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CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENTS, GROW DISCIPLES, BRING CHRIST TO PEOPLE



SEPTEMBER 20, 2020

25th SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME



“Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last.” - Mt 20:16

FROM FR CARL

Fund -A -Need for Community Care

Be an Angel for a Struggling Family

Dear Parishioners,

As we continue to celebrate our month-long fiesta in honor of St Michael our patron saint, I would humbly ask that you join me in our effort to become the presence of Jesus for others through our works of mercy and charity. Community Care at St Michael, our new ministry, consists of four initiatives to help those in need free grocery distribution, emergency financial assistance, onsite prayer and mental health support groups. This is our parish's way of showing how serious we are in our discipleship as we help one another.

Instead of our annual raffle, I ask instead for your generosity in supporting our Fund-A-Need campaign for our Community Care Ministry. The need is so great during this time of unemployment and financial crisis. We need to be good shepherds and "angels" to one another. What a unique way to celebrate our feast day, celebrating it by doing good!

Here is an update from our last Community Care Grocery distribution on September 5:

We had over 50 volunteers help with the Free Grocery distribution. The Knights of Columbus were the powerhouse group who showed up early to set up, stayed to help distribute and were the last to leave as they cleaned up. St Michael school families participated by donating apples and oranges, and St Michael Scouts staffed the food drive to accept them. Open Heart Kitchen donated almost \$2,000 worth of ground beef. One Nation Dream Makers coordinated surplus donations from Smart & Final, Nob Hill, Whole Foods, Panera Bread, Starbucks and more. Contreras Market, Fertile Groundworks and Livermore Farmers Market vendors donated produce. We distributed food to 160 households in just two hours. We had 81 cars in the drive through and we delivered to 79 seniors or those who are home-bound (including 29 residents at Heritage Estates). 157 were Livermore households and just 3 from Pleasanton. A total of 408 household members will have fresh fruit and vegetables, eggs and meat and extras!

We distributed all the food, with nothing left over. AND we did it all under budget! Thanks to generous food donations and Jacqueline's bargain shopping expertise, we did it for \$6 per grocery kit instead of \$10.

If you would like to offer \$10 for each family you would like to sponsor with a kit of groceries, please make checks payable to St Michael Church with "Community Care" in the memo. You can drop off or mail to St Michael Church, 458 Maple Street, Livermore, CA 94550. You can also use your FaithDirect account.

Thank you to all our volunteers and parish staff! May God bless you and your family!



*Thank
You!*

Donate online at Faith Direct
bit.ly/StMOffering

Or text any dollar amount to
(925) 258-2969

Or drop off at St Michael's in the
donation box or mail slot.

September Goal
\$85,813.73

Collection from 9-13-2020
\$14,064.00

September collection to date
\$46,752.83

Percentage reached
55%

September Maintenance Goal
\$9,500.00

September Maintenance collection to date
\$7,058.00

Percentage reached
74%

Feast of St Michael

CELEBRATING OUR FAITH,
BRINGING OTHERS TO JESUS



DAILY PARISH ZOOM

ROSARY

SEPTEMBER 1ST – 30TH

12:00 pm in English
8:00 pm in Spanish

9 DAYS OF MASSES WITH NOVENA PRAYERS

SEPTEMBER 20TH – 28TH

6:45 am and 8:30 am English
5:00 pm Spanish

ADORATION & CONFESIONS IN THE COURTYARD

SEPTEMBER 1ST – 30TH

Monday – Friday
6:30 pm – 7:30 pm
Saturday
9:30 am – 10:30 am

DISCOVER THE ANGELS ZOOM RETREAT SEMINAR

SEPTEMBER 20TH – 28TH

Daily with Fr Nat and
St Michael Clergy
7:30 pm English

XLT: PRAISE, WORSHIP & ADORATION IN THE COURTYARD

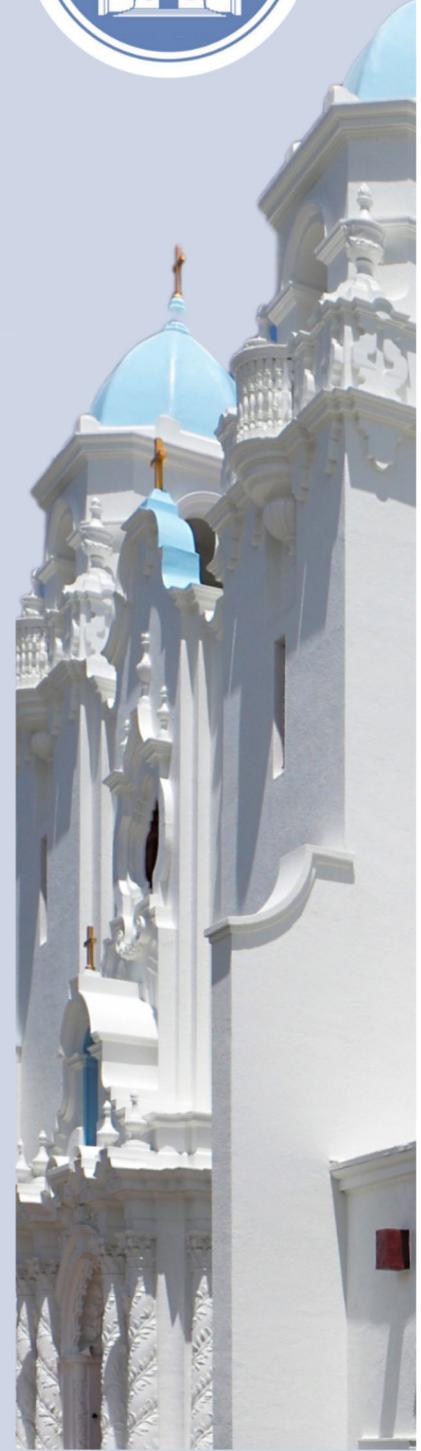
SEPTEMBER 25TH

7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

COMMUNITY CARE GROCERY DISTRIBUTION

1ST & 3RD SATURDAY
9:00 am - 11:00 am

Sponsor \$10 / month





GOSPEL MEDITATION

Take what is yours and go. What if I wish to give this last one the same as you? Or am I not free to do as I wish with my own money? Are you envious because I am generous? Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last. (Mt 20:14-16a)

If I work for five hours, I expect to get paid for five hours. If I work for two, I expect to get paid for two. What if we worked for a company that paid everyone the same amount regardless of how long they worked? How would we feel going home with the same pay for working eight hours as my co-worker did for working only two hours? Secular wisdom would have a huge problem with this and a visit to the Labor Board would quickly pursue. But this is God's wisdom and God's ways.

We sometimes think that if we pray more, better, or more fervently and go over and above with the practice of our faith, God will somehow reward us and present us with some kind of merit badge. We are so wrong. Spiritual practices have only one true purpose: to deepen our love for God. In deepening our love for God, we also increase our ability to see God's presence around us, living life more purposefully and contemplatively. What if God chooses to treat someone who has come on the scene of faith later in life the same as someone who has devoted their whole lives to it? Does it really matter? If we have the merit badge notion of faith, we can find ourselves feeling a little arrogant and even jealous of folks who have not followed the same path that we have. We can even see ourselves as the privileged

few who have a corner on the faith and fully possess it.

That thinking doesn't square with God. God is all about mercy in abundance and is ready to take anyone to himself regardless of when they come. He is only happy that they have come home and delights in their return. After all, if you really and truly love someone, does it matter what they will give you in return or what you receive as a benefit? If relationships were assessed based upon productivity, they would lack authentic love. We invest too much self interest in our prayer and neglect to see it as an opportunity to pursue our Lover and deepen the intimate bond we have with God.

When we breathe our last, all that is of consequence is union with God. If my love for God is real, I am going to want to live the Gospel, abide by the commandments, practice my faith, forgive and love my neighbor, and care for the environment, regardless of how much time it takes or benefits me. We want God to think and behave as we do, and in doing so, we set ourselves up for disappointment. God has a totally different agenda and that's okay.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Be Sure to Look the Part

I used to coach my oldest son in soccer when he was younger. As he got older, he would go to try-outs for select and high school teams. I was no longer the coach, but I always shared with him one piece of advice before any tryout: Be sure to look the part. I told him that if he showed up looking like a soccer player, there was an increased chance of him being seen as a soccer player. If he showed up looking like a kid that plays soccer in video games as opposed to the real thing, he might not be taken seriously. As he grew older, that same advice was then applied to getting a job. It's advice I have heeded myself all my life. You can even say it is like another common phrase: "Fake it till you make it."

As disciples of Jesus Christ, we certainly do not want to fake it, but we do need to look the part. The world looks at those of us who proclaim to be Christians to see if there is anything to this way of life. If they see us looking and acting like people transformed by Jesus Christ, they will be more likely to take Christianity seriously. If they look at us and see nothing different, then they can easily conclude that there is nothing different about Jesus Christ. He just becomes simply another religious figure of history. Can the world see the power of Christ in you? How will do you look the part?

- Tracy Earl Welliver

©LPI

\$10 SPONSORS ONE FAMILY WITH GROCERIES

Community Care at St Michael Free Grocery distribution is every 1st and 3rd Saturdays, from 9:00 am—11:00 am.

September 19, October 3, October 17, November 7, November 21, December 5, December 19.

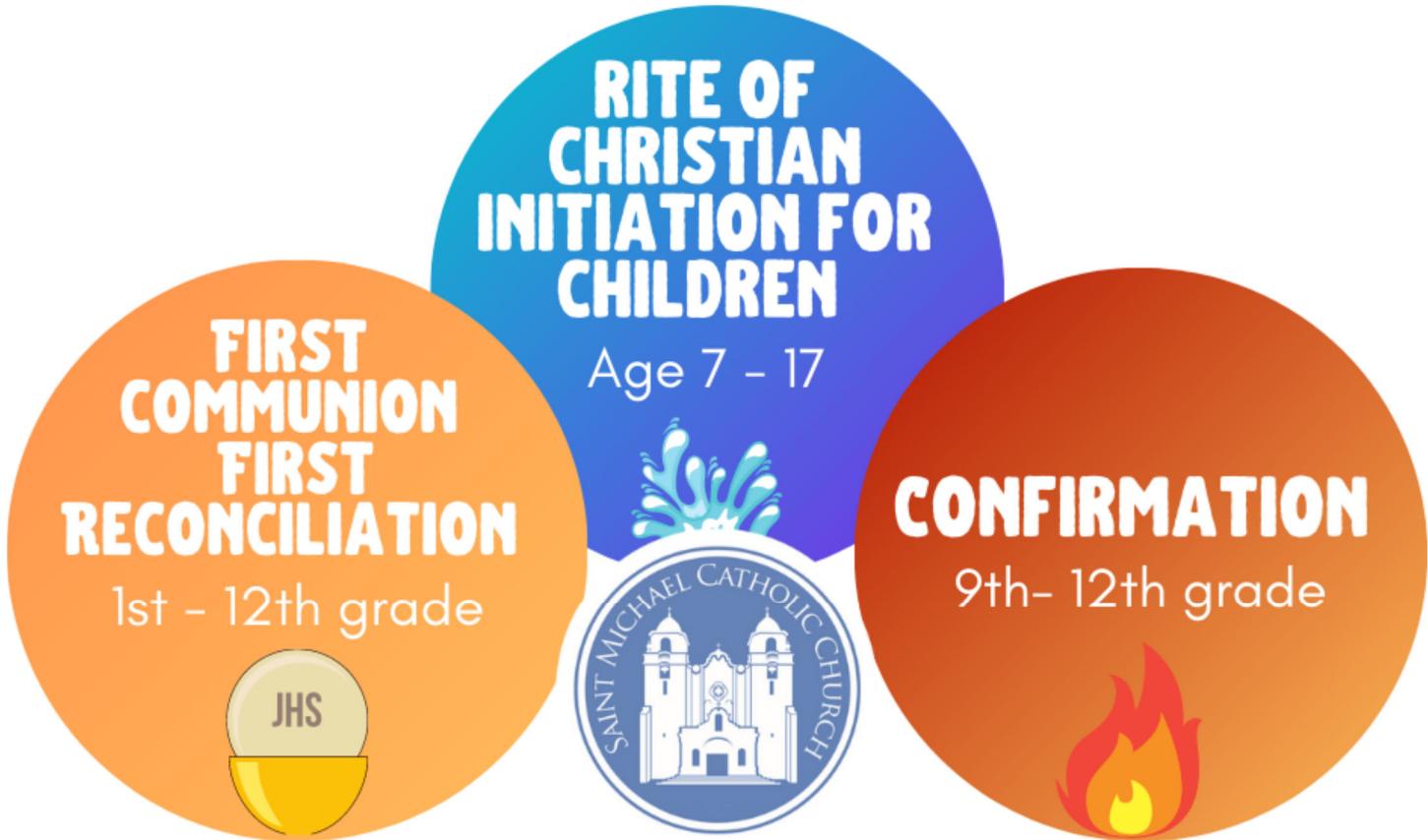
You can also donate apples and oranges on the Wednesday prior to distribution day, between 3:00 pm and 7:00 pm at the Hall.

Make checks payable to St Michael Church with "Community Care" in the memo. You can drop off or mail to St Michael Church, 458 Maple Street, Livermore, CA 94550. You can also use your FaithDirect account.

Thank you!



REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!



ONLINE PROGRAMS
FAITHFULLY CATHOLIC
FAITH-ENRICHING FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Register by September 21
StMichaelLivermore.com/FaithFormation



OUTDOOR MASS

In the Courtyard
Face covering is required
Bring your own chair
Sit at least 6 feet apart

Monday to Friday
6:45 am Mass in English

Wednesday
5:00 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

LIVESTREAM MASS

Facebook.com/StMichaelParishLivermore and
YouTube.com/StMichaelLivermore

Monday to Friday
8:30 am in English
5:00 pm Mass in Spanish

Saturday
8:30 am in English
5:00 pm in English

Sunday
8:00 am Traditional Latin Mass
9:30 am Mass in English
12:30 pm Mass in Spanish

WALK IN COMMUNION

In the Courtyard
Face covering is required
30-40 minutes after Mass begins

Monday - Friday
7:25 am, 9:10 am, 5:40 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, 6:45 pm

SICK & HOMEBOUND

By Appointment

Sacraments of Anointing of the Sick, Confession and Communion are available to those who are sick, in a care facility or homebound. Please contact Eric Hom 925-667-4052 or EricHom@StMichaelLivermore.com to arrange for a priest to visit.

After hours only, please call the Pastoral Emergency line at 925-521-4117.

CONFESSON & ADORATION

In the Courtyard
Face covering is required
For adoration, bring a chair
Sit at least 6 feet apart

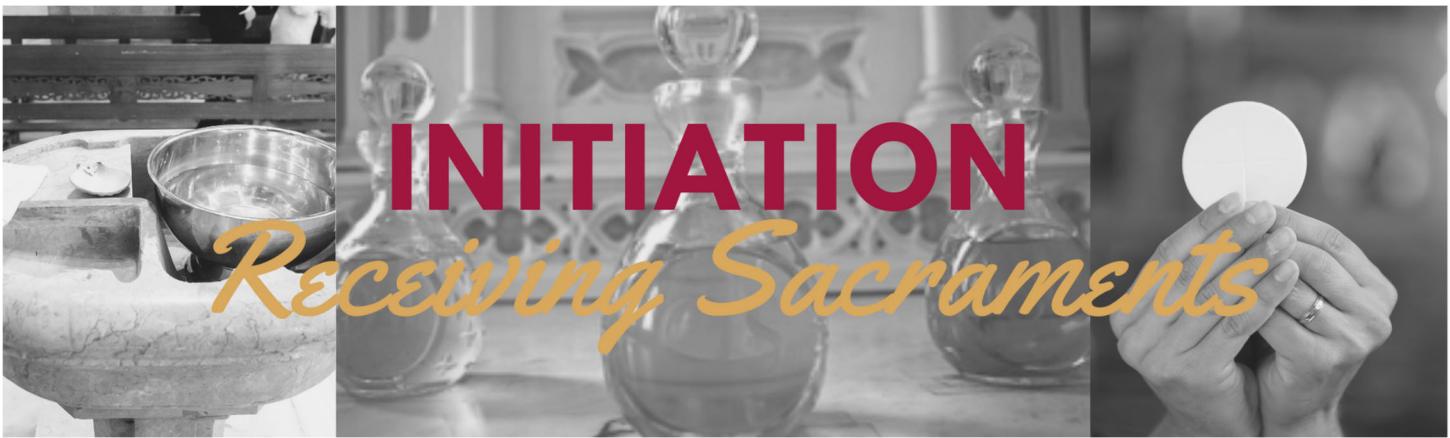
Monday - Friday
6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Saturday
9:30 am - 10:30 am

**NO SPANISH MASS,
CONFESSON OR
ADORATION**

Monday, September 28
Tuesday, September 29
Thursday, October 1
Friday, October 2

*Due to rehearsals and
sacraments of initiation*



INITIATION

Receiving Sacraments

EASTER VIGIL ALL OVER AGAIN!

Sacraments of Initiation for Children, Teens and Adults

Tuesday, September 29 at 4:00 pm

Elliot Lin, Sofia O, Enrique O and Danielle P will receive Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion. Charles Chew will receive Confirmation and First Communion.
Jesse P will receive First Communion.

Tuesday, September 29 at 6:00 pm

Ryan Torres, Moises Ocampo, Sandra Basilio and Edwin G will receive Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion.

Friday, October 2

Along with our Teen Confirmation candidates, these adults will receive Confirmation from Bishop Michael Barber:
Lorely Garcia at 4:00 pm
Clinton Keller at 5:30 pm
Yarineth Ferrufino at 7:00 pm

(Due to space restrictions, only candidates and sponsors will be present. The Rite of Confirmation will be livestreamed.)

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

Preparing Adults for Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion

If you are 18 years of age or older and you are just wondering if there is more to life..

If you were baptized Catholic, but never received First Communion or Confirmation...

If you were baptized in another Christian denomination and are curious about the Catholic tradition...

RCIA is a place to start the journey of a lifetime.

Contact Fr John at FrJohn@StMichaelLivermore.com

YOUR BABY'S

BAPTISM

We are scheduling infant baptisms with limited number of people indoors. Parents and Godparents can take the Baptism Preparation class online!

Start the process to baptize your baby by visiting our parish website StMichaelLivermore.com/Baptism



Online
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Group



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during the caregiver journey, with a
Christ-centered view.



A faith-based support group for
families suffering from their loved
one's addiction or alcoholism



September 25th
7:00 pm - 8:30 pm



DISCOVER ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

Zoom Retreat & Seminar

September 20-28
7:30 - 8:15 pm

StMichaelLivermore.com/Retreat

XLT

EXALT.
Praise & Worship.
Adoration. Reflection.

PADRE PIO STATUE DEDICATION

**Wednesday, September 23rd at 11:00 am
St. Michael Cemetery & Funeral Center, Livermore, CA**

Please join us in celebrating the feast day of St. Padre Pio at the dedication and blessing of St. Michael Cemetery's new Padre Pio statue.

Father Carl will officiate the dedication and blessing. Small gifts and light refreshments will be provided. We hope to see you there!

"Prayer is the oxygen of the soul."
- St. Padre Pio of Pietrelcina



DONATE COTTON FABRIC TO DRESS-A-GIRL

Dress a Girl Around the World is a campaign under Hope 4 Women International bringing dignity to women around the world since 2006. Hope 4 Women International is a nondenominational independent Christian organization. We dream of a world in which every girl has at least one new dress. We want girls to know that they are worthy of respect, and that they are loved by God.

In 2020, Dress-a-Girl East Bay sent dresses to St William's Food Pantry, a ministry that works with the poor in Kauai, HI; and we will be sending over 1,000 dresses each to Operation Christmas Child (Samaritan's Purse) and Box of Joy (Cross Catholic).

Can you donate cheerful cotton fabric? Or would you like a kit to sew at home? Suzanne Beck: suzbeck@yahoo.com or 925-352-8447.

WELCOME CHRISTIAN AND MELISSA!

Christian Singh and Melissa Giorgio, baptized Catholics, received the sacraments of Confirmation and First Communion on Sunday, September 6.

Let's rejoice with them and welcome them!

See page 8 for a list of upcoming sacraments.



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"Yet I am always with you; you hold me
by my right hand." Psalm 73:23

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