



## St. Michael Catholic Parish

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

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December 11, 2016

# THIRD SUNDAY

# of *Advent*



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Jesus said,  
“Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight,  
the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear,  
the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them.”

Matthew 11:4-5

## 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

## Clergy

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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925-447-1888

## Faith Formation

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925-344-7127

# Sunday Readings

## The Unexpected Messiah

### FIRST READING

**The barren deserts will rejoice and flower. Tired bodies will receive strength. Aching hearts will be made glad. *Isaiah 35:1–6a, 10***

This passage focuses on the spiritual fruits which accompany the coming of the messianic age. These spiritual fruits are apparent to those with the spiritual vision necessary to see them, those who've experienced the passage from spiritual blindness to spiritual sight, which the Messiah introduces.

"They will see the glory of the LORD, / the splendor of our God," Isaiah promises. Of course, Jesus does heal the physically blind as part of his messianic ministry. While it's good to receive physical sight, it's infinitely better to see "the glory of the Lord." The physical healing is a symbolic representation of the second, greater miracle. The sight of the Lord's glory had been promised to the whole of the people in Israel, but an apparent failure on the part of the people to purify themselves for that epiphany caused them to lose the chance to behold the Lord's glory.

### SECOND READING

**Be patient, for the coming of the Lord is as sure as the rain. *James 5:7–10***

The Epistle of James deserves more attention than it gets. It presents a wonderful, ever-timely plan of life for the Christian. James comments upon the proper attitude toward

the "coming of the Lord." He compares our state to that of the farmer who in waiting for "the precious fruit of the earth, being patient."

It's worth noting that patience is called for precisely because the crop will come in. James doesn't say that Christians shouldn't think about the second coming; he says they should look forward to it—anticipate it joyfully, eagerly—but with patience. If we recoil at the thought of Christ's coming with thoughts such as "I'm not ready yet," or "I just need to arrive at my life's goal before he comes," then we're not yet living in the manner that James prescribes.

Most of us would have to admit to thoughts of that kind. Often we're more concerned with keeping up appearances than with our appearance before the face of God. The timeless Christian message is that we live patiently, looking forward to Christ's coming; then everything else will fall into its proper place. If we seek first the kingdom, then all else will follow after.

### GOSPEL

**Tell of what you hear and see: The blind regain their vision, the crippled their movement, the deaf their hearing. *Matthew 11:2–11***



# and Meditation

In this passage, Jesus cites the signs of the coming of the messianic age from Isaiah 35 as proof that his ministry introduces the messianic age and concludes that, "Blessed is the one who takes no offense at me." Jesus subtly makes a similar point in the next set of verses, this time addressed to the crowds after the messengers from John depart. He asks, in reference to their response to John's prophetic message, "What did you go out into the desert to see? A reed swayed by the wind?"

Interestingly, the reed was a symbol for King Herod. The reference to a "swaying reed" may have suggested that Herod had made a truce with the Romans, which would turn to Israel's advantage. Just as God had become a stumbling block to Israel then, so would he be to Israel now in the Person of Jesus.

Rather than bending to the current political wind, as had Herod and the Jews who collaborated with Rome to maintain their power, God's people must turn to the messianic King whose coming and reign is signaled not by the rich trappings of a royal court, but by the lone voice of a prophet crying in the wilderness and the proclamation of good news to the poor.

## MEDITATION

Picture yourself as one of John's disciples. John has sent you out to ask Jesus, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?" What kind of answer are you expecting? How do you feel when Jesus says to you, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame



walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them." How do you feel about going back with that answer? How do you think John is going to respond?

Now ask God to show you how Jesus's answer can make a difference in the way you think about Jesus.

## RESOLUTION

Ask the Lord to show you areas in which you might be blind, unclean, deaf, or dead. As you gain insights, write them in your journal and pray that these areas may be healed.

For more insights, please watch the accompanying video available free at Formed.org.

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Reflection by *Opening the Word* and reprinted with the permission of Augustine Institute.

## Readings for the Week

**Monday:** Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

**Tuesday:** Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23; Mt 21:28-32

**Wednesday:** Is 45: 6b-8, 18, 21b-25; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Lk 7:18b-23

**Thursday:** Is 54:1-10; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-12a, 13b; Lk 7:24-30

**Friday:** Is 56:1-3a, 6-8; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8; Jn 5:33-36

**Saturday:** Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17

## Saints and Special Observances

**Monday:** Our Lady of Guadalupe

**Tuesday:** St. Lucy

**Wednesday:** St. John of the Cross

**Friday:** Las Posadas begins

## 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 through out the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

# Prayers & Devotion

## The O Antiphons

We sing the familiar hymn, “O Come, O come Emmanuel,” at Communion today and Sending Forth next week. Did you know that each verse identifies a different title for Jesus? These titles are referred to as the O Antiphons and are part of The Church’s Evening Prayer beginning on December 17 and concluding on Christmas Eve. When you sing this hymn, you are joining countless Christians over the centuries who have looked for Jesus’ coming. And not only that, you are joining in the prayer of countless Jews who, even to this day, are longing for the fulfillment of all God’s promises.

The theme of the O Antiphons is one of hoping and waiting for Jesus to come. As we sing this beloved hymn together, let’s focus our hearts on Jesus as well. Let’s trust that by contemplating these verses, our own anticipation will grow and be rewarded as we invite Jesus to come and be born in our hearts on Christmas.

## DIGGING DEEPER: The Death of John the Baptist

John the Baptist was imprisoned and beheaded at Herod’s fortress called Machaerus, located on a rocky hilltop above the eastern side of the Dead Sea. The area had been chosen for a sentry post because it could be seen as far north as Alexandria and as far south as Masada. In addition, smoke signals were visible in Jerusalem itself. Machaerus was more than a fort, however; it was also a lavish palace, with an extensive courtyard, baths and a beautifully detailed mosaic floor—a luxury getaway place for the king and his court. The story of John’s death in Scripture is verified by the Roman historian Josephus. *St John the Baptist, pray for us.*

## Traditional Advent Prayer

Incline Thine ear to our prayers, O Lord, we beseech Thee; and make bright the darkness of our minds by the grace of Thy visitation. Who livest and reignest, with God the Father, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, God, world without end.

Amen.



## Mass Intentions

### Saturday 12/10

- 8:30am Maureen Yost †
- 5:00pm The Souls in Purgatory †
- 7:00pm David Malone & Family and Alejandro Najarro

### Sunday 12/11

- 6:45am The Le Family †
- 8:00am Janice Alvarez †
- 9:30am Harry & Steven Kraft †
- 11:00am Antony Pham Van Hoi †
- 12:30pm Natibidad, Elisa & Jesus Buenrostro †
- 6:00pm Mass for Our Parish

### Monday 12/12

- 7:00am Pat Ciglutte †
- 8:30am Leo Enriques, III †
- 7:00 pm Florentina Muños Ramos †

### Tuesday 12/13

- 7:00am Aloysius Kupski †
- 8:30am Jim Isom †

### Wednesday 12/14

- 7:00am The Seoane Family
- 8:30am Mike & Marissa Kalchik
- 7:00 pm Mike & Alice Sanchez †

### Thursday 12/15

- 7:00 am Dee & Wally Walker (50th Wedding Anniversary)
- 8:30 am Lucille Budd †

### Friday 12/16

- 7:00am Theresa Blennert †
- 8:30am The Souls in Purgatory †

### Saturday 12/17

- 8:30am The Souls in Purgatory †
- 5:00pm The Sands Family  
The Gilmore Family  
The Kenny Family
- 7:00pm Mass for Our Parish

# News & Articles

## Training for New Readers

Do you feel the call to become a Reader at Mass? Come and attend the four classroom sessions on Monday evenings from 7:00 to 9:00 pm, starting January 9, 2017 and continuing for the following three Mondays. The fifth session will be at a time arranged between you and the instructors. These sessions will be held in the Mother's Room, just to the left of the altar. For more info call 925-447-8814 x 222 or email [Liturgy@StMichaelLivermore.com](mailto:Liturgy@StMichaelLivermore.com).

## Thanksgiving Success!

Thank you to all who helped St Vincent de Paul Society make Thanksgiving wonderful for the most in need in our community. We sorted food and packed 200 bags on November 19th. On November 21st we helped 150 families with turkeys, food bags, and all sort of goodies. We especially thank the wonderful SVdP members, Girl Scout Troops 31177 and 31179, Cub Scout Pack 903 and Boy Scout Troops 926 and 936. Also many thanks to the California Water Service Company for their donation of 50 Turkeys.

## \$10 Per Sunday

St Michael's needs about \$22,000 each week just to pay the basic expenses of operating a very large parish. If each person who attends Sunday Mass offered just \$10, we would meet our goal.

11/20/16 Collection: \$19,279.46  
11/27/16 Collection: \$19,165.54  
12/4/16 Collection: \$24,046.20

St. Michael Community,

My name is Eric Hom and I will serve as your new Business Manager here at St. Michael's. I'm extremely excited and grateful for the opportunity to serve this wonderful community to advance our mission to Celebrate the Sacraments, Grow Disciples and Bring Christ to People. I look forward to meeting all of you and working with you to grow and enhance this already vibrant and diverse community.



A little about me. My family has lived in Livermore for nine years, my wife Loremae is the 2nd grade teacher at St. Michael School and we have two daughters, Madison (5th Grade) and Melanie (1st Grade) both students at St. Michael's. I've been the Business Manager & Development Director at St. Raymond Parish in Dublin for the past four years and prior to that worked in corporate jobs as a Marketing & Communications Manager at 24 Hour Fitness and TiVo. I'm a graduate of Saint Mary's College in Moraga and passionate and excited about serving this community here at St. Michael Parish.

I want to thank the staff for the incredibly warm welcome that I've received and Fr. Van for the opportunity to do God's work here at St. Michael's. I look forward to spending time with all of our various ministry groups and getting to know each of you in the community. My door is always open, so please stop by and introduce yourself. May God continue to bless you and your families this Advent season.

Eric Hom  
Business Manager  
St. Michael Parish

## Help 50 Local Families This Christmas

The Knights of Columbus Annual Christmas Basket program brings food and gifts to over 50 local families in desperate need. St. Michael school students provide half of the gifts. The Knights provide the remaining gifts and enough food for about two weeks. We need about \$5,000 to buy the food (about \$100 per family). Here's how you can help:

### Donate \$ to Buy Food

Please bring cash or checks to a Knight when you come to Mass on Sunday.

### Volunteer to Assemble Baskets on December 17

We need help putting baskets together, wrapping gifts, getting everything organized, and delivering the baskets to the families.

# Events

## Deacon Dave's Christmas Lights

Now—Jan 1  
352 Hillcrest Avenue

Tour Deacon Dave's Christmas light display and take part in a 34 year long Livermore tradition!

Sun—Thu	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

The Christmas display is subject to closure due to heavy rain or strong winds.

## Small Group Bible Study Registration

Now thru Jan 15



### A Biblical Walk Through the Mass

Take an exciting tour of the Liturgy as it explores the biblical roots of the words and gestures we experience at Mass and explains their profound significance. *5 sessions. About 60 min of homework per session.*

### Mary: A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother

Join this extraordinary study that reveals Mary's unique role in God's Kingdom and in our lives. You will learn how she works in our lives today, drawing us ever closer to her Divine Son. *8 sessions. About 60 min of homework per session.*

### BibleTimeline: The Story of Salvation

Embark on a fascinating journey through the entire Bible, going deep into each period of salvation history to discover the amazing story woven throughout all of Scripture. *24 ses-*

*sions. About 1.5 - 2 hours of homework per session.*

Register by January 15 at [StMichaelLivermore.com/BibleStudy](http://StMichaelLivermore.com/BibleStudy)

- Home based groups decide when and how frequently to meet (usually once per week or every other week).
- Cost is about \$2.00 per session.
- Programs are easy to follow and include workbook questions and video lecture.
- Sign up together with your group of at least four friends, or sign up as an individual to be placed in a group of 4-8 people.

## Advent Reconciliation Service

Tues, Dec 13 at 7 pm



Prepare your heart and soul for Jesus with the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The bilingual service in the church will include Adoration and Benediction. See next page for other Reconciliation opportunities.

## Golden Friends Luncheon

Fri, Dec 16 at 11 am  
Rock House Pub & Grill

Come join the Golden Friends of St. Michael Parish on 12/16 at 11 am at the Rock House Pub & Grill (Please note that this is a new location--next door to Castle Rock Restaurant.) Donation will be \$12 and a basket will be passed for the tip. RSVP by noon on Wednesday. Dec 14 to Wilma: 925-447-8198 or by email at [wilma.matuska@gmail.com](mailto:wilma.matuska@gmail.com).

## Simbang Gabi

Dec 16-24, 5:30 am Mass

All parishioners are invited to attend the annual Simbang Gabi, a Filipino tradition that dates back to the 1800's. The 5:30 am masses will be held from December 16 to 24, a nine day novena to help parishioners prepare for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ. If you feel overwhelmed by all the holiday activities, why not come and spend an hour with our Lord? For more information, call Cory Painter at 925-577-9939 or Lani Meyer at 925- 784-9753.

## Mass in Vietnamese

Sun, Dec 18 at 3:30 pm



This will be the only Mass in December celebrated in Vietnamese. There will not be a Vietnamese Mass on Christmas Day as previously published.

## St. Michael School Christmas Program

Tues, Dec 20

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.

## CYO Track & Field Sign Ups at St Charles

Jan 9, 12, 17, 19  
6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Children from 3rd to 8th grade are welcome to enjoy the friendly competition of CYO Track and Field! The

# Tis the Season

2017 season is Feb 6th through the 2nd week of May. For more information, please visit [www.smisctrack.org](http://www.smisctrack.org) or email [mandy.costello@hotmail.com](mailto:mandy.costello@hotmail.com).

## KofC 44th Annual Charity Crab Feed & Auction

Sat, Feb 11

4:30 pm to 11:00 pm

Robert Livermore Community Center



Enjoy the BEST crab and pasta dinner in town while supporting a worthy charitable cause!

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Tickets are \$55 each. Reserved table with purchase of 8 tickets. Tickets are available after Mass or by contacting Dennis Lundbom at 775-772-6369 or Mark & Claire Duguid 925-443-5873. Proceeds benefit the Knights of Columbus charitable works.

## 58th Annual Wine Tasting Gala & Auction

Sat, Feb 25



Save the date for St Michael School's biggest fundraising gala at Robert Livermore Community Center on Feb 25. This year's theme will be "A Night at the Oscars".



I am tasty!

## Confession during Advent

### December 13

St Michael Reconciliation Service with Adoration and Benediction (Spanish & English) 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 December 24, Christmas Eve. Please plan accordingly.*

## Christmas Mass Times

**NOTE THAT TIMES ARE DIFFERENT THIS YEAR!**

### Saturday, December 24

3:00 pm: Teen Choir & Sign Language Interpreter  
5:00 pm: Children's Choir  
7:00 pm: Cantor  
9:00 pm: Spanish  
Midnight: Chamber Choir

### Sunday, December 25

6:45 am: Without music  
8:00 am: Cantor  
9:30 am: Cantor  
11:00 am: Chamber Choir  
12:30 pm: Spanish  
3:30 pm: Vietnamese



## Mary, Mother of God

Holy Day of Obligation

### Saturday, December 31

Vigil Mass  
5:00 pm  
7:00 pm (Spanish)

### Sunday, January 1

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

## Parish Offices Closed

Monday, December 26

Monday, January 2



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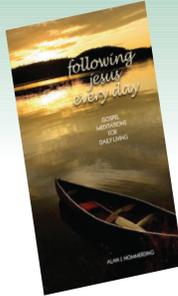
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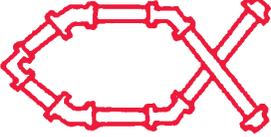

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# Noticias Parroquiales

## Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe

### Domingo 11 de diciembre

12:30 pm: Celebre la Misa comenzando con una procesión de la escuela a la iglesia, seguida por un festival en el patio de la escuela.

9:00 pm: Oraciones y música en la iglesia toda la noche.

### Lunes 12 de diciembre

4:00 am: Mañanitas y mariachi seguido por la misa

7:00 pm: Misa en español



## TIEMPO DE ESPERANZA

Hoy podemos deleitarnos con el simbolismo que las lecturas de la misa nos ofrecen. En especial, la visión de Isaías de una tierra sedienta que florece en abundancia contiene un mensaje para cada uno de nosotros. La mayoría de las veces somos como esa tierra sedienta. Dejamos que las olas del consumismo, que se apoderan de tantos, nos absorban. Buscamos realizarnos en las cosas que el dinero puede comprar. Lamentablemente, esto nos deja como una tierra baldía, sedienta de algo que el dinero no puede comprar. Este tiempo sagrado tiene mucho que ofrecer para saciar nuestra sed. En una palabra, este tiempo ofrece esperanza. Se nos dice que los rescatados por Dios conocerán el gozo y la dicha. Para ellos, la pena y la aflicción habrán terminado. Tengamos esperanza en estas promesas.

## Adviento: Sacramento de la Confesión

### Martes 13 de diciembre

Adoración y bendición eucarística  
7:00 pm (Español e Inglés)

### Sábado, 17 de diciembre

9:00 am, 3:45 pm y 6:15 pm  
(Español)

### Miércoles, 21 de diciembre

2:30 pm en la Capilla del Convento

## Misas de Navidad

### Sábado 24 de diciembre

3:00 pm: Coro adolescente  
5:00 pm: Coro de Niños  
7:00 pm: Cantor  
9:00 pm: Español  
Medianoche: Coro

### Domingo 25 de diciembre

6:45 am: sin música  
8:00 am: Cantor  
9:30 am: Cantor  
11:00 am: Coro  
12:30 pm: Español  
3:30 pm: Vietnamita

## Día Santo: María, Madre de Dios

### Sábado, 31 de diciembre

Misa de Vigilia

5:00 pm en inglés  
7:00 pm en inglés

### Domingo 1 de enero

6:45 am, 8:00 am, 9:30 am, 11:00 am en inglés, 12:30 pm en español y 6:00 pm en inglés



# La Parroquia de San Miguel

En la Parroquia de San Miguel nosotros como misión celebramos los sacramentos, formamos discípulos, 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

## Formación de Fe

Ruben Nunez: 925-453-6494

## Bautismos, Quinceañera, Matrimonios, Confirmación

925-447-1585 x10

11 de diciembre de 2016

## TERCER DOMINGO

# de Adviento



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Jesús dijo:

“Vayan a contar a Juan lo que están viendo y oyendo: los ciegos ven, los cojos andan, los leprosos quedan limpios de la lepra, los sordos oyen, los muertos resucitan y a los pobres se les anuncia el Evangelio”.

Mateo 11:4-5



Pasar la pagina

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

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