



St. Michael Catholic Parish

Where we Celebrate the Sacraments, Grow Disciples,
and Bring Christ to People.

458 Maple St, Livermore, CA

925-447-1585

StMichaelLivermore.com

Pastoral Emergencies:

925-521-4117

St Michael School

925-447-1888 smsliv.org

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FOURTH
SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
FEBRUARY 3, 2019

FAITH, HOPE, LOVE REMAIN,
THESE THREE;
BUT THE GREATEST OF THESE

is love.

I CORINTHIANS 13:13

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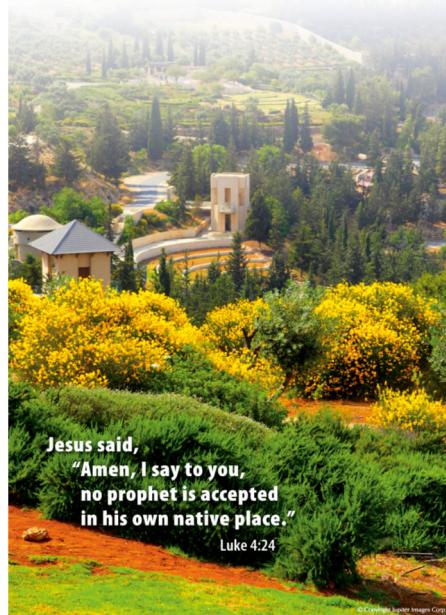
Jesus Was Sent to Our Enemies, Too

At the beginning of his public ministry, Jesus returns to his hometown of Nazareth to give a homily in the synagogue. At first, everyone is impressed. “Look at the carpenter’s son,” they might have been saying. “Look how well he turned out.” “Hear what a great speaker he is.” But then things start to go downhill. Jesus begins to speak like a prophet. He even comes quite close to revealing that he’s the long-awaited Messiah. All of a sudden, the hometown comments seem to change. “We grew up with this guy.” “He’s the son of Joseph.” “Who does he think he is?” In fact, the rejection of Jesus in his hometown is the origin of the saying, “No prophet is welcomed in his native place.” But it’s not just that Jesus appears different than they remembered. Jesus comes with a startling message. He tells the village that God wants to save not only the Jewish people but the rest of the world as well: the outsiders—their enemies—the “unclean ones.” This was not a popular message. In fact, Jesus is almost killed in Nazareth because of it. Loving our enemies is a difficult thing to do. It’s probably one of Jesus’ best known, but least followed, teachings. Jesus is calling his followers to a kind of love that is more than mere sentimentality. It’s one that hurts, one that requires sacrifice, and one that is not often very popular.

Unpack the First Reading Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19

In this account of Jeremiah’s call

to prophetic ministry, we get a stirring promise from God about the strength he will supply for Jeremiah. Jeremiah would need every ounce of strength that the Lord would provide to face both the private and official persecution that lay ahead of him. God says that he “knows” Jeremiah in a deep, familial way from his very beginning and promises



that he will be “with” him and will “deliver” him; familiar words used in the covenant language of the Old Testament.

God knows that our lives may be quite difficult if we’re true to him, and he certainly knew that Jeremiah’s would be difficult for bearing the mantle of a prophet. As a consequence, God proclaims: I was with you from the beginning, I’m with you now, and I’ll be with you to the end. Today we know that in Jesus God has come to know us, dwell with us, and redeem us in the deepest possible way. All of us are anoint-

ed prophets to the truth of God’s message by virtue of our Baptism. We, no less than Jeremiah, need to know that he is with us.

Unpack the Second Reading 1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13

This week, St Paul gives us the final ingredient that makes the real unity of the Church possible. As it turns out the greatest gift isn’t miraculous power or the office of apostle, but love. Dostoevsky says in The Brothers Karamazov, “Love in action is a harsh and dreadful thing, when compared with love in dreams.” What a wonderful antidote to all of the sentimental connotations with which the word “love” has been used in our culture, and how much closer it comes to expressing the substance of the Love who waits for us above. St. Paul’s meditation on love in First Corinthians was born of his many trials in serving that harsh and dreadful Love whom we also call “Our Father.”

Unpack the Gospel Reading Luke 4:21-30

In Nazareth’s rejection of Jesus, we see a serious challenge to Jesus’ credibility. Jesus takes this critique of credibility and turns it upside down by challenging the credibility of his hometown as a witness to a prophet. He demonstrates that it’s not a hometown that judges a prophet but the prophet who judges his hometown.

Jesus responds to Nazareth’s objections by referring to the story

of Elijah and Elisha. There are more miracles and mighty events in the time of these two prophets than at any other time in the history of Israel except that of Moses. Yet the two prophets spend most of their time and prophetic power rebuking their own people for their idolatry and lack of faith. By highlighting these aspects of the story of Elijah and Elisha, Jesus is pointing to the fact that prophets are usually not accepted by their own people. In light of Israel's history in the time of its greatest prophets, Nazareth's rejection of Jesus seems to give more credibility, not less, to Jesus' prophetic claims. Luke may be suggesting that in John and Jesus, Israel should see the Elijah and Elisha combination in a new and more powerful form.

Lectio Divina

(*The practice of scriptural reading, meditation and prayer intended to promote communion with God and to increase the knowledge of God's Word.*)

In this week's Gospel reading, Je-

sus shows that he has come to love not just his own Jewish brethren, but even the enemies of Israel. This week's second reading from St. Paul's first letter to the Corinthians embodies what Jesus in the Gospel is challenging his followers to do. Take a few minutes to read these words from St. Paul—and every time you see the word "love" or "it," exchange it with your own name. Take a few moments to think about what you read. Do St. Paul's descriptions sound like you?

Discussion

Please watch this week's short *Opening the Word* video found on the "Community" tab on FORMED.org. Then, ponder the questions below with a friend, within your small group or post your responses in the *Opening the Word* Discussion group on FORMED.

One of the first places Jesus visits during the launch of his public ministry is his hometown of Nazareth. Why do you think Jesus de-

cided to go there? And what might this tell us about how we are called to share our faith?

Who were considered the outsiders for the Jews in Jesus' day? Who are the outsiders for us? What sorts of groups or people are we or our parish communities hesitant to extend mercy and welcome to?

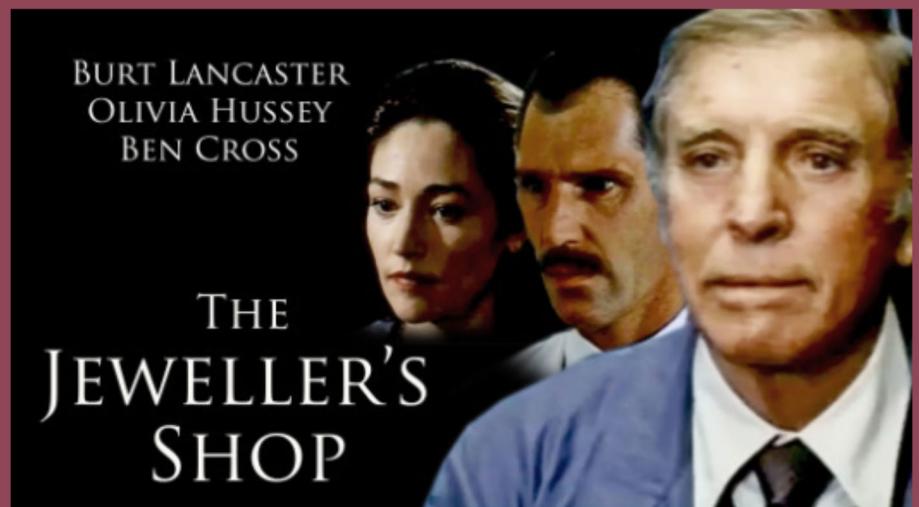
As Jesus' experience shows us, it's sometimes hardest to share the Gospel with the people with whom we grew up: our own families and friends. Have you ever experienced this?

Why is it sometimes harder to share our faith with our parents, kids, spouses, siblings, and so forth, than it is to share it with those who are less close to us?

Reflections reprinted here with permission from Augustine Institute.

This week's FORMED Pick of the Week is a movie based on the best-selling novel written by a pope and saint. *The Jeweller's Shop* brings to life the story, written by John Paul II, about the struggles and triumphs in the marriages of three couples.

This week, go to formed.org, click the "Community" tab and watch *The Jeweller's Shop*.



The Parish has already paid for your FORMED account! Register at StMichael.FORMED.org.

Prayers for the Week

Mass Intentions

Saturday 2/2

- 8:30am James Vanderostyne †
5:00pm Ivan French †
7:00pm Benjamin Navarro †

Sunday 2/3

- 6:45am George Bing †
8:00am Francis Xavier Nguyen †
9:30am Taylor Basso † and
Helen Makepeace †
11:00am* Louis Alvarez †
Dolores Ochoa †
Celia A. Ryan †
Helen Vassmer †
Amporiano Villanueva †
12:30pm Mass for Our Parish
6:00pm Tony Sullins †

Monday 2/4

- 8:30am Irene Schlag †

Tuesday 2/5

- 8:30am Fr Raymond Decker

Wednesday 2/6

- 8:30am Chung Bothwell
7:00pm Paulo & Antonio Hernandez †
Tomas & Margarita Zamorano †

Thursday 2/7

- 8:30am Jesus Llacer, Jr. †

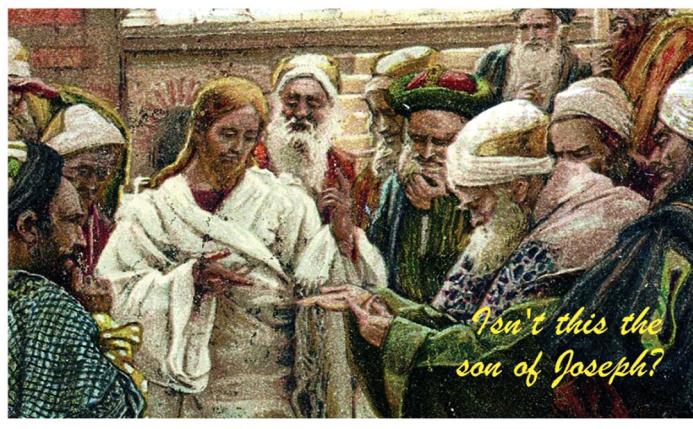
Friday 2/8

- 8:30am Ivan Kevesevic

To arrange a Mass intention, please visit the Church Office.

The suggested donation of \$10 per intention goes to the priest who celebrates the Mass.

***Every first Sunday of the month, the 11:00 am Mass is a "Communal Mass" with several intentions.**



Today's readings are all about the love and mercy that Jesus came to bring to the world. But who is in most need of that love and mercy? Often the people Jesus loves are hard for us to love. What Jesus wants to give is not mere sentimentality, but action. It's the kind of love that will ultimately take him to the cross! As we bring our time together to a close, here are some final reflections to help us see how these readings can apply to our own lives.

Prayer

Take some time to consider a person (or group of persons) that you struggle with, maybe someone who has hurt or insulted you. Now imagine that you were in the synagogue in Nazareth that day when Jesus came to teach. Envision Jesus telling everyone around you that he came to save the outsiders and the enemies of the people. Then imagine that Jesus singles you out from the crowd to tell you that he has even come to save that specific person who has hurt you. How would you feel if Jesus told you that? How would you respond to Jesus?

Resolution

Take a few minutes to talk to Jesus about one or two practical ways that you can love that person who has been an enemy to you.

This may be as simple as praying for that person or asking God to give you the grace to forgive a hurt from the past. Because all of our experiences are so different, ask God to show you what kind of love he wants you to give.

Need Prayers?

Send requests to Prayers@StMichaelLivermore.com

You are also invited to write your prayer requests in the Book of Intentions in the Adoration Chapel, just to the right as you enter.

Growing in the Culture of Hospitality

"Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling."
(1 Peter 4:8-9).

St Michael Family,

The word "hospitality" is derived from the Latin *hospes*, meaning "host", "guest", or "stranger". Embracing a culture of hospitality means that in everything that we do, we strive to be kind to people – especially strangers -- as if they were a guest in our own home.

As Christians, our attitude must always be one of hospitality, even with people who have different views, stances and opinions than we do. Being hospitable does not mean agreeing with a person's lifestyle, or way of thinking, particularly behaviors contrary to our faith and church teachings. Nonetheless, we are still called to respect people, allowing them to have their points of view and ideas. Hospitality means respecting the person for being a fellow human being made in the image and likeness of God.

I want to advise our parishioners who have been at St Michael's for many years. The parish survey results indicated that an area in need of improvement is for young families to feel welcomed by all parishioners. As much as possible, smile! Be kind and greet people whom you do not know. Make eye contact or just say "hello" or "good morning". Make room in the pew for someone to sit. Too often, parishioners who have been here the longest forget that our role is to be welcoming.

Do you feel God calling you to ministries of hospitality?

Get more information about our Welcoming Ministry, Ushers, Drive Through Prayer and our newly forming Alpha team. Ask a member of the Welcoming Ministry in the burgundy aprons after Mass or visit our website at StMichaelLivermore.com to find out more. Our parish needs people who know how to smile and who are cordial with a pleasing personality. We need people like you! I will soon meet the leaders of these ministries for a workshop this year.

We have so much room to grow in the culture of hospitality here in St. Michael's. Let us make a commitment to practice hospitality, to welcome strangers and visitors with kindness, welcome the poor and the needy, treat others with dignity and respect and praying for each other even those who do not agree with our views and stance. By our love and kindness, they will know that we are Christians!

I will be delighted when people recognize that St Michael's is not only a Catholic Parish where people pray and know the faith well, but also a parish where visitors and new parishioners encounter Christ through our kindness, mercy and hospitality.

Let me end using what St. Paul wrote:

"Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in



harmony with one another. Do not be proud but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited. Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."

(Romans 12:13-18)

May God bless you and your families.

Fr Carl
Pastor

Quick Links: **Get more information!**

[StMichaelLivermore.com/
Welcoming](http://StMichaelLivermore.com/Welcoming)

[StMichaelLivermore.com/
DriveThroughPrayer](http://StMichaelLivermore.com/DriveThroughPrayer)

[StMichaelLivermore.com/
Ushers](http://StMichaelLivermore.com/Ushers)

[StMichaelLivermore.com/
Alpha](http://StMichaelLivermore.com/Alpha)

This Week

MONDAY, FEB 4

St. Agatha

Readings: Heb 11:32-40; Ps 31:20-24; Mk 5:1-20

Rosary & Chaplet at 7:15 am in the Church.

Confession at 7:30 am in the Church.

TUESDAY, FEB 5

Readings: Heb 12:1-4; Ps 22:26b-28, 30-32; Mk 5:21-43

Mass of Remembrance at 7:00 pm at St Charles. Bring photos of your departed loved ones. Roses and candles are provided by the Grief Support Ministry of St Michael and St Charles.

WEDNESDAY, FEB 6

St. Paul Miki and Companions

Readings: Heb 12:4-7, 11-15; Ps 103:1-2, 13-14, 17-18a; Mk 6:1-6

Confession at 2:30 pm in the Convent.

Inquiry at 7:00 pm in the Convent for those considering the Catholic faith.

THURSDAY, FEB 7

Readings: Heb 12:18-19, 21-24; Ps 48:2-4, 9-11; Mk 6:7-13

WINGS (Women in God's Spirit) welcomes guest speaker Tom Web, a staff member at the Oakland Catholic Worker. He will talk to us about the mission and current programs of the Oakland Catholic Worker organization that operates in the tradition of the Catholic Worker Movement. Join us at 9:30 am at St Charles.

FRIDAY, FEB 8

St. Jerome Emiliani; St. Josephine Bakhita

Readings: Heb 13:1-8; Ps 27:1, 3, 5, 8b-9; Mk 6:14-29

Rosary & Chaplet at 7:15 am in the Church.

Confession at 7:30 am in the Church.

All Fridays of the year are days of penance. Abstain from eating meat or choose another fast, act of piety or charity.

SATURDAY, FEB 9

Readings: Heb 13:15-17, 20-21; Ps 23:1-6; Mk 6:30-34

Confession at 9:15 am, 3:45 pm and 6:15 pm in the Church.

Rosary & Chaplet in Spanish at 6:30 pm in the Church.

St Michael School 60th Annual Wine Tasting Gala & Auction.
See details below.

SUNDAY, FEB 10

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Is 6:1-2a, 3-8; Ps 138:1-5, 7-8; 1 Cor 15:1-11 [3-8, 11]; Lk 5:1-11

Mass in Vietnamese at 3:45 pm.

See's Candies Sale in the Court-yard after Masses to support Catholic Daughters.



**Saturday, February 9
5:30-11:00pm
Robert Livermore Community Center
Tickets at SMSLiv.org**

Upcoming

Dress-a-Girl Sew Fest

Saturday, Feb 16

You are invited to make simple dresses for girls in poverty-stricken countries. We meet once a month in the Hall from 9 am to 3:00 pm. We need help, sewing, ironing, cutting; bring your sewing machine or serger, iron, ironing board, scissors, along with your helping hands and we will put you to work!

If you can't make the Sew-Fest but would like to sew, please contact us for kits that you can sew from home. Questions? Suzanne Beck, 925-352-8447 or suzbeck@yahoo.com

Catholic Funeral and Cemetery Services Outreach

February 16-17

Join us for a short video presentation in the Convent after Masses, followed by questions and answers on the spiritual and practical reasons for learning about Catholic Funeral & Cemetery Services. Refreshments served.

Please take advantage of this opportunity to better understand the importance of a Catholic funeral and burial. For additional information, please call Frank Draschner at 925-455-9696.

NEW!

Mass in Tagalog

Sunday, Feb 17

St Michael's Filipino community invites you to celebrate Mass in Tagalog on Sunday, February 17 at 3:30 pm. We will now have a Tagalog Mass on the third Sunday of most months.

For specific dates, and other Filipino community events, please see StMichaelLivermore.com/Filipino

Our Vibrant Community

Young Ladies' Institute
hosted a fun Bunco night for charity on January 12.



Grief Support Ministry
gathered with Fr Carl on January 19 to discuss the best ways to serve our community.



We celebrated Santo Niño, the traditional Filipino feast honoring the Holy Child Jesus on January 20, with Mass, procession and potluck!



St Michael School

We are blessed at St. Michael School to have several multi-generational families that are part of our current school community. Mrs. Mary Lessard, our Transitional Kindergarten Teacher is part of the Concannon Family. Her father, siblings, and herself attended our school. Her children also attended the school as the third generation of Concannon's to walk through our doors and begin a life-long love of learning. Mrs. Lessard continues to come to school each day with a deep love and commitment for her students and the school community. We also have, our Kin-

dergarten teacher, Miss Taylor Lind, who is an alum who comes to school each day with a radiant smile ready to teach her little ones. In addition, we have other alumni families who chose to send their children to St. Michael and a couple who regularly volunteer in the school. We have Fine Motor Class with Mrs. Suzanne Gutierrez and Art Class with Mrs. Monique Makepeace. Lastly, we have alumni parents who have returned to serve the school community by participating on the School Board long after their children have graduated college.

Saint Michael School has a rich tradition of Excellence Strengthened by Faith, which continues to flourish through the grace of God and a community who supports it through the sharing of their time, talent, and treasure.

If you are an alum or are an alumni family, please register on our Alumni website, so that we may keep in contact with you regarding future alumni events: smsliv.org/alumni.

Come and See!

We are proud to provide a quality Catholic education for students in Transitional Kindergarten through Eighth Grade. As a ministry of St. Michael's Parish, we offer an educational tradition that is rich in faith, focused on academic rigor, and blessed with an active, involved parent community. If you are considering giving your child the gift of Catholic education, we hope that you will choose to become a part of the SMS family. Call us for a tour at 925-447-4471888



Collection Report

Thank you for your offerings! Because of your support, we are able to celebrate the sacraments, grow disciples and bring Christ to people.

For online giving, visit FaithDirect.net and enter church code CA602. To receive traditional offertory envelopes, please visit the church office. Please kindly include your envelope number on your check, to greatly speed our data entry process.

1/27/2019	\$15,083.75
Month-to-Date	\$80,555.26
Month Goal	\$87,058.82
Percentage Reached	93%
Faith Direct	\$11,726.00
Maintenance (Jan)	\$7,614.91
Seminary Collection	\$6,699.60
SMS Collection	\$3,979.93

Hey Ministry Leaders!

Got an upcoming event or a report of an event? Submit your articles at StMichaelLivermore.com/Bulletins Send photos to share with the community at Photos@StMichaelLivermore.com and we'll post them on social media!

Crecer en la cultura de la hospitalidad.

"Sobre todo, ámense profundamente, porque el amor cubre una multitud de pecados. Ofrezcan hospitalidad sin quejarse" (1 Pedro 4: 8-9).

Familia de San Miguel,

La palabra "hospitalidad" se deriva del latín hospes, que significa "anfitrión", "invitado" o "extraño". Abrazar una cultura de hospitalidad significa que en todo lo que hacemos, nos esforzamos por ser amables con las personas, especialmente con los extraños, como si fueran huéspedes en nuestra propia casa.

Como cristianos, nuestra actitud siempre debe ser de hospitalidad, incluso con personas que tienen puntos de vista, posturas y opiniones diferentes a las nuestras. Ser hospitalario no significa estar de acuerdo con el estilo de vida o la forma de pensar de una persona, particularmente con comportamientos contrarios a nuestra fe y a las enseñanzas de la iglesia. No obstante, todavía estamos llamados a respetar a las personas, permitiéndoles tener sus puntos de vista e ideas. Hospitalidad significa respetar a la persona por ser un ser humano creado a imagen y semejanza de Dios.

Quiero asesorar a nuestros feligreses que han estado en San Miguel durante muchos años. Los resultados de la encuesta parroquial indicaron que un área que necesita mejorar es que las familias jóvenes se sientan bienvenidas por los feligreses mayores. ¡Tanto como sea posible, sonría! Sea amable y salute a la gente que no conoce. Haga contacto visual o simplemente diga "hola" o "buenos días". Ha-

ga espacio en el banco para que alguien se siente. Con demasiada frecuencia, los feligreses que han estado aquí por más tiempo olvidan que nuestro papel es ser corteses y dar la bienvenida.

¿Siente que Dios le llama a los ministerios de hospitalidad?

Obtenga más información acerca de nuestro Ministerio de Bienvenida, ujieres, Drive Through Prayer y nuestro nuevo equipo Alpha. Despues de la misa, preguntele a un miembro del Ministerio de Bienvenida con delantales morados o visite nuestro sitio web en StMichaelLivermore.com para obtener más información. Nuestra parroquia necesita personas que sepan sonreír y cordiales, con una personalidad agradable.

¡Necesitamos gente como usted! Pronto me reuniré con los líderes de estos ministerios para un taller. Tenemos mucho espacio para crecer en la cultura de la hospitalidad aquí en St. Miguel. Asumamos el compromiso de practicar la hospitalidad, de recibir a los extranjeros y visitantes con amabilidad, de darles la bienvenida a los pobres y a los necesitados, de tratar a los demás con dignidad y respeto y de orar los unos por los otros, incluso por aquellos que no estén de acuerdo con nuestras opiniones y nuestra postura. ¡Por nuestro amor y amabilidad, sabrán que somos cristianos!

Me encantará que la gente reconozca que San Miguel no es solo una parroquia católica donde la gente ora y conoce bien la fe, sino también una parroquia donde los visitantes y los nuevos feligreses se encuentran con Cristo a

través de nuestra amabilidad, misericordia y hospitalidad.

Termino usando lo que escribió San Pablo:

"Comparta con la gente del Señor que está en necesidad. Practique la hospitalidad. Bendiga a los que lo persiguen; bendiga y no maldiga. Regocíjese con los que se regocijan; llora con los que lloran. Vivan en armonía unos con otros. No sea orgulloso, pero este dispuesto a asociarse con personas de baja posición. No sea presuntuoso. No pague a nadie mal por mal. Cuide de hacer lo correcto ante los ojos de todos. Si es posible, en la medida en que dependa de usted, viva en paz con todos".
(Romanos 12: 13-18)

Que Dios lo bendiga a usted y a su familia.

Padre Carl

Enlaces rápidos: ¡Obtener mas información!

[StMichaelLivermore.com/
Welcoming](http://StMichaelLivermore.com/Welcoming)

[StMichaelLivermore.com/
DriveThroughPrayer](http://StMichaelLivermore.com/DriveThroughPrayer)

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Ushers](http://StMichaelLivermore.com/Ushers)

[StMichaelLivermore.com/
Alpha](http://StMichaelLivermore.com/Alpha)



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Information | Información

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Pastoral Emergencies | Emergencias Pastorales 925-521-4117



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@StMichael94550

Mass | Misa

Mon-Sat | Lu-Sa 8:30 am

Wed | Mi 7:00 pm (español)

First Friday | Primer viernes

12:00 pm in the chapel

en la capilla

Sat Vigil | Vigilia del Sábado

5:00 pm (English), 7:00 pm (español)

Sunday | Domingo

6:45 am, 8:00 am, 9:30 am, 11:00 am,
12:30 pm (español), 6:00 pm

Sign Language | Lenguaje por Señas

1st Sun, 11:00 am

Primer domingo a las 11:00 am

Vietnamese | Vietnamita

4th Sun, 3:30 pm

Cuarto domingo a las 3:30 pm

Confession | Confesión

Saturday, in the church |

Sábado en la iglesia

9:00 am & 3:45 pm in English

6:15 pm en español

Monday & Friday in the church |

Lunes y viernes en la iglesia

7:30 am in English & español

1st & 3rd Wednesdays in the Convent Chapel

2:30 pm in English

Anointing of the Sick | Unción de los Enfermos

1st Saturday after 8:30 am Mass or
by appointment: 925-447-1585 |
1er sábado después de las 8:30 am
Misa o con cita previa: 925-447-
1585

Eucharistic Adoration | Adoración Eucarística

24/7 in the Chapel. For after hours
access code, call 775-772-6369 |
24/7 en la Capilla. Para el código de
acceso después de las horas, llame al
775-772-6369

Office Hours | horas de oficina

M-F 9:00 am—5:00 pm
(Closed 12:00 pm—2:00 pm)

Clergy | Clero

Rev. Carl Arcosa, Pastor
Rev. Alfonso Borgen, Parochial Vicar
Rev. David Staal, Associate
Rev. Stanislaus Poon, Retired
Rev. Deacon Bill Archer
Rev. Deacon Rob Federle
Rev. Deacon Dave Rezendes

Pastoral Council | Consejo Pastoral

Pastoral Council Chair:
Mike Pereira
michaelpereira@comcast.net

Fr Carl Arcosa, Eric Hom, Fidelis Atuegbu, Jo Anne Lindquist,
Frank Draschner, Jeff Andersen,
Cynthia Garay, Alison Wilke and
Glenda Dubsky.

Finance Council | Consejo Financiero

Finance Council Chair:
Edna McComb

Fr Carl Arcosa, Eric Hom, Edna McCombe, Analy Palomino,
Vanessa Suarez and Erleene Echon

St. Michael School | Escuela de San Miguel

925-447-1888 smsliv.org

Faith Formation in English

925-667-4096

Catecismo en Español

925-667-4096 Niños

925-344-7150 Adultos



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