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When the
Son of Man
comes,
will he
find faith
on earth?

LUKE 18:8

*Twenty-Ninth
Sunday in
Ordinary Time*

October 20, 2019

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Unpack Today's Mass Readings



Summary

Last week, we focused on gratitude, as we looked at the story of the ten lepers who were healed and the one who returned to give thanks. Today we will explore a parable that teaches the importance of persistence in prayer.

In today's Gospel reading we encounter a passage commonly known as "the parable of the unjust judge." This isn't a parable about justice or judges. Rather it is another teaching about persistence and prayer. In this story, the widow keeps coming back to the judge. Finally, because of her persistence, the judge grants her justice. Jesus isn't telling us that we must nag God before he will answer. Rather he is saying that we must be willing to keep asking, even when it seems like the answer is delayed. He is giving us a lesson in the importance of persistence.

True, heartfelt prayer isn't easy... We are created for prayer—communication with God—but because of our fallen human nature, we would often rather do other, easier things. As we look to the Gospels, especially the Gospel of Luke, which shows our Lord at prayer more than any other, we can learn how to pray. One simple acronym that may be of use is "MATA": Mercy, Asking, Thanksgiving, Adoration. First, we need to confess our sins; ask for God's mercy. Then we make our requests; ask God for what we need. The parable in the Gos-

pel reading addresses this, telling us that we are not to ask just once or twice, but to be persistent, humbly turning to God with all our needs. After asking, we must not forget to say thank you. Finally comes the most important part—adoration, praising God.

The Gospel passage tells us that we need to be both persistent and consistent in our prayer—



not because God won't hear us unless we are, but because through our persistence and consistency we are better able to be faithful to the promptings of the Spirit and enter into communion with the one who loves us.

Unpack the First Reading Exodus 17:8-13

Time and again in history, Israel falls into idol worship of the gods of the Canaanites. Amalek's grandparents (Esau and his Canaanite wife) would've symbolized unfaithfulness to God, and he himself was the fruit of an illicit union between his father and biological mother. It'd be fair to say that Amalek and his descendants represented all that was corrupting Israel. If Israel failed to be true to God, it couldn't be a light to the other nations as God

intended. There was a lot at stake on the battlefield in this Exodus reading.

The scene portrayed to us shows that the only way to drive out this corrupting influence from the Promised Land was by divine intervention, symbolized by the raising of the staff of God in the hands of Moses. Later, the raising of a staff with a bronze serpent on it will drive away the poison of those snakes for those who looked upon it and, still later, the raising of Christ on the cross will drive out the sin and death for those who look upon him. If we find the treatment of the Amalekites troubling, we'd do well to remember that in Christ we see that God will stop at nothing to work for our salvation.

Unpack the Second Reading 2 Timothy 3:14-4:2

The commission which St. Paul gives to Timothy as a member of that second generation of Church leaders is a serious one. Paul exhorts Timothy to do the work of the Gospel in the hope that Timothy will be as tireless as a bishop as Paul the apostle. With a solemn oath he says, "In the presence of God and Christ Jesus... proclaim the word; be persistent whether it is convenient or inconvenient; convince, reprimand, encourage through all patience and teaching."

The tools necessary for this arduous task are mentioned by Paul: faithfulness to the teaching received from the apostles of Christ and the sacred Scriptures. We

see here mentioned the two fountainheads of the one fount of divine revelation, Tradition and Scripture. St. Paul suggests that the whole energy for Timothy's mission of evangelization depends on faithfulness to tradition and faith in Christ revealed in Scripture. He says specifically that the study of Scripture will leave the disciple "competent, equipped for every good work." In order for the work of God to be fruitful it must be fueled by the Word of God.

Unpack the Gospel Luke 18:1-8

The need to pray is always linked to Jesus' description of the events leading up to "when the Son of Man comes," or end of time when Christ will come again. Understanding the context of this passage helps us to see that constancy in prayer isn't simply a requirement so that the petitioner will get what he or she wants. Rather, constant prayer ensures that we'll be on the side of God's justice when he comes because our prayer is a demonstration of faith. It takes faith to pray, and faith is the means to our justification, holiness, and righteousness in the sight of God. In order for Jesus to

find justice, righteousness, or holiness when he comes again as judge of the living and the dead, believers must be steadfast in prayer.

So Jesus isn't so much suggesting that we nag God until we get what we want, as is sometimes thought, but that we pray often, indeed constantly, so that we'll be the holy, faith-filled people he longs to find upon his return. Otherwise, his justice can only work to our disadvantage. What's just for the sinner and just for the righteous are two very different things, and it's prayer in faith that makes the difference.

Reflect & Discuss

Please view the short Opening the Word video on FORMED.org about today's Gospel reading which focuses on the topic of prayer. Then, with a friend, reflect and discuss these questions:

What is the most important part of prayer, and why?

Consider the ways in which prayer is difficult for you. How can you use the acronym MATA to overcome some of these difficulties?

Is there a time in your life when you have felt like the widow in today's Gospel reading, persistently making your request over and over again? How did the persistence pay off?

Digging Deeper: Persevering in Prayer

"'Pray constantly . . . always and for everything giving thanks in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God the Father.' St. Paul adds, 'Pray at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance making supplication for all the saints.' For 'we have not been commanded to work, to keep watch and to fast constantly, but it has been laid down that we are to pray without ceasing.' This tireless fervor can come only from love. Against our dullness and laziness, the battle of prayer is that of humble, trusting, and persevering love."

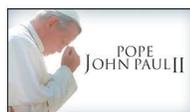
—CCC 2742

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FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK

Pope John Paul II



A Towering Figure Brought to the Big Screen

Jon Voight stars in this epic film that explores Karol Wojtyla's life, which touched millions of people, changing the face of the Church and the world.

"This was a wonderful representation of the life of Pope John Paul II. A beautiful story."

—Ivonne F., Vernon Hills, IL

[WATCH ON FORMED.ORG](https://www.formed.org)



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Pray Throughout the Week

Mass Intentions

Saturday 10/19

8:30am Janice Marino †
Joan Ward †
5:00pm John & Kate Egan †
7:00pm Fr Carl Arcosa

Sunday 10/20

6:45am Richard Flores †
8:00am William Cantril †
9:30am Fatima Montana
11:00am Jovita Ramos Orosco †
12:30pm Mass for Our Parish
6:00pm Manuel Candido Serpa †

Monday 10/21

8:30am Alexys (Lexy) Garcia †

Tuesday 10/22

8:30am Janessa Sanchez

Wednesday 10/23

8:30am John Peacher
7:00pm Remedios Rocha †

Thursday 10/24

8:30am Robert T. Boyle, Jr.

Friday 10/25

8:30am Paolo Monjes †

The Mass Intention Book for 2020 is now open!

To request a Mass Intention, please visit the Church Office. It is customary to offer a \$10 donation for the celebrating priest.



Prayer Meditation

Prayerfully place yourself in today's Gospel reading. Imagine that you are the widow, persistently bringing your request before the unjust judge. How do you feel presenting your request over and over again? What motivates you to be persistent? Now imagine that instead of petitioning an unjust judge, you are bringing your request before the most honest, just, and merciful judge, God himself. How do you feel presenting your petition now?

Resolution

We are called to be persistent in prayer, and we have confidence because we petition our loving Father, not an unjust judge. Prayerfully ask God to help you see an area in your life in which you need to pray more and be more persistent in prayer. What can you do this week to remedy this?

Weekly Prayer for Alpha

For our 40 Alpha guests who have made the decision to explore more meaning in their lives, that they may have a powerful encounter with the Lord.

Prayer Team

Our prayer team of over 70 members receives prayer requests weekly. Please send your requests or join the team by emailing Prayers@StMichaelLivermore.com

Fr Carl's Message of the Week



Thank You for a Wonderful Feast of St Michael

Sing to the Lord with joy and gladness!

-Psalm 96

Dear St Michael Family,

It is my great joy to thank you for your support of our 2019 Feast of St Michael the Archangel celebrations with novena Masses, Dinner Auction and Ministry Fair. It was a wonderful success and witness to the faith of our parish community. The proceeds of our feast day celebrations will be used for the beautification of our parking lot.

I would like to also personally thank our novena Mass sponsors, our guest performers at the ministry fair and to all parishioners who participated and volunteered to make our feast truly a celebration. We will surely evaluate the feast day festivities for improvement for next year and to get more participation from other ministries and organizations in our Livermore community.

I urge you all to continue to support our parish with your presence, prayers and financial support. Our unity and coming together as one community and as family of God is a reflection of what God calls us to be. We are a community of faith, empowered to serve God and grow to-

gether as missionary disciples.

I would like to present to you our feast day fundraising results:

Total Income: \$86,645.89
Total Expenses: \$28,083.95
Net Income (2019): \$58,561.94*
Net Income (2018): \$45,380.48

*All net proceeds from the 2019 St. Michael Feast Day Dinner & Ministry Faire will go towards the beautification and repair of our parking lot and school play yard areas.

I am looking forward to next year's feast day celebration. May the Lord reward you with His bountiful blessings for your generosity!

Fr Carl



Special Reminders

Friday, October 25

Golden Friends Mass & Luncheon at 10:00 am in the Large Hall. Call Mary at 925-784-1812 to reserve your spot!

Next Weekend

Baby Gift Drive

Bring to Mass new or gently used baby clothes (size 12 and 18 months), baby socks, diapers (sizes 3, 4 & 5), baby wipes and gift cards for Target and Walmart. Donations go to Birthright of Concord.



2nd Collection for Mission in Kenya

Fr Peter Guarin will be preaching at all Masses about the mission in Kenya. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Religious Articles from the Holy Land

A group from the Holy Land (Bethlehem & Jerusalem) will be selling religious articles after Masses to support the Catholic Christian minorities in Bethlehem.

Martha Macias will be Received into the Church!

We rejoice with candidate Martha Macias who will be received into the full communion of the Catholic Church at the 6:00 p.m. Mass next weekend. Martha was baptized in another denomination. She will be making a profession of faith and will be receiving the Sacraments of Confirmation and first Holy Communion.

We also rejoice with Marcos Macias for completing his Christian initiation through the Sacrament of Confirmation at the same liturgy. Truly God has been at work in our midst!

The RCIA teams are ready and waiting to walk the journey of faith with adults no matter one's background or circumstances. If you are interested in finding out more, give us a call at 925-447-2925. We look forward to meeting you!

Mass in Vietnamese

Join us at 3:30 pm—and every 4th Sunday—to celebrate Mass in Vietnamese!

Quick Links

Parish Website, the info hub of everything going on at St Michael's:

StMichaelLivermore.com

Flocknote, the parish email/texting platform and also the access point for all of Bishop Robert Barron's Word on Fire videos:

StMichaelLivermore.flocknote.com

FORMED, a vast digital library of Catholic movies, video programs, audio talks, eBooks and more. St Michael's has paid for your subscription, so you have unlimited access!

FORMED.org

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safe and easy way to offer financial gifts to St Michael Parish. You can set up weekly or monthly giving, or make a one-time gift. The user-friendly online system lets you manage all aspects of your account so you are always in control of your donations

FaithDirect.net/CA602



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We're on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.



Save These Dates!



Serve at Open Heart Kitchen Thursday, October 31

Come prepare hot meals at Open Heart Kitchen for people in Livermore who are in need. There are two shifts: 12:30 pm- 2:00 pm and 2:00 pm-3:30 pm. To volunteer, contact Diane Schord at dhschord@sbcglobal.net or 925-447-4344.

The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls) Saturday, Nov 2

Although All Souls is not a Holy Day of Obligation, all are invited to celebrate Mass to pray for the souls in Purgatory.

7:00 am and 8:30 am at Church

Dia de Los Muertos Saturday, Nov 2 at 11:00 am St Michael Cemetery

All are invited to attend the Dia de los Muertos Celebration: a bilingual Mass, followed by festive music and delicious Mexican treats prepared by our Hispanic Ministries. Contact Frank Draschner 925-455-9696.

Memorial Mass for Peter Amos Sat, November 2 at 7:00 pm Large Hall

All are invited to celebrate Mass with Fr Alfred in memory of his brother, Peter.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Training Monday, Nov 4 at 6:30 OR Saturday, Nov 16 at 9:30 am

If you are being called to assist in distributing Holy Communion at Mass, please register for one of these training dates at: StMichaelLivermore.com/EM Training is in the Church.

Golden Friends Black Oak Casino Trip Thursday, Nov 14

Come and join the fun! \$35 includes bus ride, \$10 of free play, \$5 of match play and \$5 of food credit. We leave St Michael's parking lot at 8:00 am and plan to return by 5:00 pm. Call Mary at 925-784-1812 to reserve your seat on the bus.

Santa's Secret Service Gift Appeal Nov 16 & 17 At All Masses

At all Masses on November 16 and 17, you will have the opportunity to pick up an instruction sheet and purchase a gift for a special person. Wrapped gifts with tags need to be brought back to the church the following weekend of November 23 and 24.

Founded in 1959 at St Michael Parish, Santa's Secret Service is dedicated to witnessing Jesus Christ's call to service and charity. The organization has solicited and delivered well over a million Christmas gifts to those in care centers, hospitals and home-bound people.

Lector Training Monday, Nov 25 at 6:30 pm

If you are being called to proclaim the Word at Mass, please come to this training. Register at: StMichaelLivermore.com/Lector Training is in the Church.



SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS

October 31

6:00 pm English
7:30 pm Spanish

November 1

7:00 am, 8:30 am, 10:30 am (School)
12:15 pm, 6:00 pm, 7:30 pm (Spanish)





Remembering

FATHER STANISLAUS POON

APRIL 14, 1927 - OCTOBER 9, 2019

Father Poon was born April 14, 1927 in Shanghai, China.

He was ordained a priest in the Salesian Order in Naples on March 28, 1962

Between 1962 - 1971, he worked as a Salesian priest in Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan

On February 10, 1982 he began service as Associate Pastor at Assumption Parish, San Leandro

On, June 1, 1985, he became Associate Pastor at St. Michael, Livermore

He was incardinated in the Diocese of Oakland - Feb 13, 1986

He retired on June 1, 1996

"Rest In Peace... a saint priest and a great servant of God. He gave everything for our Lord Jesus; he renounced his country, left his family and his economic position for love of the church of Christ."
— Ricardo Garcia

"Forever in our hearts! Eternal rest grant unto him Oh Lord..."
— Kimberly Gruidl

"I was blessed to be his friend. His wisdom and understanding was unmatched. But, his sense of humor was his greatest gift. RIP Fr. Poon."
-Will Macedo

"I first met Fr. Poon at Assumption Church in San Leandro in the early '80s. After a few years, was surprised to see him at St. Michael's, and quickly said I was following him. We will miss your sense of humor, presence in the church and smiling face. Rest In Peace Fr. Poon."
— Edna McCombe

"Fr Poon was such an amazing confessor, he truly listened, and made me feel fully shriven, and soul healed. May God grant you perfect eternal peace, dear servant of God." -- Gloria Rosaries

"It was always so comforting to see him on the altar, or in the front pew, always ready to hear your confession. I asked him a couple of years ago to please pray for my son Patrick. He told me, "Don't worry. Pray! Pray!" Thank you. Rest in peace Father Poon. Praying for your eternal rest." — Nicole Marie Allen

"It is not an overstatement to say the Holy Spirit worked through Fr. Poon to save my family. He was a towering figure in the Chinese Catholic Community of Oakland Diocese. Without him the Chinese mass at St Joseph in Fremont would not exist. But most importantly to me, one morning in 2004 he invited me and my dear wife to join other Taiwanese for mass in Fremont, and 3 years later he baptized Melanie. Father, I owe you a debt of gratitude I can never repay. Thank you for your priesthood, a journey like no other. Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord!" — Tony Capretta

"RIP Fr. Poon. You were the first person to drive to my home 32 years ago to welcome us as new St. Michael Parishioners. May you enjoy the same warm welcome in Heaven by our loving God and our Blessed Mother. Thank you for your loving service to St. Michael's for so many years." — Anna Iacomini-Bernardi

"RIP Father Poon, you will for always be REMEMBERED such a loving person." — Familia Rod, y Carmen Morales.



Hombres hispanos locales alcanzan la caballería en Livermore

Sábado 5 de Octubre de 2019 Livermore, CA

Los Caballeros de Colón de Livermore organizaron la primera Ceremonia de Grado de Caballería en Español de East Bay el domingo 5 de Octubre en el Salón St. Charles Borromeo. Un equipo de licenciatura en español, dirigido por Enrique Quinonez, viajó a Livermore desde Sacramento para la ocasión.

Cuatro hombres de la comunidad hispana de East Bay recibieron con orgullo el codiciado título de Caballero. Juan Favela y Jose Solano de Livermore. Christian Montoya de Oakland. E Isais Vasquez de Pittsburg. Los miembros de habla hispana de los Caballeros de Liver-

more jugaron papeles clave en la ceremonia.

Los Caballeros de Colón se están acercando a las comunidades hispanas en toda América del Norte y particularmente en Livermore, donde se formó la primera mesa redonda hispana de la región en 2017 por el entonces Gran Caballero, CAPT Tom McCaffrey, USN (Ret). Actualmente 59 miembros hispanos son parte del Consejo Livermore y ese número está creciendo rápidamente debido al espíritu fraternal cálido y los programas activos de la Mesa Redonda local que está dirigida por Irving García y Ricardo García.

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ABRAZANDO NUESTRA DOLOR

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Cultura y Bienestar en colaboración con la parroquia de San Miguel, le hacen la más cordial invitación al Taller de Luto: Abrazando Nuestro Dolor.

Viernes, 25 de octubre del 2019, de 6:30 de la tarde a 9:00 de la noche, en el salon parroquial (esquina de la 3ra y Maple) Les pedimos traigan una foto o símbolo de su ser querido para poner en el altar, donde los recordaremos con mucho amor y respeto. Este taller nos ayudara a descubrir cómo afecta nuestro ser el luto y el perder a un ser querido. Descubriremos la importancia de validar nuestro dolor ante tan grande pérdida.

Les pedimos se registren, por favor comuníquense con Lupita Barattino al 925-273-4220. No habrá cuidado de niños, por esta razón, les pedimos planifiquen la estancia de sus hijos para este evento. Gracias.

DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS
MISA BILINGÜE Y FIESTA

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Mass | Misa

Mon-Sat | Lu-Sa 8:30 am

Wed | Mi 7:00 pm (español)

First Friday | Primer viernes
12:00 pm

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

Traditional Latin Mass

2nd Sun, 8:00 am

Tagalog

3rd Sun, 3:30 pm

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

Wednesdays in the Convent Chapel

2:30 pm

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.

**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
PC@StMichaelLivermore.com

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

Ministerio Hispano

Veronica:
Hispano1@StMichaelLivermore.com
Ricardo:
Hispano2@StMichaelLivermore.com



Rev. Father Carl Arcosa, Pastor Pastor@StMichaelLivermore.com	925-667-4057
Rev. Father Alfonso Borgen Parochial Vicar Padre@StMichaelLivermore.com	925-667-4053
Rev. Deacon Bill Archer	925-447-1585
Rev. Deacon Dave Rezendes DeaconD@StMichaelLivermore.com	925-447-1585
Eric Hom Business Manager Business@StMichaelLivermore.com	925-667-4052
Jacqueline Garcia, Church Secretary Office@StMichaelLivermore.com	925-447-1585
School Front Office	925-447-1888
Alison Wilkie, School Principal awilkie@csdo.org	925-447-1888
Kathy Hawkins, Bookkeeper Books@StMichaelLivermore.com	925-667-4058
Faith Formation Office Faith@StMichaelLivermore.com	925-667-4096
Priscilla Stutzman, Religious Ed DRE@StMichaelLivermore.com	925-667-4097
Joseph Garcia, Youth Ministry Youth@StMichaelLivermore.com	925-667-4093
Tina Gregory Communication/Adult Enrichment Adult@StMichaelLivermore.com	925-667-4051
JaNet Hancock, Music Director Music@StMichaelLivermore.com	925-292-5071
Marjorie Melendez, RCIA RCIA@StMichaelLivermore.com	925-447-2925
RICA (español)	925-667-4053