



## St. Michael Catholic Parish

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

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**Jesus said,**

*“You shall love the Lord,  
your God,  
with all your heart . . .*

**You shall love your neighbor as yourself.  
The whole law and the prophets depend  
on these two commandments.”**

**Matthew 22:37, 39**

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**October 29, 2017 • Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

# Loving the Lord with Our Minds

**J**esus' enemies were always looking for ways to trap him. In Matthew 22, where today's Gospel comes from, Jesus is tested three times. The test in this week's reading centers on the Pharisees asking Jesus what is the greatest commandment of the law. In response, Jesus quotes the Shema, the great prayer from Deuteronomy 6:4, which begins, "Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is one Lord" (RSV). That alone wouldn't have surprised his audience. In fact, they would have expected him to say something like that.

What does surprise them, however, is that Jesus subtly changes the wording. Instead of saying that we are to love the Lord with all our heart, soul, and might, he says we must love with our heart, soul, and mind.

So what's the big deal? What's the difference between might and mind?

One insight we can take away is that we must use our intellect to study the truth about God—not just to have "head knowledge," but because in order to truly love someone, we have to know them. And in order to know someone, we have to know about them. If we are really to love God, we have to know what God is like—his character and his actions.

How can we come to know God? By reading the Scriptures. For if we have never read the Bible, especially the Gospels, we cannot truly say that we love God with our whole mind (as well as heart and soul).

## First Reading

**Exodus 22:20-26**

If Israel's behavior is to be exemplary as a sign to the nations, then those foreigners who cross into her territory will have to be treated in an exemplary manner. It's the ill treatment of aliens that's forbidden in the first verse of our reading. And God makes clear that he himself intends to be the protector of widows



and orphans. "If ever you wrong them and they cry out to me...My wrath will flare up, and I will kill you with the sword; then your own wives will be widows, and your children orphans."

This might sound rough, but we need to recognize that police forces didn't exist at this time. Might was law. When someone has had a moral restraint forced upon him, he doesn't develop internal restraints. When the yoke comes off, the slave easily becomes the slave owner. And so, God was speaking in a language that these people, especially those who might be tempted to exercise

their might against the weak, could understand. Justice will be swift and sure, God assures the mighty, if you molest my little ones.

## Second Reading

**1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10**

This passage, in a sense, illustrates what's been said above. The Thessalonians had been given to the worship of idols, a capital offense in Israel. Through Paul's preaching they became "models for all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia." Through this new pedagogy, one which is anointed of the Holy Spirit, what humankind could ever do on its own simply happens, a miracle of grace.

After a few weeks of instruction by Paul, idol worshippers become the heirs of the promises made through Israel. Through this outpouring of grace, they're delivered "from the wrath to come." That is, justice is no longer held out to them for their

sins, but mercy in Christ Jesus. The ancient pedagogy of justice has given way to one of love. Justice hasn't disappeared of course; it's still out there for those who choose not to enroll in this school of love. As St. Paul says, it's still "to come," but deliverance is now possible; the sentence can be lifted.

## Gospel Reading

**Matthew 22:34-40**

As the opening of this episode indicates, the Pharisees have come to Jesus having heard that he has confounded the Sadducees, a rival religious faction to the Pharisees, in an

argument over the resurrection of the dead. In that exchange, Jesus came down on the side of the Pharisees, who believed in such a resurrection, accusing the Sadducees of knowing neither the Scriptures nor the power of God. The Pharisees haven't come to try to "trip him up" but to "test" his wisdom further, as one would any rabbi.

The question Jesus is asked by the scholar in the law—"Which commandment of the law is the greatest?"—seems not to be aimed at tricking him or leading him into a rhetorical trap. He responds in a way that wouldn't have surprised a faithful Jew. Jesus' answer is, likewise, straightforward, yet magisterial. He answers with authority and without indictment, as is the case when he knows a questioner is sincere. Jesus is really describing the attitude of one who has entered into the kingdom of God, which is precisely God's sovereignty in the human soul, by virtue of this covenant faithfulness. This passage demonstrates the continuity of Jesus and his message with his— and our—Jewish roots.

## Discussion

Watch Dr Tim Gray's 8-minute *Opening the Word* video for Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time on FORMED.org

What do you think "love" is?

How is the Christian understanding of love different from what the world calls "love"?

What does Jesus say is the greatest commandment?

Why is it impossible to separate these two commandments?

The Jewish people had long considered loving God as the greatest commandment.

What subtle change did Jesus make in this command, according to Dr. Gray?

What does this change mean?

## DIGGING DEEPER: The Shema

"The Shema is an affirmation of Judaism and a declaration of faith in one God. The obligation to recite the Shema is separate from the obligation to pray and a Jew is obligated to say Shema in the morning and at night (Deut. 6:7). The first line of the Shema, 'Hear O Israel, the Lord is our God, the Lord is One' (Shema Yisrael Adonai eloheinu Adonai ehad) (Deuteronomy 6:4) is repeated throughout the prayer services. It is said in the morning blessings, in the musaf Amidah of Shabbat and holidays, when the Torah is taken out of the Ark on Shabbat and holidays, as a bedtime prayer, as part of the deathbed confessional, and at various other times."

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

### Contemporary Sainthood

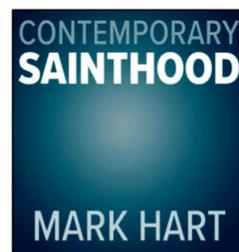
by Mark Hart

#### Be the Saint God Created You To Be

In this inspiring double feature, Mark Hart boldly challenges and encourages you to be the saint God created you to be. As the Church gathers to celebrate the Solemnity of All Saints on November 1st, fuel your spiritual life with invaluable insights into unleashing the power of the Holy Spirit and the dangers of putting human expectations on our supreme God.

Listen on [formed.org](https://formed.org)

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—Sandy R, Columbia, MO



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# Mass

## Intentions

### Saturday 10/28

- 8:30am The Souls in Purgatory  
5:00pm Nina Abbot †  
Gregory Ure †  
7:00pm Juan, Daniel and Arturo

### Sunday 10/29

- 6:45am Melanie Maher †  
8:00am Marilyn Rita Estill †  
9:30am Jesuina Pereira Freitas  
David Hom †  
11:00am Quintina Echon †  
12:30pm Antonio Preciado †  
Guadalupe Bernal †  
6:00pm Areslio Bettencourt †

### Monday 10/30

- 8:30am Dominick Fucito †  
Alejandra Josefina Tecillo †

### Tuesday 10/31

- 8:30am Sofia Ore, Helen and Mike †  
The Alarcon Family  
Alan Winslow  
Wilfredd Nunez †

### Wednesday 11/1

- 8:30am Patricia Werner †  
James Carlisle Barringer  
10:00am St Michael School  
6:00pm Arselio Bettencourt †  
7:30pm Gonzalo Contreras Martinez †

### Thursday 11/2

- 8:30am William Lawrence †  
Gus & Lucile Beach  
7:00pm Maria Sandoval †

### Friday 11/3

- 8:30am Cheryl Stanley  
Agripino and Isabel  
Wilfredo Nunez †

***To request a Mass intention, please visit the church office.***

# Prayers & Devotion



“You shall love the Lord, your God,  
with all your heart,  
with all your soul,  
and with all your mind.”

– Matthew 22:37

In today's Gospel, Jesus is talking to the Pharisees, one of the leading religious groups of his time. Although he is speaking to them, he really is speaking to each one of us.

### Prayer

Picture the scene in your mind. You are at the Temple and you hear one of the leaders ask Jesus what the greatest commandment is. How would you respond? When you hear Jesus say, “You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind,” do you agree? Then you hear him add, “The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Now what goes through your mind? Who do you consider your neighbor? How do Jesus' words challenge you?

### Resolution

Since we are to love God with our minds as well as our souls and hearts, read all of Matthew 22 this week and write down all the attributes of God that Jesus shows us in this chapter. Choose one and practice it in your own life.

### Parish Prayer Requests

For Oliver Dare, a 3-month old baby who is gravely ill.

For Cherie Bates, Greg Morris, Maria Lopez and Kim Romero and Carlotta Schauer's grandson who are battling cancer.

For Pat Thiessen who is recovering from surgery

For Chris, who addicted to heroin, and all those enslaved by addictions

For Cheryl Ruth, who remains in a coma

For the repose of the soul of Ilda Rosa, Deacon Rob Federle's mother-in-law.

***Please send your prayer requests to [Prayers@StMichaelLivermore.com](mailto:Prayers@StMichaelLivermore.com)***

# Clothing Drive for the Fire Victims

**Thursday, November 2**  
**8:00 am to 6:00 pm**  
**St Michael's Parking Lot**

This is a perfect opportunity to clean out our closets and drawers and help the Wine Country Fire Victims at the same time.

**Bring your gently used clothes, shoes, belts, purses, backpacks, wallets, bed linens and bath linens to the church parking lot on November 2 to be recycled for CASH.**



Every pound of clothes donated earns 20 cents. SAVERS is managing the donated clothes for us.

100% of funds will go to the Fire Recovery Program at Catholic Charities of Santa Rosa.

Because we lack storage space, we are only accepting donations on November 2, between 8 am and 6 pm.

**We need volunteers** to be Parking Lot Directors, Greeters and Loaders on two-hour shifts throughout the day. If you can help, contact Tina at [Donate@StMichaelLivermore.com](mailto:Donate@StMichaelLivermore.com) or 925-667-4051

## 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](http://FaithDirect.net)

10/22/17 Collection	\$14,850.84
Month-to-Date	\$86,281.80
Month Goal	\$107,843.14
Percentage Reached	80%
Maintenance for Oct	\$9,409.31
Faith Direct for Oct	\$14,606.50

## Maintenance & Improvement Collection

Next week is the first weekend of the month, and we will be having a second collection for our Maintenance & Improvement fund. This fund will be used to continue to make improvements towards our parish facilities including the Church building, Convent, and Education Center. Not only will this fund be used for parish improvements, but will be used to help make daily maintenance repairs to such things as aging HVAC units, parking lot asphalt repairs, plumbing fixtures, old lighting systems that are not energy efficient, irrigation repairs, maintenance on our roofs, etc....

Thank you in advance for your continued generosity as we work to make these improvements and manage our facilities for all in the community to enjoy. For any questions, please call or email Eric Hom, Business Manager

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Business Manager, St. Michael Parish  
[EricHom@stmichaellivermore.com](mailto:EricHom@stmichaellivermore.com) | 925-447-1585

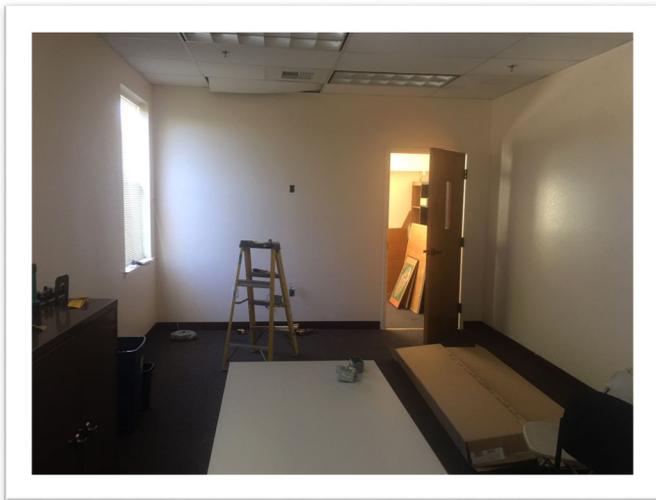
# Around the Parish



**Fr Van ran in the St Michael School Fun Run** along with the students and had a great time getting fit, staying healthy and raising money for our school. Forty laps!



**Music Ministry members** are already practicing for Advent and Christmas liturgies. There's still room for you! Contact JaNet at [Music@StMichaelLivermore.com](mailto:Music@StMichaelLivermore.com)



**A new Conference Room** is being prepared in the Education Center to be used for ministry meetings! Watch for a bulletin update for when this room will be ready for ministry use.



**Our beautiful church**, captured at twilight.

**Share your pictures of ministries in action with us!**

Email to [TinaGregory@StMichaelLivermore.com](mailto:TinaGregory@StMichaelLivermore.com)

# This Week

## MONDAY, OCT 30

**Readings:** Rom 8:12-17; Ps 68:2, 4, 6-7ab, 20-21; Lk 13:10-17

**Suggestion:**

Listen to Mark Hart's talk "Contemporary Sainthood" on FORMED.org. See page 3 for details.

## THURSDAY, NOV 2

**All Souls' Day**

**Readings:** Wis 3:1-9; Ps 23:1-6; Rom 5:5-11 or 6:3-9; Jn 6:37-40

**Events:**

**Clothing Drive** for Wine Country Fire Victims, 8am-6pm in the parking lot.

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

## SUNDAY, NOV 5

**31st Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Readings:** Mal 1:14b -- 2:2b, 8-10; Ps 131:1-3; 1 Thes 2:7b-9, 13; Mt 23:1-12

**Events:**

**Birthday Blessings** at all Masses for those celebrating a birthday in November.

**Maintenance & Improvement** second collection at all Masses.

**Family Mass** at 9:30 am; St Michael school, faith formation families and parish families are all invited.

**Mass with Sign Language** at 11:00 am.

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

## TUESDAY, OCT 31

**Dia de los Muertos**

**Readings:** Rom 8:18-25; Ps 126:1b-6; Lk 13:18-21

**Events:**

**CounterPoint Support Group** at 7pm in Room 22 at St Michael School.

## FRIDAY, NOV 3

**Readings:** Rom 9:1-5; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Lk 14:1-6

**Suggestion:**

**Obtain a Plenary Indulgence** for the souls in Purgatory by praying for them at a cemetery. Must have recently received sacramental confession and eucharist, prayed for the intentions of the Pope and have no attachment to sins.

## WEDNESDAY, NOV 1

**ALL SAINTS DAY**

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. Catholics are obliged to celebrate Mass on All Saints.

## SATURDAY, NOV 4

**St. Charles Borromeo**

**Readings:** Rom 11:1-2a, 11-12, 25-29; Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 17-18; Lk 14:1, 7-11

**Events:**

**Anointing of the Sick** after the 8:30 am Mass.

**Dia de los Muertos** bilingual Mass at 11 am at St Michael Cemetery.

## Parish Wide Study

### SESSION 8: WHY DO I NEED THE CHURCH? THE MYSTERY OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Though Jesus saves us as individuals, he calls us to live out our salvation as members of a communion of believers. But that can be hard if we don't understand what the Church is and what it is meant to be. Why does the Church claim to have authority over what Catholics believe? How do we reconcile both the divinity and humanity of the Church that Christ himself created? Why is the Church essential to the life of every believer?

This week, watch the 30-minute video **Symbolon: Knowing the Faith, Session 8**. Access the Symbolon video study series free from any browser at FORMED.org. Get your free account using parish code **P4XNPZ**

# Upcoming Events

## This Week at WINGS Thurs, Nov 2 at 9:30 am St Charles

Guest speaker, Katey Dallosto comes to WINGS this week to talk about her book Fortune Cookie Leadership. In addition to being an author, Katey is a national trainer, business coach and sales consultant for a consulting company that bases its practice on the Prayer of St. Frances of Assisi. Janet Schott 925-373-9346 or Phyllis Clearwater 925-337-4299

## Family Mass Sun, Nov 5 at 9:30 am

All St Michael School families, Faith Formation Families and young families of the parish are invited to celebrate Mass on Nov 5 at 9:30 am. It's a great opportunity to meet other families in the parish!

## Coping with Grief Through the Holidays Thurs, Nov 9 at 7 pm

Grieving during the holidays can be a difficult struggle. Come to this free workshop at St Charles from 7 pm to 8:30 pm and gain support. Register by email at [clairelascola@gmail.com](mailto:clairelascola@gmail.com)

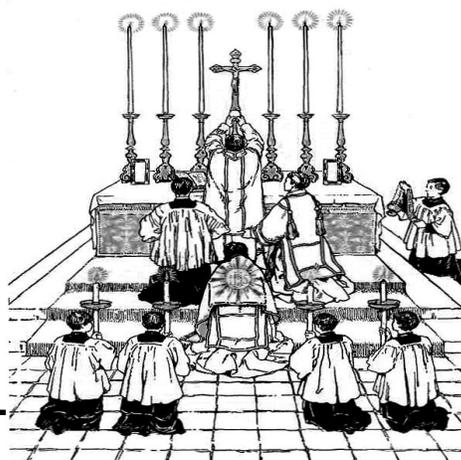
## Shepherds Field Olive Wood Handcrafts Nov 11 & 12 after Mass

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

Sales will be used to help and support the Catholics in the Holy Land and to encourage them not to immigrate.

## LLNL's HOME Campaign Through December 1

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. Lab employees, please consider participating in the HOME campaign.



## Mass in the Extraordinary Form Coming to St Michael's in January

In celebration of the Centennial anniversary of our church building which was dedicated in 1918, we are excited to announce that the Extraordinary Form of the Mass (also known as the Traditional Latin Mass or Tridentine Mass) will be celebrated once per month at St Michael's, January through June.

This will be a wonderful opportunity to experience the way our parishioners - and Catholics worldwide - worshiped from the year 1592 until the 1960's.

### Timeline

#### November—December

Watch the bulletin and parish communication for education and resources about the Extraordinary Form. Fr Staal will preach at all Masses on December 3, offering explanation about this Mass. He will preach about the Extraordinary Form at the 8:00 am Mass on December 10, 17 and 24.

#### January 14

Extraordinary Form Mass, once per month at 8:00 am, every second Sunday starting Jan 14 through June 10.

### Why?

- A chance to experience the way Catholics worshiped in this same church building from 1918-1970.
- Latin is an "equalizer" language that will allow our diverse ethnic communities to worship together in unity.
- The more readily apparent focus on the Eucharist in the Extraordinary Form is appealing to those who are regulars at Eucharistic Adoration.
- The community at St Michael's has been asking for an Extraordinary Form Mass for decades.



## **SESIÓN 8: ¿POR QUÉ NECESITO LA IGLESIA? EL MISTERIO DE LA IGLESIA CATÓLICA**

Aunque Jesús nos salva como individuos, Él nos llama a vivir nuestra salvación como miembros de una comunión de creyentes. Pero eso puede ser difícil si no entendemos lo que la Iglesia es, y lo que supone ser. ¿Por qué la Iglesia asume tener cualquier autoridad sobre lo que los Católicos creen? ¿Cómo reconciliamos tanto la divinidad como la humanidad de la Iglesia que Cristo mismo ha creado? ¿Por qué la Iglesia es esencial para la vida de cada creyente?

### **ESTA SESIÓN CUBRIRÁ :**

- El misterio de la Iglesia y lo que significa en nuestras vidas
- Cómo la Iglesia tiene dos dimensiones: humana y divina
- Las tres maneras en que se manifiesta la unidad de la Iglesia
- Las cuatro marcas (o características principales) de la Iglesia
- Por qué Jesús estableció sólo una Iglesia
- Cómo es que la Iglesia puede ser santa cuando está llena de pecadores
- Lo que significa cuando decimos que la Iglesia es apostólica
- Por qué le decimos a la Iglesia "Católica"

Accede el Symbolon serie estudio video libre desde cualquier navegador en FORMED.org. Obtenga su cuenta gratis usando código parroquial P4XNPZ



## **Día de los Muertos Noviembre 4**

La Parroquia de St Michael's Los invita este 4, Noviembre a las 11:00 am en El cementerio de St Michael, direccion 3885 East Avenue.

Misa para recordar a nuestros difuntos.

(Recuerden que la ceremonia no será en la Iglesia de San Miguel sino en El cementerio de San Miguel)

## **Solemnidad de Todos los santos**

Misa en San Miguel a las 8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m. (Misa Escolar), 6:00 p.m. y 7:30 p.m. (español) En Todos los Santos, la Iglesia honra a cada santo en el cielo, conocido y desconocido. Los católicos están obligados a celebrar la Misa en Todos los Santos.

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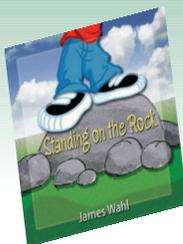
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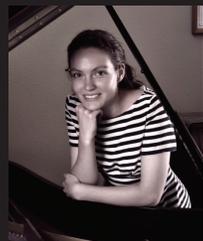
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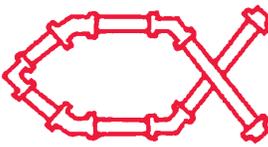
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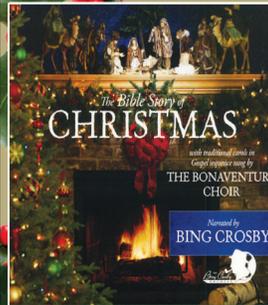
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# Information | Información

## St. Michael Parish | La Parroquia de San Miguel

458 Maple St, Livermore, CA 94550 Tel: 925-447-1585

StMichaelLivermore.com | StMichaelLivermore.com/español



Flocknote.com/sml



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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 smliv.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