



ST MICHAEL  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

458 Maple Street, Livermore, CA 94550  
925-447-1585 | [StMichaelLivermore.com](http://StMichaelLivermore.com)

CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENTS, GROW DISCIPLES, BRING CHRIST TO PEOPLE

# THIRD SUNDAY *of Advent*



DECEMBER 13, 2020



# SINCE THE PANDEMIC BEGAN IN MARCH...



500+

MASSES



75

BABY BAPTISMS



280+

CONFES-  
SION  
HOURS



200+

ZOOM ROSARIES



350+

ADORA-  
TION  
HOURS



225

IN SACRAMENT  
PREP



42

WEDDINGS



750+

PEOPLE FED  
WEEKLY



20+

FUNERALS



168

RECEIVED  
SACRAMENTS

## HELP US CONTINUE.



TEXT ANY DOLLAR  
AMOUNT TO  
925-258-2969



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ONLINE AT  
[FAITHDIRECT.NET](http://FAITHDIRECT.NET)  
CODE: CA602

# Worship Schedule

Effective November 18, 2020

## OUTDOOR MASS

Weather permitting.  
Bring your own chair.  
Face covering required.

### Monday—Saturday

8:30 am

### Sunday

8:00 am Traditional Latin  
9:30 am English  
11:00 am English  
12:30 pm Spanish

## LIVESTREAM MASS

On Facebook and YouTube.

### Every day

6:45 am  
In English

### Wednesday

8:30 am School Mass  
In English

5:00 pm

In Spanish

### Saturday Vigil

5:00 pm  
In English

7:00 pm

In Spanish

### Sunday

6:45 am in English

8:00 am Traditional Latin

9:30 am in English

## PARK & LISTEN

Tune in to 87.9 FM

Park in the parking lot or side streets  
within a block of the church and tune  
in to 87.9 FM to listen to Mass.

## WALK IN COMMUNION

Pray with Livestream Mass or listen  
from the parking lot on 87.9 FM.  
Face covering required.

Arrive exactly 45 minutes after Mass  
begins to receive Communion.

PLUS on Sunday at 5:00 pm

## CONFESION & ADORATION

In the Courtyard.  
Weather permitting.  
Face covering required.  
Bring your own chair for Adoration.

### Monday - Friday

6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Saturday

9:30 am - 10:30 am

## DAILY ZOOM ROSARY

12:00 pm in English  
<http://bit.ly/RosaryDec>

8:00 pm in Spanish  
<http://bit.ly/RosarioDec>

## SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE!

Worship schedule is subject to  
change based on the latest from  
Alameda County Health Depart-  
ment and the Diocese of Oak-  
land.

Outdoor Mass, Confession and  
Adoration is offered weather  
permitting.

Bookmark  
[StMichaelLivermore.com/  
MassTimes](http://StMichaelLivermore.com/MassTimes) (or scan the code  
below) for the most current  
schedule.



SCAN ME

# PARISH NEWS



## WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

November collections were short by \$12,895.60. Together, let's make our December goal! Scan to see the work our parish has been doing since the pandemic and to make your offering.



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## WHEN AT ST MICHAEL'S

Wear a face covering.

Sanitize your hands.

Remain at a 6-foot distance from others.

*If you or anyone in your house is sick, please stay home.*



## REACH THE PARISH OFFICE

Our "in person" office remains closed.

We can help you by phone at

925-447-1585, by email

Office@StMichaelLivermore.com or by Messenger on our Facebook/Website.



## ADVENT RECONCILIATION

December 9 and 16 at 6:30 – 8:00 pm  
for St Michael School and  
Faith Formation.

Mon-Fri at 6:30 pm and Sat at 9:30 am  
for parish community.



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# CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENTS



## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Livestream Mass and Outdoor Mass

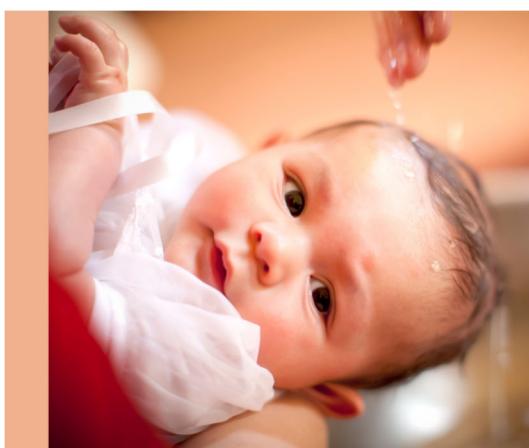
Walk In Communion

Confession & Adoration



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*Scan for the most  
current information*



## NOW SCHEDULING BABY BAPTISMS

Preparation classes for parents and godparents are online. Download the information packet to start the process.



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## CONFESSON IN THE COURTYARD

In the the Courtyard, weather permitting.

Face covering required.

M-F at 6:30 pm, Sat at 9:30 am.



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## EUCARISTIC ADORATION

In the Courtyard, weather permitting.

M-F at 6:30 pm and Sat at 9:30 am.

Wear a face covering.

Bring your own chair.



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# GROW DISCIPLES

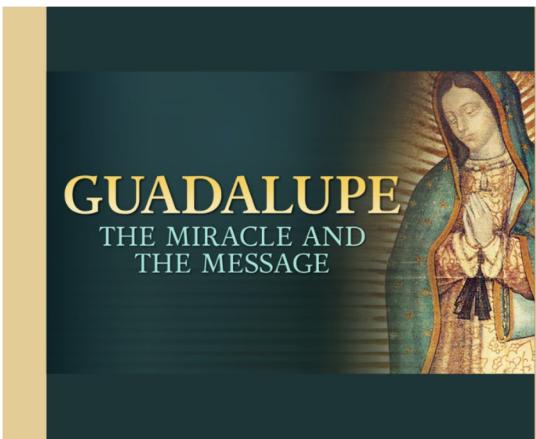


## DAILY DECEMBER ROSARY

Meet on Zoom at 12:00 pm  
Everyday in December  
Rosary beginners welcome  
Let's pray together



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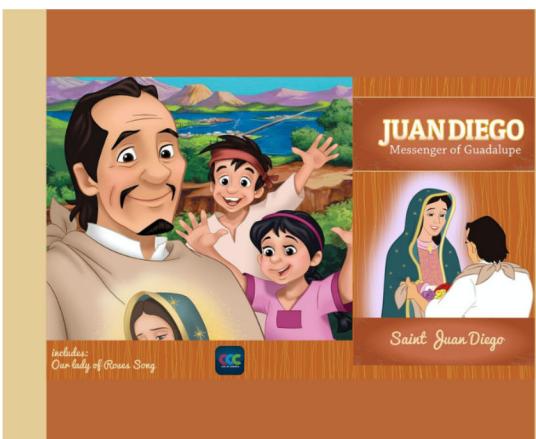


## GUADALUPE

In 1531, the Virgin Mary appeared to an indigenous convert named Juan Diego. As a result of this encounter, nine million Native Americans embraced the Catholic faith. (58 min documentary).



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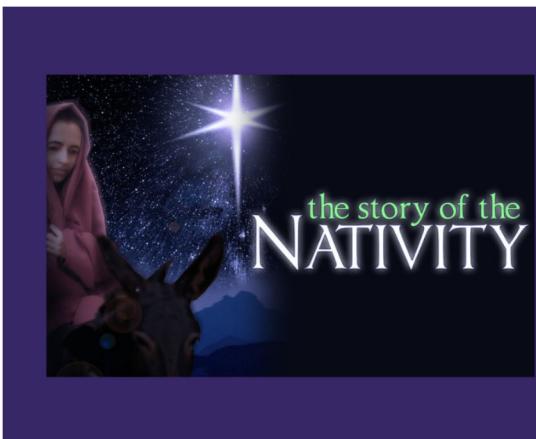


## JUAN DIEGO

Juan Diego: Messenger of Guadalupe is the true story of how the Blessed Mother chose a hero for a key role in a beautiful miracle that would unite diverse peoples and change the course of history.



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## STORY OF THE NATIVITY

Join top scholars, inspirational speakers, and popular authors as they explain the story behind the story of the birth of Jesus. Watch free on FORMED.



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# BRING CHRIST TO PEOPLE



## COMMUNITY CARE FREE GROCERIES

Saturdays 12/5, 12/12, 12/19

9:00 am - 11:00 am while supplies last

St Michael School yard

Enter the gate at 4th Street and Maple



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## GROCERY DRIVE THRU VOLUNTEERS

Packaging Team, Delivery Team,  
Distribution Team, Traffic Team and  
Prayer Team members needed.



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## SPONSOR HOLIDAY GROCERIES

\$25 sponsors a family with  
groceries for a holiday meal,  
including ham, side dishes, baking  
supplies and desserts



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## SANTA'S SECRET SERVICE 2020

No gifts to care facilities this year.  
Collecting grocery store gift cards  
instead to be distributed on  
December 19



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# ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus,  
I believe that You  
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.  
I love You above all things,  
and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment  
receive You sacramentally,  
come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there  
and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.  
Amen.



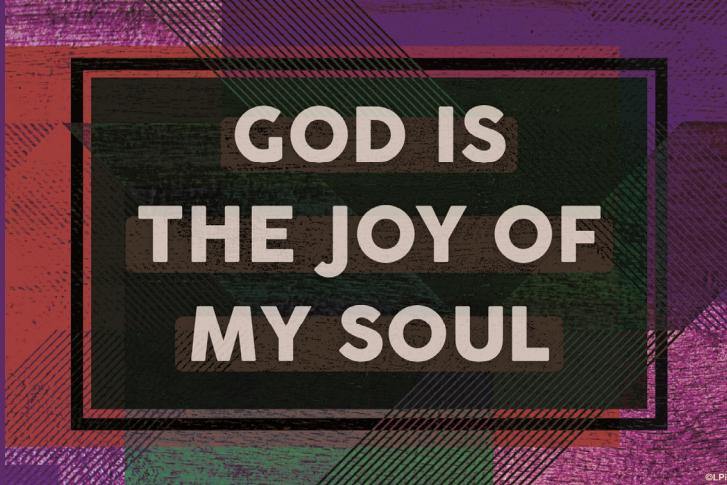
©LPi

## O COME, O COME *Emmanuel*

For most Catholics, Advent is incomplete without singing the traditional hymn "O Come, O Come Emmanuel". In singing this hymn from the 8th century, we can be reminded that Christ comes twice – at his birth and at His second coming.

The hymn is typically sung during the last nine days of the Advent season, mirroring the "O Antiphons". These antiphons accompany the Magnificat canticle of Evening Prayer from December 17-23. These special verses recall the prophecies associated with Mary's acceptance of her calling to be the mother of Jesus and proclaim the coming of Christ as the fulfillment of not only Old Testament hopes but our present ones as well. "O come ...".





# GOD IS THE JOY OF MY SOUL

## GOSPEL MEDITATION

Did you ever stop and realize that there is no earthly gain that can ever really satisfy us? Think of winning the Lotto. On this side of the winning ticket, it's all about the money, the new car, house, vacations, bank accounts, and infinite pleasures. The possibility of acquiring all of these earthly securities brings us back again and again to the purchase of a ticket. Then, one day we win! Our dreams are fulfilled, and happiness is on the horizon. Then one day, we wake up and realize that nothing has really changed, and I am not as satisfied as I thought I was or would be. I find myself living in my incompleteness and with my profound sorrow and grief. I did not find joy.

Glimpses of joy are possible but not by material means. They are brought to us through incredible experiences of connection that bring us face to face with real and authentic faith, hope, and love. And, they are glimpses and do not last. The moment we find ourselves looking back at them, they are gone, and we find ourselves remembering the moment in memory. To carry joy within us is to realize that it is not something I create, manufacture or even acquire. It is not able to be purchased. It is a gift. My need for joy mirrors my need for eternity, for a Creator who has a claim on the very

essence of who I am and desires a home within me. As C. S. Lewis discovered, joy is a surprise that speaks to my very soul and is given as gift by the God who loves me.

The beauty of Advent is found in discovering the beauty of the gift of joy. God has visited his people for no other reason than to show them where and how to find joy! All of our human and earthly joy experiences are always only glimpses. They never satisfy us, sustain us or fulfill us. It is only God who is the joy of my soul. Real, Divine experiences of joy catch us off guard, make us stop and become aware, bring a feeling of awe and rightness and have an eternal Otherness about them. Nothing created by humans can ever come close to this. We probably will not fully realize the truth of all of this until we actually meet God face to face in heaven one day. Then, in that sacred moment when our hearts leap for joy we will understand what we have been tirelessly searching for all along. Intense gratitude will most surely follow.

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## QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

### First Reading:

Isaiah shares his understanding of his prophetic call and his experience of the Lord as a God of justice and compassion. As we continue in the season of Advent, what new spiritual insights are you discovering?

### Second Reading:

Paul encourages the Thessalonians to be thankful to God and be active in their newly found faith in Christ by following his moral imperatives. How are you putting your faith into practice during this Advent?

### Gospel:

John tells us that the religious leaders in Jerusalem questioned the identity of John the Baptist, wondering if he was the Messiah, Elijah, or the Prophet who Moses prophesied would come. John the Baptist responds in humility, with a clear sense of his own call. Do you humbly accept God's call in your life?

# RESPONDING to the

# Call

## EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

### A Constant Companion

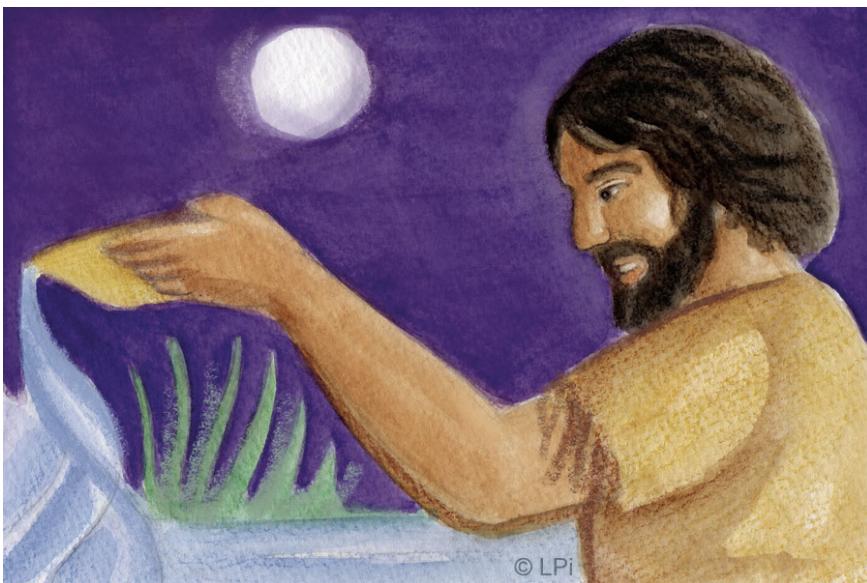
As Christians, we are called to a life of prayer. This is not just during seasons like Advent, but all year long. When we talk about being prayerful everyday stewards, we are speaking about cultivating an awareness of God being with us at all times. Each day we begin by offering God the entirety of our day. Each night we rest in Him and hope that the hours that passed gave Him glory.

During this busy time of Advent, it is hard to cultivate this life of prayer, but without it we can too easily lose sight of the reason for the season. It is during this time of year we need to heed the words of St. Paul more than ever when he wrote to the Thessalonians, "Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing." This is how we will be able to avoid the pitfalls of con-

sumerism and secularism and keep our eyes fixed on Jesus.

Bring Jesus with you into the office Christmas party. Take him with you shopping for gifts in the department store. Be aware of him when you sit down to watch television specials you have seen every year of your life. Give him all your time and let his presence fill your every moment. By striving to be connecting with Jesus at all times, you will bear greater fruit and the joy you experience will be much greater than you could imagine. You might even spend a few less dollars and spend more time with those you love, particularly the one who loves you the most, the Incarnation himself.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



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"Yet I am always with you; you hold me  
by my right hand." Psalm 73:23

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