



St. Michael Catholic Parish

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

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The Lord God said to Abram,
“Look up at the sky and count the stars, if you can.
Just so shall your descendants be.”

~ Genesis 15:5



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Longing for Glory

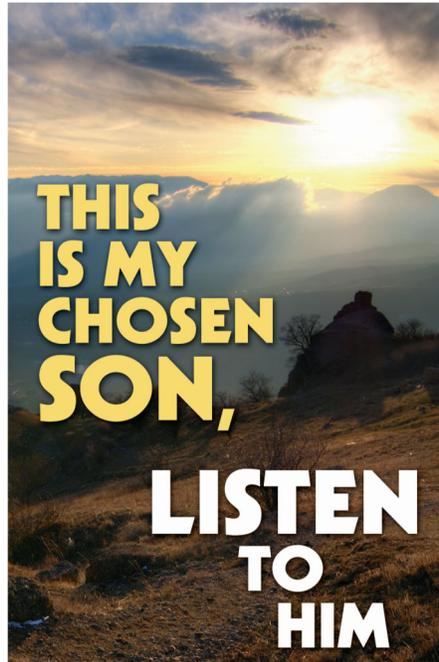
Consider today's Gospel reading from the perspective of the apostles Peter, James, and John. What an amazing experience it must have been for them to witness the Transfiguration!

Jesus singles these men out to join him as he ascends a mountain to pray. When they reach the summit, they see their master like never before. Jesus' face changes and his clothes become dazzling white, as Peter, James, and John catch a glimpse of his glory.

They also see Jesus conversing with two of the most famous men in Israel's history: Moses and Elijah. These men represent the two key parts of the Old Testament: Moses, as the author of the Torah, represents the Law; and Elijah, a great prophet, represents the Prophets. Together, their presence at this moment of Jesus' transfiguration symbolizes how the entire Old Testament—the Law and the prophets—finds fulfillment in Christ. Finally, Peter, James, and John hear a heavenly voice—the voice of God the Father—say to them: “This is my chosen Son; listen to him.” This mysterious event continues to have spiritual application to our lives today. Like the three apostles, we are called to ascend with Jesus every time we pray. And in prayer with our Lord, we are called to seek his glorious face and listen to him.

Unpack the First Reading
Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18

In this dramatic scene in the life of Abraham (here still called “Abram”), God promises Abram that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars of the sky. There is, however, a subtle shift in the story found in verses 13-16, and they're missing from this



reading.

There are two promises made to Abram, one of offspring and the second of land. Abram trusts God to supply him with offspring. But when God promises him the land he's wandering in, Abram questions him, rather than trusting in faith. So the Lord sets up a demonstration of his intention to make a covenant with Abram by asking him to cut three animals in half as an act of trust.

At this point our reading moves to the confirmation of the covenant in verse 17, but misses the prophecy in verses 13-16, the exile into Egypt. This is con-

firmed further by the prophecy that his descendants wouldn't come out of Egypt until the “fourth generation,” which is the number of generations required to expiate a sin. Therefore, we must conclude that Abram's doubting response to God's promise of land was a sin against faith.

Unpack the Second Reading
Philippians 3:17-4:1

Those who are set upon “earthly things” bring tears to the eyes of St. Paul in this second reading. Paul asserts that Christians are citizens of heaven, even while still in the world. Just as today a country can insist on the proper legal protection of one of its citizens even when that citizen is in a foreign country, so in the ancient world, one's citizenship followed one around. Paul's point is that it's foolish to renounce our heavenly citizenship. Although he had never been in Rome, Paul was a holder of Roman citizenship because he was from the city of Tarsus, whose citizens had been granted honorary citizenship by Rome. As such, he was afforded generous treatment by the Roman governors, who kept him from harm.

By virtue of the gift of our heavenly citizenship, we have a claim to a share in the glory of Christ who reigns there at the right hand of the Father. In a sense, we're already citizens of that heavenly city, although, as was the case with Paul and Rome, we've never been there. As mem-

bers of the Body of Christ we're already mystically present with him in heaven!

Unpack the Gospel

Reading

Luke 9:28b-36

That's the significance of Moses and Elijah miraculously appearing to Christ and the disciples? The common interpretation is that Moses symbolizes the Law and Elijah the Prophets. Their association with Jesus on Mount Tabor suggests that both the Law and the Prophets are fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Luke has carefully crafted the narrative of this event to illustrate the relation of Jesus to the Law.

The narrative art Luke has employed in bringing together the events of Sinai and the Transfiguration is not only subtle, but amazing. The theological point that Luke is making is that Jesus is the new Moses and the new Law. Just as the theophany of Sinai revealed God's Law as the basis of the Old Covenant, so at Tabor God the Father reveals his

Son, the heart of the New Covenant. The way of the Old Covenant was to follow the Law; the new Way is to follow Jesus. For Christians, Jesus is the manifestation of God, the new Moses, and the New Law.

Discussion

First, watch the short Opening the Word video found on the Community tab on FORMED.org. Then with friends or family, reflect on the following questions:

In the Gospel reading for this week, we are told that Jesus took Peter, John, and James with him up Mount Tabor to pray. Why do you think Jesus took these three with him this time when he often went out alone to pray?

The Gospel passage makes it clear that the Transfiguration took place within the context of prayer: "While he was praying, his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white." Jesus' appearance was changed while he was praying. What kind of changes have you

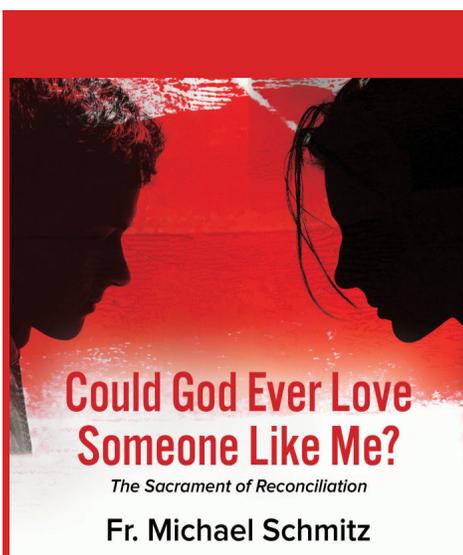
experienced in your life as a result of prayer— either while you have been praying or after you started to cultivate a habit of prayer?

Digging Deeper: God's Thirst for Us

The Catechism of the Catholic Church gives a beautiful description of prayer as a thirst—God's thirst for us meeting our thirst for him:

"If you knew the gift of God! The wonder of prayer is revealed beside the well where we come seeking water: there, Christ comes to meet every human being. It is he who first seeks us and asks us for a drink. Jesus thirsts; his asking arises from the depths of God's desire for us. Whether we realize it or not, prayer is the encounter of God's thirst with ours. God thirsts that we may thirst for him." —CCC 2560

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Could God Ever Love Someone Like Me?

Fr. Mike Schmitz, one of the leading presenters in the Church today, speaks powerfully about the Sacrament of Reconciliation. He makes clear the truth that Christ deeply loves and wants to encounter each of us as we are, with all our imperfections. Fr. Mike debunks the lies we often believe about not being good enough to approach Jesus, and he draws upon Scripture to explain rationally why we go to priests to encounter God's mercy and forgiveness in the Sacrament of Confession. (Runtime: 54 minutes).

St Michael parishioners and friends can listen free at StMichael.FORMED.org

For technical questions, call Tina Gregory at 925-667-4051.

Prayers for the Week

Mass Intentions

Saturday 3/16

8:30am Janet Reiter †
5:00pm Frank Megue †
7:00pm Mariano Zamora †

Sunday 3/17

6:45am Mary Zaczek †
8:00am Mary Slater †
9:30am Angel Bautista †
11:00am Sostenes Raquep-Tabaco
12:30pm Mass for Our Parish
6:00pm Lawrence Tellez †

Monday 3/18

7:00am John Sarboraria †
8:30am Leitao & Fernandes Families

Tuesday 3/19

7:00am Mary Nguyen
8:30am Maryann Darland †

Wednesday 3/20

7:00am John Sarboraria †
8:30am Josefine Gregory †

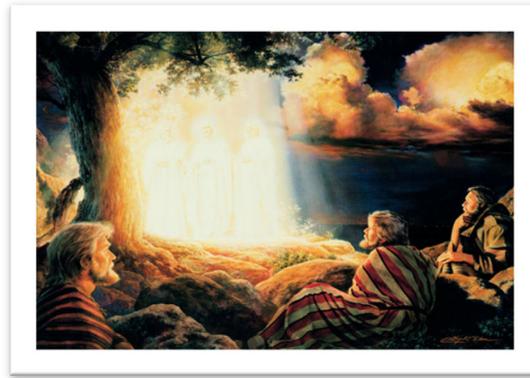
Thursday 3/21

7:00am Nick & Alice Sanchez †
8:30am Elisha Smith †

Friday 3/21

7:00am Albert Jones
8:30am Dale Swadley †

To request a Mass Intention, please visit the church office. The customary donation of \$10 goes to the priest celebrating the Mass.



Today's Gospel reading focuses on the revelation of Jesus' glory as he begins his final journey to the Cross. As we take time now to pray and reflect on this reading, let's pay special attention to God's command, "This is my chosen Son, listen to him."

Prayer Meditation

Prayerfully place yourself in today's Gospel reading. Imagine being one of the three apostles who had been chosen to ascend Mount Tabor with Jesus. If you had been one of the apostles, you would have seen Jesus practically every day for about three years following him in his public ministry. But now, you see Jesus like never before—transfigured and radiant in glory. Suddenly, in the midst of this extraordinary revelation of Jesus, a voice from heaven speaks. It is God the Father, saying "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him" (RSV). The one command the heavenly Father gives you in this most amazing moment of divine revelation is to listen to Jesus, his Son. Take time now in prayer to consider what ways Jesus may want you to listen to him more in your life.

Resolution

Responding to the Father's command to "listen" to Jesus, come up with one specific resolution you can make this week to help you listen more closely to Jesus.

Special Intentions

For the members of our Elect, who are in the final preparation for the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion that they will receive at Easter Vigil:

Holly Wilkins
Dane Pappas
Mali Muniz
Anthony Pinzon

Orlando Alvarez
Jules Rosa
Edwin Gomez Aguilar
Carolyn Tran

Sacrament of Penance and Lent



During the season of Lent, we think about the Sacrament of Penance (also called Reconciliation or Confession). As Catholics, this is one of the sacraments that we can receive frequently to restore our marred relationship with God. Amazingly, God has designed this sacrament for us as a fount of His Mercy, a refuge for the broken-hearted and source of peace. In Confession, Jesus wipes away our sins and restores our relationship to the Father. He also gifts us with graces that strengthen us against temptations to sin again.

The Church, in the Second Precept, requires that "You shall confess your sins at least once a year." Strictly speaking, we only need to take part in the Sacrament of Confession if we have committed a mortal sin, but the Church urges us to make frequent use of the sacrament. At the very minimum, we are to receive it once each year in preparation for fulfilling our Easter Duty.

This Sacrament was instituted by Christ Himself after He resurrected:

"He showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus

said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." (John 20:20-23)

My invitation for you all is to avail yourselves of the Sacrament during Lent.

Take the opportunity. God is waiting to heal you, forgive you, embrace you and give you peace. Please check the following dates and times of our confessions:

Lent Reconciliation Services
Monday, March 11, 18 & 25 at 7:00 pm in the Church.

Saturdays in the Church
at 9:15 am, 3:45 pm and 6:15 pm

Mondays & Fridays in the Church
7:30 am

Wednesdays during Lent in the Convent Chapel at 2:30 pm.



If you haven't been to Confession in a while, or want to learn more about this powerful sacrament of healing, I encourage you to watch sessions 1, 2 and 3 of FORGIVEN: The Transforming Power of Confession on FOMRED.org

Priest, Prophet King Lesson 2 - High Priest

Welcome to our second lesson in our parish wide Lent study by Bishop Robert Barron: Priest, Prophet, King. The fulfillment of the priestly role comes in the person of Jesus Christ, who is the perfect sacrifice, the altar, and the eternal high priest, all in one. Fully God and fully man, he lives eternally to intercede for God's people. No longer are we separated from God by the sin of the first priest, Adam, but because of the sacrifice and continual intercession of Christ, the final and complete high priest, we again can walk in *adoratio* with God.

If you registered for this Lent study, you should have received your Lesson Two video via email or text. Please watch it with family members, friends, ministry or small group. Discuss these questions:

Why is the act of sacrifice so important in the Old Testament? Why is John the Baptist so essential in the Gospels and what was his relationship with the temple? How has your understanding of the nature of sacrifice deepened and changed?

I hope you are enjoying our parish video study so far and that is helping you experience a powerful Lent. Next week, we will look at challenging false worship.

God bless you and your families.

Fr Carl

Reminders for This Week

Weekly Lenten Rhythm

Daily Mass

7:00 am, Mon-Fri
8:30 am, Mon-Sat

Rosary & Chaplet

6:15 am, Mon-Fri (Church)
9:15 am, Mon-Sat (Chapel)
6:30 pm, Sat in Spanish (Chapel)
12:10 pm, Sun in Spanish (Church)

Stations of the Cross

7:00 pm, Wednesdays in Spanish
9:15 am, Fridays in English
7:00 pm, Fridays in Spanish

Confession

7:30 am, Mon and Fri
2:30 pm, Wed in the Convent
9:15 am, 3:45 pm, 6:15 pm, Sat
7:00 pm on March 25

Fish Taco Fridays

March 22 and 29 at St Michael
April 5 and 12 at St Charles

Reconciliation Service

Mon, March 18, 7:00 pm
Church

As part of our Lenten practice, all Catholics are encouraged to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation (also called Penance or Confession). Other Confession opportunities listed on the left.

Golden Friends Mass & Luncheon

Fri, March 22 at 10:30 am in the Hall.

Are you retired or free from work on Fridays or do you have friends and relatives who are? Bring them to our Golden Friends Mass & Luncheon to enjoy fellowship, entertainment and spiritual growth. Please call Mary at 925-784-1812 by noon Tuesday, March 19 to see if space is available.

Steak Dinner & Dance

Sat, March 23 at 6:00 pm
Large Hall

The Portuguese community of Livermore and Pleasanton is happy to invite everyone to our Steak Dinner Dance, featuring music by Gilberto Amaral! Proceeds benefit the scholarship fund. For tickets, call or text Maria 925-216-3953.

Monthly Grief Support Meeting

Sat, March 23, 10-11:30 am
St Charles

The Monthly Grief support group is an opportunity for anyone who has lost a loved one, to share their experience with others in a safe, supportive environment. Expressing your feelings helps to process what you are going through. Please call Claire La Scala at 925-447-9800 or clairelascola@gmail.com



Your Offerings are Appreciated!

St Michael Parish simply could not operate without your generous offerings. Because of you, we are able to continue with our mission to celebrate the sacraments, grow disciples and bring Christ to people.

If St Michael is your home parish, and you have not yet set up regular weekly or monthly offerings,

3/10/19 Collection	\$18,512.63
Month-to-Date	\$46,665.84
Month Goal	\$108,823.53
Percentage Reached	43%
Faith Direct	\$7,912.00
Maintenance (March)	\$7,167.79

you can do so online at FaithDirect.net and enter church code CA602. Alternatively, you can stop by the church office to request traditional offering envelopes.

Upcoming Events

Dress-a-Girl Sew Fest Sat, March 30, 9am - 3 pm Large Hall

Come make simple dresses for girls in impoverished countries. We need all kinds of help, sewing, ironing, cutting; bring your sewing machine or serger, iron, ironing board, scissors, along with your helping hands and we will put you to work!

Want to sew at home? Contact Suzanne Beck at 925-352-8447 or suzbeck@yahoo.com

Save These Dates! More Info Coming Soon

April 4: *Family Adoration Hour*, 4-5 pm in the Chapel.

May 1- 31: *Rosary for Family, Peace and Life* at 7pm in the Parish Courtyard.

May 1: *Feast of St. Joseph*, with a Rosary in 10 languages at 6:15 pm, followed by Mass and candle-light procession.

May 11: *Ribs, Chili, Cars, Brews & Blues* event sponsored by our Livermore Knights is newly expanded this year. Three live bands, tons of food and drink vendors and activities for kids.

June 24-June 28: *Vacation Bible Camp* from 9:15 am - 12:45 pm for TK-6th grades at St Michael Church & School.

Holy Week & Easter



PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

Saturday Vigil Mass
April 13

Begins in the Courtyard with the Gospel, Blessing of Palms and procession in to the Church.

5:00 pm English
7:00 pm Spanish



HOLY THURSDAY

Thursday, April 18

8:30 am Morning Prayer
(no morning Mass)

6:00 pm Mass of the
Lord's Supper (English)

8:00 pm Mass of the
Lord's Supper (Spanish)



GOOD FRIDAY Friday, April 19

8:30 am Morning Prayer
2:00 pm Good Friday
Service (English)

4:00 pm Passion Play
(English)

5:00 pm Good Friday
Service (English)

6:30 pm Passion Play
(Spanish)

8:00 pm Good Friday
Service (Spanish)



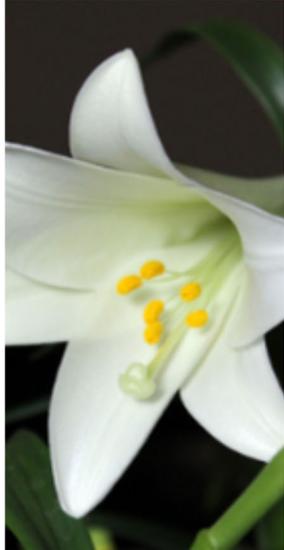
HOLY SATURDAY

Saturday, April 20

8:30 am Morning Prayer
(no morning Mass)

10:30 am Blessing of the
Easter Food in the Chapel

8:00 pm Easter Vigil Mass
in the Holy Night of
Easter (multi-lingual)



EASTER SUNDAY

Sunday, April 21

MASS IN THE CHURCH

5:30 am, 6:45 am, 8:00 am, 9:30 am,
11:00 am and 6:00 pm in English.
12:30 pm in Spanish.

MASS IN THE HALL

8:15 am in Spanish
9:45 am in English
11:15 am in English

We Love Our Parish Families!



St Michael School is Now Accepting Applications

We are now accepting TK - 8th grade applications for the 2019-2020 school year! As a ministry of St Michael Parish, we offer an educational tradition that is rich in faith, focused on academic rigor, and blessed with an active, involved parent community.

Please visit SMSLiv.org for more information, or call the school office at 925-447-1888.

2nd Graders Received First Reconciliation

Congratulations to our St Michael School 2nd graders who experienced the joy of God's mercy and love!

Vacation Bible Camp: Save the Date!

June 24-June 28, from 9:15 am - 12:45 pm for TK-6th grades at St Michael Church & School.

VBC@StMichaelLivermore.com

Our First Family Adoration Hour!

Our first ever Family Adoration Hour was March 2. Parents and children sang praise songs, practiced praying the Our Father, explored the chapel, and learned how to kneel down before Jesus.

Your young family is welcome to adore with us, every 1st Thursday from 4-5 pm (you don't have to stay the whole hour).

Families@StMichaelLivermore.com



Sacramento de la penitencia y la cuaresma

Durante la temporada de Cuaresma, pensamos en el Sacramento de la Penitencia (también llamado Reconciliación o Confesión). Como católicos, este es uno de los sacramentos que podemos recibir con frecuencia para restaurar nuestra relación dañada con Dios. Sorprendentemente, Dios ha diseñado este sacramento para nosotros como una fuente de Su Misericordia, un refugio para los quebrantados y fuente de paz. En la confesión, Jesús limpia nuestros pecados y restaura nuestra relación con el Padre. También nos obsequia con gracias que nos fortalecen contra las tentaciones de pecar nuevamente.

La Iglesia, en el Segundo Precepto, exige que "confesarás tus pecados al menos una vez al año". Estrictamente hablando, solo tenemos que participar en el Sacramento de la Confesión si hemos cometido un pecado mortal, pero la Iglesia nos insta a hacer un uso frecuente del mismo. Como mínimo, debemos recibirlo una vez al año en preparación para cumplir con nuestro obligación de Pascua.

Este sacramento fue instituido por Cristo mismo después de resucitar:

"Él les mostró sus manos y su costado. Luego los discípulos se alegraron cuando vieron al Señor. Jesús les dijo nuevamente: "La paz esté con ustedes. Como el Padre me envió, así también yo les envío". dicho esto, él sopló sobre ellos y les dijo: "Reciban el Espíritu Santo. Si perdonan los pecados de cualquiera, estos serán perdonados; si retienen los pecados de alguno, serán retenidos" (Juan 20:20). -23)

Mi invitación para todos ustedes es aprovechar el Sacramento de Rec-

onciliación durante la Cuaresma.

Aproveche esta oportunidad. Dios está esperando para sanarlo, perdonarlo, abrazarlo y darle paz. Por favor, consulte las siguientes fechas y horas de nuestras confesiones:

Servicios de Reconciliación de Cuaresma

Lunes 11 de marzo, 18 y 25 a las 7:00 pm en la iglesia.

Sábados en la iglesia a las 9:15 am, 3:45 pm y 6:15 pm

Lunes y viernes en la iglesia. 7:30 am

Miércoles durante la Cuaresma en la Capilla del Convento a las 2:30 pm.



Si no ha ido a la Confesión por un tiempo, o quiere aprender más sobre este poderoso sacramento de sanación, le animo a que vea las sesiones 1, 2 y 3 de *Perdonado: El Poder Transformador de la Confesión*, en FOMRED.org

Sacerdote, rey profeta: Lección 2 - Sumo sacerdote

Bienvenido a nuestra segunda lección en nuestro estudio parroquial de Cuaresma por el Obispo Robert Barron: Sacerdote, Profeta, Rey. El cumplimiento del papel sacerdotal viene en la persona de Jesucristo, que es el sacrificio perfecto, el altar y el sumo sacerdote eterno, todo en uno. Totalmente Dios y completamente hombre, él vive eternamente

para interceder por el pueblo de Dios. Ya no estamos separados de Dios por el pecado del primer sacerdote, Adán, sino por el sacrificio y la intercesión continua de Cristo, el sumo sacerdote final y completo, otra vez podemos caminar con Dios.

Si se inscribió en este estudio de Cuaresma, debería haber recibido su video de la Lección Dos por correo electrónico o texto. Por favor, véalo con miembros de su familia, amigos, ministerio o grupo pequeño. Debata estas preguntas:

¿Por qué es tan importante el acto de sacrificio en el Antiguo Testamento?

¿Por qué es tan importante Juan el Bautista en los evangelios y cuál fue su relación con el templo?

¿Cómo se ha profundizado y cambiado su comprensión de la naturaleza del sacrificio?

Espero que esté disfrutando de nuestro estudio de video parroquial hasta el momento y que le ayude a experimentar una Cuaresma poderosa. La próxima semana, veremos el desafío de la falsa adoración.

Dios lo bendiga a usted y a su familia.

Padre Carl



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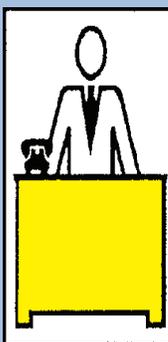
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Pastoral Emergencies | Emergencias Pastorales 925-521-4117



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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. Bento Tamang, in residence

Rev. Deacon Bill Archer

Rev. Deacon Rob Federle

Rev. Deacon Dave Rezendes

Pastoral Council |

Consejo Pastoral

Pastoral Council Chair:

Mike Pereira

PC@StMichaelLivermore.com

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

McCombe, Analy Palomino,

Vanessa Suarez and Erleene

Echon

St. Michael School |

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925-447-1888 smliv.org

Faith Formation in

English

925-667-4096

Catecismo en Español

925-667-4096 Niños

925-344-7150 Adultos



Rev. Father Carl Arcosa, Pastor Pastor@StMichaelLivermore.com	925-667-4057
Rev. Father Alfonso Borgen Parochial Vicar Padre@StMichaelLivermore.com	925-667-4053
Rev. Deacon Bill Archer	925-667-4056
Rev. Deacon Dave Rezendes DeaconD@StMichaelLivermore.com	925-447-1585
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