



St. Michael Catholic Parish

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

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We're Social!



FIFTH SUNDAY OF

Easter

APRIL 29, 2018

By this is my Father glorified,
that you bear much fruit
and become my disciples.

John 15:8

H.A.B.I.T.S

When St. Paul commands us to “pray always” in his first letter to the Thessalonians, we tend to let it go in one ear and out the other. “Of course, he can’t possibly mean that! He really just means to pray a lot.” We so easily filter the words of Scripture based on what we think God wants from us, but then we end up missing his true message. God actually wants us to always be praying, just like St. Paul told us!

But how can that be? It might make more sense to us if we better understand what prayer truly is. Prayer is not only reciting the rosary, mental Scripture prayer, or going to Mass. Prayer is being in communion with God. To pray always is nothing other than to always stay connected to the Lord—in other words, to become a saint.

Our readings today point towards this vision God has for us, particularly when Jesus gives us the image of the vine and the branches. He promises that if we remain in him, we will bear much fruit. If always staying connected to the Lord seems out of reach, then let’s remember that when God gives a command he always gives us the grace to respond. How can we stay

attached to the vine and learn to pray always?

First Reading Reflection Acts 9:26–31

After Saul’s dramatic conversion from a dangerous foe of the early Church into an ardent defender of the Faith, he is forced to flee Damascus due to a murder plot by the Jews and escapes to Jerusalem. However, the disciples are

expect to face opposition, perhaps even from former associates. While we rely on God’s grace to carry out our mission, we need to depend on our Christian community as well. God expects us to cooperate with his grace but also requires us to tap into our human ingenuity and resourcefulness, moved by the virtue of prudence, to successfully navigate the obstacles and challenges we may face as disciples of Christ. Faithfulness to our mission ensures we will be sustained by the peace and consolation of the Holy Spirit.

Second Reading Reflection

1 John 3:18–24

The Second Reading today addresses three key themes that mark Christian life: Christ-like love, confident

faith, and faithful obedience. Have you ever heard either of these sayings: “Talk is cheap,” or “Walk the walk, not just talk the talk”? Both sayings seem to encapsulate the admonition in the first line of this passage. As Christians, we are called to love like Christ, that is, to put love into action for the good of others. Mere words are not sufficient. However, sometimes we fail and then condemn ourselves in our hearts. A heart that convicts us of sin is one that is immersed in the truth of God’s love for us and drives us to contrition. We can confidently seek forgiveness because we know that God’s love and mercy are greater

wary of trickery until Barnabas, a trusted disciple, intercedes for him and presents him to the Apostles. As in Damascus, Saul proceeds to speak out “boldly in the name of Jesus.” Once again, his life is threatened by the Jews, and Saul is sent away to his hometown of Tarsus where presumably he can find safety. Despite the opposition to the Christian community, Luke confirms that the Church is growing, sustained by the peace and consolation of the Holy Spirit, as new communities are started by disciples who flee Jerusalem.

We learn from this episode that as faithful disciples of Christ, we can

H.A.B.I.T.S. THE DISCIPLINES OF A DISCIPLE

-  **HOLY HOUR** Commitment to daily prayer
-  **ACCOUNTABILITY** Commitment to honest sharing with another
-  **BIBLE** Commitment to studying and praying with Scripture
-  **INVEST** Commitment to tithing and service in your parish
-  **TELL** Commitment to telling others about Jesus
-  **SACRAMENTS** Commitment to frequent Confession & Eucharist

than our own hearts. We can trust that God forgives us when we ask and that he always gives us what is best for us because we seek to live in faithful obedience to his commandments. That obedience is manifested and summarized in two key commands: believe in Jesus Christ as the Son of God and love one another (v. 23). When we persist in Christ-like love, confident faith, and faithful obedience, the Holy Spirit convicts us of the unity we have in and with Christ.

Gospel Reflection

John 15:1–8

Last Sunday, Jesus referred to himself as the Good Shepherd who lays down his life for his sheep. Today, he uses the imagery of the vine, the source of divine life for all who believe in him and obey his Word. This passage is an exhortation to abide in Jesus to achieve fruitful discipleship given as part of Jesus’s Farewell Discourse to his Apostles on the night before his Passion and Death. Jesus wants to

teach his Apostles about discipleship to help prepare them to carry on the mission following his death. Jesus discloses that the key to fruitful discipleship is to abide in him. Only those who abide will bear fruit, but they will be pruned so they can become even more fruitful. Branches that do not bear fruit will be cut off and burned.

The vine analogy highlights the promise of the beautiful intimacy that Jesus offers to all those who believe in him but also the horror that awaits those who reject him. When we abide in Jesus and nurture our relationship with him, he abides in us and gives us the grace to bear fruit for the kingdom. Further, this mutual abiding is the necessary source of our prayer life so that our wills become aligned with God who will provide what we ask. Yet, we must expect some pruning along the way in the form of challenges and obstacles so that we do not grow weak or tepid. Bearing good fruit is proof of our discipleship. Since the Father is glorified in the Son and, as his disciples, we

share the same mission with Christ, our fruitfulness glorifies the Father. In contrast, those who reject Christ, the life-giving vine, will bear no fruit and will be cut off and thrown into the fire, perhaps an allusion to Hell.

Challenge

Watch the short ***Opening the Word*** video at StMichael.FORMED.org.

Review the HABITS list—**Holy Hour, Accountability, Bible reading, Invest in your parish, Tell others about your faith, and Sacraments.**

Ask the Holy Spirit to speak to you about which one of these habits he is inviting you to focus on building right now in your life. Which one sticks out to you? Why do you think God is asking you to build that particular habit? What is a practical change you can make in your life this week to begin to make it a habit?

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St Joseph: Patron of the Universal Church

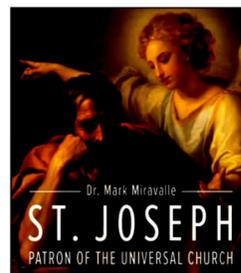
The Forgotten Guardian of Jesus

Draw closer to the humble, faithful father entrusted not only with the paramount mission of protecting Jesus and Mary, but also to us as an important and powerful intercessor. In this captivating talk, Dr. Mark Miravalle explores Saint Joseph’s hidden life, powerful witness, and continued influence in the world today.



[Listen on formed.org](http://formed.org)

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“So many truths about Joseph that I never heard put into words before. I was overwhelmed with an appreciation for Joseph...”

—Mary K.

Mass

Intentions

Saturday 4/28

- 8:30am Virginia Bing and family
Matthew Rouse †
- 5:00pm Louise & Amalia
Sarboraria †
- 7:00pm Estella Ochoa Vega †

Sunday 4/29

- 6:45am Dr. Joseph Szumowski †
- 8:00am Luisa Onate †
- 9:30am Gerald Dixon †
- 11:00am Billy Spence †
- 12:30pm Margina Gomez
- 6:00pm Fr. Van Dinh

Monday 4/30

- 8:30am Bruce Taylor †
Mark Ramos

Tuesday 5/1

- 8:30am Gregory & Lourdes Kay
Pat & Ray Werner †

Wednesday 5/2

- 8:30am Shirley & Angel Valentine
- 7:00pm Andrea Ledezma †

Thursday 5/3

- 8:30am Margaret & Joe Cambra †

Friday 5/4

- 8:30am Helen Makepeace †

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.



PRAYER

Return to the Gospel for today. At the Last Supper, on the final night of his life, Jesus is preparing to leave his disciples, and he teaches them how to remain with him even after his Death, promising that he will remain with them and bear fruit through them.

Take the word that comes to mind and reflect on what it means to you personally. For example, the phrase, “without me you can do nothing,” might have stuck out to you. Ask yourself what this means in your own life. Is Jesus trying to convict you to let him into your life more so that he can continue to transform you?

RESOLUTION

When we remain on the vine, we are promised that we will bear fruit and glorify the Father. This experience gives our lives the purpose that we are all searching for. We each long to be a gift to others, to matter, to make an impact. We despair when we feel isolated and as if our life has no meaning. True happiness comes from bearing fruit to others—and that only comes from building habits that keep us attached to the vine.

This week try to get in touch with your desire to have purpose in your life. Sometimes we can bury it deep to cope if we don't believe we can have meaning in our lives. If we didn't believe in God this could be terrifying, but we are blessed to know God is real and has a good plan for our lives. Don't be afraid to open your heart to your desire for purpose. God made you that way, so that you can become who he created you to be!

Send Your Prayer Requests to the Prayer Team

We have 73 people on the Parish Prayer Team who will pray for your intentions. Please email your requests to Prayers@StMichaelLivermore.com



REASON TO GIVE #6

It takes a diocese to support parish schools facing financial distress or an unexpected emergency.

Each year, the Diocese of Oakland provides subsidies and grants to assist with operating expenses at inner-city Catholic schools, and for parishes facing extraordinary and immediate financial challenges.

- Operating Subsidies
- Capital Expenditure Grants
- Emergency Funding Support

Your contribution to the Bishop's Appeal makes this happen.

Help us reach our Parish Goal

Donate online at www.oakdiocese.org and click on the Lighting the Way banner.

Collection Report

4/22 Collection	\$17,553.59
Month-to-Date	\$73,705.34
Month Goal	\$87,058.82
Percentage Reached	85%
Faith Direct	\$13,459.00
Maintenance April	\$10,673.67
Easter (Year-to-date)	\$44,367.41

Volunteer for Vacation Bible Camp

June 25-29 from 9:15 am-12:15 pm

Teens and adults: Want to share your faith with children, have summertime fun, and serve God and our community? Consider volunteering! We'd love to have you!

lunch. Onsite childcare will be available for volunteers with children under age 4.

Contact

Amanda Arsenault 925-216- 9394
arsenault448@gmail.com

Vacation Bible Camp happens at St Michael's June 25-29 from 9:15 am-12:15 pm each day. June 29 will conclude with a family Mass and

Tricia Vieira 925-337-0705
triciaannevieira@gmail.com

Bishop Robert Barron's Heroes of the Faith

An Online, Self-Paced Summer Series: June 6 - August 22

St Michael's is excited to present an online, self-paced series featuring Bishop Robert Barron's CATHOLICISM: The Pivotal Players (Heroes of the Faith).

a Flocknote email with a video from this amazing series and reflection questions every Wednesday, June 6 - August 22. But don't feel pressured! Watch the videos and respond to the questions whenever you like, at a time most convenient to you. You can always catch up on the episodes at any time.

This multi-part film series illumines a handful of saints, artists, mystics, and scholars who not only shaped the life of the Church but changed the course of civilization.

Register free by emailing Adult@StMichaelLivermore.com

When you sign up, you will receive

THIS WEEK

MONDAY, APR 30

St. Pius V

Readings: Acts 14:5-18; Ps 115:1-4, 15-16; Jn 14:21-26

Event:

Fulfilled: Uncovering the Biblical Foundations of Catholicism study begins at 7:00 pm in the Ed Center Conference room (upstairs at St Michael School).

TUESDAY, MAY 1

St. Joseph the Worker

Readings: Acts 14:19-28; Ps 145:10-13ab, 21; Jn 14:27-31a

Event:

A Biblical Walk Through the Mass study begins at 7:00 pm in the Ed Center Conference room (upstairs at St Michael School).

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2

St. Athanasius

Readings: Acts 15:1-6; Ps 122:1-5; Jn 15:1-8

Events:

School Mass at 8:30 am. Mass will last a bit longer than usual.

Confession in the Convent Chapel at 2:30 pm.

THURSDAY, MAY 3

Ss. Philip and James

Readings: 1 Cor 15:1-8; Ps 19:2-5; Jn 14:6-14

Events:

Rosary lead by the Knights of Columbus in the Courtyard at 6:30 pm. All are invited to celebrate the Month of Mary with the Rosary every Thursday!

FRIDAY, MAY 4

Readings: Acts 15:22-31; Ps 57:8-10, 12; Jn 15:12-17

Reminder:

All Fridays of the year are days of penance. The primary observance is to abstain from eating meat. However, another form of penance, act of piety or service may be performed instead.

SATURDAY, MAY 5

Readings: Acts 16:1-10; Ps 100:1b-3, 5; Jn 15:18-21

Events:

Anointing of the Sick in the church after the 8:30 am Mass.

Confession in the church following Anointing, and at 3:45 pm and 6:15 pm.

SUNDAY, MAY 6

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Readings: Acts 10:25-36, 34-35, 44-48; Ps 98:1-4; 1 Jn 4:7-10

Events:

Maintenance Collection at all Masses to help improve our aging facilities.

Family Mass at 9:30 am.

Sign Language interpreter at 11 am Mass.

Info Meeting



**MONDAY, MAY 7 AT 6 PM
IN THE LARGE HALL**



Ribs, Chili, Cars, Blues & Brews

Saturday, May 12 at 10 am—5 pm
Msgnr Adams Field

Our Knights of Columbus are excited to offer this fun event for the 8th year!

Come enjoy ribs, chili, salsa and classic car competitions, craft beer and a live blues band. Other great BBQ, specialty foods and drinks are available for sale. Over 40 boutique vendors will be on site and there will activities for the kids.

This is a family event and will be a day of fun for all with FREE Admission to the public.

Mark your calendars now!

Ready to Baptize Your Baby?

The first step is to download the registration packet at StMichaelLivermore.com/Baptism and bring it completed to the church office. Parents register for two prep classes. Godparents attend the second one (or attend a class at their parish).

Blood Drive

Saturday, May 19
8 am—2 pm in the Hall

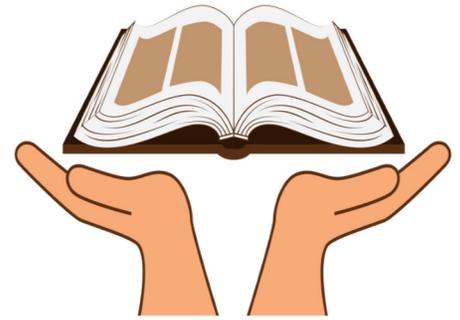
Every two seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood.

Approximately 36,000 units of red blood cells are needed every day in the U.S.

Your blood donation can potentially help three people.

Give blood and save a life at the Knights of Columbus Blood Drive!

Book a time that works for you at RedCrossBlood.org
Use code KofC4588



Prison Ministry Training

Coming this May

We need Jesus lovers with huge hearts to minister to those who are incarcerated at Santa Rita Jail. Extensive training is provided. Interested candidates for this enormously rewarding ministry should register early.

New prison ministers should be able to start ministering in November.

Please contact Rachel at 510 501-1411 for details and to register for training.

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FORMED KIDS' KORNER

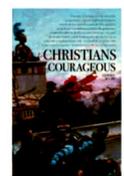
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Cat. Chat: Celebrating Mary Learning About Our Blessed Mother

Moses the Cat and the Cat.Chat Family celebrate Mary, the Mother of our Lord, who loved God and others so much that she dedicated her life to God's plan to save us.

More Kids' Content



Also in Spanish!



Also in Spanish!



St Michael Parish
VACATION
BIBLE CAMP
June 25-29

Come to enjoy a fun-filled week exploring the Our Father prayer and meeting St. Joseph of Cupertino ...

a saint whose love for God was so deep that the power of the Holy Spirit literally lifted him up time and time again.

Through songs, skits, prayer and crafts students will learn that God Listens, God Provides, God Forgives, God Guides and Priests Serve God.

When

Each day, June 25-29 from 9:15 am-12:15 pm

On Friday, June 29th, we will conclude VBS with a family Mass at 12pm in the Church, followed by lunch at the Hall. Bring food and drink for your family. Dessert will be provided.

Who Can Attend

All Children, Grades Pre K* - 6th Grade, are invited!
*4 years old by 6-25-18

Where

St. Michael's Church & School
458 Maple Street, Livermore

Cost

\$45 first child
\$35 for additional
4th child and beyond are free

Registration

Download the packet at
StMichaelLivermore.com/VBS

Volunteer

Teens & Adults: Want to share your faith with children, have summertime fun, and serve God and our community? Consider volunteering! We'd love to have you!

Onsite childcare will be available for volunteers with children under age 4.

Contact

Mary Dayton, Coordinator
maryfdayton@gmail.com

Amanda Arsenault 925-216- 9394
or aarsenault448@gmail.com

Tricia Vieira 925-337-0705 or [trici-
aannevieira@gmail.com](mailto:trici-
aannevieira@gmail.com)

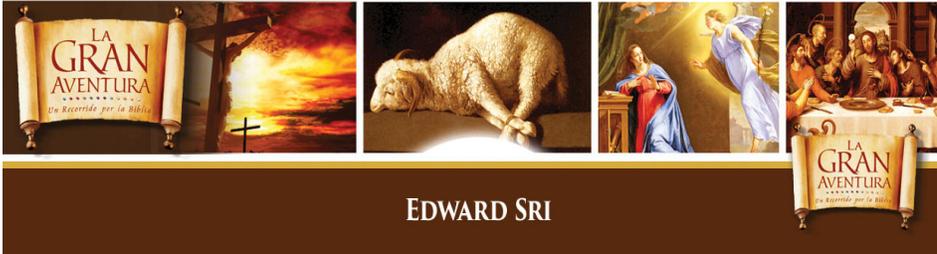
Our Vacation Bible Camp is written from start to finish by Catholics for Catholics.

We will be using Catholic Kidz Camp for our Vacation Bible Camp materials. It is not a derivative of Protestant programs. We celebrate the richness of our faith given to us by Jesus and handed down by his apostles. The role of the Church is missionary therefore, we lead children closer to God through the Church that HE established through His Son Jesus Christ. We follow the Catechism of the Catholic Church, Holy Scripture, Sacred Tradition, and the lives and teaching of the saints to call children to holiness. We include a Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, and a Closing Assembly Celebration. Why settle for anything less than 100 percent Catholic?

New!

UN PASEO BÍBLICO A TRAVÉS DE

LA MISA



TRADICIONES DE NUESTRA FE

En el año 1674 una argentina, Doña Ana Mattos de Siqueyras se llevó a su casa una imagen de la Virgen María para hacerle una capillita en sus terrenos a un lado del río Luján. La imagen era de reputación milagrosa y Doña Ana deseaba tenerla cerquita de su hogar. Al día siguiente la imagen se había regresado a un eremitorio donde la cuidaba un esclavo africano llamado Manuel. Esto le pasó un par de veces hasta que se le ocurrió a Doña Ana llevarse en peregrinación a ambos María y Manuel. Desde entonces en una capilla abierta al público María se quedó sin ningún problema.

Como muchos ricos, Doña Ana quería echarse a Dios en el bolsillo llevándose para sí misma la imagen de María. Pero nuestra Señora de Luján tenía otro plan. Ella deseaba estar con el esclavo Manuel y con el pueblo. En fin, Doña Ana se fijó que a Dios y su madre no los controla nadie y nadie los puede hacer su propiedad, a lo contrario, ellos se entregan a los pobres y desamparados.

Un Paseo Bíblico a Través de La Misa 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.

\$ 19.95 por libro y libro de trabajo.

Por favor regístrese por correo electrónico:
Adult@StMichaelLivermore.com or Bersa Rojas 925-262-7687

SARMIENTOS VIVOS

El Evangelio y la segunda lectura para este Quinto Domingo de Pascua hacen hincapié en la necesidad de que permanezcamos en Cristo y él permanecerá en nosotros. Esta vida compartida está representada en la imagen de la vid que tiene muchos sarmientos. Nos convertimos en sarmientos vivos de la vid, en miembros del Cuerpo de Cristo

por el Bautismo, la Eucaristía y la Confirmación, por los sacramentos que nos hacen compartir la vida de Dios. La primera carta del apóstol san Juan describe el fruto de esta vida como el amor activo al prójimo: "Y este es su mandamiento: que creamos . . . y que nos amemos unos a otros" (1 Juan 3:23). En la primera lectura de los Hechos

contamos con un ejemplo de una persona que participa de la vida de Cristo en la persona de san Pablo. El audaz testimonio de Pablo, incluso a riesgo de perder su propia vida, es prueba para todos de que el Espíritu del Señor resucitado verdaderamente lo llena de vida y da fruto en él.

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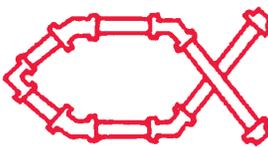
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925.443.8548
3529 FIRST STREET, LIVERMORE
 www.trivalleyautobody.com

Information | Información

St. Michael Parish | La Parroquia de San Miguel

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



Flocknote.com/sml



@StMichaelLivermore



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@StMichael94550

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

Low gluten hosts are available. Please make a request in the sacristy 10 minutes prior to Mass.

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

Pastoral Council | Consejo Pastoral

Pastoral Council Chair: Mike Pereira
michaelpereira@comcast.net

Eric Hom, Fidelis Atuegbu, Jo Anne
Lindquist, Dave Parks, Frank
Draschner, Miguel Ibarria, Jeff An-
dersen, Cynthia Garay and Glenda
Dubsky.

Finance Council | Consejo Financiero

Finance Council Chair: Dave Ruth
daveruth@alrinc.com

Eric Hom, Cynthia Garay, Edna
McCombe, Analy Palomino,
Vanessa Suarez

St. Michael School | Escuela de San Miguel

925-447-1888 smliv.org

Faith Formation in Eng- lish

925-667-4096

Catecismo en Español

925-667-4096 Niños
925-344-7150 Adultos



Deacon Dave Rezendes, Temporary Administrator	925-447-1585
Fr Van Dinh, Pastor (on administrative leave)	
Fr Alfonso Borgen, Parochial Vicar	925-667-4053
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, Youth Minister	925-667-4093
Tina Gregory, Communication/Adult Enrichment	925-667-4051
JaNet Hancock, Music	925-292-5071
Debbie Pizzato, Liturgy	925-667-4095
Marjorie Melendez, RCIA	925-447-2925
Ana Fregoso, RICA	925-344-7150