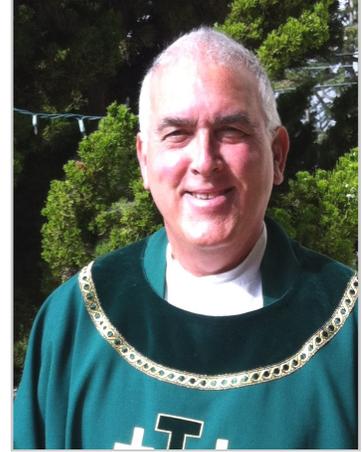


The St. Jerome Parish Council, 2017

Fr. Fernando Cortez, St. Jerome Church Pastor

Thank you for welcoming me to my new faith community and parish assignment, I was born in Oakland, CA in 1951. I was educated in public schools and the state university in Hayward. I studied at Saint Patrick Seminary, Menlo Park, CA and was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Oakland in 1977. I have served as a pastor in three other parishes, and participated as a spiritual director in the Cursillos de Cristianidad since 1983. I have worked as the Diocesan Vocation Director and as a consultant and volunteer to Sr. Felicia Sarati, CSJO, of the Office of Ethnic Concerns in our diocese. I speak English, Spanish and I am “pastorally functional” in Portuguese. I am a fourth degree Knight of Columbus. I hope I will be of service to the church and school and religious communities here at Saint Jerome. Let us strive to be a strong, faithful and united parish. May God, who began the good work in you, bring it to completion. Amen!



Barbara Cortese, Parish Council Chair

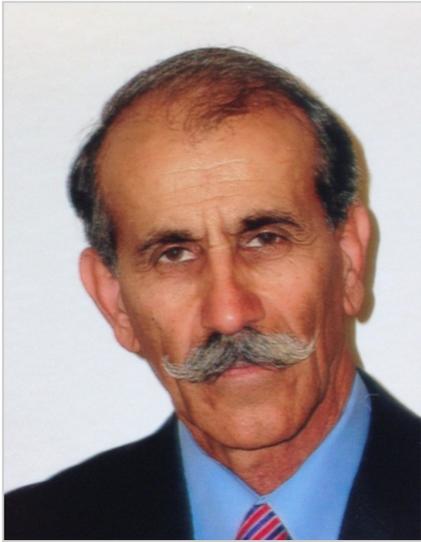


Our family joined St. Jerome Parish in 1982 when our children enrolled in the school. Now I am retired, having worked at the University of California all my life in various IT positions. I have an M.A. in Religious Education, so I have volunteered at St. Jerome as a catechist on both the RCIA and Confirmation Teams for over 20 years. I periodically teach classes for returning Catholics as well as continuing religious education classes for adults. At various times I have also served St. Jerome as the Parish Renew Coordinator, Lector, Eucharistic Minister, and soup kitchen volunteer.

Jim Almeida

I attended St. Jerome for all eight years of elementary school, then went onto St. Mary's High School. and St. Mary's College. As an adult I was active in the parish in the St. Jerome Men's Club and coached CYO basketball and baseball for many years. I moved away from the area after getting married, and returned to the parish with my wife in 2013. I have a daughter in college. Now I help out with St. Jerome's CYO program again, as well as serving as an usher at the 9 A.M. Mass. I work in the computer industry. I look forward to serving you on the Parish Pastoral Council.



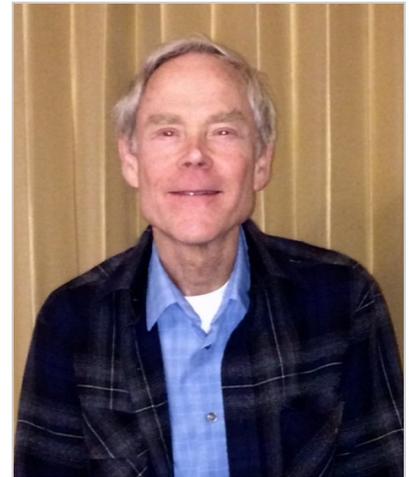


Mike Bahrami

Our family moved from the East Coast to the Bay Area after completion of our graduate degrees, when my wife was accepted at University of California San Francisco to complete her post doctorate at UCSF. We joined St. Jerome Parish in 1991 when we moved into our house in Albany. I retired about five years ago, having worked for both private and government sectors in various capacities. At present I work in my own consulting firm. I am very happy to serve St. Jerome as a member of the Parish Pastoral Council.

David Herum

My name is Dave Herum and I have been a member of St Jerome for the past four years. I have enjoyed working with the RCIA team and serving as a minister of Communion to the Homebound. During this time, I have been active in CISS - Companions in Ignatian Spirituality and Service. Through this program I enjoy volunteering as a tutor at Next Step Learning Center in West Oakland, and also visiting with residents at Laguna Honda Hospital in San Francisco. Baptized and raised as a Lutheran and confirmed as a Catholic, I treasure the richness and depth of both traditions. Brother Roger of Taize has been a lifelong inspiration, as have the paintings of Richard Diebenkorn and the poetry of Gerard Manley Hopkins. I look forward to serving the St Jerome community and continuing the journey of faith as a member of the PPC.



Jay James



I was born and raised around Providence, Rhode Island in a middle-class community that was dominated by St. Mark's Catholic Church. My father was in the Holy Name Society (and bowling league), and I was an altar boy. I met my wife in college and followed her back home to Northern California. After a little bouncing around in our first few years, we settled into our current house in Kensington in 1975. My participation in St. Jerome's church has been on-again off-again. When my daughter Daisy was little (during the pastorate of Fr. Manning), I would bring her to Mass to sing in the choir along with the sisters from the convent. Fr. Osuna dissolved that (admittedly ragged) choir, and my participation ebbed for a while until the Renew program started up. After the kids left home I dropped off again, and then left for an overseas job, until my return in the last few years under Fr. Fernando and Deacon Ben. I volunteered to be a lector, then the choir, and now the Parish Council.

Israel Lawrence

I am a native of California, and a graduate of El Cerrito High School. I attended Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo, where I obtain a degree in electronic engineering. I continued my graduate schooling by attending Union Theological Seminary in New York. I spent 15 years in Hawaii at the University of Hawaii and working with the campus ministry of the United Methodist Church. From Hawaii, I found myself in the Philippines working for Central Texas College Pacific Far East Campus as director of the Electronics & Computer Science department. I am particularly interested in issues of discourse, practice, power, conflict and the violent reconstruction of social borders. I am married and have one adult son.



Katie Mishork



I have been a member of St. Jerome Church since birth. My parents, Jim and Mary Jo Mishork, were active members of the parish, serving on the Parish Council, Parish Finance Committee, Men's Club and coaching for CYO. My mother loved teaching both 4th and 5th grades at St. Jerome School for close to 20 years. I am a proud alumna of St. Jerome School, Salesian High School, and UC Berkeley. I served our parish as an altar server, Eucharistic Minister, Lector, and choir member and worked in the rectory as the parish secretary from 1997-2001. My passion for education brought me back to the Diocese of Oakland, where I taught second grade and sacramental preparation at St. Joseph School in Pinole and Christ the King School in Pleasant Hill for 11 years. In 2014, I embarked on a new journey, opening a school as a founding teacher at Caliber Beta Academy in Richmond. When I am not teaching, you

can find me running on trails with my fiancé, Michael, or running after our puppy, Molly. I am grateful to have the opportunity to serve our parish, which will always be like a second family to me.

Deborah Moss

I was born and raised on Long Island, New York, where I was privileged to attend Diocesan Schools from first through twelfth grades. My interests were in the arts and humanities. I studied both graphics and technical illustration before earning a BFA in History of Art from UC Berkeley. Along with art, I loved dance. I have had the opportunity to study with many wonderful teachers. I am currently Associate Artistic Director of Berkeley Ballet Theater. I have been a member of St. Jerome Parish for over twenty years and have participated in Renew and served on the Social Justice Committee. I currently assist with the Altar Linens and I am a member of the Prayer Tree. It is an honor to serve on the Parish Council.



Ron Smith



I have attended mass at St. Jerome Church for over six years. Growing up in Berkeley off Marin, I was in St. Mary Magdalen Parish, and graduated from the School of the Madeline and St. Mary's College HS. I attended St. Joseph's seminary in Mountain View for a little over a year. I was in the Boy Scouts. I took classes at different colleges, graduated from Ft. Benning Officer School in Georgia, and was in the California National Guard for about six years, mostly part time. I have five great kids who all live in California, and I have four grandsons 8, 9, 14, and 19 years old. I am a Knight of Columbus, a member of the Lions Club, and do prison ministry at CMF Vacaville, Santa Rita, and Glen Dyer. I have been active in St. Vincent de Paul in all the parishes I've belonged to and worked for SVdP of Alameda for over 10 years, including managing the free dining room for three years after being a volunteer there for a few years. I am blessed with a wonderful wife Liz. I am a Eucharistic Minister and Lector at the 7:30

Mass on Sunday. I belong to our SVdP Conference.

Tom Troy

As Athletic Director for a neighboring school (in the 1980's - 90's), I worked with St Jerome's outstanding CYO leadership. Occasional participation at St Jerome Church was always positive and became primary when I learned Fr. Fernando was here. I served several boards & ministries while my three children attended local Catholic elementary and high schools. These included PTG & CYO boards, Parish Council, Lector, Eucharistic Minister, youth retreats and sports, catechism/sacramental preparation, including the RCIA. I thoroughly enjoy participating in the St. Vincent de Paul's Wednesday grocery service in Rohan Hall when I can. My career has been construction—generally in structural Quality Assurance. I've contributed on the convent and the school retaining wall projects here. In faith, I find it a good thing and a great joy to worship, participate, assist and lead in ministry, especially in the charismatic tradition of the Church, including the Northern & Southern CA Renewal Conventions.



Katie Wolfman



I was born in San Francisco, and grew up in Berkeley and attended Berkeley public schools. After a year of college I married my childhood sweetheart of 44 years and raised 4 children. Our family became part of the St. Jerome Parish in 1978. Two of our four children attended St. Jerome School and three were altar servers. When the children were older I went back to school to receive a Sign Language Certificate and worked as a signing aide in the classroom for the West Contra Costa School District. When our youngest was in high school, I went back to school to get my teaching credential. I am currently a third grade teacher for the West Contra Costa School District. I have been active in the Girl Scouts as a girl scout and as a volunteer for 50 years. I have also been a member of the St. Jerome Women's Club, parent volunteer, Prayer Tree and currently part of

the Music Ministry. I look forward to serving on the Pastoral Council.