



St. Michael Catholic Parish

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

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St Michael School
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October 15, 2017

Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time



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THE KING SAID TO HIS SERVANTS,
“THE FEAST IS READY, BUT THOSE WHO WERE
INVITED WERE NOT WORTHY TO COME.
GO, THEREFORE, INTO THE MAIN ROADS AND
INVITE TO THE FEAST WHOMEVER YOU FIND.”



Matthew 22:8-9



The Wedding Feast of the King

Who doesn't love a party—especially when someone else is footing the bill? Well, in today's Gospel we hear about several people who turned down an invitation to a banquet. And not just any old banquet, but a feast put on by the king! These people even went so far as to kill the servants who invited them. Finally, the king gave up on his chosen guests and opened the banquet to anyone who wanted to come.

While we might think this is an interesting story, it would have been more than that to Jesus' audience. He was speaking to his enemies, the priests and elders. As he told this story, they couldn't have helped but relate the king to God...and perhaps their own actions to those guests who refused to enter the banquet. This story must have struck them where it hurt, so to speak, if they realized that they, as the leaders of the Jews, might not be responding fully to their King, God. Little wonder that they began to call for Jesus' death—to get him off their backs.

But we aren't completely off the hook. We, too, have been called to the new banquet of the King—the one in which everyone is invited through the death and resurrection of Jesus. This new banquet is the family gathering of all the people of God, and it finds its fullest expression in the Mass. God wants us all to join him at this banquet table, but sometimes, like the guests in the parable, we make excuses and find other things to do. If we truly believe that God is the King who invites us, then we should come quickly and joyfully to attend the feast that is the Mass each Sunday.

First Reading *Isaiah 25:6–10a*

This blessing of the nations harkens back to the period after the flood of Noah, when God made the “everlasting covenant” with him and promised not to destroy the world by water again. The covenant with Noah, unlike the later Hebrew covenant, was a universal covenant with



all nations and peoples. In chapter 24, it's the violation of this early covenant which brings destruction on the whole earth, this time by fire rather than water, so the scene for this reading is just like that, following a second renewal of that ancient universal covenant.

In contrast to the previous chapter where we see the wine and the vine from which it comes mourning the destruction of the earth by fire, in this chapter “a feast of rich food and choice wines” is provided on the

“mountain of the Lord of hosts.” The only destruction in that place will be the destruction of death itself. We see in this reading a foreshadowing of the promised wedding banquet of the Lamb, at which death is definitively banished. We believe that our participation in the Holy Eucharist isn't merely a foreshadowing but a real participation in that marriage banquet in which our God takes all nations to himself in the eternal covenant of love in Christ.

Second Reading *Philippians 4:12–14, 19–20*

St. Paul gives a beautiful witness to Christian equanimity in this epistle. There's a level of energy and optimism that one wouldn't expect from a man facing extended imprisonment or even death. We're not left in the dark either as to the source of Paul's ebullience. “In him who is the source of my strength I have strength for everything,” he says. The Philippians had apparently sought to ameliorate Paul's suffering in prison, perhaps with a gift or simply by the expression of their concern through a messenger. Paul isn't an ingrate and responds with thanks but he does so almost apologetically, after declaring that he has grown accustomed to absolute detachment from circumstances, good or bad.

One can almost read between the lines something to the effect: “You could have saved yourself the trouble of your concern for me; I'm filled with joy at being able to suffer for Christ.” Paul is too polite, too fine a Christian, to risk offending with such frankness. Instead, he elegantly builds them up in faith by his courage and assures them of his peace in

the midst of persecution, without rejecting their gift of consolation. What a sterling example Paul gives to the Philippians and to us.

Gospel Reading **Matthew 22:1–14**

The “reign of God” is thought to have been a current phrase to represent covenant faithfulness. So when Jesus begins a parable, “The reign of God may be likened to...” and then goes on to describe a gross affront to “a king” by invited guests to a wedding banquet, we can guess that the message got through. The Pharisees, who regarded themselves as impeccably faithful to the covenant, seem to have taken some offense to this parable. It’s vital that we get an accurate assessment of the attitudes of the Jewish people in response to Jesus because we’ve been incorporated into Israel by grace. If we see Jews in the Gospel as merely a caricature of stubbornness to the overtures of God in Jesus, we’re unlikely to recognize ourselves and our own covenant shortcomings in them.

The city that Jesus says the king will send his army to destroy is the one we inhabit. It’s the city we live in, not merely the Jerusalem of old. We Catholics are now the invited guests to the banquet. We’re invited each Sunday in anticipation of the wedding feast in heaven. Jesus has won and offered redemption for all, but we can only enter into that redemption by our choice to be redeemed.

Discussion

Please watch the short *Opening the Word* video available at FORMED.org and download the free guide.

According to the presenter in the video, what is the relationship between the mountain in the first reading where God provides a banquet and Calvary?

How is the parable in this week’s Gospel a “mini-history” of the story of salvation?

Digging Deeper: Banquet Foods

What would have been served at a sumptuous banquet during the time of Christ? While Jewish dietary laws would have made some differences, especially among the observant Jews, it’s likely the feast would have been influenced by Roman banquets of the time. A proper Roman dinner included three courses: the hors d’oeuvres, the main course, and the dessert. Exotic foods from wild animals, birds, and fish were popular, as were dairy products, bread, fruits and vegetables, and wine. The main offering would have been meat, something that wasn’t regularly served; lamb was frequently on the banquet menu.

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

Divine Mercy

Experience the Power of God’s Mercy

Join Fr. Michael Gaitley on a breathtaking journey to uncover the reality of God’s merciful love as he weaves together history, Sacred Scripture, the prophetic apparitions of Fatima, and the world-changing witnesses of St. Faustina, St. Maximilian Kolbe, and Pope St. Paul II.

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—Dan S., Milledgeville, GA

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Mass Intentions

Saturday 10/14

8:30am Ralph Melendez ✠
Gregory Ure
5:00pm Mary Czerniawski ✠
7:00pm Kaila & Family
Teresa Salcedo ✠

Sunday 10/15

6:45am Sophia & Hector Hernandez
Ramiro Resendiz ✠
8:00am Melanie Maher ✠
9:30am Ken & Tina Tooker
Aurelio Saliendra ✠
11:00am Antonio Pereira ✠
12:30pm Mr & Mrs Charles Saulino ✠
6:00pm Susan Horgan

Monday 10/16

8:30am Margaret Mary Ike
Ryan Abele ✠

Tuesday 10/17

8:30am The Alarcon Family
Alan Winslow
Eileen M. Sweeny ✠
Rick Carter ✠

Wednesday 10/18

8:30am David Ahuero ✠
Nadine Withrow
7:00pm Ramiro Rezendiz ✠
Sofia & Hector Hernandez ✠

Thursday 10/19

8:30am Sofia Ore ✠
Helen & Mike ✠
Benny Mabayags
Dorothy Dentici Cavalli ✠

Friday 10/20

8:30am Dominic Stanley
William Cantril ✠
Fatima Montana
Mary Ann Zamora

Prayers & Devotion



Today's Gospel offers us the opportunity to examine how we respond to God's invitation in our lives.

Prayer:

Imagine that you have just received an invitation to come to the feast of the King. His servant has personally invited you, saying that everything is ready. What do you do? Do you drop everything and come to the banquet, or do you keep tending to your business? Do you feel upset that going to the celebration interferes with your plans, so you ignore the invitation? Now think of the invitation to the banquet as being Sunday Mass. How do you feel about attending Mass? Do you go joyfully, or do you think of it merely as an obligation? Or do you sometimes not go at all?

Resolution:

Before you attend Mass this Sunday, stop for a moment at the back of the church and make sure that you are coming with enthusiasm and joy. Let go of all your worldly worries and enter the sanctuary as if you are going to the King's banquet.

Download the Opening the Word guide available at FORMED.org to write down your thoughts, reflections and resolutions.

Parish Prayer Requests:

For Pat Thiessen who is recovering from surgery.
For Cheryl Ruth, who remains in a coma.

For the repose of the souls of Patricia Elvia Peterson, Alan Flores, Peggy Volponi and Patricia Mueller.

Please send your prayer requests to Prayers@StMichaelLivermore.com

Parish Fall Festival Success!



Thank You, from Father Van

Dear Friends,

Spiritual fathers have something in common with biological fathers: they love to see all of their family together having a wonderful time! It was a joy to see our large parish family—with all of our cultures and groups—enjoying the Parish Fall Festival together. We are truly one body in Christ, and your love for St

Michael's and each other was tangible. There were many people at the Festival who are not parishioners, or even Catholic, but your loving witness was a powerful example. I am very proud of all of you, and am truly blessed to be your Pastor.

Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers, and especially the Festival committee members who worked very long hours to make this event a success. Thank you to those who made contributions, to those who bid on auction items and bought raffle tickets, to those who came out in support, to those who cooked such delicious food! Thank you to our fabulous entertainers and musicians too. And thank you to the children who bailed me out of "jail"!

Collection Report

We are so blessed to have generous parishioners who not only supported the Fall Festival, but who regularly give their offerings every week or month throughout the year. We simply could not go about Christ's mission for Livermore without you. Thank you.

To set up regular offerings, please visit FaithDirect.net

10/8/17 Collection	\$20,176.50
Month-to-Date	\$37,946.73
Month Goal	\$107,843.14
Percentage Reached	35%
Maintenance for Oct	\$8,109.28
Faith Direct for Oct	

I will have the fundraising report for you soon, but early estimates are looking very good!

This Parish Fall Festival kicked off our year-long Centennial Celebration of our church building. I look forward to a wonderful year of celebrations and growing in loving relationship with Jesus. May our patron, St Michael the Archangel, continue to defend us in battle. May our Blessed Mother continue to intercede for you and your families and your friends.

Thank you, and God bless each of you.

Father Van
Pastor
St Michael Parish

Share Your Thoughts: Take Our Survey!

What did you think about the Festival? We want to hear from you! What did you like best? What would you like to see next time? Please take a few moments to answer a very short survey (even if you didn't attend the Festival) at

StMichaelLivermore.com/Survey

To help the parish leadership teams better serve the needs of the community, we will be offering a survey every month. Our aim is to continue to grow together in our parish mission to celebrate the sacraments, grow disciples and bring Christ to people. Together, as members of the Body of Christ, we can do wonderful things!



Congratulations to George & Maria Coelho who won the BIG 1st Prize of \$3,000 at the Parish Fall Festival raffle! (pictured with Festival chair, Cynthia Garay)

This Week

MONDAY, OCT 16

St. Hedwig; St. Margaret Mary Alacoque

Readings: Rom 1:1-7; Ps 98:1-4; Lk 11:29-32

THURSDAY, OCT 19

Ss. John de Brébeuf, Isaac Jogues, and Companions

Readings: Rom 3:21-30; Ps 130:1b-6ab; Lk 11:47-54

Events:

WINGS: Guest speaker Janèt Sullivan Whitaker at 9:30 am at St Charles.

Edge Middle School Ministry at 6:30 pm in the Youth Portable.

KofC Rosary in the Courtyard at 6:30 pm

SUNDAY, OCT 22

**29th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Feast of St Pope John Paul II**

Readings: Is 45:1, 4-6; Ps 96:1, 3-5, 7-10; 1 Thes 1:1-5b; Mt 22:15-2

Events:

Order Fresh Christmas Wreaths from our St Michael's Cub Scouts after Mass.

World Mission Sunday & Catholic Home Mission Appeal special collection. Please give generously.

LifeTeen High School Ministry celebrates at the 6:00 pm Mass, followed by a gathering in the Convent.

Pope John Paul II: This epic film follows Karol Wojtyla's journey from his youth in Poland through his late days on the Chair of St. Peter. Watch on FORMED.org.

TUESDAY, OCT 17

St. Ignatius of Antioch

Readings: Rom 1:16-25; Ps 19:2-5; Lk 11:37-41

Events:

Eucharistic Minister Training at 7 pm in the Church.

FRIDAY, OCT 20

St. Paul of the Cross

Readings: Rom 4:1-8; Ps 32:1b-2, 5, 11; Lk 12:1-7

Events:

St Michael School Fun Run: it's not too late to sponsor Fr Van! StMichaelLivermore.com/RunFrVan

WEDNESDAY, OCT 18

St. Luke

Readings: 2 Tm 4:10-17b; Ps 145:10-13, 17-18; Lk 10:1-9

Events:

Confession at 2:30 pm in the Convent.

SATURDAY, OCT 21

Readings: Rom 4:13, 16-18; Ps 105:6-9, 42-43; Lk 12:8-12

Events:

Confession at 9:30 am and 3:45 pm in English, 6:15 pm in Spanish.

Read Sunday's Scripture readings in advance and watch the short Opening the Word video on FORMED.org before coming to Mass.

Parish Wide Study

SESSION 6: THE PASCHAL MYSTERY THE MYSTERY OF JESUS'S DEATH & RESURRECTION

"The Paschal Mystery" is a phrase we hear and use in the Mass and sacramental rites, but do we understand what it means in the greater story of Salvation, from the Passover in Egypt to the Last Supper and Crucifixion of Jesus?

This week, watch the 30-minute video **Symbolon: Knowing the Faith, Session 6** Download the participant materials located just under the video for your own reflections or to discuss with a friend.

Access the Symbolon video study series free from any browser at FORMED.org. Get your free account using parish code **P4XNPZ**

Upcoming Events

NEW SUNDAY OFFICE HOURS!

The parish office is now open on Sundays from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm to better meet the needs of our community. Stop by after Mass and say hello!

Mass of Remembrance Mon, Oct 23

We gather to remember departed loved ones at St Michael's at 6:30pm. Our bilingual Mass helps us honor the memory of our passed loved ones by celebrating Mass in their honor. All are welcome.

Knights of Columbus Rosary Thurs, October 26

Join our Knights of Columbus in praying the Rosary in the Church Courtyard at 6:30 pm in celebration of October being the month of the Rosary.

LLNL's HOME Campaign Thurs, Oct 26

The Helping Others More Effectively (HOME) Campaign is Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory's payroll deduction giving program. LLNL employees can choose to give to charities, including St Michael Parish.

The HOME Campaign runs from the last Thursday in October through the first Friday in December. If you are an LLNL employee, please prayerfully consider choosing St Michael's in the HOME campaign.

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas Spiritual Retreat

Sat, Oct 28 at 11 am

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court St. Raymond #2057 welcomes our Court Chaplain, Fr. Bob Mendonca on Saturday, October 28, 2017 at 11 am in Kids Klub of St. Raymond Parish, Dublin. All women are invited to a day retreat facilitated by Fr. Bob Mendonca. Coinciding with the feast day of St. Jude, Fr. Bob's topic will be "A Hundred Million Miracles are Happening Every Day!" There will be an option to buy lunch, and a free will offering benefiting Fr. Bob's charity.

For more information please contact: Jennie Lane at 415-572-1060 jennielane12@gmail.com.

Carondelet "Road to College" Seminar Thurs, Oct 26 at 7 pm

Attend this free seminar, designed especially for middle school families, with our distinguished college-placement specialist on preparing students for college and helping families afford it.

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All Saints Holy Day of Obligation Wed, Nov 1

Mass at St Michael's at 8:30 am, 10:00 am (School Mass), 6:00 pm and 7:30 pm (Spanish)

On All Saints, the Church honors every saint in heaven, known and unknown.

"We believe in the communion of all the faithful of Christ, those who are pilgrims on earth, the dead who are being purified, and the blessed in heaven, all together forming one Church..." (CCC 962)

Catholics are obliged to celebrate Mass on All Saints.

Plenary Indulgence For the Souls in Purgatory Nov 1—8

A plenary indulgence, applicable only to the souls in purgatory, is granted each and every day from Nov 1 to Nov 8, when the faithful devoutly visit a cemetery and there pray, if only mentally, for the departed.

Requirements: Receive the Sacrament of Confession, Eucharist, pray for the intentions of the Pope and have no attachment to sin (make an act of the will to love God and despise sin.)



Hermano Zeferino: El Rosario

¡Acompaña al hermano Zeferino en esta entretenida y orientadora presentación que inspirará a los niños a profundizar en su fe mediante la oración del Rosario!

Este episodio incluye:

Las oraciones del Rosario y el Credo de los apóstoles...¡ambas magníficamente graficadas!

"La Anunciación"—una representación animada de la gozosa sumisión de María a la voluntad de Dios.

Dos canciones ilustradas:

"Me encanta orar"—¡Una tonada entusiasta y pegadiza que alentará a los niños a comunicarse con Dios en cualquier momento y en todo lugar!

"El Padrenuestro"—¡Versión musical que levanta el ánimo y celebra la presencia de nuestro padre celestial en nuestra vida cotidiana!

Aparte de ser muy divertido, Hermano Zeferino: El Rosario es una cautivante forma de ayudar a los niños a ocupar el corazón y la mente en la oración.

FORMED.org —> "Watch" —> "Español" —> "Niños: El Hermano Zeferino"



La Solemnidad de Todos los Santos

01 de noviembre Día Santo de Obligación

Misa en San Miguel a las 8:30 am, 10:00 am
(Escuela San Miguel), 6:00 pm y 7:30 pm (Español)

En Todos los Santos, la Iglesia honra a cada santo en el cielo, conocido y desconocido.

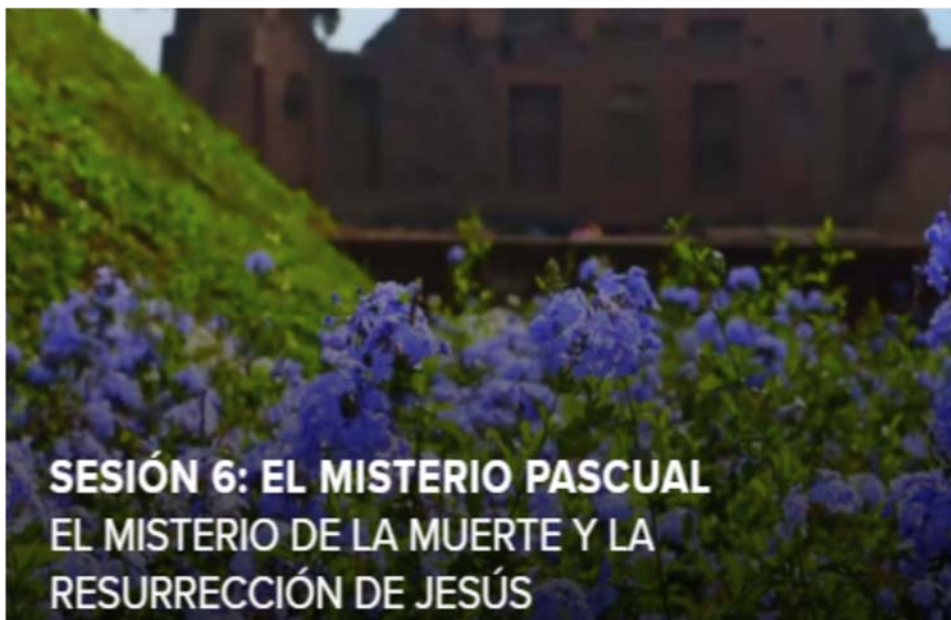
"Creemos en la comunión de todos los fieles de Cristo, de los peregrinos de la tierra, de los muertos que están siendo purificados y de los bienaventurados en el cielo, todos juntos formando una sola Iglesia ..." (CCC 962)

Los católicos están obligados a celebrar la Misa sobre Todos los Santos.

Indulgencia Plenaria Para las Almas del Purgatorio

Una indulgencia plenaria, aplicable sólo a las almas en el purgatorio, se concede todos los días del 1 de noviembre al 8 de noviembre, cuando los fieles visitan devotamente un cementerio y allí rezan, aunque sólo mentalmente, por los difuntos.

Requisitos: Recibir el Sacramento de la Confesión, la Eucaristía, orar por las intenciones del Papa y no tener ningún vínculo con el pecado (hacer un acto de la voluntad de amar a Dios y despreciar el pecado.)



SESIÓN 6: EL MISTERIO PASCUAL

EL MISTERIO DE LA MUERTE Y LA RESURRECCIÓN DE JESÚS

Tal vez la cruz de Jesús se ha convertido casi demasiada familiar. Algunos de nosotros podríamos ver imágenes de cruces y crucifijos tan seguido, que es posible que no nos demos cuenta de que en el mundo antiguo, la cruz era una imagen horrible, algo así como una silla eléctrica en la actualidad. Sin embargo, la cruz es el símbolo principal de nuestra fe, a través de la cual, Jesús nos ha dado el don de la salvación y la vida eterna. Un antiguo Romano que llevara una cruz alrededor de su cuello como joyería sería como si nosotros lleváramos una pequeña silla eléctrica alrededor de nuestros cuellos. No sólo sería extraño; sería escandaloso y terrible para las personas que nos rodean. Sin embargo, la cruz es el símbolo principal de nuestra fe. Es a través de la muerte de Jesús en ese instrumento de tortura que Él nos dio el regalo de la salvación y la vida eterna. Llamamos a la obra de la Redención de Jesús, realizada principalmente a través de Su pasión, muerte, resurrección y ascensión al cielo, el Misterio Pascual. La palabra Pascual se refiere a la ofrenda de Jesús de Su vida como el nuevo Cordero Pascual para nuestra salvación. Expresamos esto en la Misa cuando decimos: “Anunciamos Tu muerte, proclamamos Tu resurrección.

Ven Señor Jesús”. Detrás del Misterio Pascual hay una realidad fundamental: Jesús se entrega totalmente en amor al Padre en nuestro nombre para restaurar nuestra relación con Dios. Y Jesús, con Su muerte en la cruz, también nos revela que todos estamos llamados al amor sacrificial que conduce a la verdadera felicidad aquí en la tierra y a la alegría eterna en la vida siguiente.

ESTA SESIÓN CUBRIRÁ:

- Cómo ‘trabaja’ la Cruz, cómo realiza nuestra salvación
- Cómo Cristo, siendo plenamente humano y plenamente divino, fue capaz de sanar nuestra relación con Dios por medio de Su muerte sacrificial
- El significado de que Jesús va al lugar de los muertos y abre las puertas del cielo
- Que por Su muerte, Jesús nos libera del pecado
- Que por Su resurrección, Él nos conduce a una nueva vida
- Cómo Jesús nos invita a unir toda nuestra vida con Su amor que se entrega en la cruz

LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura -- El Señor preparará un banquete y secará las lágrimas de todos los rostros (Isaías 25:6-10a).

Salmo -- Viviré en la casa del Señor todos los días de mi vida (Salmo 23 [22]).

Segunda lectura -- No importa las circunstancias en las que nos encontremos, nuestras necesidades se resolverán en Cristo Jesús (Filipenses 4:12-14, 19-20).

Evangelio -- La invitación se ha enviado; todo está listo; vengan a la fiesta (Mateo 22:1-14 [1-10]).

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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

Fr. Van, 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 smsliv.org

Faith Formation in English

925-667-4096

Catecismo en Español

925-453-6494 Niños



New Direct Phone Numbers!

Fr Van Dinh, Pastor	925-667-4057
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