



St. Michael Catholic Parish

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

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Palm Sunday

OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

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MARCH
25
2018

Christ became obedient to the point of death,
even death on a cross.

Because of this, God greatly exalted him
and bestowed on him the name which is above every name.

Philippians 2:8-9

At A Crossroads

This Sunday we find ourselves at a crossroads. As we approach the great mystery of Christ's Death and Resurrection, we are coming to the end of our Lenten journey. It is a time to both look back and reflect, and to look forward and prepare.

Holy Week is a unique time in the Church calendar where we are suddenly walking minute by minute with Jesus as he goes through his Passion, Death, and Resurrection. Starting today with Palm Sunday, we enter into Jesus's life in "real time." The way God works in time during this week can really help us to enter into friendship with Jesus as we walk with him in his sufferings.

In order to stay focused during this week, it may help to ask ourselves, "How can I love God more during this time?" There are so many Scriptures, so many beautiful traditions, and such deep mysteries surrounding us this week—all gifts that will help us draw closer to the Lord.

First Reading Reflection

Isaiah 50:4–7

This reading comes from one of the four Servant Songs in Isaiah (42:1–4; 49:1–6; 50:4–9; 52:13–53:12). The Suffering Servant who speaks these words not only represents the ideal Israel, but also prefigures the Suffering Messiah to come. First, the Servant explains how the Lord has given him "the tongue of those who are taught,"

that is, he is able to speak words of spiritual encouragement to those who are worn out. He receives this word because he listens to the Lord every morning. The servant listens with an open heart and obeys the Lord's word. In his obedience, he becomes confident to face the suffering that is before him: those who beat him, who pluck his beard, who spit upon him. By relying on the Lord's help, he is able to face such persecution with confidence, with a "face like flint."

Indeed, Jesus fulfills these prophecies through his Passion, which begins today. He suffered all of these torments and more. Although he underwent the most humiliating of tortures, he can in fact say as the Suffering Servant, "I know that I shall not be put to shame" because Holy Week will not ultimately conclude with his humiliation and death. Jesus will triumph over death, and what looks like a defeat on Good Friday will turn to victory on the third day.

Second Reading Reflection

Philippians 2:6–11

This famous passage from St. Paul describes the journey of the Son from the heights of divine grandeur to the lowliness of humanity

through the suffering of the Cross and back to glory with the Father. Paul essentially defines Jesus's story as "V-shaped": he begins in glory, descends to humiliation and then ascends back to glory. This is a great mystery of our Faith. Jesus "emptied himself" and became fully human while remaining fully God, becoming truly one of us in order that he might save us. Moreover, he voluntarily underwent death on our behalf, a terrifying, painful death on the Cross. Because he willingly embraced this downward trajectory of pain,

suffering, and humiliation, God exalted him from the lowest place to the highest place, granting him the highest honor in all the universe. Ultimately, Jesus's act of self-emptying leads to his glorification over all.



In imitation of Christ, who serves as the greatest example for our own behavior, we too are called to humble ourselves in service and love for others. If we imitate Christ in this, we will begin to look more and more like him, and we know that in the end, God will honor us as images of his Son. As Jesus says, "Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted" (Matthew 23:12).

Gospel Reading

Mark 14:1—15:47

On Palm Sunday, we stand for one of the longest Gospel readings of the entire liturgical year. Here we read through two whole chapters of the Gospel of Mark that take us from early in Holy Week all the way to Jesus's burial. There is really too much to take in here as we contemplate the mystery and meaning of the Redemption. The liturgical practice of hearing this reading read aloud by multiple lectors and participating by giving voice to some of the lines ourselves leads us into the mystery of Christ's Passion. It is meant to be a powerful and transformative experience that helps us to walk with Jesus in his suffering. Like the Stations of the Cross, in this Gospel we are meant to sit at the Last Supper with the Apostles, weep with Christ in Gethsemane, watch him being tortured, and to stand at the foot of the Cross with Mary. Here our job is not merely to study or think, but to contemplate and stand in awe before the powerful love of our Savior. This long Gospel reading, through which we must stand, also

introduces us into the spiritual discipline of Holy Week. Keeping our hearts and minds focused on the long and painful story in the midst of physical discomfort can help us share, even if just in a small way, in the suffering of Jesus.

Discussion

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

What are the ways that the Lord has been acting in your life during this Lent? What graces do you think he still has in store for you as you live this Holy Week? How can you enter this week with gratitude to Christ on the Cross whether or not you succeeded in your resolutions?

Are there any barriers in your life that might distract you from Jesus? Are there any ways that you think the Lord is calling you to live your life differently during this time?

DIGGING DEEPER:

The Easter Triduum

The summit of the Liturgical Year is the Easter Triduum. It is one, single

liturgy that takes place over the course of three days—the evening of Holy Thursday to the evening of Easter Sunday, with its high point in the Easter Vigil. This includes the Mass of the Lord's Supper, Good Friday of the Lord's Passion, and the Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord. It is so central to our liturgical life that the Catechism says that “gradually, on either side of this source, the year is transfigured by the liturgy” (CCC: 1168).

The Church encourages us to participate in this liturgy in its entirety. Going to all three parts helps us to enter in to the mystery and stay close to Jesus in a profound way. Consider going as a group and inviting others to join you.

Good Friday Fast

Good Friday is an obligatory day of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. Except in the case of serious health reasons, Catholics age 18 until age 59 must fast. Catholics age 14 and older must abstain from meat.

FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK

Stations of the Cross

By Saint Alphonsus Liguori

Journey with Christ to Calvary

Personally follow Christ and His Sorrowful Mother on their journey to Calvary with the Stations of the Cross. Moving meditations by Saint Alphonsus Liguori accompanied by the beautiful Latin hymn, *Stabat Mater*, draw you into a more intimate experience of the Church's powerful Lenten prayer.

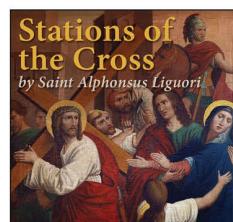
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“Holding a crucifix while meditating on the Stations of the Cross... so moving. Thank you, Jesus, for the Cross.”

—Marcia R, St Teresa’s Church

Mass

Intentions

Saturday 3/24

- 8:30am Enrique Pociague †
5:00pm Herb Di Grazia †
7:00pm Alan Aglwin †
Ramon & Debra Murillo

Sunday 3/25

- 6:45am Virginia Tynan †
8:00am Eufemio Ebrado †
9:30am Katia Christian † & family
11:00am Pat Werner †
12:30pm Areli & Jesus Hernandez
6:00pm Alfredo Inton †

Monday 3/26

- 8:30am Lois Hill †

Tuesday 3/27

- 8:30am Nick Patlovich †

Wednesday 3/28

- 8:30am Greg Ruppert †
Genie Guinn

Holy Thursday 3/29

- 6:00pm George T. O'Brien, Jr. †
8:00pm Amporiano Villanueva †

Good Friday 3/30

NO MASSES CELEBRATED

**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.**



In the readings for this Sunday we are brought into Jesus's experience of this same week two thousand years ago. The Church gives us these readings now to help us prepare to enter into these mysteries more deeply throughout our daily life this week. Through the Incarnation, God entered into history. This week, we can mystically enter into that history and walk alongside Jesus as his friends.

PRAYER

Let's ponder the Gospel of Jesus's Passion and Death today. This is a long reading, so take a moment and ask the Lord to call to mind one scene or person from this Gospel that he wants you to relate with today. There is the scene of the woman at Bethany with the alabaster jar, the man who provided the room for the Passover meal, the Last Supper, Gethsemane, Peter's denial, Pilate, Mary at the foot of the Cross, Joseph of Arimathea, or even Simon or Veronica.

Take a word that comes to mind and ponder on what it means to you personally. For example, perhaps you felt moved to reflect on the woman who poured oil on Jesus's head and were drawn to the words, "She has done what she could." Ask yourself what this means in your own life. How is Jesus encouraging you in the ways that you have loved him this Lent, no matter how small?

RESOLUTION

During this Holy Week, how can you come out of yourself? How can you make space in your everyday life to meet God so that he can fill you with the gift of himself?

Parish Prayer Requests

For our Elect and Candidates who are preparing to complete their initiation sacraments at Easter.

Please send your prayer requests to Prayers@StMichaelLivermore.com

Little White Books

The Welcoming Committee will have the traditional "Little White" daily devotion books for the Easter season available after Mass today for a \$1 donation. Offering a short prayer and meditation, these books help us fully rejoice during the Easter Season.

If you miss them, come to the church office this week to pick one up.

Bells and Candles

All are encouraged to bring bells to ring at the Gloria on Holy Thursday and at the Easter Vigil Mass.

Bring a candle to Easter Vigil to be blessed as your home Paschal candle, to be used throughout the year.

Collection Report

Thank you for your continued support! Due to the early bulletin deadlines, the collection reports will be published in the next few weeks.

If St Michael's is your home parish, and you have not yet set up regular offerings, please call the Church Office 925-447-1585. You may request traditional paper envelopes, or you may sign up for online giving through FaithDirect.

When making an offering, kindly include your parishioner number on your offertory envelope or check. Don't know your parishioner number? Just give us a call at 925-447-1585.

Need \$1,000 More

To meet the Backpack Project Goal

We are so close to meeting our \$7,000 goal to buy 175 backpacks full of school supplies for Livermore's most needy students. We just need \$1,000 more. Please help us meet this goal and keep our promise to provide these backpacks.

Make checks payable to St. Michael, write "Backpack Project" in the memo and on the envelope. Drop it in the offertory basket at Mass or drop it off at the church office. Thank you for your and generosity!

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Livermore Knights of Columbus

Men's Retreat

Evangelizing Our Faith Through Actions

APRIL 7, 2018

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

SAN DAMIANO RETREAT, DANVILLE

\$60 per person includes lunch. Reserve your space: 925-570-7789



THE INCREDIBLES

SAT APRIL 14

DOORS OPEN AT 6:30 PM

ST MICHAEL'S HALL

FREE!



HOLY WEEK

HOLY THURSDAY, MAR 29

We commemorate the institution of the Eucharist and the priesthood. We wait with Jesus in Adoration before His arrest.

8:30 am: Morning Prayer in the Church

5:30 pm: The Adoration Chapel closes, and will re-open Mon, April 2.

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

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

After Mass, please process with the Blessed Sacrament to the Parish Hall. Spend some time in Adoration.

GOOD FRIDAY, MAR 30

We walk with Jesus through His passion. We fast and abstain from meat. Mass is not celebrated anywhere in the world.

8:30 am
Morning Prayer in the Church

4:00 pm
Stations of the Cross Passion Play

5:30 pm
Good Friday Service in English

6:00 pm
Bilingual Living Stations of the Cross in the School Courtyard

8:00 pm
Good Friday Service in Spanish

HOLY SATURDAY, MAR 31

We solemnly wait for the Lord. If able, we continue the Good Friday fast and abstain from meat until the Easter Vigil.

8:30 am: Morning Prayer in the Church

10:00 am: Blessing of Easter Food in Conference Room

Easter Vigil Mass

He is Risen! This is the first celebration of the Resurrection.

6:00 pm: Easter Vigil in the Holy Night of Easter in English

10:00 pm: Easter Vigil in the Holy Night of Easter in Spanish

Both Easter Vigil Masses will begin in the courtyard and will last approximately 3 hours.

EASTER SUNDAY, APR 1

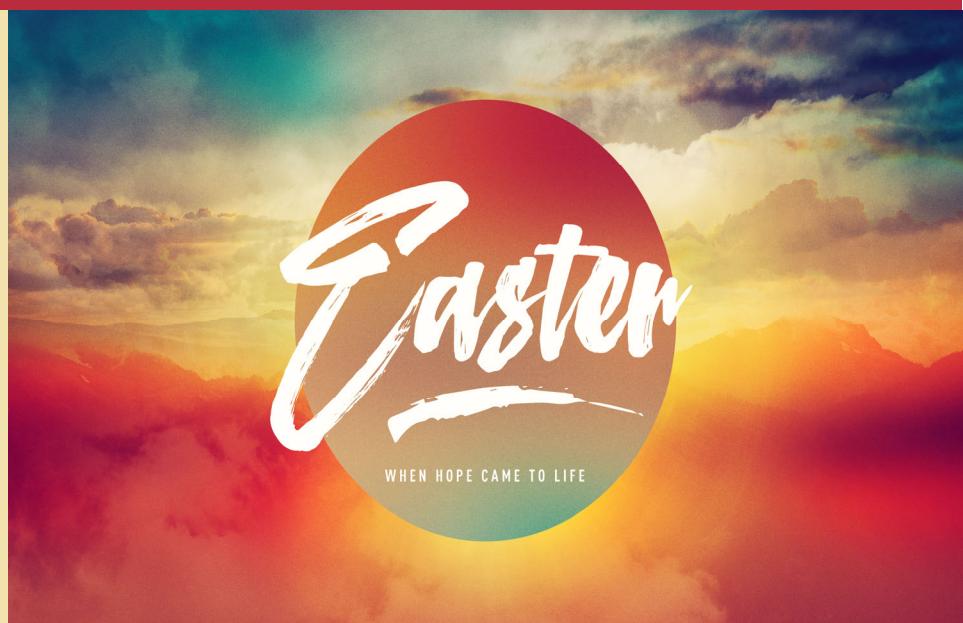
He is Risen! Celebrate the morning of the Resurrection. Extra parking at St Michael School!

In the Church:

5:30 am: Mass at Sunrise
6:45 am: Mass without Music
8:00 am: Mass with Cantor
9:30 am: Mass with Children's Choir
11:00 am: Mass with Chamber Choir
12:30 pm: Mass in Spanish

In the Parish Hall:

8:15 am, 9:45 am and 11:15 am.



Divine Mercy Sunday

April 8

Our Lord promised to us, through St Faustina, special graces when we receive Holy Communion on Divine Mercy Sunday, in a state of grace, with trust in The Divine Mercy.

To obtain these special graces, make a point to go to Confession. Optionally, we can prepare for Divine Mercy Sunday by praying the Novena, which starts on Good Friday.

Divine Mercy Mass on April 8 will be held at the regular hours...

And an additional Mass at 3:00 pm will begin with a sung version of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy.

The 6:00 pm Mass will be about 90 minutes long as we welcome several youth into the Body of Christ through the Sacrament of Baptism and First Communion. Please keep them in your prayers!



SAT MARCH 24
SAT APRIL 14
9:30 AM - 3:30 PM

Convent Clean-Up

Saturday, April 14 and 21

Do you like to do physical hands-on work? Looking for community service opportunities for your family or youth group?

Contact Dennis Lundbom to sign up your family or your group:
775-772-6369.

Convent Clean-Up Days

Sat, April 14
9:30 am to 3:30 pm.

Convent Yard Sale

Sat, April 21, 7:00 am – 4:00 pm
(and if needed, Sun, April 22, 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm).

Be a Knight!

Sun, April 15

Our Knights of Columbus serve our Church and community. They demonstrate their faith through actions and encourage their families and others to do the same.

There will be a parish membership drive on **Sunday, April 15**. Please consider joining our council and working with good men serving God in Livermore.

Contact Jim Shirley for information at: 925-518-1189 or thean@comcast.net

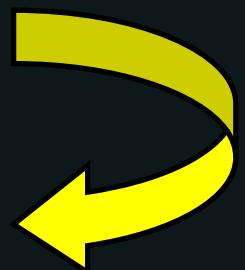


DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

STARTING
MARCH 30

NINE INTENTIONS
NINE DAYS

Pick up the brochure of prayers in the church





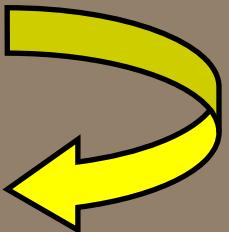
**DISCOVER
*The Sacraments***
EASTER MISSION WORKSHOP

6:30 PM | THURSDAYS, APRIL 12, 29, 26 IN ENGLISH
7:00 PM | FRIDAYS, APRIL 6, 13, 20 IN SPANISH

PARISH HALL

Video presentation & group discussion.

No Registration, No Fee!



**A BIBLICAL WALK THROUGH
*The Mass***
A 5-WEEK STUDY

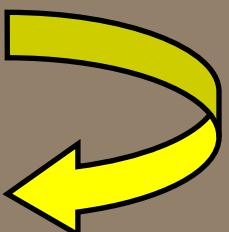
A unique tour of everything that we do & say at Mass

7:00 PM | TUESDAYS, MAY 1-29 IN ENGLISH
7:00 PM | THURSDAYS, MAY 3-31 IN SPANISH

UPSTAIRS AT ST MICHAEL SCHOOL

Materials cost: \$19.95
Register at StMichaelLivermore.com/OnCampus

Register in Advance:
\$19.95 materials fee

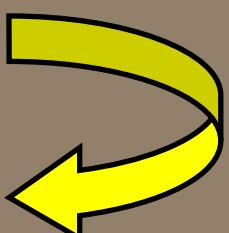


FULFILLED
Uncovering the Biblical Foundations of Catholicism – Part One

7:00 pm Mondays, April 30 - June 11

Register: StMichaelLivermore.com/OnCampus

Register in Advance:
\$24.95 materials fee



Español

Jueves Santo

29 de marzo

8:30 am: Oración matutina
5:30 pm: se cierra la capilla de adoración
6:00 pm: Misa en inglés
8:00 pm: Misa en español
Adoración en el salón después de cada misa

Viernes Santo

30 de marzo

Capilla de adoración cerrada
8:30 am: Oración matutina
4:00 pm: Stations of the Cross Passion Play, representada por nuestros adolescentes.
5:30 pm: Servicio en inglés
6:00 pm: Via-Crucis viviente saliendo de la Escuela Parroquial hacia el templo.
8:00 pm: Servicio en español

Sábado Santo

31 de marzo

Capilla de adoración cerrada
8:30 am: Oración matutina
10:00 am: bendición de la comida de Pascua en la sala de conferencias

Misa del Domingo de Pascua

Misa en la iglesia:
5:30 am: Misa al amanecer
6:45 am: Misa sin música
8:00 am: Misa con Cantor
9:30 am: Misa con Cantor
11:00 am: Misa con coro
12:30 pm: Misa en español



Un Paseo Bíblico a través de la Misa

por Dr. Edward Sri

Jueves, del 3 al 31 de mayo a las 7:00 pm

Este programa de cinco partes, lleva a los participantes por un recorrido emocionante a través de la Liturgia. Explora las raíces bíblicas de las palabras y los gestos que usamos en la Misa y explica su profundo significado. Entienda, tal vez por primera vez, porque decimos lo que decimos y hacemos lo que hacemos cada semana en la Misa. Las palabras y los gestos serán vistos en una nueva luz, que dará vida nueva a su experiencia litúrgica.

Vivir la fe con los talleres de Misión

Descubrir, o redescubrir, la belleza de los sacramentos del bautismo y la confirmación, la Eucaristía y entender la Misa.

Conocer la fe Católica es una cosa, pero ¿qué tal vivirla? Symbolon: Viviendo la Fe responde a esta pregunta explorando cómo Jesús nos dio los sacramentos, la Misa y los ricos tesoros de la enseñanza de la Iglesia para acelerar nuestra fe y traer vitalidad a nuestras vidas católicas. Con una enseñanza vivida y perspicaz, transmitida por presentadores calificados, complementada con una bella cinematografía filmada en diferentes partes del mundo, Symbolon: Viviendo la Fe abarca todos los aspectos de

nuestras vidas para un auténtico crecimiento y desarrollo espiritual.

Sesión 1: Bautismo y Confirmación
6 de abril a las 7:00 pm en el gran salón

Sesión 2: La Eucaristía
13 de abril a las 7:00 pm en el gran salón

Sesión 3: La Explicación de la Misa
20 de abril a las 7:00 pm en el gran salón

(La versión en inglés de este mismo taller se realizará los días 12, 19 y 26 de abril a las 6:30 p. M. En el salón)

Por favor regístrese por correo electrónico:

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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 Varal-
lo, Irving Garcia, Cynthia Garay and
Glenda Dubsky.

Finance Council | Consejo Financiero

Finance Council Chair: Dave Ruth
daveruth@alrinc.com

Fr. Van Dinh, Eric Hom, Cynthia
Garay, Edna McCombe, Analy Palo-
mino, Vanessa Suarez

St. Michael School | Escuela de San Miguel

925-447-1888 smsliv.org

Faith Formation in Eng- lish

925-667-4096



Deacon Dave Rezendes, 925-447-1585
Temporary Administrator

Fr Van Dinh, Pastor
(on administrative leave)

Fr Alfonso Borgen, Parochial 925-667-4053
Vicar

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, 925-667-4093
Youth Minister

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

JaNet Hancock, Music 925-292-5071

Debbie Pizzato, Liturgy 925-667-4095

Marjorie Melendez, RCIA 925-447-2925

Ana Fregoso, RICA 925-344-7150