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JUNE 30, 2019

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Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

No one who sets a hand to the plow and looks to
what was left behind is fit for the kingdom of God.

Luke 9:62

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Unpack Today's Mass Readings



Long journeys are not always easy, and in today's Gospel reading, we find Jesus embarking on what is the most difficult journey of his life. From here in Luke chapter 9 until Jesus arrives in Jerusalem on Palm Sunday—ten chapters later—Jesus and his disciples will be on the road. And the journey ends in the place where Jesus will be crucified. The ultimate destination for his journey is the cross.

This week's readings remind us that we all face great challenges in the journey of life. And sometimes we can feel worried, discouraged, or very alone in the midst of those difficulties. The readings invite us to ask if we've ever felt like Elijah in today's first reading, who thought he was alone in his faith convictions, or like Jesus himself, who traveled to Jerusalem knowing the hostility, rejection, and suffering he would soon face.

We all know that life can be hard. The Christian life is not about escaping this. It's about facing the difficulties of life head-on, about knowing that suffering does not have the final say because Jesus has conquered suffering and death on the cross. If we have the courage to follow him and face life's challenges knowing that Jesus has gone before us, those sufferings can take on new meaning! That's what the Christian life is all about, and that's what our readings this week illuminate.

Unpack the First Reading 1 Kings 19:15b, 19-21

In this scene we see a small portion of a larger revelation that the great prophet Elijah receives on Mount Horeb (also called Sinai), the place where the twelve tribes of Israel had entered into covenant with God under Moses, and then his calling of the prophet Elisha to succeed him. Elisha prophesied at a very difficult time during which Israel had fallen into apostasy under King



Ahab and his wife Jezebel, rejecting the covenant with God and worshipping Baal and Asherah, the Canaanite god and his consort.

Fasting and praying on the holy mountain, Elijah complains to God, "The people of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thy altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away" (1 Kings 19:14, RSV). God answers Elijah's prayer by promising political help against Ahab and a spiritual heir in Elisha. When called by Elijah, Elisha at first

hesitates, but then he sacrifices his twelve yoke of oxen, feeds them to his people and follows Elijah. This symbol suggests that Elisha is going to aid Elijah in drawing the twelve tribes back into covenant fidelity and that he is willing to give up everything to serve God and his people, even under threat of death. In so doing, he anticipates the words of the psalmist that we pray today: "LORD, my allotted portion and my cup, you have made my destiny secure" (Psalm 16:2).

Unpack the Second Reading Galatians 5:1, 13-18

One of the fundamental laws of Christian discipleship is that we must discipline ourselves to resist evil. Like Elijah in the first reading, we must fast and pray to combat sin. But contrary to common belief, this disciplined living is not a dispassionate stoicism, nor is it born of a moralistic rigorism; it is the fruit of a love born of the Spirit, which leads us into freedom. What St. Paul calls "the desire of the flesh," the tendency known as "concupiscence," which we inherit through original sin, can be like an interior King Ahab or Jezebel, drawing us toward a worship of the Baals of this world. But in Christ, the Father has given us the Spirit of sonship in the Son and so also the freedom of the sons and daughters of the true King (Romans 8:14-17).

When we enter into that freedom from the inner tyrant of "the flesh," we can be disciplined

enough in our love so as not to be tyrants toward others, no longer “devouring and biting one another.” In this way, the curse that David had suffered for his sin, which we saw two weeks ago in the first reading from the Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, “The sword shall never depart from your house,” is lifted in Christ and the Spirit, and we begin to walk in love.

Unpack the Gospel

Luke 9:51-62

When we decide to walk in the Spirit with Jesus, or, as our Gospel passage puts it, when we are “resolutely determined to journey to Jerusalem” with him, we must not hesitate but follow in faith, hope, and love. To follow the poor, obedient, and chaste Christ, we, too, must be poor, obedient, and chaste. That is why the Church has traditionally enjoined upon all Christians what are called the “evangelical counsels.” When we choose to follow Christ we must leave the “dead” (the death of sin) behind to enter into the freedom of the Spirit, and that freedom is signified and fed by the counsels of poverty, chastity, and obedience.

Those who leave everything to follow Jesus in a radical expression of Christian discipleship—such as monks, nuns, friars, and religious sisters—take vows to observe the evangelical counsels in their purity to “go and proclaim the kingdom of God.” But all of us are called to observe the counsels in accord with our particular vocation. St. Francis de Sales says in his *Treatise on Divine Love* that the queen of the virtues, Charity, determines in each case how we should observe them. There is consecrated priestly celibacy, for example, or the absolute poverty of the monk, but husbands and wives are called to live marital chastity and to live simply and modestly to help them love better and place their hope in God alone. If the disciple is to follow Christ toward the new Jerusalem in faith, hope, and charity, he or she needs to exercise the freedom of the counsels to strengthen their faith by obedient living, hope through poverty of spirit, and charity through the school of chastity.

Reflect & Discuss

First, watch the short *Opening the Word* video on FORMED.org. Then reflect and discuss the questions below.

Some Bible translations say that Jesus “set his face” to go to Jerusalem. According to the presenter, Scott Powell, what does this expression mean?

What are some of the excuses that Jesus’ would-be followers give for their unpreparedness to follow him?

Does Jesus seem overly harsh to you in his answers? Why or why not?

In the video reflection, Scott Powell noted how in the first reading, we hear the story of Elijah and Elisha. In his time, Elijah felt alone in his faith, living in the midst of a pagan culture that didn’t acknowledge God. Elijah felt abandoned. What is God’s response to Elijah’s feelings of abandonment?

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

FORMED PICK

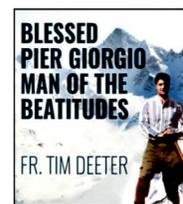
Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati

By Fr. Tim Deeter

Man of the Beatitudes

Born in 1901 in Italy into a family of wealth and status, Pier Giorgio found that deep prayer, service to the poor, and a passion for bringing others to Christ led to a life of purpose, peace, and happiness. Get to know this modern man of virtue.

Listen free at StMichael.FORMED.org



“This audio made me fall in love with this saint. It shows how real he was and inspires me to be just like him.”

—Kasey K., Old Monroe, MO



Pray Throughout the Week



Mass Intentions

Saturday 6/29

8:30am Judy & Bob Boyle
5:00pm Philomene Dhanaswamy
7:00pm Souls in Purgatory

Sunday 6/30

6:45am Virginia Tynan †
8:00am Paul Marcotte
9:30am Pat Miranda †
11:00am Luz Lara
12:30pm Heliodoro Zambrano †
6:00pm Mass for Our Parish

Monday 7/1

8:30am Rosita & Arturo Barina †

Tuesday 7/2

8:30am Raymond Werner †

Wednesday 7/3

8:30am Teresa Nguyen
7:00pm Heliodoro Zambrano †

Thursday 7/4

8:30am Edward & Irene Heise †

Friday 7/5

8:30am Tootie Stoneham †
12:00pm Ivan, Maria & Jozo
Kevesevic

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

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



Prayer Meditation

Place yourself in the Gospel reading by imagining that Jesus is before you, inviting you to follow him. You've just heard his answers to the reasons other people have given for not following him completely. What do you say to him? Do you have some reason you would like to put off following him? Now imagine that Jesus is asking you to "set your face" toward whatever is the greatest difficulty in your life right now. What do you ask of Jesus? What does he tell you?

Resolution

How can you be like Jesus and "set your face" toward whatever difficulties you may be experiencing in your own life? Talk to God about some practical ways that you can move forward.

Special Intentions

For the members of our parish who will prepare to consecrate themselves to Jesus Through Mary, that they may be encouraged and strengthened by our Blessed Mother to surrender all to Lord Jesus.

For parents considering enrolling their children in our parish Faith Formation programs or at St Michael School, that they may receive the guidance of the Holy Spirit in their decision making.

For our country, her citizens, residents and visitors, that Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception, patron of the United States of America, intercede for our intentions.

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

Fr Carl's Message of the Week



CONSECRATION TO JESUS THROUGH MARY

THE ST LOUIS DE MONTFORT METHOD
REGISTER & PICK UP MATERIALS SATURDAY JULY 6
PREPARATION BEGINS SATURDAY JULY 13

Do you wish you had more peace in your life and a sense of purpose? Do you want to live life to the fullest, with lasting happiness? I have good news for you! Jesus wants to give you exactly that and much more, through a relationship with Him. Even better news is this: the fastest and easiest way to grow close to Jesus is through His mother, the Blessed Virgin Mary!

Hello, I'm Father Carl, your pastor at St Michael's. I'm excited to announce that I am encouraging every adult to prepare to consecrate themselves to Jesus through Mary this summer.

Consecration to Jesus through Mary is a wonderful exercise to grow in spirituality and begin or deepen a close, intimate relationship with Jesus. And when you've encountered Jesus, when you have said YES to Him and surrendered all to Him... well that's when you find that peace and joy and purpose that you have been longing for.

Initially, this idea of consecration may seem strange to some. What is consecration? And why consecration through Mary? What does

that even mean?

Consecration means to set aside for a sacred purpose. Mary's life was set aside for the sole purpose of serving our Lord. She was the very first disciple, the first to say yes to Him with her whole life. By following Mary's example, we can give our whole lives to Him too.

St Louis de Montfort, a French priest who lived in the 1700's, was best known for his devotion to Mary. He developed a consecration method that was used by St Pope John Paul II and hundreds of thousands of holy men and women. St Louis preached that if we consecrate ourselves to Jesus through Mary, we will grow in holiness and increase our faith, hope, and love. And that it's the easiest way! He discovered – as did countless other faithful people throughout the centuries – that Mary our Blessed Mother showers us with spiritual gifts to bring us closer to Jesus.

My St Michael family, I want this for you. I want each of you to grow closer to Jesus. I want you to feel the love and joy that comes from a life as an intentional disciple. I want you to experience a life

-changing transformation. And the more who are transformed by Jesus, the more our community will change. Changing the world starts with you and me.

Here's how we will prepare for Consecration to Jesus through Mary: Starting on July 6, register and pick up your materials. On July 13, we will begin to follow St Louis de Montfort's method of spending 33 days in preparation to consecration. We will set aside time each day to pray specific prayers and reflect on topics. We will come to Mass on Saturdays at 8:30 am, followed by an inspiring spiritual talk and ending with praying the Rosary together. Then on Thursday, August 15 the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we will make our Act of Consecration at the 6:00 pm Mass in English, or the 7:30 pm Mass in Spanish.

See the schedule and information on the following page. Share, like and comment to my video to help spread the word!

And may God bless you and your families.

Fr Carl

Living and Growing as Disciples



This Week

Office Closed
July 4 & July 5
Independence Day

First Friday Mass
Friday, July 5
12 pm in the Church
Adoration until 3 pm

First Saturday Mass
Saturday, July 6
8:30 am in the Church
Register for Consecration

Anointing of the Sick
Saturday, July 6
after 8:30 am Mass

Maintenance Collection
July 6 & 7

Drop-In Family Choir
July 7 at the 9:30 am Mass
(meet at 9:00 am in the
Convent)



CONSECRATION TO JESUS THROUGH MARY

THE ST LOUIS DE
MONTFORT METHOD

*Fr Carl encourages ALL adult
parishioners to participate*

Attend Mass on Saturday mornings at 8:30 am, followed by a spiritual talk and rosary. (Don't worry if you can't make every Saturday, but do follow the daily prayers and spiritual exercises on your own.)

July 6: Register and pick up materials after the 8:30 am Mass

July 13: Introductory Talk: Consecration to Jesus through Mary

July 20: Spiritual Talk #2, after the 8:30 am Mass (The Spirit of the World)

July 27: Spiritual Talk #3, after the 8:30 am Mass (Knowledge of Self)

August 3: Spiritual Talk #4 after the 8:30 am Mass (Knowledge of Mary)

August 10: Spiritual Talk #5 after the 8:30 am Mass (Knowledge of Jesus)

August 15: We will consecrate ourselves on The Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary at the 6:00 pm Mass in English, 7:30 pm in Spanish.

Watch Fr Carl's video on the parish website and social media!

Save These Dates!



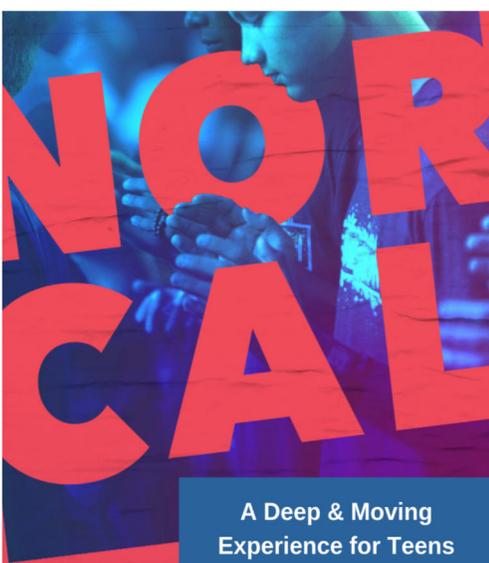
Drop In Family Choir

July 7, August 4, August 25
at the 9:30 am Mass



Learn to Read Music

July 13 from 9 am - noon
in the Convent



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Feast of St Michael the Archangel

September 20 - 29, 2019



Novena of Masses

September 20 - 28

9/20 8:30 am (English)
9/21 5 pm (English) 7 pm (Spanish)
9/22 All Sunday Masses
9/23 7 pm (English)
9/24 7 pm (English)
9/25 7 pm (Spanish)
9/26 7 pm (Spanish)
9/27 7 pm (English)
9/28 10 am

Parish Raffle

Tickets will be on sale soon, and great prizes will be announced. Raffle drawing to be held at the Dinner & Auction. Proceeds go toward repairing the School and Parish parking lots

Dinner & Auction

September 28 at 6 pm

Outdoor seating at St Michael School grounds

Ministry Fair

September 29

9 am - 5 pm in the Church parking lot. Food, Music, Ministry Booths, Entertainment

Welcome, Fr Benjo Fajota!

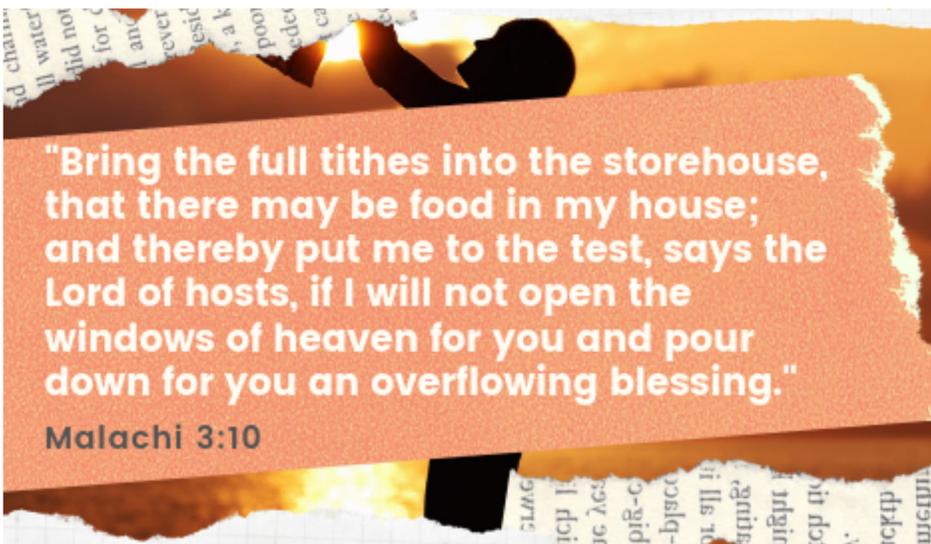
We are happy to welcome Fr Benjo to St Michael's this summer. He will be staying with us from July 1 through September 1, and will be assisting with sacraments and enjoying our Livermore community.

Fr Benjo is from Manilla, Philippines and is studying in Rome. When you see him at Mass, please give him a warm welcome!



Farewell, Brother Paul!

Last weekend, we bid farewell to our seminarian, Brother Paul, as he completed his pastoral year at St Michael's. He now returns to St Patrick's Seminary to continue his formation. Please keep Brother Paul in your prayers! A big thank you goes out to the Welcoming Ministry for putting together a wonderful courtyard reception. Also thanks to our ministries who donated food and helped with set up and clean up.



"Bring the full tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house; and thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing."

Malachi 3:10

Collection Report: June 22

Thank you for your offerings!

6/23/19 Collection	\$16,522.83
Month-to-Date	\$80,111.65
Month Goal	\$108,823.53
Percentage Reached	74%
Faith Direct	\$13,584.75
Maintenance (June)	\$9,146.50



PREPARACIÓN PARA LA CONSAGRACIÓN TOTAL

SEGÚN SAN LUIS MARÍA DE MONTFORT

Consagración a Jesús a través de María

¿Desearía tener más paz en su vida y un sentido de propósito? ¿Quiere vivir la vida al máximo, con una felicidad duradera? ¡Tengo buenas noticias!. Jesús quiere darle exactamente eso y mucho más, a través de una relación con él. Aún mejor noticia es esta: la manera más rápida y fácil de acercarse a Jesús es a través de su madre, la Santísima Virgen María.

Hola, soy el padre Carl, su pastor en San Miguel. Me emociona anunciar que estoy animando a todos los adultos a prepararse para consagrarse a Jesús a través de María este verano.

La consagración a Jesús a través de María es un ejercicio maravilloso para crecer en espiritualidad y comenzar o profundizar una relación cercana e íntima con Jesús. Y cuando se encuentra con Jesús, cuando le dice que SÍ y le entrega todo a él ... bueno, es cuando encuentra la paz, la alegría y el propósito que anhelamos.

Inicialmente, esta idea de consagración puede parecer extraña para algunos. ¿Qué es la consagración? ¿Y por qué la consagración a través de María? ¿Y eso que significa?

La consagración significa apartarse para un propósito sagrado. La vida de María fue puesta a un lado con el único propósito de servir a nuestro Señor. Ella fue la primera discípula, la primera en decirle sí a Él con toda su vida. Al seguir el ejemplo de María, también podemos entregarle toda nuestra vida.

San Luis de Montfort, un sacerdote francés que vivió en la década de 1700, fue mejor conocido por su devoción a María. Desarrolló un método de consagración que fue utilizado por el Papa San Juan Pablo II y cientos de miles de hombres y mujeres santos. San Luis predicó que si nos consagramos a Jesús a través de María, creceremos en santidad y aumentaremos nuestra fe, esperanza y amor. Y esa es la forma más fácil! Descubrió, al igual que muchas otras personas fieles a lo largo de los siglos, que María, nuestra Santísima Madre, nos llena de dones espirituales para acercarnos más a Jesús.

Deseo esto para mi familia de San Miguel. Quiero que cada uno de ustedes se acerque más a Jesús. Quiero que sientan el amor y la alegría que provienen de una vida como discípulo intencional. Quiero que experimenten una transformación que les cambiara la vida. Y

cuantos más sean transformados por Jesús, más cambiará nuestra comunidad. Cambiar el mundo comienza con ustedes y conmigo.

Así es como nos prepararemos para la Consagración de Jesús a través de María: a partir del 6 de julio, regístrese y recoja sus materiales. El 13 de julio, comenzaremos a seguir el método de San Luis de Montfort de pasar 33 días en preparación para la consagración. Dedicaremos tiempo cada día para orar oraciones específicas y reflexionar sobre los temas. Asistiremos a la misa los sábados a las 8:30 am, seguido de una charla espiritual inspiradora y terminando con rezar el Rosario juntos. Luego, el 15 de agosto, solemnidad de la Asunción de la Santísima Virgen María, realizaremos nuestro Acta de Consagración en la Misa de las 6:00 pm en inglés, o la Misa de las 7:30 pm en español.

Vea el horario y la información en la página siguiente. ¡Comparta y comente este video para ayudar a difundir la palabra!

Y que Dios los bendiga a ustedes y a sus familias.

Padre Carl

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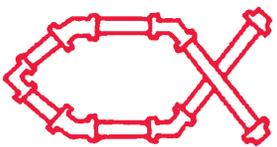
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Mass | Misa

Mon-Sat | Lu-Sa 8:30 am

Wed | Mi 7:00 pm (español)

First Friday | Primer viernes
12:00 pm

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



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Rev. Father Alfonso Borgen Parochial Vicar Padre@StMichaelLivermore.com	925-667-4053
Rev. Deacon Bill Archer	925-667-4056
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