



# St. Michael Catholic Parish

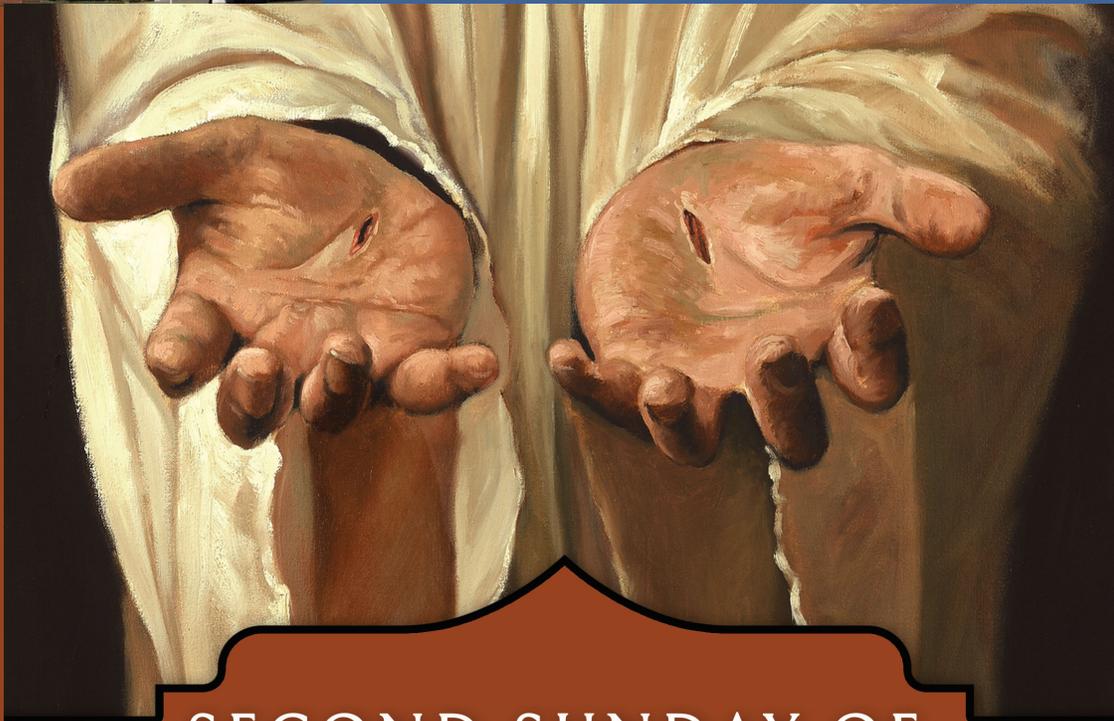
Where we Celebrate the Sacraments, Grow Disciples,  
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SECOND SUNDAY OF

*Easter*

(OR OF DIVINE MERCY)

APRIL 8, 2018

Jesus said to Thomas,  
“Have you come to believe because you have seen me?  
Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.”

John 20:29

# Embracing God's Mercy

**H**appy Divine Mercy Sunday! Divine Mercy Sunday was officially instituted in 2000 by Pope St. John Paul II. In the 1930's, Jesus appeared to a young Polish nun (now St. Faustina) and entrusted the message of Divine Mercy to her in a particular way for our time. Our world is full of so much evil, and Our Lord wants to remind us of his Divine Mercy and the need for repentance.

This Sunday is also the last day of the Octave of Easter, and so, in a sense, it is the climax of our celebration of Easter. As we reach the height of our Easter octave, the readings focus on God's mercy. Why is that?

God's merciful love is the Good News of the Gospel, and the reason why Christ suffered, died, and rose again. The Catechism goes so far as to say that, "The Gospel is the revelation in Jesus Christ of God's mercy to sinners" (CCC 1846). God's mercy reached down to us in our sinful state and sent us a Savior, who took on human flesh so that we might have life with him.

## First Reading Reflection Acts 4:32-35

Today's First Reading illustrates how the nascent Church begins to develop following the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost Sunday, highlighting the unity and spirit of sharing that characterizes the new community of faith. Believers are called to be of "one

heart and mind," that is, to show care and concern for each other in imitation of God's mercy toward all of us. Those who are blessed with material goods generously place them at the disposal of the entire community by allowing the Apostles to distribute them according to the needs of each member. In this way, the material needs of the community are provided for, and the Apostles can devote themselves to bearing witness to the Gospel in accordance with Jesus's final command to go and "make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19, RSV: 2CE). Thus, charity and trust in the leadership of the Apostles characterize the spirit of the followers of Christ. In response to this obedience of faith, God blesses his people "and great favor was accorded them all." God's generosity and mercy toward his people are demonstrated through miracles, the inspired witness of the Gospel message, and the care and concern of the fledgling community toward each other. Like the early Christians, Christians today are also called to be good stewards, ready to show mercy and generosity to those in need.

## Second Reading Reflection 1 John 5:1-6

In this passage, John demonstrates how faith conquers the world by linking belief in Christ with the command to love. To be a true Christian, we must believe that Jesus of Nazareth is the Messiah sent by the Father. Only through the revelation of the Son can we



come to believe in God as Father. To love the Father is to love the Son and those united to him. We fulfill this love for the Father (and for each other) by our obedience to God's commandments. Since this obedience is born out of love, it should not be burdensome and should testify to our faith.

Since the same Spirit who testifies at Jesus's baptism also testifies at his death, we can have confidence that Jesus is the pre-existent Son who came "through water and blood" to show us the way to eternal life. Through Baptism, we share in the Death and Resurrection of Christ by dying to our old self and being born anew into the life of Christ. The grace of Baptism enables us to become disciples of Christ and living witnesses of Christ through our love of God and neighbor.

## Gospel Reading Reflection John 20:19-31

In this Gospel reading, Jesus institutes the Sacrament of Reconciliation, giving the Apostles a share in his authority by granting them the power to forgive sins. Instead of rebuking the Apostles for abandoning him in his time of suffering, Jesus breathes the gift of the Holy Spirit upon them and confers on

them his own mission to seek out and save the lost. Through this beautiful gift of mercy, Jesus demonstrates his desire to forgive our sins and restore us to full communion with him when we do fall into sin. This assurance should bring us peace and joy.

Sometimes it can be difficult to believe in the forgiveness of sins, and St. Thomas reminds us how difficult it can be to believe in Christ even by one who had walked with him. But, like Thomas, Jesus invites us to touch his wounds and be healed of our doubts. St. Peter tells us that “by his wounds, you have been healed” (1 Peter 2:25; RSV: 2CE). Through the healing power of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we too can touch Christ’s wounds and proclaim with Thomas, “My Lord and my God!” According to Jesus’s words, our belief in the teachings handed down by the successors of the Apostles is merited as great faith: “Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.” This faith, John writes, allows us to “have life in his name.”

## Discussion

The message of Divine Mercy is nothing new to Christians. It has always been the central message of the Gospel. Today, we live in times of unprecedented evil. But St. Paul told the Romans, “where sin is increases, grace abounds all the more.” The Lord has a plan to unleash his mercy on the world in unprecedented ways.

But the founts of his mercy have always been with us in the Sacraments. When Christ instituted his Church, he knew what we would be facing today. He knew that after he ascended to the Father, we would still need access to God’s mercy. So he left us with his very self in the Eucharist, entrusted to the Church and her Apostles. In the Gospel today we witness him instituting the Sacrament of Reconciliation, the great sacrament of mercy.

Think of your own life. Where do you need God’s mercy? Are you willing to open that place to God’s merciful love? If you are afraid, ask yourself where your fear is coming from and try to bring it to the Lord.

## Digging Deeper: The Sacrament of Reconciliation

In his encyclical *Dives in Misericordia*, Pope St. John Paul II says that “the Church lives an authentic life when she professes and proclaims mercy . . . and when she brings people close to the sources of the Savior’s mercy, of which she is the trustee and dispenser” (13). This idea is made clear by the readings for today, which show Jesus’s own mercy to Thomas and also reveal him granting the Apostles and their successors the ability to show that mercy.

John Paul II later goes on to say that the Sacrament of Reconciliation is one of the key ways the Church acts as her most authentic self because it “prepares the way for each individual, even those weighed down with great faults. In this sacrament each person can experience mercy in a unique way, that is, the love which is more powerful than sin” (13).

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FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK

## Divine Mercy

Experience the Power of God’s Mercy

Join Fr. Michael Gaitley on a breathtaking journey to uncover the reality of God’s merciful love as he weaves together history, Sacred Scripture, the prophetic apparitions of Fatima, and the world-changing witnesses of St. Faustina, St. Maximilian Kolbe, and Pope St. Paul II.

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—Dan S., Milledgeville, GA



# Mass

## Intentions

### Saturday 4/7

- 8:30am Anna Marie Peralo †  
5:00pm Madeline Sturdevant  
Ginnie Williams †  
7:00pm Uriel Cruz †  
Benjamin Morales †

### Divine Mercy Sunday 4/8

- 6:45am Thomas Heise †  
8:00am Antero & Rosita Barina †  
9:30am Fernando Castro †  
11:00am Felixberto Abella †  
12:30pm Margina Gomez  
3:00pm Ken Dayton  
6:00pm Anna Maria Peralo †

### Monday 4/9

- 8:30am Raymond F. Werner  
Felino Guce †

### Tuesday 4/10

- 8:30am Loretta Ramos Bodie

### Wednesday 4/11

- 8:30am Norman Manha †  
Joseph P. Boyle †  
7:00pm Mary Ann O'Reilly †

### Thursday 4/12

- 8:30am Francisco Cuaresma, Sr.  
Ken Gels †

### Friday 4/13

- 8:30am Ben & Mary Slater †

**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

Let's return to today's Gospel Reading. Put yourself in Thomas's place. He was afraid to trust the Lord, which is something we can all relate to. Try to get in touch with that fear inside of yourself. Then imagine Jesus appearing to you as he did to Thomas, and offering you his wounded heart. He takes your hand and places it in his side, giving you complete access to his mercy that is pouring out from his heart.

Take a word that comes to mind and reflect on what it means to you personally. For example, the phrase, "Peace be with you," might have stuck out to you. Ask yourself what this means in your own life. What areas of your heart do not fully trust in the Lord yet? Do you want to receive Jesus's gift of peace and mercy in those places?

### RESOLUTION

To truly live the Christian life, we have to embrace a life of mercy. What are specific things that are holding you back from living a life of mercy? Do you want to ask God for the gift of his merciful love in this place?

### Parish Prayer Requests

In thanksgiving for all who were baptized, confirmed and received First Communion at Easter.

Please send your prayer requests to  
[Prayers@StMichaelLivermore.com](mailto:Prayers@StMichaelLivermore.com)

# Coming to St Michael's



**BE HELPING HANDS WHERE  
THERE IS PAIN, POVERTY,  
SORROW OR SICKNESS.**



**T**he Catholic Daughters of the Americas is one of the oldest and largest organizations of Catholic women in the Americas... and a new court (like a “chapter”) is forming at St Michael’s!

Catholic Daughters of the Americas engages in creative and spiritual programs which provide its members with the opportunity to develop their God-given talents in meaningful ways that positively influence the welfare of the Church and all people throughout the world.

Catholic Daughters of the Americas strives to embrace the princi-

ple of faith working through love in the promotion of justice, equality, and the advancement of human rights and human dignity for all.

Catholic Daughters of the Americas donate to charities, administer scholarship programs and strive “to be helping hands where there is pain, poverty, sorrow or sickness.”

Deeply spiritual, together Catholic Daughters share faith, love of God and a distinctly feminine spirituality alluded to by Pope John Paul II when he spoke of the necessity of “feminine genius” in today’s world.

## Interested in Joining?

We will meet monthly, and members can choose to be as active as they wish in our various activities.

**Please stop by the table in the Courtyard on Sunday, April 22 after Mass for more information and for a membership application.**

Or feel free to email Nicole Allen at [mom\\_of\\_12@yahoo.com](mailto:mom_of_12@yahoo.com)

We are excited to start this new women’s service ministry at St Michael’s!



## Ever thought about becoming a Sister?

**Come and See on April 20-22**

The Daughters of Charity will host a Religious Vocation Discernment Retreat for women 18-40 in Los Altos Hills, CA.

CONTACT: Sr. Lisa Laguna, D.C. at 650-949-8890 or 213-210-9903  
[srllaguna@doc1633.org](mailto:srllaguna@doc1633.org) [www.Daughters-Of-Charity.com/retreats](http://www.Daughters-Of-Charity.com/retreats)

# THIS WEEK

MONDAY, APR 9

## The Annunciation of the Lord

**Readings:** Is 7:10-14; 8:10; Ps 40:7-11; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38

### Events:

*Young Ladies' Institute* meets at 1:30 pm in the Convent.

*Schedule time* in the Adoration Chapel this week!

TUESDAY, APR 10

**Readings:** Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Jn 3:7b-15

### Suggestion:

*Pray about becoming a Catechist* for the 2018-2019 school year.

You will play an instrumental role in sharing the faith with a young person who might not otherwise learn. Call Lourdes at 925-667-4096 for more information.

WEDNESDAY, APR 11

## St. Stanislaus

**Readings:** Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-9; Jn 3:16-21

### Events:

*Discover the Catholic Faith Inquiry* meets at 7:00 pm in the Convent. If you are an adult who has not received the Sacraments of Baptism or First Communion or Confirmation, this is the place to start your journey!

THURSDAY, APR 12

**Readings:** Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20; Jn 3:31-36

### Events:

*Easter Mission Workshop* at 6:30 pm in the Hall. Most of us are familiar with the word "sacrament." We participate in sacramental rites often as Catholics. But do we understand what a sacrament is—and what it means for us and our everyday lives?

FRIDAY, APR 13

## St. Martin I

**Readings:** Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15

### Reminder:

*All Fridays of the year* are a day of penance. The primary form is to abstain from eating meat. However, another act of penance, charity or piety may be performed instead.

SATURDAY, APR 14

**Readings:** Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; Jn 6:16-21

### Events:

*Convent Clean-Up*, 9:30 am—3:30 pm. Contact Dennis Lundbom to 775-772-6369.

*Dress-a-Girl Sew Fest*, 9 am—3 pm in the Hall

*Family Movie Night*, 6:30 pm in the Hall.

SUNDAY, APR 15

## Third Sunday of Easter

**Readings:** Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; Ps 4:2, 4, 7-9; 1 Jn 2:1-5a; Lk 24:35-48

### Events:

*Knights of Columbus parish membership drive* at all Masses. Contact Jim Shirley for information at: 925-518-1189.

*Family Mass* at 9:30 am

CHARITY UNITY FRATERNITY PATRIOTISM



KNIGHTS  
OF  
COLUMBUS

MEMBERSHIP  
SUNDAY  
APRIL 15

## Mass of Remembrance

Mon, April 16  
6:30 pm at St Michael's

The Mass honors the memory of those who have passed before us. Bring a small framed photo of your loved ones to place before the altar during Mass.

## Convent Yard Sale

Saturday, April 21  
7:00 am—4:00 pm

Thanks to our Convent Clean-Up crew, we have unearthed treasures from years of parish life. Now is your chance to own a piece of history. Stop by and buy!

## Date Night

Sat, April 21  
6:30 pm in the Hall

Fr Staal will be our guest speaker. All married and engaged couples are invited to attend. Please bring an appetizer or a dessert to share. Child care will be available. Please RSVP: [stmichaeldatenight@gmail.com](mailto:stmichaeldatenight@gmail.com)

## Baby Gift Drive

Sat & Sun April 28 & 29  
After All Masses

Our Knights of Columbus, partnering with Birthright, are hosting a baby gift drive for mothers in crisis. Please bring to Mass gently used maternity and baby clothes, diapers and wipes and chain store gift cards (like Babies-R-Us, Target, Walmart).

We are sorry that we cannot accept equipment, toys or food.



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

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

PARISH HALL

Video presentation & group discussion.



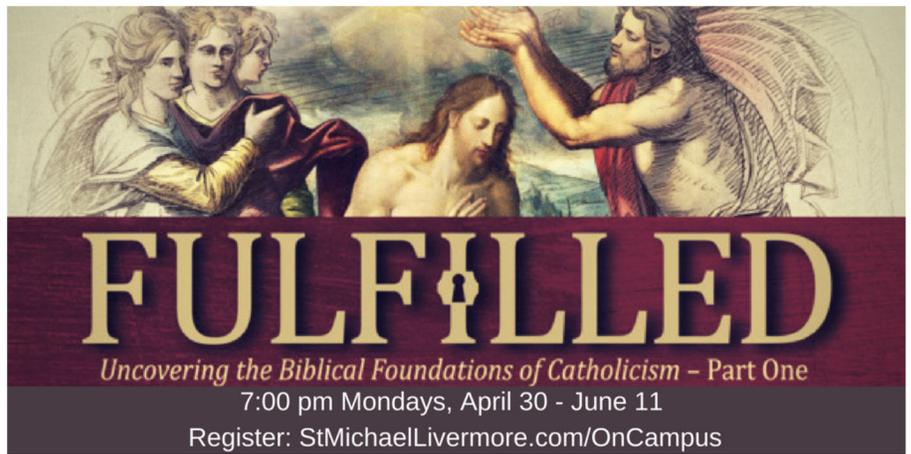
**A BIBLICAL WALK THROUGH**  
*The Mass*  
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A unique tour of everything that we do & say at Mass

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

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**FULFILLED**  
*Uncovering the Biblical Foundations of Catholicism - Part One*

7:00 pm Mondays, April 30 - June 11  
Register: [StMichaelLivermore.com/OnCampus](http://StMichaelLivermore.com/OnCampus)



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## New to the Parish?

Or just want to feel more connected in the community?

Maybe you just moved to Livermore. Maybe you've been away from the Church and are ready to come home. Maybe you've been here, but you just want to find out more about parish life and meet new friends! We want you to think of St Michael's as your second home!

**1. Reach out to Tina, our Returning Catholics "Concierge".** She will listen to your story, help you identify your needs and help connect you with the right people. Email [Home@StMichaelLivermore.com](mailto:Home@StMichaelLivermore.com)

**2. Just keep coming back!** Find a Mass time that works best for you and add it to your calendar. Even if the Mass seems awkward or unfamiliar, use the time to offer the sincere prayers of your heart.

**3. The Welcome Brunch** is April 29 after the 9:30 am Mass. Save the date and stop by to get answers to your questions, learn about our ministries and meet new Catholic friends.

**4. Set up a FORMED account.** It's an extensive digital library of Catholic movies, video-based study program, audio talks and eBooks. You can brush up on any topic of faith that interests you, and it's free. Go to [StMichael.Formed.org](http://StMichael.Formed.org) and follow the steps to register.

**5. Subscribe to the Friday Flock-note** so that you get the weekly e-Newsletter delivered to your email inbox. Go to [Flocknote.com/sml](http://Flocknote.com/sml) and follow the steps.



## Welcome Brunch

*Meet New Friends & Get Connected in the Parish*

APRIL 29 AFTER THE 9:30 AM MASS  
IN THE PARISH HALL

## 5 Reasons to Come Home to the Catholic Church

1. Catholicism is TRUE!
2. The Catholic Church has the Sacraments—and we especially long for the Eucharist.
3. Our families need to be built on a strong foundation of faith and we need to live in community with others.
4. We need God's forgiveness and healing for our failings and God's mercy to help us become better people.
5. We hunger for meaning and purpose in our lives.

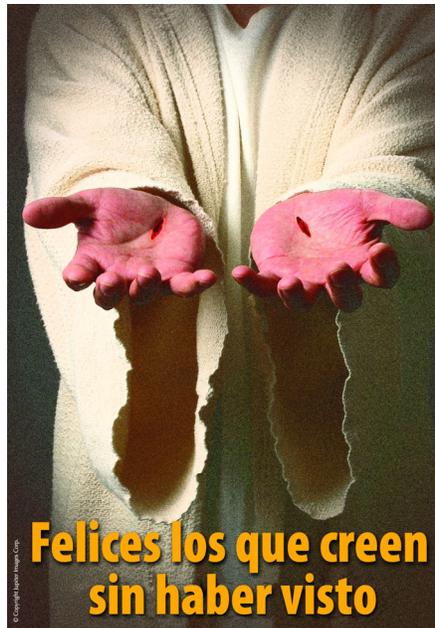
An outstanding resource is **CatholicsComeHome.org**. There, you can find answers to some common questions, confession help and inspirational and informative videos.

We hope you accept this as your invitation to rediscover the truth, wonder and mystery of the Catholic faith. As your brothers and sisters in our worldwide Catholic family, we want you back. We've missed you, and our Church is not the same without you.

# Español

## PARA QUE CREAS

No sucede demasiado a menudo que el autor de uno de los libros de la Biblia se dirija directamente a nosotros para explicarnos por qué está escribiendo lo que está escribiendo. En la lectura del Evangelio de este domingo, que pertenece a la conclusión del Evangelio según san Juan, el autor nos dice que ha elegido escribir estos acontecimientos para que "crean que Jesús es el Mesías, el Hijo de Dios, y para que, creyendo, tengan vida en su Nombre" (20:31).



La carta de san Juan retoma esta idea diciendo que: "todo el que cree que Jesús es el Cristo ha nacido de Dios" (5:1); lo que llamaríamos "nacer de nuevo". Nuestra lectura de los Hechos de los Apóstoles para este Segundo Domingo de Pascua nos muestra exactamente qué sucede cuando los creyentes nacen de nuevo por medio de la fe.

## Vivir la fé con los talleres de Misión

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

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

nuestras vidas para un auténtico crecimiento y desarrollo espiritual.

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

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

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

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



## Un Paseo Bíblico a través de la Misa

por Dr. Edward Sri

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

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

Por favor regístrese por correo electrónico:

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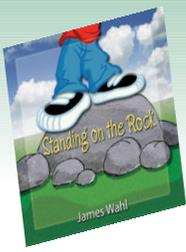
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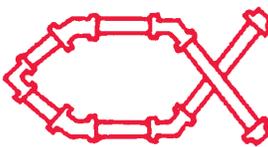
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# Information | Información

## St. Michael Parish | La Parroquia de San Miguel

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



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### Mass | Misa

**Mon-Sat | Lu-Sa** 8:30 am

**Wed | Mi** 7:00 pm (español)

**Sat Vigil | Vigilia del Sábado**

5:00 pm (English), 7:00 pm (español)

**Sunday | Domingo**

6:45 am, 8:00 am, 9:30 am, 11:00 am, 12:30 pm (español), 6:00 pm

**Sign Language | Lenguaje por Señas**

1st Sun, 11:00 am

Primer domingo a las 11:00 am

**Vietnamese | Vietnamita**

4th Sun, 3:30 pm

Cuarto domingo a las 3:30 pm

### Confession | Confesión

**Saturday, in the church |**

**Sábado en la iglesia**

9:00 am & 3:45 pm in English

6:15 pm en español

1st & 3rd Wed in the Convent Chapel,  
at 2:30 pm in English

**Anointing of the Sick |**

**Unción de los Enfermos**

1st Saturday after 8:30 am Mass or by  
appointment: 925-447-1585 |

1er sábado después de las 8:30 am Misa  
o con cita previa: 925-447-1585

**Eucharistic Adoration |**

**Adoración Eucarística**

24/7 in the Chapel. For after hours access  
code, call 925-980-4826 |

24/7 en la Capilla. Para el código de acceso  
después de las horas, llame al 925-980-4826

### Office Hours | horas de oficina

**M-F** 8:30 am—5:00 pm (closed  
during lunch)

**Sun** 8:30 am—12:30 pm

### Clergy | Clero

Rev. Van Dinh, Pastor

Rev. Alfonso Borgen, Parochial  
Vicar

Rev. David Staal, Associate

Rev. Alfred Amos, In Residence

Rev. Stanislaus Poon, Retired

Rev. Deacon Bill Archer

Rev. Deacon Rob Federle

Rev. Deacon Dave Rezendes

Rev. Deacon Bob Vince

### Pastoral Council |

**Consejo Pastoral**

Pastoral Council Chair: Mike Pereira  
michaelpereira@comcast.net

Eric Hom, Ricardo Echon, Fidelis  
Atuegbu, Jo Anne Lindquist, Dave  
Parks, Frank Draschner, Ken Varal-  
lo, Irving Garcia, Cynthia Garay and  
Glenda Dubsy.

### Finance Council |

**Consejo Financiero**

Finance Council Chair: Dave Ruth  
daveruth@alrinc.com

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

### St. Michael School | Escuela de San Miguel

925-447-1888 smliv.org

### Faith Formation in Eng- lish

925-667-4096



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