



St. Michael Catholic Parish

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

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SEPTEMBER 1, 2019

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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WHEN YOU HOLD A BANQUET,
INVITE THE POOR, THE CRIPPLED,
THE LAME, THE BLIND.

LUKE 14:13

FREE ALPHA DINNER ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Is there more to life than this? Bring a friend to a free dinner on Monday, September 9 at 6:30 pm in the Hall. Watch a video and discuss this question in a fun, comfortable environment. Alpha is perfect for anyone who doesn't identify as a Christian or is not living a Christian lifestyle. RSVP at StMichaelLivermore.com/Alpha

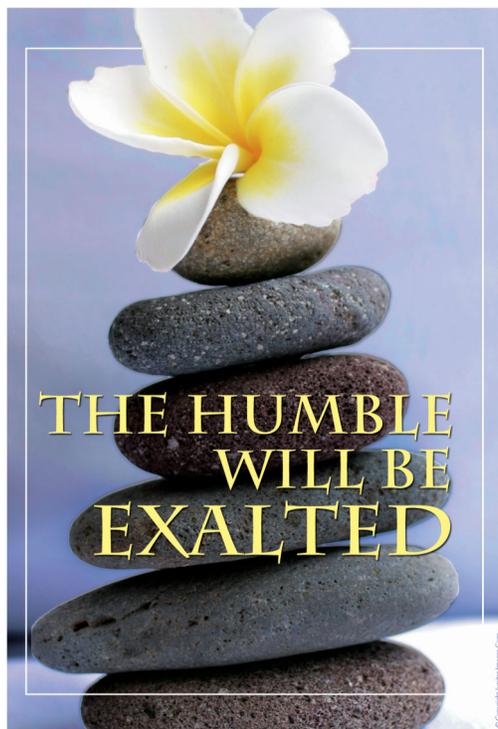


In today's Gospel reading we see people vying for places of honor. Jesus, however, challenges us to do just the opposite: to seek the "lowest place." While many in the world compete for worldly prestige and honor, Jesus is asking Christians to outdo one another in the practice of true humility. Real honor comes from seeking the glory of God, not the praise of men. We know from our experience that the honors of this world are fleeting. The trophy, the new position, the praise from your boss, and the time visiting with a famous person will not fulfill us. They ultimately are just smoke that will blow away and leave us only hungering for more. And when we seek recognition from others or go out of our way to draw attention to ourselves, our quest for worldly glory distracts us from finding our true identity and fulfillment in life which come from God alone. If we seek the "lowest place" with sincerity, however, we will have more room for God in our hearts. God will see our humility and bless us. He also will give us the ultimate reward—a place in his presence forever.

Unpack the First Reading Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29

The biblical book that we just call "Sirach" is a collection of wisdom sayings by a Jewish sage named Yeshua Ben Sirach, written as many as three centuries before Christ. It was used in the early Christian Church as a moral catechesis for those seeking Baptism. In this passage, Ben Sirach

counsels us on the importance of humility, which, as regards its place in the spiritual life, St. Jean Vianney compared to the chain of the rosary, holding everything else together. This counsel comes after that in the first two chapters on fear of the Lord and then the first part of the present chapter which encourages the honoring of mother and father. Humili-



ty or meekness, then, seems to represent the foundational disposition that sums up the foregoing counsels to wisdom, to honor God and our parents. And the search for wisdom herself, too, requires that one recognize the limitations of a finite creature before the infinite God.

Unpack the Second Reading Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a

Recall from earlier commentaries that Hebrews is likely addressed

to those Jews who are struggling with a temptation to return to the practice of Mosaic Judaism. Here the author makes a comparison between the events that surrounded the making of the Mosaic covenant on Mount Sinai—"and a very loud trumpet blast, so that all the people in the camp trembled" (see Exodus 19:16-21)—with the covenant that Jesus made with us on the hill of Calvary on the Mount of Jerusalem. This new covenant, made not in the blood of bulls but in the blood of Christ, gives us access to the true Mount Zion above, in heaven. Zion was the hill of the Temple and the place where Israel worshiped and so it represented Israel at its Mosaic best.

But Jesus is now in the heavenly Temple surrounded by all the angels and saints leading us invisibly in the perfect; "with which we should offer worship pleasing to God in reverence and awe" (Hebrews 12:28) that only he can offer. Though that liturgy above is invisible, faith, which is "the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1, RVS), gives us a kind of vision of that Temple and its liturgy, which, unlike the Jerusalem Temple which fell in 70 A.D.: "we who are receiving the unshakable kingdom should have gratitude" (Hebrews 12:28). The appeal the author of Hebrews makes to these former Jews is that faith must keep us true to Christ and to the covenant of love he forms with us.

Unpack the Gospel

Luke 14:1, 7-14

Luke's Gospel makes a primary theme of table fellowship. In this chapter, Jesus is attending a dinner and then gives two lessons, one to the invited guests and one to the host of the dinner who had invited them, about how to dine in the kingdom and then tells a parable about a rich landowner and the banquet he throws. In each case the lesson is that the humble are favored in this kingdom that Jesus announces. Those who have some status should seek the lowest place at table, he says. As St. Paul says—echoing his Lord—"Have the same regard for one another; do not be haughty but associate with the lowly; do not be wise in your own estimation" (Romans 12:16).

Those who host should invite the lowly who cannot repay, so that God can repay. This is a common Old Testament and rabbinical theme, that God pays the debts of the poor, compensating those who give alms. Lastly, in the verses following those in our reading, Jesus tells a parable about a landowner who follows a very different pattern of hospitality and

throws a party inviting his own class of people, none of whom accepts his invitation. So he sends his servants to bring in "the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind" (Luke 14:21). When his house is still not full he asks that everyone his servants can find be pressed to come, finishing with the phrase, "For, I tell you, none of those men who were invited will taste my dinner" (Luke 14:24).

The common interpretation of this parable is that those like Jesus' host, a Pharisee who is described as "observing" Jesus, ostensibly to catch him in some infraction of the Law, will find their covenant invitations pulled and their places given to lowly covenant outsiders who will respond better to the compulsion of God's grace and enter the heavenly banquet. So, in the kingdom of God being an "A-list" invitee is less important than giving a generous response to the graces we receive, whenever they come.

Discuss & Reflect

Please watch today's Opening the Word presenter, Fr. John Riley, on FORMED.org as he explains this week's Gospel reading and dis-

cusses what true humility is and why Jesus calls his disciples to humble themselves. Reflect on these questions with a friend:

In the Gospel reading, Jesus tells the disciples not to seek places of honor and to take the lowest place at the table. This is very contrary to human nature and our natural desire for affirmation, acceptance, prestige, and power. According to the presenter, who uses the example of Mary? What does it truly mean to be humble? How does true humility reveal one's greatness, and why?

In the Gospel reading, Jesus encourages us not to seek out situations where we can draw praise and attention to ourselves, but to "take the lowest place." What are some ways we can put this into practice? In other words, how might we seek out taking a "lower place" in our families, workplace, parish, or communities?

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

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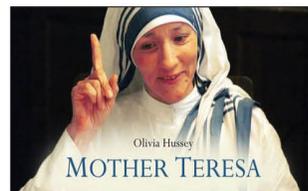


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—Jennifer C., St. Louis, MO

Pray Throughout the Week

Mass Intentions

Saturday 8/31

8:30am Celia Ryan
5:00pm Jon Hamilton & Family
7:00pm Cuc Nguyen

Sunday 9/1

6:45am Thomas Heise
8:00am Mr & Mrs Anabude Ike and Charles Ike †
9:30am Mass for Our Parish
11:00am* Todd Murray
John J. Vericella †
Jack & Bernice Rooney †
John & Kate Egan †
Nera Rios Rodriguez
12:30pm Gerado Matamet Lira †
6:00pm Quintina Echon

Monday 9/2

8:30am Pat Zierhut

Tuesday 9/3

8:30am Tim Peart

Wednesday 9/4

8:30am Raylene Pierce †
7:00pm Mass for Our Parish

Thursday 9/5

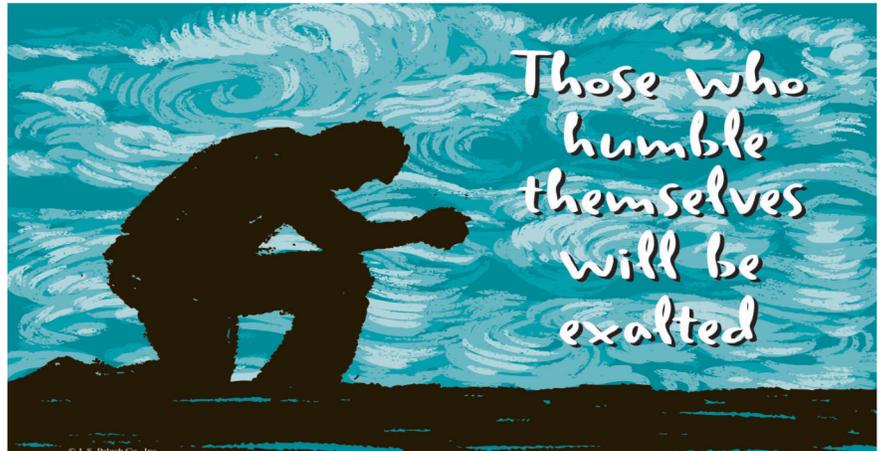
8:30am Tomas Sanchez †

Friday 9/6

8:30am Joseph Branch
12:00pm Alma Ellis †

**The 11 am Mass on the first Sunday of the month is a "Communal Mass" with multiple intentions.*

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



Prayer Meditation

In prayer, imagine that you are invited to the magnificent banquet described by Jesus in today's Gospel reading. Picture yourself entering the feast. You see various distinguished guests—important people—walking toward the main tables to take their spots. There are also poor, simple people whom no one recognizes sitting near the back. Now imagine that you are told you can sit anywhere you want. Which seat would you desire in your heart to choose? Where do you think that Jesus would be sitting?

Resolution

Prayerfully ask Jesus to show you some ways you can be more humble like him and to choose the "lower place." Come up with at least one resolution for this next week to help you avoid seeking the recognition and honor of this world and live out humility more in your life.

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



Feast of St Michael Dinner Auction

Dear St Michael Family,

This year we shall have a different format for our annual festival, thanks to the support of our Festival Committee and Parish Council. Now called The Feast of St Michael the Archangel, our celebration will cover three aspects: a novena of Masses (prayer aspect), an Auction Dinner (community aspect) and the Ministry Fair (service aspect).

September 20-28 - Novena Masses in the church

September 28 – Dinner Auction at the school ground

September 29 - Ministry Fair in the parish parking lot

This weekend, I would like to focus on our Dinner Auction. The goal of this dinner is to bring our ministries and families together as a parish at a meal. Second, as we enjoy our meal and entertainment with fellow parishioners and friends and family, we will have an auction to raise funds for the restoration and beautification of our school and parish parking areas.

This year's Dinner Auction will have a Hawaiian theme, catered by 3D Catering with a no-host bar. There will be beautiful gift baskets raffled and a live auction with a professional auctioneer. Then enjoy music and

dancing until 10 pm. It will be a great night!

I pray that this dinner will be symbolic of what we are as a St Michael's family. The mere fact that we can come together for a relaxing and fun meal tells us of our commitment to support and to unite as a parish in the midst of our diversity.

Going back to the Gospels, Jesus spent a lot of His time on earth



eating and drinking. For Jesus, it was important to gather people around the table, and at that table both evangelization and discipleship took place. We see countless examples of Jesus eating with people throughout the Bible, particularly in the Gospel of Luke. For example, in Luke 5, Jesus eats with tax collectors and sinners at home. In Luke 7, Jesus is anointed by a woman in the home of Simon the Pharisee during a meal. Then, in Luke 9, we see Jesus feeding the five thousand. He had some of His most notable evangelization moments at table eating with sinners, publicans and outcasts. He transformed the Jewish

Passover Meal to be summit and climax of Christians Faith and Worship - the Holy Celebration of the Eucharist.

Let us continue this beautiful tradition of our Lord to meet people and welcome them using the most basic human activity - gathering at table to eat and enjoy each other's company.

I would like to also thank our Festival Committee who have been so generous in giving their time, talent and treasure to make this a reality. Thank you for your sacrifice, your effort and your love for the parish.

May our parish Dinner Auction renew our commitment to be a family community. Let us gather our resources to perpetuate the legacy of worshiping and praying together, set by our founding parishioners since 1872. It is through togetherness that we take care of one another and participate in our mission to bring more people to Christ.

Dinner Auction tickets are \$50 per person or \$400 per table. Purchase tickets by emailing Clarie Duguid at duguid.knight@comcast.net

May God bless you and your family!

Fr. Carl

On the Calendar This Week

Monday, September 2

Parish offices are closed for Labor Day

Thursday, September 5

Family Adoration Hour for parents and small children is from 4:00 - 5:00 pm in the Adoration Chapel. Stay for as long as you like.

Adult Confirmation Classes begin at 7:00 pm in the Convent. Contact Marjorie at 925-447-2925 or RCIA@StMichaelLivermore.com

Friday, September 6

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

Saturday, September 7

First Saturday Mass at 8:30 am, followed by Marian devotions, Anointing of the Sick and Confession.

Special Reminders

The special collection for the Diocesan Priest Retirement Benefit Trust is the weekend of September 7-8, 2019. This collection allows us to express gratitude and support for our retired and soon-to-be retired priests, many of whom are still "laboring in the vineyard" in service to the faithful. They now face retirement with minimal government assistance. Please prayerfully consider how you can match their generosity to the Church by contributing to the Retirement Fund.

St Michael School 4th through 8th grades will be coming to Monday morning Mass at 8:30 am each week. Please welcome them and support them!

Registration for St Michael/St Charles CYO Basketball is now open for boys and girls 1st thru 8th grades. Visit www.msccyo.org for more information.

A new traditional choir is forming to sing at the 8:00 am Mass.

This choir will be rehearsing on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month. Please contact JaNet Hancock, Director of Music, at 925-292-5071 or music@StMichaelLivermore.com for more information.



The St. Vincent de Paul Society would like to thank the parishioners of St. Michael's for their generosity in the 5th Sunday collection at the end of June. We received a total of \$4,251.

In the second quarter of 2019 we distributed 300 food bags and helped 733 people. Our major expenses for that period were \$6,436 in food purchases, \$4,310 for help with utilities, \$1,596 in rental assistance and \$490 for emergency shelter/motels. We also spent about \$1,000 on travel aid, clothing and household items from the SVdP store.

Is God calling you to be a Vincen-tian? Please contact janet.graham@comcast.net or kuzmenko@att.net. Thank you for helping us help others.



8/25/19 Collection	\$16,212.39
Month-to-Date	\$95,819.59
Month Goal	\$87,058.82
Percentage Reached	110%
Faith Direct	\$11,841.00
Maintenance (for August)	\$8,596.72
Hospitality	\$3,065.55

Save These Dates!



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 judgment. Who will you invite?
StMichaelLivermore.com/Alpha

Cub Scout Pack 903 Info Night **Wed, September 11 at 7:00 pm** **Large Hall**

Boys and girls in grades K-5 (and their parents) are invited to join us for our first pack meeting of the year! You'll get to hear about all the fun things we have in store for cub scouts and their families this year, play some games, enjoy refreshments, and find out what scouting has to offer. Pack 903 is the only Catholic-chartered Cub Scout pack in the Tri-Valley. Come and see what we're all about!

For more information, Call/Text Andre Miron at 925-321-2542 or email at gnarly903@gmail.com

Marriage Encounter Weekend **September 13-15**

A Get-Away Weekend!!! Do you need a vacation? Give yourself and your spouse time away from the pressures of work and everyday responsibilities. Enjoy a chance to talk and listen to that special someone who loves you! The next Marriage Encounter Weekends include: Sep 13-15, 2019 in Concord, CA and Nov 15-17, 2019 in Danville. For more information and/or to register for a Weekend, visit our website at: oaklandwwme.org or contact Chuck & Annie at 925-849-5466.

Dress-a-Girl Sew Fest **Sat, September 14 at 9 am**

Help make simple dresses for girls in poverty-stricken countries. Come help with sewing, ironing, cutting; bring your sewing machine or serger, iron, ironing board, scissors. Questions? Suzanne Beck, 925-352-8447

Mass in Tagalog **Sun, September 22 at 3:30 pm** **Church**

Join us in celebrating Mass in Tagalog, followed by potluck at the hall!

Holy Chaos 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
Seating Under the Sky
326 Maple Street, Livermore



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



Novena of Masses

September 20 at 8:30 am	September 24 at 7:00 pm
September 21 at all Masses	September 25 at 7:00 pm (Spanish)
September 22 at all Masses	September 26 at 7:00 pm
September 23 at 7:00 pm	September 27 at 7:00 pm
	September 28 at all Masses

Offering nine Masses for those who have fallen away from the Faith and those who do not know Jesus.



FEAST OF ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

Parish Ministry Fair

Sunday, September 29
9:00 am - 6:00 pm
Church Parking Lot



FREE Game Booths for Kids | Food Trucks | Entertainment
Ministry Information | Fellowship & Fun

FEAST OF ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

Raffle!

First Prize
\$2,000 & Dinner with Fr Carl

Second Prize
\$1,000 & 55" TV

Third Prize
\$500 + Spa Package

Fourth Prize (x5)
\$100 Amazon Gift Card

\$10 donation per ticket

Purchase tickets and return donation and stubs at the Church Office.





Fiesta de San Miguel cena con subasta

Querida familia de San Miguel,

Este año tendremos un formato diferente para nuestro festival anual, gracias al apoyo de nuestro Comité del Festival y el Consejo Parroquial. Ahora llamada La Fiesta de San Miguel Arcángel, nuestra celebración cubrirá tres aspectos: una novena de misas (aspecto de oración), una cena de subasta (aspecto comunitario) y la Feria del Ministerio (aspecto de servicio).

20-28 de septiembre - Misas de novena en la iglesia

28 de septiembre - Cena de subasta en la escuela

29 de septiembre - Feria del Ministerio en el estacionamiento de la parroquia

Este fin de semana, me gustaría centrarme en nuestra cena y subasta. El objetivo de esta cena es reunir a nuestros ministerios y familias como parroquia durante una comida. Segundo, mientras disfrutamos de la comida y entretenimiento con nuestros compañeros feligreses, amigos y familiares, tendremos una subasta para recaudar fondos para la restauración y embellecimiento de las áreas de estacionamiento de nuestra escuela y parroquia.

La cena y subasta de este año tendrá un tema hawaiano, atendido por 3D Catering con un bar sin host. Se sortearán hermosas canastas

de regalos y una subasta en vivo con un subastador profesional. Luego disfrutaremos de la música y el baile hasta las 10 p.m. ¡Será una gran noche!

Rezo para que esta cena sea un símbolo de lo que somos como familia de San Miguel. El mero hecho de que podamos unirnos para una comida relajante y divertida nos dice de nuestro compromiso de apoyar y unirnos como parroquia en medio de nuestra diversidad.

Volviendo a los Evangelios, Jesús pasó mucho tiempo en la tierra comiendo y bebiendo. Para Jesús, era importante reunir personas alrededor de la mesa, y en esa mesa se llevaban a cabo tanto la evangelización como el discipulado. Vemos innumerables ejemplos de Jesús comiendo con personas a lo largo de la Biblia, particularmente en el Evangelio de Lucas. Por ejemplo, en Lucas 5, Jesús come con recaudadores de impuestos y pecadores. En Lucas 7, Jesús es ungido por una mujer en la casa de Simón el fariseo durante una comida. Luego, en Lucas 9, vemos a Jesús alimentando a los cinco mil. Tuvo algunos de sus momentos de evangelización más notables en la mesa comiendo con pecadores, publicanos y marginados. Transformó la comida judía de la Pascua para ser la cumbre y el clímax de la fe y la adoración de los cristianos: la celebración sagrada de la Eucaristía.

Sigamos con esta hermosa tradición de nuestro Señor para conocer gente y darles la bienvenida utilizando la actividad humana más básica: reunirse en la mesa para comer y disfrutar de la compañía del otro.

Quisiera agradecer también a nuestro Comité del Festival, que ha sido tan generoso al dar su tiempo, talento y tesoros haciendo de esto una realidad. Gracias por su sacrificio, su esfuerzo y su amor por la parroquia.

Que nuestra Cena y subasta renueve nuestro compromiso de ser una comunidad familiar. Reunamos nuestros recursos para perpetuar el legado de adorar y orar juntos, establecido por nuestros feligreses fundadores desde 1872. Es a través de la unión que nos cuidamos unos a otros y participamos en nuestra misión de atraer a más personas a Cristo.

Los boletos para la cena y subasta cuestan \$ 50 por persona o \$ 400 por mesa. Compre boletos enviando un correo electrónico a Clarie Duguid a duguid.knight@comcast.net

¡Que Dios lo bendiga a usted y a su familia!

El p. Carl

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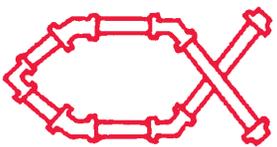
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Information | Información

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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**

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**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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