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458 Maple Street, Livermore, CA 94550
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CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENTS, GROW DISCIPLES, BRING CHRIST TO PEOPLE



24th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Peter approached Jesus and asked him, “Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus answered, “I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times.” - Mt 18:21-22

FROM DEACON DAVID

NEWLY ORDAINED DEACON

Ready to Serve at St Michael Parish

Dear St. Michael Family,

Greetings and blessings to all of you. I am honored and excited to be a newly ordained, permanent deacon for the Diocese of Oakland with my first assignment to my home parish of St. Michael. My wife and I have been parishioners here for about 8 blessed and fruitful years. Many of you may know me from my service as a lector or as a Knight of Columbus. I am looking forward to getting to know many more of you as your servant deacon.

As a deacon, by the sacrament of Holy Orders, I am marked with an imprint that configures me to Christ who made himself the servant (diakonia) of all. Among other tasks, it is the task of deacons to assist the bishop and priests in the celebration of the divine mysteries, above all the Eucharist, in the distribution of Holy Communion, in assisting at and blessing marriages, in the proclamation of the Gospel and preaching, in presiding over funerals, and in dedicating themselves to the various ministries of charity. (CCC 1570).

Because of his ordination as bishop, the bishop has the fullness of these responsibilities. Priests and deacons are ordained into a participation in the bishop's ministry, and all priests and all deacons have responsibilities for all three areas of ministry. Each order exercises these ministries in distinct ways, but all of the ordained have an obligation to exercise all of them in ways appropriate to their order. Those who are constituted in the order of the bishop or the priest receive the mission and capacity to act in the person of Christ the Head, whereas deacons are empowered to serve the people of God in the ministries of the liturgy (presiding at the prayer of the people of God in the sacraments), the word (evangelization, preaching, and teaching) and charity (servant-leadership).

I look forward to exercising these ministries at St. Michael. I will be serving regularly at Sunday Masses and will be working with Fr. Carl and Fr. John to learn my roles within the Sacred Liturgy. I will be learning from our priests and deacons how to baptize, officiate at weddings, and preside at funeral vigils and committals. As a servant-leader, there are dozens of opportunities at St. Michael to serve the needy. I will be looking to serve where the need is great and my talents can be a benefit to those I serve.

I ask that you please be patient with me as I get familiar with this new responsibility. I also ask that you pray for me and my family that the Holy Spirit will work through us to be the hands and feet of Christ to the St. Michael community and all those who need our help.

God bless you,
Deacon David Weiss



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You!*

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slot.**

Feast of St Michael

CELEBRATING OUR FAITH,
BRINGING OTHERS TO JESUS



**DAILY PARISH ZOOM
ROSARY**
SEPTEMBER 1ST - 30TH

12:00 pm in English
8:00 pm in Spanish

**9 DAYS OF MASSES
WITH NOVENA PRAYERS**
SEPTEMBER 20TH - 28TH

6:45 am and 8:30 am English
5:00 pm Spanish

**ADORATION &
CONFESSIONS
IN THE COURTYARD**
SEPTEMBER 1ST - 30TH

Monday - Friday
6:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Saturday
9:30 am - 10:30 am

**DISCOVER THE ANGELS
ZOOM RETREAT
SEMINAR**
SEPTEMBER 20TH - 28TH

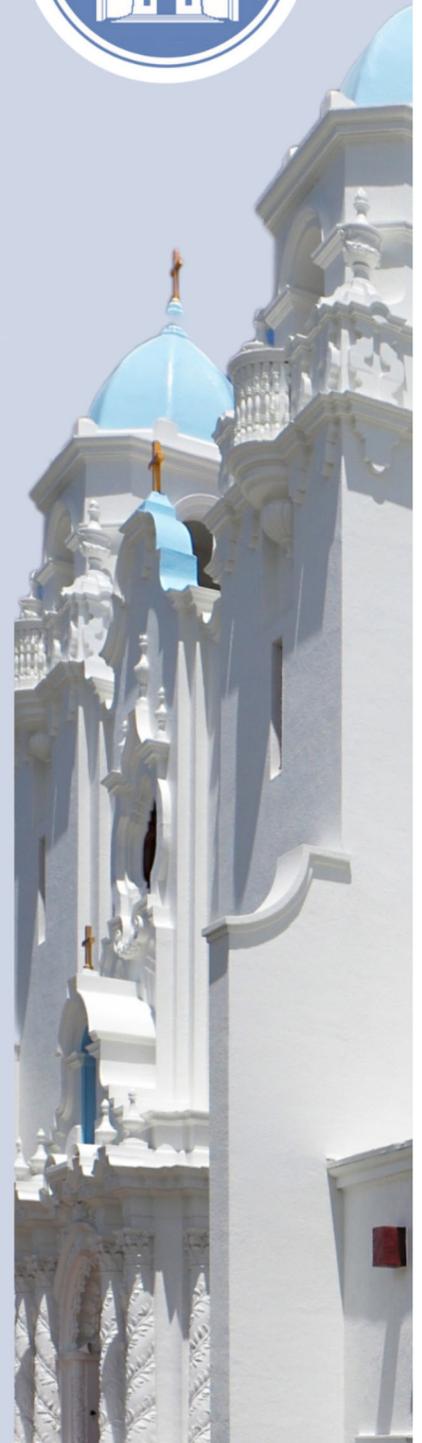
Daily with Fr Nat and
St Michael Clergy
7:30 pm English

**XLT: PRAISE, WORSHIP &
ADORATION IN THE
COURTYARD**
SEPTEMBER 25TH

7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

**COMMUNITY CARE
GROCERY DISTRIBUTION**
1ST & 3RD SATURDAY
9:00 am - 11:00 am

Sponsor \$10 / month





FORGIVENESS IS AN ACT OF Freedom

GOSPEL MEDITATION

September 13, 2020 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Peter approached Jesus and asked him, "Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus answered, "I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times." (Mt 18:21-22)

What right do we have to limit the amount and degree of forgiveness we show to others when we are so desperately in need of it ourselves? In not wanting someone who hurt us to downplay or forget the gravity of their wrong, we cling to anger, resentment, and wrath as a way of maintaining control. It is a way to acknowledge and express our deep hurt. We fail to realize that in doing so we hold ourselves hostage to these destructive feelings and actually become mired in the bondage of sin. All we gain is further alienation from ourselves, others, and especially God. We are no longer free but tethered to all of this unresolved negativity. Don't we really want to let it go? The fact is that we need to.

A good self-reflective posture will quickly show us that when the shoe is on the other foot and we are the ones in need of forgiveness, we desire it above anything else. This is especially true with our relationship with God. It is hypocritical to want one thing for ourselves and something else for another. Yet, many act in precisely this way.

Perhaps we think that in offering forgiveness, even for the most grievous of wrongs, somehow excuses the person of their wrong and makes it almost acceptable. This is what makes revenge, retaliation, and punishment so attractive. We see forgiveness as being an eraser that easily wipes away the offense without consequence. Or, we may believe that in offering forgiveness I must some-

how forget the wrong and open myself as a victim of even greater possible hurts in the future. In fact, forgiving my sister or brother of their wrongful actions or attitudes involves none of this. It does not erase anything or position me vulnerably as a doormat to be walked on.

Forgiveness is an act of freedom that restores honest dialogue, shares true, and heartfelt feelings and acknowledges the consequences of an action. It admits that the wrong has caused a hurt that must be healed and squarely positions responsibility on the offender. The act of forgiveness recognizes our sinfulness and brokenness. It also admits that the most saintly among us is capable of doing very grave and deep harm to another person. It sees that we all can be victims of our passions and works in progress that deserve unlimited chances to get it right. With forgiveness, I release myself from the bonds of negativity and pursue a path of restoration, wholeness, and healing. I do not forget the wrong nor do I dismiss it. Sometimes, we have to stay far away from the one who hurt us. But we can still heal internally and be free.

For the one who wants to be forgiven and the one who needs offer forgiveness, the journey can be an adventure in learning what brought us to this place and what is needed to move forward. This is exactly how God treats us. Why would we not want to do the same for others?

RESPONDING *Call* to the

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Should I Stay or Should I Go?

Life is not always easy on us and it can be hard to figure out the next step to take in our journey. We can even become immobilized by indecisiveness and fear about making the wrong move or choosing the incorrect path. I think of the song, Should I Stay, or Should I Go, as a mantra for many times in my life. Should I stay in this house, this job, or this car? Should I go here or there? When those times of decision surface, I usually turn to my wife, my friends, or even my children. Talking it out can help, and their perspectives give me more data to consider. When I lean on others to help me make a decision, it helps me become more confident in my choices.

do we understand God's calling clearly at first. God's calling is always more easily discerned within a community of faithful disciples. Our stewardship way of life can suffer greatly if we refuse to allow others to assist us in the process of discernment. What gifts or talents are needed for the task at hand? Where do I fit best into God's plan? Where is God leading me? No one should have to decide the answers to these questions alone. We need to always lean on the Body of Christ to help us see the path that God has laid before us. Without a little help along the journey, over time we might find ourselves stuck in the same place where we started.

Discerning the will of God is not easy either. Rarely – Tracy Earl Welliver



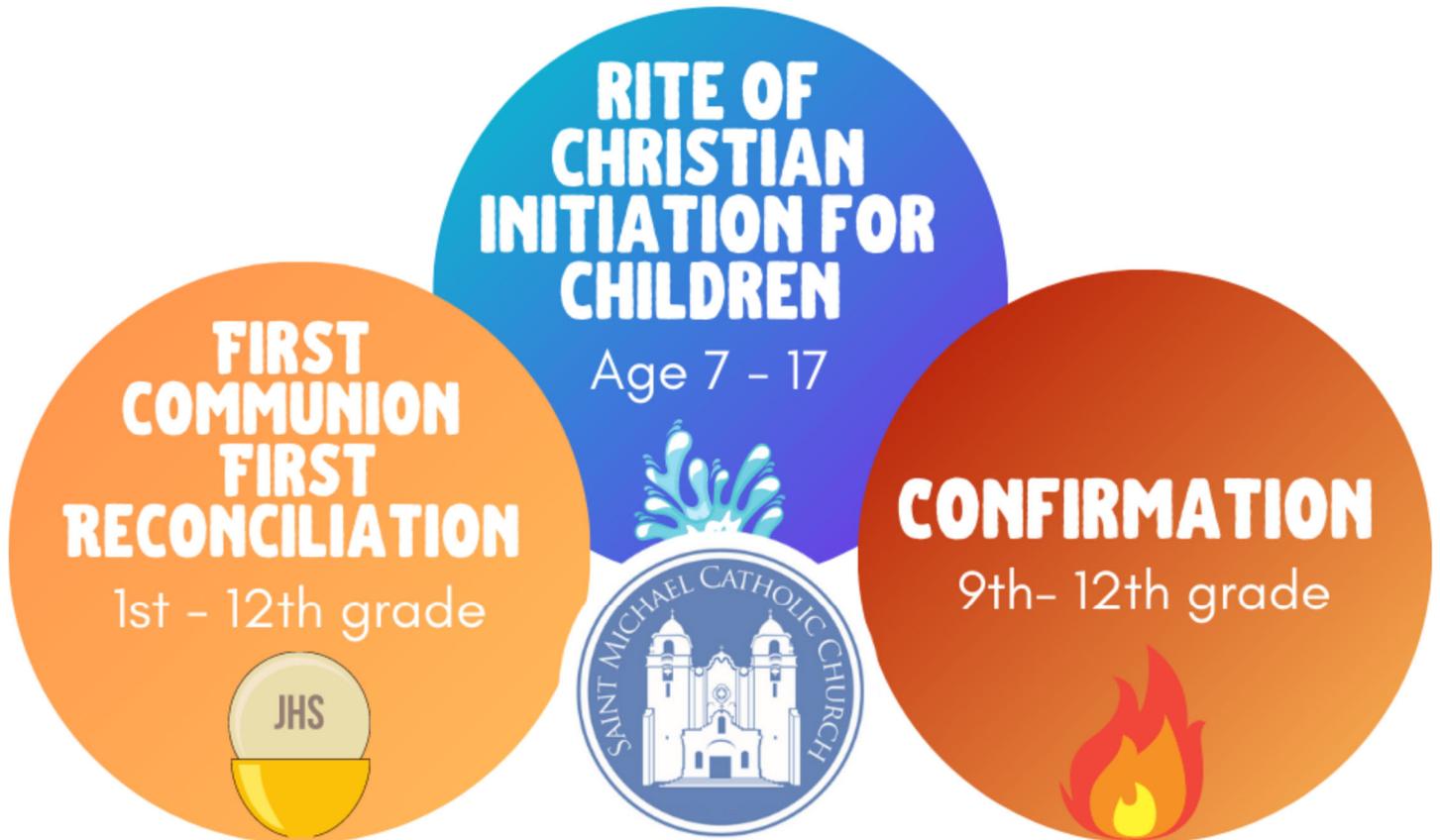
GROCERIES DELIVERED TO 160 HOUSEHOLDS IN JUST TWO HOURS!

Community Care at St Michael Free Grocery distribution on September 5 was another success. We had 81 cars in the drive through and we delivered to 79 seniors or those who are homebound. A total of 408 household members have fresh fruit and vegetables, eggs and meat and extras! We distributed all the food, AND we did it all under budget!

Thanks to our donors: Open Heart Kitchen, One Nation Dream Makers, Contreras Market, Livermore Farmers Market, Fertile Groundworks, Noah's Bagels, Panera Bread, Nob Hill, Smart & Final, Whole Foods and the generous community members who donated apples and oranges. Special thanks to our Livermore Knights of Columbus who show up early and stay late! Thanks to the team of 50+ volunteers who packaged kits on Thursday and Friday, and worked the day of the event on Saturday. Working together, we make a difference!

We do it all again on September 19. Volunteer sign up form at StMichaelLivermore.com/Groceries

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!



ONLINE PROGRAMS

FAITHFULLY CATHOLIC

FAITH-ENRICHING FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Register by September 21

StMichaelLivermore.com/FaithFormation



OUTDOOR MASS

In the Courtyard
Face covering is required
Bring your own chair
Sit at least 6 feet apart

Monday to Friday

6:45 am Mass in English

Wednesday

5:00 pm Mass in Spanish

Saturday

6:45 am Mass in English
7:00 pm Vigil Mass in Spanish

Sunday

6:45 am Mass in English
9:30 am Mass in English
6:00 pm Mass in English

LIVESTREAM MASS

**Facebook.com/
StMichaelParishLivermore and
YouTube.com/
StMichaelLivermore**

Monday to Friday

8:30 am in English
5:00 pm Mass in Spanish

Saturday

8:30 am in English
5:00 pm in English

Sunday

8:00 am Traditional Latin Mass
9:30 am Mass in English
12:30 pm Mass in Spanish

WALK IN COMMUNION

In the Courtyard
Face covering is required
30-40 minutes after Mass begins

Monday - Friday

7:25 am, 9:10 am, 5:40 pm

Saturday

7:25 am, 9:10 am, 5:40 pm, 7:40 pm

Sunday

7:25 am, 9:00 am, 10:15 am, 1:15 pm, 6:45 pm

SICK & HOMEBOUND

By Appointment

Sacraments of Anointing of the Sick, Confession and Communion are available to those who are sick, in a care facility or homebound. Please contact Eric Hom 925-667-4052 or EricHom@StMichaelLivermore.com to arrange for a priest to visit.

After hours only, please call the Pastoral Emergency line at 925-521-4117.

CONFESSION & ADORATION

In the Courtyard
Face covering is required
For adoration, bring a chair
Sit at least 6 feet apart

Monday - Friday

6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

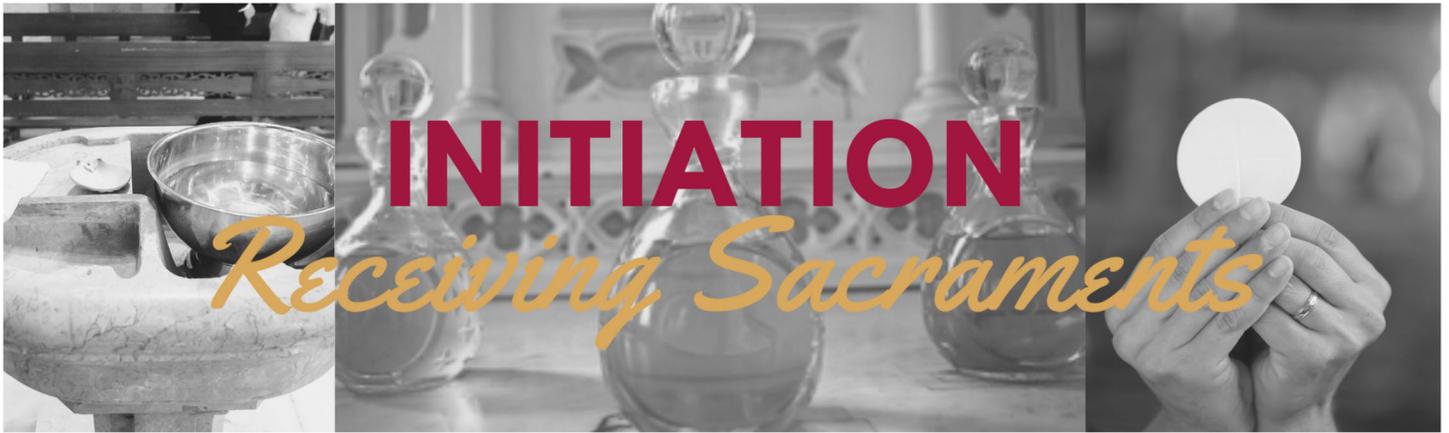
Saturday

9:30 am - 10:30 am

NO SPANISH MASS, CONFESSION OR ADORATION

Monday, September 28
Tuesday, September 29
Thursday, October 1
Friday, October 2

*Due to rehearsals and
sacraments of initiation*



EASTER VIGIL ALL OVER AGAIN!

Sacraments of Initiation for Children, Teens and Adults

Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion

Tuesday, September 29

4:00 pm in English

6:00 pm in Spanish

Outdoor Mass with Livestream

Rite of Confirmation with Bishop Michael Barber (without Mass)

Friday, October 2

4:00 pm, 5:30 pm, 7:00 pm

Candidates have been assigned a time to attend.

Due to limited space and social distancing requirements, only the confirmation candidate and sponsor will be in person in the assembly.

Livestreamed for the community.

PRAYER FOR OUR ELECT

Heavenly Father,

We thank you that in your great love you have called us to know you and to trust you. Increase this knowledge and strengthen our faith. Give your Holy Spirit to these who have prepared for Baptism, that they may be born again, cleansed from all sin, and inherit your eternal Kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

Preparing Adults for Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion

If you are 18 years of age or older and you are just wondering if there is more to life..

If you were baptized Catholic, but never received First Communion or Confirmation...

If you were baptized in another Christian denomination and are curious about the Catholic tradition...

RCIA is a place to start the journey of a lifetime.

Contact Fr John at FrJohn@StMichaelLivermore.com

YOUR BABY'S BAPTISM

We are scheduling infant baptisms with limited number of people indoors. Parents and Godparents can take the Baptism Preparation class online!

Start the process to baptizing your baby by visiting our parish website StMichaelLivermore.com/Baptism

COMMUNITY CARE



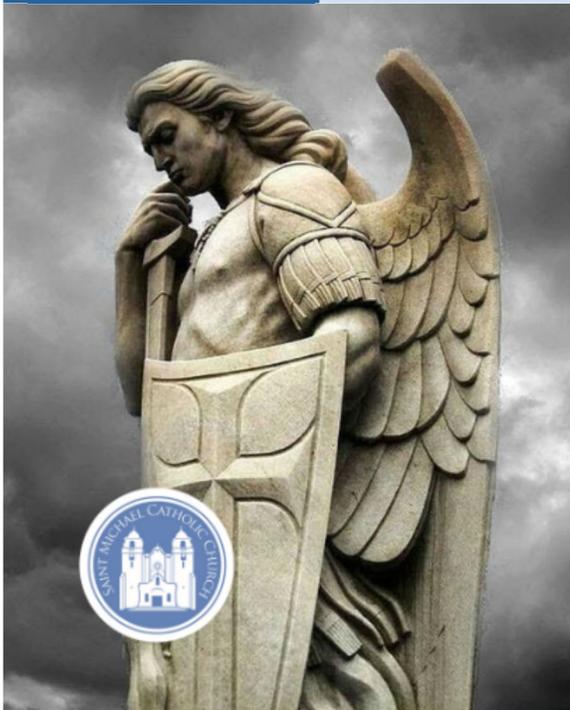
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families suffering from their loved
one's addiction or alcoholism



DISCOVER ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

Zoom Retreat & Seminar

September 20-28
7:30 - 8:15 pm

StMichaelLivermore.com/Retreat

September 25th
7:00 pm - 8:30 pm



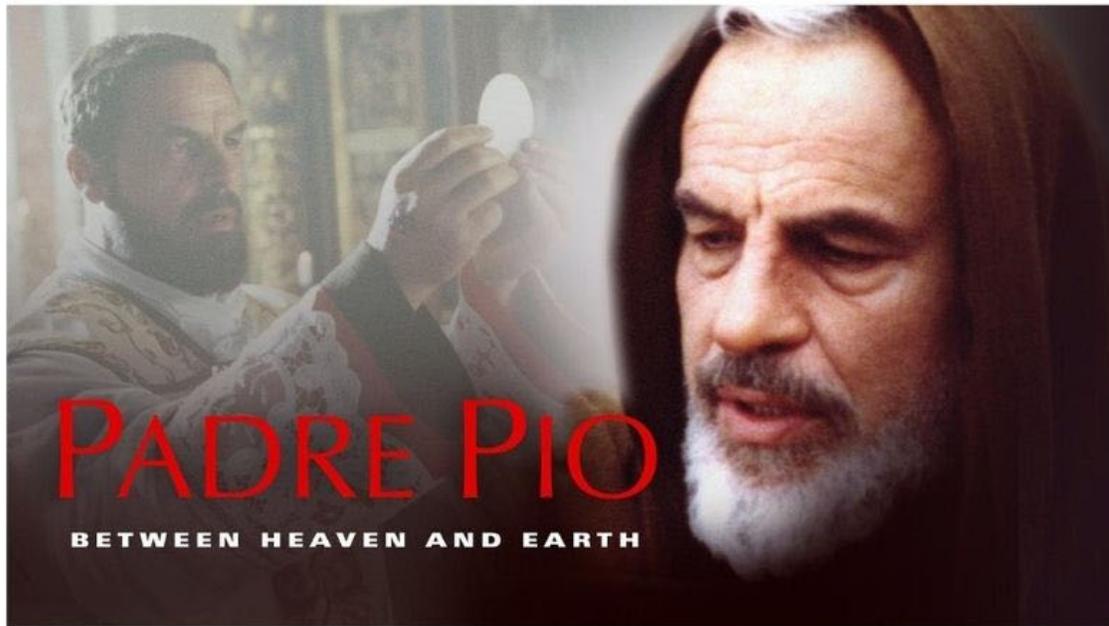
XLT

EXALT.
Praise & Worship.
Adoration. Reflection.



FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK



Padre Pio

Based on the historical records and the personal testimony of his fellow friars, this is the amazing true story of the life of the famous stigmatic monk, St. Padre Pio, a contemporary saint who died in 1968. Blessed with incredible spiritual gifts, including healing, bi-location, reading of souls, and the stigmatic wounds, Padre Pio was a powerful witness for Christ, and a great spiritual guide to countless souls for over fifty years.

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*"Yet I am always with you; you hold me
 by my right hand." Psalm 73:23*

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