



# ST MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENTS, GROW DISCIPLES, BRING CHRIST TO PEOPLE



## 23<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother.” - Mt 18:15

# FROM FR CARL

## MONTH-LONG FEAST OF ST MICHAEL Celebrating Our Faith. Bringing People to Christ

Dear Parishioners,

September is a special month for our parish, since it is the month of the Feast of St Michael the Archangel, our patron saint. Due to the pandemic, our annual celebration will take a different shape. As much as we will surely miss the ministry fair, the raffle and the community gatherings, we are presented with an opportunity to celebrate in a different, more grace-filled way. In this year of unprecedented hardships, we will ask the Lord to grace us with unprecedented faith! 2020 has presented us with a unique chance to be more like St Michael, ardent and courageous, standing firm in our faith. So as a parish, let us pray for the motivation to truly live out our Catholic faith in this troubled world. For the month of September, let our prayers be joined in asking the Lord to fill us with all the resources we need to unite behind our parish mission to Celebrate the Sacraments, Grow Disciples and Bring Christ to People. Let our faith in action be a witness to others, drawing them to a relationship with our Lord Jesus through the beauty of our Catholic tradition.

Hence, the theme of this year's month-long Feast of St Michael is **Celebrating Our Faith, Bringing People to Christ** and will include six parts.

1. Daily Parish Zoom Rosaries
2. Adoration & Confessions in the Courtyard
3. XLT: Praise, Worship and Adoration in the Courtyard
4. 9 Days of Masses with Novena Prayers
5. "Discover the Angels" Zoom Retreat & Seminar with Fr Nat and St Michael Clergy
6. Community Care Fund-a-Need to help Livermore families in crisis

As a parish community we are the members of the Body of Christ. As the Body of Christ, let us reach out to the members of the greater Livermore community, who are all made in the image and likeness of God.

And may our Lord continue to bless us and may St Michael the Archangel defend us.

Your Pastor,

Fr Carl



# 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 &  
CONFESIONS  
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

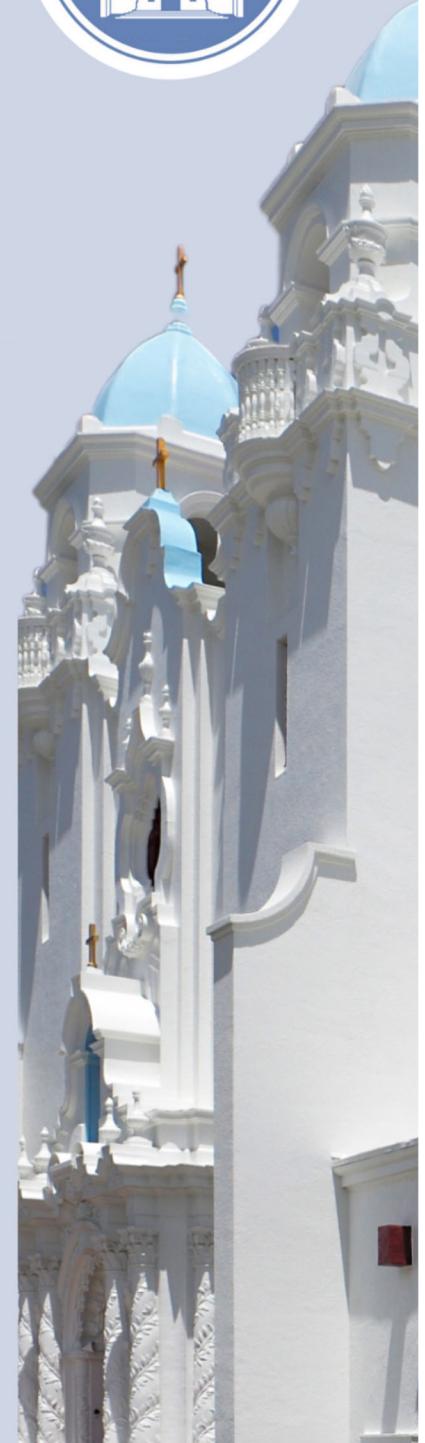
Daily with Fr Nat and  
St Michael Clergy  
7:30 pm English

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

7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

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

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(925) 258-2969

Or drop off at St Michael's in the  
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**August Goal**  
\$103,558.82

**Collection from 8-30-2020**  
\$25,432.00

**August collection to date**  
\$108,733.46

**Percentage reached**  
105%

**August Maintenance Goal**  
\$9,500.00

**August Maintenance  
collection to date**  
\$7,879.00

**Percentage reached**  
83%

**St Vincent de Paul 5th Sunday**  
\$2,706.00

## GOSPEL MEDITATION

It's all about reconciliation and conversion, not punishment. Relationships are not static adventures but wonderful gifts that continue to develop, grow, change, and mature. We are meant to be social beings, so isolating ourselves from others is rarely helpful. But, because human beings are on the one hand tremendously gifted, talented, and blessed creations, they are on the other also flawed, broken, and sinful. We all need to humbly admit that we are works in progress and not only capable of enriching each other's lives but causing deep hurts and wounds as well. Hence, we always need to be reconciled. We are always growing, changing, and expanding our knowledge of who we are and how we are meant to share life together.

Because reconciliation and conversion are always part of the mix of life, honesty is crucial. Without honesty, we can easily find ourselves living a lie and causing more harm than good. Being able to freely share our feelings, especially those involving pain and hurt, is a charism necessary to pursue and an art to learn. When we are wronged or wrong someone else, we do not enjoy the confrontation that can and needs to come. We are taught to

keep our feelings to ourselves, especially when they are negative, and we tend to avoid difficult conversations. Hence, we never really learn how to confront another, successfully resolve conflict, find reconciliation, and welcome conversion. When we hurt or wrong someone, it does not mean that we are a bad or sinful person who deserves only punishment and excommunication. Quite the opposite! We are simply a human person who can make poor choices and sin and can be forgiven. We can restore and deepen the relationship that has been affected and find our way home again.

Jesus clearly wants to avoid shame because it has no purpose in achieving reconciliation and conversion. All broken relationships deserve a chance at reconciliation. Every person has room for growth and a need for conversion. We have to learn to be okay with honesty and not be afraid to hear and process what someone needs to say, even if it is difficult for us to hear. Severing a relationship, both personally or with the church community as a whole, ought to definitely be a last resort and only pursued when all else has failed.

# RESPONDING to the Call

## EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

### The Blessing of the Community

I have been blessed to be a member of my parish community for 28 years. For much of that time I was serving as a member of the parish staff, but it was still the community that I call home. I have been fortunate to be able to remain in that parish even as my life has encountered new chapters and callings. I am so grateful to God that I have been able to grow, be nourished, and find companionship in a parish for this long of a time.

It is a natural tendency for human beings to desire belonging to something bigger than themselves. Not everyone is fortunate enough to find the community, big or small, that fulfills that need. Unfortunately, that means that many communities suffer from not having the benefit of the gifts, skills, and talents that any member can offer. Communities are in many

ways living organisms that move and breathe based upon the individuals who form that body. A community is truly the sum of its parts.

Your parish community reflects you and everyone else in that community. The more each member gives to the community, the stronger that community finds itself. If you hold back, your community suffers, and you gain little. I know firsthand what being a part of a community can mean to a person. I would be no one at all – and you would not be reading this – if it weren't for the life I have had in my parish community.

– Tracy Earl Welliver

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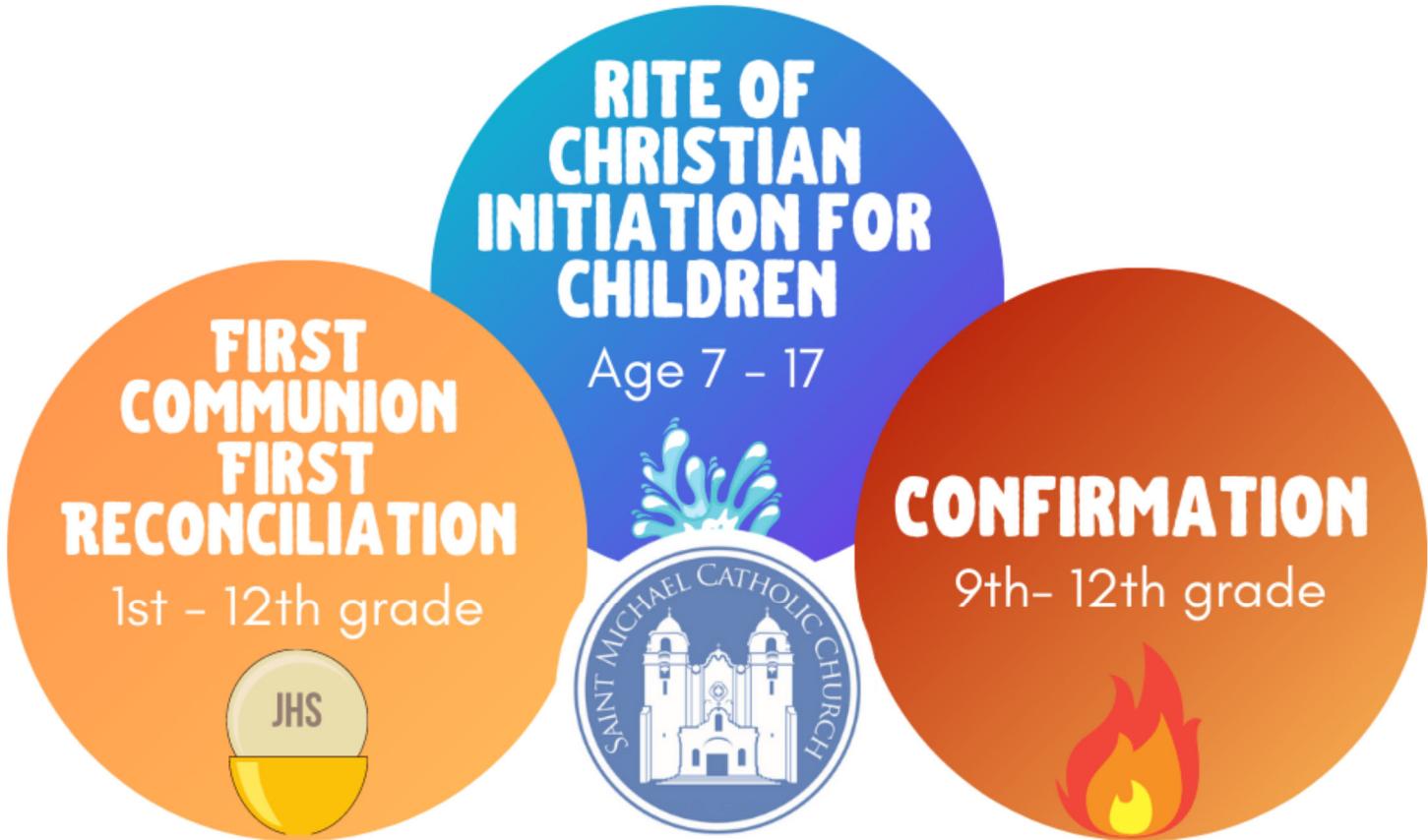
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December 5 • December 19

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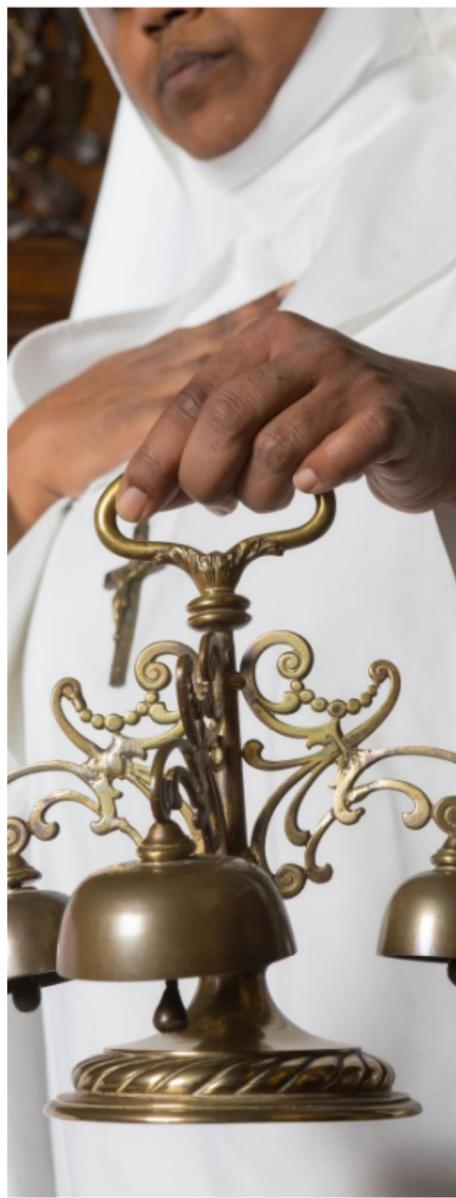
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Register by September 21  
[StMichaelLivermore.com/FaithFormation](http://StMichaelLivermore.com/FaithFormation)



# Outdoor Mass

**In the Courtyard.**

**Wear a face covering.**

**Bring your own chair and sit 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

## **DISPENSATION**

Bishop Michael Barber has offered a dispensation from the obligation to celebrate Mass to all the faithful, indefinitely. This means that we are not required, under the penalty of sin, to attend Mass. Those who are high risk for COVID 19 should not attend Outdoor Mass or Walk-In Communion.

## **KEEP SOCIAL DISTANCE**

While attending Outdoor Mass, please sit at least 6-feet apart from non-household members. Wait until directed to enter the Communion procession. After Mass, please keep socializing at a distance and avoid congregating.



# Livestream Mass

**[Facebook.com/StMichaelParishLivermore](https://www.facebook.com/StMichaelParishLivermore)**

**[YouTube.com/StMichaelLivermore](https://www.youtube.com/StMichaelLivermore)**

## **MONDAY TO FRIDAY**

8:30 am in English (filmed inside)

5:00 pm Mass in Spanish (filmed inside)

## **WEDNESDAY**

5:00 pm Mass in Spanish (filmed outside)

## **SATURDAY**

8:30 am in English (filmed inside)

5:00 pm in English (filmed inside)

## **SUNDAY**

8:00 am Traditional Latin Mass (filmed inside)

9:30 am Mass in English (filmed outside)

12:30 pm Mass in Spanish (filmed inside)

## **JOIN THE PARISH AV TEAM**

It takes a team of volunteers to produce livestream Mass, so that hundreds of people can pray along at home. It is our intention to broadcast Mass on Facebook and YouTube on the schedule above, but we need more help! If you or someone you know can follow instructions well and would like to be part of this important ministry, please call or text Rochelle at 925-997-5674

## **ABOUT THE SOUND QUALITY**

You will notice that the sound quality of livestream Mass is better when it is broadcast inside, and you see the different camera angles. This is when we are using the professional livestream equipment that requires trained volunteers. When you see only one camera angle, it means no volunteers were available to operate the system, and a simple iPad solution (with less than optimal sound) is being used as a backup.



# Walk in Communion

**Communion is offered at the end of each Mass.**

**Please arrive promptly at the times listed below.**

**Wear a face covering.**

**Exit immediately after receiving.**

## **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

## **RECEIVING COMMUNION**

Enter the church as directed. Wear a face covering and sanitize your hands. Keep 6-feet apart from non-household members. For those who are sick, homebound or at high risk for COVID 19, please contact the church office at 925-447-1585 to arrange for a priest to visit.

## **HAND OR TONGUE?**

Receiving Communion in the hand is acceptable in our diocese.

The faithful cannot be denied receiving Communion on the tongue. Our priests sanitize their hands if they inadvertently come in physical contact with the communicant.

Note that the norm at the Traditional Latin Mass is to receive on the tongue.



# Confession & Adoration

**Park in the parking lot or side streets.**

**Walk to the Courtyard.**

**Face coverings required.**

**For adoration, please bring your own chair.**

**Sit at least 6 feet apart from others.**

## **MONDAY - FRIDAY**

6:30 pm – 7:30 pm

## **SATURDAY**

9:30 am – 10:30 am

## **CONFESSiON FOR HOMEBOUND**

For those who are sick, homebound or at high risk for COVID 19, please contact the church office at 925-447-1585 to arrange for a priest to visit.

## **OUTDOORS IN THE BREEZEWAY**

We have two “Confessionals” set up in the breezeway, on either side of the altar. A partition is set up between a two chairs: one for the priest, and one for the penitent. All of our priests also wear face coverings.

## **ADORATION**

Anyone can bring a chair to the courtyard to pray, basking in the presence of the Lord!

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by my right hand." Psalm 73:23



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