



## St. Michael Catholic Parish

Where we celebrate the sacraments, grow disciples, and bring Christ to people.

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# Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**July 16, 2017**

A sower went out to sow.  
Some seed fell on the path . . . some fell on rocky ground.  
. . . Some seed fell among thorns.  
. . . But some fell on rich soil, and produced fruit.

Matthew 13:3, 4, 5, 7, 8

# The Soil of Our Lives

## First Reading

***My word will achieve the end for which it was sent (Isaiah 55:10-11).***

The reasons the Church would pair text from Isaiah with the parable of the sower from Matthew 13 are obvious. The seed of the sower is the Word of Truth that Jesus himself brings in the Gospel. And, as Isaiah says in chapter 55, that word will not be sterile, but will be food and drink, bread, wine, water, and milk, for those who hunger and thirst. The Word that the Father sows in the earth (recall Jesus is laid in a tomb) will sprout, like the mustard seed or a grain of wheat that dies, and yield a tremendous harvest of souls. That seed of faith is watered by a constant rain of grace from above yielding bread for all.

St. Peter Chrysologus extends this metaphor in his description of the Eucharist in one of his sermons: “[Christ] himself is the bread who, sown in the Virgin, raised up in the flesh, kneaded in the Passion, baked in the oven of the tomb, reserved in churches, brought to altars, furnishes the faithful each day with food from heaven” (CCC 2837).

## Second Reading

***We, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan within ourselves awaiting the redemption of our bodies (Romans 8:18-23).***

In this text from Romans, St. Paul points us toward the fullness of the Kingdom that will eventually be revealed in Christ. Though Jesus and his Gospel have been sown in the

world already, the life of grace we now enjoy in the Church is expressive of the Kingdom in “seed and beginning,” as the Catechism puts it (CCC 541). While the gifts we share in the Church are wondrous, we still fight against our own concupiscence, which makes us “captive to the law of sin” (Romans 7:23). One day we will be entirely free of that weakness, and the full work of Christ which has been germinating, and growing will be disclosed in full.



That “glorious freedom of the children of God” will mean a change, not only in the souls of men, but also in the rest of creation. Just as Adam’s sin brought sickness, death, and the natural forces that work against us into the world, so also, when we are freed from these forces, the natural world itself will be healed of the weaknesses that human sin introduced into it. St. Peter says that we “waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire! But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness dwells” (2 Peter 3:12-13; RSV: 2CE).

## Gospel Reading

***Some seed fell on rich soil and produced fruit (Matthew 13:1-23 [1-9]).***

This parable from Matthew’s Gospel and its explanation is often misunderstood. To some it sounds as though Jesus is saying that he specifically intends that some of his hearers will fail to understand him and so miss the salvation he brings! That, of course, is not what this Gospel means. (Recall that God “desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth,” 1 Timothy 2:4; RSV: 2CE) The key to unlocking the meaning of Jesus’s words is to recognize how parables function.

“Why do you speak to them in parables?” the disciples ask. Jesus responds, “Because knowledge of the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven has been granted to you, but to them it has not been granted.”

While that last phrase, “to them it has not been granted,” might suggest that God has withheld something that makes understanding the parable possible, in fact—and this is made clear in the parable of the sower he tells—the reception of the meaning of the parable depends upon our free decision to be cultivated by God’s grace. The good soil (we could say the good soul) that receives the seed (which is the word of the parable itself) is willing to be tilled by God’s grace. That is why Jesus says, “To anyone who has [in other words, anyone who has freely received God’s grace] more will be given.” But Jesus also warns that “from anyone who has not [that is, has refused to receive God’s grace] even what he has will be taken away.” We are given the choice: either to become “good soil” and receive the riches of grace, or to reject God’s Word.

# Grow in Discipleship

**W**hen we hear the parable of the sower and seed, it can be easy to assume it is meant for someone else. After all, we are good soil, right?

This week we are challenged to look a bit more deeply at our own lives and assess just what kind of soil we really are. All too often, many things like sin, busyness, worry, work, and other activities keep us from receiving fully the teachings of Christ. Our initial excitement and enthusiasm for the Gospel can give way to a sort of dull acceptance. The good seed that was sown in our lives can begin to wither and die. The soil of our lives isn't all that good.

But it doesn't have to be that way. God, the Divine Sower, is always willing to sow new seeds in our lives. However, just as a lot of work goes into preparing—and tending—the soil of an actual garden, so too we have to make sure that the soil of our

souls is prepared and cared for so that we can be in the right frame of mind and heart to receive the Word of God in new and deeper ways, now and for the rest of our lives.

## Discussion

Listen to what the *Opening the Word* presenter on FORMED.org has to say about this parable.

According to the video, why must we be “ready soil” to receive the Word of God?

Why do you think that Jesus told this parable to the crowd? Why did he tell it to his disciples?

## DIGGING DEEPER: Crops of Israel

What would the sower in the parable have been planting? Grains, such as wheat and barley, lentils, chickpeas,

onions, cucumbers, melons, flax, and spices were grown in Israel in Jesus's time, along with dates, pomegranates, almonds, and grapes.



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# Mass

## Intentions

### Saturday 7/15

- 8:30am Alfred Fejerang  
Antony Pham Van Hoi †
- 5:00pm Andrew P. Porter  
Mary Watkins †
- 7:00pm Francisco Silva Trujillo †

### Sunday 7/16

- 6:45am Melanie Maher †
- 8:00am Mildred Wilson †  
Tom Heise †
- 9:30am Betty Hamstrong †  
Juanita †
- 11:00am Cindy Collver †
- 12:30pm Ruby Soto
- 6:00pm Antony Pham Van Hoi †

### Monday 7/17

- 8:30am Paula, Trully and Dennis †  
Gerald McGrath †

### Tuesday 7/18

- 8:30am Stephen Vorwerk †  
Julio, Isabel, Betty & Lynn †

### Wednesday 7/19

- 8:30am Antony Pham Van Hoi †  
The Soto Valencia Family †  
Families of 911 †

### Thursday 7/20

- 8:30am Apollo B. Gorospe  
Raul Santamaria †  
Danilo Tiojanco †

### Friday 7/21

- 8:30am Betty Hamstrong †  
Juanita †  
Alfredo R. Gorospe †

**To request a Mass intention, please visit the church office.**

# Prayers & Devotion

Are you a hard path, where the birds of doubt devour the seed of faith as soon as it is sown? Do you have in your soul some rocky ground, where the seed of good works sprouts quickly but soon withers under trial or suffering? Do you have in your soul some thorny soil, in which material possessions and worldly concerns choke off good intentions as soon as they come to you? Or do you have rich soil, ready and willing to accept the Word of the Lord and let it take root to transform your entire life? Now ask Jesus, the Divine Gardener, to help you prepare the soil of your heart and mind in a way that will produce abundant fruit.



### **RESOLUTION:**

If the soil of your life isn't the way you would like it to be, prayerfully ask the Lord about one thing you can do to till the hardness of doubt, remove the rocks of sin, or pull out the thorns of worry and materialism. And then ask God to give you the grace to follow through on this intention this week. Use your journal to write down your thoughts and reflections and your resolutions.

## Prayers of Thanksgiving!

### Newly Married

Salavador & Elia and Misael & Carolina

### Newly Baptized

Amelia B, Kayla B, Lorenzo B, Zion C, Adam L, Daniel M, Aaron O, Lucas T, Loraine V and Raven V.

## Parish Prayer Requests

For the repose of the soul of Dorothy Cavalli, and for consolation for her family and friends.

For Fr. Alfonso, as he prepares to join St Michael's in August.

For healing for all those who are suffering in body, mind and spirit.

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

# News & Announcements

## Register Your Kids Help them Grow in Faith!

**1st-5th Grade Faith Formation & First Communion:** Classes in English will be on Wednesdays at 4:00-5:30 pm or 6:00-7:30 pm, beginning October 4th. Classes in Spanish will be on Fridays at 5:00-6:30 pm, beginning October 6th. Deadline to register is September 6.

**Teen Confirmation:** Classes will be on Mondays at 6:00—8:00 pm starting September 18, or Sundays at 2:00-4:00 pm starting September 24th. Deadline to register is August 21 (second year students are automatically enrolled into the program and do not need to register again.)

**Middle School Ministry:** 6th - 8th grade Middle School Edge Youth Ministry will meet on Thursdays at 6:30-8:00 pm, starting on October 5. No deadlines, just drop in to register!

Pick up registration forms at the Faith Formation Office, Church Office or download at [StMichaelLivermore.com/FaithFormation](http://StMichaelLivermore.com/FaithFormation) Got questions? Contact Lourdes at 925-667-4096 [Faith@StMichaelLivermore.com](mailto:Faith@StMichaelLivermore.com)

## Cemetery & Funeral Advance Planning Summer Promotion

Catholic Funeral and Cemetery Services is offering a Summer Promotion at all of its locations. Together with the parish discount, all pre-need cemetery purchases are 10% off with extended financing terms at zero interest. In addition, there is a similar discount on pre-need funeral services. Please contact Frank Draschner at 925-784-6666 for details.

Promotion applicable July 1st thru Sept. 30, 2017.

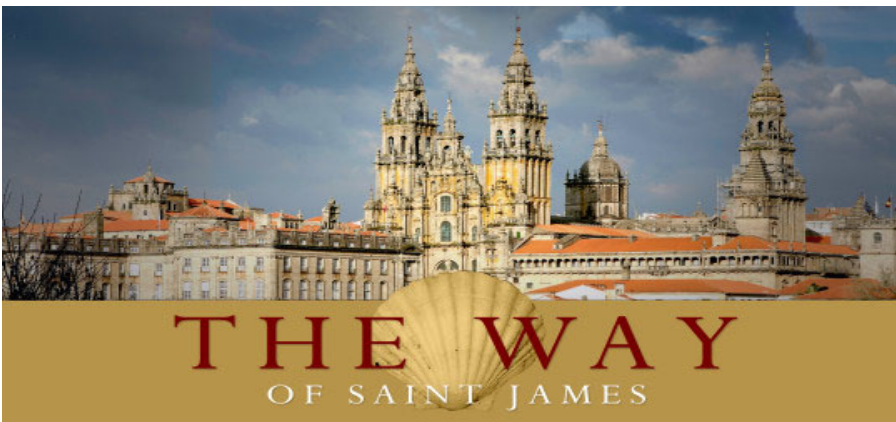
## Collection Report

July 9 Collection	\$17,756.30
Month to Date	\$35,395.43
Monthly Goal	\$107,843.14
Percentage reached	33%
Maintenance for July	\$6,891.80

## Bishop's Appeal Update

The Annual Bishop's Appeal in the Diocese of Oakland is one way to serve our fellow parishioners and the broader community as we demonstrate our unity as Catholics of the Diocese of Oakland. Our parish goal is to raise \$61,694. To date, we have contributed \$37,712 (61% of our goal).

Donate online at [bit.ly/BishopAppeal](http://bit.ly/BishopAppeal)



## July 25 is the Feast of St James

It is a perfect opportunity to watch *The Way of St James* free at [FORMED.org](http://FORMED.org).

Over the lovely "Camino de Santiago," the Way of St. James, which is the ancient route leading from the Pyrenees to the famous and ancient shrine of Santiago de Compostela, this documentary follows the journey of several pilgrims who differ in culture and religious faith, united

only by a mysterious attraction towards the same spiritual destination.

St James, Apostle, pray for us.

**Find The Way of Saint James at [FORMED.org](http://FORMED.org), under "Watch" then "Special Topics" or use the search bar.**

**Don't have a FORMED account? See Page 3 for instructions how to get set up.**

# This Week

## MONDAY, JULY 17

**Readings:** Ex 1:8-14, 22; Ps 124:1b-8; Mt 10:34 -- 11:1

**Events:**

*Register your kids* for Faith Formation & First Communion prep, Middle School Ministry and Teen Confirmation! Visit [StMichaelLivermore.com/Faith Formation](http://StMichaelLivermore.com/Faith-Formation)

## THURSDAY, JULY 20

**St. Apollinaris**

**Readings:** Ex 3:13-20; Ps 105:1, 5, 8-9, 24-27; Mt 11:28-30

**Suggestion:**

*Daily Mass* can make a difference in your whole week! See if you can make it to Mass at 8:30 am.

## SUNDAY, JULY 23

**Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Readings:** Wis 12:13, 16-19; Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16; Rom 8:26-27; Mt 13:24-43 [24-30]

**Events:**

*Tri Valley Young Adults* gather for the 9:30 am Mass followed by brunch. Meet some new friends! Questions? [trivalleyyam@gmail.com](mailto:trivalleyyam@gmail.com)

*In the readings*, we will hear three of Jesus's most famous parables: the sower and the seed, the mustard seed, and the yeast in the three measures of flour. You might say they are stories about faith and how it grows and develops. This is correct, but they also have something else in common: the theme of patience.

## TUESDAY, JULY 18

**St. Camillus de Lellis**

**Readings:** Ex 2:1-15a; Ps 69:3, 14, 30-31, 33-34; Mt 11:20-24

**Suggestion:**

*The Young People's Book of Saints* is available to download free at [FORMED.org](http://FORMED.org) under "Read" then "Youth"

## FRIDAY, JULY 21

**St. Lawrence of Brindisi**

**Readings:** Ex 11:10 -- 12:14; Ps 116:12-13, 15, 16bc, 17-18; Mt 12:1-8

**Suggestion:**

*Visit the Perpetual Adoration Chapel* and pour out your heart, your joys and worries, to Jesus who is waiting for you.

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 19

**Readings:** Ex 3:1-6, 9-12; Ps 103:1b-4, 6-7; Mt 11:25-27

**Events:**

*Afternoon Confession* at 2:30 pm in the Convent.

*Discover the Catholic Faith Inquiry* Meetings at 7:00 pm in the Convent, for adults considering the Catholic faith or completing sacraments.

## SATURDAY, JULY 22

**St. Mary Magdalene**

**Readings:** Ex 12:37-42; Ps 136:1, 23-24, 10-15; Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

**Suggestion:**

*The Resurrection of Jesus: Fact or Fiction* is an audio talk free on [FORMED.org](http://FORMED.org) exploring the resurrection narratives. Perfect for Mary Magdalene's feast day!

## On the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, watch...

### Catholicism Series Session 4: Our Tainted Nature's Solitary Boast



In this episode, Bishop Barron masterfully correlates the Catholic Faith's testimony to the revelation of God in Christ with the vivid practices of reverence offered to his Mother. Mary is explained as "an on-going presence, an actor in the life of the Church." Bishop Barron journeys to the humble remains of Mary's house in Nazareth, to the ruins of the ancient city of Ephesus, and to the great Marian shrines of Lourdes and Guadalupe to explain the Church's teachings about Mary as the Mother of God, the Immaculate Conception, and the dogma of the Assumption.

*Watch this episode FREE at [FORMED.org](http://FORMED.org). If you do not yet have an account, click "register with parish code" and enter P4XNPZ to create one.*

# Upcoming

## Safe Environment In-Person Training Thurs, July 27 at 6 pm

If you are a volunteer in any ministry (regardless if you work directly with children or not), the Diocese of Oakland requires you to complete Safe Environment Training.

This "in-person" training opportunity at 6:00 pm in the Church is for those who did not complete the online training earlier this year.

***If you completed the online course, you do not need to attend this training.***

## Backpack Delivery Day Sat, August 12

If you are 18 or older you are eligible to deliver backpacks to kids at their homes. Meet us at the Church of the Latter Day Saints (Mormon Church), 1501 Hillcrest Ave, Livermore, at 9 am on August 12.

Our very own Father Van will be with us to bless all 1400 backpacks, the children who will get them and you!

Thank you to those who donated money, to those who donated time, to those who carried, lugged, sorted, counted, packed and helped in so many ways!

Contact: [ernestina.shay@comcast.net](mailto:ernestina.shay@comcast.net)  
or [lynnmacedo@icloud.com](mailto:lynnmacedo@icloud.com)

## Confirmation Preparation Classes for Adults Wed, September 6

If you are...

- at least 18 years old
- baptized, practicing Catholic
- have received your first Holy Communion
- living the marriage disciplines of the Church
- have never been confirmed

... then this is the group for you! Classes will begin on Wednesday, September 6 at 7:30 pm in the Convent. Call or email for more info, or just plan to attend on September 6.

Marjorie Melendez 925-447-2925  
[RCIA@stmichaellivermore.com](mailto:RCIA@stmichaellivermore.com)



## Summer Office Hours

June 21-July 28

Church Office

Summer Hours

9:00 am—12:00 pm

1:00 pm—4:00 pm

## SAVE September 30 October 1

Come out and join us for the most delicious variety of ethnic food, representing our diverse community and fun and games for the whole family. We will be celebrating our patron, St Michael, and kicking off the Centennial Year for our church.

**Hours of Operation:** Saturday, September 30th from 11-9:30pm and Sunday, October 1st from 10-4pm.

Want to help make this year's Fall Festival a roaring success? Sponsor a booth, volunteer, donate to the auction, buy raffle tickets!

Email [Festival@StMichaelLivermore.com](mailto:Festival@StMichaelLivermore.com) to see how you can be a part of this historic event.



# Noticias Parroquiales

## ***La matriculación ya esta disponible***

**Formación de fe grados 1-5**

**Ministerio de la juventud de secundaria**

**confirmación de adolescentes**



**Grados 1-5:** Clases en inglés serán miércoles 4:00-5:30 o 6:00-7:30, comenzando el 4 de Octubre. Clases en Español serán los viernes de 5:00-6:30, empezar el 6 de Octubre. Fecha límite para inscribirse es el 6 de Septiembre.

**Confirmación de adolescentes:** clases serán los Lunes a 6:00 – 8:00 comenzando 18 de Septiembre o los Domingos comenzando el 24 de Septiembre. 2:00-4:00, Fecha límite es para inscribirse es el 21 de Agosto (segundo año los estudiantes están inscritos automáticamente en el programa y no necesita registrarse de nuevo.)

**Ministerio de la escuela media:** 6-8º grado secundaria borde Ministerio de la juventud reunirá el Jueves a las 6:30-8:00, a partir del 5 de Octubre. No hay plazos, sólo caer registrarse!

**Formularios de inscripción en la oficina de formación de fe, oficina de la iglesia o descargar en [StMichaelLivermore.com/FaithFormation](http://StMichaelLivermore.com/FaithFormation)**

**tienes preguntas? Comunicarse con Lourdes en el 925-667-4096 [Faith@StMichaelLivermore.com](mailto:Faith@StMichaelLivermore.com)**



**¡Importante!**

**No habra ninguna misa los miércoles por la noche durante el mes de julio.**

**El Rev. Alfonso Borgen, OFM Conv, será el nuevo Vicario Parroquial de la Parroquia San Miguel, Livermore Efectivo 1de Agosto del 2017**



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# Reflexiones

## En la fiesta de nuestra Señora del Monte Carmelo, ver...

**Catolicismo serie sesión 4:  
Se jactan solitario de nuestra  
naturaleza corrompida.**

En este episodio, obispo Barron correlaciona magistralmente el testimonio de la fe católica a la revelación de Dios en Cristo con las prácticas vivas de reverencia a su madre. María se explica como "una presencia permanente, un actor en la vida de la iglesia." Viajes de obispo Barron a los humildes restos de la casa de María en Nazaret, a las ruinas de la antigua ciudad de Éfeso y a los grandes santuarios marianos de Lourdes y Guadalupe para explicar las enseñanzas de la iglesia sobre María como la madre de Dios, la Inmaculada Concepción, el dogma de la Asunción.

*Ver este episodio gratis en FORMED.org. Si todavía no tienes una cuenta, haga clic en "registrarse con el código de la parroquia" y entrar en P4XNPZ para crear uno.*



## En la fiesta de nuestra Señora del Monte Carmelo, ver...

Series de Catolicismo - Sesión 4:  
Nuestra naturaleza corrupta.

En este episodio, el Obispo Barron correlaciona magistralmente el testimonio de la fe católica y la revelación de Dios en Cristo, con las prácticas de reverencia ofrecidas a su madre. María es explicada como "una presencia permanente, un actor en la vida de la iglesia". El viaje del obispo Barron a los humildes restos de la casa de María en Nazaret, a las ruinas de la antigua ciudad de Éfeso y a los grandes santuarios marianos de Lourdes y Guadalupe para explicar las enseñanzas de la iglesia sobre María como la madre de Dios, la Inmaculada Concepción y el dogma de la Asunción.

Se puede ver este episodio gratis en FORMED.org. Si todavía no tiene una cuenta, haga clic en "registrarse con el código de la parroquia" y entrar en P4XNPZ para crear uno.

## EXCEPTO el 30 de septiembre al 1 de octubre

Unase a nosotros para la más deliciosa variedad de comida étnica, representante de nuestra diversa comunidad, con diversión y juegos para toda la familia. Celebraremos a nuestro patrono, St Michael y lanzaremos el año del centenario de nuestra iglesia.

Horario de atención: el sábado, 30 de septiembre de 11-21:30 y el domingo 1 de octubre de 10-16:00.

¿Desea ayudar en el Festival de otoño de este año para que sea un éxito rotundo? Puede patrocinar un stand, ofrecerse como voluntario, donar a la subasta, comprar boletos de la rifa! Correo electrónico Festival@StMichaelLivermore.com para ver cómo puede ser parte de este evento histórico.



## Registración de Flocknote

Regístrese para recibir anuncios especiales de San Miguel en español a través de texto o correo electrónico. Sólo mandar texto MIGUEL al 202-765-3441.

## Consulte el sitio web en español

...para las noticias y actualizaciones de la parroquia!

**StMichaelLivermore.com/espanol**

## Boletín en Español

Para obtener información en español sobre eventos y noticias de nuestra parroquia. Si están interesados en agregar o presentar un artículo en el boletín en español, por favor contactar a Brenda Zavala 510-691-2864

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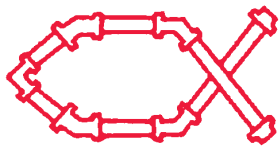
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# Information | Información

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

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StMichaelLivermore.com | StMichaelLivermore.com/español



Flocknote.com/sml



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### Mass | Misa

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

**Wed | Mi** 7:00 pm (español)

**Sat Vigil | Vigilia del Sábado**

5:00 pm (English), 7:00 pm (español)

**Sunday | Domingo**

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

**Sign Language | Lenguaje por Señas**

1st Sun, 11:00 am

Primer domingo a las 11:00 am

**Vietnamese | Vietnamita**

4th Sun, 3:30 pm

Cuarto domingo a las 3:30 pm

### Confession | Confesión

**Saturday, in the church |**

**Sábado en la iglesia**

9:00 am & 3:45 pm in English

6:15 pm en español

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

**Anointing of the Sick |**

**Unción de los Enfermos**

1st Saturday after 8:30 am Mass or by

appointment: 925-447-1585 |

1er sábado después de las 8:30 am Misa

o con cita previa: 925-447-1585

**Eucharistic Adoration |**

**Adoración Eucarística**

24/7 in the Chapel. For after hours

access code, call 925-980-4826 |

24/7 en la Capilla. Para el código de

acceso después de las horas, llame al

925-980-4826

### Clergy | Clero

Rev. Van Dinh, Pastor

Rev. Rafael Hinojosa, Parochial  
Vicar

Rev. David Staal, Associate

Rev. Alfred Amos, In Residence

Rev. Stanislaus Poon, Retired

Rev. Deacon Bill Archer

Rev. Deacon Rob Federle

Rev. Deacon Dave Rezendes

Rev. Deacon Bob Vince

### Pastoral Council |

#### Consejo Pastoral

Pastoral Council Chair: Mike Pereira

michaelpereira@comcast.net

Fr. Van, Fr. Rafael, Eric Hom, Ricardo

Echon, Fidelis Atuegbu, Jo Anne

Lindquist, Dave Parks, Frank

Draschner, Ken Varallo, Irving Gar-

cia, Cynthia Garay and Glenda

Dubsky.

### Finance Council |

#### Consejo Financiero

Finance Council Chair: Dave Ruth

daveruth@alrinc.com

Fr. Van Dinh, Fr. Rafael Hinojosa,

Eric Hom, Cynthia Garay, Edna

McCombe, Analy Palomino, Vanessa

Suarez

### St. Michael School |

#### Escuela de San Miguel

925-447-1888 smsliv.org

### Faith Formation in

#### English

925-667-4096

### Catecismo en Español

925-453-6494 Niños

925-344-7150 Adultos

### Boletín en Español

510-691-2864



## New Direct Phone Numbers!

Fr Van Dinh, Pastor	925-667-4057
Parochial Vicar	
Eric Hom, Business	925-667-4052
Deacon Bill Archer	925-667-4056
Kathy Hawkins, Bookkeeper	925-667-4058
Church Front Office	925-447-1585
School Front Office	925-447-1888
Lourdes Kay, Faith Formation	925-667-4096
Priscilla Stutzman, DRE	925-667-4097
Youth Minister	
Tina Gregory, Communication	925-667-4051
JaNet Hancock, Music	925-292-5071
Debbie Pizzato, Liturgy	925-667-4095
Marjorie Melendez, RCIA	925-447-2925
Ana Fregoso, RICA	925-344-7150