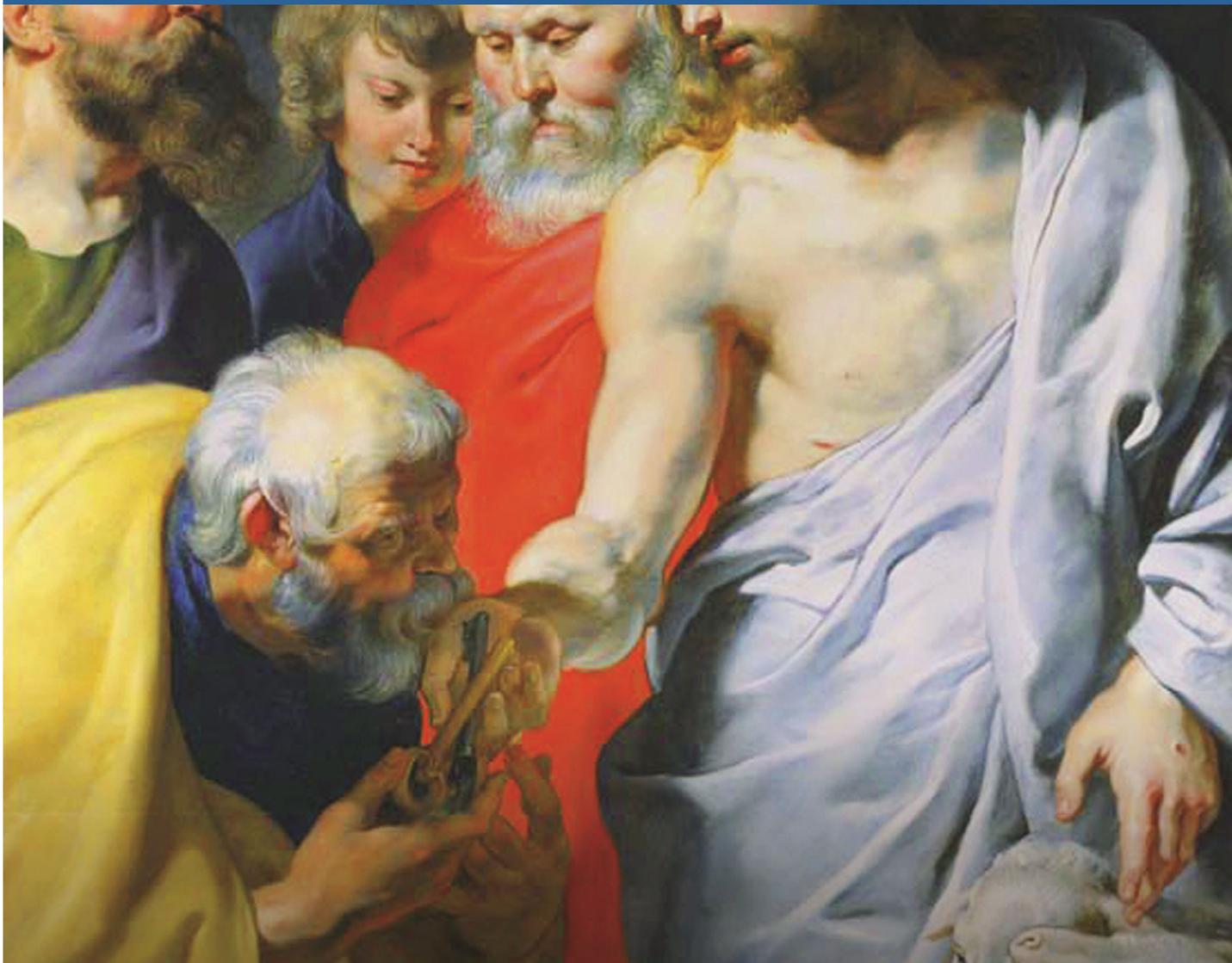




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21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." - Mt 16:19

FROM FR CARL



PARISH PRIORITIES DURING THE PANDEMIC

Dear Parish Family,

As this pandemic continues, our community is faced with many new challenges. Yet we remain faithful, rooted in our love of the Lord and our commitment to be His intentional disciples. Therefore, united as a parish, let us all – individuals, families and ministries – focus upon these following areas:

Liturgy and Prayer

As we continue with livestream Mass, we need more volunteers to join the Parish AV Team. For outdoor Mass, we need volunteers to be ushers to help direct the faithful to keep us safe and healthy.

Social Media and Online Formation

We need volunteer photographers and videographers to capture our vibrant parish to share with the community at large. We need small group facilitators to lead Zoom faith studies to help us continue to grow spiritually.

Community Care

We need financial support to provide free groceries to members of our community: \$50 sponsors 5 families. We need more onsite prayer team members to pray with our guests who drive through for groceries. We need small support group facilitators and care team members to help people going through times of difficulty.

School and Families

We need your prayers for our teachers and students who are moving forward with excellence in Catholic education distance learning. Share news about our school on social media and talk to friends with school age kids and grandkids.

To volunteer, please email Care@StMichaelLivermore.com to find the right fit for you.

We are blessed to have a great team at our parish and school. Our dedicated staff has been very busy and active, working remotely and behind the scenes. My thanks to our clergy and seminarians who are giving their best effort to serve and nourish souls during this pandemic. And thanks to all our ministry leaders, volunteers and generous donors! Thank you, dear parishioners, for your love for Jesus, our Church and for our parish. God truly has blessed us with many gifts, and I am so humbled by God's abundance and providence.

In addition to the above priorities, I wanted to quickly address some questions we are getting from our various ministry groups here at St. Michael about scheduling space for events and meetings. At this time and until further notice, we will not be scheduling facilities for ministry groups. Until it is safe to be back indoors meeting and socializing together, we are putting this on hold. Of course, as things change, we will let all of our ministry groups know.

So, let us fix our eyes on our parish priorities by gathering all our resources and our talents to be a unified team. We are in this together, and together we are strong and effective!

May God bless you and your families,

Fr Carl



INTO THE BREACH

Into the Breach is a groundbreaking 12-episode video series from the Knights of Columbus that seeks to answer what it means to be a Catholic man in today's world. Inspired by Bishop Thomas J. Olmsted's apostolic exhortation to Catholic men, Into the Breach tells men they are made for greatness and challenges them to achieve it by founding their lives on God and pursuing heroic virtue. Each episode explores a different aspect of authentic Catholic masculinity and features well-known Catholic speakers, as well as the personal story of a man who has deeply experienced the episode's topic in his own life. Speakers include Dr. Scott Hahn, Fr. Mike Schmitz, Jason Evert and many others. The episodes can be used for individual personal enrichment and for group discussion.

This content was created for and is most appropriate for use by men or men's groups.

FREE ACCESS is available to all St Michael parishioners on FORMED.org



Elements of the Catholic Mass is designed to help the faithful better appreciate the beauty of the Mass. Featuring Fr. Douglas Martis, former director of the Liturgical Institute, the program consists of thirty-one beautifully produced short videos. Because each episode comes with a discussion guide with references, Elements of the Catholic Mass is ideal for personal faith formation or group discussion.

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August Goal
\$103,558.82

Collection from 8-16-2020
\$12,741.00

August collection to date
\$60,316.82

Percentage reached
58%

August Maintenance Goal
\$9,500

**August Maintenance collec-
tion to date**
\$6,551.00

Percentage reached
69%



GOSPEL MEDITATION

“And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the nether-world shall not prevail against it.” (Mt 16:18)

The only way to know God is to love God. Our minds will never fully grasp the mystery of God, but our hearts and souls can learn to love the mystery. Years ago, when life had a more innocent quality to it, we believed what we were told or witnessed, unless there was direct evidence otherwise. This was especially true if the information came from someone in authority. In a sense, we were a bit more gullible on one hand but also more trusting on the other. The latter is an admirable quality that sadly can be eroded when we realize we have been duped. With education and technological advances, we find ourselves more skeptical and less likely to too quickly accept and believe what we see and hear.

For all of the good that social media can do, it can also easily distort reality and truth. Photoshop and a myriad other technological truths can add to, fabricate, and make even the non-existent seem real. It is amazing. How far do we allow this obviously justifiable skepticism to take us? Questioning and doubting are healthy elements of any good relationship as long as we don't allow them to turn us away from a deeper experience of love and encounter. If we cannot get our minds around something or empirically justify or prove it, we tend to declare it a hoax, untrue, or unauthentic and walk away. The very same trust that can quickly be eroded is exactly

what is essential for all of our relationships, especially our relationship with God. With all things and people that make a profound claim on us, we have to trust in the absence of knowledge. Full self-investment involves plunging completely into the unknown!

Simon Peter said to Jesus, “You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God.” Peter came to this knowledge, which is not “head knowledge” because of the relationship he shared with Jesus and what God was able to reveal in and through that relationship. Peter simply “knew” because of love that this is who Jesus really is. The silent exchange of love between friends, and not an intellectual exercise of the mind, brought Peter to this place. When we stop and think about it, there are many things in life that we simply know but do not completely understand. When someone sacrifices their own well-being for another, it may not make intellectual sense when examined. But it makes a world of sense when it is carried out. The vastness of reality and an encounter with incomprehensible mystery all lead us to profound silence where we simply know something to be true. Have you trusted enough to allow your relationship with God to bring you to this place or are you still too skeptical?

©LPI

RESPONDING to the *Call*

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

The Choice of Stewardship

What does it mean to be a good steward? Does it mean to be an active parishioner, or something more? Are we better stewards because we give more in terms of our money and time to our parish, or are we called to do even more than that?

The truth is that stewardship is a way of life. We are not simply called to be active parishioners, but instead be active disciples all the time. In fact, what we learn to do in our parish should serve as preparation for the mission field of the world. What have we really done if we only act like disciples of Jesus Christ while we are assembled with others who claim to be the same?

The choice before us is to give of ourselves in all aspects of our day and life. The call of Jesus will come in our everyday lives with our co-workers, family, and friends more often than it will within our parish community. First, if we can't become good stewards when we are among those who proclaim Jesus as Lord, how will we be able to do so when we are with those who are non-believers? Second, when our muscles of gratitude, generosity, and graciousness are strengthened within our parish community, we are more able to meet the challenges of this world. However, we do not become good stewards by accident. We must always choose to live this way. What will you choose?

– Tracy Earl Welliver





Livestream Mass

[Facebook.com/StMichaelParishLivermore](https://www.facebook.com/StMichaelParishLivermore)

[YouTube.com/StMichaelLivermore](https://www.youtube.com/StMichaelLivermore)

MONDAY TO FRIDAY

8:30 am in English (filmed inside)

6:00 pm Mass in Spanish (filmed inside)

WEDNESDAY

6:00 pm Mass in Spanish (filmed outside)

SATURDAY

8:30 am in English (filmed inside)

5:00 pm in English (filmed inside)

SUNDAY

8:00 am Traditional Latin Mass (filmed inside)

9:30 am Mass in English (filmed outside)

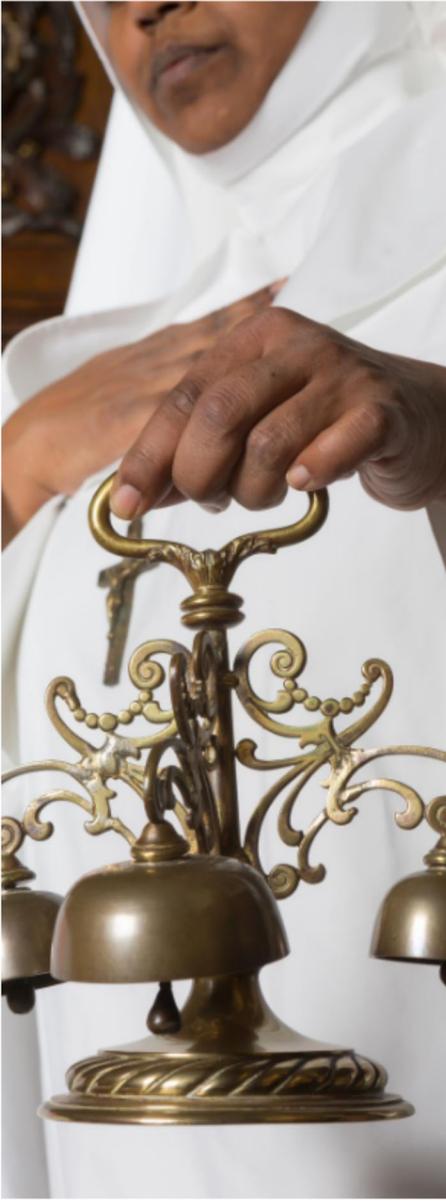
12:30 pm Mass in Spanish (filmed inside)

JOIN THE PARISH AV TEAM

It takes a team of volunteers to produce livestream Mass, so that hundreds of people can pray along at home. It is our intention to broadcast Mass on Facebook and YouTube on the schedule above, but we need more help! If you or someone you know can follow instructions well and would like to be part of this important ministry, please call or text Rochelle at 925-997-5674

ABOUT THE SOUND QUALITY

You will notice that the sound quality of livestream Mass is better when it is broadcast inside, and you see the different camera angles. This is when we are using the professional livestream equipment that requires trained volunteers. When you see only one camera angle, it means no volunteers were available to operate the system, and a simple iPad solution (with less than optimal sound) is being used as a backup.



Outdoor Mass

In the Courtyard.

Wear a face covering.

Bring your own chair and sit 6-feet apart.

MONDAY TO FRIDAY

6:45 am Mass in English

WEDNESDAY

6:00 pm Mass in Spanish

SATURDAY

6:45 am Mass in English

7:00 pm Vigil Mass in Spanish

SUNDAY

6:45 am Mass in English

9:30 am Mass in English

6:00 pm Mass in English

DISPENSATION

Bishop Michael Barber has offered a dispensation from the obligation to celebrate Mass to all the faithful, indefinitely. This means that we are not required, under the penalty of sin, to attend Mass. Those who are high risk for COVID 19 should not attend Outdoor Mass or Walk-In Communion.

KEEP SOCIAL DISTANCE

While attending Outdoor Mass, please sit at least 6-feet apart from non-household members. Wait until directed to enter the Communion procession. After Mass, please keep socializing at a distance and avoid congregating.



Walk in Communion

Communion is offered at the end of each Mass.

Please arrive promptly at the times listed below.

Wear a face covering.

Exit immediately after receiving.

MONDAY - FRIDAY

7:25 am, 9:10 am, 6:40 pm

SATURDAY

7:25 am, 9:10 am, 5:40 pm, 7:40 pm

SUNDAY

7:25 am, 9:00 am, 10:15 am, 1:15 pm, 7:15 pm

RECEIVING COMMUNION

Enter the church as directed. Wear a face covering and sanitize your hands. Keep 6-feet apart from non-household members. For those who are sick, homebound or at high risk for COVID 19, please contact the church office at 925-447-1585 to arrange for a priest to visit.

HAND OR TONGUE?

Receiving Communion in the hand is acceptable in our diocese.

The faithful cannot be denied receiving Communion on the tongue. Our priests sanitize their hands if they inadvertently come in physical contact with the communicant.

Note that the norm at the Traditional Latin Mass is to receive on the tongue.



Confession & Adoration

Park in the parking lot or side streets.

Walk to the Courtyard.

Face coverings required.

For adoration, please bring your own chair.

Sit at least 6 feet apart from others.

MONDAY - FRIDAY

7:30 pm – 8:30 pm

SATURDAY

9:30 am – 10:15 am

CONFESSION FOR HOMEBOUND

For those who are sick, homebound or at high risk for COVID 19, please contact the church office at 925-447-1585 to arrange for a priest to visit.

OUTDOORS IN THE BREEZEWAY

We have two “Confessionals” set up in the breezeway, on either side of the altar. A partition is set up between a two chairs: one for the priest, and one for the penitent. All of our priests also wear face coverings.

ADORATION

Anyone can bring a chair to the courtyard to pray, basking in the presence of the Lord!



Zoom Rosary

In English.

Gather online.

Pray together.

Support each other.

Meeting ID: 940 0959 5171

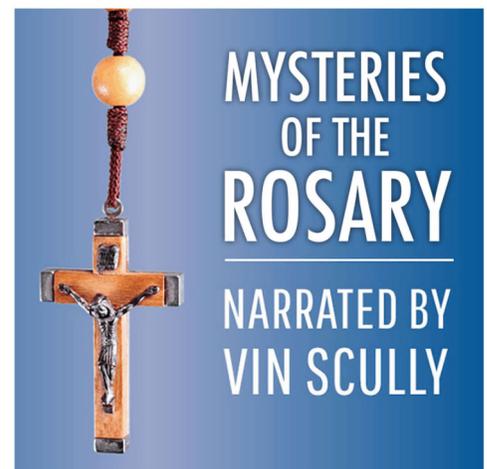
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