



St. Michael Catholic Parish

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

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FEBRUARY 10, 2019

**JESUS SAID TO SIMON,
“PUT OUT INTO
DEEP WATER AND
LOWER YOUR NETS
FOR A CATCH.”**

Luke 5:4



Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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Answering the Call

You can understand Simon Peter's hesitation in today's Gospel reading. He has been up all night fishing unsuccessfully, but Jesus tells him to go out and try one more time. Think about what that would mean for Simon. He's a professional fisherman. Here on Simon Peter's "own turf" so to speak—in his area of expertise where he is most comfortable—Jesus tells him to go back out and fish again. Doubting the value in Jesus' idea, Simon says, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing!" He reluctantly obeys Jesus' command and lowers the nets but does not expect to catch a single fish. When the nets burst with what was probably the largest catch of fish he had ever seen, Simon realizes the awesome power at work in Jesus. He feels badly for having doubted Jesus and unworthy to be in his presence. Simon says to Jesus, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord" (Luke 5:8, RSV).

But Jesus still calls Peter, with all his weaknesses, to follow him and to share the Gospel with others—to become "fishers of men." And he calls us to do the same, even in the face of whatever doubts, fears, and weaknesses we may experience.

Like Peter, we are often reluctant. We feel unworthy to accept such a great responsibility. But Jesus doesn't let us use our unworthiness as an excuse any more than he allowed Peter to do so. He tells us, as he does the fishermen of Galilee, "Don't be afraid!" He will be with us in all we do to spread the Gospel.

Unpack the First Reading Isaiah 6:1-2a, 3-8

According to Jewish tradition, the Seraphim were the highest of the nine levels of angels, serving in the presence of God, before his very throne. Isaiah hears the Seraphim singing, "Holy, holy, holy..." This song is echoed in the Mass where the congregation



joins in singing the Sanctus. The thrice "holy" signifies the absolute holiness of God in Isaiah's vision and in our Liturgy; Christians would also suggest that this represents a hint of the trinitarian life of God as well.

When Isaiah encounters the thrice-holy God, he confesses his sinfulness, a Seraphim brings a hot ember and puts it to his lips; then the angel declares that Isaiah's sin is atoned for. This pattern for Isaiah—sin, fiery trial, atonement—is a prophetic foreshadowing of what will happen to Israel.

Unpack the Second Reading 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Paul gives us wonderful insight into the pattern of Church tradition and how it functions. Paul first reminds the Corinthians that the Resurrection is Gospel or a constitutive part of the revelation given by God and that this was what they had "received" from Paul. The idea of the Gospel as received was vital in the early Church. One had to show that one's teaching wasn't one's own but that it had been received from an apostle or someone who had been taught by an apostle. The primary importance of demonstrating the received faith wasn't to settle dogmatic disputes but to define the creedal community. The early creeds were called *symbolon* in Greek, suggesting a badge of membership.

The primary interest of Paul in First Corinthians is to establish unity. Paul defines the parameters of membership in the Christian communion using the creed received from Christ through the apostles. Those who believe in the received Gospel of Christ may have confidence that they "stand firm" within the Church.

Unpack the Gospel Luke 5:1-11

It has been suggested that the early events in the life of the Church portrayed in Acts parallel the events in the public ministry of Jesus in the Gospel of Luke. It's easier to understand what Jesus means by calling Peter a "fisher of men" in Luke if we see him

drawing in his first catch of souls at Pentecost in the book of Acts. One benefit of recognizing this parallel is its ability to show Christians from other denominations who don't share our belief in the necessity of Baptism that Jesus' words to Peter are a reference to the baptismal scene in Acts 2. Being a fisher of men for Christ must mean that Peter will draw reborn human souls out of the waters of Baptism in the same way that he formerly drew fish out of the Sea of Galilee's waters. The parallel shows that Jesus links the activities of fishing and baptizing; souls will enter the kingdom of God by being drawn out of the waters of Baptism and not simply by confessing that Jesus is one's Savior.

Lectio Divina

Today's Scripture Readings focus on Jesus' call to Peter to become a "fisher of men" and God's call to each of us.

First, watch the six-minute *Opening the Word* video for the Fifth

Sunday in Ordinary Time on the "Community" page of FORMED.org

How does Simon Peter respond to the miraculous catch of fish? How does Jesus handle Simon's response?

Simon Peter felt unworthy to answer Jesus' call to discipleship. In what ways have you resisted God's call in the past (or present) because of feeling unworthy or unequipped?

Reflect on these questions and share your responses with someone this week: within your family, your small group or even online on the Opening the Word Discussion group on St Michael's Community page of FORMED.org

Serenity Prayer

God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change; courage to change the things I can; and wisdom to know the difference. Living one day at a time; Enjoying one moment at a time; Accepting hardships as the pathway to peace; Taking, as he did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it; Trusting that he will make all things right if I surrender to his will; That I may be reasonably happy in this life and supremely happy with Him forever in the next. Amen.

—Reinhold Niebuhr

Reflections reprinted here with permission from Augustine Institute.



Evangelizing Catholics

Dr. Scott Hahn

Evangelizing Catholics

An audio talk available free on FORMED

In this informative and dynamic presentation, Dr. Scott Hahn discusses why the New Evangelization is the greatest priority of the Church at this time, and how we are all called to share our faith. He shows how the Eucharist is connected to explaining Jesus's Death and Resurrection to others and how Pope St. John Paul II's call for a New Evangelization must rely entirely on the Eucharist.

Find this talk on the Community page of FORMED.org

The Parish has already paid for your FORMED account! Register at StMichael.FORMED.org.

Prayers for the Week

Mass Intentions

Saturday 2/9

8:30am Victo Le †
5:00pm Audie Trinidad †
7:00pm Salvador Guzman †
Margarito Guzman †
Carmen & Enrique Morales

Sunday 2/10

6:45am Thomas Heise †
8:00am Robert J. Fuchs †
9:30am Audie Trinidad & daughters †
11:00am Kaitlyn & Danna Trinidad
12:30pm Robert Morales †
6:00pm Mass for Our Parish

Monday 2/11

8:30am Mike Diais †

Tuesday 2/12

8:30am Men & women in our Navy

Wednesday 2/13

8:30am Jack & Bernice Rooney †
7:00pm Roger Hatch
Pete Howard

Thursday 2/14

8:30am Tom & Karen McCaffrey

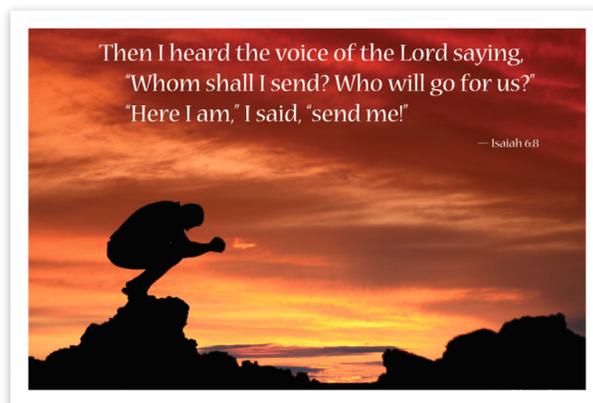
Friday 2/15

8:30am Thomas Zona Koo †

To arrange a Mass intention, please visit the Church Office.

The suggested donation of \$10 per intention goes to the priest who celebrates the Mass.

Every first Sunday of the month, the 11:00 am Mass is a "Communal Mass" with several intentions.



The Scripture readings for today show us how God takes each of us as we are and equips us with his grace to answer his call. Let's take some time now to pray and meditate on how God is calling each of us and how we might respond to that call.

Prayer

Prayerfully place yourself in today's Gospel reading. Imagine that you are with Simon Peter on his boat. You have just returned from an exhausting night of fishing without catching anything. But before you can go home and rest, Jesus gets into the boat and tells Peter to put out into the deep. You have heard Jesus' command, but you know that it is very unlikely you will catch any fish—what do you think about this command? Peter asks you to help cast the net. You do so and, against all odds, you pull in a miraculous catch of fish! How do you feel after you see this awesome miracle? What do you think of your previous disbelief? How might this make you approach your relationship with Jesus differently? What might you say to Peter? What might you say to Jesus?

Resolution

Now imagine that after Jesus calls Simon Peter and tells him he will be catching men from now on, Jesus next turns to you. He tells you, "Follow me." In what particular way might Jesus be calling you to follow him more closely this week? Make a resolution that helps you to do that more this week, and ask Jesus for the grace to help you fulfill your resolution.

Need Prayers?

Send requests to Prayers@StMichaelLivermore.com

You are also invited to write your prayer requests in the Book of Intentions in the Adoration Chapel, just to the right as you enter.

The Poison and Lies of Relativism



Relativism is the idea that truth is relative to differences in perception. Relativism holds that there is no universal, objective truth; rather each point of view has its own truth.

In secular terms, relativists say, "Your truth is yours, but it is not mine." Thus, truth is reduced to a subjective opinion, depending solely on what one feels, thinks and prefers.

When there is no absolute, unchanging truth, we can then say that I see the red light as meaning "go" and the green light as meaning "stop". Such an idea can lead to collision! Equally so, a relativist can say, "Your truth that Jesus is God is true for you, but not true for me."

Relativism is profoundly dangerous in a culture when one leader or an influential group supports the opinion of the moment. The result is a culture of division, tyranny and dictatorship, as those with power pass laws to support their version of truth.

The Catholic Church, especially under John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI, has identified relativism as one of the most significant

problems for faith and morals today. According to the Church, relativism, as a denial of absolute truth, leads to moral license and a denial of the possibility of sin and of God.

The goal of this article is to inform and form our conscience, to assist us in our moral discernment based on Church Tradition and to return to what God desires for us. His commandments, truth about eternal life, respect for human dignity, core moral values, salvation and redemption and divine revelation recorded in the Holy Scriptures are not mere suggestions. They are not recommendations, human inventions nor are they figments of human imagination. They are Truths that have the grace to lead us to heaven.

Jesus said in John 14:6, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

Jesus did not say he is "one way" or "one truth". Rather, Jesus states that He is the embodiment of Truth! He is the Truth that humanity longs and desires for. He is the Truth that quenches the thirst of all. He is the truth that sets us free. And the message of His Truth has been entrusted by Jesus into the hands of the Church. The aim is not to burden the People of God with rules, but to protect us and lead us all to the fullness of life and complete joy.

Sadly, relativism has invaded our whole culture: in our own church, families, education system and every aspect of society. As followers of Jesus, let us be warned and

be vigilant about this wolf in sheep's clothing or what St. Paul wrote, "Satan in disguise as an angel of light." (2 Cor 11: 14).

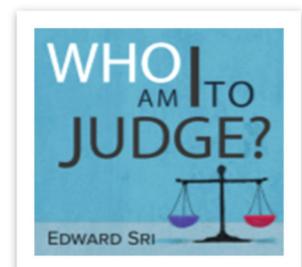
Let us pray that in St. Michael Parish, our community will center our minds and hearts to the teachings of Christ, handed over to our Mother Church, rather than to our personal opinions, preferences and misguided interpretation. All must be measured, discerned and interpreted using the lens of Jesus and His Divine Teachings.

Discussing moral issues with family and friends can be a challenge in a culture strongly promoting the idea that there is no objective truth. Speaking from a wealth of personal experience, renowned author and theologian Dr. Edward Sri in his series "Who Am I to Judge" provides 5 "keys" to enable Christians to oppose with logic and love what Pope Benedict XVI called the "dictatorship of relativism." He also clarifies the proper understanding of what it means to judge, and the importance of making good judgments.

I urge you to visit our community page on FORMED.org to listen to the audio presentation of Who am I to Judge? Responding to Relativism with Logic and Love.

St Michael, defend us!

Fr Carl, Pastor



MONDAY, FEB 11

Our Lady of Lourdes

Readings: Gn 1:1-19; Ps 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10, 12, 24, 35c; Mk 6:53-56

Confession: 7:30 am in the Church

Watch Lourdes: A Story of Faith, Science and Miracles on FORMED.org

THURSDAY, FEB 14

Ss. Cyril and Methodius Valentine's Day

Readings: Gn 2:18-25; Ps 128:1-5; Mk 7:24-30

Watch Beloved, Session 1: Christ at the Center on FORMED.org. Putting Jesus at the center of our married lives is crucial for maintaining a strong marriage. Only in him can we find the strength and grace to face the many challenges and joys that come our way.

SUNDAY, FEB 17

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Reading: Jer 17:5-8; Ps 1:1-4, 6; 1 Cor 15:12, 16-20; Lk 6:17, 20-26

Catholic Funeral and Cemetery Services presentation in the Convent after Masses. For information, Frank Draschner at 925-455-9696.

Mass in Tagalog at 3:30 pm

TUESDAY, FEB 12

Readings: Gn 1:20 -- 2:4a; Ps 8:4-9; Mk 7:1-13

Contemplate a Lent Plan: Take a moment this week to consider how you will participate in Lent (see following page). Save important dates on your calendar.

FRIDAY, FEB 15

Readings: Gn 3:1-8; Ps 32:1-2, 5-7; Mk 7:31-37

Confession at 7:30 am in the Church

Day of Penance: All Fridays of the year are days of penance. The traditional practice is to abstain from eating meat. However, other forms of fasting, acts of charity or devotion may be offered instead.

WEDNESDAY, FEB 13

Readings: Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17; Ps 104:1-2a, 27-28, 29bc-30; Mk 7:14-23

Golden Friends Red Hawk Casino Trip. For details and to reserve your seat, please contact Wilma at 925-447-8198

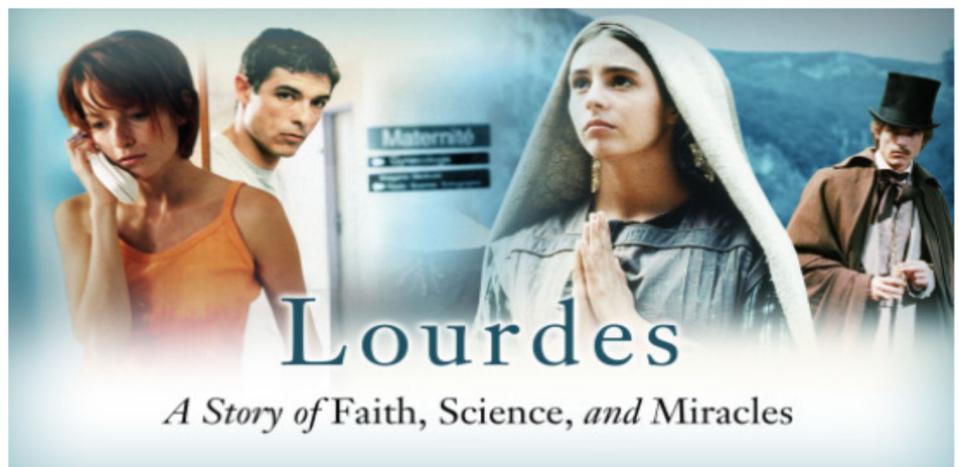
SATURDAY, FEB 16

Readings: Gn 3:9-24; Ps 90:2-4abc, 5-6, 12-13; Mk 8:1-10

Dress-a-Girl Sew Fest is in the Hall from 9 am—3 pm. For info, call Suzanne Beck, 925-352-8447

Confession at 9:15 am, 3:45 pm and 6:15 pm

Catholic Funeral and Cemetery Services presentation in the Convent after vigil Mass. For information, Frank Draschner at 925-455-9696.



Watch this film based on the manuscripts of Henri Guillaumet, a scientist and nonbeliever who met Bernadette at Lourdes in 1858, then came to believe. View FREE in English or Spanish on our Community page FORMED.org



Ash Wednesday

March 6

Rosary & Chaplet: 6:15am

Mass: 7:00am, 8:30am, 10:30am (School), 12:15pm, 6:00pm and 7:30pm (Spanish)

Service with Ashes: 2:00pm and 3:30pm (Spanish)

Stations of the Cross Wed in Spanish, Fri in English

Walk with Jesus on His way to Calvary.

Wed: 7:00pm in Spanish

Fri: 9:15 am & 7:00 pm in English

Confession Times

Mon-Wed-Fri-Sat in Lent

Mon, March 11, 18 & 25: 7:00 pm Reconciliation Service in the Church

Mon & Fri: 7:30am Church in English and Spanish

Wed: 2:30pm - Convent in English and Spanish

Sat: 9:15am, 3:45pm and 6:15pm Spanish

Rosary & Mass

Monday—Saturday in Lent

Mon-Fri

6:15 am Rosary and Chaplet

7:00 am Mass (Mon-Fri)



Mon-Sat

8:30 am Mass

Rosary and Chaplet in the chapel

During the 40 days of Lent, there will be a special collection at daily Masses for the poor, an opportunity to practice almsgiving.

Drive Through Prayer

Mon-Fri in Lent

Anyone in the greater community is invited to drive through our courtyard to receive prayers from 5:30-6:30 pm, Mon-Fri. To be part of the team, visit StMichaelLivermore.com/DriveThroughPrayer

Parish Wide Study

Details will be coming soon about the video-based study for the six weeks in Lent. All parishioners (in English and in Spanish) will be encouraged to participate with their families, friends, ministries or small groups.



Save These Dates

February 18: Office closed for President's Day

March 6: Ash Wednesday

April 18: Holy Thursday

April 19: Good Friday

April 20: Easter Vigil

April 21: Easter Sunday

Livermore Knights 46th Annual Crab Feed and Charity Auction

Saturday, March 16 at Robert Livermore Community Center

According to Grand Knight Wesley Arnold, "This will be a great night where we celebrate success, have fun, eat well and hear stories that will compel guests to support an organization that is making our community a better place to live."

Seating is limited to about 400 people and always sells out. For tickets and more information, please visit www.livermoreknights.org for details or call Dennis Lundbom 775-772-6369 or Mark & Claire Duguid 925-443-5873.

Ministry News



The Homebound Ministry

committee met to discuss how they can better support a key mission of St Michael's— bring Christ to people. Homebound Ministers bring Communion to those who cannot come to Mass because they are ill, injured, aging or recovering from medical procedures. For more info, contact Lien Celi at 925-325-9117.

From left to right: Joe Stocking, Theresa Stocking, Marla Alvarez, Maria Ruilova-Duval, Le Sousa, Cora Herrera, and Lien Celi.



St Michael's Parishioners were at the Walk for Life West Coast,

along with over 50,000 advocates for life from all over California at the 15th Annual pro-life event in San Francisco. Parishioners began with Mass at 8:30 am at St. Michael's, followed by Rosary and hospitality in the courtyard before heading over to the City. The walk was a profound moment to stand up and walk for the lives of the unborn.

St Michael School Science Fair top winners, Sabino, Brennan, Josephine, Madison, Bella and Thomas, will be going onto the Diocese of Oakland Science Fair! We are overflowing with St Michael School Eagle pride!

Learn more about our school at SMSLiv.org

Collection Report

Thank you for your offerings! Because of your support, we are able to celebrate the sacraments, grow disciples and bring Christ to people.

2018 Tax Statements were mailed out to all parishioners on January 30th. Letters were sent to those who made financial contributions of over \$250 for the year. If you haven't received your tax statement letter, please contact the parish office.

2/3/19 Collection	\$20,750.64
Month-to-Date	\$20,750.64
Month Goal	\$87,058.82
% Reached	24%
Faith Direct	0
Maintenance (for February)	\$6,837.39

El veneno y las mentiras del relativismo



El

relativismo es la idea de que la

verdad es relativa a las diferencias en la percepción. El relativismo sostiene que no hay una verdad universal y objetiva; más bien cada punto de vista tiene su propia verdad.

En términos seculares, los relativistas dicen: "Tu verdad es tuya, pero no es mía". Por lo tanto, la verdad se reduce a una opinión subjetiva, dependiendo únicamente de lo que uno siente, piensa y prefiere.

Cuando no hay una verdad absoluta e inmutable, podemos decir que veo la luz roja como "ir" y la luz verde como "parar". ¡Tal idea puede llevar a la colisión! Del mismo modo, un relativista puede decir: "Tu verdad es que Jesús es Dios es verdadera para ti, pero no para mí".

El relativismo es profundamente peligroso en una cultura cuando un líder o un grupo influyente apoya la opinión del momento. El resultado es una cultura de división, tiranía y dictadura, ya que aquellos con poder aprueban leyes para apoyar su versión de la verdad.

La Iglesia católica, especialmente bajo Juan Pablo II y el Papa Benedicto XVI, ha identificado el relativismo como uno de los problemas más importantes para la fe y la moral de hoy. Según la Iglesia, el relativismo, como negación de la verdad absoluta, conduce a la li-

cencia moral y la negación de la posibilidad del pecado y de Dios.

El objetivo de este artículo es informar y formar nuestra conciencia, ayudarnos en nuestro discernimiento moral basado en la tradición de la Iglesia y regresar a lo que Dios desea para nosotros. Sus mandamientos, la verdad sobre la vida eterna, el respeto por la dignidad humana, los valores morales fundamentales, la salvación y la redención y la revelación divina registrada en las Sagradas Escrituras no son meras sugerencias. No son recomendaciones, inventos humanos ni son productos de la imaginación humana. Son verdades que tienen la gracia de llevarnos al cielo.

Jesús dijo en Juan 14: 6: "Yo soy el camino, la verdad y la vida. Nadie viene al Padre, sino por mí".

Jesús no dijo que él es "de una manera" o "una verdad". ¡Más bien, Jesús declara que Él es la encarnación de la Verdad! Él es la Verdad que la humanidad anhela y desea. Él es la verdad que quita la sed de todos. Él es la verdad que nos hace libres. Y el mensaje de Su verdad ha sido confiado por Jesús en las manos de la Iglesia. El objetivo no es cargar al pueblo de Dios con reglas, sino protegernos y guiarnos a todos a la plenitud de la vida y al gozo completo.

Tristemente, el relativismo ha invadido toda nuestra cultura: en nuestra propia iglesia, familias, sistema educativo y todos los aspectos de la sociedad. Como seguidores de Jesús, estemos advertidos y atentos a este lobo con piel de oveja o como lo que escribió San

Pablo: "Satanás disfrazado de ángel de luz" (2 Corintios 11: 14).

Oremos para que en la parroquia de St. Michael, nuestra comunidad centre nuestras mentes y corazones en las enseñanzas de Cristo, entregadas a nuestra Iglesia Madre, en lugar de a nuestras opiniones personales, preferencias e interpretaciones equivocadas. Todo debe ser medido, discernido e interpretado usando el lente de Jesús y sus Enseñanzas Divinas.

En esta plática, Jesse Romero habla de las verdaderas raíces de la Iglesia Católica y Apostólica, y las comparaciones con las miles de sectas en los Estados Unidos. La falta de conocimiento de las verdades es la razón por la cual la gente se va de la Iglesia. Su propósito es traer de nuevo al seno de la Iglesia y reunirnos con nuestros hermanos separados. La mejor defensa de la fe es el sable.

Le insto a que visite nuestra página de la comunidad en FORMED.org para escuchar la presentación en audio de ¿Quién Fundó Tu Iglesia? Por Jessé Romero.

San Miguel, defiéndanos y protégenos de las trampas del maligno. ¡Amén!

Padre Carl



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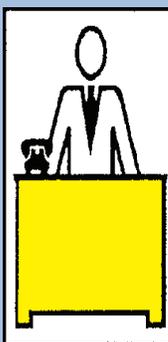
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Pastoral Emergencies | Emergencias Pastorales 925-521-4117



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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 in the chapel

en la capilla

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

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

1st & 3rd Wednesdays in the

Convent Chapel

2:30 pm in English

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 |

24/7 en la Capilla. Para el código de

acceso después de las horas, llame al

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. Stanislaus Poon, Retired

Rev. Deacon Bill Archer

Rev. Deacon Rob Federle

Rev. Deacon Dave Rezendes

Pastoral Council |

Consejo Pastoral

Pastoral Council Chair:

Mike Pereira

michaelpereira@comcast.net

Fr Carl Arcosa, Eric Hom, Fidelis

Atuegbu, Jo Anne Lindquist,

Frank Draschner, Jeff Andersen,

Cynthia Garay, Alison Wilke and

Glenda Dubsy.

Finance Council |

Consejo Financiero

Finance Council Chair:

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Fr Carl Arcosa, Eric Hom, Edna

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Vanessa Suarez and Erleene

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St. Michael School |

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925-344-7150 Adultos



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Rev. Father Alfonso Borgen Parochial Vicar Padre@StMichaelLivermore.com	925-667-4053
Rev. Deacon Bill Archer	925-667-4056
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