



# The Mike

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

VOLUME 25, ISSUE 5 • September 2016

## Making Plans...

By the Reverend Dan Justin

It is that time of year again. Summer has come to an end, school is back in session, and a new program year is beginning here at St. Michael and All Angels. That means we have been making plans for all we hope to do, accomplish, create, and offer. Allow me to share a little about what we are planning...

**September** sees the return of the St. Michael's Parish Choir and Bell Choir. We are blessed to have had our section leaders serving as cantors and soloists most Sundays of the summer. As wonderful as they each are, it is always a joy to welcome back the full choir. This talented group leads our worship each and every week. In addition to their weekly anthems and musical offerings, they also sing for our special services. I am grateful to each member of the choir, David, our Director of Music, and Duane, our organist, for their commitment. We will also welcome back the St. Michael's Bell Choir in September. This is another group of committed and talented individuals who complement and round out our music program.

Our 9:15 am Bible Study will continue this fall. Our group has chosen to study the Gospel of John this fall. A reading schedule will be provided on the first day of our discussion. This Bible Study is conversational and relaxed. Please join us as we begin this new study.

Our youth ministry, under the fearless leadership of the Rev. Stefanie Wilson Brown, will begin again this September. The youth group, consisting of teens 6th through 12th grade, gather for conversation and faith formation on the first Sunday of every month. Each month also includes a youth group activity. Some months these events are fun, social activities, while other months they are service activities. See this edition of the newsletter for more information about the youth ministry.

The observance of the Feast of St. Michael and All Angels will take place on September 25th with a festival Choral Eucharist at the 10:30 am service. This year we will host a potluck lunch in the Ministry Center immediately following

the service. It will be a glorious service with fun activities for the whole family available that day. More information on this will be available as the date gets closer.



pledge cards allow us to prepare the 2017 budget.

The first weekend of the month, October 2nd, is the ever popular Pet Blessing service. We remember and honor the Feast of St. Francis on this day. Your dogs, cats, and/or pets of any kind are welcome to attend church with you at the 10:30 am service. The service will conclude with a general blessing of all the animals. Individual blessings will be available in the courtyard immediately following the service. Coffee Hour will be available both in the Ministry Center and on the patio. Those with pets in tow are welcome to enjoy the outdoor Coffee Hour. Those who prefer to keep their distance from four-legged friends are welcome to enjoy the Coffee Hour inside the Ministry Center.

**November** kicks off with our annual observance of All Saints' Day on November 6th. This is the day we remember our ongoing connection with all those saints who have come before us and who are now with God. The book of Hebrews calls this the "Great cloud of witnesses." The necrology will be read within the context of the Eucharistic Prayer that day.

November 6th is also the day of what has become one of our more popular outreach events. CROP Walk will be held on the 6th following the service. The St. Michael's team will once again be organized, money will be

raised to fight world hunger, and we will walk together to raise awareness. More information on CROP Walk is available in this edition of the newsletter.

The North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry will host the annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service on Wednesday, November 23rd. Our Sunday School students will collect food over the course of the month and that collection will be given at the Interfaith service. Keep an eye out for flyers announcing the time and location of this year's service.

**December** is a busy time around St. Michael's. We begin the month with Advent Lessons and Carols, which will be on December 4th at 5:00 pm. This service is a wonderful way to begin the Advent season.

Holiday Cheer, our largest outreach activity of the year, will take place on Saturday, December 10th. We will once again welcome kids from MEND and other area shelters, throwing them a Christmas party they won't soon forget. Set-up and decorating will happen the evening before on Friday, December 9th. We also traditionally schedule our Christmas caroling outing around this time.

Blue Christmas returns on Wednesday, December 14th at 7:00 pm. This special service is designed for those who find the holidays difficult, depressing, sad, or painful. Blue Christmas is a quiet, contemplative service lit by candles. The music is different from what is regularly heard on Sunday mornings. All are welcome to attend, even those who are not feeling blue.

Christmas is always a special time here at St. Michael's and this year will be no different. Christmas Eve will begin with our Christmas Pageant at 5:00 pm, the Holy Eucharist immediately follows. We look forward to the return of our Christmas party, which takes place after the early service in the Ministry Center. Our second service of the night begins with music at 9:30 pm, followed by the Holy

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## Rector

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Eucharist beginning at 10:00 pm. Christmas Day is on a Sunday this year. We will offer only one service that Sunday at 10:00 am. A hot breakfast will be served in the Ministry Center at 9:00 am Christmas morning.

**St. Michael's Mid-Week returns** this fall. A new Mid-Week class will be offered on September 28th, October 26th, and November 30th. We will gather in the Ministry Center at 6:30 pm to share a pizza dinner. Class and discussion will begin at 7:00 pm. Each Mid-Week event will end by 8:30 pm. These are great opportunities for learning and community building. You will find descriptions of each class later in this edition of the Mike.

As you can see, there is a lot going on around here this fall. And who knows, we may even plan more as we go. I hope you are able to stay connected and participate in as many of these events as possible. I look forward to seeing you there.

Blessings,  
Dan+

### September Birthdays

Day	Name
6	Margie Mullen Jack Sage
7	Myla Russo
8	Amador Rondilla
11	Lucy Juzwiak-DeRose
13	Barbara Beckner
18	Lucy Schouweiler Gail Wright
19	Duane Steadman
20	Bradford Hebbe-Zubiate
22	Amy Friedman Alexander Graves
24	Zofie Basta
25	Stefanie Wilson Brown David Connors
26	Julie Meine

### September Anniversaries

Day	Name
6	David Connors & Alex Morales

#### 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. Birthdays and Anniversaries will be celebrated on the last Sunday of each month.

Read the MIKE Online! Go to the St. Michael's website, [www.stmikessc.org](http://www.stmikessc.org), and click on Newsletter. Back issues are available there as well.

## Junior High and High School Youth Group is Back Again with Two Kick-Off Events!

The St. Michael's Youth Group is back in action. Whether you are a long-time Youth Group member or brand new, we want you to come to the Welcome Back Youth Group Party! All 6th-12th graders are invited to kick off the year with games and pizza on Sunday, September 11th after the 10:30 am service. We will meet after the service in the loft of the Ministry Center to play, talk, eat, and get to know each other until 1:30 pm.

Youth Groupers and their friends are also invited to Bowling Night. On September 24th, from 4:45-7:00 pm, we will be bowling at Pinz in Studio City. The cost is \$15.00 per person and includes 2 hours of bowling, pizza, soda, and bowling shoe rentals. For more information and to RSVP, email the Rev. Stefanie Wilson at wilsons@campbellhall.org.

St. Michael and All Angels Youth Group meets once a month in the Ministry Center for discussion and prayer. We seek to explore our faith together and get to know each other better. Typically, the group meets the first Sunday of the month. We also have a monthly social or service event.

We are looking forward to another stellar year together!

## Choir Resumes

By David Connors

The choir resumes rehearsals the Thursday after Labor Day, this year the date is September 8th. We resume singing at the 10:30 am service the following Sunday, September 11th.



Choir rehearsals are every Thursday evening from 7:15-9:15 pm in the Choir Room. We begin with some stretching and light physical warm-ups. Next we warm-up the singing voice with a few easy vocal exercises. We will rehearse several anthems and, usually around 8:30 pm we will take a break. Choir members take turns bring snacks each week so, we are able to socialize and have something to eat. After the break we rehearse until 9:15 pm and, usually, the last song we rehearse is the anthem for the upcoming Sunday.

All are welcome to join the choir. If you are unsure as to whether you have the time, you can try it out for a few weeks and see what it's like. You are also welcome to just sit in on a rehearsal to see what that is like. The Choir has wonderful people who all love to sing. We would love to have your voice in the group. If you are interested or would like additional information, please contact me at david.connors@calstatela.edu. I know that you will have a great time praising God in song!

### As you do your weekly grocery shopping, remember these items that are always needed by the North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry

*Canned fruit and vegetables.*

*Baby food in plastic jars.*

*Tuna.*

*Peanut butter in plastic jars.*

*Powdered milk in individual packets.*

*Individual size snacks.*

*Bags of dry beans and rice.*

*Plastic and paper shopping bags.*

*Diapers and feminine hygiene items.*

*Travel-size soap, toothpaste &*

*disposable razors.*

*And money!*

## Treasurer's Corner

July 2016—Revenue and Expense Summary

	July Actual	July Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Total Revenue	\$ 45,904	\$ 35,863	\$291,372	\$251,039
Total Expense	32,536	36,155	265,220	265,279
Net	\$ 13,368	(\$ 3,292)	\$ 26,152	(\$ 14,240)



**W**elcome Back—Yes it's that time of year again! Most of us are back to the routine, transitioning to that annual rhythm of fall, finishing that last summer outing or enjoying the long Labor Day weekend. School is back in session, and students are already fully engaged in homework, and the rigors of their academic settings.

Our Parish program year is underway as well. The choir returns on September 11th at our 10:30am service. The Children's ministries have begun their fall session. New acolytes are beginning their ministry and there is a sense of renewed energy on our Parish campus.

We invite you to renew your spiritual commitment and personal level of engagement for the year ahead at St. Michael's. The challenge—to find ways to participate, celebrate, and give of our time, talent, and treasures.

You can engage in one of St. Michael's many ministries from Sunday Sack Lunches to the Altar Guild; teaching Sunday School to Bible studies, from Solider Care to visits with those within our congregation who are unable to join in our

Eucharistic celebration. Participation in our ministries allows us to become involved, fulfill a passion, and bring us closer in fellowship.

We are also preparing for the kick off of our annual Stewardship campaign. Stewardship is more than just an annual pledge, although that is still a very vital part. This is a spiritual journey all of us make, and each of us is at a different place in that journey. Giving says something about where we are on our spiritual journey. Through our giving together, and individually, we can increase our positive influence in the church and in the world. When we give we are providing a legacy for our future and for those who come after us. We are building a spiritual legacy that will nurture us and bring us to know God in an ever deepening and meaningful way.

Over the upcoming weeks we look forward to an ongoing dialogue as a faith community as together we explore and reflect the many ways each of us can use the gifts that God has given us to do the work that God is calling us to do!

Again, welcome back and thank you for your commitment to St. Michael's and for all you do to keep it strong.

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## St. Michael's Mid-Week Returns

**S**t. Michael's Mid-Week returns with three exciting and, hopefully, helpful and interesting classes. We will gather in the Ministry Center at 6:30 pm. A simple dinner will be provided (suggested donation—\$5 per person; \$20 maximum per family). Class will begin at 7:00 pm and will be followed by discussion time. Mid-Week will end by 8:30 pm. Please RSVP for any Mid-Week you plan to attend so we can be certain to have enough food. RSVP by e-mailing Duane Steadman at [administrator@stmikessc.org](mailto:administrator@stmikessc.org). Please be sure to let Duane know how many people plan to attend with you.

Here is our Fall 2016 line-up:

### September 28, 2016, 6:30 pm *Christianity at the Crossroads*

**W**e live in a post-modern world in a time known as the Age of Experience. Traditional Christianity seems to be losing relevance. How can we practice our faith in this cultural setting? Where do we turn to find truth when truth is relative? Exploring the work of authors like David Lose and Charles Taylor, this class will seek to understand how we approach faith in this unique cultural time and place.

### October 26, 2016, 6:30 pm *Reviving Old Scratch: Spiritual Warfare in a World Without the Devil*

**A**ccording to author Richard Beck, "The devil has fallen on hard times." Many people in the church today no longer believe in a literal devil. People have enough difficulty believing in God, much less God's old adversary. Yet, the Bible is filled with language about the devil, demons, evil, and an ongoing war between God and evil. Where does spiritual warfare come into play in the church today? What do we more progressive Christians make of all this? This class will explore the major points of Richard Beck's book, *Reviving Old Scratch: Demons and Devils for Doubters and the Disenchanted*. It may just be the perfect class as we get ready for Halloween!

### November 30, 2016, 6:30 pm *Good Death; Good Funeral*

**C**hristian funerals have an important story to tell. There is some fairly profound theology to be found in the funeral liturgy. Yet, in our culture today, funerals have become relatively unpopular. They have been replaced with private services, celebrations of life, and simpler memorial services. This class will explore the theology of Christian funerals. In addition, the evening will also provide practical assistance, materials, and opportunity for pre-planning funeral services.

# Crop Hunger Walk (5k and Tot Walk)

Save the Date—Sunday, November 6th

By Nancy Woods

This will be the third year that St. Michael's will participate in the Crop Hunger Walk occurring this year on Sunday, November 6, 2016. Registration is at 12:30 pm and the walk starts at 1:30pm at Northridge United Methodist Church—9650 Reseda Boulevard, Northridge CA 91234.

Last year we had another great turnout of parishioners who actually walked the walk, parishioners who supported the walk by a donation from the Outreach budget funded through our pledges, and those who made individual donations and sent contributions from family and friends.

We all had a great time and looked great in our purple St. Michael's Crop Walk T-shirts. We were quite visible walking the route in Northridge with passersby honking, waving, and cheering us on. If you want to walk and do not already have a T-shirt, you can sign up

at church the first two weeks in October. You can also pre-register at Coffee Hour in October.

St. Michael's mission priority focuses on the United Nations' First Millennium Goal: To eradicate extreme hunger and poverty. (Think North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry and the Sunday Sack Lunch program which is distributed by MEND.) Crop Hunger Walk is a charitable walking event that fights hunger here in the San Fernando Valley and worldwide.

Our local Crop Hunger Walk is a community fundraising event sponsored by faith communities in the San Fernando Valley. The money raised helps our neighbors in need and also provides food, medical care, disaster relief, and self-help development for needy people around the world.



This fun event is for the whole family. You can walk the walk, the kids can do the Tot Walk, volunteer that day, cheer on Team St. Michael's and raise money from your friends, relatives, and co-workers toward this worthy cause.

For details, watch for the official brochure, announcements in the Sunday bulletin, and check it out on the web at [SFVCropwalk@yahoo.com](http://SFVCropwalk@yahoo.com)

If you have any questions, contact Nancy Woods at [nancyjwoods@roadrunner.com](mailto:nancyjwoods@roadrunner.com), call 818.769.2820 or ask any member of the Outreach Committee.

## An Update on the Search for a New Bishop

By the Rev. Dan Justin

The Diocese of Los Angeles will elect a Bishop Coadjutor at our December, 2016 Diocesan Convention. This new bishop will become our Diocesan Bishop immediately following the retirement of the Rt. Rev. J. Jon Bruno, currently planned for some time in late 2018. Over the past summer the Bishop Search Committee has been conducting interviews and narrowing down the field of nominees with the goal of releasing a slate of candidates this September. Reports from the committee indicated that approximately twenty members of the clergy were initially nominated for the position. This included local clergy from within the diocese, and some from outside the diocese. Reports from the search committee also notified us that nominees included international candidates, as well as some candidates who are already bishops in other dioceses of the National Church.

Recent updates from the search committee (at the time of this writing) indicate that the field has been narrowed down to seven names. It is our understanding that further interviews will produce a smaller slate of finalists. However, the exact number of how many finalists will be on the slate is still unknown at this time.

In October, the finalists will all be available for what is known as "walk abouts." This will

be our chance to meet the candidates in person, ask questions, and form our opinions. The diocese will also make biographical information and resumes for each finalist available for review.

On December 2, 2016, the Diocesan Convention will gather at the Ontario Convention Center. All ordained clergy—deacons and priests—of the diocese are eligible to vote. Each parish and mission of the diocese also sends representatives, known as delegates, to participate in Convention. St. Michael and All Angels gets three delegates. Our elected delegates are Anne Kelly, David Connors, and Julie Bellevue. If you are interested in the Diocesan Convention you are always welcome to attend as an observer. Observers are not eligible to vote, but you can be there in person to see who gets elected!

This is an important time for our diocese. I urge you to keep the election of our next bishop in your prayers.

*"Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a bishop for this Diocese, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."*  
BCP, pg. 818

### On the Topic of Bishops...

St. Michael's has a new area bishop. With a diocese as large as Los Angeles the bishops divide it into regions and assign an area bishop to provide pastoral care and oversight to the individual parishes and missions in those regions. The Rt. Rev. Diane Jardine Bruce has recently been appointed as area bishop for Deanery 1 and 2 (St. Michael's is located in Deanery 2). These areas include the San Fernando Valley and the region north of us including Thousand Oaks, Camarillo, Oxnard, Ventura, Santa Barbara and a bit beyond. Bishop Bruce also serves as area bishop for parishes in Orange County. Previously the Rt. Rev. Mary Glasspool served as our area bishop. Last year Bishop Glasspool accepted a new call to serve as the Assistant Bishop of the Diocese of New York. She began her new ministry in that diocese in April 2016. We are excited to have Bishop Bruce as our area bishop.







# The Calendar

September 2016

**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 10:30 am.*  
 • *Coffee Hour immediately follows the 10:30 am service.*

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

1 2 3

*Locations:*

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

**4** Pentecost 16  
(Proper 18)

- 8:00 am Holy Eucharist (S)
- 9:15 am Adult Education (MC)
- 10:30 am Holy Eucharist (S)
- 11:30 am Coffee Hour (MC)
- 11:30 am Sunday Sack Lunches (MC)

**5** Labor Day  
Holiday

**6**

**7**

**8**

- 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal (MR)

**9**

**10**

- 1:00 pm Concerned United Birthparents (FR)

**11** Pentecost 17  
(Proper 19)

- 8:00 am Holy Eucharist (S)
- 9:00 am St. Michael's Outreach (FR)
- 9:15 am Adult Education (MC)
- 10:30 am Holy Eucharist (S)
- 11:30 am Coffee Hour (MC)
- 11:30 am Youth Group (L)

**12**

- 6:30 pm Book Discussion Group

**13**

**14** Holy Cross Day

**15**

- 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal (MR)

**16**

**17**

**18** Pentecost 18  
(Proper 20)

- 8:00 am Holy Eucharist (S)
- 9:15 am Adult Education (MC)
- 10:30 am Holy Eucharist (S)
- 11:30 am Coffee Hour (MC)

**19**

**20**

- 7:00 pm Vestry (L)

**21** St. Matthew

**22**

- 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal (MR)

**23**

**24**

- 4:45 pm Youth Group Bowling at Pinz

**25** Saint Michael and  
All Angels

- 8:00 am Holy Eucharist (S)
- 9:15 am Adult Education (MC)
- 10:30 am Holy Eucharist (S)
- 11:30 am Potluck Lunch (MC)

**26**

**27**

**28**

- 6:30 pm Mid-Week (MC)

**29**

- 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal (MR)

**30**

# St. Michael and All Angels Church

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## THE MIKE STAFF

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## Vision Statement

*To be a welcoming, inclusive Christian community growing in faith through worship, prayer, study, and social action.*

## Our Mission Priority

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