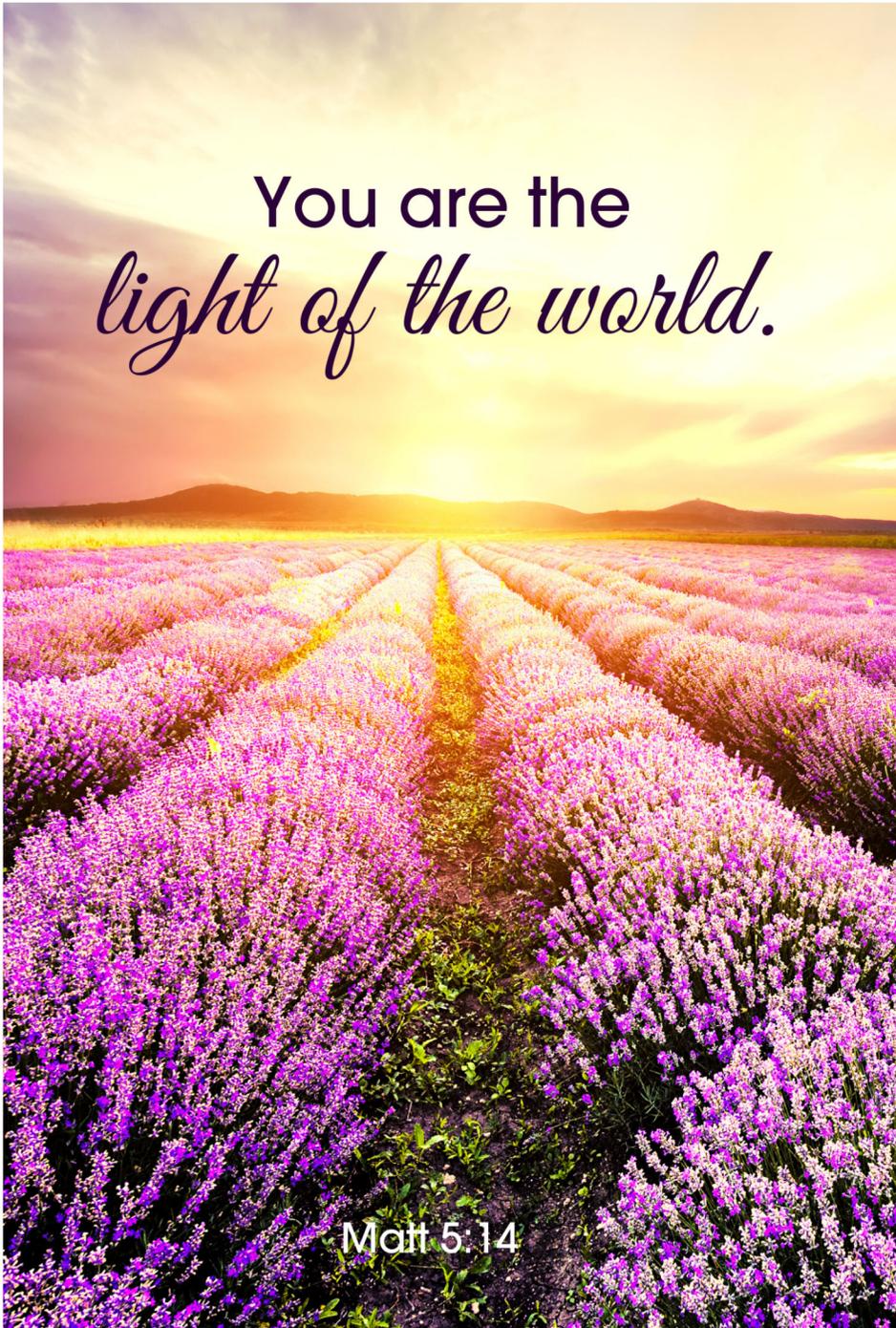




# ST MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sunday, February 9, 2020 | Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time



You are the  
*light of the world.*

Matt 5:14

## CONTACT

458 Maple Street  
Livermore, CA 94550  
StMichaelLivermore.com  
**Parish:** 925-447-1585  
**School:** 925-447-1888  
**Emergencies:** 925-521-4117

## MASS SCHEDULE

### Daily

Monday-Saturday: 8:30 am  
Wednesday: 7:00 pm (español)  
First Friday: 12:00 pm

### Weekend

Sat Vigil: 5:00 pm (English),  
7:00 pm (español)  
Sunday: 6:45 am, 8:00 am,  
9:30 am, 11:00 am,  
12:30 pm (español), 6:00 pm

### Sign Language

1st Sunday, 11:00 am

Traditional Latin Mass  
2nd Sunday, 8:00 am

Mass in Tagalog  
3rd Sunday, 3:30 pm

Mass in Vietnamese  
4th Sunday, 3:30 pm

Celebrate the Sacraments, Grow Disciples, Bring Christ to People

# STUDY

## Summary

In order to understand what Jesus is telling us in today's Gospel, we need to consider what salt and light meant in his time. Because we can buy all the salt we could ever need at our local grocery and we have light anytime we want at the flick of a switch, we may not realize how special both were in ancient Israel. Salt was so valuable it was part of the pay of Roman soldiers. Light came only in the form of fire or small oil lamps. In both cases, salt and light were valuable.

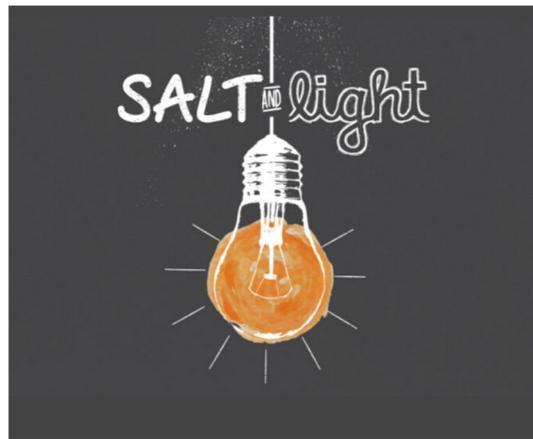
That's what Jesus is telling us in this week's Gospel: We must be valuable signs of God's love and grace for the world. We need to season and preserve the world like salt and illuminate the darkness of sin and despair like a light in the night.

But how do we do that? It's not enough to just go to Mass each Sunday and then hide out the rest of the week under the barrel of daily life. We have to learn how to take our faith out of the box of the church and bring it into the world. We have to live every moment of our lives as true witnesses to the Faith we have received. This is more than just a good idea. It's one of Jesus's basic instructions on how we are to live as children of God.

## First Reading Reflection Isaiah 58:7–10

This passage reminds us that it

would be wrong to consider the just or righteous treatment of the less fortunate as simply a penance to be undertaken in the season of Lent. Justice is a constant requirement for all people, whether they have any religious affiliation or not. Feeding the hungry and meeting the needs of the afflicted is always required, even if there were no reward attached to such behavior. Justice ennobles the person



who is just by honoring the nobility of others.

Although we should not need a reward for righteousness, our good God has built the universe such that goodness builds upon goodness. He also attaches to just acts a merit beyond their deserts. That's why Isaiah can say to us that, if we act with justice, our "wound shall be quickly healed." The wound of sin that we all bear is beyond our healing; but God, in his kindness, has attached reparative value to our good acts so that in Christ we are healed—the whole world is healed—through our small acts of justice.

## Second Reading Reflection

### 1 Corinthians 2:1–5

Paul doesn't see the success of the Gospel as depending on his actions. Rather, it is the power of God that converts hearts when Paul preaches. We see this proven in that the content of his preaching should have caused it to be rejected! Paul preached that a mocked, beaten, and crucified man is the King of the Universe, the Almighty God! By all measures, Paul's words should not have been accepted; instead, Christianity became the largest religious movement in the history of the world. More than two billion people follow the Crucified One.

Paul tried the standard approach of appealing to the world on its own terms when he addressed the Athenians in Acts 17. We're told that they were anxious to hear something new, but instead Paul failed to deliver what they were looking for. The whole presentation flopped and resulted in few conversions to the Faith. But the Corinthians did hear something new from Paul; he spoke of "nothing but Jesus Christ and him crucified." They recognized his preaching as not something new, but the Good News. When speaking about the faith to our own friends, family, and even our fellow Catholics, we ought to be more confident in a simple appeal to the Cross or, more importantly, to him who hung upon it.

## Gospel Reading Reflection Matthew 5:13–16

In this section from his Sermon on the Mount, Jesus reminds us that we are the world's light, like a city set on a hill. Jerusalem was set upon a hill. The light that a city could cast at night was fantastic to an ancient man or woman—the sheer size of the combined human effort and the common concern for mutual welfare that a city represented made it all the more marvelous.

The city of which Jesus speaks isn't thrilling for the same reason that New York or Paris are thrilling. The city we are citizens of attracts for much of the same reason as Jerusalem attracted the Jews. On its highest mount, Zion, the Temple drew Jews from all over the world, because there one could experience not the highest things of earth but rather the lowest realms of heaven. As Jesus says in the last line of this passage, we are to attract others by our heavenly goodness and by the praise that we give to our heavenly Father. We are not to desire that others look up to us, but rather that they

might join us on that height which is the Church, so that we might both look up together.

### Reflect & Discuss

In this week's Opening the Word video, presenter Teresa Tomeo gives us some personal insight into what today's Gospel means to her and her family. Please watch it at FORMED.org. Then reflect and discuss these questions with friends and family:

1. What are some ways that you might be able to take your faith beyond the walls of the church?
2. In the Gospel, Jesus gives a specific reason why we must let our light shine before others. What is that reason?

### Digging Deeper: A Sprinkle of Salt

The word "salary" comes from the Latin *salarium*, which was the money paid to a Roman soldier in order to purchase salt. The Romans knew that salt was essential for health, especially for people working (or fighting) in hot climates. Evidence of salt

extraction from seawater dates back to prehistoric times.

*Reprinted with permission from Augustine Institute from the Opening the Word Leader Guide available on FORMED.org*

### Invite Someone to Alpha

A very easy, no-pressure way to take your faith beyond the walls of the church is to invite someone to dinner at Alpha on Monday, February 10 at 6:30 pm in the Hall.

Alpha is a series of talks on the basics of Christianity, centered around a free meal and a table discussion. At Alpha we practice radical hospitality, respecting everyone wherever they are at in their spiritual journey. Everyone will be allowed to be heard without teaching or correcting. The first step in the journey to Christ is just feeling welcomed into a community.

Alpha is free, but please register yourself and your guests at [StMichaelLivermore.com/Alpha](http://StMichaelLivermore.com/Alpha) so that we know how much food to prepare.

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## PICK OF THE WEEK

Shot on location in France, this film is highly recommended by the Vatican as a "sensitive portrayal of a very moving story that deserves a wide audience," and was chosen to be shown daily at the shrine in Lourdes to retell the epic story.

## Bernadette

St. Bernadette and the Apparitions  
of Our Lady of Lourdes



[WATCH ON FORMED.ORG](http://WATCHONFORMED.ORG)

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# PRAY

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday 2/8

8:30am Ivan Kevesevic  
5:00pm Jerry Bennett  
7:00pm Margarito Guzman †  
Salvador Guzman †

### Sunday 2/9

6:45am Thomas Heise †  
8:00am Reinaldo Bustos and  
Leo & Fela Gutierrez †  
9:30am Richard Gandolfo, Jr. †  
11:00am John Milne, Sr.  
Teresa Milne  
Bernadette Keogh †  
12:30pm Guadalupe Castillo  
and family  
6:00pm Souls in Purgatory †

### Monday 2/10

8:30am Russell Mueller †

### Tuesday 2/11

8:30am Souls in Purgatory †

### Wednesday 2/12

8:30am Souls in Purgatory  
7:00pm Dionicia Medina † and  
Maximo Alarcon †

### Thursday 2/13

8:30am Peter Nunes †

### Friday 2/14

8:30am Tom & Karen McCaffrey

To request a Mass Intention, please visit the parish office. It is customary to offer a \$10 donation per intention for the priest celebrating the Mass.



## Prayer

Imagine Jesus saying to you, "You are the light of the world." What does that mean to you? Does it make you feel encouraged or overwhelmed? Now, in the stillness of your being, ask Jesus to reveal to you a way that you can become a light to the world. What comes to mind? Is it something you are currently doing or something new that you are being called to do?

## Resolution

Now hear Jesus say, "Your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father." What is one good deed that you can do this week that will glorify the Father? Choose a specific day and time to do it so that it doesn't go the way of unfulfilled good intentions.

## Special Intentions

**For our guests at Alpha** whom we will meet on February 10, that they experience a powerful encounter with Jesus, supported and loved by our entire parish.

Our Parish Prayer Team has over 600 members! When you join the team, you will receive a weekly email with the prayer requests of the community. Send your prayers or join the team by emailing [Prayers@StMichaelLivermore.com](mailto:Prayers@StMichaelLivermore.com)

*"I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete."*

(John 15:11)

Dear Parishioners,

Just a few weeks ago, we celebrated Christmas and New Year to remember the Incarnation of Our Lord Jesus. Now, as we enter the month of February, we shall prepare for the seasons of Lent and Easter. If you combine these two seasons together, it is a long season for our Church that emphasizes the great mercy of God who died and rose for us for the forgiveness of our sins and for our salvation.

This year for Lent and Easter, we shall focus on MERCY, which is precisely the Love of God in action. It is manifested through the very mission of Christ and our works of mercy. The Corporal Acts of Mercy and Spiritual Acts of Mercy are encouraged by the Church, that we may live by them and embrace them as a means of living a life of Christian discipleship. This Mission of Mercy is clear in Matthew 25:35-36. "For I was hungry and you gave Me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave Me something to drink, I was a stranger and you took Me in, was naked and you clothed Me, I was sick and you looked after Me, I was in prison and you visited Me.'..."

For many of us, God's mercy can be difficult to grasp. Without a

better understanding of God's mercy, it can be a struggle to understand how to live lives of mercy. Therefore, this Lent and Easter we will take the opportunity to know the depth, height and immensity of God's mercy. **I am inviting all parishioners to embark on a journey with me with a Lenten and Easter Study: *Consoling the Heart of Jesus.***

## Consoling the Heart of Jesus

Parish Study  
February 16-April 19



We will begin next week on February 16 and conclude the week of April 19, Divine Mercy Sunday.

In *Consoling the Heart of Jesus*, we will learn about God's infinite mercy and how we can give him joy, consoling his heart, by accepting his love and trusting in him completely. We'll discover how suffering can actually help us grow spiritually closer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Each week, you will watch a video session (around 35 minutes each) at home with family, friends or your small group. You are encouraged to pray together and have a discussion.

### How to Participate

1. **Make sure you are registered for a free FORMED.org account.** St Michael's has paid for a parish-wide subscription, so that you can have unlimited access at no charge. Go to FORMED.org, click "I belong to a parish" and search for St Michael's by zip code 94550.
2. **See the study schedule and links on our website at [StMichaelLivermore.com/FORMED](http://StMichaelLivermore.com/FORMED)**
3. **Each week, watch the video session** (around 35 minutes each) at home with family, friends or your small group. You are encouraged to pray together and have a discussion.

These holy seasons of penance and rejoicing convey to us that God's Mercy is always available for us to purify us and sustain us towards our holiness and perfection. We are called to die to ourselves and deny things that hinder from loving God such as sin so that we may fully rejoice and live as True Apostles of Mercy, Children of Light and People of Easter. I will be praying for you during this 10-week journey. Please pray for me as well!

And may God richly bless you and your families.

Fr Carl  
Pastor



## Extra Daily Mass During Lent

Extra 6:45 am Masses, Monday—Friday to allow people to celebrate Mass before work or school. Mass will be a prompt 20 minutes.

## Subscribe to Daily Lent Reflections

In Lent, we go a bit hungry and thirsty, purposely running on empty—so that the great questions may be asked with clarity. Let us allow the devil to come, tempting us with the love of pleasure, the ego, and power— for in temptation comes decision. And in the desert with Jesus the Master, let us realize that we too are people on mission—because in decision comes identity. Sign up for daily reflections with Bishop Robert Barron at [LentReflections.com](http://LentReflections.com)

## Little Black Books

A limited amount of Little Black Books will be available in the Church office.

## Start Lent Learning Church Latin!

A group of parishioners is starting a Latin Study Group in February. No prior knowledge of Latin is needed. Contact Morry Aufderheide for more information at [mbaufderheideiii@gmail.com](mailto:mbaufderheideiii@gmail.com)

## Job Opportunity: Funeral Assistant

Catholic Funeral and Cemetery Services (CFCS ) of the Diocese of Oakland is seeking a part-time Funeral Assistant. The Funeral Assistant supports the Family Service Director with a variety of tasks: vigil, visitation, funeral or memorial service and the committal service. Funeral Assistants interact directly with families and guests, as well as with other departments that provide services for the funeral. Inquire with Rachael at 925-455-9696.

## Collection Report

Thank you, St Michael Parishioners, for your constant generosity. Your offerings to our community are the only funding we receive to achieve Christ's mission here in Livermore.

If St Michael's is your home parish and you have not yet set up regular contributions, please visit the Church Office or call 925-447-1585. You can receive traditional offertory envelopes or you can give electronically safely at [FaithDirect.net](http://FaithDirect.net) (church code CA602).

2/2/20	\$19,945.35
Month-to-Date	\$19,945.35
Month Goal	\$84,941.18
% Reached	23%
Faith Direct	
Maintenance (Feb)	\$6,087.05

# INVITE

## WHO WILL YOU INVITE?

As Fr Carl mentioned in his letter on page 5, we are all called to share our faith with others. Alpha is an easy way. Just invite someone to dinner on February 10 at 6:30 pm in the Hall.

Together we will share a meal in a relaxed, informal environment. Then we will watch an engaging video talk about the basics of Christianity. The first topic is "Is there more to life than this?" Then there will be an opportunity for discussion with your tablemates, where no one will be judged, corrected, shamed or preached at. Seriously!

At Alpha we allow everyone to be heard. Alpha is about creating a safe place for guests to gently explore life's biggest questions. Catechesis—teaching and guiding and correcting—comes later in other ministries. We radically trust that the Holy Spirit will do miraculous work in the hearts of our guests.

### Tips for inviting:

- Don't say "no" for them.
- Make it sound fun and exciting.
- Don't overcomplicate it.
- Just invite to the first night on February 10 (let them decide to continue or not).

## ALPHA GUEST REGISTRATION

Alpha is free, but so that we can plan the meal, please register you and your guests at [StMichaelLivermore.com/Alpha](http://StMichaelLivermore.com/Alpha) or point your iPhone camera at this code and tap the pop up link:



# BE A PART OF ALPHA

JOIN THE TEAM!



FR CARL WANTS EVERYONE TO BE INVOLVED SOMEHOW

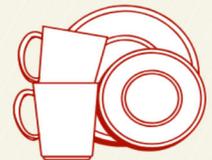
### HOLY HOUR FOR ALPHA



Join Fr Carl in the Adoration Chapel on Mondays from 5:00 - 6:00 pm to pray for our Alpha guests by name. Can't make it on Mondays? Sign up to get an emailed list of prayer requests for your private prayer.

### WASH DISHES

In an effort to be Earth friendly, we are avoiding disposable place settings. Sign up to wash dishes on as many Monday nights as you like. Arrive by 7:30 pm (done by 8:30 pm)



### CLEAN UP CREW



Help reset the Hall for the next day by putting away tables and chairs, taking out the garbage and sweeping. Sign up for as many Monday nights as you like. Arrive by 8:30 pm (done by 9:30 pm)

### SET UP AND GREET

Help set the tables with table cloths, then warmly greet guests. Sign up for as many Monday nights as you like. Arrive by 5:30 pm (done by 6:45 pm)



### MAKE A FINANCIAL GIFT



Your donation of any size will go toward offsetting the cost for supplies, for the guests' day retreat.

Sign up today with Tina or Jacqueline at [Alpha@StMichaelLivermore.com](mailto:Alpha@StMichaelLivermore.com) or 925-667-4051

JOIN



### **Pull Weeds, Plant Seeds Lent Retreat for Kids**

TK-6th grade students are invited to "Pull Weeds, Plant Seeds", Lenten day retreat on Sunday, February 23, from 10:45 am—12:00 pm in the Hall. We will discuss Lent, make a craft and eat pizza! This retreat is FREE, but so that we can prepare, please register at [VBC@StMichaelLivermore.com](mailto:VBC@StMichaelLivermore.com) or call the Faith Formation office at 925-667-4096

### **Ash Wednesday**

February 26 is the first day of Lent. This year, there will be no "ash services". Only Masses.

6:45 am, 8:30 am,  
10:30 am (School), 12:15 pm,  
2:00 pm, 3:30 pm (Spanish), 6:00 pm,  
7:30 pm (Spanish)

### **Golden Friends Mass & Luncheon**

Are you retired or are you free from work on Fridays or do you have friends and relatives who are? Bring them to our Golden Friends Luncheon to enjoy fellowship, entertainment and spiritual growth on Friday, February 28 in the Large Hall. Mass starts promptly at 10:30 am and lunch follows.

Call Mary at 925-784-1812 by noon Tuesday the 24th to see if space is available.

### **Bereavement Support**

The Grief Support Ministry of St Michael's and St Charles Boromeo provide year-round meetings for those who are struggling with loss of a loved one. Meetings are held on the third Saturday of the month from 10:00 am to 11:30 am at St. Charles. Contact Claire LaScola at 925-784-9452

### **Mass in Tagalog**

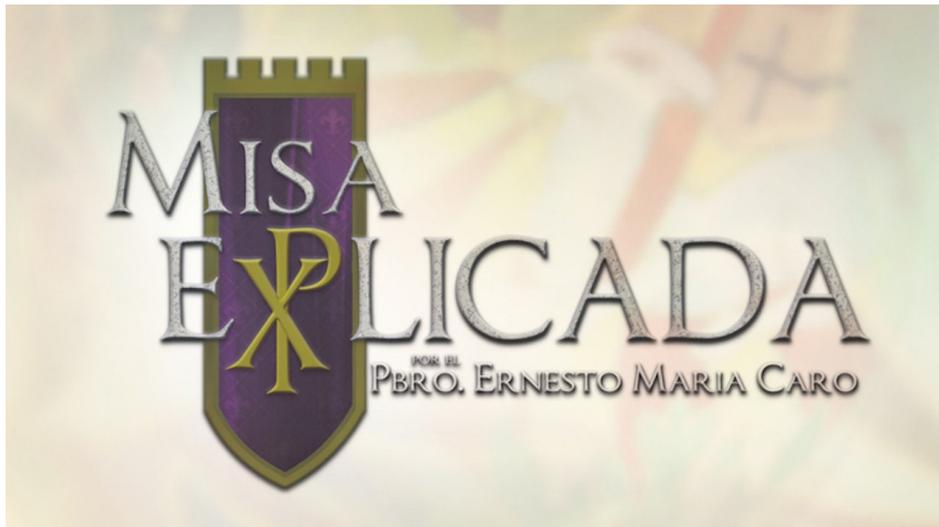
All are invited to celebrate Mass in Tagalog with our Filipino Community on Sunday, February 16 at 3:30 pm, followed by a reception in the Hall.

### **Faith Study: No Greater Love**

Just in time for Lent, all are welcome to the faith study No Greater Love: A Biblical Walk Through Christ's Passion. We will meet on Thursdays, February 20 - March 19 at 6:30 pm in the Convent. Please purchase your materials in advance here: <http://bit.ly/NoGreaterLoveStudy>

### **Music Ministry Benefit Concert**

Mark your calendars for Friday, February 21 at 7:00 pm to be wowed by all of our St Michael choirs in concert in the Church. Your generous donations are graciously accepted. All proceeds to benefit purchase of digital equipment (iPads, digital music and software) for our music ministry to go "paperless". Thank you for supporting our efforts to become more efficient and ecologically responsible.



## La Misa Explicada 8 Episodes

Los católicos participamos domingo a domingo en la celebración de la Misa; con ello queremos dar culto a Dios y elevar nuestro corazón a las cosas sagradas, pero ¿entendemos lo que hacemos, lo que decimos, todo lo que nos rodea? Descúbrelo en este curso y conoce a fondo la Misa para participar de una manera más plena, consciente y activa en cada Eucaristía.

FORMED.org “español”



## Misa del miércoles de ceniza

El Miércoles de Ceniza es el primer día de la Cuaresma.

Misa en español en San Miguel a las 3:30 pm y 7:30 pm



## Reflexiones de Cuaresma 41 Episodes

Camínenos juntos este tiempo de Cuaresma de la mano de expertos y reconocidos teólogos con estas video reflexiones de corta duración que hemos preparado. Utilizando la serie de estudio en video Perdonado: El poder transformador de la confesión producida y dirigida por el galardonado Augustine Institute Studios. Estas video reflexiones te ayudarán a ver, como Dios con su infinita misericordia sale a nuestro encuentro y nos espera siempre con los brazos abiertos. FORMED.org “español”



Esta producción cinematográfica de alta calidad, producida por Jean Delannoy (uno de los productores más destacados de Francia), narra la historia de Santa Bernardita y las apariciones de Nuestra Señora de Lourdes.

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**Mon-Fri / L-V:**  
9:00 am—5:00 pm  
(Closed / cerrado 12:00 pm—  
2:00 pm)

## Confession Confesión

**Saturday / Sábado:**  
9:00 am, 3:45 pm and  
6:15 pm

**Mon & Fri / L y V:**  
7:30 am

**Wed / X:**  
2:30 pm Convent Chapel /  
capilla del convento

## 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

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for a regular Holy Hour, call  
775-772-6369

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Parochial Vicar  
Rev. David Staal, Associate  
Rev. Ray Dellota, in residence  
Rev. Deacon Rob Federle  
Rev. Deacon Dave Rezendes  
Rev. Deacon Bill Archer,  
Retired

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Anne Lindquist, Frank  
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