



St. Michael Catholic Parish

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

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**Strive to enter
through the
narrow gate,
for many,
I tell you,
will attempt
to enter
but will not be
strong enough.**

LUKE 13:24

**Twenty-first
Sunday in
Ordinary Time**

AUGUST 25, 2019

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ALPHA COMING TO ST MICHAEL'S SEPTEMBER 9

- Register for Alpha after Mass this Sunday and Next!
- Fr Carl on St Michael's 147 year history—page 5
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- Feast of St Michael Dinner Auction & Raffle—page 8



Have you ever missed an airplane flight? If you have, you know the sinking feeling as you approach the gate, see the closed door, and realize that you are now in a world of trouble. Today's Gospel reading takes that one step further and asks us to contemplate what it would be like to miss out on heaven, having that door shut on us forever. "There will be wailing and grinding of teeth," Jesus says, and he tells us that the wailing will last for eternity.

When the people of Jesus' time heard this, they wanted to know how many people were going to be saved. Today we might ask the same question; we want to know if we are going to be among those on the inside or those left on the outside. Jesus doesn't respond with a number or a percentage. Instead he tells us to "strive to enter through the narrow gate." And then he ominously adds that "many...will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough."

So what are we to do if we don't want to have the door to eternity shut on us, to have the master say he never knew us? The answer is as simple as it is challenging. Following the example of Jesus, we need to sacrifice our own wants and desires in order to live our lives for God and for others. Each time we stretch ourselves to love others we build up the strength and virtue needed to pass through the narrow way. Jesus warns us that it will not be easy, but he also encourages us

that it is not impossible, for it is love that enables us to find our way and Jesus himself, who has promised never to leave us, is that Love Incarnate.



Unpack the First Reading Isaiah 66:18-21

One of the last chapters of Isaiah is the one we see in this reading, too, that the divine plan includes all the nations and not simply Israel. In this section of the last chapter of the book of Isaiah, that theme, the comfort God will supply for the righteous among all the nations, is paired with the judgment that he will exact upon the unrighteous. "Lo, the LORD shall come in fire,/ his chariots like the whirlwind,/ To wreak his wrath with burning heat/ and his punishment with fiery flames" (Isaiah 66:15).

St. Peter says that "the present heavens and earth have been reserved by the same word for fire, kept for the day of judgment and of destruction of the godless" (2 Peter 3:7), and then, as does Isaiah, goes on to speak of the "new heavens and a new earth" that will follow that final conflagration. It is in that world-made-new that the nations who have

warred throughout history will finally be at peace. And to those who have remained faithful to God, from every race and nation he promises, "As the new heavens and the new earth/ which I will make/ Shall endure before me, says the LORD,/ so shall your race and your name endure" (Isaiah 66:22). St. Peter admonishes all Christians as to how to live in light of this mystery: "Since everything is to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought (you) to be, conducting yourselves in holiness and devotion, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved in flames and the elements melted by fire" (2 Peter 3:11-12).

Unpack the Second Reading Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13

We have discussed before the likely audience of the letter to the Hebrews, those Jews who now face persecution for their Christian faith and long to return to the habits of their previous way of life. It would have been easy for these Jewish Christians to imagine that they were perhaps being punished by God for leaving the faith of their fathers to enter upon the Christ Way. The author here reminds them that even on the natural level the pain of discipline is a necessary part of the maturation and growth of children. And so, the children of God ought to expect that struggles will come as the normal means of growth in faith, too. As we know, in Christ the discipline of suffering has even been made redemp-

tive, when we make of our suffering a way of sharing in his. In this way, pain is turned to righteousness. We, too, can mistakenly think that the gift of undeserved suffering as a sign of divine disapproval, when, in fact, it is an invitation to enter upon a “straight path” to be more fully conformed to our suffering Savior and to grow in intimacy with him.

Unpack the Gospel Luke 13:22-30

It is a very sobering picture of the final judgment that Jesus paints for us in this Gospel text. Those who find themselves outside the heavenly gate seem to have sufficient faith to call Jesus “Lord.” They can even, in some measure, boast of having enjoyed the Lord’s company, but their evildoing makes admittance to the Father’s house impossible. It is not enough to profess faith in Christ’s lordship, although that is critical. It is not sufficient to eat and drink in the Lord’s company, as we do at every Mass.

The Gospel imperative is that we are to “be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect.” (Matthew 5:48). That means

much more than just being in the right place on Sunday morning. It means placing ourselves entirely at the disposition of God’s grace and so surrendering ourselves to it in such a way that we become what St. Peter calls “partakers of the divine nature” (2 Peter 1:4, RSV). What we are called to is a high degree of holiness or sanctity.

The Second Vatican Council in the fifth chapter of its Constitution on the Church speaks of this as a “universal call.” It is not just a task for the consecrated and ordained; it is the common Christian vocation of the baptized. And answering that call is the only thing in life worth doing. Everything else must be measured in light of it and subordinated to it. This might sound like overstatement until we recognize that the soul of sanctity is love. It is love that makes us like God and love alone is worth the whole of our striving.

Reflect & Discuss

Watch the short *Opening the Word* video on the “Community” page of StMichael.FORMED.org. Then reflect on the following

questions and discuss them with a friend:

In the Gospel reading, Jesus answers the questions about people being saved by talking about the “narrow gate” (verse 24). But then he says that many will not be strong enough to enter through it. What do you think Jesus means when he says this? How do you become “stronger”? And what kind of “strength” is Jesus talking about?

The presenter, Jim Beckman, uses a quote from St. Augustine to help clarify what the Gospel reading is teaching. The quote contrasts two cities: The City of God is characterized by a love for God even to the point of self-denial and contempt of self, while the City of Man is characterized by a love for self which leads a person to neglect giving God the honor and love he deserves and ultimately to what Augustine calls “contempt of God.” When you hear those words, how would you assess your own state? Are you more in the City of God? Or more in the City of Man?

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Pray Throughout the Week

Mass Intentions

Saturday 8/24

8:30am Celia Ryan †
5:00pm Herbert Di Grazia †
7:00pm Sylvestre Tovar

Sunday 8/25

6:45am Josephine Gregory
8:00am Mass for Our Parish
9:30am Gerald Dixon
11:00am Gas Ronda
12:30pm Sylvestre Tovar
6:00pm John & Kate Egan †

Monday 8/26

8:30am John Pruner

Tuesday 8/27

8:30am Manuel C Rosa †

Wednesday 8/28

8:30am Cheryl Stanley
7:00pm Tomas Sanchez †

Thursday 8/29

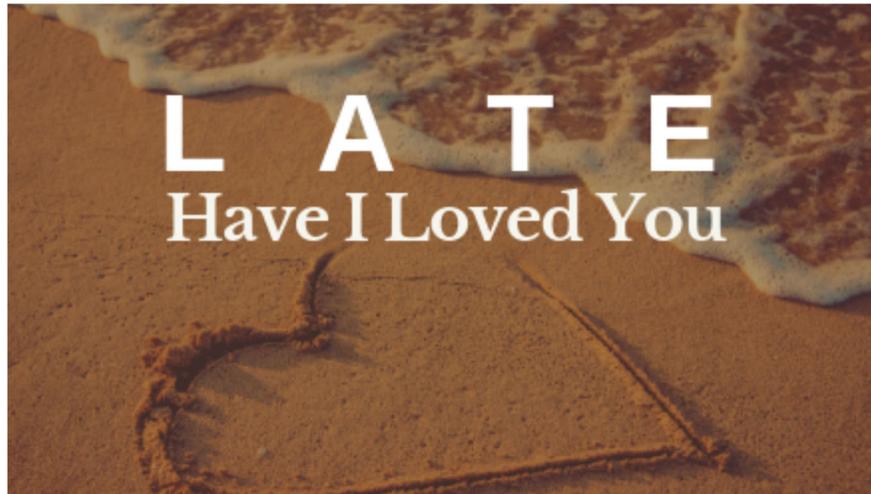
8:30am The Moriarty Family

Friday 8/30

8:30am Juliette Garcia

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

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



Late Have I Loved You

Late have I loved you, O Beauty ever ancient, ever new, late have I loved you! You were within me, but I was outside, and it was there that I searched for you. In my unloveliness I plunged into the lovely things which you created. You were with me, but I was not with you. Created things kept me from you; yet if they had not been in you they would have not been at all. You called, you shouted, and you broke through my deafness. You flashed, you shone, and you dispelled my blindness. You breathed your fragrance on me; I drew in breath and now I pant for you. I have tasted you, now I hunger and thirst for more. You touched me, and I burned for your peace. Amen.

- The Confessions of St. Augustine.

Weekly Prayer for Alpha

For our parishioners, that the Holy Spirit may guide and strengthen us in shifting our culture to one of radical hospitality. That God may put the name of one person in our hearts and minds that He wants us to invite to Alpha on September 9.

For all of our soon-to-be guests at Alpha, that God may continue to direct them toward our dinner events where they will encounter Jesus.

For our Alpha team, that they may empty themselves so as to only do God's will in inviting souls to Him.

Fr Carl's Message of the Week



147 Years of Parish History

Dear St Michael Family,

This weekend let us go back in time in to the history of our parish to know the roots of our community festival. I would like to thank Barbara Mitchell for her research and for helping me share our parish's rich history.

St. Michael Parish was authorized by Archbishop Alemany of San Francisco on September 25, 1872, though no pastor was assigned until 1878. During those early years, Livermore's 200 Catholics built a small church to be used when visiting priests could be brought in. Reverend J. F. Cassidy, the first pastor arrived in 1878 and led a flock comprised largely of newcomers from Ireland, Italy, Portugal and those of Spanish heritage already here. The new settlers ranched and farmed in the surrounding hills. Their family names are still familiar in our valley: Concannon, Livermore, Alviso, Fallon, Collier, Regan, Murray, Scullion, Callaghan, Moy, Kiely, O'Brien, Basso, Serpa, and Bettencourt.

Father Patrick Power was the pastor from 1879 to 1915, making his mark on the character of the city and the parish. Fr Power, a tall man of action and moral courage, was a native of Ireland. He built a parish residence in 1881 and followed it with a larger Gothic style church in 1891. Thanks to him, 10 acres of land was purchased on East Avenue to use as a cemetery. The 1890's saw continued growth of Euro-

pean immigrants, and the start of lay organizations such as the Young Men's Institute (Y.M.I.) and Young Lady's Institute (Y.L.I.). Portuguese settlers from the Azores founded the fraternal organization Irmandade do Divono Espirito Santo (brotherhood of the Divine Holy Spirit or I.D.E.S). Church social events continued to grow, both as fundraisers for parish needs and to develop cohesion and identity for Catholic residents.

Father Power was unrelenting in attacks on vice. He was known to deliver rebukes to wayward parishioners from the pulpit. The local paper said he was "the greatest factor in the moral growth of Livermore." His funeral in 1915 drew an unexpected tribute from every saloon in town, which closed during his funeral to show respect.

Faithful religious education was a dream of Father Power from the start of his pastorate. He led Sunday school for children until he was able to establish the St. Michael's Academy, which opened in 1913 with four teachers from the Dominican Sisters of San Rafael. The parish continued to support after school education for public school students.

During the hot, dry summer of 1916, the Gothic church, built of redwood, caught fire and burned. Our next pastor, Father McKinnon, purchased land adjacent to St. Michael's Academy (now St Michael School) to build our present church. During the

years of its construction (1916-1918) the United States was embroiled in World War I, but parishioners came forward with the necessary funds and labor to complete it. Built in a Spanish Renaissance style, our current church is made of concrete to reduce the risk of fire.

Each decade has brought new Catholics to Livermore. The city grew tremendously in 1952 when the Lawrence Radiation Laboratory brought scientists, engineers, and technicians. The increase in parishioners required significant funding to meet the population boom. The parish decided to raise the money by sponsoring an annual fall festival in the St. Michael School grounds. The first festival was so successful that everyone in town participated and people in other communities asked for advice on how to start one. We will continue this tradition to honor the Feast of St Michael the Archangel from September 20 through 28 with a novena of Masses, a festive Hawaiian themed dinner auction, parish raffle and a ministry fair.

I invite you to explore more about our parish history at StMichaelLivermore.com/History

May God bless you and your families,

Fr Carl



Statement of Income & Expenses

January through June 2019



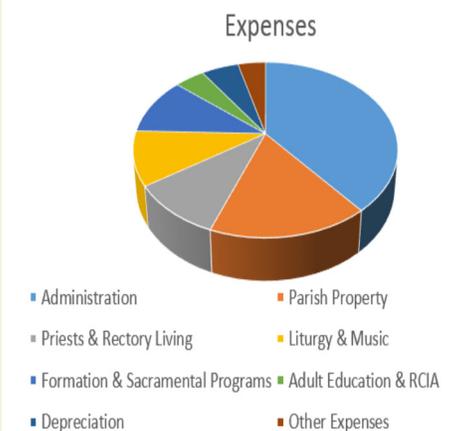
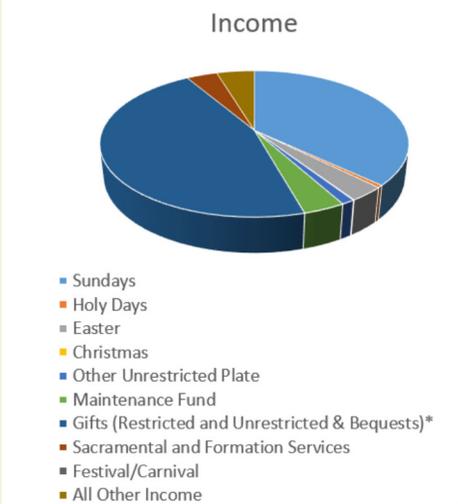
Thank you to all our parishioners who have generously given financially to our wonderful St Michael community. The bequests we've received will assist in the future planning and investment into the Parish and will provide additional savings support in case of any future parish emergencies. Without the bequests, here is how we are doing.

Income: Up 7.5% versus 2019 budget **Expenses:** Up 1% versus 2019 budget

Collections: Down 1% versus 2018 and down 5% versus 2019 budget

If you have any questions or ideas, please contact me, Eric Hom, Parish Business Manager at EricHom@StMichaelLivermore.com. On behalf of Fr. Carl and our Finance Council, thank you for your continued generosity through your prayers and financial stewardship, so we can continue to Celebrate the Sacraments, Grow Disciples and Bring Christ to People here at St. Michael Parish.

	<u>YTD 6/30/2019</u>	
Income		
Sundays	\$ 515,631.94	37%
Holy Days	7,028.55	1%
Easter	44,929.22	3%
Christmas	922.00	0%
Other Unrestricted Plate	16,415.70	1%
Maintenance Fund	51,990.94	4%
Gifts (Restricted and Unrestricted & Bequests)*	639,935.45	46%
Sacramental and Formation Services	53,469.63	4%
Festival/Carnival	0.00	0%
All Other Income	65,802.54	5%
Total Income	\$ 1,396,125.97	100%
Expenses		
Administration	323,024.82	39%
Parish Property	136,502.14	17%
Priests & Rectory Living	81,500.43	10%
Liturgy & Music	81,951.54	10%
Formation & Sacramental Programs	88,368.89	11%
Adult Education & RCIA	35,842.75	4%
Depreciation	44,599.00	5%
Other Expenses	33,205.94	4%
Total Expenses	\$ 824,995.51	100%
Net Income	\$ 571,130.46*	



Special Collections	\$ 85,332.76		
Seminary	\$ 7,119.60	Holy Father	\$ 2,761.10
Rice Bowl	\$ 1,217.48	Mission Co-op	\$ 8,773.30
Catholic Relief	\$ 2,370.13	St. Michael School	\$ 4,290.93
Holy Land	\$ 5,981.91	St. Vincent De Paul Society	\$ 13,516.46
Catholic Charities	\$ 4,057.38	Backpack	\$ 4,529.00
Social Concerns/Catholic Communications	\$ 1,750.10	2018 Bishop's Appeal	\$ 28,965.37

Save These Dates!



Faith Formation Registration Deadline **Saturday, 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: Youth@StMichaelLivermore.com or 925-667-4093.

Parish Offices Closed **Monday, September 2**

...in observance of Labor Day.

New Traditional Choir Rehearsals **1st and 3rd Tuesdays**

We are forming a Traditional Choir to sing at the 8:00 am Mass. This choir will focus on leading the assembly in singing traditional hymns of our faith.

Please contact JaNet Hancock, Director of Music, at 925-292-5017 music@StMichaelLivermore.com for more information

Adult Confirmation Prep Classes Begin **Thursday, September 5**

This class is for you if you are at least 18 years old, are a baptized, practicing Catholic, have received First Holy Communion and have never been Confirmed. Contact Marjorie at 925-447-2925 or RCIA@StMichaelLivermore.com

First Friday **Friday, September 6**

Celebrate the Sacred Heart of Jesus with Mass at 12:00 pm in the Church and Adoration through 3:00 pm.

First Saturday **Saturday, September 7**

Celebrate the Immaculate Heart of Mary with Mass at 8:30 am followed by Marian devotional prayers and hymns.

Alpha Dinner **Mon, September 9 at 6:30 pm** **Large Hall**

This is your opportunity to invite someone who doesn't identify themselves as Christian to a fun no-pressure dinner event. We will get to know each other, watch a video on the basics of the gospel message and then have an engaging conversation without judgement. Who will you invite? StMichaelLivermore.com/Alpha

Feast of St Michael the Archangel **September 20-29**

Save the dates as we celebrate our patron saint with a novena of Masses, dinner auction, parish raffle and ministry fair. All proceeds benefit the repair of the parking lots at our church and school. See next page for details.

Holy Chaos: A Mini Parent Retreat **Sunday, September 29** **1:30—6:00 pm at St Joan of Arc**

Gain practical tools to bring faith and family life together! Features nationally acclaimed speaker and author Mark Hart (also known as The Catholic Bible Geek), this mini retreat includes breakout sessions on being a Catholic mom and dad, praying with your children, balancing faith and a busy life, helping your kids appreciate Mass, identifying stress in our kids and much more. Online advance registration is required. Please visit bit.ly/HolyChaos

500th Anniversary of Catholic Christian Evangelization in the Philippines **Saturday, Oct 5, 8 am - 4 pm** **Church & Large Hall**

Bring your family and friends to this free Diocesan event at St Michael's, celebrating 500 years of Filipino Catholic culture, from the islands to the mainland. Celebrate Mass with Bishop Alejandro Aclan, Auxiliary Bishop of Los Angeles. Hear an inspiring talk by Bishop Mylo Hubert Vergara, Ordinary of the Diocese of Pasig, Philippines. Lunch will be served. Please register in advance at bit.ly/500thAnniversary





FEAST OF ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

Hawaiian Dinner & Auction



Saturday, September 28 at 6:00 pm
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Dinner by 3D Catering | Raffle Drawing
Music & Dancing

Tickets \$50 per person or \$400 per table
Email: Claire at duguid.knight@comcast.net



Proceeds benefit the restoration and beautification of the parking areas at St Michael Church and School

FEAST OF ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

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\$2,000

Second Prize
\$1,000

Third Prize
\$500 + Spa Package

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\$100 Amazon Gift Card

\$10 donation per ticket
Purchase tickets and return donation and stubs at the Church Office.



Proceeds benefit the restoration and beautification of the parking areas at St Michael Church and School



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Contact our Business Manager, Eric Hom at erichom@stmichaellivermore.com

Thank you in advance for your support!





147 años de historia parroquial

Querida familia de San Miguel,

Este fin de semana, retrocedemos en el tiempo a la historia de nuestra parroquia para conocer las raíces de nuestro festival comunitario. Me gustaría agradecer a Barbara Mitchell por su investigación y por ayudarme a compartir la rica historia de nuestra parroquia.

La parroquia de San Miguel fue autorizada por el arzobispo Alemany de San Francisco el 25 de septiembre de 1872, aunque no se asignó ningún pastor hasta 1878. Durante esos primeros años, los 200 católicos de Livermore construyeron una pequeña iglesia para usar cuando se podía traer a los sacerdotes visitantes. JF Cassidy, el primer pastor llegó en 1878 y dirigió una comunidad compuesta en gran parte por los recién llegados de Irlanda, Italia, Portugal y los de herencia española que ya estaban aquí. Los nuevos colonos se criaron y cultivaron en las colinas circundantes. Sus apellidos todavía son familiares en nuestro valle: Concannon, Livermore, Alviso, Fallon, Collier, Regan, Murray, Scullion, Callaghan, Moy, Kiely, O'Brien, Basso, Serpa y Betten-court.

El padre Patrick Power fue el pastor de 1879 a 1915, dejando su huella en el carácter de la ciudad y en la parroquia. El P. Power, un hombre de gran acción y coraje moral, nació en Irlanda. Construyó una residencia parroquial en 1881 y la siguió con una iglesia más grande de estilo gótico en 1891. Gracias a él, se compraron 10 acres de tierra en East Avenue pa-

ra ser usado como cementerio. La década de 1890 vio un crecimiento continuo de inmigrantes europeos y el inicio de organizaciones laicas como el Young Men's Institute (Y.M.I.) y el Young Lady's Institute (Y.L. I.). Los colonos portugueses de las Azores fundaron la organización fraterna Irmandade do Divono Espirito Santo (hermandad del Divino Espíritu Santo o I.D.E.S). Los eventos sociales de la iglesia continuaron creciendo, tanto para recaudar fondos para las necesidades de la parroquia como para desarrollar cohesión e identidad para los residentes católicos. Father Power fue implacable en los ataques contra el vicio. Era conocido por sus reprensiones a los feligreses rebeldes desde el púlpito. El periódico local dijo que era "el factor más importante en el crecimiento moral de Livermore". Su funeral en 1915 recibió un tributo inesperado de cada salón en la ciudad, que cerró durante su funeral para mostrar respeto. La educación religiosa fiel fue un sueño del Padre Poder desde el comienzo de su pastorado. Dirigió la escuela dominical para niños hasta que pudo establecer la Academia de San Miguel, que abrió en 1913 con cuatro maestras de las Hermanas Dominicas de San Rafael. La parroquia continuó apoyando la educación después de la escuela para estudiantes de escuelas públicas.

Durante el caluroso y seco verano de 1916, la iglesia gótica, construida con secuoyas, se incendió y se quemó. Nuestro próximo pastor, el Padre McKinnon, compró un terreno adyacente a la Academia de

San Miguel (ahora la Escuela de San Miguel) para construir nuestra iglesia actual. Durante los años de su construcción (1916-1918), Estados Unidos se vio envuelto en la Primera Guerra Mundial, pero los feligreses presentaron los fondos y la mano de obra necesarios para completarlo. Construida en un estilo renacentista español, nuestra iglesia actual está hecha de concreto para reducir el riesgo de incendio.

Cada década trajo nuevos católicos a Livermore. La ciudad creció enormemente en 1952 cuando el Laboratorio de Radiación Lawrence trajo científicos, ingenieros y técnicos. El aumento de feligreses requirió fondos significativos para satisfacer el auge de la población. La parroquia decidió recaudar el dinero patrocinando un festival anual de otoño en los terrenos de la escuela St. Michael. El primer festival fue tan exitoso que todos en la ciudad participaron y las personas en otras comunidades pidieron consejos sobre cómo comenzar uno. Continuamos esta tradición para honrar la fiesta de San Miguel Arcángel del 20 al 28 de septiembre con una novena de misas, una subasta festiva de cenas temáticas hawaianas, una rifa parroquial y una feria ministerial.

Los invito a explorar más sobre nuestra historia parroquial en StMichaelLivermore.com/History Que Dios los bendiga a ustedes y a sus familias.

P. Carl

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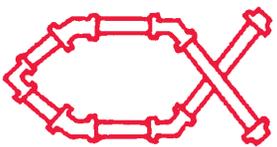
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Mass | Misa

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

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