

Love God. Love all People. Make Disciples.

Sunday Masses (Sat 5:30 pm) | Sunday 6:30 am, 8 ,10, 12 noon, 5:30 pm | Monday-Friday 8, 12 noon, Saturday 8 am

Welcome!

Thank you for worshipping with us! We are not complete without you!

Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted—and you yourself a sword will pierce—so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed."

Lk. 2:34-35



Office hours: Monday - Thursday 8 to 12, 1 to 8 pm Friday 8 to 12, 1-4 pm | Saturday & Sunday Closed

Pastor's Christmas Letter

Dear Friends and Families of St. James,

St. James Alive During Advent & Christmas

Thanks to all who have made the Advent-Christmas season so special.

Each time we gather together we are supported by the ministry of so many people. The environment committee changes liturgical themes several times during Advent and Christmas and with the help of the Knights of Columbus putting up the large Christmas trees and crèche, we anticipated the coming of Christ as Savior.

Our choirs and music ministries moved our hearts each week with songs of hope and faith in God's care for us and uplifted our hearts with the special Christmas Concert on December 7th & 8th.

We always depend upon the other liturgical ministries as well. The sacristans, lectors, readers, Eucharistic ministers, ushers, altar servers, greeters, church cleaners and Sunday hospitality all form a network of support for our worship and inspiration to carry the Gospel out to the world.

Our Christian Service/Feed the Needy ministry had a special Christmas luncheon for our needy families and unhoused community and enabled all of us to reach out to help others with the Giving Tree collecting presents for local children and families here and at our sister parish, San Miguel as well as St. Mary's, Our Lady of Victory and Sagrado Corazon in Los Angeles. Your generosity was overwhelming and appreciated.

Our St. James School children, Religious Education children and teens all contributed to the Giving Tree outreach with food and toys in addition to caroling at Brookdale Senior Living and a parish Advent Amplify adoration evening of prayer. As always the school Christmas Sing in the church was a huge success.

Your parish office staff has been exemplary all year long, and has worked extra hard during this holy season.

To all of you, Thank You!

Your faith and loved shared makes St. James the wonderful parish that we call 'home'.

Blessings!

Msgr. Míke, Fr. Thaddeus, Fr. Jím, Fr. Chíbuíke

A Family Prayer for St. James Families

As we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family and a New Year we offer this prayer for all of our St. James families.

Dear God.

Thank you for all the ways You worked in our lives in 2023. You have blessed us with good things, comforted us in hard times, and challenged us to grow more like Jesus every day. We know that even when we can't see it or feel it, You are always working. Help us to look for Your hand in our lives every day and be thankful.

Give us Your vision for the future of our family. Helps us to encourage each other to grow rather than critcize. Lord, Change us from the inside out to be more like Jesus every day.

Give us your patience when we are not behaving as we should especially with each other. Fill us with Your love and kindness so that we can be patient with one another, no matter what is going on or how we are feeling.

Thank you for all the ways You protect our family and provide for us. We trust that You are in control and that you have us in the palm of Your hand. Lord, protect us from evil, keep our family safe, both physically and spiritually. Help us to trust in You to provide all that we need and not to worry about the rest.

Dear Lord, give us a heart like Jesus. Show us how we can serve others in our community. If anyone is sad or hurting, help us to show them love. If anyone is in physical need, show us how we can help. If anyone needs to know You, give us the words to tell them about You. Fill our hearts with a spirit of generosity and an attitude of service. In Jesus' name.

No matter what 2024 holds for your family, if you pray together, keeping yourselves centered on God and His will for your family, it could be your best year yet.

Msgr. Míke, Fr. Thaddeus, Fr. Jím, Fr. Chíbuíke



Bundle Sunday

On Sunday, Jan. 14th, our parish is having a Bundle Sunday for the Society of St.

Vincent de Paul.

Please bring your usable clothing and usable household items between 8 am to 2 pm in the church parking lot.

Your donations will help needy individuals.





Maybe you grew up Catholic.

Maybe you think of yourself as Catholic.

Maybe you haven't been to church in a while.

Or you are worried that you

won't be welcomed here.

And maybe it feels awkward and scary to take that first step.

Questions. Doubts. Yearning. But not sure for what.

We get it.
We've been there.
Now we are here.

Maybe God is calling you, too. Just as you are.

Welcome home.

Thank you for your Continued Support of St. James!

Our parish ministries continue because so many people need our help. Recurring gifts helped sustain our parish in unprecedented times, and continue to be a vital source of support for ministries that are a lifeline to those in need in our community.

Luke 2:11- "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."

As Christmas is rapidly approaching, this is our time to celebrate the birth of Jesus our Lord and savior. So, amidst the presents, cookie decorating and Christmas parties, remember, Jesus is the reason for the season.

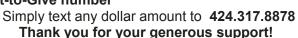
Your eGiving donations allows our ministry to continue to provide gifts to the community.

Enroll in Faith Direct's

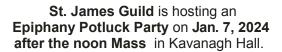
E-Giving by calling toll free 1.866-507.8757 or visit https://www.faithdirect.net Use the code CA560



Use Faith Direct's Text-to-Give number







We request that every participant bring a gift exchange worth \$25.00.

Those who attended the year before enjoyed the various foods and the gift exchange fun.

Please respond to: Ely: 310.944.3355 or Paula: 213.435.3606



Christmas Week Daily Masses

Tuesday, Dec. 26th - 8 am & 12 Noon Wednesday, Dec. 27th - 8 am & 12 Noon Thursday, Dec. 28th - 8 am & 12 Noon Friday, Dec. 29th - 8 am & 12 Noon

Saturday, December 30th - 8 am Mass 5:30 pm Sunday Vigil Mass

Sunday Masses - New Year's Eve

6:30 am, 8 am, 10 am, 12 Noon, 5:30 pm

New Year's Day Mass

Monday, January 1st - **9 am only**

Parish Office Schedule

Monday,	December 25 th	Closed
Tuesday,	December 26 th	Closed
Wednesday,	December 27 th	8 am - 8 pm
Thursday,	December 29 th	8 am - 8 pm
Friday,	December 30 th	8 am - Noon
Monday,	January 1 st	Closed
Tuesday,	January 2 nd	8 am - 8 pm

Invite Someone to Mass

The church is again open for quiet prayer from 7am- 7pm daily.

Our daily Mass is at 8 am and 12 noon Monday-Friday with the rosary prayed immediately afterward.

Our **Saturday Mass is at 8am.** Help others attend Mass and receive the Eucharist; the true body and blood of Christ hidden in the form of a host.

Religious Education

Dear Friends and Families of Saint James, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year!

While the world may have moved on, in the Church, we are still celebrating Christmas until the Feast of the Baptism of our Lord on Monday, January 8th.

Given how long we spend preparing for remembering the birth of Jesus at Christmas, it's wonderful to celebrate this marvelous truth for two weeks instead of one day!

Remember, our Faith Formation programs are finished until January, 2024!

If your family did not get your gift at our last Family Faith Formation day or at our last Traditional Faith Formation class, please give the Office a call at **310.379.3221** so we can set up a time for you to pick yours up.

Please be aware that the Office of Religious Education is closed for the holidays and will reopen on January 8th.

May you be aware of Emmanuel, God-with-us, all year long, and may the joy of Christmas fill you!

God Bless!

Andrea Sullivan,
Director of Religious Education



UPCOMING DATES

Confirmation Nights

Year 1: Sunday, January 7th Year 2: Sunday, January 21st

A blessed Christmas season & a Happy New Year from all of us here at Youth Ministry!

We pray that this season brings joy & love to you and your loved ones.

We look forward to seeing what this year has in store for us, especially as we begin planning for our Year 2 weekend retreat in mid-March.

If you have any questions on joining our team or any future youth ministry events, please feel free to contact us at the information provided below.

Gretchen Nobleza

Director of Confirmation & Youth Ministry

Contact us:

Email: saintjamesym@gmail.com
Website: www.saintjamesym.weebly.com

Text: **424.265.8336**





St. James Catholic Preschool



We wish you a Merry **Christmas and** a Happy New Year!

Much Love. St. James Preschool Staff

(I-r: Mrs. Borda, Mrs. Valades, Ms. Flannery, Mrs. Bell—Director)

Our Preschool still has some openings and is currently enrolling.

Please call: 310.376.5550



(I-r: Mrs. Bailey, Mrs. DeVico, Mrs. Hollerup)



St. James Catholic School

Dear Friends and Families of St. James.

Wishing you all a Very Merry Christmas and **Blessed New Year!**

Saint James School Teachers and Staff Danina F. Uy, MA, M.Ed, Principal

Altar Server Training Begins in January



The St. James Altar Server Ministry will be holding training sessions for children who will be in grades 5-12.

Contact Karen Cuni to join the schedule at karen.cuni@gmail.com

St James Moms Group!

Please join the St James Moms Group!

We have weekday morning meetings along with family and mom events on the weekends. Email karen.cuni@gmail.com for more information.

Sunday Night Worship Aide

Please join our Sunday Night Youth band in worship during our 5:30pm Mass by scanning the QR code to our virtual worship aide where all are encouraged to

worship with us during Mass.



It will also take you to our parish website, our youth ministry website where many of our teens/young adults are also active in & our Sunday Night Youth YouTube page.

We're excited to continue offering new ways to connect with the community!





Saint James School Children concert— celebrating Christmas with family and friends in song.

Community and Putting Your Faith in Action

Feed the Needy Ministry

Saint James Shares Christmas with Those in Need

The Feed the Needy Ministry wants to thank all of our parishioners for their generosity and support of our program this year. Toys from the Giving Tree tickets were abundant. As a result of the contributions we collected many toys, gift cards and a variety of warm clothing.

These contributions were given to needy individuals and families at our annual Christmas luncheon on Dec. 9th, in Kavanagh Hall. We fed over 120 people. Santa gave toys to the children with so many smiling faces.

A Special Thank You to our chef, Danny Maricich for the wonderful luncheon that he prepared.

We also thank all of our Volunteers who sorted and wrapped gifts, decorated and served lunch.

We offer a special Thank You for donations from:
Knights of Columbus, Joe Oliveri Hair Salon
St. James School, St. James Confirmation Team
Elks Club, St. James Religious Ed.

Many of the contributions were shared with inner city parishes, including our sister parish, San Miguel.

Our success is always blessed by the generosity of our parishioners and of our donors. On behalf of the Feed the Needy staff I wish all a blessed Christmas and a safe and prosperous new year.

Línda Cabíbbo, Ministry Leader



Human Trafficking Awareness

Parents: Please be vigilant about your families' cyber-security protections.

Get Involved!

F.A.I.T.H. MINISTRY of St. Lawrence Martyr and St. James.

Contact: Rick Page CandRpage2@gmail.com

Do You Need Someone to Hear You?

It's something we do well.

If you feel it would be helpful to have a confidential space and caring listener as you are trying to work out a problem in your own mind, please consider a call to a Stephen Minister.

We would be happy to act as a sounding board as you work out

solutions. Contact: Didi Egnatuk 310.540.0329



Join the Catholic Daughters of America

V c. s.

We donate generously to several charitable causes. Members give their time, energy and support to help others in the service of Christ.

Our monthly meetings held on the third Wednesday of each month at 7pm in Kavanagh Hall. We are inviting all Catholic women of all ages to join us as pray the holy Rosary before each meeting.

Contact: Kristal Trapani-Landry

Email: Ktrapani.Landry.cda@gmail.com Email courtourladyofvictory@gmail.com

Cookies for the Homeless

If you like to bake delicious cookies, consider making an extra batch once a month for our homeless neighbors.

Contact Sandy: 310.542.4851 Thank you!



Virtus® Classes being held in January

We will be offering the **original Protecting God's Children** Virtus® class on **January 13**th from 1 to 4pm in Kavanagh Hall.



This class is for those who are already in ministry and have an expired certificate and/or those who are brand new to a ministry.

Please check your records or call the parish office if you are not sure of your certification status. Registration is required as space is limited. Please call the office to register.

A **Recertification class** will be offered on Wednesday, Jan.17th from 6 to 7:30pm in Kavanagh Hall. This class is for those who have a current certificate that is expiring soon.

If you haven't received an email from the office that your certificate will soon be expiring, please call the office to verify your certificate expiration date.

Opportunities to Grow your Faith

Interested in Becoming Catholic?

The Order of Christian Initiation (OCI), formerly the RCIA, is the process for adults who desire to join the Catholic faith. It is the process for an unbaptized person to be baptized into the church and for those baptized by another Christian denomination to enter into the Catholic Church. While coming to know Jesus and His invitation to become a disciple, the OCI process involves the journey of faith, formation and conversion. A person is introduced to the beliefs, life, liturgy, and apostolic work of the Catholic Church.

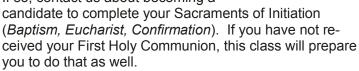
If you are interested in learning more or starting the OCI process in September, please contact:

Ben Aranda at 310.427.5775 or email:

Ben Aranda@yahoo.com

Would You Like to Complete Your Sacraments?

Are you a baptized Catholic, but have not yet received the Sacrament of Confirmation? If so, contact us about becoming a



Our Winter, 2024 series of classes is scheduled to begin on Thursday, January 4th, 2024.

To receive further information and details on this process, please contact Deacon Bob & Patty Miller at **dnbob99@gmail.com** or call us at **310.386.2930**.If you know of someone who may benefit from this process, please feel free to past this information along to them.

Medjugorje Rosary Prayer Group

Join us! We continue to pray the rosary in the midst of this difficult time.

We meet in **Kavanagh Hall every Monday** at **7 pm.**Experience inner peace. **Dean Campazzie 310.372.5182**

Invite Mother Mary to Your Home

The South Bay Rosary Cenacle is circulating the statue of Our Lady of Fatima every Saturday throughout the year. Invite Mother Mary into your home for one week and pray the Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy with your family and friends.

Lydia Nelson 424.358.7197 Carmelita Silvino 310.975.4070

Contact:

The St. James Tuesday Night Online Bible Study group is currently taking a break for the Christmas and New Year Holidays.

We will resume our course on The Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation on **January 9**th, **2024**.

Please contact Donna Wilson (dwilson94@gmail.com) if you are interested in joining our class in the new year.



Come, share and participate in our Church Community.



Benediction and Adoration

January 19th

after the 8am Mass until 12 noon

Holy Hour Adoration

January 12th at 7 pm January 26th at 7 pm

Adoration is the first attitude of man acknowledging that he is creature before his Creator.

It exalts the greatness of the Lord who made us and the almighty power of the Savior who sets us free from evil.

Adoration is the homage of the spirit to the King of Glory, respectful silence in the presence of the ever greater God. Adoration of the thrice-holy and sovereign God of love blends with humility and gives us assurance to our supplications.-CCC 2628



It's normal to grieve a pregnancy loss, including the loss of a child by abortion.

It can form a hole in one's heart, a hole so deep that sometimes it

seems nothing can fill the emptiness. You are not alone... **hopeafterabortion.com/**

Catholic Q & A

J.P. Alegria

Topic: Resolve

History tells us that 4,000 years ago the Babylonians were among the first people to make what we would call New Year's resolutions.

Sometime around 46 B.C. Caesar adopted resolutions that promised good conduct for the coming year.

Today, the Catholic News Agency reports that an estimated nearly 50 percent of Americans plan on making New Year's resolutions, typically about health, self-improvement, and money. Success rates of actually completing them is around 8 percent.

The Dictionary defines resolution as a firm decision to do or not to do something.

Q: What does the Church say about New Year's resolutions?

A: Among this week's scripture readings there is the eloquence of Micah, a contemporary of the "Advent Prophet" Isaiah. In Micah 5 the business of resolve begins with foundational clarity:

"With what shall I come before the Lord?"

- Proverbs 16:
 - "Commit to the Lord whatever you do and your plans will succeed."
- Catechism #1723:
 - "...seek the love of God above all else."
- Catechism #1431:
 - "Interior repentance; a reorientation; a return, a conversion to God..."
- Catechism #1451:
 - "...the resolution not to sin again."
- Catechism #1452:
 - "the firm resolution to have recourse to sacramental confession."
- Micah 5 goes on to mark authentic resolve, good for far more than 8 percent fulfillment:

"What does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness. and to walk humbly with your God."

Commit to the Lord whatever you do..

Fifth Shining Stars Gala

Save the Date: April 13, 2024 Honoring:

Ben Aranda Laura Aranda (Memorium) **Kevin Babuder** Delia & Patrick Cunningham De Geibler Msgr. Michael Meyers Jeanne & Tom Miller

Gospel Meditation— Father John Muir

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

I remember the first time my older sister asked me if I wanted to hold her newborn son. Terrified, I told her I didn't think it was a good idea. My résumé had nothing to suggest I would be a qualified baby holder. But she warmly told me, "I'll help you hold him." It struck me that she is baby's mother. She is the one who decides who is qualified to hold him. I took him in my arms and soon I began to feel comfortable with that tiny little warm cooing creature in my arms, and soon I no longer feared holding him. Now, twenty-seven nieces and nephews later, holding a newborn child is one of the great joys of my

Do we sometimes think that Jesus is given only to the highly qualified, special religious people? In the Gospel of Luke today we hear about the presentation of the Lord in the temple. The newborn son of God is passed around like a baton in a relay race, not guarded like a precious jewel or a breakable china dish. We can see him going from the arms of Mary to Joseph, then to the priest performing the ceremony, then to Simeon the old man, then to Anna the old widow. Each one receiving him and then handing him to the next. A tidal wave of joy and thanksgiving follows wherever he is placed.

Believe me, you are qualified to hold Jesus in your arms. How can I say that with such confidence?

Because the mother decides who is qualified. The Blessed Virgin, embodied in the Church, holds him out to you and me. She rejoices to place him in our arms to hold, and to hand him on, too.



Men's Cornerstone Retreat

Friday/Saturday, Feb. 23-24, 2024 Saint Lawrence Martyr Parish Hall

> This year's theme is: "Building the Kingdom of God"



Join other men in our community on this 26 -hour retreat as we build fellowship to enrich our lives. This retreat is a blessing you will keep forever.

Questions? Call Alex: 310.406.9545

Sacramental Confession

No sin is new to him. No wrongdoing too great.

Come to Confession and experience mercy and joy.

Confession is available Saturday from 4-5 pm in Church or by calling the office for an appointment.



Readings

Monday May God bless us in his mercy. Nm 6:22-27 / Lk 2:16-21

Tuesday

All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

1 Jn 2:22-28 / Jn 1:19-28

Wednesday

All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

1 Jn 2:29—3:6 / Jn 1:29-34

Thursday

All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

1 Jn 3:7-10 / Jn 1:35-42

Friday

Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

1 Jn 3:11-21 / Jn 1:43-51

Saturday

Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.

1 Jn 5:5-13 / Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38 or 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38

Sunday

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Is 60:1-6 / Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6 / Mt 2:1-12

Prayer Requests

For those suffering illness, infirmity and those in need of our prayers:

Cameron Noble,
Jim Napora,
Lucerio Bernas,
Agi Fisher,
Krissy Carlos,
Maria Lupita Marron,
Joy Briones,
Oscar Uribe,
John Brownlie

For the souls of the recently departed, that through the mercy of God,
May they rest in peace:

Ed Castro,

Ed Castro, Regina DeGuzman, George Lopez, Elizabeth Tanguman

Gift Shop Hours: Tuesday–Friday 11am - 3pm Peter Nobleza 310.374.1964 saintjamesgiftshop@gmail.com



Weekly Mass Intentions

Sat. 8 am 5:30 pm	December 30 Fr. Chibuike Fr. Thaddeus	Garrett Finzel Marilyn Amaya Jacqueline McIntosh &
Sun. 6:30 am	December 31 Fr. Jim	New Year's Eve Connie & Gerhard Harte Joseph Resong ⊕
8 am 10 am	Msgr. Mike Fr. Thaddeus	Dorothy Haggerty ⊕ Andrew Scott All Souls in Purgatory
12 noon	Fr. Chibuike	Loretta Palmer មិ Martha Rodriguez មិ
5:30 pm	Msgr. Mike	Barbara Stafford ∜ Julie & Joseph Martelli ∜ Laura Aranda ∜
Mon. 9 am	January 1 Fr. Thaddeus	Mary The Mother of God Darius & Jenna Martins
Tues. 8 am 12 noon	January 2 Fr. Chibuike Msgr. Mike	Sally Gutierrez Patrick Nagle ⊕
Wed. 8 am 12 noon	January 3 Msgr. Mike Fr. Jim	Dennis Apolonio ∜ Allan Hoffman ∜
Thurs. 8 am 12 noon	January 4 Fr. Jim Fr. Chibuike	All Souls In Purgatory Allan Hoffman ⊕
Fri. 8 am 12 noon	January 5 Fr. Thaddeus Msgr. Mike	Mishka Shibata Allan Hoffman ⊕
Sat. 8 am 5:30 pm	January 6 Msgr. Mike Msgr. Mike	Julia Dumler & Lance Martin Patricia Czarske &
Sunday 6:30 am	January 7 Fr. Thaddeus	Epiphany of the Lord David Franco ⊕
8 am	Fr. Chibuike	Jacqueline McIntosh 한 Felix Lococo 한 Austin Cronkrite 한
10 am	Fr. Jim	Elena Liana Notarnicola ⊕ Christine Murray
12 noon	Msgr. Mike	Allan Hoffman & Margarita Mendosa
5:30 pm	Fr. Thaddeus	The Barbarie Family Loretta Palmer ⊕

For prayer requests or to request a Mass intention, please call or visit the Parish Office **310.372.5228** Priest celebrant subject to change.









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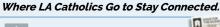
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We're here to help you become the holy, healthy, vibrant person that God has created you to be.



Our Clergy Here to Serve You



Msgr. Mike Meyers
Pastor
FrMike@saintJames.Church



Fr. Thaddeus Agbasonu, SMMM
Associate Pastor
FrThaddeus@stjamesparish.org



Fr. James Kavanagh
Pastor Emeritus
FrJim@SaintJames.Church



Deacon Bob & Patty Miller Deacon Couple DnBob99@gmail.com

Helping Children Grow in Faith

"Train the young in the way they should go; even when old, They will not swerve from it." Proverbs 22:6



Danina Uy Principal, Saint James School Office@SJSCatholicSchool.org 310.371.0416

St. James Elementary School TK-8th Grade 4625 Garnet Street Torrance, CA 90503 310.371.0416

Office Hours 7:30 am- 3:30 pm



Andrea Sullivan Director of Religious Education Andrea@SaintJames.church 310.379.3221

Office Hours

Mon., Tues., Wed: 9am - 3pm Tues. during class times 4 - 6pm Thurs. by appointment only



Gretchen Nobleza
Director of Youth Ministry
& Confirmation
saintjamesym@gmail.com

310.372.5228 x20 Text: 424.265.8336

saintjamesym.weebly.com saintjamesym.rb

@saintjamesym



Wendy Bell
Director of Preschool
& Toddler Time
Wendy@SaintJames.Church
310.376.5550

Preschool & Toddler Time Philosophy

We believe in creating a warm and loving environment where children can learn about themselves, gain an understanding of others and develop strong self-esteem.

Helping Adults Grow in Faith

Confessions Saturday 4-5 pm in church "Lord, cleanse me of my guilt"



Holy Hour 2nd and 4th Friday of the Month 7—8 pm in Church

Benediction and Adoration 3rd Friday of the Month after the 8am Mass until 12 noon

Bible Study Tuesday night at 7pm in Kayanagh Hall or

in Kavanagh Hall or online via Zoom

Donna Wilson DWilson94@gmail.com

Medjugorje Rosary Prayer Group

Monday night at 7pm in Kavanagh Hall

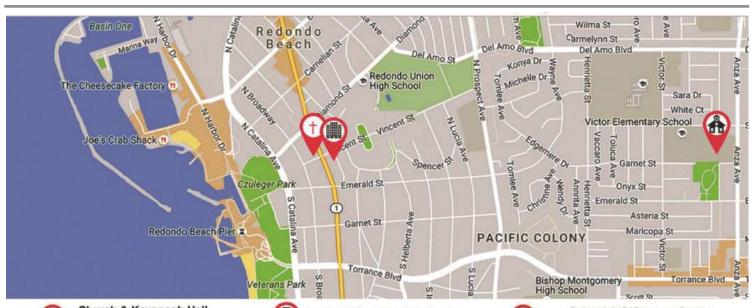
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Eucharistic Ministers for the Homebound

John Cable 310.372.5228

Eucharistic Ministers for Care Centers

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