



St. Michael Catholic Parish

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

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THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

*O God, you are my God whom I seek;
for you my flesh pines and my soul thirsts
like the earth, parched, lifeless and without water.*

Psalm 63:2



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NOVEMBER

2017

12

The Wise and Foolish Virgins

The story of the Foolish and the Wise Virgins can be difficult for us in the 21st century to fully appreciate. Not only do we not understand the wedding customs themselves, the actions of the Wise Virgins seem rather selfish: why wouldn't they just share with the Foolish Virgins and then everyone could go to the wedding and have a good time?

If the point of the story was to encourage sharing, then that's probably how Jesus would have ended it. But the point is to tell us that we must be patiently prepared for the coming of our bridegroom—Jesus himself.

The oil in the story represents the light of faith as it applies to good works and charity. And while there are many things we can do in pursuit of our spiritual life that we can share with others, there are certain things that we can do only for ourselves: things that build up the oil in our own lives—like reading the Scripture, attending Mass, and offering up our daily sacrifices. No one can do those things for us... and we can't do them for anyone else.

As we read this week's Gospel, we are reminded that although we are all invited to the wedding feast of the Lamb, we must do our part by being ready at all times to meet the bridegroom, who will come like "a thief in the night." We must make

sure that we have sufficient "oil" to light the lamps of our lives because no one can give us that "oil" at the last minute.

bolize, according to the presenter?

What are some of the things we can do to "increase our oil," i.e., grow in faith?



This wasn't an easy teaching to accept in Jesus' day, and it's no easier today. We all have the tendency to want to be recognized, to be important, to be respected. But Jesus says that if we want to be elevated in the sight of God, we need to humble ourselves in the sight of men. It is only when we recognize hypocrisy in ourselves and take steps to root it out that we can begin to allow the Holy Spirit to work in us, changing us and the world we live in.

Reflection & Discussion

Watch the short Opening the Word video on FORMED.org

What does the oil in this story sym-

Digging Deeper: Wedding Customs

Knowing a bit about ancient Jewish wedding customs is key to understanding some of the imagery in Jesus' teaching. In that time, a young man would pay a bride's father a sum of money and sign a betrothal contract. From that point on, the union can be dissolved only by divorce, but the couple does not live together. This is the state Mary and Joseph were in at the time of the Annunciation. During the time of betrothal, the groom prepares a place for his bride, often by adding a room onto his father's house. This may take up to seven years, during

which time the bride must be ever ready for his return, which always takes place at night. He will then come with great fanfare, accompanied by his family and friends to take his bride to their new residence.

Prayer for Patience

Since this week's Gospel reminds us that we wait in patient hope for our bridegroom, pray this prayer this week:

Teach me, my Lord, to be sweet and gentle in all the events of my life, in disappointments, in the thoughtlessness of others, in the insincerity of those I trusted, in the unfaithfulness of those on whom I relied. Let me forget myself so that I may enjoy the happiness of others. Let me always hide my little pains and heartaches so that I may be the only one to suffer from them. Teach me to profit by the suffering that comes across my path. Let me so use it that it may mellow

me, not harden or embitter me; that it may make me patient, not irritable; that it may make me broad in my forgiveness, not narrow or proud or overbearing. May no one be less good for having come within my influence; no one less pure, less true, less kind, less noble, for having been a fellow traveler with me on our journey towards eternal life. As I meet with one cross after another, let me whisper a word of love to You. May my life be lived in the supernatural, full of power for good, and strong in its purpose of sanctity.

Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration

One way we can "increase our oil," is to make spending time in the Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration chapel a regular weekly habit. Aside from receiving Holy Communion, there is nothing more spiritually nurturing than sitting in the presence of the Lord.

We are blessed to have our Lord exposed on the altar 24/7 in our chapel. You only need to be quiet and respectful. How you encounter the Lord during that time is entirely between you and Jesus. Some people pray the rosary, while others write in their journals. Some just simply sit quietly "basking" in the Lord's presence, while others listen to spiritual music through headphones to help their minds settle.

Just stop by any time. If you need the after hours code, please call Dennis in advance at 775-772-6369.

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

Gangland to Promised Land

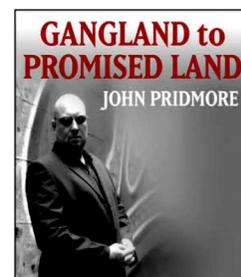
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Mass

Intentions

Saturday 11/11

- 8:30am Maria Sandoval †
Ruth Verhasset †
5:00pm Melanie Maher †
Helen Skibo †
7:00pm The Victims of Fires
James Carlisle Barringer

Sunday 11/12

- 6:45am Thomas Heise †
8:00am Dominic Dal Porto †
9:30am Nilda Vitalicia †
11:00am Curtis Agnes
Magna Flauta †
12:30pm Slegfried Forespreveer †
6:00pm Ann Kissane †

Monday 11/13

- 8:30am James Carlisle Barringer
Ramiro Rezendiz †
Sofia & Hector Hernandez †

Tuesday 11/14

- 8:30am Lillian Hart †
Ramiro Rezendiz †
Sophia & Hector Hernandez †

Wednesday 11/15

- 8:30am Lilian Manha †
Fredrico Francis Magno Duran
Richard Boerger †
7:00pm Mr & Mrs Urrutia †
Merdes & Edra †

Thursday 11/16

- 8:30am The Alarcon Family
Alan Winslow
Anastacio E. Gallardo
The Souls in Purgatory †

Friday 11/17

- 8:30am Sofia Ore †
Helen & Mike †
Abbott Lane †

Prayers & Devotion



Today's parable offers us a chance to place ourselves into the story in a particular way since all of us are like the virgins waiting for the groom.

Prayer:

Imagine that you are one of the wise virgins who has brought extra oil. One of the foolish virgins comes up to you and asks that you share your oil with her. How does this request make you feel? Do you want to share your oil, or are you annoyed that she didn't plan ahead? You tell her that you can't share and send her to the merchant to buy some. How do you feel as you watch her leave? Is she angry with you? Do you feel guilty or vindicated? What do you resolve to do after this experience?

Resolution:

This week, redo the Lectio Divina exercise, only this time, put yourself in the place of the foolish virgin.

Parish Prayer Requests:

Especially on Veterans Day, we remember and pray for the men and women in uniform who have protected our nation.



In thanksgiving for the generosity of this community, reflected in our weekly collection, the successful Clothing Drive and within our many ministries.

For those who are suffering in body, mind and spirit.

For the repose of the souls of Melanie Bumanlag, Kimberly Romero, Doris Ellenberger and all the souls in Purgatory.

Please send your prayer requests to Prayers@StMichaelLivermore.com

Thank You!

15,434 Pounds of Clothing Drive Success!

A tremendous thank you goes out to all who volunteered at the Clothing Drive for the Wine Country Fire Victims, and to those who donated.

Thanks to you, SAVERS accepted 15,434 pounds of clothing (to either sell in their thrift stores or to recycled them) and will give us \$3,086.80. In turn, we will give all of it to the Fire Recovery Program at Catholic Charities of Santa Rosa.

Advent Devotional Books

The "Little Books" for daily Advent prayers and reflections will be available in the church office foyer. Contact Maryann Johnston 925-447-5881

LifeTeen Reminder

We will not meet on November 19 and November 26. Enjoy your break and we will see you at Mass!

Collection Report

Thank you for your generous support of our parish!

11/5/17 Collection	\$23,355.78
Month-to-Date	\$23,355.78
Month Goal	\$86,274.51
Percentage Reached	27%
Faith Direct for Nov.	
Maintenance for Nov.	\$6,631.50

Fall Festival Success!

First of all, we want to thank the Parishioners for attending the Centennial Kickoff Festival, and we hope you enjoyed yourselves with family and friends to make lifetime memories! A Special Thank You goes out to our Sponsors, Committee, Ministries, Volunteers and Our Clergy! Without your help, we could not have had a more successful event. As a review, we really appreciate all of your feedback and support.

Our festival brought in over \$45,000 in additional funds that will support the improvement of our aging facili-

ties and growth of our faith formation programs

We hope to continue our tradition and see you again next year!

Sincerely,

Cynthia Garay
Festival Chair



Early Bulletin Deadlines for December

Due to the holiday vacation schedules of the Parish Communications Team, November 20 at 5:00 pm is the deadline to submit events and announcements for ALL December bulletins: December 3, 10, 17 and 24.

Please email your content to TinaGregory@StMichaelLivermore.com

Join Christmas Choir!

If you've been wanting to join a choir but were waiting for the right moment, NOW is the time! We are inviting everyone to join one of our choirs and start learning music for our upcoming Christmas celebrations.

Please contact JaNet Hancock, Director of Music, at music@StMichaelLivermore.com or 925-292-5071 for more information.

ALPHA in January!

ALPHA is an 11-week series where people meet for dinner, watch short video and have conversations about the basics of Christianity.

If you want to be a part of this exciting new ministry, come to an info meeting on Monday, November 6 at 7:00 pm in the Convent Inquiry Room or call Suzanne at 925-352-8447.

Christmas Ushers and Crossing Guards

On Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, our church is joyfully overflowing with people! Please think about which Mass you will attend, and sign up to serve by calling Dave and Natascha Parks at 925-371-2276 or talk to one of the ushers at Mass!

Around the Parish



Our teens reflected on All Saints and All Souls, and carved "Holy Jack-o-Lanterns."

Are you a high school student interested in joining this awesome group? Email Joseph at Youth@StMichaelLivermore.com



Paul Kuzmenko represented St. Vincent de Paul Society St. Michael's Conference in Rome for a symposium to celebrate 400 years of Vincentian Charism. Thank you, Paul, for bringing Livermore to a joyful crowd of 10,000 people from 99 countries!



Golden Friends had a blast at their monthly luncheon, and celebrated with a Halloween costume contest. See page 8 for the next Golden Friends events. Do you feel too young to join? Why not bring your mom or dad and enjoy lunch on us! Friday, November 17 at the Rock House. Please RSVP to Mary Pineda 925-784-1812.



Volunteers accepted tens of thousands of pounds of clothing from generous donors from all over Livermore and neighboring communities to raise funds for the Wine Country fire victims. Over \$3,000 was raised and will go directly to the Fire Recovery Program at Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Santa Rosa.

Share your pictures of St Michael Ministries in action!

Send to TinaGregory@StMichaelLivermore.com

This Week

MONDAY, NOV 13

St. Frances Xavier Cabrini

Readings: Wis 1:1-7; Ps 139:1b-10; Lk 17:1-6

Events:

Young Ladies' Institute meets at 1:30 pm in the Convent.

TUESDAY, NOV 14

Readings: Wis 2:23 -- 3:9; Ps 34:2-3, 16-19; Lk 17:7-10

Events:

CounterPoint Support Group at 7 pm in Room 22 for the family and friends of addicts.

WEDNESDAY, NOV 15

St. Albert the Great

Readings: Wis 6:1-11; Ps 82:3-4, 6-7; Lk 17:11-19

Events:

Confession at 2:30 pm in the Convent.

Inquiry Meeting at 7 pm in the Convent.

THURSDAY, NOV 16

St. Margaret of Scotland;

St. Gertrude

Readings: Wis 7:22b -- 8:1; Ps 119:89-91, 130, 135, 175; Lk 17:20-25

Suggestion:

The word "Eucharist" means "thanksgiving". Schedule time on your calendar to spend in the Adoration Chapel, where Jesus is present in the Eucharist.

FRIDAY, NOV 17

St. Elizabeth of Hungary

Readings: Wis 13:1-9; Ps 19:2-5ab; Lk 17:26-37

Events:

Golden Friends Lunch at 9:30 am at the Rock House. Feel too young to join? Why not bring your mom or dad and enjoy a complimentary lunch! RSVP: Mary Pineda 925-784-1812

SATURDAY, NOV 18

The Dedication of the Basilicas of Ss. Peter and Paul

Readings: Wis 18:14-16; 19:6-9; Ps 105:2-3, 36-37, 42-43; Lk 18:1-8

Events:

New Parishioner Potluck at 6:30 pm in the Convent.

SUNDAY, NOV 19

Readings: Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31; Ps 128:1-5; 1 Thes 5:1-6; Mt 25:14-30 [14-15, 19-21]

Events:

Donate a Turkey

Bring your un-cooked turkey to donate to the St Vincent de Paul Food Locker behind the church: 10 am - 2 pm and before and after the 5:00 pm Mass on Saturday, Nov 18 or before or after morning Mass Sunday, Nov 19.

Using Our Talents

In next Sunday's gospel, we will hear Jesus telling us that we must put our abilities at the service of the Master, God our Father. But before we can do that, we have to discern what our gifts are.

Parish Wide Study

SESSION 10: THE LAST THINGS WHAT HAPPENS AFTER WE DIE?

What does the Church really teach about death, judgment, Heaven, and Hell? THIS SESSION WILL COVER: • The particular judgment of each soul at the moment of death • Hell: what it is, and why, if we fail to repent, we will be separated from God forever • Heaven, the perfect communion of life and love with the Trinity • Purgatory, the purification some need before entering into full communion with God • Why Catholics pray for the dead.

This week, watch the 30-minute video **Symbolon: Knowing the Faith, Session 10**. Access the Symbolon video study series free from any browser at FORMED.org. Get your free account using parish code **P4XNPZ**

Upcoming Events

Parish Offices Closed Thurs, Nov 23 & Fri, Nov 24

In observance of Thanksgiving.

Mass at 8:30 am as usual.

Please sign up for an hour in the Perpetual Adoration Chapel at Adoration@StMichaelLivermore.com

Deacon Dave's Lights Fri, Dec 1

Deacon Dave's famous light display will open with a colorful Christmas Procession down Hillcrest Ave from Fordham Way to the House of the Dove where opening ceremonies will take place. Deacon Dave is attempting to break last years Light Count. Will he do it? What do you think the Light Count will be?

Hours of Operation

Sun – Thurs: 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Fri-Sat: 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm

Christmas Eve: 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm

Christmas Night: 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm

Dec 26 to Jan 1: 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Deacon Dave's Anniversary Celebration

Sat, Dec 2 at 5 pm Mass

Come celebrate Deacon Dave's 35th Ordination Anniversary and his retirement from the position as Diocesan Representative and Director of Personnel after 22 years of service. (No, he's NOT retiring from St Michael's!) Reception to follow in the newly remodeled Hall!

Parish Hall Grand Opening & Blessing Sat, Dec 2, 6:15 pm

At long last, the Parish Hall will be officially reopened! Are you curious what it looks like now?

Join us in blessing the newly remodeled Parish Hall after the 5:00 pm Mass.

There will be a reception in celebration of the new hall and Deacon Dave's 35th Ordination Anniversary.

Golden Friends Black Oak Casino Trip Wed, Dec 6

Join us for a day of fun and games! We will leave St Michael's at 8:00 am and return at 5:00 pm. The cost is \$27 per person. Reserve your seat by Nov 17 by contacting Wilma at 925-447-8198.

Nativity Display Sun, Dec 10

The Italian Catholic Federation will display nativity scenes from all over the world at St Elizabeth Seton, 4001 Stoneridge Dr, Pleasanton, on 12/10 from 9:00 am-8:00 pm.

Got Questions? Alpha is Coming January 9

Come enjoy a free dinner and ask questions about the basics of Christianity. No pressure. Just a safe place to enjoy a meal and have a conversation! Save Tuesday, January 9 on your calendar.

Giving Thanks

"Give thanks in all circumstances" (1 Thes. 5:18). As Catholics, we have a preeminent source of our thanksgiving in the Eucharist. In fact, the word "Eucharist" itself means "thanksgiving"! This month, may we be especially grateful for the gift of the Most Holy Eucharist.

This month, explore movies, study videos, audio talks and books about the Eucharist on FORMED.org.





Symbolon, Conociendo la Fe: Sesión 10 – Las Últimas Cuatro Cosas

¿Qué enseña la Iglesia sobre la muerte,
el juicio, el cielo y el infierno?

En algún momento de nuestras vidas todos nos haremos estas preguntas. A menos que, y hasta que tomemos estas cosas en serio, nuestra vida aquí en la tierra carecerá de sentido y enfoque.



FORMED

RECOMENDACIONES ADICIONALES

- ECHO: Lección 13
- Amado: El Amor Revelado

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

NO SER TONTO

¿Qué significa ser tonto? ¿Qué significa ser inteligente? Todos nosotros podemos nombrar una ocasión o dos en la que hayamos hecho algo tonto. No nos detuvimos a considerar las consecuencias de nuestras acciones o de lamentarnos al final por esas acciones. Sin embargo, el tipo de tonterías que aquí estamos considerando, es más que un simple comportamiento impulsivo que tiene consecuencias eternas. Ser ignorante ante los ojos de Dios es ignorar sus caminos los cuales nos enseñan cómo debemos comportarnos, ante Dios, nuestros prójimos y nosotros mismos. Las cinco jóvenes vírgenes no fallaron en cumplir sus responsabilidades, sino que fallaron en lo que no hicieron. Como ellas, fallamos en estar listos para el encuen-

tro con nuestro Señor, ya sea por lo que no hacemos o por lo que hacemos. En estas últimas semanas del año litúrgico se nos urge hacer un balance. ¿Quiénes somos, quiénes no somos, viviendo como unas personas con una fe que dirige nuestras vidas? ¿Somos tontos por los pecados que comentamos o por cosas que no hicimos? ¿Cuidamos nuestros prójimos o a nosotros mismos como deberíamos? ¿O actuamos como si tuviéramos todo el tiempo del mundo para encaminarnos y andar por la ruta de Cristo de misericordia, perdón, justicia, amor y paz? ¿Fallamos en reconocer que el discipulado cristiano es un camino para la vida?

La Misa en latin re- gres a San Miguel en enero

La Misa tradicional en latin volverá a San Miguel, en el segundo domingo de cada mes, a las 8:00 AM., desde enero a junio. Esto es parte de los festejos del 100 aniversario de nuestra iglesia, y una oportunidad para celebrar la misa de la misma manera que las personas lo hicieron en esta Iglesia de San Miguel durante años. Es también una oportunidad, para que nuestras diversas culturas étnicas se unan en adoración. Tendremos misales disponibles con traducción del latin al español, para que podamos seguir las oraciones en latin.

Registracion de Flocknote

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SÉ SABIO, PREPÁRATE

La urgencia de estar listo para la venida de Cristo no tiene la intensidad de espantarnos, sino al contrario, de enfocar nuestra atención en cosas que importan. La sabiduría consiste en buscar a Dios en todas las cosas. Como el salmista, la persona sabia ora diciendo "mi alma está sedienta de ti, Señor" (Salmo 63:2b). El camino de Cristo no está escondido para nosotros, como si fuera un juego de busca y encuentra. "Se deja contemplar rápidamente" (Sabiduría 6:12) por todos los que aman a Dios. Conocemos los Diez Mandamientos, las Beatitudes, el mandamiento de Jesús de lavar los pies uno al otro, amar y servir con corazones alegres. Comportarse correctamente es ser sabio, y aquellas personas que sean sabias estarán listas.

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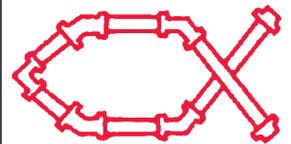
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Mass | Misa

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

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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

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