is recovering and that our diversification strategy is sound.

If you would like more information about the St. James' Endowment or how to designate gifts to St. James' please feel free to contact our clergy or one of the Endowment board members.

Endowment Board Members

Dave Nelsen, Joan Roberts, Chris Lubwama
Patty Lacy and Marnie Hartmann

Vestry Appointments

As you read in the January issue of our newsletter, our longtime Stewardship Chair, Lynn Locher has retired. Lynn was appointed by the Vestry years ago to help the Vestry on stewardship. Thank you Lynn for your ministry. I am happy to let you know that at January 14th meeting, the Vestry appointed Gail Blalock as our new Stewardship Committee Chairperson. I am sure that Gail will take on this new responsibility seamlessly. Gail has been on the Stewardship Committee for many years. Thank you Gail for taking on this ministry.

In 2009, the Vestry put together our Injury and Illness Prevention Manual. In order to implement this program, the Vestry appointed Byron Bader our Injury and Illness Prevention Administrator. Thank you Byron for accepting this position. Byron will be working with our Facilities cluster to make sure our paid staff has yearly safety training and our campus is inspected with respect to injury prevention.

Please join the Vestry in supporting Gail and Byron in their new ministries at St. James'.

Sylvia Ma



Available For Lunch

We will gather at the Newark Buffet for lunch on Sunday March 14th following the 10:30am service. Hope to see you there!

PLEDGE ENVELOPES

If you did not get a chance to pledge and would like to at this or any time, pledge cards are always available at the back of the churches and through the parish office.

Use of pledge numbers helps to ensure correct posting of your donation. Please use the 2010 envelopes as your pledge number changed since last year.

We regret St. James' bank cannot accept direct deposits from other bank; however, many parishioners use the bill-pay systems through their own bank.

Thank you all for your generous support of St. James' continuing ministry and activities.

Jan Brandt, Treasurer

Financial Summary		December 31, 2009	
Fund Balances	<u>12/31/2008</u>	<u>12/31/2009</u>	
Operating Fund	\$ 39,355	\$ 37,180	
Building Fund	\$ 9,449	\$ 24,556	
Year To Date Summary			
Operating			
	<u>12/31/2008</u>	<u>12/31/2009</u>	
Pledges Budgeted	\$ 256,000	\$ 261,832	
Pledges Paid	\$ 262,047	\$ 237,973	
Unpledged Contributions	\$ 11,218	\$ 9,497	
Other Operating Income*	<u>\$ 22,802</u>	<u>\$ 18,533</u>	
Total Operating Income	\$ 296,067	\$ 266,003	
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 297,657	\$ 268,178	
Income less Expense	\$ (1,590)	\$ (2,175)	
*Includes Fundraising			

From the New Senior Warden

Sunrise Village

Thank you to all who donate their time and talents to those in our community who are in need of shelter and food. St. James' has a Special Interest fund that is used for outreach including emergency housing and expenses related to community services. If need be, the fund could also be used to reimburse purchases made for meals served at Sunrise Village.

Simply fill out a green slip with your receipt attached and have a vestry member in the Social Ministries cluster sign it. There is also a mail slot in the office for this cluster. The green slips can be found outside the secretary's office. A check will be issued to reimburse you for your purchases. Donations to this fund are always accepted throughout the year. Please write "Special Interest-Outreach" on the memo line of your check.

If you should have any questions regarding this fund, please do not hesitate to contact Mary Casas.

Mary Casas

As this edition of the Window comes out, I have the honour of following in the footsteps of some great leaders at St James'. For the last two years our Vestry has been led by Sylvia Ma and Janet Fischer and their calm, efficient oversight has served St James' well. I know the thanks and appreciation of the whole Vestry and congregation has been expressed to them both.

As I considered the request that I stand as Senior Warden this year, I heard many of the names of people who have taken this role before me. I know many of you have served in this role over the years and I have big shoes to fill. I also know that previous Wardens and Vestries have left a strong foundation on which the new Vestry can continue to build on with the support of the so many wonderful volunteers who make the work of the church happen.

Thank you for all the kind messages and prayers. Mike, Beth, Tom and I appreciate them all. Please remember your new Vestry in your prayers. Our retreat day will be in February 6th with the first meeting of the new Vestry on the February 11th.

Jan Scrutton

SPECIAL THANKS

Whenever St. James' has a potluck or a special event, you can bet we use the kitchen. It goes without saying we are fortunate to have such a well maintained and organized kitchen. The kitchen crew does a wonderful job and I would like to say a special thanks to them for being such wonderful and dedicated people. Sandra Motley and Brad Hoffman lead the crew with help from Ruth Poole and Laura Samuels. They keep everything organized and clean, well stocked, and maintain the appliances.

In years past, various groups at St. James' volunteered to set-up, host, and clean-up the Sunday Coffee Fellowships. With all the groups we had, it meant most all Sunday's were covered and those that weren't, either individuals or the kitchen crew, would fill in. In the past couple of years the kitchen crew has taken of this role as volunteers declined significantly.

I would like to see if we could restart having those groups once again sign up for maybe one or two times a year. The kitchen crew does not ask this, Parish Life is asking. This wonderful experience is open to individuals or groups. So check your calendar and see what Sunday you can give a couple of hours and host Sunday Fellowship. A NEW sign up sheet will be on the Parish Life board.

Thank you in advance.

Penny Trant



Bridges

By Kathy †

I remember hearing my parents and my grandparents talk about how things never stay the same. Sometimes this was an observation and sometimes it was a complaint.

The church in the march through two millennia has faced massive changes from its beginnings in the geographic regions we label Middle East and Asia Minor. Struggling to define themselves, the Christians faced untold questions that led to change. Starting out as a Jew and becoming a Christian, the people that were labeled Gentiles were suddenly labeled brothers and sisters and part of one Body of Christ. Foods that had been forbidden were now available, though many held that keeping kosher homes would still be a priority. It meant talking about the covenant of God with God's people in a new way, too. As our recent study of Galatians showed, Paul, Peter, the newly-minted communities of believers and the Council of Jerusalem discussed and debated the theology of how to become a Christian and what it means to be the Body of Christ.

In our present age, we wonder about this, we ponder this; we work this out in our congregations, our families and our lives. What does it mean to be a Christian in a secular world awash with technology and communications and instant-gratification click-the-button online opportunities? And as we discussed in a recent gathering, we know more about what is going on in the world at the moment it happens. The Haiti Earthquake is one of those moments. How does that impact who we are as believers and as the faithful gathered community?

My father was the one who broke the news to me that nothing is certain but death and taxes. But I think we need to add "CHANGE" to that list, too. A parishioner said something interesting to me several days ago, "Change is neutral and it is always there. Our reaction to change is the variable and says a lot about how we view change itself." I think that is something to ponder in the coming months, as St. James' moves into, and embraces, the changes 2010 will bring.

"Shout to the Lord"

"Shout to the Lord" is the theme for the upcoming East Bay Anglican Co-ed Cursillo. It will be held April 29 – May 2, 2010 at the Cursillo Center in San Francisco known as CASA (Cursillo at St. Anne's). Bob and Debbie Czerwinski of St. James' are the Rector and Rectora for this event and, along with both Ralph and Lynn Locher, team members, welcome applications for candidates to experience God's grace and love on this three-day course in Christianity.

This is an opportunity for you or someone you know to renew and expand his or her faith within a loving and dedicated Christian community. It allows for spiritual growth while providing for an informal atmosphere of fellowship and trust. Cursillo is not meant to replace the church but rather to enhance the mission for each of us within the church. Many St. James' parishioners are Cursillistas and would also be glad to share their experience with anyone as well.

For more information about Cursillo, experiencing this Cursillo or sponsoring someone for this Cursillo please contact either Bob or Debbie at 510 793-6427 or e-mail Bob at bobcz007@comcast.net. A pamphlet describing Cursillo can be downloaded from <http://www.episcopalcursillo.org/aboutcursillo>.

Debbie Czerwinski

New Vestry Members Elected

The following four new vestry members were elected during the St. James' Annual meeting on January 31st. They are Stephen Ferro, Brad Hoffman, Andy MacRae, Laura Winter.

A Vestry Retreat is planned for the week-end of February 6th at which time members will choose which Vestry Committee(s) to lead.

Editor

Go to www.saintj.com for the
calendar.



St. James' Prayer List

Most Holy God, we pray for:

The Search Committee: Gail Blalock, Valle Brokes, Nancy Castaneda, Barbara Dabney, Alice Johnson, Pegeen Perry, Donald Razzolini, Bruce Roberts, Greg Scheuffele, Mike Scrutton, EJ Hilliard (Chaplain)

Those Who Need Continued Healing: Jewel, Sandra, Pat, Doris, Jerry, Sally, Donna, June, Samuel, Michael, Egan, Mary, Tracy, Pat, Mark, Irma, Joanne, Frary, Ethan

Those Who Need Comfort and Strength: Joan, Tom, Edna, James, Alyssa, Erica, David, Laura, Karen, Emily, EJ and family, David+ and Jonathan+, family of Gloria Amaral, Tim, The Locher family and friends

Those Who Need Guidance and Direction: Dean, Kenny, Lim, Harold, Michael, Randy, Ronald, Duncan, Tianna, Cynthia, Diane, Pamela, Tim, Rhonda & family,

Those Suffering Economic Hardship: Dean, Craig, Greg, Lini, Brian, Candace, Chad, Jaydee, Jane, James, Bill

Families Who Are Expecting Children: Janice, Kenny & Michele, April & Eric, Michael & Jana, Jocelyn, Kelly & Gersson

Those In The Military: Scott, Cammy, Andrus

Those Who Have Died: John, Raymond, Gloria, Dan, Gretchen



February Birthdays

- | | | | |
|----|--------------------|----|----------------------|
| 1 | Chris Svenson | 15 | Joan Roberts |
| 3 | Claudia Noddin | | Kerry Powell |
| | Mike Scrutton | 16 | Kian Ng |
| 4 | Bruce Roberts | 18 | Margaret Broun |
| | Paul Lenart III | | John Kennedy |
| 7 | William Dickinson | | Jennifer Kennedy |
| | Michael Mitchell | 20 | Rebecca Dunn |
| | Linda Nelsen | 22 | Anne Wilcoxon |
| 8 | Sally Dickinson | | Isaac Kazibwe |
| 10 | James Rommelfanger | 24 | Scott Kennedy |
| | Angelina Miller | 25 | Jeffrey Lucero |
| 11 | JDonna MacRae | 26 | Scott Whitaker |
| | Darcia Feeny | | Francis Lennon Singh |
| 12 | David Colby | | Linda Harris |
| 13 | Katie Nelsen | | Charlie Peeler |
| 14 | Barbara Duncan | 27 | Chris Ma |
| | Christina Lucero | 28 | Mike Peterson |
| | Christopher Lucero | | Gregory Callaghan |



February Wedding Anniversaries

- 11 Bob and Debra Czerwinski
- 16 Chris and Pegeen Perry
- 18 Brian and Janet Whitaker
- 24 Charlie and Vivienne Paratore

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 office@saintj.com