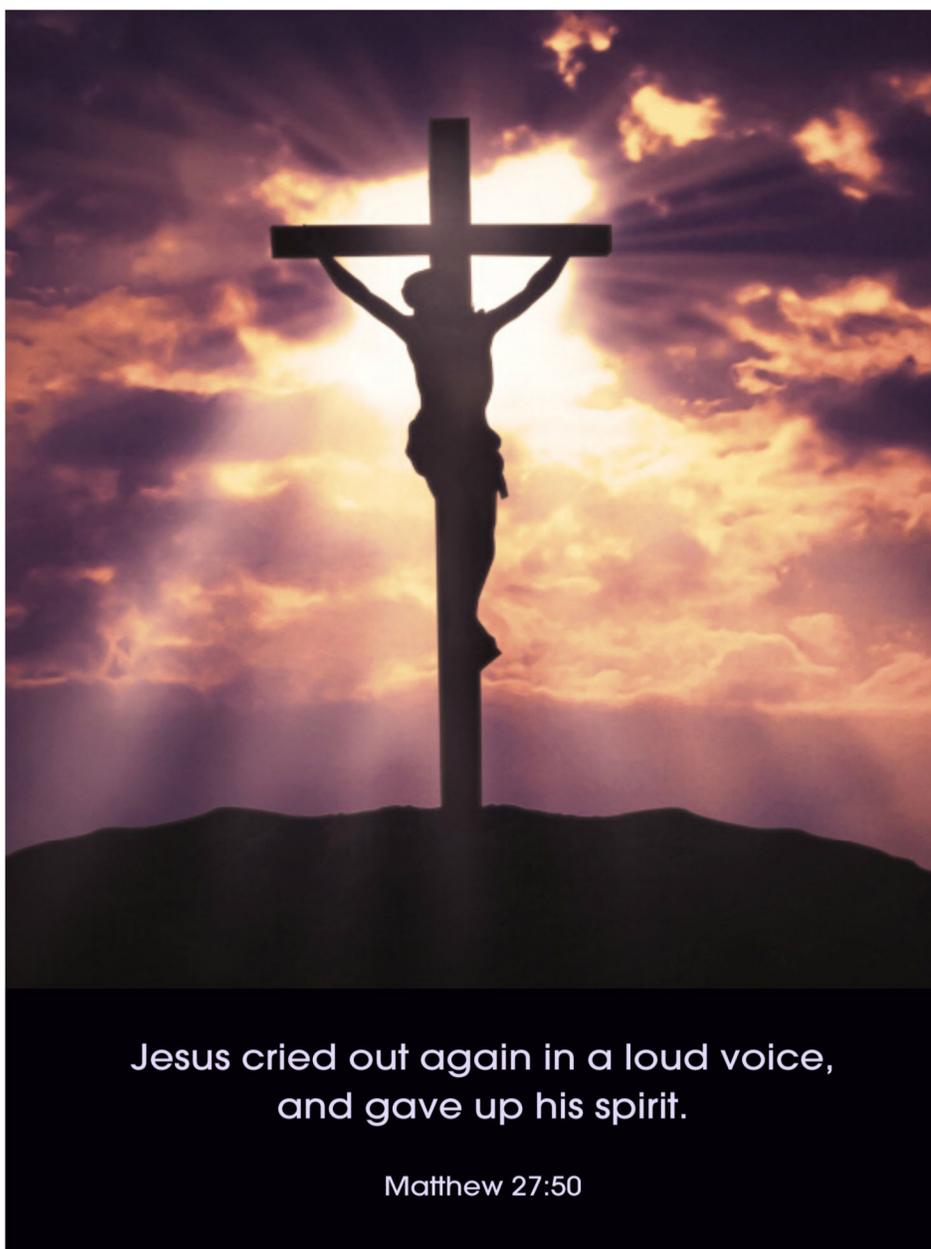




# ST MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sunday, April 5, 2020 | Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

## Special Shelter in Place Edition: Week 2



Jesus cried out again in a loud voice,  
and gave up his spirit.

Matthew 27:50

Mass Livestreamed  
[Facebook.com/  
StMichaelParishLivermore](https://www.facebook.com/StMichaelParishLivermore)

Daily Mass  
6:45 am in English

Sunday Mass  
9:30 am in English  
12:30 pm in Spanish

### Drive Up Confession

Every Day (except April 9-11)  
11:00 am—12:00 pm (Bilingual)  
3:00 pm—4:00 pm (English)

Drive up to the courtyard and stay in your car. A priest will greet you from outside your car. Call the number displayed to confess with privacy. One person per car per Confession.

### Drive Up Benediction

Every Day (except Holy Week)  
8:30 am and 6:00 pm

Slowly drive through the courtyard and adore Jesus. We must remain in our cars.

Celebrate the Sacraments, Grow Disciples, Bring Christ to People

# FAQ During COVID 19 Shelter in Place ...



## What about Masses?

All public Masses have been suspended until further notice.

## Is there a livestream of Mass?

Yes! Join us on Facebook for daily Mass at 6:45 am in English and Sundays at 9:30 am in English and 12:30 pm in Spanish.

## Will there be confessions offered?

Our regular confession format has been suspended at this time. However, our clergy is offering “Drive Up Confession” every day, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm (Bilingual) 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm (English). Only one occupant per car during confession. If you have passengers, they must step out briefly while one person confesses at a time. Drive up to the courtyard driveway and remain in your car. A priest will keep a 6-foot distance from your car window to hear your Confession and absolve you.

## What about receiving the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick?

Anointing of the Sick will be strictly for those in danger of death. The emergency number for the sick and dying is 925-521-4117.

## What about baptisms?

Baptisms are still possible based on pastoral urgency.

## What about funerals?

Please call Holy Angels Catholic Funeral and Cemetery Services at 925-455-9696 or Callaghan Mortuary at 925- 447-2942. They will walk you through all the necessary decisions during this difficult time. They will be in contact with St Michael’s parish office.

## What about ministry to the sick and homebound?

In compliance with the Shelter in Place order from Alameda County, ordinary in-person visits to the sick and homebound have stopped for the duration of this emergency.

# To Keep Us All Safe

How can I continue to support our parish offertory if all our Masses are being cancelled?

May God bless you for your generous planning! You have three options to continue your offertory.

Option #1: Mail in your weekly offertory to St. Michael Catholic Parish, 458 Maple Street, Livermore, CA 94550.

Option #2: Make donations online through FaithDirect: <https://membership.faithdirect.net/ca602>

Option #3: Drop off your donation envelope (cash or check) in the secure mailbox located on the door just past the St Michael statue.



What is DRIVE THROUGH Benediction?

Parking Lot Benediction is an innovative way to come together – safely in our individual cars – and be gazed upon by Jesus, present in the Eucharist. It is offered twice every day at 8:30 am and 6:00 pm. Please drive through the courtyard driveway. A priest with the Blessed Sacrament will be positioned under a canopy for you to adore as you slowly drive by. **WE MUST STAY IN OUR CARS!**

.While in your car, pray this prayer three times:

O Sacrament most Holy, O Sacrament Divine, All praise and all thanksgiving, Be every moment Thine.

Is the Church open for private prayer?

Yes, the Church is open every day, 6:00 am – 12:00 pm and 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm and is a quiet and peaceful place to be with our Lord present in the tabernacle. Please remain 6 feet from others and follow all the health guidelines. Only ten people may gather at a time. The Church will be professionally cleaned during the break each day.

Is the Church Office Open?

The parish administrative office will be available to assist you remotely only:

Via Live Chat:  
on Facebook or on the home page of [StMichaelLivermore.com](http://StMichaelLivermore.com)

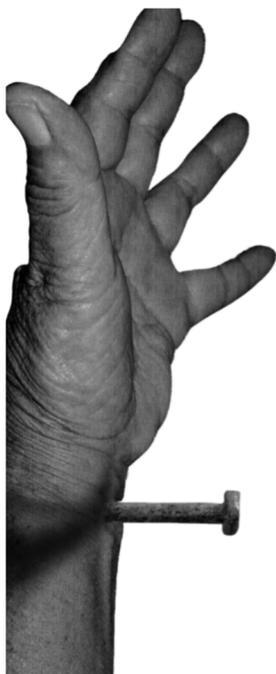
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[Office@StMichaelLivermore.com](mailto:Office@StMichaelLivermore.com)

Phone: 925-447-1585



# At Home Scripture Study

Especially since we cannot celebrate Mass in person together, please use this guide to study this Sunday's Mass readings.



## Not My Will

The week that begins with Palm Sunday contains what are sometimes called the “High Holy Days” of Christianity. They are called this because they commemorate the last days of the life of Jesus as he goes from the Last Supper to the tomb and contain the most sacred moments of Christian history.

While there are many aspects of this week that we can look at, our focus in this study is on the Garden of Gethsemane. After the Last Supper, Jesus goes to the Garden to pray and prepare for what lies ahead. Knowing that he will be facing incredible suffering, he prays to the Father, asking that if it is possible

that the “cup” he must drink could pass.

In these moments, we see Jesus, the man. He is fearful and anxious, even to the point of sweating blood. Yet, he unites his human will—which dreads the coming events—with his Father’s and is able to not just passively acquiesce to his Passion, but embrace it. He doesn’t deny his pain, but unites it to the Father in an act of perfect love.

The lesson is clear for us. We all are called to love God and do the Father’s will, even when it is difficult. But love involves sacrifice—dying to self and making sacrifices for the one we love. Indeed, love demands that we sometimes do things we don’t want to do to serve the good of others. We can use the example of Christ in the Garden to accept our crosses as well.

## First Reading Reflection Isaiah 50:4–7

As a servant, Isaiah claims, “I have not rebelled, have not turned back” from God. This is in contrast to his generation in Israel, who had both rebelled and turned away from God. Isaiah was faithful, and for this faithfulness he suffered. His suffering was very intense and painful. He tells of having been beaten. He describes his beard being plucked—a sign of dis-

honor for the Jews. Yet in all of his suffering, Isaiah puts up no resistance. Despite suffering, Isaiah endures in faithfulness. Again he acknowledges the Lord’s help as the cause of his ability to endure. In utmost humility, all of Isaiah’s successes are attributed to the work of God, all is for his glory. Although he’s to suffer much, he’s confident and trusts that God will take care of him.

Isaiah’s ministry and life are a prefiguration of Jesus Christ. As a prophet and servant of God, Isaiah prophesies, not only by his words but by his very life, the future Man-God. The faithfulness and suffering of Isaiah point to a similar pattern in the life of Christ. As we prepare for Holy Week and the death and Resurrection of Christ, Isaiah reminds us of the suffering that Christ endured for us.

## Second Reading Reflection Philippians 2:6–11

St Paul exhorts us to have the same attitude as Christ, but what exactly is that? The answer seems to follow upon Paul’s description of Christ, who “though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped.” Jesus was and is always God, so it doesn’t make much sense that he’d want to grasp at an

## Reflect & Discuss

equality with God that he already had. Scholars say a better translation of the word *grasp* would be “taken advantage of.” It makes more sense to say that “though in the form of God, he did not deem equality with God something to be taken advantage of.”

The attitude of Christ, then, was that of not taking advantage of his great powers and privileges as God. Instead, Jesus accepts the humble condition of a slave. Thus, his attitude is one of selfless surrender and great generosity. This is the attitude that St. Paul would have us imitate.

### Gospel Reflection Matthew 26:14–27:66

As Christ enters the holy city of Jerusalem to the acclaim of the people, our part must be muted by our knowledge of what’s to come. As Christ knew, we also know that acclaim would quickly turn to accusation and deadly intent. The palm celebration foretold the final vindication and vic-

tory of the Messiah in his Resurrection.

This serves as a salutary reminder that each Sacrament, each mystery of the Church, contains within it the whole of the mystery of Christ. Our whole sacramental spirituality as Catholics combines the dark tones of the Passion as well as the bright ones of the Resurrection. Each Eucharist, because it includes the whole mystery of Christ, includes both movements: sorrow and joy. We begin the Mass with the Penitential Rite and end with the Communion Rite. The Eucharistic meal includes both the Passover Seder Supper of Holy Thursday and the sacrifice of Calvary on Good Friday. The Lord we truly receive in Holy Communion is the Risen Lord of Glory who is present in the consecrated host—body, blood, soul, and divinity. Because the Palm Sunday Liturgy includes both the foretaste of Christ’s glory in the procession of the palms and the bitter agony leading up to the sacrifice of Calvary, it’s a

good time to reflect upon the nature of the Eucharist as the whole of the mystery of Christ.

### Video Reflection

Today, Palm Sunday, we begin the great journey of Christ’s Passion that will culminate in the feast of Easter. Let us begin this Holy Week by watching the short Opening the Word presentation found at [FORMED.org](http://FORMED.org). Then reflect upon these questions and discuss with a friend.

In the video, Dr. Sri says that Jesus’ statement “Your will be done” tells us something very important about him. What does this statement show us, and why is it important?

In the video, we are told that love always places a demand on us. What is that demand?

*Reprinted from the Opening the Word Leader guide with permission from Augustine Institute.*



### Pray-Along with Video Stations of the Cross

Since we cannot gather in person, visit St Michael’s YouTube channel to find a playlist of the Stations of the Cross. Pray along and reflect from home. Go to [YouTube.com/StMichaelLivermore](https://www.youtube.com/StMichaelLivermore)

While you are there, please subscribe to St Michael’s YouTube Channel, so that we can bring you more quality faith-growing videos.

# PRAY

Mass Intentions  
(livestream & private)

## Saturday 4/4

Josephina Rodriguez †  
Anna Marie Peraldo †  
Uriel Cruz †  
Benjamin Morales  
Carmen Morales  
Enrique Morales

## Sunday 4/5

Thomas Heise †  
Daniel Figuieredo †  
Joao Figuieredo †  
Patrick Anthony Allen †  
James Kane †  
Luis Enrique Paredes †  
Mung Tran †  
Correen O'Rourke †  
Steven Hary  
Reynaldo Jose Morales

## Monday 4/6

Simon Arguello  
Jayson Garcia

## Tuesday 4/7

Gloria Beckman  
Joseph P. Boyle

## Wednesday 4/8

Richard & Rosalie Mendence  
Norman Manha †

## Thursday 4/9

Carleen McIntyre  
Robert T Boyle, Jr. †  
Loretta Ramos

## Friday 4/11

Good Friday  
(Mass is not celebrated)

All Mass Intentions will be offered by St Michael's clergy on the scheduled day at their private or livestreamed Masses.



## Prayer

Put yourself in the scene of Jesus in the Garden at Gethsemane. You are with the other disciples in the Garden as Jesus leaves you to pray alone. Dimly, through the darkness, you can see him fall prostrate in prayer and you hear him say, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet, not as I will, but as you will." What do you think as you hear Jesus, the strong, confident man, cry out to the Father to be spared the "cup"? Now imagine that you can say something to Jesus. What would you say? What does he say back to you? Hold those thoughts in your heart for a few minutes.

## Resolution

Is there a bitter "cup" that you are being asked to drink? Perhaps you sense that you should do something that you dread to do— such as admit a fault, apologize to someone, tell someone the full truth about something you've been hiding, or confess your sins in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Or perhaps you are facing some trial with family, an illness, or a financial problem. This week, remember Jesus in the Garden and pray for the strength and resolve to do God's will and accept your cup.

## SPECIAL ADDRESS FROM FR CARL

Dear St Michael Family,

I hope and pray that you are healthy and doing well during this time of Sheltering in Place to slow the spread of the coronavirus. Fr Alfonso, Fr Ryan, Fr Ben and I have all been praying for you.

It has been wonderful to see all of you in your cars at Parking Lot Benediction, at Drive Up Confession, in the Church for solitary prayer, and attending our 6:45 am daily Mass on Facebook. Thank you for waving, for smiling and for praying from afar!

We also enjoy seeing that several thousand of you are viewing live streaming Mass from our Chapel on Facebook. We are reading your comments every day at 6:45 am and on Sundays at 9:30 am in English and 12:30 pm in Spanish. Keep them coming! We are not just spectators watching a video on social media. We are praying the Holy Mass together, while we cannot be physically present. Your comments help our community feel connected as we celebrate Mass together.

It is very clear that our community here at St Michael's is strong and faithful. United as members of the Body of Christ, we are modeling to the world what it means to be Catholics flourishing in crisis. I am truly inspired by your devotion and love of Jesus and for our community at St Michael.

Now I must ask you to come together in another way: Not only do I need your continued prayers, but I need your continued offerings to St Michael Parish. Please help us meet the spiritual needs of the souls in Livermore.

I know that this is a time of financial uncertainty. It is for me too. Starting this Sunday, I will personally give an extra weekly offering (online giving) during this time of shelter in place. The Lord clearly says that He will not be outdone in generosity. Malachi 3:10 reads:

“Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and thus put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down

for you an overflowing blessing.”

So my dear friends, I ask you to please support your parish in any financial way that you are able. We have three ways to make your weekly offering:

- 1. Give online at Faith Direct** Membership.FaithDirect.net/CA602
- 2. Drop off cash or check in the secure mailbox** just past the St Michael statue.
- 3. Mail a check to St Michael Parish**, 458 Maple Street, Livermore, CA 94550.

Your generosity will help us to continue to celebrate the sacraments, grow disciples and bring Christ to people. I thank you in advance for your contributions and unending prayers for our clergy!

May God richly bless you and your families.

Fr Carl

## Consoling the Heart of Jesus: Episode 8

### Obstacle 5: The Insensitivity of Our Hearts—Part I

Perhaps you've experienced an ice-cold stream of disappointments, misunderstandings, and various hurts that have tempted you to close your heart to others. Perhaps you've also given in to some of those temptations, and your heart has become insensitive and hard. If so, then this session is especially for you. Actually, it's for everyone. I say this because all of us, in one way or another, have let at least some hardness take hold of our hearts. May this section help us overcome this "primary sin of man," so we might better console Jesus in the members of his body.

**Watch this week's episode on FORMED.org.**



## SUPPORT

### Three Ways to Give

While we shelter in place, we have three options for making financial contributions:

**Option #1:** Mail in your weekly offering to St. Michael Catholic Parish, 458 Maple Street, Livermore, CA 94550.

**Option #2:** Make donations online through FaithDirect: Membership.FaithDirect.net/ca602

**Option #3:** Drop off your donation envelope (cash or check) in the secure mailbox located on the door just past the St Michael statue.

May God bless you for your generous planning!

*"Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and thus put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing."*  
Malachi 3:10

## COMMUNION APPOINTMENTS

### On Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday Only

While we cannot gather in person for Mass, Bishop Michael Barber has given us a dispensation from our Sunday Mass obligation. However, if you are experiencing a deep longing for the Lord that cannot wait for the Shelter in Place order to be lifted, we have a limited number of one-on-one Holy Communion appointments on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday.

Call a coordinator listed below to make an appointment:

In the Church:

Chung 925-321-1315 (English), Rosa 925-371-5238 (Spanish)

In the Convent Chapel

Elizabeth 925-922-1053 (English), Alberto Loza 925-339-4282 (Spanish)

In the Hall:

George 925-321-9546 (English), Rosa 925-371-5238 (Spanish)

Instructions:

- If you are sick, please stay home.
- Arrive to your appointment on time and remain in your car.
- Your coordinator will signal when you can come in.
- Practice social distancing of remaining 6 feet apart.
- Receive Communion in the hand.
- Offer your prayers of thanksgiving and leave promptly.
- A donation box will be present.



## PALM SUNDAY

### ***Drive Through Palm Blessing***

8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 pm,  
4:00 pm and 6:00 pm  
Bring your own palms

### ***Drive through the Courtyard***

REMAIN IN YOUR CAR  
Free will offering accepted

### ***Livestream Mass***

6:45 am and 9:30 am in English  
12:30 pm in Spanish

# HOLY WEEK

## *No Drive Up Benediction*

Will resume on Easter Sunday  
Drive up only  
REMAIN IN YOUR CAR

## *Drive Up Adoration*

Monday through Wednesday  
6:00 am to 6:00 pm  
Slowly drive up to the church  
REMAIN IN YOUR CAR  
Pause for briefly to Adore Jesus

## *Drive Up Confession*

Monday through Wednesday  
11:00 am bilingual  
3:00 pm English  
In the Courtyard and Parking Lot  
A priest will hear your Confession  
at a distance from your car  
One person per Confession

# HOLY THURSDAY

## *Church Open for Private Prayer*

6:00 am to 12:00 pm  
Please remain 6 feet from each other  
Limit 10 people in the Church at a time

## *Livestream Mass on Facebook*

6:00 pm in English  
7:30 pm in Spanish

# HOLY SATURDAY

## *Church Open for Private Prayer*

6:00 am to 12:00 pm  
Please remain 6 feet from each other  
Limit 10 people in the Church at a time

## *Livestream Mass on Facebook*

6:00 pm in English  
8:00 pm in Spanish

# GOOD FRIDAY

## *Church Open for Private Prayer*

6:00 am to 12:00 pm  
Please remain 6 feet from each other  
Limit 10 people in the Church at a time

## *Drive Up Veneration of the Cross*

12:00 pm - 6:00 pm  
Slowly drive up to front entrance of the church,  
parallel to the sidewalk  
REMAIN IN YOUR CAR  
Pause to venerate the cross  
Be mindful of the cars waiting behind you

## *Livestream service on Facebook*

2:30 pm in English  
4:00 pm in Spanish

# EASTER SUNDAY

## *Live Stream Mass on Facebook*

6:45 am and 9:30 am in English  
12:30 pm in Spanish

## *Drive Up Benedictions*

8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 pm, 4:00 pm and  
6:00 pm  
REMAIN IN YOUR CAR  
Free will offering as you leave the Courtyard

# Discurso especial a la parroquia del P. Carl

Querida familia de San Miguel,

Espero y rezo para que estén sanos y les vaya bien durante este tiempo de Refugio en el lugar para frenar la propagación del coronavirus. El P. Alfonso, el P. Ryan, el P. Ben y yo hemos estado orando por ustedes

Ha sido maravilloso verlos a todos ustedes en sus automóviles en la Bendición del estacionamiento, en la Confesión de Drive Up, en la Iglesia para orar en soledad y asistir a nuestra misa diaria a las 6:45 am en Facebook. ¡Gracias por saludar, por sonreír y por rezar desde lejos!

También nos gusta ver que varios miles de ustedes están viendo misa en vivo desde nuestra capilla en Facebook. Estamos leyendo sus comentarios todos los días a las 6:45 a.m. y los domingos a las 9:30 a.m. en inglés y a las 12:30 p.m. en español. ¡continúe con ellos! No solo somos espectadores viendo un video en las redes sociales. Estamos rezando la Santa Misa juntos, mientras que no podemos estar físicamente presentes. Sus comentarios ayudan a nuestra comunidad a sentirse conectada mientras celebramos la Misa juntos.

Está muy claro que nuestra comunidad aquí en San Miguel es fuerte y fiel. Unidos como miembros del Cuerpo de Cristo, estamos modelando al mundo lo que significa ser católicos florecientes en crisis. Estoy realmente inspirado por su devoción y amor por Jesús y por nuestra comunidad en San Miguel.

Ahora debo pedirles que se unan de otra manera: no solo necesito sus continuas oraciones, sino que también necesito sus continuas ofrendas a la Parroquia de San Miguel. Ayúdenos a satisfacer las necesidades espirituales de las almas en Livermore.

Sé que este es un momento de incertidumbre financiera. ¡Lo es para mí también! A partir de este domingo, personalmente daré una oferta semanal adicional (donación en línea) durante este tiempo de refugio en el lugar. El Señor dice claramente que no será superado en generosidad. Malaquías 3:10 dice:

“Trae el diezmo completo a nuestro depósito, para que haya comida en mi casa, y así ponerme a prueba, dice el Señor de los ejércitos; mira si no te abriré las ventanas del cielo y te deramaré una bendición desbordante”.

Entonces, mis queridos amigos, les pido que por favor apoyen a su parroquia de cualquier manera financiera que puedan. Tenemos

tres formas de hacer su oferta semanal:

**1. Dar en línea en Faith Direct Membership.** [FaithDirect.net/CA602](https://FaithDirect.net/CA602)

**2. Deposite el dinero en efectivo o cheque** en el buzón seguro ubicado y justo después de la estatua de San Miguel.

**3. Envíe un cheque a St Michael Parish,** 458 Maple Street, Livermore, CA 94550.

Su generosidad nos ayudará a continuar celebrando los sacramentos, hacer discípulos y llevar a Cristo a las personas. ¡Les agradezco de antemano sus contribuciones y oraciones sin fin por nuestro clero!

Que Dios los bendiga ricamente a usted y a sus familias. Que nos una en Cristo. Que Él mantenga fuerte nuestra fe durante este momento difícil.

Su pastor  
P. Carl



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"Yet I am always with you; you hold me  
by my right hand." Psalm 73:23

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