The Window

THE NEWSLETTER OF ST. JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH, FREMONT CALIFORNIA

MAY 2025

You are the Light of the World

Written by Bev Mosier

You are the light of the world… No one lights a lamp, then puts it under the bushel basket. The lamp is put on the lampstand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see the good that you do and give glory to your Father in heaven. *(Matthew 5:14-16)*

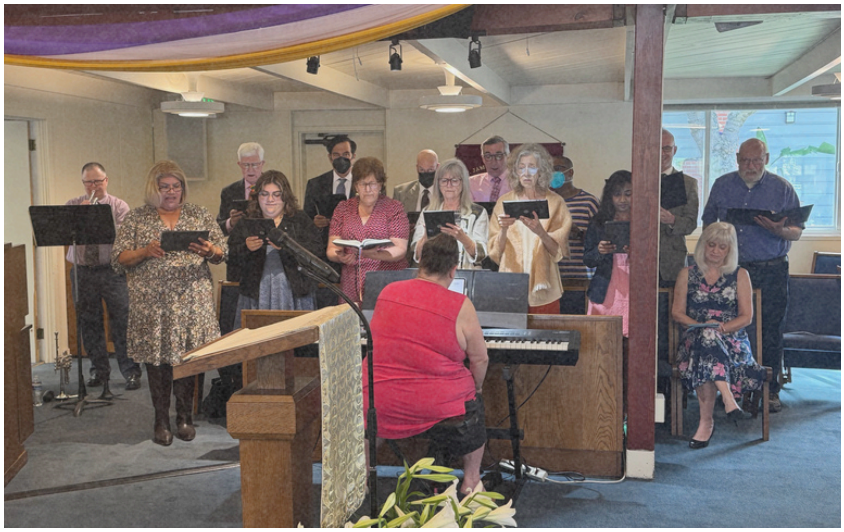
These words of Jesus' are clear, but the mandate is not easy. We are mere mortals with baggage that is constantly getting in our way. For example:
Fear of What Others Think: When I taught speech to middle-school students at California School for the Deaf, I sometimes used the game "Would You Rather…?" to promote interaction. Players were given two choices and told they had to pick one. Lively conversations ensued. Usually. But there was one question all middle-schoolers agreed upon. It would be worse to have a large zit on the end of their nose than to walk around in shoes that gave them blisters for a week.

Avoidance of embarrassment won every time. Fear of what others might think can be such a powerful deterrent that we fail to stand up for what is right, take action against injustice and oppression, offer help to people in potentially dangerous situations, or even let people know what we believe. We hide our light under a bushel basket to "protect" ourselves from perceived judgment.

Depression: There is much in the world to be depressed about, both globally and personally. When the dark cloud of depression descends, we may not be able to get out of bed or find the umpf to do anything useful. We stop reaching out to others and withdraw into ourselves, instead. As we become emotionally crippled, the light in us is diminished to the point that it can't shine effectively.
So many emotions and mindsets can get in our way. Obsessive anger, pride, self-doubt, self-absorption, and so on, all hinder our ability to share the light, because they restrict how much light we ourselves can take in. These and many more obstacles are very human and real. Some tools for getting out from under them are self-reflection, therapy, anti-depressants, prayer, supportive friends, and active church involvement. But even all of that is not enough.

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life." (John 8:12)

HOLY WEEK & EASTER 2025

Photos provided by Jan Scrutton

APRIL VESTRY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Submitted by John Amouroux, Junior Warden

·The opening prayer was offered by Charisma

·Monthly Business

- ·Oral Communications:
  - Discussed ideas for better communication of the bi-monthly Campus Care team events to facilitate better participation (breakfasts and work parties)
- ·Approved the March 20 vestry meeting minutes

·New and Continuing Business

- ·Completed the signups for the work of the vestry for 2025/26
- ·Lori updated the vestry on the state of the pledges and how later-arriving pledges are helping to overcome the budget deficit
- ·Bruce discussed, and vestry voted to reinvest maturing CD's
- ·Bev and Lori led the discussion about the launching of our support for Imara International
- ·Lori discussed the June 2025 Corazon build event and the bishop's attendance
- ·We reviewed the parish @ saintj email guidelines
- ·Charisma reviewed how to lead compline

Reminders

- ·Bev has the newsletter article for May, See Page 1
- ·Barbara has the newsletter article for June, due May 20
- ·The next vestry meeting is on May 15, in person
- ·Barbara is leading prayers at the May meeting

The meeting adjourned, and ·Charisma led the vestry through compline to close the meeting

. The next Vestry meeting will be held on May 15 at 7pm

The vestry meets via Zoom in the odd months (January, March, etc.) and meets in-person in the parish hall during the even months (February, April, etc).

UPCOMING EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Save the dates for Summer 2025

Events for Sunday School, and for the whole church family, at St. James'

Sunday May 25th.Sunday School Lunch

Gather after church for lunch with Sunday School families. Check with Jan if you can help with lunch!

Sunday June 1st . Last Sunday School for summer

Sunday June 22nd. Family Night @ St J

5-7:30pm. An evening for everyone - including games, crafts, dinner and compline. A fun evening which wraps up with a campfire and s'mores.

July 21-25, 2025. 9am-12 noon daily

Walk in the Steps

Summer Day Camp at St. James'. for students tK-7th grade. Registration forms from Jan or on saintj.com. Invite your friends to sign up!

Want to volunteer? Speak to Jan. jan@saintj.com

Sunday July 27th. 10:30am
St. James' Day Celebration

A single service to celebrate St. James' Day and the end of summer camp week. With a potluck lunch to follow.

Sunday August 17th . Sunday School restarts

Sunday September 14th. Volunteer Appreciation and new member Sunday.

UPCOMING EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

SUMMER CAMP 2025

Summer Camp returns to St. James' this summer with a week of fun. Kids registration forms can be found on our website, saintj.com or at church – look for the pick sheets. Please share this information with your friends. Adult and Youth Volunteers can find forms to register at church. This year summer Camp Sunday and St. James' Day will coincide meaning we celebrate together with a potluck to end the week.

MORE UPCOMING EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Men's Group Trip 2025

Written by Gregg Feeney

Save the date: Men's Group Trip to Twain Harte - August 14- August 17th, 2025

If you are new to St James', then please consider joining us for a great trip to Twain Harte.
The Twain Harte area truly has a lot to offer a diverse group of guys from age 21-80+ who like to hike, play golf, fish, beer & wine taste, swim, kayak, shoot pool, tell stories, etc., and eat good food.

Tentative cost is $250.00 per person includes lodging, meals and non-alcoholic beverages. If you are interested,
then contact Gregg Feeney,
dgfeeney@comcast.net or 510-506-2303 cell. A sign up sheet will be posted in the parish hall soon. You can read past articles posted in usually the September or October Window newsletter. It always has a picture of the attendees.

I Worried

Submitted by Brian Cochran

I worried a lot. Will the garden grow, will the rivers
flow in the right direction, will the earth turn
as it was taught, and if not how shall
I correct it?

Was I right, was I wrong, will I be forgiven,
can I do better?

Will I ever be able to sing, even the sparrows
can do it and I am, well,
hopeless.

Is my eyesight fading or am I just imagining it,
am I going to get rheumatism,
lockjaw, dementia?

Finally, I saw that worrying had come to nothing.
And gave it up. And took my old body
and went out into the morning,
and sang.

—Mary Oliver, from *Swan*, 2010

Ladies' Flatlanders 2025

Ladies' Flatlanders will take place September 18-21, 2025 at Pajaro Dunes on Monterey Bay

It's not too early to mark your calendar for a fun-filled weekend with the women of St James'! We have reserved two townhouses this year with better access for those who have difficulty going up and down stairs. There is lots of room for all. We would love to see new members join in the fun and beauty.
A sign up sheet will be posted in the parish hall soon. Please talk with Nancy Castaneda, Mary Casas or Laura Winter if you have any questions.
As Gregg noted above, you can read articles posted in past October issues of The Window to find out more.

WAYS WE ARE CHURCH TOGETHER

LITURGY & WORSHIP

WORSHIP AT CHURCH

We offer two services on Sunday morning at 8:00am and 10:30am. Coffee and light snacks following each service. Join us for worship and fellowship!

SUNDAY WORSHIP LIVESTREAM

If you cannot attend church in person, you can join our 10:30am service live-streamed on Sundays at **saintj.com**. The service can be joined at any time on Sunday from 10:30am or watched during the week on our **YouTube channel**.

WEDNESDAY 10:00AM SERVICE

Celebrate the Liturgy of the Word with prayers and sermon discussion in real time on Zoom. Join us! The link can be found under "Upcoming Events" on the right side of our **website**.

Online Worship Resources | Link

Follow us on Social Media!

FACEBOOK INSTAGRAM

Find Links to service & sermon audio/video here:

YOUTUBE APPLE SPOTIFY TUNEIN

LEARNING

SCRIPTURE/BIBLE STUDIES

Monday | 11:00am on Zoom

Join with others to catch up and wrestle with some of the sacred texts of the Bible. We meet every Monday on Zoom. Everyone is welcome. Email lori@saintj.com for the Zoom link or find it alongside more information on our parish **website**.

Wednesday | 11:00am on Zoom

Join us for Bible Study at 11:00am held on Zoom and facilitated by Rev. Lori, who will send out a link to a short video and discussion questions. Email Rev. Lori at lori@saintj.com to be added to the list.

FELLOWSHIP

SUNDAY COFFEE HOUR

Coffee Hour is held after each service on Sunday mornings. Come over to the Parish Hall after worship and join us for a cup of coffee, light refreshments, and good conversation. Everyone is welcome!

*Zoom links for all of our offerings can be found on our parish website, **saintj.com**. Look for the calendar of events on the right side of our home page. If something is not listed, email the leader and they will make sure you have what you need.*

Sunday's service and sermons are also online on iTunes, Spotify, TuneIn, and Youtube. Go to our website for online worship resources. Like us on Facebook and Instagram! We also have a YouTube page & Twitter feed.

CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES

Sunday School | Current Events

Sunday School, for children aged 4 to 6th grade meets weekly, during the 10:30am service and all are welcome to join. We gather for a story and talk about the lesson of the week, usually lectionary-based so the whole family will hear the same Bible passages. Children then return to church in time to join their families for the Eucharist/Holy Communion.

Episcopal Youth Fremont

Episcopal Youth Fremont (EYF) is a youth group for 6th – 12th graders based at St. James' which meets during the school year. Contact Jan for info about summer plans and to express interest in our 2024-5 youth confirmation program.

Any questions about our programs for children or youth? Email our Children & Youth Minister Jan Scrutton at jan@saintj.com.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY | MARCH 2025

Fund Balances	3/31/2024	3/31/2025
Operating Fund	73,128.40	68,079.06
Building Fund	95,720.740	118,094.55
Special Interest funds	689,578.03	723,618.32
Pledges Budgeted	99,432.75	93,740.49
Pledges Paid	99,859.82	105,450.04
Unpledged Contributions	1,835.00	4,137.52
Other Operating Income	13,892.67	6,339.21
Total Operating Income	115,587.49	115,926.77
Total Operating Expenses	103,551.98	108,799.70
Income Less Expenses	12,035.51	7,127.07

ALWAYS AT SAINT JAMES'

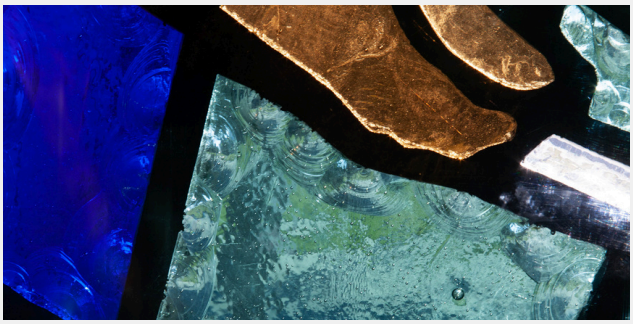
PARISH CALENDAR

Access the online parish calendar **here.**

DIOCESAN NEWSLETTER

The Episcopal Diocese of California, or DioCal, publishes a weekly newsletter every Thursday via email which you can receive by signing up on their website **HERE**.

For more information on diocesan events, staff, offerings, and resources, visit **www.diocal.org**.



BLESSING BAGS FOR DISTRUBITION

Let us remember those who have no shelter. Our Blessing Bags are available for you to give away. Each bag contains toiletries, water, food, socks, and a mask. We're using reusable cloth bags that can also serve as a backpack. **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 to pick up during office hours, Wednesdays & Thursdays between 10:00 AM and 1:00 PM, in the parish office hallway.

Occasionally we have people visit church to ask for assistance. It is helpful to have gift cards we can give out with blessing bags when appropriate. If you'd like to donate a card, we ask for $25 cards for gas, Safeway, Target, Walmart, or Lucky. They can be given to the wardens, clergy, or put in the office.

MORNING CHAIR EXERCISE CLASS | ZOOM

Tuesdays | 10:00AM – 11:00 AM

Join Sylvia Ma for a weekly Zoom class on chair exercises on Breathing/Qi Gong and Tai Chi/ Hsing I movements. No experience is necessary. If you are interested, email Sylvia at **hsiehtinghsueh@yahoo.com**. The link will also be found on the parish website's calendar.

NEWS FOR MAY

PARISH PRAYER LIST

For Those in the Military
Jarrod, Megan, Theresa, Mark, Tim, Caitlin, Emily, Robin, Dave, Shawn, Ethan, Paul, Matthew, Johnny, Johnathan, Darren, Robert

For Healthcare Workers and Chaplains

For Teachers, Principals, School Staff

For Those Expecting Children

For Those Who Need Solace, Strength, & Guidance
David, Derek, Lynn, Marilyn, Alohi, Tom, Tom, Katie, Joanna

For Those Who Need Healing & Comfort
Ron, Julie, Gail, Linda, Barry, David, Elaine, Margaret, Karla, Mandy, John, Ralph, Don, Carlos, Paul, Harriet, José, Barbara, Albert, Amber, Sami, Tom, Frankie, Diane, Gail, Kithy, Bob, Erin

For Those Who Have Passed Away
Shige, Barbara, Bernie, Janet, Alvin

To add someone to the "Special Prayers" list, please call or email the Church Office. After six weeks, names are removed. Please renew request(s) as needed.

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

Email your submissions to newsletter@saintj.com by May 20

BIRTHDAYS
MAY

1	Burtin Hart
2	Meg Amouroux
	Karla Koon
4	Jay Butterfield
	Marco Ramsamy
	Margaret Singh
5	Ella Lentz
	Sandra Motley
8	Sally Morgan
13	Arlene Hale
18	Greg Scheuffele
31	Suzanne David

ANNIVERSARIES
MAY

1	Christopher & Crystal Jones
4	Al & Mary Casas
7	Nancy & Brad Catania
8	Gregg & Darcia Feeney
19	Bob & Kitty Reed
24	Burtin & Elizabeth Hart
27	Barbara & Steve Vacchieri
28	Lori Walton & Ron Larson
	Greg Miller & Elaine Vallecillo-Miller

ADDRESS *Thornton Avenue at Cabrillo Terrace, Fremont CA*

MAILING *PO Box 457 Fremont, CA 94537-0457*

WEBSITE *www.saintj.com* **TELEPHONE** *(510) 797-1492*

OFFICE HOURS *Wednesdays & Thursdays* | *10:00am – 1:00pm*

Called to serve, in new and loving ways.

PARISH STAFF

The Rev. Lori Walton | *Rector*.....**lori@saintj.com**
Karla Koon | *Seminarian*.....**karla@saintj.com**
Jan Scrutton | *Children and Youth Minister*.....**jan@saintj.com**
Jennifer Ravera | *Music Director*.....**music@saintj.com**
Ron Cook | *Office Administrator*.....**admin@saintj.com**
Bruce Roberts | *Treasurer*.....**treasurer@saintj.com**

VESTRY MEMBERS

Senior Warden
Charisma Pangilinan | srwarden@saintj.com

Junior Warden
John Amouroux | jrwarden@saintj.com

Emily Dunn
Gregg Feeney
Burtin Hart
Matt Hurley
Kaethe Langs
Paula McKinney
Katie Porter
Marcus Pun
Bev Mosier
Barbara Vacchieri

Vestry Clerk **Elizabeth Hart**

CONVENTION DELEGATES

Bev Mosier
Mike Scrutton
Ken Trant
John Wagas

Alternate to Convention **Jim McConnell**

Contact Us: **stjdeanery@saintj.com**

WORSHIP TIMES

Sunday Services:
In-Person | 8:00am and 10:30am

Live-streamed | 10:30am with recording

Wednesday Service:
Online/Zoom | 10:00am

IMPORTANT COORDINATORS

Eucharistic Ministers & Lectors
George Siegmann

Eucharistic Visitors
The Rev. Lori Walton

Ushers
Burtin Hart

Facilities ***facilities@saintj.com***

The Window Newsletter Staff
Laura Winter
John Wagas **Gregg Feeney**
Brian Cochran