



# St. Michael Catholic Parish

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

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## *The kingdom of God*

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is like a mustard seed  
that is the smallest  
of all the seeds.  
But once it is sown,  
it springs up  
and becomes  
the largest of plants.

**Mark 4:31-32**

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time • June 17, 2018



**1918-2018**  
**100 Years of Catholic Tradition**  
**Centennial**  
**September 28-30**

# A Small Mustard Seed

The more we come to know God through study and prayer, the more we realize his thoughts are not our thoughts, nor are our ways his ways (see Isaiah 55). What we assume God would do is so often challenged by how the events of our lives actually unfold. Today's readings draw us into this mystery of God's complete otherness.

In Jesus's time the Jewish people were awaiting the Messiah, or Anointed One, who would liberate them from the captivity of the Romans. They were looking for a military warrior who could defeat the enemy by strength of arm and raise up the Israelites to fight alongside him.

But God's ways are not our ways. Jesus came and wasn't a military leader, but rather a teacher, healer, and friend. He consistently allowed people to walk away from him when his teachings were too hard. Jesus wasn't concerned with numbers—he chose only twelve men, not an army. And starting with a kingdom the size of a mustard seed, the Church has grown all over the world.

## First Reading

Ezekiel 17:22–24

This reading is the answer to a riddle that Ezekiel, at God's command, tells in the first part of the chapter. The riddle involves a cedar whose top has been taken by an eagle, and whose seeds have been planted. Those seeds start

sending out roots in the direction of a different eagle, resulting in



Mustard

problems for the new plant.

The answer to the riddle recounts a series of events in Judah's history (see 2 Kings 24–25). In punishment for the sins of its kings, Judah was conquered by Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon (eagle #1). King Jehoiachin of Jerusalem and most of the leaders (topmost branches) are taken back to Babylon. One member of the royal house (the seed) is set up in Israel to be head of "a humble kingdom, without high aspirations" (Ezekiel 17:14). However, this man, Zedekiah, breaks the covenant with Babylon by accepting overtures from the Pharaoh (eagle #2). This sets off a chain of rebellion that results in destruction for Jerusalem and bitter punishment for Zedekiah. Thus God casts down the mighty, the one who seeks to exalt himself by rebellion.

Jehoiachin, however, who submitted to God's punishment, is eventually released from prison and treated well in Babylon. It is through him that the kingly line of Judah will continue. This is where today's reading focuses, as

God promises to take a branch from the top of the cedar (the kingly line) and transplant it back to the mountain of God. This is the Messiah, who is often described by the prophets as a branch. Thus God exalts the humble who submit to his judgments.

Knowing this backstory we should take warning and comfort: warning to submit to God's plan, and comfort that God is able to work through humiliating circumstances.

## Second Reading

2 Corinthians 5:6–10

Paul writes about the paradox of the Christian life. We need the gift of fortitude, which comes from the Holy Spirit, to face this paradox. Our bodies are on the earth, and we do not see Jesus. Though our faith brings us near to Jesus, we are still away from our true home. This is why the Christian life is one of mortification, a process of dying to self, which takes us to Jesus completely. Courage is needed, but it is not a courage born of our own efforts. Rather, it is given to us by the Holy Spirit, whose other gifts include joy and hope. In fact, St. Paul doesn't say that we need courage; rather, he says that we are courageous.

Though our bodies are weak and will eventually die, we nonetheless "aspire to please [God]." And through our cooperation with the Holy Spirit, we are actually able to earn a reward from God (or to merit everlasting pun-

ishment by refusing his grace). For “we must all appear before the judgment seat . . . so that each may receive recompense according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil.”

Paul’s words manifest cheerful resignation to the designs of God. He does not gloss over the difficulties of the life of faith, but he is not discouraged by them. God’s gift of free will allows us to assist in the work of our salvation, but we must allow him to work in and through us if we are to bring forth good fruit.

## Gospel Reading

**Mark 4:26–34**

God’s ways are far beyond our comprehension, and yet God wants to share his life with us. Jesus is the Word made Flesh, and he teaches about God’s ways in human terms. One way he does this is through parables. These stories often are drawn from common experience and are easy to remember. At the same time, they contain a kernel of mystery. Ideally, these parables will bring

us to the feet of Jesus for further explanation.

The two parables of today’s Gospel draw from the common experience of farming or gardening. The first highlights the relative insignificance of the human effort involved in the important work of growing food. So much happens without our being aware of it. The farmer has to trust that the earth will perform its work, and the members of God’s Kingdom must trust in God to fulfill his promises.

The mustard shrub parable highlights the small beginnings of the Kingdom and its generosity. The little seed barely draws attention, but eventually it becomes a refuge of shade and strength. Likewise, the Kingdom of God, the Church, began with Jesus’s disciples, and now it embraces millions. Even today, the Church is often dismissed as irrelevant, yet she always emerges as the pillar of truth.

## Video Reflection

Please watch the short **Opening the Word** video reflection for to-

day’s readings at [StMichael.FORMED.org](http://StMichael.FORMED.org)

## Digging Deeper: Childlikeness

The Catechism teaches us that Jesus himself “asks for childlike abandonment to the providence of our heavenly Father who takes care of his children’s smallest needs: ‘Therefore do not be anxious, saying, “What shall we eat?” or “What shall we drink?” . . . Your heavenly Father knows that you need them all’ ” (CCC 305).

This logic of the Gospel directly contradicts our American ideal of self-sufficiency. As a culture, we’re embedded with an unholy self-reliance that infiltrates our faith life and makes us believe that we have to earn God’s love. This can keep us from true communion with God and with others. God offers his love freely, and when we remain like dependent children, we are able to receive the love from our good Father.

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## Pure Fatherhood

*By Devin Schadt*

### Celebrate Father’s Day!

Every father has been entrusted with a lofty vocation—to serve as a visible reflection of God the Father. In this inspiring talk, Devin Schadt draws upon the example of Saint Joseph to encourage fathers to understand and embrace their privileged role in the family and Church today.

[StMichael.FORMED.org](http://StMichael.FORMED.org)



*“This presentation does a wonderful job of helping fathers hear Joseph. It is a great inspiration and motivator to be the fathers that God calls us to be...”*

—Andrew O, Moline, IL

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# Mass

## Intentions

### Saturday 6/16

- 8:30am Ken & Mary Mitchell  
5:00pm Robert Stubler †  
7:00pm Luis Enrique Paredes †

### Sunday 6/17

- 6:45am Margarito Montana †  
Abelardo R. Gorospe  
8:00am Jaime Algarne †  
9:30am Betty Taylor †  
11:00am Pat & Ray Werner †  
12:30pm Nosadini Osorno, Garcia  
and Caranza families †  
6:00pm James Happe †

### Monday 6/18

- 8:30am Patricia Bellavia †

### Tuesday 6/19

- 8:30am Mathilde & Anton Gapp †

### Wednesday 6/20

- 8:30am Charlotte Feltz †  
7:00pm Sonia More & Virginia †

### Thursday 6/21

- 8:30am Jim Kane †

### Friday 6/22

- 8:30am Ken Gels †

**To arrange a Mass intention, please visit the Church Office.**

**The suggested donation of \$10 per intention goes to the priest who celebrates the Mass.**



Please send your prayer requests to [Prayers@StMichaelLivermore.com](mailto:Prayers@StMichaelLivermore.com) and request to join the 75 other "parish prayer warriors" who receive a list of intentions weekly.

**T**he mustard seed parable reveals to us our call to be children of God, completely dependent on him. He is always giving himself to us, and only our pride can keep us away from his unending love. If we remain little, he will be able to do great things through us.

### Prayer

Return to the Gospel for today. Remember your call to childlike humility as you ponder these words. Try to get in touch with the freedom that comes from realizing that we are not the ones who build the kingdom—God does.

Take a word that comes to mind and reflect on what it means to you personally. For example, the phrase "becomes the largest of plants" might have struck you. Ask yourself what this means in your own life. Is the Lord trying to give you hope in this mystery so that you can abandon yourself more fully to him?

### Resolution

The parable of the mustard seed should encourage us that despite our many sins and imperfections, we have the ability to live a good life with the Lord. God transforms the humble, the little ones, into saints because they must totally rely on him. It is the same with little groups of people.

## Bishop's Appeal

Donate at [www.oakdiocese.org](http://www.oakdiocese.org)

Number of Donors	92
Number of Pledges	24
Pledge Amount	\$10,800
Funds Raised	\$27,181
Overall Goal	\$77,500
Percentage Reached	35.07%
Average gift amt	\$295

## Collection Report

Donate at [www.FaithDirect.net](http://www.FaithDirect.net)

6/10/18 Collection	\$19,520.82
Month-to-Date	\$46,176.50
Month Goal	\$87,058.82
Percentage Reached	53%
Faith Direct	\$7,901.00
Maintenance (for Month)	\$7,505.25

## Question of the Day

**Who is someone in your life whom you have witnessed growing in the faith?**

Look for the question of the day, along with a beautiful image and quote drawn from the day's Mass readings, on St Michael's Facebook, Instagram and Twitter accounts every morning around 6:00 am. Your comment might just be what someone else needed to hear! It's an easy way to be part of an online faith group.

Facebook @StMichaelParishLivermore  
Instagram @StMichaelLivermore  
Twitter @StMichael94550

## Can You Run to Costco Twice a Month?



St Vincent de Paul Society is in need of a volunteer to pick up at the Livermore Costco on Sunday morning every other week.

Most weeks the volume of food will fit in a passenger car, but several times a year the quantities can be larger so a pickup truck with cover or a minivan would be preferred. We could also use volunteers to serve as substitutes for other days to cover for our regulars when they are unable to make their pickups. This could be an excellent family activity!

The St Vincent de Paul Food Locker, located behind St Michael's, is where people in need can receive free groceries, Monday through Thursday, from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm,

If you are interested in helping out or would like more information please contact Paul Kuzmenko ([kuzmenko@att.net](mailto:kuzmenko@att.net)) or leave a message at 925-447-3637.

Thank you for helping us help others.



# THIS WEEK

## MONDAY, JUNE 18

**Readings:** 1 Kgs 21:1-16; Ps 5:2-3ab, 4b-7; Mt 5:38-42

### Suggestion

Summer Adoration is available to you 24/7 in the chapel. Stop by anytime, or better yet, schedule a day and time on your calendar today! To officially sign up as an adorer, send an email to

### Adoration

[@StMichaelLivermore.com](http://@StMichaelLivermore.com)

## THURSDAY, JUNE 21

### St. Aloysius Gonzaga

**Readings:** Sir 48:1-14; Ps 97:1-7; Mt 6:7-15

### Suggestion

Download Youth Program registration packets for Faith Formation (grades 1-6), Edge Middle School, LifeTeen High School and Teen Confirmation. Set aside time to complete the forms and turn them in.

## TUESDAY, JUNE 19

### St. Romuald

**Readings:** 1 Kgs 21:17-29; Ps 51:3-6ab, 11, 16; Mt 5:43-48

### Events

Stroller Walk Playgroup meets at 10 am at Bothwell Park on 8th Street. Come meet other parents and young families!

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20

**Readings:** 2 Kgs 2:1, 6-14; Ps 31:20, 21, 24; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

### Events

Confession in the Convent Chapel at 2:30 pm.

*Feeling drawn to the Catholic Church? Come to the Convent at 7 pm to ask questions!*

## FRIDAY, JUNE 22

### St. Paulinus of Nola; Ss. John Fisher; Thomas More

**Readings:** 2 Kgs 11:1-4, 9-18, 20; Ps 132:11-14, 17-18; Mt 6:19-23

### Suggestion

Donate cheerful cotton fabric to Dress-a-Girl. Volunteers make simple dresses for girls in poverty-stricken countries. Contact Suzanne Beck at [suzbeck@yahoo.com](mailto:suzbeck@yahoo.com)

## SATURDAY, JUNE 23

**Readings:** 2 Chr 24:17-25; Ps 89:4-5, 29-34; Mt 6:24-34

### Events

Listen to True Worship by Fr. Mike Schmitz on StMichael.FORMED.org. Fr. Mike inspires and educates in this talk about the highest form of worship—the Mass. Through this vibrant presentation, Fr. Mike makes sure that you will have a deeper and more profound experience of the Mass.

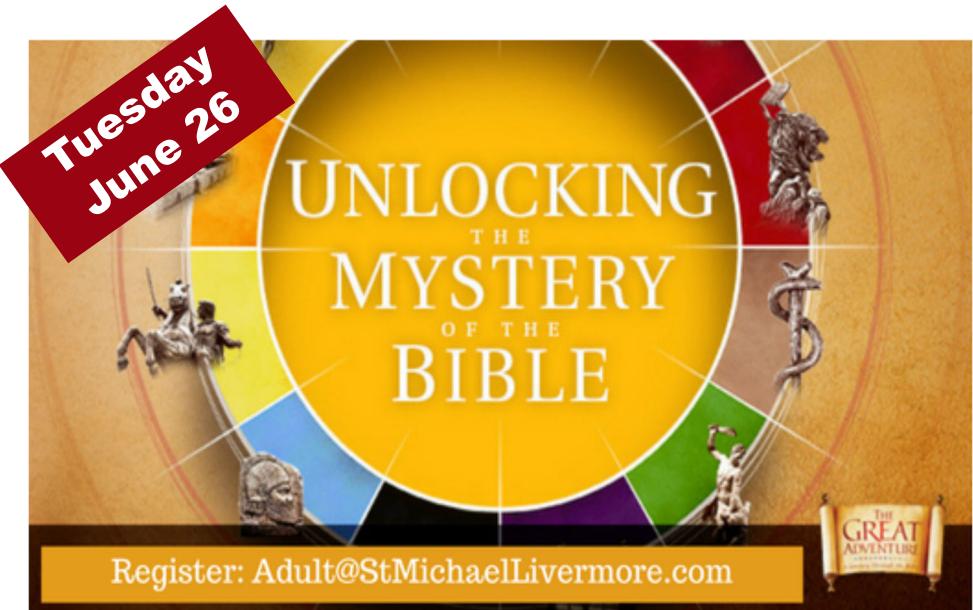
## SUNDAY, JUNE 24

### Nativity of St. John the Baptist

**Readings:** Is 49:1-6; Ps 139:1-3, 13-15; Acts 13:22-26; Lk 1:57-66, 80

### Theme:

The prophets were not fortune tellers – they were messengers. They were chosen by the Lord to remind His people that He was real and had a good plan for them.



## **Vacation Bible Camp**

**June 25-29 from 9:15 am-12:15 pm  
In the Church & School**

Come to enjoy a fun-filled week exploring the Our Father! Through songs, skits, prayer and crafts students will learn that God Listens, God Provides, God Forgives, God Guides and Priests Serve God.

Info and registration at  
[StMichaelLivermore.com/  
FaithFormation](http://StMichaelLivermore.com/FaithFormation)

## **Summer Office Hours Church and Faith Formation**

Church office hours are Monday-Friday, 9 am - 4 pm during July only.

Faith Formation hours are Monday-Friday, 10am-3pm, June 1 through August 27.

Many questions can be answered by visiting the parish website at [StMichaelLivermore.com](http://StMichaelLivermore.com)

## **Dress-a-Girl Sew Fest**

**Sat, June 30 from 9am—3 pm  
Large Hall**

Come make simple dresses for girls in poverty-stricken countries. We need all kinds of help: sewing, ironing, cutting.

We are always accepting cheerful cotton fabric donations. We have take-home sew kits too if you can't make it. Contact:  
Suzanne Beck  
[suzbeck@yahoo.com](mailto:suzbeck@yahoo.com)

## **Traditional Latin Mass**

**Continues on Second Sundays at 8:00 am**

By popular demand, the Traditional Latin Mass will continue to be offered on the second Sundays of the month at 8:00 am.

Thank you to Fr. Staal, Deacon Rob, Debbie Pizatto, Anne Staal, JaNet Hancock and our altar servers and musicians who have worked hard to learn and restore this liturgy.

## **Faith Formation**

**Classes Start  
The Week of August 29**

Register your first through sixth grade students now at [StMichaelLivermore.com/  
FaithFormation](http://StMichaelLivermore.com/FaithFormation)

First grade through high school students who need Baptism and/or 7th grade through high school students who need First Communion, please call Lourdes at 925-667-4096 for further instructions.

## **Teen Confirmation Classes Start**

**The Week of September 18**

Registration is NOW OPEN for students in high school who would like to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Please pick up your registration packet in the faith formation office or on the parish website at [StMichaelLivermore.com/  
Confirmation](http://StMichaelLivermore.com/Confirmation)

## **Sierra Stars Leadership Camp for Girls**

**Silver Spur Retreat Center, Tuolumne, CA  
July 22-27**

Have a unique, fun-filled week of leadership training, character building, faith formation, science, sports, drama and dance as well as arts and crafts. The curriculum is well-organized, high energy, and campers receive mentoring on personal goals.



Campers are girls entering 5th-9th grade. Fee: \$480 per camper; Sibling discount of \$25.  
Email: [info@campsierrastars.com](mailto:info@campsierrastars.com)

## **Eastwood Leadership Camp for Boys**

**Oakland Diocese Youth Retreat Center in Lafayette  
July 23-28**

Break away from your daily routine and come to the action-packed and exciting Eastwood Leadership Camp. Do you like swimming, hiking, sports, games? Do you want to learn what it takes to become a leader? Rise to the challenge! Develop service, friendship, teamwork, faith!

Campers are boys entering 5th-9th grade. Fee: \$500 per camper; sibling discount of \$50.  
Email: [avalenton@yahoo.com](mailto:avalenton@yahoo.com)



1918-2018  
100 Years of Catholic Tradition  
*Centennial*  
September 28-30



View looking down First Street in the early 1900's. St Michael's gothic style church is the tallest structure, seen top left, near where Sunrise Mountain Sports building is today.



*At the far left is the first St Michael church, built in 1872. It served the parish until 1891 when the new gothic style church was built, seen to the right.*



The church caught fire in August 1916. Firefighters stood helpless, as their hoses could not reach the towering spire. In minutes, the church was gone.

## Centennial Celebration

**Friday, September 28—  
Sunday, September 30**

**Celebrate Mass  
with Bishop Michael Barber on  
Friday at 6 pm**

**Enjoy Food, Entertainment and  
Fun at the Fall Festival  
Saturday and Sunday**

**Encounter Our Church History  
More details to come!**

## RECOMENDACIONES DEL MES



### Estoy en Casa: La división entre los cristianos

El Dr. Fernando Casanova nos explica cómo la división entre los cristianos no es parte del plan de Salvación de Dios. Él quiere que seamos uno, como el Padre y el Hijo son Uno.

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#### RECOMENDACIONES ADICIONALES

- Escuchar: *Beato Pier Giorgio*
- Estudiar: *Fe y Vida: La Voluntad de Dios*

Véalo en [StMichael.FORMED.org](http://StMichael.FORMED.org)



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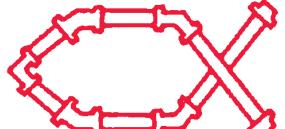
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# Information | Información

## St. Michael Parish | La Parroquia de San Miquel

458 Maple St, Livermore, CA 94550 Tel: 925-447-1585



Flocknote.com/sml



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### Mass | Misa

**Mon-Sat | Lu-Sa** 8:30 am

**Wed | Mi** 7:00 pm (español)

### 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

### Vietnamese | Vietnamita

4th Sun, 3:30 pm

Cuarto domingo a las 3:30 pm

Low gluten hosts are available. Please make a request in the sacristy 10 minutes prior to Mass.

### Confession | Confesión

#### Saturday, in the church |

#### Sábado en la iglesia

9:00 am & 3:45 pm in English

6:15 pm en español

1st & 3rd Wed in the Convent Chapel,  
at 2:30 pm in English

### 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 |

24/7 en la Capilla. Para el código de acceso después de las horas, llame al 775-772-6369

### Office Hours | horas de oficina

**M-F** 8:30 am—5:00 pm (closed during lunch)

**Sun** 8:30 am—12:30 pm

### Clergy | Clero

Rev. Van Dinh, Pastor  
Rev. Alfonso Borgen, Parochial Vicar  
Rev. David Staal, Associate  
Rev. Alfred Amos, In Residence  
Rev. Stanislaus Poon, Retired  
Rev. Deacon Bill Archer  
Rev. Deacon Rob Federle  
Rev. Deacon Dave Rezendes

### Pastoral Council | Consejo Pastoral

Pastoral Council Chair: Mike Pereira  
michaelpereira@comcast.net

Eric Hom, Fidelis Atuegbu, Jo Anne Lindquist, Dave Parks, Frank Draschner, Miguel Ibarria, Jeff Andersen, Cynthia Garay and Glenda Dubsky.

### Finance Council | Consejo Financiero

Finance Council Chair: Dave Ruth  
daveruth@alrinc.com

Eric Hom, Cynthia Garay, Edna McCombe, Analy Palomino, Vanessa Suarez

### 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



Deacon Dave Rezendes, 925-447-1585  
Temporary Administrator

Fr Van Dinh, Pastor  
(on administrative leave)

Fr Alfonso Borgen, Parochial Vicar 925-667-4053

Eric Hom, Business 925-667-4052

Deacon Bill Archer 925-667-4056

Kathy Hawkins, Bookkeeper 925-667-4058

Church Front Office 925-447-1585

School Front Office 925-447-1888

Lourdes Kay, Faith Formation 925-667-4096

Priscilla Stutzman, DRE 925-667-4097

Joseph Garcia, Youth Minister 925-667-4093

Tina Gregory, Communication/Adult Enrichment 925-667-4051

JaNet Hancock, Music 925-292-5071

Debbie Pizzato, Liturgy 925-667-4095

Marjorie Melendez, RCIA 925-447-2925

Ana Fregoso, RICA 925-344-7150