



St. Michael Catholic Parish

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

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FIFTH SUNDAY OF

Lent

APRIL 2, 2017

*Jesus cried out
in a loud voice,
“Lazarus,
come out!”*

John 11:43

The Raising of Lazarus

First Reading

Thus says the LORD GOD: I will open your graves, have you rise from them, and settle you on your land. (Ezekiel 37:12-14).

This passage follows Ezekiel's famous vision of the dry bones in the first half of chapter 37. The prophet is shown a dry valley full of bones and is commanded to prophesy. When he does, the bones come together and are covered with flesh. Again he prophesies, and the breath of life comes into the bodies. Ezekiel, whom the Spirit of the Lord addresses as "son of man," is told that this scene represents the resurrection of Israel, which is now in exile in Babylon. The "son of man" who speaks and causes Israel to rise from exile points liturgically to the "Son of Man" who will speak and cause Lazarus to rise. Ezekiel paves the way for the extension of the Covenant to the Gentiles by expanding the Jewish conception of God's providence to extend it into all nations.

We who live in the New Covenant in Christ recognize in this reading not only the resurrection of Israel but the resurrection of Jesus, the new Israel. Jesus is both the prophet of the resurrection, the new Ezekiel and Son of Man, and also the subject of the resurrection. We see our own resurrection to life in Christ as members of the Body of Christ in this prophetic vision of Ezekiel.

Second Reading

If Christ is in you, the spirit is alive even if the body is dead because of sin (Romans 8:8-11).

It's easy to assume that the term "flesh" denotes something essentially

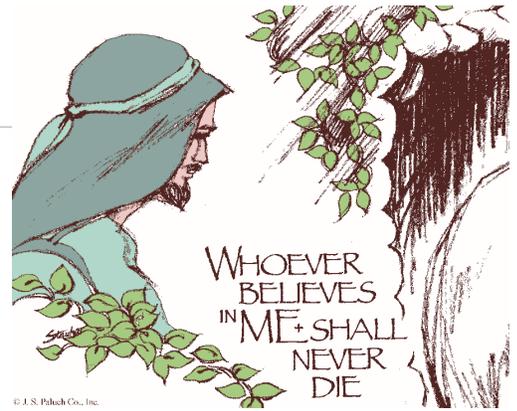
evil in this short passage. However, flesh is good in that it has its origin in God, and is still further ennobled when our flesh is assumed by Christ. Adam exclaims that Eve is flesh of his flesh when shown her by God, in an expression that suggests the deepest communion of love. In the Hebrew conception, body and soul are united in a personal being. Paul uses the term in the Hebrew way; he's not making a distinction between body and soul in which the body is evil and the soul is good. Rather, he's making a distinction between life with Christ versus life without Christ.

In essence, Paul is saying that if we remain merely earthly creatures—in the flesh—we remain outside the dying/rising salvational scheme that Christ gave us. This scheme is effected in us by the grace of Baptism, in which we're anointed and made Christians. When we cooperate with that grace, we "are not in the flesh."

Gospel

Lazarus, dead for four days, came out of his tomb when Jesus called his name. Many of those who had seen what had happened began to believe in Jesus (John 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]).

We might find it shocking that the greatest miracle that Jesus performed to define his saving mission as one to free mankind from death is the catalyst that causes the Jewish authorities to plot his death. The very act of life-giving ends in death-dealing. By definitively showing that he is "the resurrection and the life," Jesus precipitates his own death. The same act that causes Mary, Martha, and many of the Jews who had come



to visit them to have faith in Jesus causes the opposite reaction in the Jewish authorities. There's no half-way in John's Gospel. One can walk in darkness or light, one is blind or sighted, one is alive or dead; no middle ground exists.

Lazarus will die again, of course. But by that time there will be no death at all for those who believe. And it seems unlikely that Lazarus would ever be able to doubt Christ after this episode. Those who believe will have their faith confirmed by this event, and those who won't will find their resistance hardened by it. In no other episode in the Gospel story is Jesus shown so clearly for what he is: the resurrection and the life.

DIGGING DEEPER:

Jewish Burial Customs

In New Testament times, burial was often on the day of death. Unlike some of their pagan neighbors, Jews never practiced cremation. Bodies were usually placed in a tomb carved out of rock or a natural cave, which frequently contained the bodies of several family members. The entrance to the tomb was closed by a large stone. After desiccation (about a year), the bones were permanently placed in an ossuary.

Grow in Discipleship

The story of the raising of Lazarus is more than just an account of a miracle. The raising and unbinding of Lazarus sheds light on how God wants to heal the dead areas of our lives and free us from whatever sins, burdens, or wounds prevent us from living life to the fullest.

When Jesus arrives at the tomb, he has the stone rolled away and calls Lazarus to come out. Lazarus emerges, although he is still bound in the burial cloths. We are often like Lazarus. We have areas in our lives that are dead and need to be enlivened again by Christ. But we also may be bound either by our own sins or by the hurts others have inflicted on us. We may carry great burdens or worries or dysfunctional patterns of relating to others that bind us down

and keep us from peace and happiness. Jesus wants to free us from those wounds; he wants us, like Lazarus, to be unbound.

This week's Gospel shows us Jesus wants us to let him into all those places that have been rendered dead by sin. He wants to weep with us in his humanity, but also to reveal his divinity and bring about a total healing. He wants our better selves to step forward as he says to each of us, "Come out." Even if our situation seems hopeless—and certainly Lazarus' death seemed hopeless for his many mourners—nothing is impossible for God. All we need to do is surrender our lives to him and trust in him, for him to be able to bring us to new life.

Watch the short video presentation on FORMED.org. This week's presenter helps us see how the story of the raising of Lazarus is relevant to our own lives today.

Discussion

How does the story of the raising of Lazarus show both Jesus' human and divine natures?

How do sins that others have committed bind us?

How can Jesus free us from them?

What areas of your life seem "lifeless"? This week, ask Jesus to call you forth out of the darkness!

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

Small Group Bible Study Registration is Open!
Re-Discover the Faith. Connect with People.
StMichaelLivermore.com/Discipleship



Mass Intentions

Saturday 4/1

- 8:30am Brandon Hall
Pat Werner †
- 5:00pm Joe Rosa
Col. Michael David Cerreta, Jr. †
- 7:00pm Cathy Struempf
Benjamin Navarro †

Sunday 4/2

- 6:45am Intentions of our parish
Melanie Maher †
- 8:00am Intentions of our parish
James P. Sweeney, Jr. †
- 9:30am Charles Dunn
Thomas Jordan Lewis †
- 11:00am Dennis & Maureen Lundbom
Gerry Gutierrez †
- 12:30pm The intentions of our parish
Maria Sandoval †
- 6:00pm The intentions of our parish
Jose Maria Arevalo †

Monday 4/3

- 7:00am Intentions of our parish
William Lawrence †
- 8:30am Basilisa Alacron †
Gregorio, Felisciana, Raul Chavez †

Tuesday 4/4

- 7:00am Tom Ramos
The Souls in Purgatory †
- 8:30am Brother Venard, MM
Jeff Tishner †

Wednesday 4/5

- 7:00am Intentions of our parish
Jaymie Bernard †
- 8:30am Sonia, Earl Lawson,
Diana & family
- 7:00pm Intentions of our parish
Silva & Shun Suk Bang †

Thursday 4/6

- 7:00am Moriarty Family
Walter Day & Gene Santos †
- 8:30am Basilisa Alacron †
Gregorio, Felisciana, Raul Chavez †

Friday 4/7

- 7:00am Mario Reyes Vierende †
- 8:30am Madeline Sturdevant
Abraham Padilla †

Prayers & Devotion

Prayer Requests

For our candidates for the seminary: Nathan Mayne, Juan Carlos Ponce and Daniel (Danny) Tomas and for Luke Gregory who is discerning a call to religious life. For an increase in vocations.

For 7 year old Malia Hempel who has undergone emergency brain surgery.

For the four young men in RCIA Inquiry who are feeling drawn to the Catholic Church.

For BeLinda Davies, Fermin Ramirez and seven children who will receive sacraments of initiation this Easter.

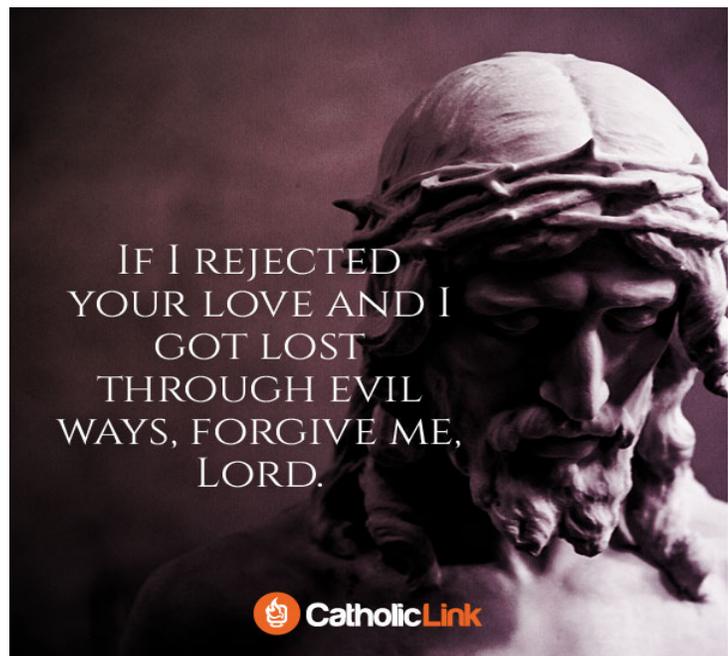
For the repose of the souls of Alejandro Ortega Rivas, Rosalie Mary Genoni, Wendell W. Hightower and Shawn McLaughlin.

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. Send your prayer requests to Prayers@StMichaelLivermore.com

Saturday is the Last Chance for Confession Before Easter

Confession will not be available on Holy Saturday, the day before Easter.



Volunteer & Donate



Altar Society: Help change holy water, clean wax from candle stands, tidy up and dust just one Saturday morning every 7 weeks. Call or text Vicki 925-487-2073.

Sound Tech Team: Get trained on how to manage the parish sound system at Mass and sign up to manage it once Sunday per month. Email Music@StMichaelLivermore.com

Be a Small Group Host: Host around 6 people in your home, once per week or every other week to watch a bible study lecture video and discuss it. Email Grow@StMichaelLivermore.com

Donate a Sewing Machine: The Dress-a-Girl ministry makes simple dresses for girls in poverty-stricken countries. If you have a sewing machine or serger in good working condition, please call/text Suzanne 925-352-8447



Give \$40 to the Backpack Project: We are committed to fill 175 backpacks with school supplies for children in need in Livermore. Each backpack costs about \$40, but any size donation is welcome. Make checks payable to St Michael, include "Backpack Project" in the memo and drop it in the collection basket or at the church office. Contact Ernestina Shay by email at ernestina.shay@comcast.net or call 925-455-1089.

Maintenance & Improvement Collection

What is Faith Direct?

Faith Direct is a safe and easy way to give financial offerings to St Michael Parish online with your credit/debit card or bank account. You can set up a one-time donation, weekly or monthly donations and even catch up on a second collection that you may have missed. Set up your account today at:

membership.faithdirect.net/CA602

This weekend is the first weekend of the month at which we will have a second collection for our Maintenance & Improvement fund. The first weekend of every month this second collection will take place to benefit our community here at St. Michael's. This fund will be used to continue to make improvements towards our parish facilities including the Church building, Convent, and Education Center. Not only will this fund be used for parish improvements, but will be used to help make daily maintenance repairs to such things as aging HVAC units, parking lot asphalt repairs, plumbing fixtures, old lighting systems that are not energy efficient, irrigation repairs, maintenance on our roof, etc.

Thank you to those of you who have started to contribute to this fund and to those parishioners who have been consistently supporting this effort to keep our buildings and grounds updated. For any questions, please email Eric Hom, Business Manager at EricHom@stmichaellivermore.com.

Collection Report

3/26/17 Collection	\$17,858.46
Month to Date	\$91,792.63
Monthly Goal for March	\$86,274.51
Percentage of Monthly Goal Reached	106%
Faith Direct for March	\$10,864.00
Maintenance & Improvement Collection for March	\$9,174.64
2nd Collection for Catholic Relief Services	\$3,388.00

“Lord, teach us to give and not count the cost.”

St. Ignatius de Loyola

This Week

MONDAY, APRIL 3

Readings: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 [41c-62]; Ps 23:1-6; Jn 8:1-11

Events:

Movie Night: Screenagers, Growing Up in the Digital Age at the Vine at 7pm. This award-winning movie depicts the messy struggles over social media, video games, academics and internet addiction and offers solutions on how we can empower kids to best navigate the digital world. Sponsored by St Michael School

TUESDAY, APRIL 4

St. Isidore

Readings: Nm 21:4-9; Ps 102:2-3, 16-21; Jn 8:21-30

Suggestion:

Flip back to the previous page and see how you can help out by offering your services or by donating goods or money.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5

St. Vincent Ferrer

Readings: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dn 3:52-56; Jn 8:31-42

Events:

Confession at 2:30 pm in the Convent Chapel.

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, APRIL 6

Readings: Gn 17:3-9; Ps 105:4-9; Jn 8:51-59

Events:

Chrism Mass at the Cathedral at 6:30 pm. Bishop Michael Barber, joined by all the priests of the diocese, will gather at the Cathedral to celebrate the Chrism Mass. The bishop will bless the oil of catechumens and the oil of the infirm and will consecrate the oil of holy chrism.

FRIDAY, APRIL 7

Abstain from Meat
St. John Baptist de la Salle

Readings: Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18:2-7; Jn 10:31-42

Events:

Priesthood Discernment Gathering at 5:30 pm at the Cathedral.

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

SATURDAY, APRIL 8

Readings: Ez 37:21-28; Jer 31:10, 11-13; Jn 11:45-56

Events:

LAST CHANCE FOR CONFESSION before Easter at 9:15 am and 3:45 pm in English and 6:15 pm in Spanish.

Palm Vigil Procession at 5:00 pm in English and 7:00 pm in Spanish begins in the courtyard.

SUNDAY, APRIL 9



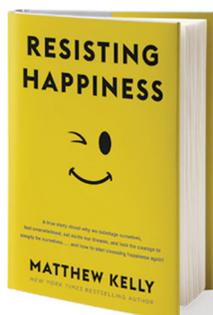
Palm Sunday

Readings: Mt 21:1-11 (procession);

Is 50:4-7; Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24; Phil 2:6-11; Mt 26:14 -- 27:66 [27:11-54]

We process with palms at 8:00 am, 9:30 am, 11:00 am and 6:00 pm Masses. Holy Week begins.

Wear red to Mass.



PARISH LENT STUDY

The Secret to Excellence

Who has coached you in your spiritual journey?

Do you think holiness is possible for you?

Have you faced resistance when it comes to confession? What can you do to overcome it?

What does it mean to be a pilgrim? How can that perspective impact your Lenten journey and beyond?

What is one thing that you could do to grow spiritually this Lent?

Upcoming Events

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).

Join us at 3:00 pm to sing the Chaplet of Divine Mercy followed by Mass

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat Fri – Sun, April 28 - 30

The Diocese of Oakland will host a post-abortion retreat in the Tri-Valley Area to offer hope, help, and healing for the soul in a loving, supportive environment that will result in a life-changing transformation. Confidential sign-ups for women, men, and couples are happening now.

To register or find out more, contact Gloria Maldonado, 510-384-6875 or gloriamaldonado375@sbcglobal.net or visit AfterTheChoice.org.

Faith Formation Registration is Now Open!

Registration for Faith Formation for the 2017-2018 school year is now open. We have classes for first through eighth grade students. Please pick up your registration packet in the office or download it at StMichaelLivermore.com/FaithFormation

Are You Called to be a Catechist?

Helping the next generation of disciples grow in their faith is one of the most rewarding ministries! Prayerfully consider being that person who makes a difference in a child's life. Call 925-447-1585 for more info.



April 13 Holy Thursday

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

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*

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), **3:30 pm* (Vietnamese)** and 6:00 pm.

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

***Just added!**

Próximos Eventos



Estaciones de la Cruz

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

Última oportunidad para la confesión Sábado, 8 de Abril a las 6:15 pm

Esta es la última oportunidad para el Sacramento de la Reconciliación antes de la Pascua.
9:15 am y 3:45 pm en inglés, 6:15 pm in Spanish

Procesión de palma Sábado, 8 de Abril a las 7:15 pm

Comenzaremos en el patio con el Evangelio, y luego procesaremos en la iglesia para continuar la misa.

En la Vigilia Pascual ... Sábado, 15 de Abril a las 10:00 pm

Lleve velas para la procesión y botellas de agua bendita para llenar.

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



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

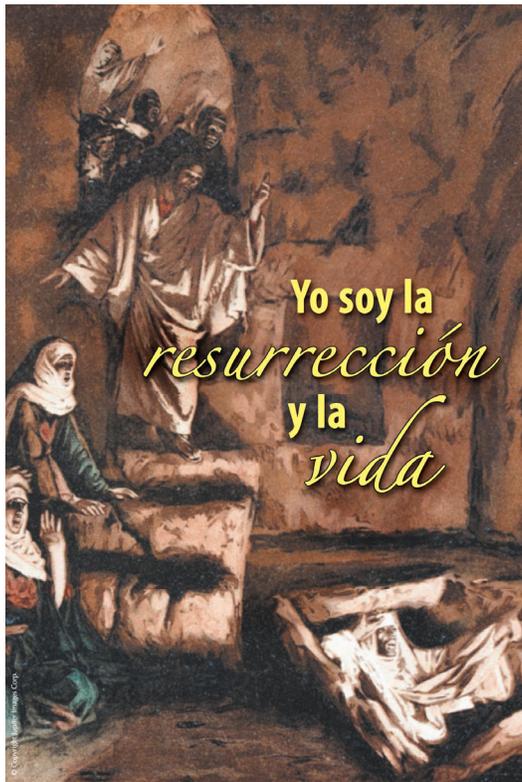
15 de abril Sábado Santo

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 (español)
3:30 pm (vietnamita)
y 6:00 pm.

Noticias Parroquiales



RESUMEN DEL MINISTERIO DE JESÚS

El relato de cómo Lázaro revivió de entre los muertos es el relato más largo (además de la Pasión) en el Evangelio según san Juan. En él encontramos un resumen de la mayor parte del ministerio de Jesús. Vemos su naturaleza humana cuando se conmueve con la tristeza de Marta y de María y cuando él mismo llora frente a la tumba de Lázaro. Es la sabiduría de la Palabra de Dios hecha carne cuando le explica a sus seguidores que la muerte de Lázaro servirá como una señal de la gloria de Dios. Corona los milagros que obra en el Evangelio según san Juan (que comenzó con el milagro más "humano" de hacer más vino en la boda de Caná) reviviendo a Lázaro de entre los muertos; un "avance", por así decirlo, de su propia muerte y resurrección por venir.

Este retrato de Jesús nos recuerda, mientras estamos cerca del fin de nuestro viaje de Cuaresma, que él está con nosotros, nos conoce, nos comprende en cada momento de nuestra vida. Conoce la alegría de nuestras celebraciones humanas, conoce la tristeza de nuestro llanto. Mientras nos preparamos para caminar con él en los días de Semana Santa, tenemos fe de que -por Cristo- la gloria de Dios estará con nosotros a cada momento de nuestra vida y -con Cristo- en nuestra vida eterna.

Informe de recaudación

3/26/17 Recaudación:

Colección media:

Fondo de Mantenimiento:

¡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.

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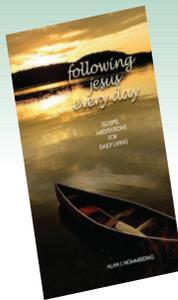
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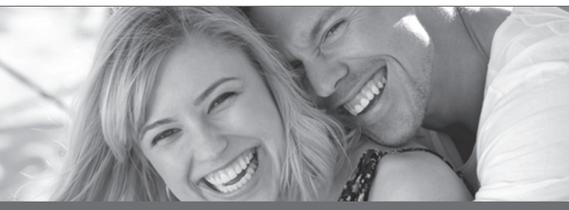

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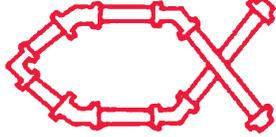

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Mass | Misa

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 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
eches a Satanas al infierno y a los
espíritus que vagan por el mundo
para arruinar las almas. Amén.

Clergy | Clero

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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

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Irving Garcia, Cynthia Garay

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