



St. Michael Catholic Parish

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

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WHO IS MY

JULY 14, 2019

NEIGHBOR?

LUKE 10:29

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME



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Unpack Today's Mass Readings

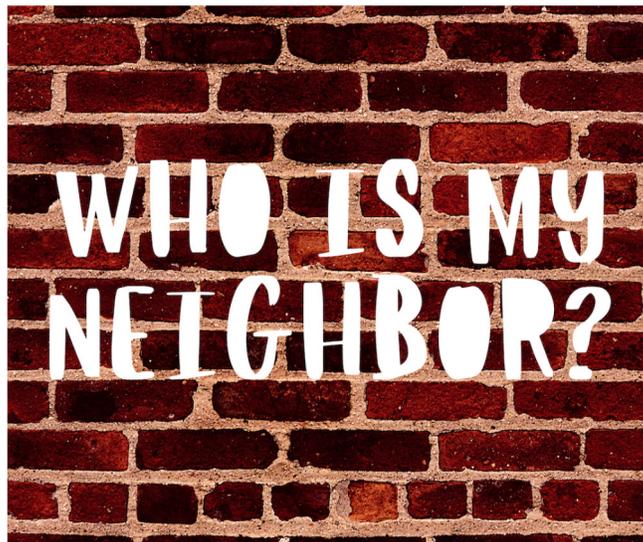


This week we are going to look at one of the most familiar—and most challenging—stories in the Gospels: the good Samaritan. It begins with the “Law” of the Jewish people. At the time, the law consisted of many specific commands. The thought of following and remembering 613 different laws is intimidating by anyone’s standards. But this was what the Jewish people in the time of Jesus were called to do, according to the Old Testament. In Jesus’ time, most good rabbis had what they would call their “yoke.” By this, they meant a summary statement of the entire Old Testament law—all 613 of them! One rabbi was famously challenged to recite the law while standing on one foot. He said “Do to others what you would have done to you. This is the whole law, everything else is just commentary.”

Jesus is doing something similar in the Gospel reading for this Sunday. He asks a would-be follower to tell him what is in the law. The man responds, “You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.” Elsewhere, Jesus summarizes the law this way as well.

In the parable that follows, Jesus seeks to explain what this law means. After a man asks him; “Who is my neighbor?” Jesus proceeds to tell one of his most fa-

mous parables—the story of the good Samaritan. It offers a difficult lesson, one in which our “neighbor” might turn out to be the person we most dislike. Through this story, Jesus redefines holiness—the goal of all those Old Testament laws—as mercy.



Unpack the First Reading Deuteronomy 30:10-14

This portion of Deuteronomy is part of Moses’ long, final commendation to his people before he is told by God that “you are about to sleep with your fathers,” and the still harder message that “this people will rise and play the harlot after the strange gods of the land, where they go to be among them, and they will forsake me and break my covenant which I have made with them” (Deuteronomy. 31:16, RSV). But Moses has given them fair warning to “heed the voice of the LORD,” which, he explains is clear and “very near to you.” Not only is it clearly written in the

book Moses gives them, but it is also in their mouths and hearts.

We sometimes think that religious truths must be sought by searching in distant lands—India, perhaps, or China. Perhaps a Zen master in Japan has the answers to the human quest for esoteric knowledge. But God enters history and explains, first through the Jewish people and then, fully, in Jesus, what he wants of us. He doesn’t keep any secrets. He isn’t interested in playing “gotcha.” He makes it plain, as Moses says later in this same address, that it is simply a matter of choosing between “life and death, blessing and curse” (Deuteronomy 30:19, RSV). In the moral life, the critical issue is not so much knowing what to do as finding the will to do what we

know.

Unpack the Second Reading Colossians 1:15-20

In this beautiful Christological canticle St. Paul explains why Moses can say in our first reading that the command of God is not mysterious and remote, but already in our mouths and hearts. Jesus Christ, who St. John in the prologue to his Gospel calls the Logos, the very Word by which the Father called the universe into being, is the one in whom, through whom, for whom all things were made, such that “in him all things hold together.” Jesus, who is the incarnation of the Second Person of the Most Holy

Trinity, is the very pattern of the universe.

If we have eyes to see, the eyes of faith, then when we look at the ordered and harmonious structure of the material universe we will see him. He is its purpose, its key, its goal. The fullness of the Gospel, as St. Paul preaches it here, is that Jesus is not just our divine Savior who lived and died for our salvation at the center of human history—that is unimaginably fantastic, but not grand enough—he is the whole meaning of the world, the alpha and omega, the beginning and the end. He is the very grammar of the language our tongues speak and the very genetic code that drives the beat of our hearts. To return to the words of Moses, he is “very near” to us indeed.

Unpack the Gospel Luke 10:25-37

Tons of ink has been spilled over the interpretation of this famous parable and little more can be added here. But the critical issue—in keeping with the theme of the first reading, “Heed the voice of the LORD”—seems to

be contained in Jesus’ final words, “Go and do likewise.” This sophisticated scholar of the law who seeks to “test” Jesus and to “justify himself,” has his own convictions tested and is finally moved to see that mercy is the issue and not justice. Even the lawyer’s question itself, “Who is my neighbor?” is turned around by Jesus, who asks instead, “Which of these three...was neighbor to the robbers’ victim?”

That is, the issue is not so much, “Who do I have to treat as my neighbor?”—to which the usual response would have been, “the sons of your own people” (Leviticus 19:18, RSV). The real question is “Have I been neighbor to everyone, treating each as one of my own?” The scholar of the law must himself admit that the hated Samaritan, “the one who treated him with mercy,” is the one who acts as neighbor, to the man, a Jew, who was not one of his “own people.” The word for “mercy” in the Greek is *eleos*, the same word we use in a different form when we say at the start of Mass, *Kyrie eleison*, “Lord, have mercy.” As the Our Father teaches us, we must give mercy to get it,

and so we, like the lawyer, must “go and do likewise.”

Reflect & Discuss

In Jesus’ day, the Samaritans were considered by the Jews to be among the most despised people around. In his parable about the good Samaritan, Jesus contrasts one of these people with a priest and a Levite—those who were supposed to be among the holiest members of Jewish society. Please take 5 minutes to watch the Opening the Word video found on FORMED.org. Then reflect on these questions below and discuss them with a friend.

According to the presenter, why were the Samaritans so disliked in Jesus’ culture?

Why was Jesus’ notion of mercy—as exemplified by this parable of the good Samaritan—so difficult for the people of his time?

Who might be the “Samaritans” in our culture or in our own lives?

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

FORMED PICK

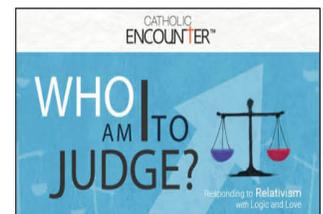
Who Am I to Judge?

Session 1: Don't Impose Your Morality on Me!

Is Morality Relative?

What is “right” and “wrong”? Is what’s right for you right for me? Is there a right and wrong for everyone, all the time? Dr. Edward Sri shares practical responses to these pressing questions in our culture.

Watch free at
StMichael.FORMED.org



“Incredible! This session is very thought-provoking.”

—Diane L., Kuala Lumpur



Pray Throughout the Week



Mass Intentions

Saturday 7/13

8:30am Aurea Dela Rosa †
5:00pm Michael James Bepple †
7:00pm Luis Alberto Muñoz, Jr. †

Sunday 7/14

6:45am Thomas Heise †
8:00am William & Kathleen O'Shey †
9:30am Mass for Our Parish
11:00am James Kane †
12:30pm Emirita Avila Rivas †
Nerea Rios Rodriguez
6:00pm Therese Favro

Monday 7/15

8:30am Annie Smith †

Tuesday 7/16

8:30am Jack & Mildred Wilson †

Wednesday 7/17

8:30am Tom Dayton †
7:00pm Edgar Llacer

Thursday 7/18

8:30am Abundia Villanueva †

Friday 7/19

8:30am Raul Sanchez †
Sonia Evans †

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

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

Who do
YOU
struggle
to love?



Prayer Meditation

Imagine you were in the crowd listening to Jesus' story that day. When Jesus talked about the merciful Samaritan, everyone there had a very clear picture in his or her mind of what Samaritans were like and how they felt about them. Try to imagine what you might be thinking as Jesus begins his parable. How do you feel when you hear Jesus say that if you want to be faithful, you need to focus your love on your most hated enemies? As you listen to him speak, who is the neighbor, or group, or person that you struggle to extend love and mercy to? Now imagine that Jesus comes to you and asks you what you are going to do for the Samaritans in your life. What do you tell him?

Resolution

Ask Jesus to highlight for you the people in your life that you most struggle to love. Try to think of a couple of practical ways that you can extend God's mercy to those people.

Prayer Requests

Please let our Parish Prayer Team pray for you. Send your requests to Prayers@StMichaelLivermore.com. You are also invited to write your prayer intentions in the book of intentions located just inside the Adoration Chapel.

Visit StMichaelLivermore.com/Funerals to view upcoming funerals and pray for the repose of souls.

Fr Carl's Message of the Week



Parish Consecration to Jesus Through Mary

As your pastor, the salvation of souls is my primary duty. It is my job to make our parish truly a spiritual place to encounter Christ and grow in relationship with Him throughout our lives. Creating a social club or an assembly of friends is also important, but it is secondary. Our parish mission is to Celebrate the Sacraments, Grow Disciples and Bring Christ to People. Hence, Consecration to Jesus Through Mary could not be more important and on-mission! But what is it and how do we do it...

Background

St Louis de Montfort was a French priest, ordained in 1700, who was a gifted preacher and founder of the Company of Mary (the Montfort Fathers), a missionary group of priests. He is most known for his devotion to Mary, and for his insistence that the fastest and easiest way to grow close to Jesus is through her. His method of devotion is known as "Total Consecration," "True Devotion," or "Holy Slavery." He preached, "[Mary] of all creatures the one most conformed to Jesus Christ, so it follows that among all devotions that most consecrate and conform a soul to our Lord is devotion to Mary, his Holy Mother, and that the more a soul is consecrated to her the more will it be consecrated to Jesus Christ." What is Total Consecration to Jesus through Mary?

To "consecrate" means to set aside for a holy purpose. If we wish to give our lives totally to Jesus, to allow Him to live and work

through us, this beautiful exercise will increase our ability to truly serve Him. The basic premise set forth by St. Louis de Montfort is simply that Jesus came into the world through Mary and that for us to always be assured of being close to Jesus, even closer than ever before, we should go through Mary. But surrendering ourselves completely to the Lord may seem hard to do! How do we go about it?

How Consecration Works

Following St Louis de Montfort's method, we will take 33 days for personal, daily prayer on specific topics that will lead us to the Act of Consecration. Each day, we will set aside about 20-30 minutes to search our hearts, reflect and pray. Many find it helpful to pray at the same time and in the same place each day. The prayers and reflections can be found in the Consecration book that you receive when you register.

The first 12 days focus on freeing ourselves from the "spirit of the world", or everything that our society and culture tells us is important. Then for 7 days, we reflect on our sins and sorrow for them. After that, we spend 7 days getting to know Mary and 7 days getting to know Jesus. After the 33-day preparation, together we will make the Act of Consecration on August 15 – the Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary – at the 6:00 pm Mass in English or 7:30 pm Mass in Spanish.

Your Next Steps

Day one is Saturday, July 13. If you have not registered and picked up your book, please contact Marise Arena or Glenda Dubsy by email at arenamarise@gmail.com or dubskyglenda@gmail.com. If you missed day one, don't worry! Double up today and commit to the daily prayers and reflections on the remaining days.

Saturday Spiritual Talks by Fr Conrad and Fr Benjo will take place on Saturday mornings after the 8:30 am Mass, from July 13 through August 10. While these 30-minute talks are not required for Consecration, they are designed to support you on this personal retreat. Please come to as many as you can!

Save Thursday, August 15 for your Consecration Day, at either the 6:00 pm Mass in English or 7:30 pm Mass in Spanish. Together at Mass, we will recite our Act of Consecration!

I am excited and hopeful for our parish. This Consecration will transform your life and the lives of others around you. Our whole community will transform, and we will renew this Consecration each year.

In Jesus, through Mary,

Fr Carl



Learn the Rosary



- *Pick up a how-to brochure in the office.*
- *Download an audio Rosary: FORMED.org*
- *Pray along with the prayers you know (the rest will come with time!)*

Register for Faith Formation & Youth Ministry This Weekend & Next

Stop by the info table in the Courtyard after Mass this weekend and next to register your kids age 3 through 12th grade in faith formation programs that start this fall.

Serve Meals at Open Heart Kitchen Wednesday, July 31

Help serve meals to those in need at 4743 East Ave, Livermore from 12:30 pm - 3:30 pm.

Schola Cantorum (Latin Choir) Rehearsal Tuesday, August 6 at 7:00 pm in the Church

All are invited to join us to sing in Latin for the Traditional Latin Mass for Sunday, August 11 at 8:00 am.

Traditional Latin Mass Sunday, August 11 at 8:00 am

Experience the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass celebrated in the Extraordinary Form. For information, see StMichaelLivermore.com/Latin

Holy Day: Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary Thursday, August 15

Vigil Mass on Wednesday, August 14 at 7 pm in Spanish.
Mass on Thursday, August 15 at 7 am, 8:30 am, 12:15 pm and 6 pm in English and 7:30 pm in Spanish.
(We will make our Act of Consecration together at 6 pm or 7:30 pm Mass)

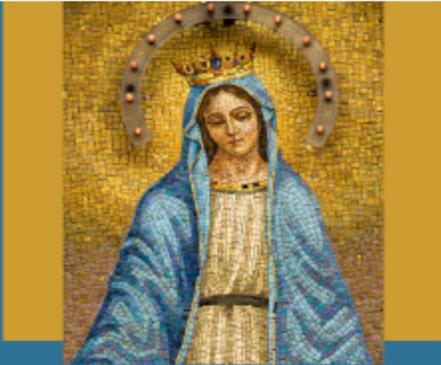
Mass in Tagalog Sunday, July 21 at 3:30 pm

The Filipino Community invites all to celebrate Mass in Tagalog, followed by merienda cena (potluck) at the large hall.

Drop-In Family Choir August 4 & 25 at the 9:30 am Mass

Come sing in the choir with your whole family! Please arrive at the Convent at 9:00 am for a brief review of the music.

Save These Dates!



CONSECRATION TO JESUS THROUGH MARY

Attend Mass on Saturday mornings at 8:30 am if you can, 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 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!



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 8:30 am (English)

Dinner & Auction

September 28 at 6 pm

Outdoor seating at St Michael School grounds

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

Ministry Fair

September 29

9 am - 6 pm in the Church parking lot. Food, Music, Ministry Booths, Entertainment

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Thank you, Latin Mass Choir!

Thank you to our newly formed Schola Cantorum for providing music for our monthly Latin Mass today. New members are always welcome. The next rehearsal is August 6 at 7:00 pm in the church.

For more information, please contact Sarah Marlett at LatinMusic@StMichaelLivermore.com. To learn more about the Traditional Latin Mass, visit StMichaelLivermore.com/Latin

Counter Point

Help for families struggling with addiction and alcoholism

Is your life out of control? Do you have sleepless nights worrying about a family member who suffers from addiction or alcoholism? You are not alone! There is help.

Please come to our Counter Point meetings held on Tuesdays at 7 pm in the "Inquiry Room" at the Convent. Everything you hear and say is held in strict confidence. You will meet families who are suffering or have suffered from the illness or addiction/alcoholism and are in recovery now. This meeting is open to families of all walks of life and every faith.

For more information, contact Rachael at 510-501-1411.

6/30/19 Collection	\$14,427.94
June Total	\$94,479.5
June Goal	\$108,823.53
June Percentage Reached	87%
June Faith Direct	\$13,584.75
Maintenance (for June)	\$9,546.50
7/7/19 Collection	\$17,027.36
July-to-Date	\$17,027.36
Month Goal	\$87,058.82
Percentage Reached	20%
Maintenance (for July)	\$5,666.01
Peter's Pence (Holy Father)	\$2,761.10
St. Vincent de Paul	\$4,521.00
Catholic Communications	\$1,750.10



Consagración parroquial a Jesús a través de María

Como su pastor, la salvación de las almas es mi deber primordial. Mi trabajo es hacer de nuestra parroquia un lugar verdaderamente espiritual para encontrar a Cristo y crecer en relación con Él a lo largo de nuestras vidas. Crear un club social o una asamblea de amigos también es importante, pero es secundario. La misión de nuestra parroquia es celebrar los sacramentos, hacer crecer discípulos y llevar a Cristo a las personas. Por lo tanto, ¡la consagración a Jesús a través de María no podría ser más importante! Pero qué es y cómo lo hacemos ...

Historia

San Luis de Montfort era un sacerdote francés, ordenado en 1700, predicador dotado y fundador de la Compañía de María (los Padres de Montfort), un grupo de sacerdotes misioneros. Él es más conocido por su devoción a María, y por su insistencia en que la manera más rápida y fácil de acercarse a Jesús es a través de ella. Su método de devoción se conoce como "consagración total", "devoción verdadera" o "santa esclavitud". Predicó: "[María] de todas las criaturas es la que mejor se conforma a Jesucristo, por lo que se deduce que entre todas las devociones que más consagra y conforma un alma a nuestro Señor es la devoción a María, su Santa Madre, y que cuanto más se consagra un alma a ella, más estará consagrada a Jesucristo". ¿Qué es la consagración total a Jesús a través de María?

"Consagrar" significa apartarse para un propósito sagrado. Si deseamos entregar nuestras vidas total-

mente a Jesús, permitirle que viva y trabaje a través de nosotros, este hermoso ejercicio aumentará nuestra capacidad de servirle verdaderamente. La premisa básica establecida por San Luis de Montfort es simplemente que Jesús vino al mundo a través de María y que, para que siempre tengamos la seguridad de estar cerca de Jesús, aún más cerca que nunca, debemos pasar por María. ¡Pero rendirnos completamente al Señor puede parecer difícil de hacer! ¿Cómo lo hacemos?

Cómo funciona la consagración

Siguiendo el método de San Luis de Montfort, tomaremos 33 días para la oración personal y diaria sobre temas específicos que nos conducirán al Acta de Consagración. Cada día, dedicaremos unos 20-30 minutos para buscar en nuestros corazones, reflexionar y orar. A muchos les resulta útil orar al mismo tiempo y en el mismo lugar cada día. Las oraciones y las reflexiones se pueden encontrar en el libro de Consagración que puede recoger después de la misa.

Los primeros 12 días se centran en liberarnos del "espíritu del mundo", o todo lo que nuestra sociedad y nuestra cultura nos dicen que es importante. Luego por 7 días reflexionamos sobre nuestros pecados y nuestra tristeza por ellos. Después de eso, pasamos 7 días para conocer a María y 7 días para conocer a Jesús. Después de los 33 días de preparación, juntos haremos el Acta de Consagración el 15 de agosto, la Solemnidad de la Asunción de María, en la Misa de las 6:00 pm en inglés o de las 7:30

PM en español.

Tus próximos pasos

El primer día es el sábado, 13 de julio. Si no se ha registrado y no ha recogido su libro, comuníquese con Marise Arena arenamarise@gmail.com o con Glenda Dubskey dubskeyglenda@gmail.com. Si se perdió el primer día, ¡no se preocupe! Duplíquese hoy y comprométase con las oraciones y reflexiones diarias sobre los días restantes.

Las charlas espirituales del sábado por parte del padre Conrad y el padre Benjo se llevarán a cabo los sábados por la mañana después de la misa de las 8:30 am, del 13 de julio al 10 de agosto. Si bien estas conversaciones de 30 minutos no son necesarias para la consagración, están diseñadas para apoyarle en este Retiro personal. ¡Por favor, vaya a tantas como pueda!

Guarde el jueves 15 de agosto para su Día de la Consagración, ya sea en la Misa de las 6:00 pm en inglés o en la Misa de las 7:30 pm en español. ¡Juntos en la Misa, recitaremos nuestro Acta de Consagración!

Estoy emocionado y esperanzado por nuestra parroquia. Esta consagración transformará su vida y la vida de otros a su alrededor. Toda nuestra comunidad se transformará, y renovaremos esta Consagración cada año.

En Jesús, a través de María,
Padre Carl

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Information | Información

St. Michael Parish | La Parroquia de San Miguel

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Pastoral Emergencies | Emergencias Pastorales 925-521-4117



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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

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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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