



# St. Michael Catholic Parish

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

458 Maple St, Livermore, CA  
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**FIRST SUNDAY OF**

# Lent

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**FEBRUARY**  
**18** 2018

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert,  
and he remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan.  
He was among wild beasts, and the angels ministered to him.

Mark 1:12-13

# Repent and Believe

**D**o you ever have the experience of hearing one of the stories from the Gospels for the hundredth time and suddenly realizing how strange it is? Often, we have heard these stories since we were children, and that they can go in one ear and out the other without much notice. We can go our whole life without realizing how strange Jesus really was.

This Sunday we have one such Gospel reading. Every Lent we hear this story of Jesus going to the desert for forty days to be tempted by Satan. But isn't this an odd thing for Jesus to do? Why would he intentionally go out into the desert like this?

In her wisdom, the Church gives us this reading at the beginning of Lent because Jesus is giving us an example of what the season of Lent is meant to be for us. Lent is a time to remember the reality of our life on earth. In the way that Lent prepares us for Easter, our life on earth is meant to prepare us for heaven – the eternal Easter. We are battling against evil in the desert of this world, with the hope of the resurrection on the other side. Lent draws us into this reality and prepares us for this battle.

## First Reading Reflection

### Genesis 9:8–15

In the Book of Genesis there is a gradual but clear decline in the state of the earth after the Fall. In the days of Noah, mankind has fallen so far from God that Noah alone is found to be just. God saves Noah from the destruction he visits upon the earth and then seeks to establish another worldwide covenant through his descendants. We can say

“another” worldwide covenant because, as the Catechism of the Catholic Church makes clear, “the revelation of creation is inseparable from the revelation and forging of the covenant of the one God with his People. Creation is revealed as the first step toward this covenant” (CCC 288). In other words, God sought a covenant relationship with us from



the very beginning. Salvation history is the story of how the covenant is broken and finally re-established in the New Covenant in Christ.

A covenant is a sacred relationship that makes a permanent bond between the two parties. A covenant forms a family relationship, as does a marriage. In the Bible, the covenant relationship between Israel and God is compared both to a marriage and to the relationship between father and son; both, of course, are familial. In offering Noah, and thus mankind, a covenant, God is offering the most intimate and loving relationship to man. The problem throughout the Old Testament narrative is that humanity continually rebels and is unfaithful to this covenant.

## Second Reading Reflection

### 1 Peter: 3:18–22

Peter explains the story of Noah's ark as corresponding to the rite of Baptism. This suggests that the sacramental life of the Church was seen from the very beginning as a continuation—a fulfillment—of God's saving work throughout history. As God had once cleansed the world of sin in the waters of judgment in the time of Noah, he now cleanses it from sin in the waters of mercy through the Sacrament of Baptism. This connection between the flood of Noah and Baptism was even represented in ancient baptisteries. These were often built with eight sides to indicate the number of the members of Noah's family, “eight in all, [who] were saved through water.”

The season of Lent has always been observed as a preparation for Baptism (administered at the Easter Vigil) and so it is appropriate that the Church should give us these two readings to announce that theme. Those of us who have already been baptized will nonetheless renew our baptismal promises at Easter, and so it is fitting that St. Peter reminds us that our Baptism is also “an appeal to God for a clear conscience.” Lent is the time the Church invites us to reflect on our solemn pledge and to prepare ourselves for its renewal in the baptismal rites of Easter.

## Gospel Reading

### Mark 1:40–45

The use of this short reading from Mark for the First Sunday of Lent is of very ancient origin. It introduces the struggle against Satan that we

are to share with Christ during the Lenten season.

As Jesus will say later, “No one can enter a strong man’s house ... unless he first binds the strong man” (Mk 3:27, RSV). Jesus combats the evil that tries to take the world—his house—from him. If our “house” is to become a temple of the Holy Spirit, the influence of evil must be swept away. The Lenten disciplines of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving are meant to do this under the influence of God’s grace.

Jesus, by fasting and praying in the desert, repeats, completes, and perfects all the purifications of the past. He is the new Adam, the new Noah, the new Moses, and the new Israel. Jesus does perfectly what these others had done imperfectly and shows us, as members of his Body, how to overcome sin. When Jesus returns from the desert he invites us to join him with the words that could be considered the primary theme of Lent: “This is the time of fulfillment.

The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.”

## Discussion

Watch the short **Opening the Word** video on FORMED.org.

Think of your own life and the places the Lord is calling you to repentance and deeper conversion. How can you arrange your prayer, fasting, and almsgiving during Lent in a way that actually helps you move closer to that conversion?

## DIGGING DEEPER Spiritual Warfare

The Catechism says that to even begin to understand what sin is “one must first recognize the profound relation of man to God, for only in this relationship is the evil of sin unmasked” (CCC 386). Sin is a relational act of man to God that can only be understood when we ponder the reality of the type of relationship God wants to bestow on us.

Spiritual warfare is not an arbitrary battle, but a battle to accept the gift that God freely offers us. Satan tempts us to deny the Lord and the gifts that come from being made his sons and heirs. Will we say yes to Satan and his empty promises, or yes to being a child of God?

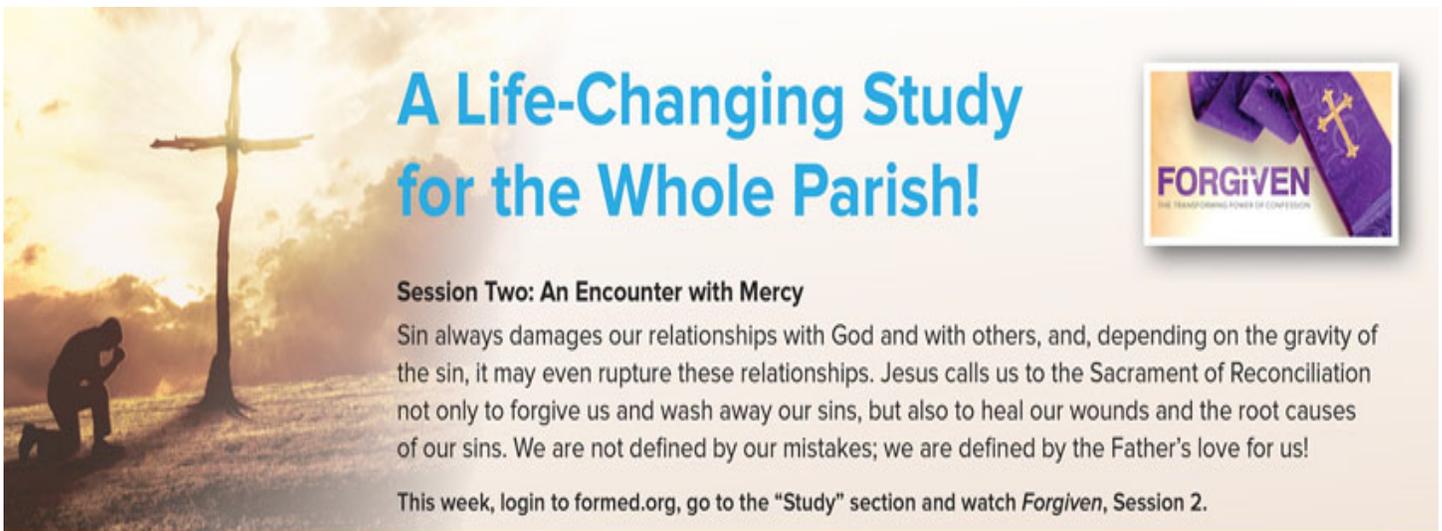
## Lent Devotion

**Daily Mass** is Monday—Saturday at 8:30 am, followed by the Rosary in the chapel.

**Stations of the Cross** is on Fridays at 7:00 pm in the Church in English, Wednesdays at 7:00 pm in Spanish.

This **Opening the Word** reflection by FORMED.org has been printed with permission from Augustine Institute.

Download this week’s **Opening the Word** prayer journal at FORMED.org



# A Life-Changing Study for the Whole Parish!



**Session Two: An Encounter with Mercy**

Sin always damages our relationships with God and with others, and, depending on the gravity of the sin, it may even rupture these relationships. Jesus calls us to the Sacrament of Reconciliation not only to forgive us and wash away our sins, but also to heal our wounds and the root causes of our sins. We are not defined by our mistakes; we are defined by the Father’s love for us!

This week, login to [formed.org](http://formed.org), go to the “Study” section and watch *Forgiven*, Session 2.

**Thursday, February 22  
at 6:30 pm in the Hall**

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If you cannot attend in person on Thursday, please watch FORGIVEN session two on your own.  
Sign up for your free FORMED account at [StMichael.Formed.org](http://StMichael.Formed.org)

# Mass Intentions

## Saturday 2/17

8:30am Pat Mueller †  
5:00pm Herbert DiGrazia †  
7:00pm Familias Nosadrini Orsono,  
Garcia y Caranza †

## Sunday 2/18

6:45am Michael Ziegler †  
8:00am Peggy Volponi †  
9:30am Louis & Evelyn Aragon †  
11:00am Richard J. Gandolfo, Jr. †  
Alegria Davenport †  
12:30pm Froyland Nuñez Ruiz †  
6:00pm Pat Mueller †  
Lourdes Kay

## Monday 2/19

8:30am Alice & Nick Sanchez †

## Tuesday 2/20

8:30am Maria Vinh Thi Dinh †

## Wednesday 2/21

8:30am Pedro Onate Sr †  
Rosa Luisa Onate †  
Janice Alvarez †

## Thursday 2/22

8:30am Jeff Cummins †

## Friday 2/23

8:30am Bob & Sally Regalia †  
Elizabeth Ezekwem

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



In the Gospel for this Sunday, Jesus shows us how we are meant to live in preparation for Heaven. Lent is a time that reminds us of how we should always be living as followers of Christ on earth, where the enemy is always prowling to destroy us. But just like Jesus, who “for the joy that was set before him endured the cross” (Hebrews 12:2), we have eternal happiness awaiting us.

### PRAYER

Consider the Gospel story for today. Imagine Jesus’s life for those forty days, and his love for you that drove him into the desert in the first place. Then think of the moment when he emerged and began to announce his Kingdom was at hand.

Take a word that comes to mind and reflect a moment on what it means to you personally. For example, you might have been drawn to the words, “Repent, and believe in the gospel.” Ask yourself what they mean in your own life. How is Jesus calling you to repentance this Lent so that you can believe more deeply that the Kingdom of God is here?

### RESOLUTION

It takes courage to admit our sins and our weaknesses. We long so deeply to be loved, and we are often afraid that our imperfections make us unlovable. This fear often prevents us from admitting our sins keeping us enslaved to Satan and our hearts closed off from the Lord’s mercy. Recall Jesus’s words to St. Faustina, “Always fight with the deep conviction that I am with you.” When we remember that God is with us in our fight against sin, and that he will always love us, repentance becomes effortless. His “perfect love casts out fear” (1 John 4:18). This week, call to mind the sins and weaknesses that you are ashamed to show even to God. Try to fight with the deep conviction that he is with you, and bring these things to the confessional with true repentance in your heart. Be sure to pay attention to the faith that grows in your heart as you repent.

### Parish Prayer Requests

For the repose of the soul of Reymundo Telles (Cynthia Garay’s father)  
For Lou Ventimiglio who is recovering from a car accident.

***Please send your prayer requests to [Prayers@StMichaelLivermore.com](mailto:Prayers@StMichaelLivermore.com)***

# Adult Enrichment



## Lent Mission Workshop on Confession

Feb 15, Feb 22 and Feb 27  
6:30 pm in the Hall

FORGIVEN: The Transforming Power of Confession. If you miss the in-person group, watch the videos on your own at [StMichael.Formed.org](http://StMichael.Formed.org)

(Spanish on Feb 16, Feb 23 and Mar 2  
7:00 pm in the Hall)

## First Corinthians Bible Study

Mar 1—May 3  
6:30 pm in the Convent

The conflicts of the early Christians in Corinth are in many ways similar to our struggles today as Christians. The message of St. Paul to the Corinthians is a much-needed message for our own times.

## Easter Mission Workshop on the Eucharist & the Mass

April 12, 19, 26  
6:30 pm in the Hall

Discover—or re-discover—the beauty of the sacraments, the Eucharist and get a walk through the Mass. (Spanish on April 6, 13, 20 at 7:00 pm in the Hall)

## Fulfilled: Uncovering the Biblical Foundations of Catholicism

April 30—June 11  
7:00 pm in the Ed Center Conf Room

Using the Old Testament Tabernacle as a blueprint for God's plan, gain an understanding of some of the most questioned Catholic teachings and reignite your love of Scripture.

## Bishop Barron on the Eucharist

April 28—May 26  
Online only, via Flocknote

So many believers do not understand the Eucharist. Bishop Barron offers inspiring insights into the mystery of Christ's presence in our lives and the centrality of the Eucharist as an important part of that presence.

## Biblical Walk through the Mass

May 1—May 29  
7:00 pm in the Ed Center Conf Room

Explore the biblical roots of the words and gestures we experience in the liturgy and explains their profound significance. This intriguing look at the Mass is sure to renew your faith and deepen your devotion to the Eucharist. (Spanish: May 3-May 31)

For more info: [Adult@StMichaelLivermore.com](mailto:Adult@StMichaelLivermore.com) or 925-667-4051

## Collection Report

Thank you for your continued generosity! Your financial offerings are St Michael's only source of income. We could not operate our mission without your support.

2/11/18 Collection	\$22,722.45
Month-to-Date	\$42,581.95
Month Goal	\$87,058.82
Percentage Reached	49%
Faith Direct for Jan.	\$0.00
Maintenance (for Month)	\$8,695.14

## Need Something in the Bulletin?

Share with the community news from your ministry, your service opportunities and upcoming events! Bulletin submissions are automatically added to the parish website and will be included in the Friday Flocknote. We can also include your news on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

**Regular deadline is 10 days prior to the Sunday publish date.**

**Special Holy Week/Easter Deadline is Monday, March 12 for both the Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday bulletins.**

Please email content to [TinaGregory@StMichaelLivermore.com](mailto:TinaGregory@StMichaelLivermore.com). Include all the information—who, what, when, where, contact info—in the body of the email or as an attached Word document. Please do not attach PDF documents or drop off hard copies at the office (transcribing takes extra time and leaves plentiful room for mistakes!). Attach pictures as JPG files. Thank you!

# This Week

## MONDAY, FEB 19

**Readings:** Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mt 25:31-46

**Reminder:**

Parish and School Offices will be closed in observance of President's Day.

## THURSDAY, FEB 22

**Chair of St. Peter the Apostle**

**Readings:** 1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6; Mt 16:13-19

**Event:**

*Parish Lent Mission, Session 2 at 6:30 pm in the Hall*

We are not defined by our mistakes. In Confession, Jesus invites us to encounter his mercy and be healed by his love. When he tells us "Go and sin no more," he also gives us the grace to do so.

## SUNDAY, FEB 25

**Second Sunday in Lent**

**Readings:** Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Ps 116:10, 15-19; Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10

**Events:**

*Welcome Brunch* after the 9:30 am Mass in the Small Hall for all those who are new to our parish community, returning after a time away or just ready to become more connected and meet new friends!

This is a great time to meet people, find out about parish ministries, and ask questions about life at St Michael's.

Please RSVP to 925-447-1585

## TUESDAY, FEB 20

**Saints Jacinta and Francisco Marto**

**Readings:** Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7, 16-19; Mt 6:7-15

**Suggestion:**

Go to StMichael.FORMED.org and enter "Fatima" in the search bar. Listen, watch, study and read!

## FRIDAY, FEB 23

**St. Polycarp**

**Abstain from Meat**

**Readings:** Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-8; Mt 5:20-26

**Event:**

*Golden Friends Prayer Luncheon* at 10 am in the Large Hall

*KofC Fish Taco Friday:* 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm at St Charles

*Stations of the Cross* in English at 7:00 pm in the Church

## WEDNESDAY, FEB 21

**St. Peter Damian**

**Readings:** on 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Lk 11:29-32

**Events:**

*Stations of the Cross* in Spanish at 7 pm in the Church

*RSVP for Golden Friends Lunch* to 925-784-1812

## SATURDAY, FEB 24

**Readings:** Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48

**Events:**

*Confession* at 9:15 am and 3:45 pm in English, 6:15 pm in Spanish

**Reminder:**

*The Adoration Chapel* is always open. Especially during Lent, plan to spend a few minutes to an hour each week in Jesus' presence. Let him shower you with His healing and blessings!



### Workshop Series for Our Parish Lenten Mission

**Forgiven** explores the grace and healing offered in Confession and shows how this sacrament of mercy reveals the depth and bounty of God's love.

Join us at 6:30 pm in the Large Hall

**Thursday, February 22:** Session 2 – An Encounter with Mercy

**Tuesday, February 27:** Session 3 – The Rite Explained



**ICF Bingo Bash**  
**Sat, March 3 at 6 pm**  
**St Augustine**

Italian Catholic Federation is hosting their annual fundraising Bingo Bash to benefit Children's Hospital treatment of Cooley's Anemia. \$10 per Bingo packet of 10 games. Pizza, snacks and drinks, prizes and raffles! Please RSVP to Christine 925-462-3704

**Lent Reconciliation Service**  
**Tuesday, March 6 at 7 pm in the church**

Come and receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession, Penance), so you will be able to celebrate the paschal mystery in the Easter Triduum with renewed hearts.

**St. Michael School's 59th Annual Wine Tasting Gala & Auction**  
**Sat, March 3, 6:00-10:00 pm at the Robert Livermore Community Center**

Enjoy an evening of great food and wine as our school families and parish community come together to socialize while supporting our school's biggest fundraising event of the year. The revenue earned from this fundraiser will be used to support operating costs to keep tuition affordable. Donations made specifically to the Fund-A-Need will go toward creating a STREAM (science, technology, religion, engineering, art, and math) room for all our students.

Tickets can be purchased online: [smsliv.ticketleap.com](http://smsliv.ticketleap.com)  
 \$60 per person (includes wine and brew pours, non-alcoholic beverages, savory food stations and a fabulous dessert bar)  
 \$75 per person for VIP (Champagne reception from 5:30-6:00 pm)

Sponsorship opportunities are available and include tickets to the event. For more information, please contact the St. Michael School office at 925-447-1888.

**40 Days for Life Campaign**  
**Now through Mar 24**

Please prayerfully consider standing for Life in conjunction with other Christians and like minded people during the 40 Days for Life campaign, set for February 14 through March 24. This world-wide organization that promotes 40 Days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion.

Sign up to pray for one hour outside the Planned Parenthood in Walnut Creek. Sign up on the website: [40DaysForLife.com/walnutcreek](http://40DaysForLife.com/walnutcreek) or call Ann Vaccaro 925-212-7938 with questions. Thank you.

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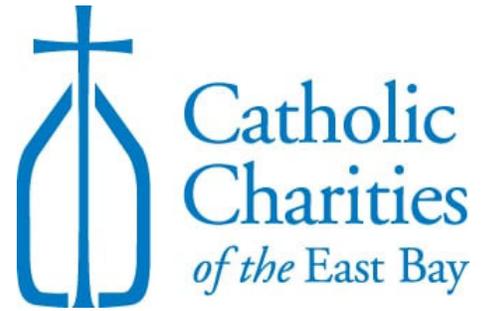
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# More Upcoming Events



## **Pilgrimage to Mexico with Fr Rafael Hinojosa** **April 22-28**

Pilgrimage to the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe, National Shrine of Cristo Rey, St Junipero Serra's missions and many other important places. This pilgrimage will be in English.

For more information and to sign up, contact Fr Rafael at 509-823-3640

## **3-Night Easter Mission Workshop: The Sacraments, the Eucharist and the Mass** **April 12, 19, 26 at 6:30 pm in the Hall**

But do you understand what a sacrament is—and what it means for us and our everyday lives? Do you know what Catholics really believe about the Eucharist, and why it is the center point of our lives? Do you understand the deeper meaning of what happens at Mass?

Join us as we discover—or re-discover—the beauty of the sacraments, the Eucharist and get a walk through the Mass. We will gather in the hall, watch a 30 minute video, then break into small groups for discussion.

(Spanish version will be held on April 6, 13, 20 at 7:00 pm in the Hall)

## **Transforming Lives Tour**

**Thurs, March 15 at 9:15 am**  
**Large Hall**

This one hour mission based tour is your opportunity to learn about the programs of Catholic Charities of the East Bay. You will hear about:

- Legal immigration and refugee resettlement services.
- Homelessness prevention
- Claire's House for trafficked minors
- Behavioral health services for youth
- Grief counseling for victims of crime
- Meet CEO Chuck Fernandez

For more info call Sween Gardner at 510-768-8161.



## **Knights of Columbus Fish Taco Fridays**

**Feb 16, Feb 23, March 2 at St Charles's Hall**  
**March 9, 16, 23 at St Michael's Hall**  
**from 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm**

Fridays are days of abstaining from meat.

Come and enjoy delicious fish tacos, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. Bring the whole family!

Tickets are \$8 per adult, \$4 per child, free for kids 4 and under.

Proceeds will benefit our parish and local charities.

# Español

## Domingo de Ramos

Domingo, 25 de marzo

11 AM Nos reuniremos en el patio de la Escuela Parroquial, para salir en procesion hacia el templo. En el recorrido haremos varias representaciones de pasajes biblicos de la vida de Jesus.

A las 12:30 PM iniciaremos la Santa Misa de Domingo de Ramos en el templo.

## Viernes Santo

Viernes, 30 de marzo

6 PM Representacion del Via Crucis viviente saliendo de la Escuela Parroquial, hacienda recorrido hacia el templo.

## ¡Felicidades!

Candidatos que hicieron su confirmacion febrero 10, 2018 2:00 pm en la cathedral de Oakland.

Guadalupe Ruiz  
Gonzalo Piza  
Misael Sandoval  
Saul Cruz  
Josue Cruz  
Erik Martinez  
Juan Estrada  
Aloair Suastegui  
Salvador Roblez  
Donaciano Galarza  
Jenifer Valencia  
Itzel Acosta  
Gustavo Estrada  
Jesica Ruiz



## Sesión 2: Un Encuentro de Misericordia

Viernes, 23 de febrero

Nuestros errores no nos definen. En la confesión, Jesús nos invita a tener un encuentro con Su misericordia y a ser sanados por Su amor. Cuando nos dice: "Vete y no peques más", Él también nos otorga la gracia para cumplir lo que nos pide.

Únase a nosotros a las 7:00 pm en la sala grande durante tres noches para explorar el Sacramento de la confesión. La serie finalizará con un servicio bilingüe de reconciliación en la iglesia.

**Viernes, 2 de marzo** : Sesión 3: Explicación del Rito

**Martes, 6 de marzo** : Servicio de reconciliación bilingüe a las 19:00 en la iglesia

**Si no puede asistir en persona, puede ver los videos en casa usando cualquier navegador. Ir a [StMichael.Formed.org](http://StMichael.Formed.org) y regístrate. Haga clic en "Study" y luego "Español" se verá PERDONADO bajo PREPARACIÓN SACRAMENTAL.**

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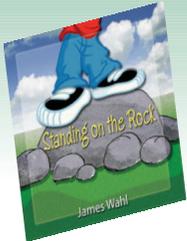
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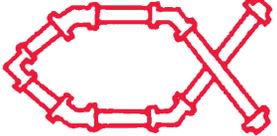
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# Information | Información

## St. Michael Parish | La Parroquia de San Miguel

458 Maple St, Livermore, CA 94550 Tel: 925-447-1585

StMichaelLivermore.com | StMichaelLivermore.com/español



Flocknote.com/sml



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### Mass | Misa

**Mon-Sat | Lu-Sa** 8:30 am

**Wed | Mi** 7:00 pm (español)

**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

1st & 3rd Wed in the Convent Chapel,  
at 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 925-980-4826 |

24/7 en la Capilla. Para el código de acceso  
después de las horas, llame al 925-980-4826

### Office Hours | horas de oficina

**M-F** 8:30 am—5:00 pm (closed during lunch)

**Sun** 8:30 am—12:30 pm

### Clergy | Clero

Rev. Van Dinh, Pastor

Rev. Alfonso Borgen, Parochial Vicar

Rev. David Staal, Associate

Rev. Alfred Amos, In Residence

Rev. Stanislaus Poon, Retired

Rev. Deacon Bill Archer

Rev. Deacon Rob Federle

Rev. Deacon Dave Rezendes

Rev. Deacon Bob Vince

### Pastoral Council | Consejo Pastoral

Pastoral Council Chair: Mike Pereira  
michaelpereira@comcast.net

Eric Hom, Ricardo Echon, Fidelis Atuegbu, Jo Anne Lindquist, Dave Parks, Frank Draschner, Ken Varallo, Irving Garcia, Cynthia Garay and Glenda Dubsy.

### Finance Council | Consejo Financiero

Finance Council Chair: Dave Ruth  
daveruth@alrinc.com

Fr. Van Dinh, Eric Hom, Cynthia Garay, Edna McCombe, Analy Palomino, Vanessa Suarez

### St. Michael School | Escuela de San Miguel

925-447-1888 smliv.org

### Faith Formation in English

925-667-4096

### Catecismo en Español

925-453-6494 Niños



Deacon Dave Rezendes, 925-447-1585  
Temporary Administrator

Fr Van Dinh, Pastor  
(on administrative leave)

Fr Alfonso Borgen, Parochial Vicar 925-667-4053

Eric Hom, Business 925-667-4052

Deacon Bill Archer 925-667-4056

Kathy Hawkins, Bookkeeper 925-667-4058

Church Front Office 925-447-1585

School Front Office 925-447-1888

Lourdes Kay, Faith Formation 925-667-4096

Priscilla Stutzman, DRE 925-667-4097

Joseph Garcia, Youth Minister 925-667-4093

Tina Gregory, Communication/Adult Enrichment 925-667-4051

JaNet Hancock, Music 925-292-5071

Debbie Pizzato, Liturgy 925-667-4095

Marjorie Melendez, RCIA 925-447-2925

Ana Fregoso, RICA 925-344-7150