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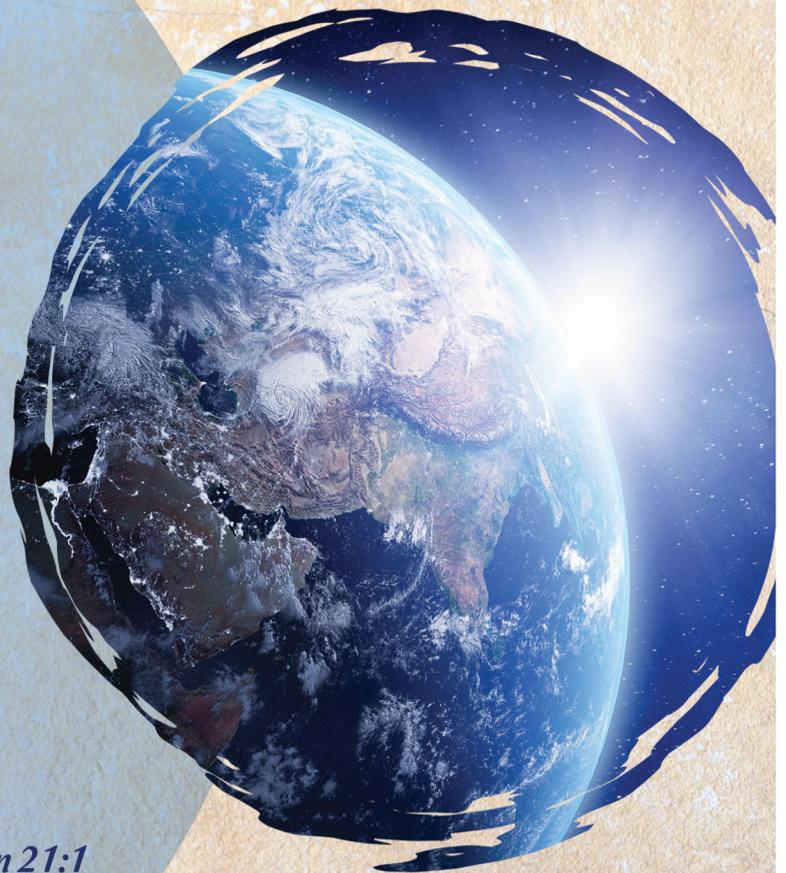
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I, John,
saw a new heaven
and a new earth.

Revelation 21:1



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Unpack Today's Mass Readings



The theme from today's readings focuses on hardships and trials embracing the crosses that God allows into our lives. In our human nature, we find ourselves resistant to this kind of suffering. We avoid it and anxiously try to change situations that are unpleasant.

But God is inviting us to trust him in our day-to-day lives, even when our circumstances are unpleasant or involve difficulty. God is inviting us to share in his passion. This theme comes through clearly in the Gospel reading when Jesus says, "Now is the Son of Man glorified," just as Judas is leaving to betray him.

It is precisely through the suffering Christ will face in his betrayal, passion, and death that he is glorified. This is at the heart of our Catholic faith. One of the great mysteries of our faith is that we are all called to share in Christ's glory, by sharing in his suffering.

Just as Jesus offers up the poverty of his battered condition on the cross, and God uses it to transform the world, so too we are called to offer up the sufferings and poverty of our lives. When we are willing to embrace the poverties of our day-to-day lives and offer those up in trustful surrender and in union with Christ's sacrifice to the Father,

God will transform them into amazing riches.

Unpack the First Reading Acts 13:14, 43-52

Commissioned by inspiration of the Holy Spirit while in Syrian Antioch, Paul and Barnabas are sent by the church there to preach the Gospel to the peoples on the northeastern end of the Mediterranean Sea. We see in their travels that "God...opened the door of faith to the Gentiles." Even at this early stage in the life of the Church we can see a clear split developing between church

an ordinary part of church life.

The character of the early Church as the Church of martyrs is drawn out here too. It's clear Paul recognized that in Christ we're given the perfect model of discipleship and he certainly suffered. No life is, in fact, without suffering, but Christian discipleship requires that one oppose the prevailing values of the world. That brings with it some special burdens for us to bear.

Unpack the Second Reading Revelation 21:1-5a

In reference to the heavenly city, we're told that there will be no more death, mourning, or crying out in pain. Of course, such a state could only exist in a new heaven and new earth. This idea of a new heaven and earth is rooted in Isaiah's

prophecy (Isaiah 65:17-19). John witnesses the fulfillment of this prophecy in the vision we read about this week. It's unclear as to whether the text requires that it be interpreted as purely a vision of heaven or as symbolic of the accomplishment of a messianic reign on earth.

What is clear is that in either case, the source of the newness of things— whether heavenly, earthly, or both—is God. As John says in his Gospel's prologue, by



and synagogue. In any group there are likely to be those who'll accept the Gospel and those who won't.

This reading shows us something else about the infant Church: Paul and Barnabas appointed elders in each church. The Greek term for "elder" is "*presbyteros*," which is the root word for the presbyteral office, that of priest. So we see that at least as early as seventeen years after the death of Jesus, priests were considered

making his “dwelling among us,” he institutes the messianic kingdom. In sharing our human sorrows, he makes ours a joy. In shedding human tears, he wipes all ours away. He does this first in the Incarnation and will do it definitively, finally, when he greets us in heaven. In any case, we labor in vain if we hope to build the City of God ourselves, for it’s his gift. It descends “down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.”

Unpack the Gospel John 13:31-33a, 34-35

Because we’re less familiar with the Old Testament than would have been Jesus’ apostles, we often miss the announcement. Jesus confides, “Now is the Son of Man glorified.” Jesus is apparently making reference to Daniel 7, where Daniel received a vision in which he saw four beasts representing worldly kingdoms, which are all finally displaced by a heavenly ruler, referred to as “One like a son of man coming, on the clouds of heaven,” who receives eternal glory and kingship from the “Ancient One.” “Son of Man,” was Jesus’ preferred title for himself.

It’s also interesting to note that after Jesus mentions his glorification as Son of Man, he gives a commandment—his most important command—to his apostles: “Love one another.” We’re to love as he loves. Jesus tells them, and us, that his followers will be recognizable for the love they bear for one another. In so commanding, Jesus is exercising the dominion that he receives from the “Ancient One” and passing the source of his glory, which is his self-offering of love, to his followers, “the holy ones of the Most High” who will possess the kingdom. All of this corresponds to the scene in Daniel 7.

Reflect & Discuss

Our theme today is “Embracing the Cross.” Please take a moment to watch the short *Opening the Word* video on FORMED.org. Then discuss the reflection questions with friends or write down your thoughts in a journal.

The presenter, Jim Beckman, talks about what he calls “dandelion theology” to express a mystery of the spiritual life. First, let’s simply review: What is the purpose of the dandelion story he tells?

What character in the image did you first identify with? Was it the little boy? Was it a surprise to turn the image around and picture yourself as the mother?

In the Gospel reading for today, Jesus knows Judas is going to betray him and he will suffer and die very soon, and yet he says, “Now is the Son of Man glorified.” He knows that it is only through acceptance of his suffering that he will come into his fullness at the right hand of the Father. How is this a lesson for us when we face trials and suffering?

As we think about the lessons of today’s Gospel reading, what are some of the areas in your life where you are not being receptive to the cross? Is there some trial or inconvenience in your life that you keep avoiding? Or some difficulty or suffering that you keep trying to steer clear of?

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—Amanda H., Westpoint, NY

Pray Throughout the Week



Mass Intentions

Saturday 5/18

8:30am Sr. Mary Ike
5:00pm Caroline Stanley
7:00pm Selso "Tuto" Sandoval

Sunday 5/19

6:45am Robert J. Cortez †
8:00am Kathleen Mihalek †
9:30am Frances Way †
11:00am Carlos Alexander Tovar †
12:30pm Iris Juarez
6:00pm Mass for Our Parish

Monday 5/20

8:30am Aloysius Kupski

Tuesday 5/21

8:30am Lee & Ferrol Phipps †
Tim Phipps

Wednesday 5/22

8:30am Rosemarie A Warnock †
7:00pm Julian Pimentel

Thursday 5/23

8:30am Christopher Cosper †

Friday 5/24

8:30am Rick Lara †

To request a Mass Intention, please visit the church office.

The customary donation of \$10 goes to the priest celebrating the Mass.



Take a few minutes to consider the words of Jesus: "Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him." Then think about when he said this to the apostles: in the Upper Room, just prior to his death, but also just prior to his Resurrection. Now think about a situation that is causing you pain and suffering. Allow yourself to feel all the emotions surrounding that situation— fear, pressure, pain, sorrow. Now imagine that Jesus is standing before you. He knows all about your situation and he says to you, "Now are you glorified and now God is glorified in you." What do you think when you hear Jesus' words? How does hearing that God is glorified through your pain help you look at your situation differently? How can you see your suffering in a new way, knowing that God can bring some good from it?

Resolution

As you are praying, be receptive to the prompting of the Holy Spirit, ask God to show you ways in which you have been resisting your suffering. Then ask to be shown how you can practice greater receptivity to the cross in your life this week. As God reveals an area for you to focus on, remember that this is his initiative. He will provide grace, and you can cooperate with his grace to experience change.

Special Intentions

With joy and thanksgiving for all those who have received Sacraments this Easter season.

For the repose of the souls of those who have died, and for the comfort of their friends and family. For funeral information, please see StMichaelLivermore.com/Funerals

Submit your prayer requests to our growing prayer team at Prayers@StMichaelLivermore.com

Fr Carl's Message of the Week



Celebrating the Month of Mary at St. Michael's

Dear St Michael Family,

In his 1965 encyclical, *Mense Maio*, Pope Paul VI identified the month of May as an opportune time to incorporate special prayers for peace into traditional May devotions. But why May?

The tradition dates all the way back to the ancient Greeks who dedicated the month of May to Artemis, the pagan "goddess" of fecundity. Romans also claimed May to honor Flora, their "goddess" of blossoms. They celebrated "floral games" at the end of April and petitioned Flora's intercession for all that blooms. In medieval times, a tradition arose of expelling winter at this time of year, since May 1 was considered the start of new growth. It is the tradition of the Church to sanctify and build upon old practices, rather than eradicate them, so May quickly became a 30-day devotional celebration to our Blessed Mother.

May Devotion

There is no firm structure of the May devotion, but there are common elements: singing Marian hymns, readings from scriptures and hearing homilies focusing on Mary. It is also typical for Catholics to offer to Mary pilgrimages, visits to churches dedicated to her, little sacrifices in her honor, periods of study and Rosary prayers during this month. The last day of the devotion on May 31 is often followed by a solemn procession, during which a statue or portrait of the Virgin Mary is carried back into the church. Some May devotions

may take place outside in nature, especially flower gardens.

The May Altar

One familiar May devotion is the May Altar, whether in a church or in the home. The altar usually includes a picture or statue of Mary, candles and flowers. Families gather around the May altar to pray the Rosary together. This specific devotion has been supported by several popes including Pope Pius XII in his encyclical *Ingruentium malorum*:

"The custom of the family recitation of the Holy Rosary is a most efficacious means. What a sweet sight - most pleasing to God - when, at eventide, the Christian home resounds with the frequent repetition of praises in honor of the High Queen of Heaven! Then the Rosary, recited in the family, assembled before the image of the Virgin, in an admirable union of hearts, the parents and their children, who come back from their daily work. It unites them piously with those absent and those dead. It links all more tightly in a sweet bond of love, with the most Holy Virgin, who, like a loving mother, in the circle of her children, will be there bestowing upon them an abundance of the gifts of concord and family peace."

Rosary Gatherings at St Michael's

Please continue to attend our Rosary for peace and life at 7:00 pm every evening in May in the Courtyard. Bring a candle, Rosary beads and flowers for a floral offering.

Your whole family is invited!

Throughout the year

We gather at 7:00 am in the Church to pray the Rosary, Monday through Friday. Also, we meet in the chapel after the 8:30 am Mass, Monday through Saturday. There are numerous groups that pray the Rosary in the Chapel in a variety of languages. Visit our Rosary page on our website StMichaelLivermore.com/Rosary for more details.

Praying along to a recorded Rosary is a great way to learn the Rosary, or to mix up your regular Rosary routine. Listen at home with your family, while on a walk or in your car while you commute. There are many rosary podcasts or audio downloads that you might find useful; do a bit of searching to find one that you like. You also have available to you free audio rosaries at FORMED.org, on the St Michael's "Community" tab.

Lastly, as a parish we will take several weeks in July and August to prepare ourselves for a consecration to Jesus through Mary, leading up to the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary on August 15. Stay tuned for more information!

May our Blessed Mother bring the peace of her Son to you and your family.

Fr Carl

Events Happening This Week



CONFESSION

EVERY WEEK

Mon & Fri: 7:30 am
Wed: 2:30 pm (Convent)
Sat: 9:15 am, 3:45 pm, 6:15 pm



DISCOVER THE FAITH

Adults who are feeling that "tug" toward the Catholic faith are invited to RCIA Inquiry. Ask questions in a no-pressure, friendly environment.

**WEDNESDAYS AT 7:00 PM
IN THE CONVENT**

**CONTACT MARJORIE AT
925-447-2925**



EVENING ROSARY

Every night in May at 7:00 pm in the Courtyard

Save These Dates!



Memorial Day Ceremony & Mass

Monday, May 27

Join us at St Michael Cemetery on East Avenue for our annual Memorial Day Ceremony and Mass.

11:00 am: flag presentation, guest speaker Mayer John Marchand, presentation of floral wreaths, gun salute and taps. 12:00 pm: Mass, followed by refreshments.

Church offices closed for Memorial Day.

Open Heart Kitchen

Wednesday, May 29

Join parishioners in volunteering at Open Heart Kitchen, Tri Valley's free hot meal service for those in need. There are two shifts: 12:30 pm- 2:00 pm and 2:00 pm-3:30 pm. To volunteer, contact Diane Schord at 925-447-4344 or dhschord@sbcglobal.net

Feast of the Visitation

Friday, May 31

Begin the celebration in the Church with praying the Rosary in multiple languages at 6:15 pm, followed by Mass at 7:00 pm, then a procession with the Coronation of Mary.

Italian Catholic Federation Bingo Bash

Saturday, June 1

Italian Catholic Federation Bingo Bash at 6 pm at St Augustine. Proceeds benefit Children's Hospital treatment of Cooley's Anemia, plus other ICF Charities. RSVP: Patty at 925- 462-2491.

Portuguese Holy Ghost Festa

Sunday, June 9

10:30 am parade begins processing from St Michael School to St Michael Church to celebrate Mass at 11 am. After Mass, parade

to hall for the dove ceremony.

Stay for the talent show presented by our Portuguese language school, followed by seating for sopas meal - free fraternal meal of meat, bread and cabbage—and performance by Portuguese folklore group Tempos d'Outroira.

Prep for Consecration to Jesus Through Mary

Saturdays, July 6-August 10

As a whole parish, we will spend 33 days preparing to consecrate ourselves to Jesus through Mary in the St Louis de Montfort method.

Meet on Saturdays in the Hall from 9:30-11:00 am for guest speakers and discussion. Or you may prepare on your own or with your group by using the resources found at TotalConsecration.org

Consecration day for the parish will be on August 15, the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

VACATION BIBLE CAMP

St Michael Church & School

Pre K - 6th Grade

June 24 - June 28

Questions | Registration | Volunteer: vbc@stmichaellivermore.com

StMichaelLivermore.com/FaithFormation

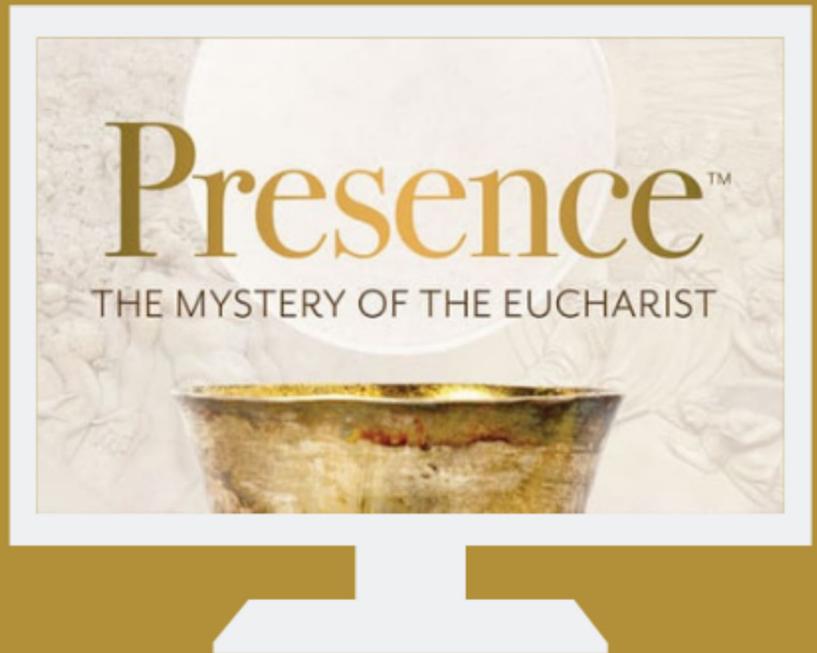


PREPARE FOR
CORPUS CHRISTI

PRESENCE
SESSIONS 1-3

WATCH BEFORE
JUNE 23

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If St Michael's is your parish home, and you have not yet set up regular weekly or monthly offerings, please visit the Church office to request envelopes or to give online via Faith Direct.

5/12/19 Collection	\$18,918.12
Month-to-Date	\$43,202.07
Month Goal	\$87,058.82
Percentage Reached	50%
Faith Direct	\$6,632.00
Maintenance (May)	\$6,631.75

Mensaje de la semana del Padre Carl



Querida familia de San Miguel,

En su encíclica de 1965, Mense Maio, el Papa Pablo VI identificó el mes de mayo como un momento oportuno para incorporar oraciones especiales por la paz en las devociones tradicionales de mayo. Pero ¿por qué mayo?

La tradición se remonta a los antiguos griegos que dedicaron el mes de mayo a Artemisa, la "diosa" pagana de la fecundidad. Los romanos también afirmaron que en Mayo se honraría a Flora, su "diosa" de las flores. Celebraron los "juegos florales" a fines de abril y solicitaron la intercesión de Flora por todas las floraciones. En la época medieval, surgió una tradición de expulsar el invierno en esta época del año, ya que el 1 de mayo se consideraba el comienzo de un nuevo crecimiento. La tradición de la Iglesia es santificar y construir sobre viejas prácticas, en lugar de erradicarlas, por lo que Mayo se convirtió rápidamente en una celebración devocional de 30 días para nuestra Santísima Madre.

Devoción de Mayo

No hay una estructura firme de la devoción de Mayo, pero hay elementos comunes: cantar himnos marianos, lecturas de las Escrituras y escuchar homilias centradas en María. También es típico que los católicos ofrezcan peregrinaciones a María, visitas a iglesias dedicadas a ella, pequeños sacrificios en su honor, períodos de estudio y oraciones de Rosario durante este mes. El último día de la devoción, el 31 de mayo, es seguido a menudo por una solemne

procesión, durante la cual una estatua o un retrato de la Virgen María se devuelve a la iglesia. Algunas devociones de mayo pueden tener lugar en la naturaleza, especialmente en los jardines con flores.

El altar de Mayo

Una devoción familiar de Mayo es el Altar de Mayo, ya sea en una iglesia o en el hogar. El altar suele incluir una imagen o estatua de María, velas y flores. Las familias se reúnen alrededor del altar de Mayo para rezar juntos el Rosario. Esta devoción específica ha sido apoyada por varios papas, incluido el Papa Pío XII en su encíclica *Ingruentium malorum*:

"La costumbre de la recitación familiar del Santo Rosario es un medio muy eficaz. ¡Qué dulce vista, lo que más agrada a Dios, cuando, en el evento, el hogar cristiano resuena con la repetición frecuente de alabanzas en honor a la Gran Reina del Cielo! Luego el Rosario, recitado en la familia, que se reunió ante la imagen de la Virgen, con una admirable unión de corazones, los padres y sus hijos, que regresan de su trabajo diario. Los une piadosamente con los ausentes y los muertos. "Se vincula más estrechamente en un dulce vínculo de amor, con la Santísima Virgen, que, como una madre amorosa, en el círculo de sus hijos, estará allí otorgándoles una abundancia de los regalos de la concordia y de la paz familiar".

Reuniones de Rosario en San Miguel

Continúe asistiendo a nuestro Rosario por la paz y la vida a las 7:00 pm todas las noches de Mayo en el

Courtyard. Traiga una vela, rosarios y flores para una ofrenda floral. ¡Toda su familia está invitada!

Durante todo el año

Nos reunimos a las 7:00 am en la Iglesia para rezar el Rosario, de lunes a viernes. Además, nos reunimos en la capilla después de la misa de las 8:30 am, de lunes a sábado. Hay numerosos grupos que rezan el Rosario en la Capilla en varios idiomas. Visite nuestra página de Rosario en nuestro sitio web StMichaelLivermore.com/Rosary para obtener más detalles.

Orar junto al Rosario grabado es una excelente manera de aprender el Rosario o de mezclar su rutina regular de Rosario. Escuche en casa con su familia, mientras camina o en su automóvil mientras viaja. Hay muchos podcasts de Rosario o descargas de audio que pueden resultarle útiles; Haga un poco de búsqueda para encontrar uno que le guste. También tiene a su disposición rosarios de audio gratuitos en FORMED.org, en la ventana "Comunidad" de San Miguel.

Finalmente, como parroquia, tomaremos varias semanas en julio y agosto para prepararnos para la consagración de Jesús a través de María, que nos llevará a la Solemnidad de la Asunción de la Santísima Virgen María el 15 de agosto. ¡Estén atentos para más información!

Que nuestra Santísima Madre traiga la paz de su Hijo a usted y a su familia.

Padre Carl

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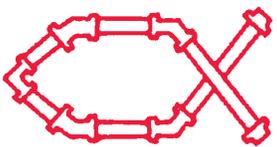
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Mass | Misa

Mon-Sat | Lu-Sa 8:30 am

Wed | Mi 7:00 pm (español)

First Friday | Primer viernes

12:00 pm in the chapel

en la capilla

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

Traditional Latin Mass

2nd Sun, 8:00 am

Tagolg

3rd Sun, 3:30 pm

Vietnamese | Vietnamita

4th Sun, 3:30 pm

Cuarto domingo a las 3:30 pm

First Friday

12:00 pm in the Chapel

Confession | Confesión

Saturday, in the church |

Sábado en la iglesia

9:00 am & 3:45 pm in English

6:15 pm en español

Monday & Friday in the church |

Lunes y viernes en la iglesia

7:30 am in English & español

Wednesdays in the Convent Chapel

2:30 pm

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

Office Hours | horas de oficina

M-F 9:00 am—5:00 pm

(Closed 12:00 pm—2:00 pm)

Clergy | Clero

Rev. Carl Arcosa, Pastor

Rev. Alfonso Borgen, Parochial Vicar

Rev. David Staal, Associate

Rev. Stanislaus Poon, Retired

Rev. Bento Tamang, in residence

Rev. Deacon Bill Archer

Rev. Deacon Rob Federle

Rev. Deacon Dave Rezendes

Pastoral Council |

Consejo Pastoral

Pastoral Council Chair:

Mike Pereira

PC@StMichaelLivermore.com

Fr Carl Arcosa, Eric Hom, Fidelis

Atuegbu, Jo Anne Lindquist, Frank

Draschner, Jeff Andersen, Cynthia

Garay, Alison Wilke and Glenda

Dubsky.

Finance Council |

Consejo Financiero

Finance Council Chair:

Edna McComb

Fr Carl Arcosa, Eric Hom, Edna

McCombe, Analy Palomino, Vanessa

Suarez and Erleene Echon

St. Michael School |

Escuela de San Miguel

925-447-1888 smsliv.org

Faith Formation in

English

925-667-4096

Catecismo en Español

925-667-4096 Niños

925-344-7150 Adultos



Rev. Father Carl Arcosa, Pastor Pastor@StMichaelLivermore.com	925-667-4057
Rev. Father Alfonso Borgen Parochial Vicar Padre@StMichaelLivermore.com	925-667-4053
Rev. Deacon Bill Archer	925-667-4056
Rev. Deacon Dave Rezendes DeaconD@StMichaelLivermore.com	925-447-1585
Eric Hom Business Manager Business@StMichaelLivermore.com	925-667-4052
Jacqueline Garcia, Church Secretary Office@StMichaelLivermore.com	925-447-1585
School Front Office	925-447-1888
Alison Wilkie, School Principal awilkie@csdo.org	925-447-1888
Kathy Hawkins, Bookkeeper Books@StMichaelLivermore.com	925-667-4058
Lourdes Kay, Faith Formation Faith@StMichaelLivermore.com	925-667-4096
Priscilla Stutzman, Religious Ed DRE@StMichaelLivermore.com	925-667-4097
Joseph Garcia, Youth Ministry Youth@StMichaelLivermore.com	925-667-4093
Tina Gregory Communication/Adult Enrichment Contact@StMichaelLivermore.com	925-667-4051
JaNet Hancock, Music Director Music@StMichaelLivermore.com	925-292-5071
Debbie Pizzato, Liturgy Liturgy@StMichaelLivermore.com	925-667-4095
Marjorie Melendez, RCIA RCIA@StMichaelLivermore.com	925-447-2925
Ana Fregoso, RICA ricast.michaelliv@gmail.com	925-344-7150