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November 27, 2016

FIRST SUNDAY of *Advent*



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**You must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect,
the Son of Man will come.**

Matthew 24:44

Mass Times

Mon-Fri:	7:00 am & 8:30 am
Wed:	7:00 pm (Spanish)
Saturday:	8:30 am
Saturday Vigil:	5:00 pm 7:00 pm (Spanish)
Sunday:	6:45 am, 8:00 am, 9:30 am, 11:00 am, 12:30 pm (Spanish), 6:00 pm

Sign Language: 1st Sun, 11:00 am
Vietnamese: 4th Sun, 3:30 pm

Confession

Saturday, in the Church
9:00 am & 3:45 pm
6:15 pm in Spanish
1st & 3rd Wed, Convent Chapel, 2:30 pm

Anointing of the Sick

1st Saturday after 8:30 am Mass or by appointment: 925-447-1585

Eucharistic Adoration

24/7 in the Chapel. For after hours access code, call 925-980-4826

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Rev. Van Dinh, Pastor
Rev. Rafael Hinojosa, Parochial Vicar
Rev. David Staal, Associate
Rev. Alfred Amos, In Residence
Rev. Stanislaus Poon, Retired
Rev. Dcn Rob Federle
Rev. Deacon Dave Rezendes
Rev. Deacon Bill Archer
Rev. Deacon Bob Vince

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Sunday Readings

A New Year by Opening the Word

attentive to the signs of the times in any age, the surprises of God are easier to spot and embrace.

Second Reading

It is the hour to cast off the dark and clothe ourselves in the light (Romans 13:11-14).

In this letter, St. Paul gives us what could be a catalog of our vices of today: carousing, drunkenness, sexual excess and lust, quarreling, and jealousy. That the Christians of an increasingly debauched Rome should be warned of the same sins by which we are tempted shouldn't really surprise us. These aren't simply the sins of ancient Rome or modern America; they're the sins that plague people of every time, place, nation, and race.

The time in which we're now living is the dispensation of grace in Jesus Christ, that time between his first coming and his second. In every time and place, wakefulness is the primary posture of those who search for God; wakefulness against temptation and for his visitation. We always stand at that moment when, "The day is at hand." In the Advent season, we practice our wakefulness with particular attention. We turn the events of God's past saving actions, and particularly those of the Nativity, over in our minds so as to engrave the outlines of his modus operandi; his way of acting in our souls so that we might not be caught unaware at his next visit. As Christians, we always live at the border, between the long night of sin and the eternal dawn.



and Meditation

Gospel

Stay awake! Be prepared! The Son of Man will come when you least expect (Matthew 24:37-44).

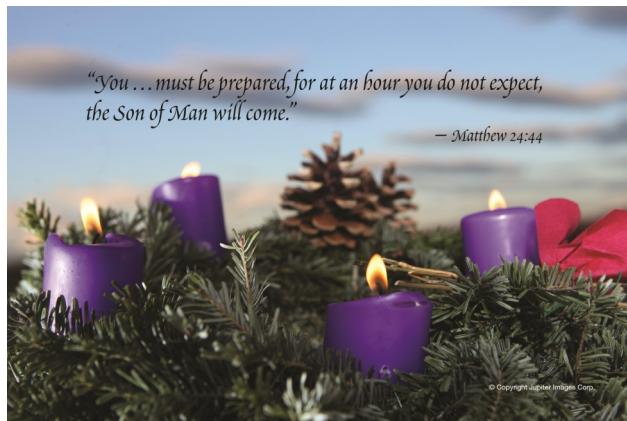
This is the way that he describes the attitude of those who were swept away in the flood at the time of

Noah. Their mistake was in being unconscious of God in the midst of ordinary activities. Jesus heightens this warning as he describes the time of his second coming in verses 40 and 41. Certainly nothing suggests sin in either activity, yet one will gain an everlasting reward and the other not. What separates the two destinies? In a word—wakefulness. It isn't for us to know when the Lord will come, but we need to be aware that he will come. We're called to live in a state of wakefulness, of spiritual attention. Like the homeowner who doesn't know exactly when the thief will come testifies to the fact that he must "keep a watchful eye," the Lord for whom we wait tells us, "You also must be prepared."

Meditation

In today's Gospel, we are told, "So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come." Let's now contemplate that passage in prayer.

Take a deep breath and close your eyes. Allow yourself to become still. Now imagine that you have just learned that you are going to die very soon. What is your first



thought? What is your first feeling? Hold that thought and the feeling as you take another deep breath. Now see Jesus talking directly to you. Hear him say, "There is still time. Wake up! Stop sleeping your life away!" What areas of your life come to mind as you hear Jesus? Now see him gently touching you on the shoulder and saying, "You have time. So stay alert. Go and...." What is he asking you to do? Listen carefully for his guidance.

Resolution

During this first week of Advent, choose one activity that will take you out of the "slumber" of commercialism and busyness, and "awaken" a new zeal for the faith. You might attend daily Mass one morning, pray the rosary over the noon hour, or read Scripture instead of watch TV. Make a choice based on what you heard Jesus tell you to do during our prayer time.

Reflection by *Opening the Word* and reprinted with the permission of Augustine Institute. The accompanying video lecture is available free at [Formed.org](https://formed.org).

Readings for the Week

Monday: Is 4:2-6; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday: Rom 10:9-18; Ps 19:8-11; Mt 4:18-22

Thursday: Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31

Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6; Mt 9:35 -- 10:1, 5a, 6-8

Saints and Special Observances

Wednesday: St. Andrew

Thursday: World AIDS Awareness Day

Friday: First Friday

Saturday: St. Francis Xavier; First Saturday

Prayer to St Michael

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the divine power of God, cast into hell satan, and all the evil spirits, who roam throughout the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Prayers

The use of the Advent Wreath is a traditional practice which has found its place in the Church as well as in the home. The blessing of an Advent Wreath takes place on the First Sunday of Advent or on the evening before the First Sunday of Advent.

When the blessing of the Advent Wreath is celebrated in the home, it is appropriate that it be blessed by a parent or another member of the family.

All make the sign of the cross as the leader says:

Our help is in the name of the Lord.
Response (R/.) Who made heaven and earth.

Then the Scripture, Isaiah 9: (lines 1-2 and 5-6) or Isaiah 63 (lines 16-17 & 19) or Isaiah 64 (lines 2-7) is read, followed by:

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
R/. Thanks be to God.

With hands joined, the leader says:

Lord our God,
we praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ:
he is Emmanuel, the hope of the peoples,
he is the wisdom that teaches and guides us,
he is the Savior of every nation.
Lord God,
let your blessing come upon us
as we light the candles of this wreath.
May the wreath and its light
be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us salvation.
May he come quickly and not delay.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R/. Amen.

The blessing may conclude with a verse from "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel":

O come, desire of nations, bind
in one the hearts of humankind;
bid ev'ry sad division cease
and be thyself our Prince of peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.



Mass Intentions

Saturday 11/26

- 8:30am The Souls in Purgatory †
5:00pm Angela & Honorato Ornelas †
7:00pm Jennifer Ibaria

Sunday 11/27

- 6:45am Lilian Guesnon †
8:00am Marciano Zamora †
9:30am David J. Shaughnessy †
11:00am Antony Pham Van Hoi †
Joseph Mary Pham Dang Yeu †
12:30pm Mass for Our Parish
6:00pm The Souls in Purgatory †

Monday 11/28

- 7:00am Matthew James Kupski †
8:30am Rich Brandt

Tuesday 11/29

- 7:00am Maria Guadalupe Vertiz Badillo †
8:30am Mary Dayton

Wednesday 11/30

- 7:00am Billie Huston's 95th Birthday
8:30am Agueda Enriquez †
7:00 pm David Malone & Family and Alejandro Najarro

Thursday 12/1

- 7:00 am Alejandro Najarro and David Malone & Family
8:30 am The Souls in Purgatory †

Friday 12/2

- 7:00am Pete Hunes †
8:30am Joseph & Marvel Valent †

Saturday 12/3

- 8:30am Gus & Lucile Beach †
Hezlyn & Gertrude Stocking †
5:00pm Eugenia Morales †
7:00pm Maria Sandoval †

Advent



Be Prepared

Be prepared. It's that simple. As this Advent season opens before us, the Lord Jesus summons us to stand ready for his coming. At this time of year much of our attention is focused on being prepared for the details that accompany the holiday season. We purchase gifts; we decorate our homes, inside and out; we prepare foods that we eat only during the holidays; we write and send Christmas cards; we attend holiday concerts; we prepare either to welcome family and friends into our homes or arrange for visits to their homes.

We really can't escape the details that make up the season. Perhaps this Advent is a time to attend to all those details with a different spin. As we prepare to celebrate the feast of Christmas, why not be deliberate about acknowledging the presence of the Lord as we go about these tasks? The Lord often comes to us in wonderfully surprising ways. Let us be prepared.



Happy New Year!

If this strikes you as a bit premature, it isn't really, because this Sunday marks the start of the new Church year. In the Catholic Church, the first Sunday of Advent is the beginning of the cycle of readings, holy days, and holidays for roughly the next 365 days. It's also the time of year not only when we are called to prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus at Christmas, but also when we are asked to examine our lives and take stock, spiritually speaking.

The readings for today all carry a common theme: **Wake up!** Wake up from the slumber that keeps marriages mediocre, careers unfulfilling, moral lives stagnant. Wake up to the possibility of a new beginning, a new way of living that welcomes Jesus into the cribs of our days, the mangers of our souls. We are told to awaken from the slumber that is robbing us of a deeper and more meaningful relationship with our God, and begin to live the new and abundant life that we have been promised.

History of Advent

Before the Second Vatican Council in the mid-1960s, Advent had a strong penitential tone, reminiscent of Lent. From as long ago as the fourth century, some Christians began a solemn fast on St. Martin's Day, November 11. This "Saint Martin's Lent" extended all the way to Christmas, and was widely followed in the dioceses of France and Germany, and in the Middle Ages in England. Fasting was required, and dancing and similar activities were banned for the duration. The fast had a social function, too, assuring that the winter food supplies would stretch into spring.

At the Second Vatican Council, some bishops argued that a revival of the long winter's fast would give the Church a chance to establish the message and themes of the Incarna-

tion long before the holiday hubbub took hold. This proposal didn't pass, and Advent emerged as a four-week period of reflection, expectant waiting, and joyful preparation for the coming of the Lord.

The season has two principal phases, with the first beginning this Sunday. The second phase commences on December 17, when the liturgy begins to unfold the story of the Savior's coming. Interestingly, the Eastern Church maintains a strongly penitential note in Advent, which is called "Winter Lent," "The Nativity Fast," or "Christmas Lent," and has laws forbidding people to absent themselves from liturgy from December 17 onward.

--Rev. James Field, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co.

Events

New Parishioners Potluck Dinner Tues, Nov 29

The St. Michael's Welcoming Ministry will host a potluck dinner for all new parishioners on Tuesday, November 29 at 7:00 p.m. at the Small Hall. All interested parishioners are invited. For more information, please call Marie de Vasconcelos at 925-447-2226.

Serve at Open Heart Kitchen Wed, Nov 30

St. Michael's Parish provides volunteers every 5th Wednesday at Open Heart Kitchen, Tri Valley's free hot meal service for those in need. Volunteers prepare the food on site, set up tables, serve the food, organize donated items, and clean up afterwards.

There are two shifts: 9:30 am-11:45 am and 11:45 am-2:00 pm. To volunteer, contact Diane Schord at dhschord@sbcglobal.net or 925-447-4344.



St. Michael School Admissions Information Night Tuesday, Nov. 29 • 6:30pm



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Deacon Dave's Christ- mas Light Display Dec 2—Jan 7

Deacon Dave's 34th Annual Christmas Light Display will be open Friday, Dec 2 at 6:30 pm with a colorful Christmas Procession down Hillcrest Avenue from Fordham Way to the House of the Dove where the opening ceremonies will take place.

*What will the theme be this year?
Can you guess the light count?*

The hours for Deacon Dave's light display this season are:

Sun—Thur 6:00 pm—9:00 pm
Fri—Sat 6:00 pm—10:00 pm
Christmas Eve 6:00 pm—10:00 pm
Christmas 6:00 pm—10:00 pm
Dec 26-Jan 1 6:00 pm—9:00 pm

Christmas display is subject to be closed due to heavy rain or strong winds.

More Events

Young Adult Ministry Christmas Dance

Sat, Dec 3

Catholic Communities of Pleasanton and St. Raymond Young Adult Ministries are hosting a Christmas Dance at St. Augustine's Hall on Saturday, Dec. 3rd from 7-10pm. Refreshments provided. \$5 suggested donation. For more info, contact: stagustine868@gmail.com.

Santa Rita Children's Toy Drive Dec 3-11

The Catholic Detention Ministry is collecting toys for children of the inmates at Santa Rita Jail. The toys are for children ages 0-12 and need to be NEW and UNWRAPPED. There will be bins in the vestibules from Sat, Dec. 3 to Sun, Dec. 11. Thank you for helping the children of these families. For more information, contact Rachael at 510-501-1411.

Immaculate Conception of Mary Holy Day of Obligation Thur, Dec 8

The Church celebrates the conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the womb of her mother, Saint Anne, free from original sin by virtue of the foreseen merits of her son Jesus Christ.

Wed, December 7 - Vigil Mass
6:00 pm (English) & 7:30 pm (Spanish)

Thu, December 8 - Mass
7:00 am & 8:30 am (English) and
7:00 pm in Spanish

St. Michael School Christmas Program Tues, Dec 20

Under the direction of Mrs. Gomez and Mrs. Hancock, who will be helping her with the music, St Michael School will be presenting an all-school Christmas program that will be held on December 20, 2016 at 6:30 pm in the church. There will be a matinee/dress rehearsal performance at 1:00 pm that day.

The 8th graders will be highlighted as the narrators and participants of the nativity scene. Each class will perform a song. We are looking forward to this new Christmas tradition that will include the entire St. Michael School community.

Reconciliation

It is advised that the faithful receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation (also known as "Confession" or "Penance") during the season of Advent, as a preparation for the celebration of the birth of Christ in our lives.



November 30
St Joan of Arc at 7:00 pm

December 3
St Michael at 9:00 am, 3:45 pm and
6:15 pm (Spanish)

December 7
St Michael at 2:30 pm in the Convent

December 10
St Michael at 9:00 am, 3:45 pm and
6:15 pm (Spanish)

December 13
St Michael (bilingual) at 7:00 pm

December 14
St Augustine (family and youth) at
7:30 pm

December 15
St Augustine (adults) at 7:30 pm

December 17
St Michael at 9:00 am, 3:45 pm and
6:15 pm (Spanish)

December 19
St Charles at 7:00 pm

December 21
St Michael at 2:30 pm in the Convent

*Confession will not be available on Saturday, December 24,
Christmas Eve. Please plan accordingly.*



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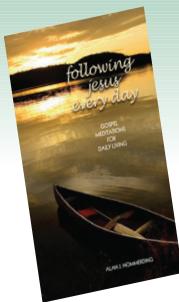
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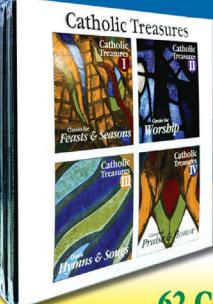
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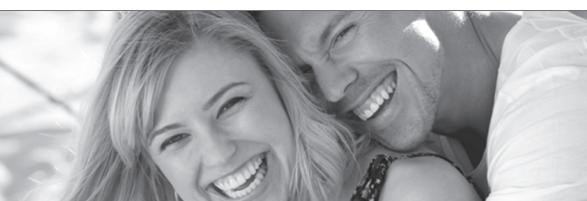
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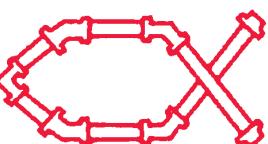
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Noticias Parroquiales

NO HAY TIEMPO PARA EL INSOMNIO

Podemos ponernos demasiado ocupados y preocupados con los preparativos para la Navidad, tanto comercial como religiosamente. A menudo, tan expuestos a la publicidad comercial de "las ofertas de Navidad" de todo tipo, desde las ofertas en las tiendas hasta en el Internet, incluyendo también ofertas de última hora en la televisión y compras navideñas de último momento; ponemos la preparación pacífica y contemplativa de Adviento a un segundo plano. Luego nos cansamos y algunas veces quedamos resentidos de todo lo que se nos ha acumulado en nuestras vida regular y ocupada.

Necesitamos ir más despacio, y quizás eliminar algo de las partes más extrañas de esta celebración. ¿De verdad necesitamos poner luces en nuestras casas, que requieren de tiempo para colocarlas y que requerirán de tiempo para retirarlas; algunas veces mucho después de que el Tiempo de Navidad haya terminado? ¿En serio necesitamos todas esas decoraciones que

ponemos alrededor de la casa o es suficiente con un árbol de Navidad y algunas flores de Nochebuena? ¿Necesitamos cientos de galletas o será suficiente con solo algunas docenas? ¿Acaso todos necesitan muchos regalos o solo uno para una sola persona bastará?

Piensa en cómo sería mejor durante estos días navideños si podemos ir despacio, dar tiempo a una lectura bíblica durante cada uno de estos días y no estar como un manojo de nervios que ni siquiera podemos tener una buena noche de descanso. La urgencia de hoy de "estar alertas" no significa que no vayamos a dormir y dar vueltas toda la noche pensando en "la lista de pendientes" y preguntándonos cómo vamos a hacer todo eso.

LA LUZ DEL MUNDO

Que gran alivio sería si tuviéramos el tiempo para pensar en el milagro de Dios-con-nosotros. En nuestro mundo atormentado, necesitamos mucha oración por la paz. "Ellos convertirán sus espadas en azadones / y sus lanzas en guadañas; / una nación

no levantará su espada contra otra, / no se entrenarán para la guerra" (Isaías 2:4). Si tan solo se cumpliera con nuestro deseo, pero Jesús dijo que cualquier cosas que pidíramos en su nombre, lo recibiríamos. Quizá podemos dedicar un tiempo aún para una oración corta para nuestro mundo cansado y desgarrado por la guerra.

"¡Oh casa de Jacob, ven, / permítenos caminar a la luz del Señor! (Isaías 2:5).



Inmaculada Concepción Santo Día de Obligación Jueves 8 de diciembre

Misa de Vigilia el miércoles 7 de diciembre, Misa celebrada a las 6:00 pm en inglés y 7:30 pm en español.
Jueves, 8 de diciembre, Misa celebrada a las 7:00 am y 8:30 am en inglés y 7:00 pm en español.

Registracion de Flocknote

Regístrese para recibir anuncios especiales de San Miguel en español a través de texto o correo electrónico. Sólo mandar texto MIGUEL al 202-765-3441.



La Parroquia de San Miguel

En la Parroquia de San Miguel nosotros como mission celebramos los sacramentos, formamos discipulos, y llevamos a Cristo a la comunidad.

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



Contáctenos

Secretario de habla en Español
Viernes 9-6 y Lunes-Jueves 4-7
Office@StMichaelLivermore.com

Padre Rafael Hinojosa
Padre@StMichaelLivermore.com

Misa en español

Sábado 7:00 pm
Domingo 12:30 pm
Miércoles 7:00 pm

Confesión en español

Sábados 6:15-6:45 pm
Primer y tercer miércoles a las
2:30 pm en el convento

Adoración Eucarística Perpetua

Para un directorio de sus socios de
oración y para el capitán de horas,
llame a Elsa al 925-339-6411

RICA en español

Ana Fregoso: 925-344-7150

Formacion de Fe

Ruben Nunez: 925-453-6494

Bautismos, Quinceañera, Matrimonios, Confirmación

925-447-1585 x10

27 de noviembre de 2016

PRIMER DOMINGO de *Adviento*



Ustedes estén preparados, porque a la hora que menos lo piensen,
vendrá el Hijo del hombre.

Mateo 24:44

Para obtener información en español sobre eventos y noticias de nuestra parroquia.

Si estan interesados en agregar o presentar un artículo en el boletín en español, por favor contactar a Brenda Zavala 510-691-2864

Pasar la pagina

