



St. Michael Catholic Parish

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

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*Whoever loves me
will keep my word,
and my Father
will love them,
and we will come
to them and make our
dwelling with them.*

John 14:23

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 26, 2019



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Unpack Today's Mass Readings



The readings for the Easter season harken back to the first days of Christianity. As we read them, we walk in the footsteps of the first Christians as they try to figure out what it means to follow Christ.

It isn't as if they had all the rules spelled out for them in some sort of "Be a Christian" manual. They had to rely on the working of the Holy Spirit for guidance and discernment. Take one of the first major questions facing the developing church:

Do Christians have to be circumcised? Circumcision was an essential part of the Old Covenant, but was it necessary in the New Covenant of Jesus? After prayerful consideration, the leaders decided that no, circumcision wasn't necessary.

That model of discerning the will of God for the Church continues to this day. The Holy Spirit is with the successors of the apostles: the bishops and Pope, the Magisterium of the Church. In accord with Jesus' promise not to leave us alone, the Spirit remains active even to the present time.

So what does this mean to us? It means that through the teachings of the Church, we can be certain that we are following the authentic teachings of Jesus. We can trust that, with the continued guidance of the Holy Spirit, the Church is passing on and protecting those teachings. That's why we need the Catholic Church—to

help guide our lives so that we might save our souls for eternity and live happy and fulfilled lives today.

Unpack the First Reading Acts 15:1-2, 22-29

In this reading we see the outcome of the first council in Church history. All "ecumenical councils" (world-wide gatherings of the bishops of the Church)—the first of which was held at Nicaea (in present day Turkey) in



the year 325 A.D.—would look to Acts 15 as a prototype. Here, the thorny issue of what the Church should require of Gentile, or non-Jewish converts to the Christian faith, is taken up by the apostles. In Acts 14:8-19, we see how heated this conflict can become with Paul's stoning at Lystra. This recognition that God "had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles" (Acts 14:27) had already been sanctioned by Peter back in Acts 10, when he had a vision showing God's desire to include Gentile believers in this new Way, corroborated when the Holy Spirit fell on Gentiles to whom he was preaching, even prior to Baptism.

In effect, the question for the Je-

rusalem council was, "Must Gentiles convert to Judaism to become Christians? The answer, as just noted, had already been expressed in the ministries of St. Peter and St. Paul. This council of the apostles finds that Gentiles need not be circumcised or observe the requirements of the Mosaic law, that they need only refrain from idolatrous practices that would have been characteristic of the pagans: sacrificing animals to drink their blood, as well as ritualized sexual practices.

(See Leviticus 17 and 18.)

Jews, even today, call this the "Noahide law," which they consider to be sufficient for righteousness among the Gentile peoples who are not bound by the Mosaic law. The Noahide law is that simple law which the Jews believed God had given to all the descendants

of Noah. So, to be a Gentile Christian one need only refrain from idolatry (of course!) and enter the Church by faith and Baptism.

Unpack the Second Reading

Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23

From the council of Jerusalem and the assembly of the apostles in the first reading, we move now to the heavenly Jerusalem whose foundations are the same: "the twelve apostles of the Lamb." The proliferation of twelves in this reading (twelve gates, twelve angels, twelve courses of stones and twelve apostles) remind us that the Church—both of earth and heaven—means not an end to the twelve tribes of Israel, but

the continuation of Israel. That was the issue that troubled the Church of the book of Acts. Is the Church something entirely new or is it just a continuation of the Jewish religion? And, as we have seen, the answer is emphatically "Yes!" That is, it is entirely new with the newness of grace in Christ, and entirely in continuity with God's plan from the beginning for Israel. So the ancient prayer of Israel, "let all the peoples praise thee!" (Psalm 67:5, RSV) is answered affirmatively by Jesus and the Church he founded, in which all the peoples now praise him.

In several verses from Acts 15 not part of our first reading, the Apostle James quotes three prophets of Israel in saying, "After this I will return, and I will rebuild the dwelling of David, which has fallen; I will rebuild its ruins, and I will set it up, that the rest of men may seek the Lord, and all the Gentiles who are called by my name, says the Lord" (Acts 15:16-18, RSV). Jesus is the rebuilt dwelling of David who calls both Jew and Gentile by name and who, as "living stones," builds them up "into a spiritual house" (1 Peter 2:4-5). In its final, glorious form that spiritual house, the New Jerusalem, has no temple,

"for its temple is the Lord God almighty and the Lamb."

Unpack the Gospel

John 14:23-29

Here we see the promise that Jesus made to send His Holy Spirit to "teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you." It is this Spirit, which we await anew in our anticipation of the Solemnity of Pentecost, who is the "living memory" and the "principle of every vital and truly saving action" in the Body of Christ, the Church (CCC 798 and 1099; Pius XII, encyclical, *Mystici Corporis*: DC 3808; Cf. John 14:26). The same Spirit which Jesus promised and then sent when he had returned to the right hand of the Father in heaven inspired the apostles to say in their letter to the Gentile believers that we saw in the first reading, "It is the decision of the Holy Spirit and of us...." When the Church speaks through her appointed teachers, the heirs to the office of the apostles, the Pope and bishops, it is the Holy Spirit who speaks to us, teaches us, advocates for us, leading the Church "to all truth" (John 16:13).

With the Father and Son, the Holy

Spirit comes to dwell in us by Baptism, making each of us a "temple of the holy Spirit" (1 Corinthians 6:19). This surprising promise, that the creator will come to dwell in his creature, is one we ought to constantly return to and rely upon. Great masters of the spiritual life from St. Augustine of Hippo to St. Teresa of Avila remind us that heaven is within us by Baptismal grace. The soul in grace need not go to mountaintops or to the great cathedrals to find God, for he is "more interior to me than my inmost self," and as well "higher than my highest self" (St. Augustine, Confessions III, 6).

Reflect & Discuss

Watch the short Opening the Word video found on the Community tab at StMichael.FORMED.org

According to the Gospel reading, what is the role of the Holy Spirit in the lives of the apostles?

Why might it be difficult for some Catholics today to believe the Holy Spirit continues to guide the teaching of the Church?

Reprinted from Opening the Word Leader Guide with permission from Augustine Institute.

FORMED PICK



Joan of Arc

See Trust and Faith in Action

Join the adventure of the legendary warrior and saint, Joan of Arc, who, at seventeen, led one of the greatest military campaigns for freedom the world has ever witnessed.

Watch free at StMichael.FORMED.org on the "Community" tab



"Inspires perseverance in times of difficulty despite great obstacles."

— Joe D., Attleboro, MA

Pray Throughout the Week



Mass Intentions

Saturday 5/25

8:30am Eduard Thaete †
5:00pm Jack Greene †
7:00pm The Torres Family

Sunday 5/26

6:45am Mass for Our Parish
8:00am Amelia Reyes and
Bella Fontanilla
9:30am Helen Makepeace †
11:00am James Kane
12:30pm Julian Pimentel
6:00pm Anthony Passannante †

Monday 5/27

8:30am Coreen O'Rourke †

Tuesday 5/28

8:30am The Sarboraria Family

Wednesday 5/29

8:30am Melissa Bauman
7:00pm Jack & Bernice Rooney †
John & Kate Egan †

Thursday 5/30

8:30am Kathryn Flemming †

Friday 5/31

8:30am Anthony Pham Van Hoi †
Mary Carothi Ly

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

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



Prayer:

Imagine that you are in the presence of Jesus. He says to you the words he spoke in today's Gospel reading, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid." As you hear his words, ask yourself if there is something troubling you or creating fear. If so, ask Jesus how you can overcome your anxiety. Now calmly pray the following words: "Come, Holy Spirit." Trust and believe that the Holy Spirit is with you, bringing you the peace Jesus promised.

Resolution:

This week, whenever you feel anxious or worried, remember that Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit would be with us through the Church until the end of time. What is one practical thing you can do to remind yourself of that reality?

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



Starting June 1: Rosary Before Every Mass!

Dear St Michael Family,

As our Month of May celebrations for the Blessed Mother Mary come to close, let us continue to grow in knowledge of the importance of the Blessed Mother and her role in the sanctification of the Church and in our pursuit of holiness. Mary's apparitions around the world are holy "wake up calls" for all Christians to shape up and focus on Jesus, Her Son! The messages of our Blessed Mother are private revelations, and they intend only to remind us of what Jesus said and did as revealed to us in the Sacred Scriptures. These messages and reminders were carefully discerned by Church authorities to ensure that they do not contradict Scripture and Sacred Tradition.

Some Marian apparitions and their respective icons have received a Canonical Coronation from the Pope. Most notably are Our Lady of Lourdes, Our Lady of Fátima, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, Our Lady of Manaoag, Our Lady of the Pillar, Our Lady of Walsingham, and many others.

Marian apparitions and devotions are important to the Roman Catholic, Orthodox and Anglican traditions. Most Protestants do not accept them because such devotions are not recorded in the Bible. Because of this, they believe a devotion to Mary may distract attention from Christ. However, a devotion to the Virgin Mary does not amount to worship, which is re-

served only for God. Both the Catholic and Orthodox traditions view Mary as subordinate to Christ, but uniquely so, in that she is seen as above all other creatures.

Adoration or Veneration?

The honor we give to God alone is properly called adoration, the highest honor we can give. The honor we give to Mary and the saints is called veneration. Proper veneration does not interfere with the worship due to God, but rather



fosters it. Pope Paul VI in *Lumen Gentium* said, "Our communion with those in heaven... in no way weakens, but conversely, more thoroughly enriches the worship we give to God the Father, through Christ, in the Spirit."

With this understanding of proper veneration of Mary and her role in our lives, starting June 1, we will pray the Rosary before each Mass on Saturday Vigil and Sundays. As a parish, our intention will be for the protection of human life, from conception to natural death, and

for protection of the sanctity of marriage and family.

On a more practical level, praying the Rosary before Mass will prevent people from chatting inside the church, leading us to a reverent disposition before Mass. It will be a clear witness that church primarily is a place of worship, not a place to have a conversation. We always have the vestibule, breezeway and our courtyard for that purpose.

I need your all-out support on this.

I need people to lead our Rosary at every Saturday evening Mass and every Sunday Mass. If you are a parishioner, a lector or an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, please join me in the crusade in consecrating our parish through the powerful intercession of Mother Mary by reciting the Rosary before our Sunday Masses.

To sign up to lead a Rosary before Mass on Saturday evening or Sunday, see the sign up sheet on the bulletin board at the courtyard entrance to the church. Or contact Glenda Dubsy or Marise Arena at dubskyglenda@gmail.com or marisearena@yahoo.com

"O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee."

And may she continue to shower blessings on you and your families.

Fr Carl

Events Happening This Week



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

Ministry Appreciation Party!

**Thursday, May 30 at 5:30 pm
Courtyard**

If you have volunteered your time this year in any capacity at St Michael's, come let us thank you in person!

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.

First Saturday

**Saturday, June 1 at 8:30 am
Church**

Join us for Mass, Anointing of the Sick, Confessions, Marian Hymns, Rosary and Procession.

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.

ROSARY LEADER SIGN UP!

To sign up to lead a Rosary before Mass on Saturday evening or Sunday, see the sign up sheet on the bulletin board at the courtyard entrance to the church. Or contact Glenda Dubsy or Marise Arena at dubskyglenda@gmail.com or marisearena@yahoo.com

MINISTRY APPRECIATION PARTY!

**May 30
5:30 pm
Courtyard**

RSVP@StMichaelLivermore.com or 925-447-1585

Save These Dates!



Golden Friends Mass & Luncheon

Friday, June 7 at 10 am
Large Hall

Seniors, come celebrate Mass and enjoy fellowship, entertainment, lunch and spiritual growth! Call Mary at 925-784-1812 by noon Thursday the 30th of May to see if space is available.

First Friday

Friday, June 7 at 12:00 pm
Church

Due to growing popularity, Mass will be in the CHURCH at 12:00 pm, followed by Adoration until 3:00 pm. The Chapel will be closed at this time for cleaning.

Holy Ghost Festa

Sunday, June 9 at 10:30 am

Parade at 10:30, followed Mass at 11:00 am. Talent show, free sopas meal and Portuguese folklore group Tempos d'Outroira to follow. Contact: ideslp@outlook.com

Presence

Anytime before June 23
From any browser

As a preparation for Corpus Christi, Fr Carl is asking all parishioners to watch episodes 1, 2 and 3 of *Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist* available free on the community tab at StMichael.FORMED.org

Corpus Christi Candlelight Procession

Saturday, June 22 at 8:00 pm
Church

Meet on the sidewalk in front of the Church to adore and process behind the Blessed Sacrament around the parish property. Bring a candle! Benediction and adoration to follow. Commit to a Holy Hour by signing up outside the chapel. We are offering our Corpus Christi prayers for the return of fallen-away Catholics.

Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Friday, June 28
Church

Celebrate Mass with Act of Consecration and Reparation at 8:30 am in English or 7:00 pm in Spanish.

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





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TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN

SMSLIV.org/admissions

St Michael's Transitional Kindergarten program is unique as it challenges students in a thematic-based curriculum that includes many hands-on creative activities along with rigorous academic emphasis. In addition to teaching the core curriculum in religion, language arts, science, math, and social studies, St. Michael's Transitional Kindergarten program offers enrichment classes in music, art, physical education, and Spanish. Students in our program learn Christian values that become the basis of their religious education and life in Christ.

Transitional Kindergarten at St. Michael School is the first step in a two-part Kindergarten program. It is a full-day program 8:00-3:00. TK students enjoy all the school facilities, events, and hot lunch. They follow the school calendar and tuition schedule.



Thank you for your generous offerings! You are our parish's only source of financial support.

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.

5/19/19 Collection	\$20,275.85
Month-to-Date	\$63,477.92
Month Goal	\$87,058.82
Percentage Reached	73%
Faith Direct	\$6,632.00
Maintenance (for Month)	\$6,840.75



A partir del 1 de junio: ¡Rosario antes de cada misa!

Querida familia de San Miguel,

A medida que nuestras celebraciones del mes de mayo por la Santísima Madre María se cierran, continuemos creciendo en el conocimiento de la importancia de la Santísima Madre y su papel en la santificación de la Iglesia y en nuestra búsqueda de la santidad. Las apariciones de María en todo el mundo son llamadas santas para que todos los cristianos se pongan en forma y se centren en Jesús, su Hijo. Los mensajes de nuestra Santísima Madre son revelaciones privadas, y solo pretenden recordarnos lo que Jesús dijo e hizo como se nos revela en las Sagradas Escrituras. Estos mensajes y recordatorios fueron cuidadosamente discernidos por las autoridades de la Iglesia para asegurar que no contradigan las Escrituras y la Tradición Sagrada.

Algunas apariciones marianas y sus respectivos iconos han recibido una Coronación Canónica del Papa. Las más notables son Nuestra Señora de Lourdes, Nuestra Señora de Fátima, Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, Nuestra Señora del Perpetuo Socorro, Nuestra Señora de Manaoag, Nuestra Señora del Pilar, Nuestra Señora de Walsingham y muchas otras.

Las apariciones y devociones marianas son importantes para las tradiciones en la iglesia católica romana, ortodoxa y anglicana. La mayoría de los protestantes no las aceptan porque tales devociones

no están registradas en la Biblia. Debido a esto, creen que una devoción a María puede distraer la atención de Cristo. Sin embargo, una devoción a la Virgen María no equivale a adorar, que está solo reservado para Dios. Tanto la tradición católica como la ortodoxa ven a María subordinada a Cristo, pero de manera única, en el sentido de que se la ve por encima de todas las demás criaturas.

¿Adoración o veneración?

El honor que le damos solo a Dios se llama apropiadamente adoración, el honor más alto que podemos dar. El honor que le damos a María y los santos se llama veneración. La veneración adecuada no interfiere con la adoración debida a Dios, sino que la fomenta. El Papa Pablo VI en Lumen Gentium dijo: "Nuestra comunión con los del cielo ... de ninguna manera se debilita, pero a la inversa, enriquece más a fondo la adoración que damos a Dios Padre, por medio de Cristo, en el Espíritu".

Con esta comprensión de la veneración adecuada de María y su papel en nuestras vidas, a partir del 1 de junio, rezaremos el Rosario antes de cada misa el sábado, la vigilia y los domingos. Como parroquia, nuestra intención será la protección de la vida humana, desde la concepción hasta la muerte natural, y la protección de la santidad del matrimonio y la familia.

En un nivel más práctico, rezar el Rosario antes de la misa evitará que las personas conversen dentro de la iglesia, lo que nos llevará a

una disposición reverente antes de la misa. Será un claro testimonio de que la iglesia es principalmente un lugar de culto, no un lugar para tener una conversación. Siempre tenemos el vestíbulo, el corredor y nuestro patio para ese propósito.

Necesito su apoyo total en esto.

Necesito personas para dirigir nuestro Rosario en cada misa de los sábados por la noche y en cada misa de los domingos. Si usted es parroquiano, lector o ministro extraordinario de la Sagrada Comunión, únase a mí en la cruzada para consagrar nuestra parroquia a través de la poderosa intercesión de la Madre María recitando el rosario antes de nuestras misas dominicales.

Para inscribirse para dirigir un Rosario antes de la misa el sábado por la noche o el domingo, vea la hoja de registro en el tablón de anuncios en la entrada del patio de la iglesia. O contacte a Glenda Dubsky o Marise Arena al dubskyglenda@gmail.com o marisearena@yahoo.com

"Oh María, concebida sin pecado, ruega por nosotros que recurriremos a ti".

Y que ella continúe derramando bendiciones sobre usted y sus familias.

Padre Carl

ST. MICHAEL

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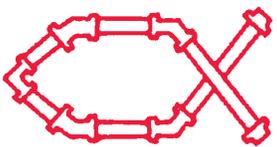
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Tri-Valley **Auto Body**

Information | Información

St. Michael Parish | La Parroquia de San Miguel

458 Maple St, Livermore, CA 94550 925-447-1585 StMichaelLivermore.com

Pastoral Emergencies | Emergencias Pastorales 925-521-4117



Flocknote.com



@StMichaelLivermore



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@StMichael94550

Mass | Misa

Mon-Sat | Lu-Sa 8:30 am

Wed | Mi 7:00 pm (español)

First Friday | Primer viernes
12:00 pm

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

Tagalog

3rd Sun, 3:30 pm

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

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

Eucharistic Adoration |

Adoración Eucarística

24/7 in the Chapel. For after hours
access code, call 775-772-6369.

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
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School Front Office	925-447-1888
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Ana Fregoso, RICA ricast.michaelliv@gmail.com	925-344-7150