



St. Michael Catholic Parish

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JULY
28
2019

*Father,
hallowed be
your name,
your kingdom come.*

LUKE 11:3

**SEVENTEENTH
SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

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Unpack Today's Mass Readings



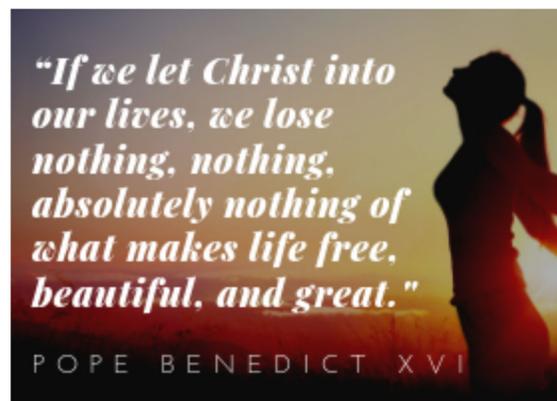
This week's Gospel reading begins with Jesus teaching his disciples...and by extension all of us... how to pray to God as "Our Father." Through those words that most of us know by heart, we acknowledge our relationship as one of a beloved child coming to ask a loving parent for the things we need.

But immediately after the "Our Father," Jesus tells the parable of the man who asks his neighbor for bread in the middle of the night, a story that contains the famous line: "For everyone who asks, receives; and the one who seeks, finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened" (Luke 11:10). At first, the two don't seem like they go together, but Jesus is giving us another important truth: God is our Father, but God is also our friend.

This dual relationship - Father and friend - is important for us to understand for our prayer life. At the center of this mystery is the reality that God desires to be "in relationship" with us, connecting with us heart to heart. And as we are drawn deeper and deeper into that relationship, we will experience an ever-increasing friendship with God and a growing confidence in approaching him with our needs and the needs of others. In short, we will learn to be with God both as Father and friend.

Unpack the First Reading Genesis 18:20-32

Abraham in this reading gives us a picture of mediatorial or intercessory prayer. The issue he raises to God is one of justice, suggesting that it would be unjust if God were to punish everyone in the city if anyone in it were innocent. As it happens, there are not even the ten just men in the city that would be required to tip the balance in favor of leniency. In Genesis 19:4 we read, "Before they went to bed, all the townsmen of Sodom, both young and old - all the people to the last man - closed in on the house."



They call out to Lot to surrender his two guests (the angels to which Lot had given hospitality), intending to engage in unnatural sexual acts with them. The angels warn Lot and his wife and two daughters of God's intention to destroy the cities of the plain for their immorality and help them flee to another town.

Even though Abraham's prayer dialogue seems not to have its desired effect of allaying God's wrath, we see him vindicated in his judgment of the city. It is thoroughly corrupt and so is justly destroyed. But we also see that our own human vision is limited

and incomplete, so we can never be entirely sure that what we pray for is in the best interest of ourselves or others. We must trust that God knows best. Only he can judge rightly. Only he knows exactly the state of soul of each one and all the opportunities for repentance that he has provided.

Unpack the Second Reading Colossians 2:12-14

St Paul's description of new life in Christ stands in sharp contrast to the fate of the perverted citizens of Sodom and Gomorrah. These citizens of Colossae were not unlike those others, "dead in transgressions and the uncircumcision of [their] flesh," he says. But these latter dead sinners of Colossae have had the benefit of burial, not in the ground, but in the waters of Baptism.

And this makes all the difference. The only antidote to the death of sin is the death of Baptism in which Christ shares his death with us, a death, unlike our own, which has within it the power of eternal life. In his dying is the death of our death-dealing sin and its penalty, which is, Paul says, nailed to the cross with him. In a homily on Baptism, St. Ambrose, the fourth-century bishop of Milan, says that at the death of a Christian, Satan stands by and makes his claim on the soul, based on the fact that it deserves death for its sin. But then Christ steps forward, Ambrose says, saying, "He has died and the debt is paid!" The fate of Sodom

and Gomorrah is a stark reminder that “the wages of sin is death,” as St. Paul tells us in Romans 6:23.

Unpack the Gospel Luke 11:1-13

In this passage from St. Luke we get his shorter version of the Our Father and then a commentary on prayer. This variant form of the Our Father suggests that the prayer we so often say, based on the longer version in Matthew’s Gospel, was probably intended more as a skeletal framework for prayer than as a rote prayer to be repeated again and again. Not that there is anything wrong with doing so, of course, because when we repeat the Our Father with proper attention and concentration, its form sinks into our hearts and informs our other spontaneous prayers, as well.

Jesus’ disciples ask him to teach them how to pray, something that would have been common for the disciples of a rabbi of Jesus’ day. But Jesus’ prayer is unusual in that it addresses God as “Father.” This is what the Catechism of the Catholic Church calls the newness of “filial prayer” in Christ “But his prayer springs from an otherwise

secret source, as he intimates at the age of twelve: “I must be in my Father’s house.” Here the newness of prayer in the fullness of time begins to be revealed: his filial prayer, which the Father awaits from his children, is finally going to be lived out by the only Son in his humanity, with and for men.” (CCC 2599). As the eternal Son of the Father, Jesus alone can rightly call God his father. But he freely chooses to admit us to a share of his perfect Sonship, making us sons and daughters of the Father in him. And that theme informs what follows, too, in the commentary when Jesus first asks, “What father among you...” and then answers, “How much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him.” He explains that the Father’s love is certain to respond to his beloved children, so long as we insistently “ask,” “seek,” and “knock” in prayer.

Reflect & Discuss

Please watch the short Opening the Word video from any browser at StMichael.FORMED.org. Then reflect on the following questions and discuss them with a friend.

Jesus teaches us to pray “Our Father,” showing us that our relationship with God begins as that of a child with a loving parent. What are some ways you have experienced a relationship with God as your father?

God is not only our Father. He invites us to be his friend. How do you think a Christian’s relationship with God might be different if one moves from not just viewing God as the Almighty Father but also viewing him as a friend?

When you are a “friend” with someone, you worry less about sharing your needs and weaknesses. In the Gospel reading, the friend who came in the middle of the night looking for food didn’t seem too concerned about being a burden. He was willing to wake up everyone in the house to make his desperate request. The man’s persistence is based on a confident friendship. He had such trust in their relationship that he wasn’t afraid or hindered in asking for what he needed.

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

FORMED PICK



Ignatius of Loyola

A Noble Knight of God

This modern take on the story of Saint Ignatius of Loyola, the founder of the Jesuits, often called “the saint of second chances,” is an incisive and thrilling look at the life of the real man behind the legend.

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—Pete G., Largo, FL

Pray Throughout the Week



Mass Intentions

Saturday 7/27

8:30am Paolo Monjes †
5:00pm Ofelia Ramis
7:00pm Cecilia Tiojanco †

Sunday 7/28

6:45am Mike & Lorraine Moriarty
8:00am Mass for Our Parish
9:30am John Pruner †
11:00am Angel Areli
Jesus Hernandez
12:30pm Chung Bothwell
6:00pm Teresa Sandoval

Monday 7/29

8:30am Virginia Ypil †

Tuesday 7/30

8:30am Linda Mannion †

Wednesday 7/31

8:30am Virginia Ypil †
7:00pm Chung Bothwell

Thursday 8/1

8:30am Robert Berlo †

Friday 8/2

8:30am Nick & Alice Sanchez
12:00pm Baby Azarias Gustavo † &
Family

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

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



Prayer

Close your eyes and imagine that you are with the disciples in today's Gospel reading when Jesus begins to teach about prayer. You hear him begin by saying, "Our Father, hallowed be your name..." What goes through your mind as you realize Jesus is teaching that God is not just his Father, but a Father to you as well?

Resolution

Jesus reveals that God is our loving Father and friend and encourages us to pray. If Jesus came to you and asked, "What do you want to say to your Father in heaven?" what would you say? Remembering that God is both Father and friend, what is the first thing you would want to tell God about in your life? What would you want to ask him? Frame your answer as a prayer.

Prayer Requests

For our 260+ parishioners who are spending these 33 days preparing to Consecrate themselves to Jesus through Mary on August 15, that they may be granted every blessing.

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



Preserving Prayerful Reverence

For almost a year of being a pastor here at St Michael, I have learned that this community has a great reverence for the Mass! I am grateful to have found much support in understanding that as a priest, I cannot recreate or invent my Mass from my own personal interpretation or whims. Fundamentally, it is not "my" Mass, nor anyone else's. It is the Mass of the Church, entrusted to me for the people of God. My role, as your pastor, is to celebrate with God's people the Holy Mass, faithfully guided by the General Instructions of the Roman Missal.

I am thankful for the dedicated parishioners who have noticed the common abuses listed below that are in practice in many parishes today. I want to ensure that we do not fall into complacency here at St Michael Parish.

1. Disregarding the prescribed text of the Order of Mass and the importance of sacred silence within and during Mass.
2. Interrupting the Mass for long announcements, entertainment and skits.
3. Omitting the penitential rite.
4. Clergy dictating postures and how to receive Eucharist for the assembly contrary to the General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM) and Diocesan liturgical guidelines.
5. Ignoring rules for reception of the Eucharist, especially on fasting

and seeking the Sacrament of Confession for the forgiveness of mortal sins.

6. Holding hands during the Our Father and the assembly raising up arms in the Orans position.
7. Performing liturgical dance.
8. Closing the holy water fonts at some seasons like Lent.
9. Omitting the homily on Sunday Mass or allowing lay people to offer a homily.

Preserving Prayerful Reverence

Our ultimate goal is to preserve a proper disposition of prayer and ambiance before, during and after the Holy Mass in order to participate in an encounter with God. Mass is all about God and for God. Mass is not to be centered on us: not the presiding priests, not the assembly, ministers or groups.

Hence, to secure opportunities for this holy encounter, below are the Policies on Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Use of Church for Holy Mass at St Michael:

1. Follow the Rite of Exposition and Benediction as prescribed by the Liturgical Laws.
2. Music must be suitable and appropriate to enhance a reverent adoration and worship.
3. Very loud praise and worship

music must be done without the Blessed Sacrament. Careful selection of song is needed when the Blessed Sacrament is exposed. Chanting of eucharistic hymns is still the most fitting genre that the Church highly recommends.

4. Adoration only takes place in the chapel or church, except when permission is granted by the pastor to adore in the Parish Hall.
5. Use of drums or percussion must be minimal. Organ or piano accompaniment is preferred.
6. The Church will be used for liturgical celebrations only, except for faith formation or for spiritually inspiring talks, such as evenings of reflection and parish missions.
7. Civic meetings, group gatherings and other similar types of events must be held in the Parish Hall or other location.
8. Use of Parish Hall for Masses and Eucharistic Adoration must have explicit permission from the pastor.
9. Silence is to be maintained in the Church. If verbal communication is absolutely required, it should be in a hushed tone and as brief as possible.

Thank you for your cooperation and your faith in making our Liturgy truly a reverent and holy encounter with our Lord.

Fr. Carl
Pastor

Living and Growing as Disciples



Debbie Pizzato Retires

Debbie Pizzato began serving as St Michael's Liturgy Coordinator 39 years ago, under Monsignor Adams. During her time here, she served under six pastors and two interim pastors. She has been the behind-the-scenes "glue" for every liturgical celebration at our parish. Coordinating and planning, training and educating, coaching and scheduling, Debbie has been the reason that our worship has run smoothly and reverently.

It is with sadness on our part that we bid her farewell, but with happiness for her as she enters her much-deserved retirement. Debbie is still a parishioner, frequenting the 6:45 am Mass on Sundays, so please congratulate her when you see her.



Registration for fall Faith Formation programs for children and teens closes on August 31. Download registration packets for all programs for kids age 3 through 12th grade at StMichaelLivermore.com/FaithFormation

Teen Confirmation registration is *by appointment only*. Contact Joseph at Youth@StMichaelLivermore.com or 925-667-4093 to schedule an appointment ASAP!

Bringing Communion to People Who are Homebound

Do you have a family member or a fellow St Michael parishioner that wants the sacrament of Holy Communion at home or care facility? We have homebound ministers ready to serve. Please contact Lien Celi at (925) 325-9117 to schedule a visit.

Adult Confirmation Prep Class

Now is the time to prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation to complete your initiation and be filled with the Holy Spirit! This class is for you if you ...

- are at least 18 years old
- are a baptized, practicing Catholic
- have received First Holy Communion
- have never been confirmed

Classes will begin on Thursday, September 5 at 7:00 pm in the Convent. Contact Marjorie: RCIA@StMichaelLivermore.com or 925-447-2925



Thank you for your generous offerings!

7/21/19 Collection	\$16,285.36
Month-to-Date	\$64,482.03
Month Goal	\$87,058.82
Percentage Reached	74%
Faith Direct Maintenance (for July)	\$12,746.00
	\$8,960.01

Save These Dates!



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. Contact: Diane Schord at 925-447-4344.

First Friday Sacred Heart Devotion

Friday, August 2

Mass at 12:00 pm in the Church, followed by Adoration until 3:00 pm.

First Saturday Immaculate Heart Devotion

Saturday, August 3

Mass at 8:30 am followed by Rosary, Marian hymns, procession, Anointing of the Sick and Confessions.

Spiritual Talk on the 33-Day Prep to Consecration

Saturday, August 3

If you are on the 33 day journey to Consecration to Jesus through Mary, you are invited to hear a special inspirational talk after the 8:30 am Mass.

Dress-a-Girl Sew Fest

Saturday, August 3

Make simple dresses for girls in poverty around the world. Join us in the Large Hall from 9 am to 3 pm. Stay for a little, or stay for a lot! Suzanne Beck: 925-352-8447.

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.
Music@StMichealLivermore.com

Schola Cantorum (Latin Choir) Rehearsal

Tuesday, August 6 at 7:00 pm in the Church

Come sing in Latin for the Traditional Latin Mass for Sunday, August 11 at 8:00 am. LatinMusic@StMichaelLivermore.com

ON FiRE NorCal Jam

Register Before August 22
Event on September 14

ON FiRE NorCal Jam is an amazing Catholic gathering of high school youth through 30-something age young adults at Six Flags Discovery Kingdom. Mass, concerts, inspiring guest speakers make up the spirit-filled day. Get details, information and register with Joseph: Youth@StMichaelLivermore.com

Feast of St Michael the Archangel

September 20-28



Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Holy Day of Obligation

Mass Times

Wednesday, August 14

6:00 pm English and 7:30 pm Spanish

Thursday, August 15

7:00 am, 8:30 am, 12:15 pm and 6:00 pm in English and 7:30 pm in Spanish

explore

life
faith
meaning

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alphausa.org/stories

Alpha

Alpha is a series of dinners with really nice people exploring the Christian faith. Each talk looks at a different question around faith and is designed to create conversation.

Alpha is for people who wouldn't identify themselves as Christian, or for people who have never experienced a relationship with Jesus.

Who will you invite to dinner?

Alpha in Livermore

We believe everyone should have the chance to explore the Christian faith, ask questions and share their point of view.

Sundays at 5:00 pm
Starting September 8

Youth & Adults

St Charles Borromeo (Parish Hall)
1315 Lomitas Avenue
925-447-4549 x 113
StCharlesLivermore.org

Mondays at 6:30 pm
Starting September 9

Adults

St Michael (Parish Hall)
326 Maple Street
925-447-1585
StMichaelLivermore.com/Alpha

**TWO
LOCATIONS!**



Preservando la reverencia en oración

Durante casi un año de ser pastor en San Miguel, ¡he aprendido que esta comunidad tiene un gran respeto por la misa! Estoy agradecido de haber encontrado mucho apoyo para comprender que, como sacerdote, no puedo recrear o inventar mi misa desde mi propia interpretación o caprichos personales. Fundamentalmente, no es "mi" misa, ni la de nadie más. Es la misa de la Iglesia, confiada a mí para el pueblo de Dios. Mi papel, como pastor, es celebrar con el pueblo de Dios la Santa Misa, guiada fielmente por las Instrucciones Generales del Misal Romano.

Estoy agradecido por los feligreses dedicados que han notado los abusos comunes que se enumeran a continuación y que hoy están en práctica en muchas parroquias. Quiero asegurarme de que no caigamos en la complacencia aquí, en St. Michael Parish.

1. Ignorar el texto prescrito de la Orden de la Misa y la importancia del silencio sagrado dentro y durante la Misa.

2. Interrupción de la misa por largos anuncios, espectáculos y parodias.

3. Omitir el rito penitencial.

4. El clero dicta las posturas y cómo recibir la Eucaristía para la asamblea contraria a la Instrucción general del Misal Romano (GIRM) y las pautas litúrgicas diocesanas.

5. Ignorar las reglas para la recepción de la Eucaristía, especialmente sobre el ayuno y la búsqueda del Sacramento de la Confesión para el perdón de los pecados mortales.

6. Tomarse de las manos durante el Padre Nuestro y la asamblea levantando los brazos en la posición de Orans.

7. Realización de danza litúrgica.

8. Cerrar las fuentes de agua bendita en algunas temporadas como la Cuaresma.

9. Omitir la homilía en la misa dominical o permitir que los laicos ofrezcan una homilía.

Preservando la reverencia en oración

Nuestro objetivo final es preservar la disposición adecuada de la oración y el ambiente antes, durante y después de la Santa Misa para participar en un encuentro con Dios. La misa es todo acerca de Dios y para Dios. La misa no debe centrarse en nosotros: ni los sacerdotes que presiden, ni la asamblea, ni los ministros o los grupos.

Por lo tanto, para asegurar oportunidades para este santo encuentro, a continuación se encuentran las Políticas de Adoración del Santísimo Sacramento y Uso de la Iglesia para la Santa Misa en San Miguel:

1. Siga el Rito de Exposición y Bendición prescrito por las Leyes Litúrgicas.

2. La música debe ser adecuada y apropiada para mejorar una adoración reverente.

3. La música de alabanza y adoración muy fuerte debe hacerse sin el Santísimo Sacramento. Se necesita una selección cuidadosa de las canciones

cuando se expone el Santísimo Sacramento. El canto de los himnos eucarísticos sigue siendo el género más apropiado que la Iglesia recomienda.

4. La adoración solo se lleva a cabo en la capilla o iglesia, excepto cuando el pastor otorga el permiso para adorar en el Salón Parroquial.

5. El uso de tambores o instrumentos de percusión debe ser mínimo. Se prefiere el acompañamiento de órgano o piano.

6. La Iglesia se usará solo para celebraciones litúrgicas, excepto para la formación de la fe o charlas espiritualmente inspiradoras, como las tardes de reflexión y las misiones parroquiales.

7. Las reuniones cívicas, reuniones grupales y otros tipos de eventos similares deben realizarse en el Salón Parroquial u otro lugar.

8. El uso del salón parroquial para las misas y la adoración eucarística debe tener permiso explícito del pastor.

9. El silencio debe mantenerse en la Iglesia. Si la comunicación verbal es absolutamente necesaria, debe ser en voz baja y lo más breve posible.

Gracias por su cooperación y su fe en hacer de nuestra Liturgia un encuentro reverente y santo con nuestro Señor.

P. Carl
Pastor

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Pastoral Emergencies | Emergencias Pastorales 925-521-4117



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@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

Ministerio Hispano

Veronica:

Hispano1@StMichaelLivermore.com

Ricardo:

Hispano2@StMichaelLivermore.com



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