



St. Michael Catholic Parish

Where we celebrate the sacraments, grow disciples, and bring Christ to people.

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JANUARY 28, 2018

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The people were astonished at Jesus' teaching,
for he taught them as one having authority.

Mark 1:22



A Spiritual Warrior

Destruction is a powerful force. When we hear of it, we often picture devastating events or moments. However, with the death of one thing, newness follows. Take, for example, the seasons. Every year, winter comes and the trees and flowers wither. Their frail, bare appearance is not much to look at. However, as spring comes, those very trees and plants come to life and are made new again.

Sometimes in our lives we feel that Christ is asking us to destroy parts of who we are to come closer to him. Why do we feel this way? The short answer is that we lack trust in him. We don't see how fulfilling his will gives us fullness of life. Deep down, we don't truly believe Jesus's words: "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly" (John 10:10, RSV).

First Reading Reflection Deuteronomy 18:15–20

We find this short prophecy of the coming "prophet like Moses" at the heart of the Book of Deuteronomy. The whole book is a series of speeches given by Moses to the people of Israel before they enter the Promised Land. It is filled with history, laws, and guidelines for the future. At this point in time, Moses, the leader God appointed, will not be coming into the Promised Land himself. Once Moses is gone, how will the people know what God wants? Moses here predicts that God will grant the people a new prophet, one who can speak with divine authority.

While we could argue that many Old Testament figures fulfill this prediction, from Joshua to Isaiah and

Jeremiah, the ultimate fulfillment of this prophecy awaits the coming of a New Moses. The Jews expected the coming of "the prophet" (John 1:21), and Jesus is the one who ultimately



fulfills this prediction. He is the Teacher who goes up a mountain (cf. Matthew 5:1) and hands down a new law "as one who had authority" (Matthew 7:29, RSV).

We confront moments in our lives when it seems God is far away and we cannot hear him speak. It is precisely in these moments when we need a reliable source, a true authority who can speak to us on God's behalf. Jesus is that voice, the "prophet like Moses" who gives us the authentic word of the Lord. His authority is delegated in a special way to the Church, which guards the Deposit of Faith for all of us to receive.

Second Reading Reflection 1 Corinthians 7:32–35

St. Paul, the greatest evangelist, traversed the whole Roman Empire planting churches, making converts, and preaching the Gospel. He was also celibate. In 1 Corinthians 7, he

explains his teaching regarding Christian marriage and divorce. This reading gives us one of the central principles at work in his thought: that celibacy provides freedom from worldly cares so that a person can focus on serving God. Paul here describes one of the challenges of marriage—the need to care for one's spouse. He does not reject the notion that married persons are required to please their spouses. In fact, elsewhere he lays down rules for exactly how to please your spouse (cf. Ephesians 5:22–33). Paul does not forbid marriage and says clearly that if you marry, you do not sin (cf. 1 Corinthians 7:28).

However, like Jesus (cf. Matthew 19:12), Paul teaches that celibacy is a higher calling. The Church considers chastity in celibacy—one of the three evangelical counsels—to be one way toward Christian perfection rather than an absolute rule for all (cf. CCC 915). Celibacy allows those who commit to it to serve the Lord with an undivided heart. However, the Lord calls people in a variety of ways. As Paul says, "Each has a particular gift from God" (1 Corinthians 7:7). Each one of us must discern our calling from God and pursue it heartily with love and obedience. He knows the right path for each of us to follow.

Gospel Reading Reflection Mark 1:21–28

This story of Jesus exorcising a demon from a man at a synagogue is the very first miracle narrated by the Gospel of Mark. Its placement signifies Jesus's mission to defeat the powers of darkness and free us from their dominion. The demonic

power holding this poor man hostage reacts violently to the truth Jesus is teaching, crying out Jesus's name and taunting him. The New Testament provides several examples of the practice of naming demonic and angelic entities in order to gain power over them (cf. Mark 5:9; Acts 19:13). It seems that the demon is trying to assert himself over Jesus by naming him and his role in God's plan (cf. Luke 4:41). When Jesus casts the demon out of the man, showing his own God-given power, the witnesses react with surprise. They are awed by his teaching, his spiritual authority, and the fact that even the demons are compelled to obey him.

If we put ourselves into this story, we might choose to be in the shoes of the witnesses who are awed by the power of Jesus, but it might be more helpful to see ourselves as the man with the demon. He is chained by the demon and coerced against his will to speak against Jesus; he is no longer in control of himself. Our own sins can become like this demon: enslaving and oppressive. When we lose ourselves in sin, we can be deprived of freedom, trapped in a cycle of bad behavior. But Jesus frees this man—

and he can free us too, so that we can be “freed from sin” and become “slaves of righteousness” (Rom 6:18).

Discussion

Reflect on how Jesus establishes his authority in the Gospel of Mark and exercises this authority over demons. Consider how we can subject our lives to his authority as you watch the short **Opening the Word** video from Annie Powell on FORMED.org.

It is easy to get caught up in the anxieties and tasks of everyday life—the laundry, the bills, getting dinner on the table, and so on. The cause for anxiety seems endless. Yet, Jesus exhorts us in Matthew, “Do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink, nor about your body, what you shall put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit to his span of life?” (Matthew 6:25–27, RSV).”

In the Second Reading from 1 Corin-

thians, Paul exhorts us to be “free of anxieties.” What anxieties keep you from being focused on pleasing the Lord?

We all answer to an authority. Whether that authority is God or our family's needs, the demands that work places on us, or possibly even an attachment or addiction in the form of over-eating, alcohol, or pornography. Jesus tells us, “No one can serve two masters. He will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon” (Matthew 6:24). Jesus taught them as one having authority. What does “authority” mean? Who or what is the authority in your life?

This **Opening the Word** reflection by FORMED.org has been printed with permission from Augustine Institute.

Download this week's **Opening the Word** prayer journal at FORMED.org

FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK

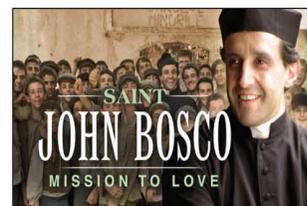
Saint John Bosco

Mission to Love

Meet St. John Bosco, Patron Saint of Young People

Discover the inspiring story of St. John Bosco, a brave priest whose ministry to homeless, outcast boys of Turin, Italy inspired the formation of the Salesians. See the incredible joy, trials, and profound charity that allowed John Bosco to win young souls for Christ.

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—Kevin L., Tempe, AZ



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Mass Intentions

Saturday 1/27

8:30am Margarito & Darita Montana †
5:00pm Alice & Nick Sanchez †
Pete & Kay Neidlinger
7:00pm Alberto Rojas †

Sunday 1/28

6:45am Anthony Sousa †
8:00am Cheryl Burescia †
9:30am Cresencio Quero †
Pedro Quero, Sr †
11:00am Betty Taylor †
12:30pm Alejandro Ortega Rivas †
6:00pm Robert Murrieta †

Monday 1/29

8:30am Corneilius and Richard
Frydendal †

Tuesday 1/30

8:30am Makenzie Mandelenis
Elizabeth Gapp †

Wednesday 1/31

8:30am Elizabeth Taylor †
7:00pm Pablo Abella †

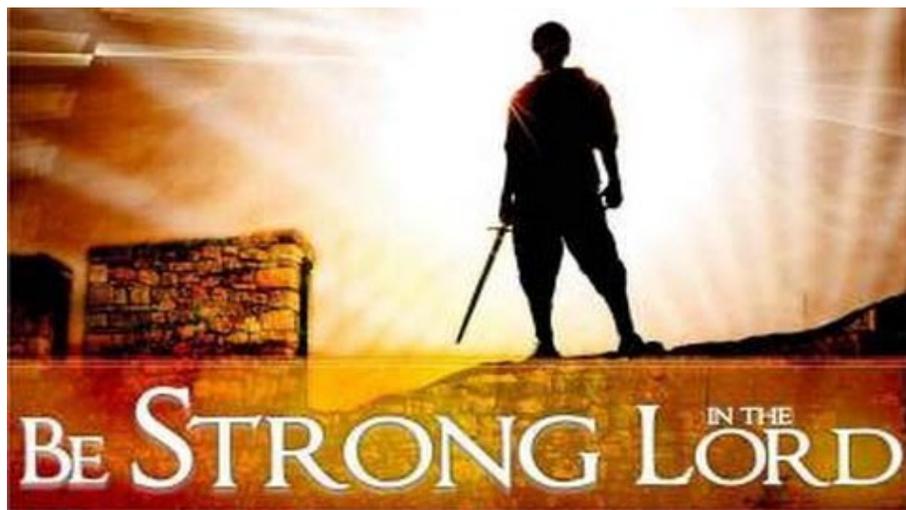
Thursday 2/1

8:30am Pat Werner †

Friday 2/2

8:30am Heriqueta Urias
Manuel Serpa †

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



In Ephesians 6:10–12, St. Paul exhorts us to do battle against the evil one saying, “Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we are not contending against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places” (RSV).

Prayer

Reflect on the question of the man with the unclean spirit to Jesus— “Have you come to destroy us?” Do you feel like following Christ means destroying certain parts of your life? What areas of your life do you need to subject to Jesus’s authority?

Reread the Gospel passage and reflect on a word or phrase that stands out to you. Apply it to your own life. For instance, if the words “obey him” stand out to you, you may ask yourself how you can obey the Lord. What do you need to surrender to his authority?

Resolution

Often, we try to eliminate sin and weakness from our lives without asking for God’s help. But we need Christ’s authority, grace, and mercy in order to progress in the spiritual life. How will you, calling on the Lord for help, make a step forward in destroying an area of sin or undue attachment to worldly things in your life this week?

Parish Prayer Requests

For the repose of the souls of Michael Beppe , James Spencer Kane and Pauline Pinks.

*Please send your prayer requests to
Prayers@StMichaelLivermore.com*

Knights & Students Raise Funds for Science Camp

The Knights of Columbus joined forces with sixth grade students from St. Michael School, and their parents, to host a delicious breakfast for hundreds of parishioners and visitors. This hugely successful event raised much needed funds for the students to attend Science Camp this Spring.

Little Black Books for Lent

Lent is right around the corner!

If you would like a “Little Black Book” for Lent with daily meditations, please look for MaryAnn Johnson who will have them available after Mass on February 4 and 11. Call her at 925-447-5881 for more information.

Collection Report

Thank you for your continued generosity! Your financial offerings are St Michael’s only source of income. Quite literally, we could not operate our mission without your support.

1/14/18	\$17,912.40
1/21/18	\$16,979.53
Month-to-Date	\$64,737.21
Month Goal	\$87,058.82
Percentage Reached	74%
Faith Direct for Jan.	\$7,399.00
Maintenance for Jan.	\$7,122.53



Cold & Flu Season Practices

During this cold and flu season we would like to remind you that those who are ill are not obliged to attend mass and should stay home to recover.

If you are feeling ill today, please refrain from partaking of the Blood of Christ from the communal chalice. Sacred Communion is full received by participating in one or both species. We also ask that those who are not well refrain from offering your hand to others at the sign of peace.

We pray for the health and recovery of all who are ill and not with us today.

We are Hiring!

We are looking to find a Sunday Office Helper to help meet the needs our community.

Responsibilities include greeting parishioners and helping them with their inquiries, answering telephone calls and providing a variety of other clerical services.

If you have excellent organizational and interpersonal skills, are efficient with computer/technology and are a helpful, team-minded person, this might be the job for you!

Contact Eric Hom, Business Manager at erichom@stmichaellivermore.com or call 925-667-4052.

Ministering to the Homebound

Are you being called to bring communion to parishioners who aren't able to attend mass? If so, please come check out the St Michael Homebound Ministry which is here to bring the blessed sacrament to parishioners whether they are at home, at a group care home, or possibly in a nearby hospital.

We're especially looking for Spanish speaking ministers.

Please prayerfully consider if the Lord is calling you to this powerful ministry. If you discern that He is, please contact Lien Celi at 925-325-9117 or lien@celigrouprealty.com

This Week

MONDAY, JAN 29

Readings: 2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13; Ps 3:2-7; Mk 5:1-20

Events:

Mass of Remembrance at 7 pm at St Charles. If you have lost a loved one, please come honor their memory at this bilingual Mass.

TUESDAY, JAN 30

Readings: 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30 -- 19:3; Ps 86:1-6; Mk 5:21-43

Events:

Counter Point, a support group for friends and family of alcoholics and addicts, meets every Tuesday at 7:00 pm at St Michael School in Room 22.

WEDNESDAY, JAN 31

St. John Bosco

Readings: 2 Sm 24:2, 9-17; Ps 32:1-2, 5-7; Mk 6:1-6

Events:

Serve at Open Heart Kitchen: There are two shifts: 9:30 am-11:45 am and 11:45 am-2:00 pm. Contact Diane Schord at dhschord@sbcglobal.net or 925-447-4344

THURSDAY, FEB 1

Readings: 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12; 1 Chr 29:10-12; Mk 6:7-13

Suggestion:

Re-commit to Eucharistic Adoration in February. Take out your calendar and pick one time per week when you can spend time with the Lord in the Adoration Chapel. Start with just 10 minutes. Jesus is waiting for you and wants to shower you with blessings!

FRIDAY, FEB 2

The Presentation of the Lord

Readings: Mal 3:1-4; Ps 24:7-10; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40 [22-32]

Suggestion:

Listen to *Drawing Strength from Our Lady of Sorrows* by Kimberly Hahn on FORMED.org. In this presentation, she reflects on the joys and sorrows that Mary prayerfully experienced during her time on earth, and shares how her example leads us closer to Christ.

SATURDAY, FEB 3

St. Blaise

Readings: 1 Kgs 3:4-13; Ps 119:9-14; Mk 6:30-34

Events:

Anointing of the Sick after the 8:30 am Mass. Confession to follow, then again at 3:45 pm and 6:15 pm (Spanish)

SUNDAY, FEB 4

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Jb 7:1-4, 6-7; Ps 147:1-6; 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23; Mk 1:29-39

Events:

Scout Sunday Mass at 8:00 am all Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Venturers and Scouters are invited to celebrate Scout Sunday. Meet us at 7:45 am in the courtyard, and wear your full uniform. For more info, call Mr. Aufderheide at 925-443-6352.

February is the Month of the Holy Family



JESUS

have mercy on us

**HOLY MOTHER
OF GOD**

pray for us

ST. JOSEPH

protect us

**JESUS, MARY
and JOSEPH**

save us

Upcoming Events

Welcome Wednesdays!

Wednesdays at St Michael School

Each Wednesday at 8:30 am, St Michael School hosts a small group of potential parents in touring the school. See our staff in action and discover what a small private Catholic school has to offer! Our average classroom size is 20 students.

Your child is welcome to join you on the tour or they may sit in with the classroom activities. Call for details at 925-447-1888.

Knights of Columbus 45th Annual Crab Feed

Sat, Feb 10, 4 pm—11 pm

Robert Livermore Community Center

Did you get your tickets yet?

Join us for the best crab and pasta in town, live entertainment, dancing, raffles and auctions! All proceeds go to Knights of Columbus charities.

Tickets sold after Mass or by calling Mark & Claire at 925-443-5873

\$55 per person.



February 14

ASH WEDNESDAY



7:00 am	Ash Service
8:30 am	Mass with Ash Service
10:00 am	School Mass with Ash Service
12:15 pm	Ash Service
3:15 pm	Ash Service
5:30 pm	Mass with Ash Service
7:00 pm	Mass in Spanish with Ash Service

A photograph showing a pair of hands cupped together, holding a mound of grey ash. The background is a warm, textured, golden-brown color.

Abstaining & Fasting

Ash Wednesday is an obligatory day of fasting and abstinence for Catholics.

The norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59.

When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal.

The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards.

Knights of Columbus Ash Wednesday Soup Dinner

Wed, Feb 14, 5:00—7:30 pm in the Large Hall

Join us for a free soup dinner on Ash Wednesday, compliments of our Knights of Columbus. Any donations will benefit church programs, seminarians, and other religious vocations.

More Upcoming Events

Traditional Latin Mass

Sun, Feb 11 at 8:00 am

As part of our Centennial celebration, we are offering the Traditional Latin Mass on the 2nd Sunday of the month at 8:00 am. Come experience the Mass the way St Michael Parishioners prayed for the first 50 years in this same church building. In January, this Mass was very well attended. We expect a full house in February.

You can download a missal at StMichaelLivermore.com/Latin

Grief Support

Sat, Feb 17, 10:00 am at St Charles

Grief ministry provides a monthly support group for those in bereavement over the death of a loved one. This is a safe place to share your feelings with others in a similar situation. The group meets on the third Saturday of the month from 10 am to 11:30 am in the St Ignatius Room of the Keeley Center at St Charles parish.

Contact Claire at 925-447-9800 or clairelascola@gmail.com.

Ministry Appreciation Mardi Gras Party

Tues, Feb 13, 5:00-8:00 pm in the Large Hall

St Michael Clergy and Staff invite all those who have volunteered in all of the various parish ministries to a special appreciation party. Our parish community has grown this past year because of your tireless efforts. Let us treat you to some food, drink, music and fellowship with your fellow hard-working community ministers!

Marriage Ministry Date Night

Sat, Feb 17 at 7:00 pm in the Large Hall

February is "Marriage Month" and we will welcome special guests, St. Michael parish couple Tricia and Steven Vieira, as they share the story of their faith. Come be inspired by their talk: Trust in God's Plan - Faith/Hope/Loss and Adoption: Creating a family amidst life's toughest challenges"

Dinner will be served. Please bring a snack or dessert to share. Childcare available. For more info, call Karen 925-784-6668



Forgiven: The Transforming Power of Confession A 3-Night Workshop Series for Our Parish Lenten Mission

Forgiven explores the grace and healing offered in Confession and shows how this sacrament of mercy reveals the depth and bounty of God's love. By looking at God's revelation of his mercy in Scripture and making a step-by-step examination of the Rite itself, **Forgiven** communicates God's invitation to each one of us to come experience his indescribable love in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Join us at 6:30 pm in the Large Hall for three nights exploring the Sacrament of Confession. Our mission series will culminate with the Bilingual Parish Reconciliation Service in the Church.

Thursday, February 15: Session 1 – Where are You?

Thursday, February 22: Session 2 – An Encounter with Mercy

Tuesday, February 27: Session 3 – The Rite Explained

Tuesday, March 6: Bilingual Parish Reconciliation Service at 7:00 pm in the Church

Español

MISA DEL RECUERDO EN ST. CHARLES

sera el Lunes 29 de Enero a las 7:00 PM

Nos juntamos para recordar a nuestros seres queridos difuntos a las 7:00p.m. Nuestra Misa Bilingüe nos da la oportunidad de hacer honor a nuestros amados difuntos al celebrar una misa en su nombre. Los motivamos a que traigan una foto de su ser querido en marco y puesto ante el altar durante la misa. El ritual del recuerdo nos da una oportunidad de venir hacia adelante con una rosa, encender una vela, y hablar sobre las personas que estamos recordando, si así lo desea. Rosas y velas serán dadas. Esta misa trimestral es patrocinada por el Ministerio de Apoyo de Dolor de St. Michael y St. Charles. Todos están invitados.

Temporada de resfriados y gripe

Durante esta época de la gripe, les recordamos que aquellos que están enfermos no están obligados a cumplir con el precepto de la Misa, y deberían quedarse en casa hasta que se recuperen completamente.

Si usted se siente enfermo hoy, por favor absténgase de comulgar de la Sangre de Cristo. También le pedimos que no le de la mano a otros durante el signo de la paz.

Oramos por la salud y la recuperación de todos los que están enfermos y no pueden acompañarnos hoy.

Miércoles de ceniza

Misa de miércoles de ceniza en español en 7:00 pm el 14 de febrero

Ministerio para los confinados en el hogar

¿Estás llamado a llevar la Santa Comunión a los feligreses que no pueden asistir a misa? Si es así, por favor visita el Ministerio de San Miguel para los confinados en su hogar. Estamos aquí para llevar la bendita Santa Cena a los feligreses, ya sea que estén en su hogar, en un hogar de cuidado colectivo o posiblemente en un hospital cercano.

Estamos especialmente buscando ministros de habla hispana. Por favor, considera en oración si el Señor te está llamando a este poderoso ministerio. Si es así, contacta a Lien Celi al 925-325-9117 o lien@celigrouprealty.com



Perdonado: El Poder Transformador de la Confesión Una serie de talleres de 3 días para la Cuaresma

Perdonado explora la gracia y sanación que se otorgan en la Confesión y muestra cómo es que este sacramento de misericordia revela la profundidad y la abundancia del amor de Dios. Contemplando la revelación de la misericordia de Dios en las Sagradas Escrituras y haciendo un examen detallado del Rito en sí, la

serie **Perdonado** manifiesta la invitación de Dios a cada uno de nosotros para que experimentemos Su amor indescriptible en el Sacramento de Reconciliación.

Únase a nosotros a las 19:00 en la sala grande durante tres noches para explorar el Sacramento de la confesión. La serie finalizará con un servicio bilingüe de reconciliación en la iglesia.

Viernes, 16 de febrero : Sesión 1: ¿Dónde Estás?

Viernes, 23 de febrero : Sesión 2: Un Encuentro de Misericordia

Viernes, 2 de marzo : Sesión 3: Explicación del Rito

Martes, 6 de marzo : Servicio de reconciliación bilingüe a las 19:00 en la iglesia

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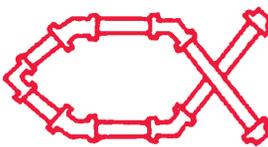

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Mass | Misa

Mon-Sat | Lu-Sa 8:30 am

Wed | Mi 7:00 pm (español)

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

1st & 3rd Wed in the Convent Chapel,
at 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 925-980-4826 |

24/7 en la Capilla. Para el código de acceso
después de las horas, llame al 925-980-4826

Office Hours | horas de oficina

M-F 8:30 am—5:00 pm (closed during lunch)

Sun 8:30 am—12:30 pm

Clergy | Clero

Rev. Van Dinh, Pastor

Rev. Alfonso Borgen, Parochial Vicar

Rev. David Staal, Associate

Rev. Alfred Amos, In Residence

Rev. Stanislaus Poon, Retired

Rev. Deacon Bill Archer

Rev. Deacon Rob Federle

Rev. Deacon Dave Rezendes

Rev. Deacon Bob Vince

Pastoral Council |

Consejo Pastoral

Pastoral Council Chair: Mike Pereira
michaelpereira@comcast.net

Eric Hom, Ricardo Echon, Fidelis Atuegbu, Jo Anne Lindquist, Dave Parks, Frank Draschner, Ken Varallo, Irving Garcia, Cynthia Garay and Glenda Dubsy.

Finance Council |

Consejo Financiero

Finance Council Chair: Dave Ruth
daveruth@alrinc.com

Fr. Van Dinh, Eric Hom, Cynthia Garay, Edna McCombe, Analy Palomino, Vanessa Suarez

St. Michael School | Escuela de San Miguel

925-447-1888 smliv.org

Faith Formation in English

925-667-4096

Catecismo en Español

925-453-6494 Niños



Deacon Dave Rezendes, 925-447-1585
Temporary Administrator

Fr Van Dinh, Pastor
(on administrative leave)

Fr Alfonso Borgen, Parochial Vicar 925-667-4053

Eric Hom, Business 925-667-4052

Deacon Bill Archer 925-667-4056

Kathy Hawkins, Bookkeeper 925-667-4058

Church Front Office 925-447-1585

School Front Office 925-447-1888

Lourdes Kay, Faith Formation 925-667-4096

Priscilla Stutzman, DRE 925-667-4097

Joseph Garcia, Youth Minister 925-667-4093

Tina Gregory, Communication 925-667-4051

JaNet Hancock, Music 925-292-5071

Debbie Pizzato, Liturgy 925-667-4095

Marjorie Melendez, RCIA 925-447-2925

Ana Fregoso, RICA 925-344-7150