



The Mike

The Newsletter of St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church, Studio City, CA

VOLUME 23, ISSUE 1 • January 2014

Resolutions

By the Very Reverend Dan Justin

On New Year's Eve I sat around a dinner table with some of my closest friends enjoying a wonderful feast. Inevitably, the conversation turned to New Year's Resolutions. Each of us went around the table and talked about what our ideas for resolutions were. Of course many of them had to do with weight loss and exercise programs. One friend resolved to cook more at home rather than eating out. Mine was to endeavor to read more in 2014. I already read a lot but I want to expand the horizons of what I read to include classics, poetry, biography, fiction, essays, and articles in addition to my regular menu of theological books.

The conversation on resolutions got me thinking about St. Michael's as we, as a faith community, move into this New Year. What should we be resolving to do and be? Lately the Holy Spirit has been stirring my heart around this question. I have always said that at St. Michael's we seek to cultivate a deep life of faith which gives life to service in the world. And yet, I wonder sometimes if we have not really solidified what that deep life of faith actually looks like? If St. Michael's is going to be a place where we grow in faith, should we not take some time to identify ways to measure that growth? I long for this parish to be a place where people can learn and practice the Christian way of life. The Anglican tradition has always held to the belief that growth in faith is best when done in community. We come together from different walks of life and different backgrounds and we learn and grow together. In a very real sense, we smooth out each other's rough edges. We can learn from one another and encourage one another along the way. Church is the practice field of faith. This is where we develop the competencies of the Christian life so that we may live the rest of our lives as Christians. And folks can do this at different paces. We are not all the same. Our journeys and backgrounds are different. Some are doubters, some are seekers, some are lifelong Christians, and some are beginners. The point is, wherever you are in your journey of faith—

there is a place for you here.

So what does this life of faith actually look like? How can we measure our growth in faith? Priority one is worship. Regular attendance in Sunday worship is the first step. In fact, every aspect of our Sunday liturgy becomes an opportunity to practice various parts of our faith. In the beginning people come to worship with the hopes of getting something out of



it. As you grow in this area you will begin to see worship not as an opportunity to get something but rather to give something. We gather to offer our worship and love to God. Here at St. Michael's we are unashamedly Anglican in our style of worship. We will always stand on the foundation of the Book of Common Prayer because it is who we are. Worship is the foundation of everything else we will do as we seek to grow in our Christian lives.

Prayer is the second area we should be seeking to grow in—Regular prayer; daily prayer. The Episcopal/Anglican tradition has always placed high value on Morning and Evening Prayer. We start our day with thanksgiving to God for the gift of a new day. We end our day with thanksgiving to God for the day that has just past. Prayer punctuates our day and brings us closer to God. If you want to grow in your faith you must begin a regular routine of prayer. And I strongly recommend using the Daily Office found in your Book of Common Prayer. I am more than happy to teach you how to use this liturgical resource.

Scripture reading is the third mark of a growing faith. We daily open our Bibles and read from God's word. We invite the Holy Spirit to help us understand. We seek to fashion our lives in accordance with God's ways as

revealed in the scripture. I read one chapter per day out of one of the books of the Bible. You may choose to begin with the Gospels and read all the way through the New Testament. Alternatively, you may want to explore all the resources in bookstores or online that provide bible reading programs. The Book of Common Prayer offers a lectionary assigning readings from the Old Testament, New Testament, Psalms, and Gospels for each day. Again, I am happy to explain how this works.

Giving is yet another mark of a growing faith. Giving of money, giving of time, and giving of talent are all included here. As we grow in our faith and seek to grow in our faith we will become more generous people. Christ's life was marked by generosity and self-giving love. The ultimate goal of growing in faith is to learn to live more like Jesus lived. That means we need regular practice in the art of giving.

As we focus on growth in worship, prayer, scripture reading, and giving we will naturally begin to serve the world in Christ's name. As you grow in faith you will discover that you are gifted and called to be a minister. And that word does not mean ordination. It is the identity of every baptized Christian. You are a minister. If you begin to grow in faith by learning and focusing on the practices listed above—I promise you—you will discover a ministry of service in the world. It is the natural result of growth in faith.

So this year let us resolve ourselves to a program of growing in faith. We will measure our success through our lives of worship, prayer, scripture reading, and generosity. Let's do this together as a community. Let St. Michael's be a place of beauty committed to worship, study, and service in our attempt to live and practice the Christian life.

Happy New Year,

Dan+

The Bishop Is Coming

by the Very Reverend Dan Justin

I am thrilled to report that our Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Mary Glasspool, has scheduled a visitation to St. Michael and All Angels. The date of her visit will be Sunday, February 16, 2014. She will preside and preach at both the 8:00 and 10:30 am services. I hope you will all save this date and make a special effort to attend church on this date.

The bishop will be offering confirmation, reception, and reaffirmation to be made available on this date. There are large numbers of people in the parish who may wish to consider being confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church.

Who should be confirmed? If you were baptized as an infant, confirmation is your opportunity to make for yourself the promises made on your behalf in your baptism. Teenagers aged thirteen and up who have not been confirmed should consider confirmation on the 16th. If you were baptized as an adult but have not been confirmed you should consider confirmation on the 16th. If you are new to the Episcopal Church having grown up a different tradition and would like to formally join the Episcopal Church, you should consider confirmation on the 16th.

What if you were confirmed in a different tradition such as Roman Catholic or Lutheran but would now like to formally join the Episcopal Church? In this case you would be received into the Episcopal Church. If you are unsure whether you would need to be confirmed or received please have a conversation with me. I will be happy to help you decide what would be best.

I have already received word from several parishioners that they would like to be confirmed. If you have not already expressed this desire to me please send me an e-mail at rector@stmikessc.org.

I will be teaching a two part Confirmation Class beginning at the end of January. Each part of the class will be offered twice—once on a Wednesday night and once on a Saturday morning. Those interested in confirmation should endeavor to attend both part one and two of the class. My goal in offering each class twice on different days is to allow for the greatest flexibility for schedules and conflicts. You only need attend each part once. I am currently firming up the dates of those classes and will notify you via announcements, e-mail, and the Sunday morning bulletin of those dates once they are finalized.

Again, if you have any questions regarding confirmation, reception, or reaffirmation please feel free to contact me at any time.



Bishop Suffragan Mary Douglas Glasspool

January Birthdays

Day	Name
4	Lily Peterson
10	Nick Renton
12	Don DeRose Paul Reese
18	Norma Johnson
19	Bea Andrews Brandon Nel
21	Larissa Farley
23	Kevin Mitchell
27	Lauren Wong
30	Anne Kelly

January Anniversaries

Day	Name
1	Lise & David Friedman

Should you be listed here?

Or, if you wish to leave your birthday or anniversary unpublished, give the church office a call or e-mail administrator@stmikessc.org to let us know. *Please Note: Birthdays and Anniversaries will be celebrated on the last Sunday of each month.*

Fa La La La La Caroling with the St. Michael's Parish!

On Friday, December 13th, approximately six carloads of carolers caravanned around Studio City and Sherman Oaks spreading Christmas cheer. This year we had more children than ever and they really added a special spirit to the affair. Along our way, we sang to Kathryn Argall at Sunrise Senior Living, and to the residents of Studio City Rehab; Parke Perine got a private hallway performance. We sang in the lobby of Julie Meine Bate and Dick Bate's apartment building and sang for cookies on the front porch of Bea, Karen, and Linda Andrews' home. To cap the night off, many of our carolers gathered in the Ministry Center to help the busy and inspired elves hard at work on the next morning's Holiday Cheer event. As has been the custom, we all left with a sweet warmth in our hearts and a looking forward to the next year of caroling!



Treasurer's Corner

November 2013—Revenue and Expense Summary

	November Actual	November Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Total Revenue	\$ 26,933	\$ 33,805	\$407,500	\$371,859
Total Expense	38,957	37,978	381,805	373,404
Net	\$(12,024)	\$(4,173)	\$ 25,695	\$(1,545)

From the Vestry

David Connors, Senior Warden
Bill Fields, Junior Warden



Happy New Year! By now the dust has settled on the, often, very busy Christmas holidays. School and work are back in session and comfortable routines have resumed. For me, New Year's is a time for reflection. I look back over the past year and I take stock of what went well and what didn't go so well.



I give thanks to God for all the wonderful things that have happened over the past year. I try to not take anything for granted. I also spend time reflecting on the challenges of the past year. It is not always easy, however, I try to view challenges as an opportunity to deepen my faith and my relationship with God.

St. Michael's participates in this same type of reflection every January at our annual Parish Meeting. On Sunday, January 19th, St. Michael's will have its annual Parish Meeting right after the 10:30 am service in the Ministry Center. This is where the parish is reflective of the past year's activities and looks

at the opportunities possible in the upcoming year. The various parish ministries will have reports in the program where they summarize their accomplishments. I love reading these reports and I am always astounded at the level of commitment that so many parishioners have to St. Michael's. There are many parish activities of which we are all aware, such as the Holiday Cheer event last month. There are also so many activities of which some of us may not be aware. Most of this is shared at the Annual Meeting and it love to hear all about it.

This year, at the Annual Meeting, in addition to ministry updates, we will be electing four new parishioners to the Vestry—Julie Bellevue, Gail Green, Jenni Hernandez, and Ron Schwartz. This is a great time for us to show our appreciation to our fellow parishioners and socialize a bit before and after the meeting. The best part—all of this is shared with a potluck lunch. Please plan on attending the Annual Meeting on January 19th!

Thanks...

From MEND

Thank you for once again for inviting us to your 2013 Holiday Cheer Celebration and making us feel at home. You are all so warm and welcoming. Your Holiday Cheer event fosters a sense of community unlike any other event that our clients participate in. The fact that you are able to take the time to make each family feel recognized is truly heartwarming. You have made many Christmas memories for our families, many of whom would not have many happy Christmas memories to recall without St. Michael's. Our youth clients enjoyed making crafts, decorating cakes, and making ornaments. They are also excited to know that you love soccer as much as they do! The lunch was wonderful as well!

Thank you also for offering our clients the opportunity to take family portraits. One family in particular had never had a professional portrait taken together because their father always works. He almost did not make it to the party last Saturday, but went when he learned that he wasn't needed at work that Saturday. Imagine, having your only complete family portrait ever thanks to the Holiday Cheer party. These are the wonderful memories you have helped our clients to make that they will treasure for years to come.

We are blessed to have you all as our partners. Thank you for thinking of our clients every Christmas Season. We wish you a healthy and prosperous 2014.

Warmly,

Andrea Lopez

MEND Education and Training Center
Youth Services Coordinator
13460 Van Nuys Blvd.; 2nd Floor
Pacoima, CA 91331
818-686-7319
www.mendpoverty.org

From Stefanie Wilson

On Saturday, January 11, at the Cathedral of St. John, the people consented and Bishop Mary Glasspool ordained me and eleven other colleagues as priests in the Church of God. It was a grand celebration and overwhelmingly joyful moment for me.

I am exceedingly grateful for the support I received that day from all of you at St. Michael's. As I processed into the church, I felt proud to walk down the aisle behind our church's banner. Throughout the service, as I looked out into the pews of the crowded cathedral, I was overjoyed and humbled to see many members of our congregation there to support me.

Thank you to all of you who came and participated in that service and equal thanks to those of you who sent me your prayers on that glorious day. Thank you also for the gift of the beautiful chasuble. It was special to preside at my first Eucharist with you, wearing your generous gift.

It is my continual blessing to be a part of the St. Michael's community and serve you as one of your priests. As I prayed and practiced before celebrating my first mass with you on the following Sunday, my prayers continually came back to how grateful I feel to be serving with all of you. God has blessed my life by bringing me to St. Michael's. Thank you for all you continue to teach me, the support you lend me, and for keeping me in your prayers. May God continue to bless our journey in ministry together.

Sincerely,

Stefanie+



Christmas Pageant

December 24, 2013



Ordination of Stefanie Wilson

January 11, 2014, at St. John's Pro-Cathedral





The Calendar

January 2014

Sunday Schedule • *Sunday Services are 8:00 am (no choir) and 10:30 am (with choir) in the Sanctuary.*
 • *Adult Learning Opportunity begins at 9:15 in the Ministry Center*
 • *Sunday School begins at 10:15 with Family Sing in the Ministry Center; the children are brought into Eucharist for the Peace.*
 • *Coffee Hour immediately follows the 10:30 am service unless otherwise noted.*

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Locations:

- CO Church Office
- MR Music Room
- FR Fireside Room
- MC Ministry Center
- L The Loft (formerly the stage)
- S Sanctuary

1 Holy Name
 New Year's Day
 Parish Office closed

2

3

4

5 Christmas 2
 12:00 noon Youth Group (L)

6 Epiphany
 6:15 pm Book Discussion
 Group (Woods home)

7

8
 7:30 pm Young Adults
 Group (L)

9
 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal
 (MR)

10

11

12 Epiphany 1
 11:30 am Second Sunday Sack
 Lunches (MC)

13

14

15
 7:00 pm Men's Group
 (Rondilla-Molera home)
 7:00 pm Handbell Choir
 Rehearsal (MR)

16
 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal
 (MR)

17

18 Confession of
 St. Peter

19 Epiphany 2
 12:00 noon Annual Meeting (MC)

20 M. L. King
 Holiday
 Parish Office closed

21
 7:00 pm Vestry (L)

22
 7:00 pm Handbell Choir
 Rehearsal (MR)

23
 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal
 (MR)

24

25 Conversion of
 St. Paul
 9:00 am Women's Group
 (MC)

26 Epiphany 3
 11:30 am Prayer Shawl Ministry
 (MC)
 12:15 pm Young Adults Group
 (Panera, 12131 Ventura Blvd)

27

28

29
 6:30 pm Confirmation
 Class
 7:00 pm Handbell Choir
 Rehearsal (MR)

30
 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal
 (MR)

31



The Calendar

February 2014

Sunday Schedule • *Sunday Services are 8:00 am (no choir) and 10:30 am (with choir) in the Sanctuary.*
 • *Adult Learning Opportunity begins at 9:15 in the Ministry Center*
 • *Sunday School begins at 10:15 with Family Sing in the Ministry Center; the children are brought into Eucharist for the Peace.*
 • *Coffee Hour immediately follows the 10:30 am service unless otherwise noted.*

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Locations:

- CO Church Office
- MR Music Room
- FR Fireside Room
- MC Ministry Center
- L The Loft (formerly the stage)
- S Sanctuary

1
10:00 am Confirmation Class

2 Presentation of Our Lord
in the Temple
12:00 noon Youth Group (L)

3

4

5
7:00 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal (MR)
7:30 pm Young Adults Group (L)

6
7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal (MR)

7

8

9 Epiphany 5
11:30 am Second Sunday Sack Lunches (MC)

10

11

12
6:30 pm Confirmation Class
7:00 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal (MR)

13
7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal (MR)

14 Valentine's Day

15
8:00 am Men's Group (MC)
10:00 am Confirmation Class

16 Epiphany 6
Episcopal Visitation by the Rt. Rev. Mary Glasspool
12:15 pm Young Adults Group (Panera, 12131 Ventura Blvd)

17 Presidents' Day
Parish Office closed

18
7:00 pm Vestry (L)

19
7:00 pm Women's Group (MC)
7:00 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal (MR)

20
7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal (MR)

21

22

23 Epiphany 7
11:30 am Prayer Shawl Ministry (MC)

24 St. Matthias

25

26
7:00 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal (MR)

27
7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal (MR)

28

St. Michael and All Angels Church

3646 Coldwater Canyon Ave., Studio City, CA 91604

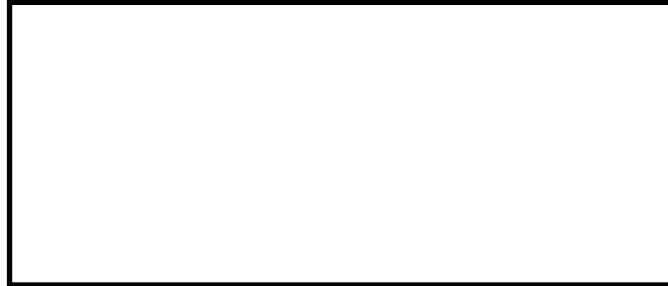
phone • 818.763.9193

fax • 818.763.2172

general e-mail • mail@stmikessc.org

web address • www.stmikessc.org

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



VESTRY

David Connors, Senior Warden

Bill Fields, Junior Warden

Peter Juzwiak, Treasurer

Alex Morales, Clerk

Karen Andrews

Sarah Cook

Gail Green

Betsy Hailey

Mary Ann Jacobson

Janet Kirkpatrick

Meredith Reese

William Wright

PARISH STAFF

Rector

The Very Rev. Daniel Justin (rector@stmikessc.org)

Priest Associate

The Rev. Stefanie Wilson (wilsons@campbellhall.org)

Seminarian

Christopher Montella

Parish Administrator

Duane Steadman (administrator@stmikessc.org)

Director of Music

Kristen Toedtman (kristentoedtman@gmail.com)

Organist

Emil Iliev (emil_iliev@yahoo.com)

THE MIKE STAFF

Publisher

Duane Steadman

Editor

David Connors

Editor Emerita

Soni Wright

Vision Statement

We are a welcoming and evolving community of conscience engaged in the renewal of our faith by embracing diversity and encouraging growth through prayer, scholarship, social action, and artistic endeavor.

Our Mission Priority

Our mission priority is to focus on the United Nations' First Millennium Goal: To eradicate extreme hunger and poverty.