



St. Michael Catholic Parish

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

458 Maple St
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FOURTH SUNDAY OF

Lent

MARCH 26, 2017

*I was blind
and now I see.*

John 9:25

Healing Our Blindness

FIRST READING

As the prophet Samuel anointed David with oil, the spirit of the LORD rushed upon David and remained with him from that day forward (1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a).

In this passage, God directs Samuel to take up his horn of oil and go to Bethlehem where he will point out the future King of Israel. The horn was in itself loaded with significance. The ram's horn was blown as a signal in war and to announce religious events. Jewish lore suggests that its use in signaling the morning and evening sacrifices stems from Genesis 22 where Abraham finds a ram caught in a thicket, which God has provided as a substitute sacrifice for his son, Isaac. The horn is also a symbol of authority for the prophets Zedekiah and Zechariah. David was anointed from the horn of Samuel and then received the authority of kingship.

In the Gospel of Luke, Zechariah is struck dumb for doubting the prophecy of the Messiah and doesn't speak again until the birth of John. At this time, he says, "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he...has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David" (Luke 1:68-69). The anointing from the horn of the prophet Samuel of the first king of the house of David is loaded with significance for those of us who profess Jesus as the horn of our salvation and the anointed one of God.

SECOND READING

You who were once darkness are now light in the Lord. Live as children of light (Ephesians 5:8-14).

Paul explains in this passage not simply a Christian perspective toward immorality but a universal psychological principle. St. Ignatius makes a similar point in his Spiritual Exercises in saying that the devil will always tempt us to keep our sins secret. Sins

that go unconfessed tend to grow in us.

What remains in the dark cannot be seen for what it is. Of course, neither Paul nor Ignatius would say that our sins should be made

public. No Christian is required to make a public confession of sins. Some choose to do so as part of a healing process or to make restitution with a public witness of their repentance because they've been public in their sin.

Confessing sins in the Sacrament of Reconciliation is good for the soul because it dissipates our exaggerated illusions as to either the insignificance or the gravity of our sins. When confessed, all sins appear for what they are, too miserable to weigh us down. Some sins are slight, some are grave; but when we hide them we lose the capacity to judge which is which. The very light that we shine on our sins in confessing them purifies us and turns us away from sin. As St. Paul says, "All that then appears is light."

GOSPEL

The man who was blind from birth proclaimed: The one called Jesus made clay with his saliva, anointed my eyes with it, and told me to wash. When I washed, I was able to see! (John 9:1-41 [1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38])

This section of John's Gospel focuses on the division that Jesus has engendered among those who follow him and those who don't. The argument between the factions runs like this: Because Jesus had supposedly violated the Sabbath by making clay, which he used to smear the man's eyes, the Pharisees claim that Jesus couldn't be from God. That is, if Jesus is a sinner, he shouldn't be able to work miracles. They question the man born blind and his parents and find that he was indeed born blind. So they must call into question that it was Jesus who gave him sight. Failing in that, they can only throw the formerly blind man out of the synagogue since they can't deny that Jesus must have healed him and therefore must be God.

Some say this story would've spoken directly to the position of the Jewish Christians who'd been put out of the synagogues themselves at the time that John's Gospel was written. This story would've given them hope that their separation from the synagogue wasn't a sign of their having been cut off from God, but the necessary result of Jesus' mission "to make the sightless see and the seeing blind."



Grow in Discipleship

On the surface, today's Gospel would appear to be about the physical healing of a blind man, but underneath lies a play on the word "sight." In this event, Jesus is challenging those around him, including his own disciples, to "see" the world in a new way. He points out to them...and to us...that it is entirely too easy to operate with a set of false assumptions; to be "blind" to the things of God in our lives. Like those in this account, we can think we are seeing clearly, but in fact we are blinded by our own assumptions, prejudices, and egos. Of all the characters in the story of the blind man, the only one who has the gift of true sight is the blind man himself who acknowledged Jesus as the Messiah. In this reading, we are called to ask ourselves if we see things the way God sees them or if we are looking

through the eyes of the world; to examine where we might be blind spiritually; where we are looking at appearances, not reality. As God says to the prophet Samuel in the first reading: "Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearance but the Lord looks into the heart."

This Gospel reminds us that the way we see best is through the eyes of faith, for then we see the world the way God sees it. But first we have to recognize that without Jesus, we are truly blind.

Watch the short video on FORMED.org

What are some of the false perceptions the disciples had about the blind man?

What are some of the ways that the characters in this story were blind? The disciples? The Pharisees? The neighbors?

What are some of the ways that you might be blind?

DIGGING DEEPER: Pool of Siloam

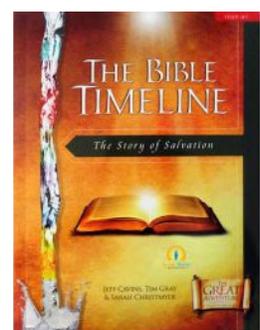
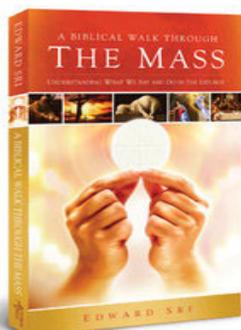
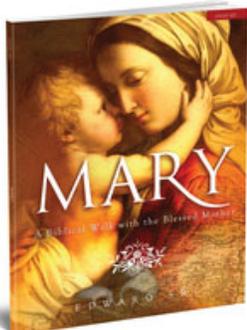
The actual Pool of Siloam was discovered in 2004 when a utility crew digging a drainage pipe hit the stairs with a tractor. The pool is fed by a 1,780-foot conduit that starts at a spring, the only source of fresh water in that area of Jerusalem. The spring and the pool were heavily guarded since the time of King David so that the citizens would have water even if the city were under siege by enemies.

Reflection by *Opening the Word* and reprinted with the permission of Augustine Institute. Visit Formed.org for more.

Spring Small Group Registration is Open!

Re-Discover the Faith. Connect with People

Register by April 23 at StMichaelLivermore.com/Discipleship. We will place you in a group, or you and your friends can form a group. Meetings take place in parishioners' homes and will start in early May. Studies range from 5 to 24 weeks. Participants follow the assignments given in the workbook, then gather with the group for discussion and to watch the lecture video. Contact Grow@StMichaelLivermore.com.



Mass Intentions

Saturday 3/25

- 8:30am The intentions of our parish
Bernie & Marie Kraemer †
- 5:00pm The intentions of our parish
Pat Werner †
- 7:00pm The intentions of our parish
Antonio Ramos Camcho †

Sunday 3/26

- 6:45am The intentions of our parish
Melanie Maher †
- 8:00am Samantha Smith
James Webb †
- 9:30am George Pimentel
Mary Angela Lima †
- 11:00am The intentions of our parish
Crispina de la Cerna †
- 12:30pm The intentions of our parish
- 3:30 pm Antony Pham Van Hoi †
- 6:00pm The intentions of our parish
Gerald Dixon †

Monday 3/27

- 7:00am Harry & Marie McVey
Lina Q. Lee Llacer †
- 8:30am The intentions of our parish
Marie Kraemer †

Tuesday 3/28

- 7:00am The Souls in Purgatory †
- 8:30am The intentions of our parish
Joe Adam Esquibel †

Wednesday 3/29

- 7:00am The Souls in Purgatory †
- 8:30am Jean, Eric, Dorin & Jose Luis
Joe Adam Esquibel †
- 7:00pm Maria Avevalo & family

Thursday 3/30

- 7:00am The Souls in Purgatory †
- 8:30am Basilisa Alacron †
Gregorio, Felisciana and Raul †

Friday 3/31

- 7:00am The Souls in Purgatory †
- 8:30am John Mitchell †

Prayers & Devotion

Prayer Requests

For the repose of the soul of Clifford Bates and for his grieving family.
For the souls in purgatory

For the perfect St Michael School principal candidate.
For the staff, students and families.
For many new families to enroll their children.

For Alpha, our new evangelization ministry, that will reach out to those who don't know Christ.

For the Grow in Faith Ministry, whose mission is to create a culture of discipleship at St Michael's by supporting small group studies, encouraging family and individual enrichment, and developing parish-wide learning campaigns.

Send your prayer requests to Prayers@StMichaelLivermore.com

Join the Parish Prayer Team

Sign up at StMichaelLivermore.com/PrayerTeam to receive a weekly list of parish prayer requests to include in your daily prayer.

Nightly Examination

This is important and it helps prepare you for your next confession. It is healthy to examine your faults and failings and to ask God's help to overcome them.



15 minutes of Mental Prayer

It consists of a "heart-to-heart" with God and leaving time for talking and listening. God is extremely interested in what is going on in your life.

Morning Offering

By praying a morning offering, you dedicate the rest of the day to God, which then prepares you to tackle anything that comes at you during the day.



15 minutes of Spiritual Reading

One way to do this is to read the Gospel reading for today and then find a spiritual book that will help you grow in your relationship with God.



News & Announcements

Centennial Directory Portraits

On September 29, 2018, we are going to celebrate the St. Michael Church Centennial. We invite all parishioners to have their portraits taken so they can be included in this historic Directory. All portraits will be taken by Lifetouch.

We have completed two portrait sessions, one in February and the other one in March. There will be another two sessions scheduled for June 21 to June 25 and June 28 to July 2nd. To sign up, please click the portrait picture on the home page at StMichaelLivermore.com or call Corry Painter at 925-577-9939.

The Backpack Project Needs \$4,000

The St Michael's Community again has pledged to provide 175 school backpacks of school supplies for Livermore students in need. We need \$4,000 more to make our goal. Can you help? Contact Ernestina Shay 925-455-1089 or Lynn Macedo 925-443-3287

Collection Report

3/19/17 Collection: \$17,979.74
Average Collection: \$22,285.88
Maintenance Fund: \$19,338.35

Thank you for your support! The basic operating cost of our parish, without added funds for improvement, is \$22,000 each week. Your gift is much appreciated.

Easter Children's Choir

All children, grades 2 - 8, are invited to join in singing in the Easter Children's Choir on Easter Sunday (April 16) at the 9:30 am Mass. Rehearsals will be held on Tuesday afternoons from 4 - 5 pm in Room 26 at St. Michael School, beginning this week. There will be rehearsal on March 28, April 4 and April 11.

Interested students need to attend at least two of the three rehearsals. For more information, please contact JaNet Hancock, Director of Music at Music@StMichaelLivermore.com or 925-292-5071.

Sound Tech Team Forming

We are establishing a new Sound Tech Team to improve the sound experience at Mass and at other special events at St. Michael. Members of this new team will monitor and mix the sound at parish Masses using an iPad. We are looking to train a team of volunteers to who will then be assigned to Masses.

If you are interested in being part of this exciting new ministry, please contact JaNet Hancock, at 925-292-5071 or via email at Music@StMichaelLivermore.com



St Michael School middle school students made "Spaghetti Soapbox Derby Cars" as a science/engineering project. The noodle engineers built cars made of only pasta and hot glue. Congratulations to the champ, Anthony C, who's lasagna racer travelled 113 inches! Interested in finding out more about St Michael School? SMSLiv.org or 925-447-1888.

Share pictures and stories of your ministry! Send to TinaGregory@StMichaelLivermore.com

This Week

MONDAY, MARCH 27

Readings: Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13b; Jn 4:43-54

Events:

Lent Reconciliation Service is at 7:00 pm in the church. Come to the church to hear the Word proclaimed and receive individual Confession. Stay in the church after to bask in the Mercy of Christ, exposed in the Eucharist. Benediction follows.

TUESDAY, MARCH 28

Readings: Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16

Suggestion:

Register for a Small Group Bible Study at StMichaelLivermore.com/Discipleship. Groups will be forming the week of April 23 and will start the first week in May. Studies range from 5-8 weeks. Consider hosting a small group in your home!

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29

Readings: Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18; Jn 5:17-30

Events:

Serve Open Heart Kitchen 9:30 am-11:45 am and 11:45 am-2:00 pm. Contact: Diane Schord 925-447-4344.

Discover the Catholic Faith 7:00 pm in the Convent for anyone feeling drawn to become Catholic or complete their sacraments. Contact: Marjorie 925-447-2925

THURSDAY, MARCH 30

Readings: Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-23; Jn 5:31-47

Events:

WINGS (Women in God's Spirit) at 9:30 am at St Charles with guest speaker Patti Collyer on "Finding God in the Darkness." Contact: Phyllis Clearwater 925-337-4299

FRIDAY, MARCH 31

Abstain from Meat

Readings: Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-21, 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Events:

Stations of the Cross in the church at 7:00 pm in English, 8:00 pm in Spanish.

SATURDAY, APRIL 1

First Saturday

Readings: Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12; Jn 7:40-53

Events:

Anointing of the Sick after the 8:30 Mass. Exposition and Benediction to follow.

Confession in the morning after Benediction and at 3:45 pm in English and 6:15 pm in Spanish.

SUNDAY, APRIL 2

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Readings: Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-8; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]

Events

Second Collection for Maintenance & Improvement Collection. Funds will go toward daily maintenance repairs such as aging HVAC units, parking lot asphalt repairs, old plumbing and lighting systems, irrigation repairs, maintenance on our roofs and other improvements.



PARISH LENT STUDY

Hungry

How do you think using a Mass Journal could enhance your experience of the Mass?

If you had one Sunday left, one last celebration of Mass, what would you do? How does this compare with your regular Sunday Mass experience?

What are you hungry for? What habits can you change to feed your soul?

Have you been watching the daily Best Lent Ever videos delivered to your email inbox?

Upcoming Events

Screenagers: Growing Up in the Digital Age

Mon, April 3 at 7 pm
Vine Cinema

The award-winning movie SCREENAGERS depicts messy struggles, over social media, video games, academics and internet addiction. Through surprising insights from authors and brain scientists solutions emerge on how we can empower kids to best navigate the digital world. Sponsored by St Michael School, this event is FREE.

Chrism Mass

Thur, April 6 at 6:30 pm
at the Cathedral

Bishop Michael Barber, joined by all the priests of the diocese, will gather at the Cathedral to celebrate the Chrism Mass. This Mass manifests the unity of the priests with their bishop. The bishop will bless the oil of catechumens and the oil of the infirm and will consecrate the oil of holy chrism.



Palm Vigil Procession

Sat, April 8 at 5 pm & 7 pm

Join us for the Palm Vigil Procession on Saturday at 5:00 pm in English, 7:00 pm in Spanish. This is the only Mass of the year where we will hear two gospel readings, the first proclaimed in the courtyard, and then the Lord's Passion in the church. Please arrive a few minutes early to pick up palm branches.



April 13 Holy Thursday

8:30 am Morning Prayer in the Church
6:00 pm Mass in English

April 14 Good Friday

8:30 am Morning Prayer
4:00 pm Passion Play
5:30 pm Service in English
6:00 pm Living Stations of the Cross (Bilingual)
8:00 pm Service in Spanish

April 15 Holy Saturday

8:30 am Morning Prayer
10:00 am Blessing of Easter Food
5:30 pm Great Easter Vigil (English)*
7:30 pm Easter Mass (English)
10:00 pm Great Easter Vigil (Spanish)*

*Mass begins in the courtyard

Divine Mercy Novena Starts on Good Friday, April 14

Jesus asked that the Feast of the Divine Mercy be preceded by a Novena to the Divine Mercy which would begin on Good Friday. He gave St. Faustina an intention to pray for on each day of the Novena.

A brochure with the novena prayers is available near the doors at church.

Divine Mercy Sunday Sun, April 23

Jesus said to St Faustina:

I want to grant a complete pardon to the souls that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion on the Feast of My mercy (1109).

Whoever approaches the Fountain of Life on this day will be granted complete forgiveness of sins and punishment (300).

April 16 Easter Sunday

Mass in the Church at:

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

Due to the hall renovation, all Easter Sunday Masses will be in the church.

Próximos Eventos

Confeciones de Cuaresma Lunes 27 de Marzo

El Servicio de Reconciliación de Cuaresma se llevara acabo a las 7:00 pm en la iglesia. Ven a escuchar la palabra proclamada y recibir la Confesión individual. Habra sacerdotes de la diocesis que ofreceran confesion en español. Permanezca en la iglesia para después disfrutar de la Misericordia de Cristo, expuesta en la Eucaristía. La bendición sigue. Los esperamos!

Estaciones de la Cruz

Todos los viernes de Cuaresma 7:00 pm en inglés, 8:00 pm en español



Reencuentro Matrimonial Mundial Abril 28 a 30 del 2017

Date la oportunidad a ti y tu pareja de renovar tu matrimonio en el Reencuentro Matrimonial Mundial. Para mas informacion llamar a 925-447-1585

Fr. Rafael Hinojosa

EDGE Grupo de Adolescentes Jueves 6:30pm-8:00pm

Todos los adolescentes entre las edades de 11-15 años estan invitados a participar en nuestro grupo lleno de divertidas dinamicas y charlas. Para mas informacion Lupita Murillo: 925-784-5519



Directorio de Fotos del Centenario de la Parroquia

Nuestro directorio de fotos Centennial no sería lo mismo sin su foto! Se han abierto nuevos retratos en junio y julio. La sesión es gratuita, y usted recibirá un 8x10 libre y una copia del directorio cuando salga. Para reservar su sesión de retrato, visite el sitio web de la parroquia y haga clic en la imagen del directorio de fotos StMichael-Livermore.com/Espanol.



Semana Santa

13 de abril Jueves Santo

8:30 am Oración de la mañana
6:00 pm Misa en inglés
8:00 pm Misa en Español

14 de abril Viernes Santo

8:30 am Oración de la mañana
4:00 pm Representacion de las estaciones en Ingles
5:30 pm Servicio en inglés
6:00 pm Viacruzis
8:00 pm Servicio en español

15 de abril Sábado Santo

8:30 am Oración de la mañana
10:00 am Bendición de los alimentos de Pascua
5:30 pm Vigilia pascual (inglés) *
7:30 pm Misa de Pascua (Inglés)
10:00 pm Vigilia pascual (español) *
La misa comienza en el patio de la escuela.

16 de abril Domingo de Pascua

Misa en la Iglesia
5:30 am, 6:45 am, 8:00 am,
9:30 am, 11:00 am
12:30 pm y 6:00 pm (español)

Noticias Parroquiales

Informe de recaudación

3/19/17 Recaudación:
\$17,979.74

Colección media:
\$22,285.88

Fondo de Mantenimiento:
\$19,338.35

¡Gracias por tu apoyo! El costo básico para la operación de nuestra parroquia, sin incluir fondos adicionales para mejoras, es de \$ 22,000 por semana. Su donación es apreciada.

Si desea hacer una donación única o establecer ofrendas regulares, visite membership.faithdirect.net/CA602

Servicio de Comunion a domicilio

Si usted o alguien que conozca tiene un familiar enfermo ya sea en casa o en el hospital. Les damos la invitación de registrarse para que nuestro ministerio pueda llevar la comunión a ellos.

Para más información y registración Socorro Herrera (925)216-2630

Registración de Flocknote

Regístrese para recibir anuncios especiales de San Miguel en español a través de texto o correo electrónico. Sólo mandar texto MIGUEL al 202-765-3441.

Boletín en Español

Para obtener información en español sobre eventos y noticias de nuestra parroquia. Si están interesados en agregar o presentar un artículo en el boletín en español, por favor contactar a Brenda Zavala 510-691-2864

“ En la fe hay suficiente luz para los que quieren creer y suficiente sombra para enneguecer a los que no. ”

--Blas Pascal

Examen de Conciencia
Hacer un examen diario al finalizar el día nos ayuda a prepararnos para la próxima confesión. Es saludable examinar nuestras faltas y pedir ayuda a Dios para vencerlas.

Ofrecimientos del Día
Al aprovechar la mañana para ofrecer nuestro día, se lo dedicamos a Dios, quien nos prepara para vencer cualquier prueba que se nos presente.

15 minutos de Oración Mental
Consiste en un momento "cara a cara" con Dios, para hablar y escuchar. A Él le interesa mucho lo que sucede en nuestra vida.

15 minutos de Lectura Espiritual
Una manera de hacer esto es leer el Evangelio del día y encontrar un libro espiritual que nos ayude a crecer en nuestra relación con Dios.

4 HÁBITOS DIARIOS PARA MANTENER VIVA LA FE

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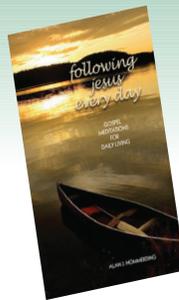
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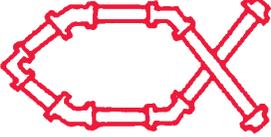
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Information | Información

St. Michael Parish | La Parroquia de San Miguel

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

StMichaelLivermore.com | StMichaelLivermore.com/español



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Mass | Misa

Mon-Fri | Lu-Vi 7:00 am & 8:30 am

Wed | Mi 7:00 pm (español)

Sat | Sa 8:30 am

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

Prayer to St. Michael

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the divine power of God, cast into hell satan, and all the evil spirits, who roam throughout the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.



Oracion a San Miguel Arcangel

O San Miguel, Arcangel defiendenos en la batalla. Se nuestra proteccion contra el mal y las trampas del Diablo; humildemente te rogamos que Dios los reprenda. O Principe Celestial de la Santa Hostia, que con la ayuda de Dios echas a Satanas al infierno y a los espiritus que vagan por el mundo para arruinar las almas. Amén.

Clergy | Clero

Rev. Van Dinh, Pastor

Rev. Rafael Hinojosa, Parochial Vicar

Rev. David Staal, Associate

Rev. Alfred Amos, In Residence

Rev. Stanislaus Poon, Retired

Rev. Deacon Rob Federle

Rev. Deacon Dave Rezendes

Rev. Deacon Bill Archer

Rev. Deacon Bob Vince

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michaelpereira@comcast.net

Frs. Van, Rafael and Alfred, Eric Hom, Alice Aufderheide, Ricardo Echon, Michael Pereira, Fidelis Atuegbu, Jo Anne Lindquist, Dave Parks, Frank Draschner, Ken Varallo, Irving Garcia, Cynthia Garay

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Finance Council Chair: Dave Ruth

daveruth@alrinc.com

Fr. Van Dinh, Fr. Rafael Hinojosa, Eric Hom, Cynthia Garay, Analy Palomino, Vanessa Suarez, Dave Ruth

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