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Dear Faithful of the Diocese of Oakland,

May the Lord, who entrusted Himself to the care of Saint Joseph, bless you with strength and wisdom to fulfill the missionary task of evangelizing our people in love, faith, and hope.

We'd like to invite you to Mission San Jose/St. Joseph Parish to celebrate a year-long commemoration and celebration of the 225th anniversary of founding the 14th mission, La Misión del Gloriosísimo Patriarca San José. As the Savior Himself entrusted His life to St. Joseph, the 14th mission was established and placed under St. Joseph's protection and paternal care. As Pope Francis reminds us, the greatness of Saint Joseph lies in the fact that he is the spouse of Mary and the foster-father of Jesus. Joseph was not afraid to obey God in accepting Mary and fathering Jesus. He was a courageous father who guided and protected the Holy Family in times of trouble and exile. As an indispensable part of Jesus' life and mission, St. Joseph offered himself totally in service of God's mystery of the incarnation. Together with Mary, he was the first disciple of Jesus and now enjoys the reward of eternal blessedness with Him in heaven. St. Joseph remains our great intercessor before the throne of God. So, we can confidently go to St. Joseph as our spiritual father and ask for his paternal protection and blessing.

In light of this mystery of faith, Bishop Michael Barber, SJ, on the feast day of the Presentation, February 2, 2022, has decreed that Mission San Jose in Fremont is a pilgrimage site for the faithful in the Diocese of Oakland during 2022, the 225th anniversary of its founding. You may wonder: What is the significance of being designated as a pilgrimage site?

Mission San Jose is a pilgrimage site. To call Mission San Jose a pilgrimage site is to say that the extraordinary divine God has touched the ordinary in such a way that its presence alone makes the invisible presence of God felt by those who come here. This is the incarnational principle of faith that makes the visible places like Rome, Jerusalem, Lourdes, Fatima, El Camino, and many other famous pilgrimage places proclaim the holiness of God that permeates the air and physical appearances of the ordinary world. It has always been the case in the history of the Church since the 4th century that places where the Lord has been or the Blessed Mother appeared, become the places where the faithful come to get in touch with the divine God. The pilgrimage represents an interior act of journeying toward God outwardly manifested by a physical act of coming to a holy place with a specific intention like doing penance, offering sacrifice, or simply praying. Mission San Jose is where the holy faith has been introduced and

shared with all. The divine God has touched and entered into this ordinary land and the life of its people. As the Mission still remains faithful to its holy purpose, pilgrims who come to this place will encounter the Son of Joseph and Mary, continue with “our earthly journey toward heaven,” and receive “special occasions for renewal in prayer” (CCC, No. 2691).

As pilgrims visit Mission San Jose, we are blessed with a partial indulgence. An indulgence is “a remission of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven, which the faithful Christian who is duly disposed gains under certain conditions” such as receiving Holy Communion, going to Confession, and praying for the intentions of the Holy Father (CCC, No. 1472). To understand this practice of the Church, we need to see it in light of the Sacrament of Penance. While the Sacrament of Penance makes the forgiveness of sin and restoration of communion with God possible, the consequences of sins and the temporal punishment due to sins remain. This temporal punishment is not vengeance inflicted by God from without, but consequence incurred by the very nature of sin we committed. On February 2, 2022, our Bishop has granted a partial indulgence for all the faithful of the Diocese of Oakland as they visit the Mission:—According to the Bishop’s Decree, “This indulgence may be applied to the souls of the faithful held in Purgatory as the lives of each of God’s children, both still on this earthly pilgrimage and those who have died in the peace of Christ, are joined together in Christ, and strengthened by the communion of spiritual blessings.” Furthermore, “those faithful in the Diocese of Oakland who are aged, sick, or are unable to leave their home, and who have the intention to fulfill the prescribed condition; and who spiritually unite themselves to those visiting Old Mission San Jose on the occasion of the 225th Anniversary of its founding offer their prayers and sufferings to our merciful Father.” While this decree indicates that as a successor of the Holy Apostles, our Bishop exercises his pastoral care and authority in dispensing the spiritual treasury of the Church, we feel his loving care as a father of our diocese. We thank our Bishop for this extraordinary gift of grace.

We invite all of you, the faithful of the Diocese of Oakland, to please come and draw grace, renewal, and indulgence from the treasury of the Church. At the Mission San Jose Church, we have daily Mass at 8:00 am, First Wednesday Mass at 7:00 pm in honor of St. Joseph, Adoration in the Eucharistic Chapel from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm, Sacrament of Confession celebrated 30 minutes before all Masses, First Friday and Saturday Mass at 8:00 am, Sunday Masses at 5:30 pm (Sat), 8:00 am, 3:00 (Vietnamese), 5:00 (Chinese) and 7:00 pm.

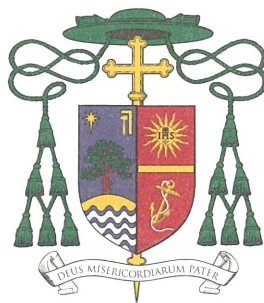
Please mark your calendars for **June 11-12, 2022**. On these days, we will celebrate the founding of the Mission with fun festivities and solemn liturgies. You can visit us at <https://mission225.org/> or send us an email via info@mission225.org.

Through the intercession of St Joseph, may the Lord bless you always.

Sincerely,

Fr Anthony Le
Pastor, St. Joseph Parish/Old Mission San Jose

MICHAEL C. BARBER, S.J.
BISHOP OF OAKLAND



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Michael C. Barber, SJ
Miseratione Divina et Apostolicae Sedis Gratia
Episcopus Quercopolitanensis

DECREE

To my Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ
of the Diocese of Oakland

On the 225th anniversary of St. Joseph Parish (Old Mission San Jose), Fremont

In accord with the Universal Law of the Church which grants Bishops,
by virtue of their pastoral office,
the jurisdiction to grant a partial indulgence to persons under their jurisdiction;

I hereby decree that a

PARTIAL INDULGENCE

may be obtained for the remission of temporal punishment
for sins whose guilt is already forgiven under the usual conditions of
Sacramental Confession, Eucharistic Communion, and,
prayer for the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff,
for those members of the Christian Faithful of the Diocese of Oakland who,
truly penitent, are compelled by charity to those who visit,
attend Mass and spiritual talks, and confess their sins.

This indulgence may be applied to the souls of the faithful held in Purgatory
as the lives of each of God's Children, both those still on this earthly pilgrimage and those
who have died in the peace of Christ, are joined together in Christ,
and strengthened by the communion of spiritual blessings; and,

This indulgence may also be obtained by those members of the Christian Faithful
of the Diocese of Oakland who are aged, sick, or are unable to leave their home; and,
Who have the intention to fulfill the prescribed condition;
and who spiritually unite themselves to those visiting Old Mission San Jose
on the occasion of the 225 year anniversary of its founding and offer
their prayers and sufferings to our merciful Father.

Given at the Chancery of Oakland, on the Second Day of February
in the Year of Our Lord Two-Thousand Twenty-Two, in the eighth year of my Episcopate,
and, upon the occasion of the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord.

+ Michael Barber S.J.
Bishop of Oakland

Reuben A. Mosley
Chancellor

For the greater glory of God