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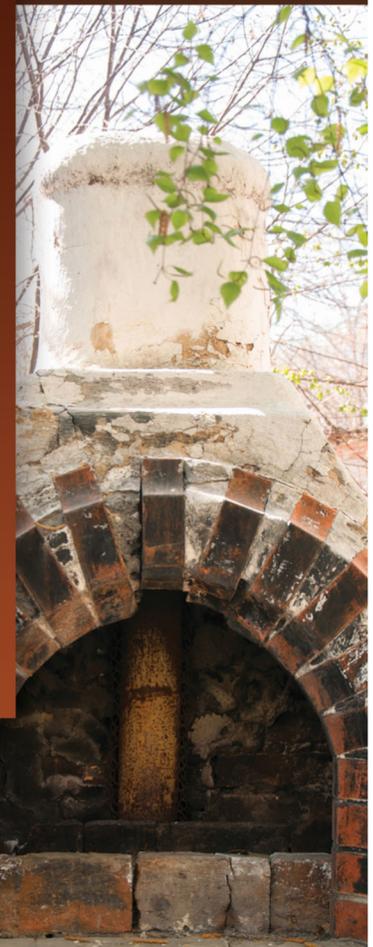


November
17
2019

**THIRTY-THIRD
SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

Lo, the day
is coming,
blazing like
an oven,
when all the
proud and
all evildoers
will be stubble.

Malachi 3:19



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Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass
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Summary

As you begin your study on the readings for the Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, reflect on one particular difficulty or trial you are currently undergoing, and offering up that pain to Jesus.

In this week's Gospel reading, Jesus speaks of scary things—wars, famines, persecution, plagues, earthquakes, and signs falling from the skies. Yet in the midst of his warnings about the judgment coming on earth and the persecution his followers will face, Jesus exhorts his disciples, "By your perseverance you will secure your lives."

Perseverance is the key. Will the disciples remain faithful to Jesus when their faith is tested most—when they face trials, sufferings, and even persecution? For first-century Christians who might be hated for the sake of their faith in Christ, the words of Jesus would provide reassurance and hope. Jesus will always strengthen and comfort those who persevere in faith. And we can rest in this same hope today.

Just as the early Christians persevered in times of trial, so too are we called to persevere in the daily crosses the world might inflict upon Christ's followers today. While not all of us are called to literally die for the faith like the early Christian martyrs did, we all are called to die to ourselves in many little ways each day through the sacrifices we make for our faith and by persevering

through the misunderstanding, ridicule, and even hostility we might face for remaining faithful to Christ in our secular world today.

Unpack the First Reading Malachi 3:19-20a

Malachi, a name which means "my messenger," is the last word of the Old Testament as it falls last in the canon of its books. Writing about 400 years before



PERSISTENCE IN TIMES OF TRIAL

the coming of Christ, Malachi has some scathing things to say about the irreverence of the worship and immorality of the actions of the priests and people of Israel after the return from Babylonian exile. God threatens to throw dung in the faces of the priests for offering defective sacrifices and not teaching the true doctrine of the covenant. He chastises the laity for being unfaithful to their marital covenants and for cheating the poor.

That's the setting for our reading which speaks of the Day of the Lord, described as "blazing like an oven." This section of Malachi begins in 3:16 and is directed to "those who fear the Lord." These

are the ones who'll be spared God's wrath and enjoy the "sun of justice." Malachi leaves us with this beautiful and consoling image. As with all of the prophets, judgment always finishes with mercy.

Unpack the Second Reading 2 Thessalonians 3:7-12

One of the wonderful characteristics of Christianity is that it's a livable creed. God intends that all be saved and so he has revealed to us a way of living that's moderate and ordered and which doesn't crush human nature, but rather brings it to its fullest flower.

Paul is believed to have been a tentmaker by trade. In this portion of Paul's letter to the Thessalonians, he counsels them on the value of labor; of simply doing the business at hand in a quiet and industrious manner. Part of this same reading appears in the Lauds or Morning Prayer for the first Monday in the four-week cycle of Psalms in the Liturgy of the Hours; the official prayer of the Church. So the first workday in the Church's official prayer book gives us this encouragement to make our labor a prayer to the creator who labored in creating the cosmos and then, as a carpenter in Nazareth, and finally, to give us eternal life by bearing the cross to Calvary.

Unpack the Gospel Luke 21:5-19

Jesus gives a warning in outline form that elaborates on the prophecy he uttered in Luke 19:41-44 about the fall of the

Temple. The importance of that event owes much to the symbolism represented in the construction of the Temple and its significance to the Jewish people. The Jews believed that God had designated the Temple Mount in Jerusalem as the place where he had specifically directed that his name would be hallowed. Jewish lore held that the Temple rested at the center of the universe and at a place where heaven, earth, and the underworld intersected. The Temple was constructed in three parts (Outer Court, Holy Place, and Holy of Holies) which corresponded to the three great divisions of creation (water above the heavens, land, and the water around the land). The Temple was a kind of microcosm, a universe miniature.

When Jesus foretells its destruction, he's in effect saying that the old world is passing away and that time is pregnant with a new age which is about to come to birth. That new age is the kingdom of God, the New Covenant in Christ. That's the world we inhabit as Catholics, citizens of that kingdom, and heirs of that covenant.

Reflect & Discuss

In our world today, suffering (of any kind) is seen as the greatest of evils and is to be avoided at all costs. Jesus, however, calls us to face the trials that may come our way with courage. Take some time by yourself right now and reflect on a troubling area in your life. Are you approaching that difficulty with confidence and hope in the Lord or with discouragement, frustration, or despair? Watch the short Opening the Word video found at FORMED.org, then ponder these questions:

According to the video presenter, Jules Miles, how was cataclysmic imagery about earthquakes, plagues, and stars falling from the sky used in the Old Testament? What changes with Jesus' use of the imagery? If you were a Jew during the time of Christ, what would you interpret the "end of times" to mean? Knowing this, why do you think the Church uses these readings when it does in the liturgical calendar?

The message of today's Gospel

reading is meant to inspire hope in those who hear it. Why were early Christians in need of this message? Why is this message applicable for us today, too? How are we also called to respond by this Gospel message?

Digging Deeper: Christ's Love Conquers All!

"What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword?...No, in all these things we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

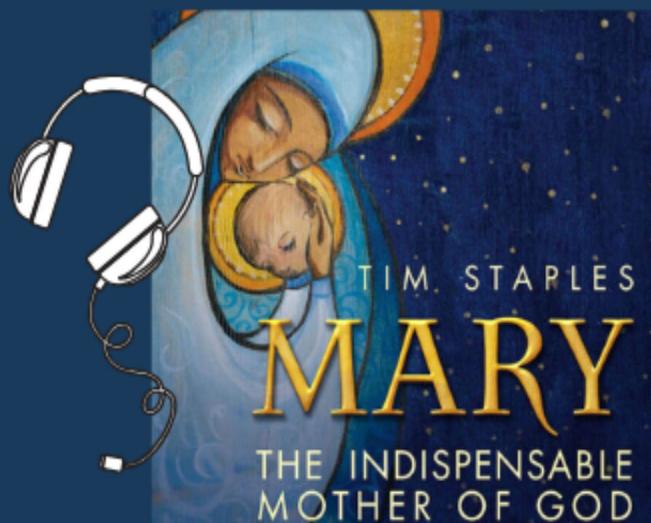
—Romans 8:35, 37-39

Reprinted with permission from Augustine Institute from the Opening the Word Leader Guide available on FORMED.org

LISTEN FREE!

Tim Staples explains the incredible impact that the Church's understanding of Mary has on our spiritual lives, and the profound way that Marian doctrines and dogmas safeguard what we believe about her Son.

Go to formed.org and listen to **Mary: The Indispensable Mother of God.**



Pray Throughout the Week

Mass Intentions

Saturday 11/16

8:30am George Dumanon †
Juanita Sanchez †
5:00pm Leo & Annie Smith †
7:00pm Jose Sanchez Valencia

Sunday 11/17

6:45am Patrick Allen † and family
8:00am Cheryl Ruth †
9:30am Sally Herbert
Dominic & Laura De Sante
11:00am Nevea Rios Rodriguez †
Maria Ledezma & family
12:30pm Mass for Our Parish
6:00pm Teresa & Domingo Bautista †

Monday 11/18

8:30am Marie Ott †

Tuesday 11/19

8:30am Phillis Montana †

Wednesday 11/20

8:30am Russ Mueller †
7:00pm Jean Kruger †
Sergio Soto Valencia

Thursday 11/21

8:30am Ramu Ramanathan †

Friday 11/22

8:30am James Kane †

To request a Mass intention, please visit the Church Office in person.

It is customary to offer a \$10 donation for each Mass intention. This stipend is given to the priest who celebrates the Mass.



Prayer Meditation

Prayerfully consider the words of Jesus in today's Gospel passage: "By your perseverance, you will secure your lives." Imagine Jesus speaking those words specifically to you. To what situation in your life right now might Jesus' exhortation for you to persevere in faith apply the most? Is there a certain trial or difficulty in your life where you are wavering in your trust in the Lord? How might perseverance in faith and greater trust in God help you find greater security in your life?

Resolution

In prayer, consider that particular area of your life where you are struggling. Ask Jesus to show you at least one specific way you can live out his teaching to persevere in faith in that area, and ask him for the grace to help you to do that this week.

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



Church: A Place for Conversation with God

And Jesus began to teach and say to them, "Is it not written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations'?"

—Matthew 21:13

Dear St Michael Family,

The word "church" comes from the Greek *ekklesia*, meaning "the called-out ones" or "the people set apart". This original definition refers to the body of believers, or the body of Christ. When using the word "church" to mean the building, this same Greek root means a Christian place of worship where the "called out ones" come together to pray, to participate in public acts of devotion, to celebrate sacraments and for the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, which is the highest form of prayer in the Church.

Most protestant churches or other non-denominational congregations use their worship space for relational ministry – connecting and visiting with friends – praise, worship, bible lessons and public events. Because their worship does not include the Eucharist, the Real Presence of Jesus, it is the norm to gather for conversation and socialization inside the place of worship.

On the other hand, Roman Catholic, Greek Orthodox, Coptic, Armenian Churches and other Eastern Catholic churches where Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist are dead serious about silence and prayer inside the Church.

The Eucharist makes all the difference in our behavior and focus. Our church is a place of prayer, for conversation with our God who is present. Our church is no place for conversation and socializing. I hope that we can transform our habits here at St Michael's, as a good tradition and practice at all times.

Here are some practical tips to form a good habit of making our church as a worship space truly for prayer:

“
Our church is
a place of
prayer
for conversation
with our God
who is present.



1. Inside the church, a quick hello or wave to recognize the other person or a friend is enough of a gesture to connect with people and to welcome our brethren worshipping with us.

2. Come early or stay late to visit in the breezeway and courtyard. Socialize and welcome new faces and share pleasantries with old time friends.

3. If you prefer, prepare for Sunday Mass by joining our public Rosary devotion before Mass inside the Church.

4. When you are at church for Mass or other occasions such as baptisms, weddings, funerals, penance services, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and parish mission talks, always remember that you are there to converse with God first. God first, others second. Set a holy example for those who may not know better.

5. During quincenara and wedding rehearsals and during funeral vigil services in the church, families and guests must maintain the church as a place of prayer. Any unnecessary conversation pertaining to the event must be done in the vestibule or the breezeway or in the courtyard.

At first, people may think that silent reverence inside the church creates an anti-social environment. Yet what we will all learn is that people don't socialize with one another in church because they are busy socializing with God! Also, by socializing outside, we will make a more visible witness to our friendliness where it is appropriate to make new friends.

I thank you in advance for keeping our Church a place for Conversation with God.

May God bless you and your families,

Fr. Carl

Reminders for the Week

Next Week

- Mass in Vietnamese on Sunday, November 24 at 3:30 pm
- New Lector Training on Monday, November 25 at 6:30 pm in the Church

Thanksgiving Day

- Mass at 8:30 am and 10:00 am. Bring bread and beverages in a basket for a blessing!
- Adoration Chapel closes after the 8:30 am Mass and reopens on Friday at 7:00 am.
- Parish Offices closed on Wednesday, November 27 at noon and will reopen on Monday, December 2.

DONATE A TURKEY OR HAM

Saturday, November 23, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
and after the weekend Masses November 23 & 24

St Vincent de Paul Food Locker
Behind St Michael Church



THANKSGIVING MASS

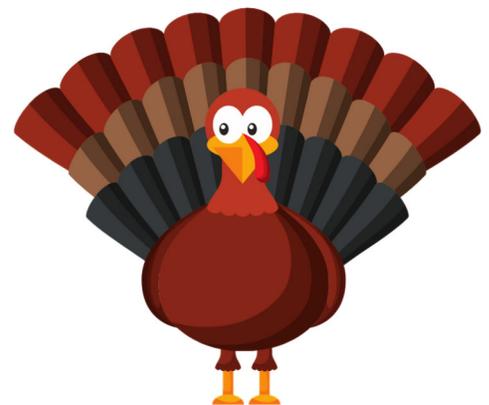
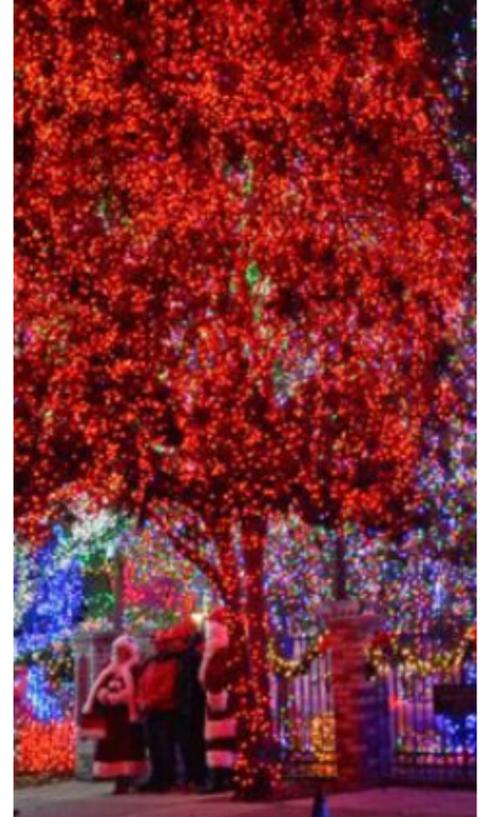
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28
8:30 AM AND 10:00 AM

Bring the bread and beverages for
your family feast in a basket for a
special blessing



Deacon Dave's

Casa del Pomba
Christmas Display
Grand Opening
Saturday, November 30
6:30 pm
352 Hillcrest Avenue



Advent Events



Why Church Matters

November 28 through December 19, videos delivered via email

Reflect on the importance of Church in this series by Bishop Robert Barron clicking the link in the Friday Flocknote or by contacting Tina Gregory 925-667-4051 Adult@StMichaelLivermore.com

Drive Through Prayer

December 2 through 20, Monday-Friday, 5:30–6:30 pm

We invite anyone in the Livermore area, regardless of faith, to drive up to our courtyard to receive prayer.

Advent Reconciliation

Wednesdays, December 4, 11 and 18

Exposition starting at 5:30 pm in the Church

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament begins at 5:30 pm, followed by individual (bilingual) confessions (4 priests available). Drop in or stay through benediction at 7:00 pm. Mass in Spanish will begin at 7:15 pm.

XLT [Exalt]

Friday, December 6 at 7:00 pm in the Church

Praise, Worship, Adoration and Reflections for youth and families.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration

December 12

4:30 am Mananitas followed by 5:00 am Mass in Spanish.

8:30 am Mass in English.

7:00 pm Mass in Spanish.

Simbang Gabi

December 16 to 24, Mass at 5:30 am in the Church

Celebrate the traditional Filipino novena of Masses leading up to Christmas. Reception and fellowship follows in the Hall.

Las Posadas

December 18 to December 23 at 7:00 pm in the Hall*

Experience the reenactment of Mary and Joseph searching for a place to stay in Bethlehem. Piñatas, chocolate, tamales, ponche, bread, and more to follow! *Dec 21st is at 8:00 pm, after Mass.





More Advent Confession Times

AT NEARBY PARISHES
VIEW AT:
STMICHAELLIVERMORE.COM/CONFESSION

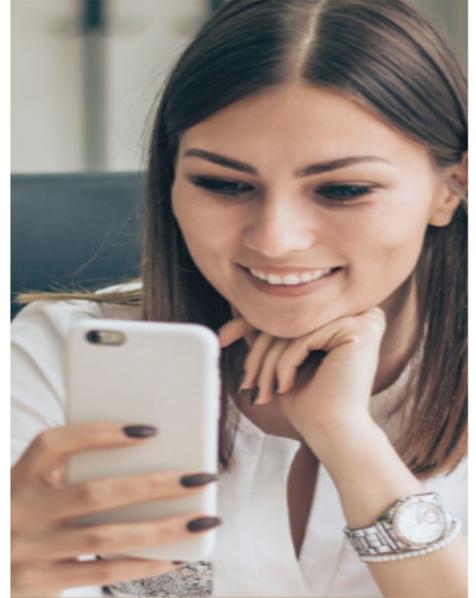
Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve

3:00 pm: English
5:00 pm: Children's Mass
7:00 pm: English
9:00 pm: Spanish
11:30 pm: Carols followed by
Midnight Mass

Christmas Day

6:45 am: English
8:00 am: English
8:15 am: Spanish in the Hall
9:30 am: English
9:45 am: English in the Hall
11:00 am: English
11:15 am: English in the Hall
12:30 pm: Spanish



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Holy Day of Obligation Mass Times

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

December 31

6:00 pm in English, 7:30 pm in Spanish

January 1

7:00 am, 8:30 am, 12:15 pm and 6:00 pm English
7:30 pm in Spanish



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LinC Retreat [Life in Christ]

A Weekend for Teens to Encounter Christ
January 17-19

REGISTER NOW youth@StMichaelLivermore.com

Mensaje de la semana del Padre Carl



Iglesia: un lugar para conversar con Dios

Y Jesús comenzó a enseñar y a decirles: "¿No está escrito: "Mi casa será llamada casa de oración para todas las naciones"? - Mateo 21:13

Querida familia de San Miguel,

La palabra "iglesia" proviene del griego ekklesia, que significa "los llamados" o "las personas llamadas". Esta definición original se refiere al cuerpo de creyentes, o al cuerpo de Cristo. Cuando se usa la palabra "iglesia" para referirse al edificio, esta misma raíz griega significa un lugar de culto cristiano donde los "llamados" se unen para rezar, participar en actos públicos de devoción, celebrar los sacramentos y el Santo Sacrificio de la Misa, que es la forma más alta de oración en la Iglesia.

La mayoría de las iglesias protestantes u otras congregaciones usan su espacio de adoración para el ministerio relacional - conectando y visitando con amigos - alabanza, adoración, lecciones bíblicas y eventos públicos. Debido a que su adoración no incluye la Eucaristía, la Presencia Real de Jesús, es la norma reunirse para conversar y socializar dentro del lugar de adoración.

Por otro lado, las iglesia católica romana, ortodoxa griega, copta, armenia y otras iglesias católicas orientales en las que Jesús está realmente presente en la Eucaristía se toman muy en serio el silencio y la oración dentro de la Iglesia.

La Eucaristía hace toda la diferen-

cia en nuestro comportamiento y enfoque. Nuestra iglesia es un lugar de oración, para conversar con nuestro Dios que está presente. Nuestra iglesia no es el lugar para conversar y socializar. Espero que podamos transformar nuestros hábitos aquí en San Miguel, con una buena tradición y práctica en todo momento.

Aquí hay algunos consejos prácticos para formar un buen hábito para hacer que nuestra iglesia sea



Nuestra iglesia es un lugar de **oración** para conversar con nuestro Dios que está presente.



un espacio de adoración verdaderamente de oración:

1. Dentro de la iglesia, un buen saludo rápido o un saludo para reconocer a la otra persona o amigo es un gesto suficiente para conectarse con las personas y dar la bienvenida a nuestros hermanos que adoran con nosotros.

2. Venga temprano o quédese hasta tarde para visitar en la vereda y en el patio. Socialize y de la bienvenida a caras nuevas y comparta bromas con amigos de antaño.

3. Si lo prefiere, prepárese para la misa dominical uniéndose a nuestra devoción pública del rosario antes de la misa dentro de la Igle-

sia.

4. Cuando esté en la iglesia para Misa u otras ocasiones, como bautizos, bodas, funerales, servicios de penitencia, Adoración del Santísimo Sacramento y charlas misioneras parroquiales, recuerde siempre que está allí para conversar con Dios primero. Dios primero, otros después. Dé un ejemplo sagrado para aquellos que quizás no sepan.

5. Durante los ensayos de quincenaria y bodas y durante los servicios de vigilia funeraria en la iglesia, las familias y los invitados deben mantener la iglesia como un lugar de oración. Cualquier conversación innecesaria relacionada con el evento debe llevarse a cabo en el vestíbulo o en el corredor o en el patio.

Al principio, la gente puede pensar que la reverencia silenciosa dentro de la iglesia crea un ambiente anti-social. ¡Sin embargo, lo que todos aprenderemos es que las personas no socializan entre sí en la iglesia porque están ocupadas socializando con Dios! Además, al socializar afuera, daremos un testimonio más visible de nuestra amistad donde sea apropiado hacer nuevos amigos.

Les agradezco de antemano por mantener a nuestra Iglesia como un lugar para conversar con Dios.

Que Dios los bendiga a ustedes y a sus familias.

El p. Carl

ST. MICHAEL

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Information | Información

St. Michael Parish | La Parroquia de San Miguel

458 Maple St, Livermore, CA 94550 925-447-1585 StMichaelLivermore.com

Pastoral Emergencies | Emergencias Pastorales 925-521-4117



Flocknote.com



@StMichaelLivermore



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@StMichael94550

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. 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