



# The Mike

The Newsletter of St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church, Studio City, CA  
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## Let There Be Peace Among Us

By the Reverend Canon Henry L. Atkins, Jr., D.Min.

In John 20 when the resurrected Christ appears to the fearful, locked-up disciples he speaks to them by saying "Peace be with you." Jesus is giving to the disciples the very healing and wholeness of God. God's shalom is now upon the disciples and they are sent into the world as instruments of God's peace.

The one who taught us that "blessed are the peacemakers, God shall call them God's children", and who commanded us to "Put away the sword" on the night in which he was arrested now gives to us the gift of God's peace. The gift of peace is intended to be a primary characteristic of the Christian community.

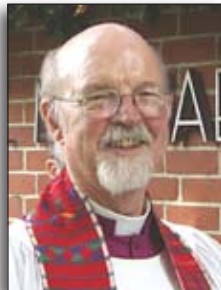
The early Christian community experienced the gift of peace as both liberating and demanding. The disciple was free to speak the word of peace to an enemy with the hope that the enemy could be embraced as a brother or sister. However, the enemy could also reject the word of peace and respond with indifference or violence. Many in the early Christian community engaged in non-violent suffering in the name of the crucified/resurrected One who had given them the gift of peace. We are surrounded by a great community of martyrs who placed first the peace of Christ.

As the Christian community expanded and began to know success in the eyes of the world, especially after the Christian community became the official religion of the Roman Empire, it was tempted by the power of domination. Power began to be seen as power over others and systems of control were erected which created a cycle of violence. Armies would march under the banner of the cross. By the 15th century missionaries traveled with the Spanish army and claimed new lands conquered by violence in the name of the Christian community.

The community that has been given the gift of the peace of Christ has often refused to claim the gift and has helped to create cultures of violence. We have killed Jews, Muslims, American Indians, and enslaved Africans all in the name of Christ. The power of violence enabled us to dominate others and become powerful. We have lived often as if our God is a god of war who demands

human sacrifices and we have been faithful in offering such sacrifices.

We presently live in a very violent period. During the war in Iraq we estimate that at least 100,000 civilians were killed. We regularly read of civilian deaths in Afghanistan. We have just apologized



for attacking a convoy of Afghan civilians and killing 27 of them this past February. We know that 27,000 of our own young men and women were wounded or killed in Iraq. We allow the violence against our own wounded young men and women to continue when they return to this country and are placed in under-funded hospitals and do not receive the medical care that they need.

However, the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan are only two examples of the violence of our age. Daily at least thirty thousand children starve to death in a world where we have the resources to feed them. Not feeding them is an act of violence against these dying children. The so-called "developed countries" have watched thousands die of AIDS and government supported violence in Africa. In Darfur alone between 200,000 to 400,000 civilians have been killed, and the "developed countries" have been slow to respond.

In the United States on the average more than three women are murdered by their husbands or boyfriends each day. Approximately 1.5 million women are raped and/or physically assaulted by an intimate partner in our country each year. In a national study of college students 27.5% of the women surveyed said that they had suffered rape or attempted rape at least once since age 14. Women in the United States know the reality of terrorism, yet we seem not so interested in addressing this terrorism. It would appear based on the way that we use our resources that we value oil more than women.

A 2007 article in the *Los Angeles Times* pointed out that the so-called war on drugs, we like to use the word war to address major social issues, has become a war on people of color. The article states "African Americans make up 15 percent of drug users, but account for nearly 75 percent of drug offenders sentenced to prison; and of the 260,000 people languishing in state prisons for nonviolent drug crimes, more than 70 percent are black or Latino." The violence of our age is usually imposed upon the poor and the oppressed.

The violence of our age is not just directed toward the human community. We have assumed an attitude of domination toward the very earth itself. The World Watch Institute estimates that by 2030 we will experience some major global disaster. Harvard biologist Edward O. Wilson estimates that half of all plants and animals will be extinct by 2100. Yet, several major governments, including our own, continue to operate as if the violence done to the earth is only a theory.

Our age is in great need of a Christian community that embraces the gift of peace given to it by the resurrected Christ. A gift that would allow us to move out of our culture of domination and begin to break the cycle

*See Peace on Page 2*

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## Peace *from Page 1*

of violence that is destroying us. Only God's peace can now deliver us. Embracing the gift of the peace of Christ is the great act of faith to which God is calling us in this age.

The reclaiming of the gift of peace must begin in our own hearts. We must learn as Psalm 10:19 so clearly states "To give justice to the orphan and oppressed, so that mere mortals may strike terror no more." The chain of violence, including terrorism, is broken only when we have claimed the gift of Christ's peace and seek life, fullness of life, for the orphan and oppressed. Violence never breaks the chain of violence, which is why in Psalm 11:6 we are told that "God abhors those who delight in violence."

In our Eucharistic liturgy whenever we receive the "peace", and whenever we give the "peace" to our neighbor, we are declaring that we intend to seek justice for the poor, end violence against women, struggle for the dignity of every human being and stop the rape of Mother Earth. In giving and receiving the "peace" we are declaring that we shall strive for a world that is transformed by God's shalom. Whenever we pray "let there be peace among us" we are stepping out of the culture of domination and embracing the culture of the crucified, resurrected One. Our world, which God so loved, demands nothing less from us.

*Pax, The Rev. Canon Henry L. Atkins, Jr.*

## Thanksgiving for a Job Well Done

To: All those who volunteered for the March 27 parish work day and especially to Ed Sugar and Preston Fray for organizing it.

All those who volunteered to help with our Big Sunday event on May 2 and to David Rosenberg for his hard work organizing and planning the event.

Jane Wilson for receiving a Special Friend of MEND award. With dignity and respect, powered by volunteers, the mission of Meeting Every Need with Dignity (MEND) is to break the bonds of poverty by providing basic human needs and a pathway to self-reliance.

*Please give these individuals heartfelt thanks for their contributions.*

*In the months that follow, the Vestry will continue to recognize the gifts of work and time that help keep St. Michael's a beautiful and useful campus, and a thriving parish.*

## Holy Week and Easter

at St. Michael and All Angels

### Palm Sunday

8:00 a.m.  
10:30 a.m.

### March 28

Holy Eucharist  
Holy Eucharist with Palm Sunday procession

### Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday in Holy Week

7:00 p.m.

### March 29, 30, and 31

Holy Eucharist

### Maundy Thursday

6:30 p.m.

### April 1

Agapé Supper and Holy Eucharist with Washing of Feet and Stripping of the Altar

### Good Friday

12:00 noon

### April 2

Good Friday Liturgy and Stations of the Cross

### Easter Eve

7:30 p.m.

### April 3

The Great Vigil of Easter with Baptisms

### Easter Day

8:00 a.m.  
10:30 a.m.

### April 4

Holy Eucharist  
Holy Eucharist

### St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church

3646 Coldwater Canyon Avenue, Studio City 91604  
818.763.9193 ♦ E-mail: mail@stmikessc.org

## As you do your weekly grocery shopping, remember these items that are always needed by the North Valley 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!*



# From the Vestry

Anne Kelly, Senior Warden  
David Connors, Junior Warden

## What Are the Responsibilities of the Wardens?



Most parishioners at St. Michael's probably have some sense of what the wardens do (or what they ought to be doing). Last month we summarized those responsibilities, but this month we thought it might be helpful to provide a little more detail.

In the Episcopal Church, the role of the wardens has been evolving. Traditionally the Senior Warden is the "rector's warden" and the Junior Warden is the "people's warden." However, "the canons of the Episcopal Church say very little about the role of the wardens other than their responsibility to ensure that worship services are continued in the absence of or the disability of the rector or parish priest." (*Vestry Papers*, Episcopal Church Foundation, Jan/Feb, 2009). The role of the wardens seems to vary depending on the needs and traditions of the congregation, the leadership style of rector, and the culture and practices of the diocese.

Wardens seem to be especially important in times of clergy transition as one priest or rector departs and

another arrives. Because we are wardens during such a transition time in our parish, it is particularly important that we and the parish have a clear understanding of our most important responsibilities.

**Goal 1: To be especially mindful of our own spiritual growth and development.** In order to be effective wardens, we need to maintain a strong reliance on God to lead us and strengthen our personal faith. We need to develop our trust that God is guiding us through this time of transition and that our job is to be faithful to what God is calling us to do and be.

**Goal 2: To provide support and encouragement to both the current and the new priest.** We need to support the work of the Parish Profile Committee, work with the Bishop's office as he identifies the right leader for our parish, provide a suitable send-off for Henry and Treadwell as they begin the next phase of their life journey; ensure a smooth interim period between priests, and work to ensure the successful entry of the new rector into our parish.

**Goal 3: Develop a strong Vestry that works well together to oversee parish programs.** We need to identify and

support strong Vestry leadership for each area of our parish activities. We also need to identify and develop potential leaders in the congregation in preparation for Vestry and other leadership roles in the parish and the diocese.

**Goal 4: Provide constructive leadership to the parish community.** We need to communicate our own personal commitment to and excitement about the work of the parish. We need to keep our congregation's focus on spiritual growth and community service during the challenging and emotional time of transition, and we need to support parish programs and ministries by our presence and demonstrations of interest.

These are formidable tasks. We ask for your prayers and support throughout this year. We encourage you to come to either of us with any questions or concerns about our parish. We also want you to tell us what is going well and why you are so committed to this congregation. Together we look forward to a wonderful year of shared ministry and service as we seek to experience and share Christ's love.



## Treasurer's Corner *Margie Mullen, Treasurer*

### February 2010—Revenue and Expense Summary

	<i>February Actual</i>	<i>February Budget</i>	<i>YTD Actual</i>	<i>YTD Budget</i>
Total Revenue	\$ 28,479	\$ 29,752	\$ 60,970	\$ 57,943
Total Expense	37,723	41,612	74,008	83,466
Net	(\$ 9,244)	(\$ 11,860)	(\$ 13,038)	(\$ 25,523)

**May 2010 MIKE Deadline:** Please send copy and/or pictures via e-mail to [administrator@stmikessc.org](mailto:administrator@stmikessc.org) by Tuesday, April 20. If you don't have a computer, bring your articles to the Parish Office by that time.

**Read the MIKE Online!** All you do is go to the website, [www.stmikessc.org](http://www.stmikessc.org), and click on "THE MIKE ONLINE." Back issues are available there as well. And while you're at the website, you can shop at [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com) through its link. St. Michael's gets a small rebate for each purchase made through this link.



# The Calendar

April 2010

**Sunday Schedule** • *Sunday Services are 8:00 am (no choir) and 10:30 am (with choir) in the Sanctuary.*  
 • *Sunday School (Godly Play, Middle School, Sr. High, and Adult Forums) and Adult Choir begin at 9:30 am.*  
 • *Children's Church begins at 10:30 in the Purple Room and 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
				<b>1</b> Maundy Thursday 6:30 PM Holy Eucharist & Agapé Supper, Washing of Feet & Stripping of the Altar (PH)	<b>2</b> Good Friday 12:00 noon Good Friday Liturgy & Stations of the Cross (S)	<b>3</b> Holy Saturday 7:30 PM Great Vigil of Easter with Baptisms (S)
<b>4</b> Easter Day <i>No Sunday School No Adult Forum 9:30 AM Easter Egg Hunt</i>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 7:30 PM SMCOP (YL)	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal (CR)	<b>9</b> 12:00 noon Fourth Quarter Luncheon (CO)	<b>10</b> 8:00 PM Lit.Up! (PH)
<b>11</b> Easter 2	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 7:30 PM Finance Committee (CO) 8:00 PM Executive Committee (CO)	<b>14</b> 7:00 PM Bioneers SFV (FR)	<b>15</b> 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal (CR)	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> Easter 3 12:15 PM Healing Prayer Gathering (FR) 12:30 PM Youth Group (YL)	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 7:00 PM Vestry Meeting (UR)	<b>21</b> 7:00 PM Valley Interfaith Council: "How Green Is My Faith" (PH)	<b>22</b> 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal (CR)	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> Easter 4	<b>26</b> Saint Mark the Evangelist 10:00 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry (FR) 7:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry (FR)	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal (CR)	<b>30</b>	

*See page 2 for more details about the schedule for Holy Week and Easter.*

**Locations:**  
 CO: Church Office  
 CR: Choir Room  
 FR: Fireside Room  
 PH: Parish Hall  
 UR: Upper Room  
 YL: Youth Lounge  
 S: Sanctuary

# Big Sunday Event to Benefit SoldierCare

by David Rosenberg  
Big Sunday/SoldierCare Chair

On Sunday May 2, St. Michael's will again be a hub for Big Sunday, the citywide volunteer project with over 150 projects throughout Los Angeles. We are one of only ten hubs in the entire city, and our focus is on support for those serving our country in the armed services in a non-political, humanitarian response.

Our hub will feature the annual Family Festival, with games for the kids, a barbecue, bake and craft sale, musical performances, and celebrity autograph booth from 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m.. In addition, wounded soldiers and their families will be here for a special luncheon. There will also be a letter writing station for sending letters to the troops abroad as well as item donations for the frontline.

All proceeds from the day go to support our wounded soldier outreach program SoldierCare. It is our only fundraising effort. The project hosts young men and women who have been injured in the war for a VIP weekend in LA as a break from rehabilitation. Most of these veterans have lost limbs or have suffered brain injuries. They are feted at the Dodgers game with a private suite, hosted on a harbor cruise and attend receptions with TV and film actors. This connection is then used to mentor them throughout the rest of their lives.

We are in the need of the following donations: cakes for the win-a-cake, bake sale items, craft items, and gift cards to national chains. We are also in need of committee chairs to handle specific events during the day. In addition, we are making a concerted effort to increase the attendance of the community.

If you would be willing to help get the word out or want to volunteer for something specific, please contact me at [lnkdrone@gmail.com](mailto:lnkdrone@gmail.com).

Looking forward to seeing you all there on Sunday May 2.



# BIG SUNDAY



Wounded veterans meet the Dodgers as part of a VIP SoldierCare weekend.

# St. Michael's Community Outreach Projects

By Jane Wilson

## Lit.Up!

The next show will be on Saturday, April 10, at 8:00 p.m., the theme will be "Rave On," and the performers are Karen Kilgariff, Jarrett Grode, Paul Reese, Jann Karam, Brent Piaskoski, Mike Siegel, and Stefane Zamorano. Again, suggested admission is \$10 and includes free childcare and delicious dessert and coffee! This month's box office recipient is Global Colors. Global Colors aids in the development of grassroots campaigns using local ingenuity and resources to accomplish very specific goals. Their projects are intended to create immediate change—while teaching individuals, families, and travelers how to do the same in their own back yard or across the globe. All projects are geared towards helping individuals become self-sufficient, and range from poverty, AIDS/disease, human rights, education, and the environment. [www.globalcolors.org](http://www.globalcolors.org)

## Angel Award Nominess

We will be again celebrating stellar volunteers in our community as well as leaders in the LA outreach community. This year's ceremony will be on Saturday, September 11, 2010. If there are those you wish to nominate to receive this award, please bring them to the attention of anyone who serves on SMCOP. Writing up a brief description of each person and their contributions to people living in need in the LA area would be great. We'd like to receive all suggestions no later than May 1. Written suggestions can be placed in Jane Wilson's mailbox in the church office.

## Next SMCOP Meeting

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 6, at 7:30 p.m. in the Projects/ Youth Meeting Room (the one with the couches on the east side of the grassy quad!). We so need new people to jump on board and help with all our ambitious projects for this year; we are especially in need of people familiar with doing PR/event planning. For further information, please call Jane Wilson at 818.343.8438 or e-mail [superqueerjane@yahoo.com](mailto:superqueerjane@yahoo.com).

## April Birthdays

Day	Name
1	Meghan Matustik Caitlin Bendall
4	Camille Lake
8	Judy Davis
14	John Schmutz, II
16	Sharon Swonger
18	Treadwell Atkins Reeve Carney Trevor Vincent
19	Elisabeth Aukee
22	Zane Carney
25	Michael Mitchell
28	David Piser

## April Anniversaries

Day	Name
9	Bill & Gail Wright

**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](mailto:administrator@stmikessc.org)) to let us know. *Please Note: Birthdays and Anniversaries will be celebrated on the last Sunday of each month.*

Polly Davis speaks at the Adult Forum on March 14 on the subject of Growing Older in the Faith, as Julie Meine and Kathryn Argall look on.



# All welcome at Long Beach Arena for May 15 Rites for Bishops Suffragan

by Episcopal News and The Mike Staff

Los Angeles Bishop J. Jon Bruno invites all in the Diocese to the May 15 rites of ordination and consecration set for two new bishops suffragan, the Rev. Canon Diane Jardine Bruce and the Rev. Canon Mary Douglas Glasspool.

"I encourage everyone in the diocese and the wider community to come and share in this historic celebration," the bishop said in announcing the Saturday-afternoon rites. "Plan now to get there early, find your seats, and feel the wave of the Holy Spirit as it moves across the room."

Seating for at least 9,000 will be available at the Long Beach Arena, where doors will open at 12 noon. A celebration gathering featuring music and dance will begin at 12:30 p.m. and the liturgy itself is set to begin at 1:30 p.m.

The timing is intended to "give you plenty of time to get to Long Beach, get your cars parked, go out and have lunch, and then come back to the Long Beach Arena for the service," the bishop said. Ample parking, priced at \$10 per car, is available at the adjacent Long Beach Convention Center.

"We will have all of our diocese's ethnic diversity and all of our multicultural facets represented during the time that we are together, especially at the opening and closing of our gathering," the bishop said. "It will be exciting to watch our new bishops as they celebrate Eucharist together in three different languages."

Bruno said he looks forward to welcoming the Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop and Primate of the Episcopal Church, who will officiate at the service. "I'm excited to have her with us together with all the other bishops."

"We want everyone to share in the joy of this celebration," said Lynn Headley, parishioner of St. Michael and All Angels, Corona del Mar, appointed by the bishop to co-chair the arrangements committee with Michael Bell of St. Augustine by-the-Sea, Santa Monica.

Headley, who coordinated volunteers for the 2009 meeting of General Convention in Anaheim, is also welcoming members of the diocese to assist as ushers and in other capacities for the gathering. She can be

reached by e-mail at [lynnheadleygc@earthlink.net](mailto:lynnheadleygc@earthlink.net).

The Rev. Paul Price, rector of St. George's, Riverside, and chair of the diocesan Commission on Liturgy and Music, and Canon Randolph Kimmler, diocesan associate for vocations, are co-chairing the liturgy committee at the appointment of the bishop.

The process of asking each congregation to name a liaison to the arrangements committee has begun through the diocesan Community Relations Office. Gail Green has agreed to serve as the liaison from St. Michael's.

Bruce, rector of St. Clement's by-the-Sea, San Clemente, and Glasspool, canon to the bishops in the Diocese of Maryland, were elected by Diocesan Convention in December 2009. The necessary consents from the Standing Committees and bishops with jurisdiction across the 110 dioceses of the Episcopal Church have been received.



**Listening Ear Labyrinths by Be D. Herrera presented at coffee hour on February 28.**



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### ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



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Alex Morales, Clerk  
Rodney Dickson  
Preston Fray  
Gail Green  
Betsy Hailey  
Leonard Harman  
Mary Ann Jacobson  
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### 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.*