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Where we Celebrate the Sacraments, Grow Disciples,
and Bring Christ to People.

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ABOVE JESUS ON THE
CROSS THERE WAS AN
INSCRIPTION THAT READ,

*“This is the
King of the Jews.”*

Luke 23:38

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NOVEMBER 24, 2019
OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST,
KING OF THE UNIVERSE

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Summary

Last week we heard the Gospel about the end times and learned that, instead of fear, we are to interpret that message as one of hope and encouragement. Today we celebrate the Feast of Christ the King.

What is your image of a king? Among other things, you probably think of power and splendor when you think of royalty. The first-century Jews had some very specific expectations concerning the messiah, the anointed king, about whom the prophets spoke. And so when some gazed upon Jesus hanging on the cross, they laughed at the idea that this could be the longed-for messiah.

Jesus was mocked by his fellow Jews, the thief who was crucified with him, and the Roman soldiers as well. His apparent weakness and disgrace on the cross were the very antithesis of the worldly idea of a king. But for Luke and the other early Christians, this crucifixion scene is the perfect image of Christ as King: The cross is the throne from which Jesus rules as the King of Love. His death is his loving gift to us.

From the cross Christ invites us to share in his reign. We participate in his kingship by sacrificing ourselves in love—by caring for the weak and the sick, by helping those in need, by sharing our

time and our very selves with those around us. In the end, love itself proves to be stronger than even death. In the end, Love itself reigns forever.

Unpack the First Reading 2 Samuel 5:1-3

It's not surprising that the Church gives us this reading about King David on this solemnity of Christ the King. Jesus is the Son of David as well as the Son of God and the inheritor of

the throne of that illustrious King of Israel.

David became king of Judah at age thirty, the age at which Jesus' public ministry began. He reigned as king of Israel for thirty-three years, the age at which Jesus died and also the length of his reign as messiah. One other interesting parallel between David and Jesus is that Jesus is referred to frequently as the Bridegroom in the New Testament. In this reading, before David is anointed (made "messiah") and covenanted to Israel, those present say, "Here we are, your bone and your flesh." There's a clear resonance between these words and the words of Adam when he beholds his bride, Eve, in Genesis 2:23, "This one, at last, is bone of

my bones/and flesh of my flesh." In becoming king of Israel, David likewise weds Israel in a symbolic marital covenant. All of this points to the eventual marriage between Christ the King and the new Israel, his bride, the Church.

Unpack the Second Reading Colossians 1:12-20

St Paul gives us a beautiful description of Christ's kingship and how we've been made heirs of the kingdom which he inaugurated through redemption and the forgiveness of our sins. His kingship allows us to not only be priests and prophets, but also kings, by virtue of our anointing in Baptism. In the Christological canticle that finishes this reading, we see a very clear profession of the apostolic faith in Christ's preexistence as the eternal Word through whom everything was made.

We need only read the full context of St. Paul's canticle to recognize that he teaches the divinity of Christ, who is creator not creature. It's only as the divine Son that Jesus can be "firstborn" of the divine Father. As man, he's firstborn of the dead by his resurrection. Christ came as man, St. Paul tells us, "that in all things he himself might be preeminent." So Jesus' kingship is the fruit of his divinity but is also exercised in his humanity. He's the divine king of all creation and the Davidic king of the New Israel into which the Father wills that all of creation be drawn.



Unpack the Gospel Luke 23:35-43

This is an odd king who hangs in public disgrace on a cross to receive the jeers and derision of crowds and criminals. The Romans hung a sign above his head to that effect, intended as cruel irony, but which speaks the honest truth. They meant to say to the Jews, "You're slaves and so this one, dying the death of a slave, is a fitting king for you." They didn't realize that we're all slaves to sin and that only the death of this innocent king of slaves could free us.

The centurion at the foot of the cross recognized Christ's innocence, but it took a convicted criminal to pierce the heart of the mystery of Christ's odd kingship, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." There was never a more profound act of faith than that. Imagine the depth of faith needed to see in the man mocked, beaten, and dying as one who would rule as king. Yet this thief, and innumerable sinners since, has received the grace to see in this one dying the death of a slave as their Lord and king. Sinners often understand it best.

Reflect & Discuss

Please take just a few moments to watch the Opening the Word video found at FORMED.org. Then reflect and discuss these questions:

1. In his reflection, the presenter says that for Luke and the early Christians, the cross is the throne from which Jesus rules as king. How does this idea of the cross as a throne fit with the world's image or expectations of a king? In what ways is the cross an appropriate throne for Christ the king?
2. The presenter said that Jesus invites us to share in his reign of love. How do you see Jesus inviting you to participate? Do you see yourself already sharing in his reign? If so, how? If not, what might you do to start sharing in it?
3. The Jews and Romans both mocked Jesus for expressing his kingship through sacrificial love. Have you experienced mocking for following Jesus? How can we respond to this attitude of the world?

Digging Deeper Called to Kingly Service

"Now Christ has communicated this royal power to his disciples that they might be constituted in royal freedom and that by true penance and a holy life they might conquer the reign of sin in themselves. Further, he has shared this power so that serving Christ in their fellow men they might by humility and patience lead their brethren to that king for whom to serve is to reign. But the Lord wishes to spread his kingdom also by means of the laity, namely, a kingdom of truth and life, a kingdom of holiness and grace, a kingdom of justice, love, and peace. In this kingdom, creation itself will be delivered from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the sons of God. Clearly then a great promise and a great trust is committed to the disciples: "All things are yours, and you are Christ's, and Christ is God's."

—Vatican II *Lumen Gentium*, 36

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



Who is Jesus?

Just a Good Man or Lord of Our Lives?

No one has ever had a greater impact on the world than Jesus of Nazareth—and the question of Jesus's identity is central to our faith.

Watch this episode of *Symbolon: The Catholic Faith Explained* on FORMED.org

Pray Throughout the Week

Mass Intentions

Saturday 11/23

8:30am Patrick Allen † & Family

5:00pm John & Jose Aflague †

7:00pm Arturo Soto & Family

Sunday 11/24

6:45am Mr & Mrs Robert Simpson

8:00am Mary Cao Thi Ly & Family

9:30am Helen Makepeace †
Robert Makepeace

11:00am Cheryl Ruth †

12:30pm Mass for Our Parish

6:00pm Cristiano Santos Mendes †

Monday 11/25

8:30am Kenneth Gels †

Tuesday 11/26

8:30am Anna Maria Peralo †
Mary Milne

Wednesday 11/27

8:30am Remedios Mojica Gan †

7:00pm Ray Vidal †
Ray Villanueva Vidal, Sr. †

Thursday 11/28

8:30am Mass for Our Parish

10:00am Mass for Our Parish

Friday 11/29

8:30am Russell Jack Mueller †

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

Imagine that, like the good thief, you enter into paradise and see Christ sitting on his throne in heaven. What does he look like? What are the surroundings like? How do you feel as you approach? What do you say to him? Now Christ is stepping down from his throne to greet you. What does he say to you? What do you feel as he approaches you? Ask him how you can more fully acknowledge him as king in your life and participate in his reign of love.

Resolution

This week do one thing to acknowledge Jesus as the King of your life.

In Thanksgiving

Prayers of thanksgiving for a successful Alpha Course, where the Holy Spirit showered graces upon our guests and team!

Prayer Team

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

Fr Carl's Message of the Week



Advent Challenge: Introduce a Friend to Jesus

Dear St Michael Family,

The best Evangelization does not start with a parish program, module, Bible study or a book club. It starts when we immerse ourselves in the daily lives of other people. It is our personal witness to our Faith as we encounter another person. For me as your pastor, it is to be there to lead and to provide the sacraments you need to grow in holiness. It is to be a witness to my call to service, celibacy and simplicity of life. For you as members of the lay faithful, it is for you to witness to your baptismal call wherever you are, to pray and serve as followers of Jesus and as sons and daughters of the Church.

As we approach the Season of Advent (the new liturgical year for the Catholic Church) and as we prepare to celebrate the Incarnation of Most Holy God in and through the Birth of Jesus our Messiah and Savior, I have a simple (but maybe not easy) challenge for each of us this year:

Introduce a friend to Jesus!

He or she could be your office-mate, a friend, a member of your family, your acquaintance in the gym or someone you meet in the street, grocery store, restaurant or wherever you are. Get a new family for St. Michael Parish and for our School. Let us concentrate all our energy this year to bring someone or a family member or a soul to Jesus.

Imagine the effect of this on our

parish. If each one of you who goes to Mass makes it a rule or challenge in your life to focus on someone this year to evangelize, to talk about the Word of God, to invite to Alpha for dinner, to talk about what is going on in our parish and in our lives, to pray for each other and to have fun together with food, wine and our life stories. This could create an enormous impact in our parish and school. Just one soul, just one more family, someone each year to bring to Jesus.



Some Fun Facts:

According to a Facebook survey, the average number of Facebook friends per user is 338. Half of internet users who do not use Facebook themselves live with someone who does!

In a Gallup poll, conducted Dec. 11-14, 2003 found that, on average, Americans have nine "close friends" not including their relatives.

I am sure most of us have friends and members of our family who

are not active in their Catholic faith. The harvest is great! The opportunity is good. Why look somewhere else? Why depend so much in a program or a module to evangelize? The best means is in your heart, your speech and your way of life as a practicing Catholic and a follower of Jesus.

St Mother Teresa of Calcutta, inspired by St. Therese of Lisieux, the Little Flower said, "Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love."

I realized that sometimes our bishops and brother priests are caught up with many plans, mission programs and schemes on how to get people involved and to participate in the church mission and to grow as disciples. We don't see that the best answer and solution is YOU. It's ME. It's US ... The baptized in Christ called to witness and live out the Gospel of Joy.

So, this Advent and Christmas Seasons, God beckons us, challenges us and invites us. Not really a big and complicated mission that needs logistics and volunteers... A simpler, holy task and mission - Get a friend or a family for Jesus and for St. Michael's. Let us do this every year. Let us pray for a friend or someone whom we could bring to Jesus.

Hail Christ the King! A blessed Advent to all of us!

Fr. Carl



Reminders for the Week

Monday, November 25

Lector Training in the Church at 6:30 pm. Register at StMichaelLivermore.com/Lectors

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.

Saturday, November 30

Deacon Dave's Casa del Pombo Christmas Display Grand Opening at 6:30 pm, 352 Hillcrest Avenue.

Collection Report

Thank you for your continued financial support of St Michael Parish. Your offerings make it possible for our parish to forward the mission of celebrating the sacraments, growing disciples and bringing Christ to people.

11/17/19 Collection	\$17,313.97
Month-to-Date	\$59,745.58
Month Goal	\$87,058.82
Percentage Reached	69%
Faith Direct	\$8,222.00
Maintenance (for Nov)	\$9,357.02



Upcoming Events

Claim Your Latin Heritage!

Join the New St Michael Latin Mass Society

Wednesday, December 4 at 7 pm in the Convent

Join us for the first meeting of the Latin Mass Society, aimed at helping Catholics deepen their prayer life by learning about Latin in prayer, worship and the history of the Church. This Society is open to anyone who'd like to learn more about Latin in Catholicism and its use at St. Michael Parish. For more information, contact Morry Aufderheide at mbaufderheideiii@gmail.com.

Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, December 8, 7:30 - 11:30 am in the Large Hall

The Knights of Columbus and Welcoming Ministry invite all new and returning parishioners to a Pancake Breakfast/Brunch. Come meet our priests, deacons, heads of different St. Michael's ministries and the community.

Golden Friends Luncheon

Friday, December 13, 10:30 am - 1:30 pm in the Large Hall

Are you retired or are you free from work on Fridays or do you have friends and relatives who are? Bring them to our Golden Friends Luncheon to enjoy fellowship, entertainment and spiritual growth. Call Mary at 925-784-1812 to register.

SIGN UP FOR A WEEKLY
HOUR OF

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Pick up a form just outside of the chapel and submit it in the envelope.



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 by 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

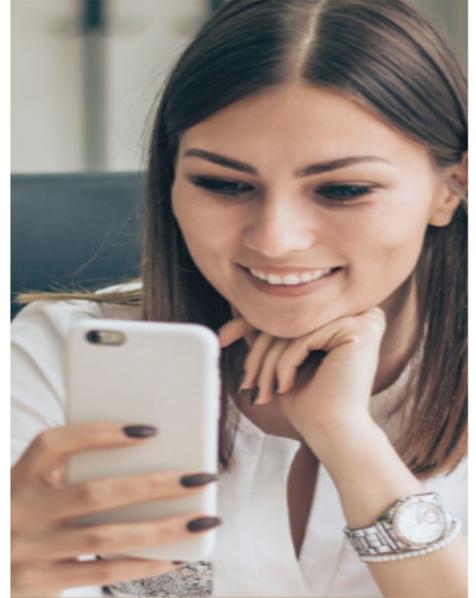
Christmas Masses

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

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Mensaje de la semana del Padre Carl



Desafío de Adviento: presentar a un amigo a Jesús

Querida familia de San Miguel,

La mejor evangelización no comienza con un programa parroquial, un módulo, un estudio bíblico o un club de lectura. Comienza cuando nos sumergimos en la vida cotidiana de otras personas. Nuestro testimonio personal de nuestra fe es cuando nos encontramos con otra persona. Para mí, como su pastor, es estar allí para liderar y proporcionar los sacramentos que se necesitan para crecer en santidad. Es ser testigo de mi llamado al servicio, al celibato y a la simplicidad de vida. A ustedes, como miembros de los fieles laicos, les corresponde dar testimonio de su llamado bautismal donde estén, rezar y servir como seguidores de Jesús y como hijos e hijas de la Iglesia.

A medida que nos acercamos a la Temporada de Adviento (el nuevo año litúrgico para la Iglesia Católica) y mientras nos preparamos para celebrar la Encarnación del Santísimo Dios a través del Nacimiento de Jesús, nuestro Mesías y Salvador, tengo un simple (pero quizás no fácil) desafío para cada uno de nosotros este año:

¡Presente un amigo a Jesús!

Él o ella podría ser su compañero de oficina, un amigo, un miembro de su familia, su conocido en el gimnasio o alguien con quien se encuentre en la calle, supermercado, restaurante o donde esté. Obtenga una nueva familia para la

parroquia de San Miguel y para nuestra escuela. Concentremos toda nuestra energía en este año para traer a alguien o a un miembro de la familia o a un alma a Jesús.

Imagine el efecto que esto produciría en nuestra parroquia, si cada uno de ustedes, que asisten a misa, pudiesen enfocarse en alguien en este año para evangelizar, hablar sobre la Palabra de Dios, invitar a cenar a Alpha, hablar sobre lo que está sucediendo en nuestra parroquia y en nuestras vidas, rezar unos por otros y divertirnos juntos con comida, vino y nuestras historias de vida. Esto podría crear un enorme impacto en nuestra parroquia y escuela. Solo un alma, solo una familia más, alguien cada año para traer a Jesús.

Algunos hechos divertidos:

Según una encuesta de Facebook, el número promedio de amigos de Facebook por usuario es 338. ¡La mitad de los usuarios de Internet que no usan Facebook viven con alguien que sí lo hace!

En una encuesta de Gallup, realizada del 11 al 14 de diciembre de 2003, se encontró que, en promedio, los estadounidenses tienen nueve "amigos cercanos" sin incluir a sus familiares.

Estoy seguro de que la mayoría de nosotros tenemos amigos y miembros de nuestra familia que no son activos en su fe católica. ¡La co-

secha es genial! La oportunidad es buena. ¿Por qué buscar en otro lado? ¿Por qué depender tanto de un programa o módulo para evangelizar? El mejor medio está en su corazón, su discurso y su forma de vida como católico practicante y seguidor de Jesús.

Santa Madre Teresa de Calcuta, inspirada en Santa Teresa de Lisieux, la Pequeña Flor dijo: "No todos podemos hacer grandes cosas. Pero podemos hacer pequeñas cosas con gran amor".

Me di cuenta de que a veces nuestros obispos y hermanos sacerdotes están atrapados con muchos planes, programas de misión y esquemas sobre cómo involucrar a las personas y participar en la misión de la iglesia y crecer como discípulos. No vemos que la mejor respuesta y solución sea USTED. Soy yo. Son los Estados Unidos ... Los bautizados en Cristo llamados a testificar y vivir el Evangelio de la alegría.

Entonces, en las Estaciones de Adviento y Navidad, Dios nos llama, nos reta y nos invita. No es realmente una misión grande y complicada que necesita logística y voluntarios ... Una tarea y misión más simple y sagrada: conseguir un amigo o una familia para Jesús y para San Miguel. Hagamos esto todos los años. Oremos por un amigo o alguien a quien podamos traer a Jesús.

¡Salve a Cristo Rey! ¡Un bendito Adviento para todos nosotros!

El p. Carl

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Claire O. Marcel, DDS
 Specialists in Orthodontics
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925.447.7799

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



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Mass | Misa

Mon-Sat | Lu-Sa 8:30 am

Wed | Mi 7:00 pm (español)

First Friday | Primer viernes
12:00 pm

Sat Vigil | Vigilia del Sábado

5:00 pm (English), 7:00 pm (español)

Sunday | Domingo

6:45 am, 8:00 am, 9:30 am, 11:00 am,
12:30 pm (español), 6:00 pm

Sign Language | Lenguaje por Señas

1st Sun, 11:00 am

Primer domingo a las 11:00 am

Traditional Latin Mass

2nd Sun, 8:00 am

Tagalog

3rd Sun, 3:30 pm

Vietnamese | Vietnamita

4th Sun, 3:30 pm

Cuarto domingo a las 3:30 pm

Confession | Confesión

Saturday, in the Church |

Sábado en la iglesia

9:00 am & 3:45 pm in English

6:15 pm en español

Monday & Friday in the church |

Lunes y viernes en la iglesia

7:30 am in English & español

Wednesdays in the Convent Chapel

2:30 pm

Anointing of the Sick |

Unción de los Enfermos

1st Saturday after 8:30 am Mass or
by appointment: 925-447-1585 |
1er sábado después de las 8:30 am
Misa o con cita previa: 925-447-
1585

Eucharistic Adoration |

Adoración Eucarística

24/7 in the Chapel. For after hours
access code, call 775-772-6369.

Office Hours | horas de oficina

M-F 9:00 am—5:00 pm

(Closed 12:00 pm—2:00 pm)

Clergy | Clero

Rev. Carl Arcosa, Pastor

Rev. Alfonso Borgen, Parochial Vicar

Rev. David Staal, Associate

Rev. Deacon Rob Federle

Rev. Deacon Dave Rezendes

Rev. Deacon Bill Archer, Retired

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



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Rev. Deacon Bill Archer	925-447-1585
Rev. Deacon Dave Rezendes DeaconD@StMichaelLivermore.com	925-447-1585
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RICA (español)	925-667-4053