



The Mike

The Newsletter of St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church, Studio City, CA
VOLUME 19, ISSUE 5 • May 2010

Becoming God's Resurrected, Stretched People

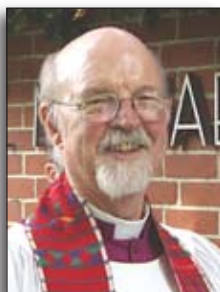
By the Reverend Canon Henry L. Atkins, Jr., D.Min.

Kathleen Norris has written that in the world in which we live "...this suffering world of failed states, failed relationships and natural disasters exacerbated by human greed, it makes a lot more sense to say 'Jesus wept' than 'He is risen!'" We see again and again in our society the power of the forces of death and alienation. These powers appear to be so strong in our society that it has become normative to seek to reach some compromise with them. Many of us seem fearful of new life and seek simply to hold on to what we have, a process that has been called the attempt to freeze life. It is easy to make peace with the old order of death, even though the Book of Common Prayer states that we "should make no peace with oppression."

In a recent issue of the newsletter of the Lutheran Episcopal Campus Ministry at the University of California at Davis the chaplain wrote, "Then, tensions and anxiety flared as a series of racial incidents shook the entire UC system. UCD was not immune to this, as the LGBT Resource Center was vandalized with homophobic slurs and swastikas appeared all over campus. And then, during a week of national protests of cuts to education, students were beaten and hit with pepper spray and rubber pellets as they attempted to march on to 1-80...." The chaplain is not talking about the forces of death that were so operative in the 1960s in such places as Mississippi or Alabama, but California in 2010.

The number of right wing militia in the United States more than doubled in 2009. There is a great deal of rage afoot related to the election of a black president. Recently, the FBI arrested nine members of the Hutaree militia of southeast Michigan on charges of "seditious conspiracy" and attempting to use weapons of mass destruction to spark a war against the U.S. government. Their plan was to kill local police and then set off bombs at their funerals. Right wing extremists, including neo-Nazis, have engaged recently in alarming actions in Washington, D.C., at the U.S. Holocaust Museum; in the Austin, Texas, IRS office; in Spokane, Washington, at the Federal Courthouse; in Chicago at the Daley Center; and in Southern Connecticut.

At a recent tea-party demonstration in Washington, D.C., Congressman John Lewis, an African-American from Atlanta, Georgia, was greeted with shouts of racial slurs. Congressman Barney Frank, an openly gay man from Massachusetts, was greeted at the same event with homophobic epithets. People at this demonstration were encouraged by at least several well-known political figures in our society.



Misinformation is fast becoming the norm for us. A new Harris poll reports that a majority of Republicans believe

President Obama to be a Muslim and a socialist. It seems not to concern them at all that almost no Muslims are socialist or socialists, Muslims. The same Harris poll stated that a majority of Republicans believe that President Obama "wants to turn over the sovereignty of the United States to a one world government." This extreme right wing hate rhetoric is being absorbed into the "main stream" because we have grown used to being silent in the presence of misinformation; we are willing to "make peace with oppression."

The recent health-care reform debate, which may have been more about race than health care, shows just how misinformation can take center stage pushing the basic issues to the margins. The health care reform bill was never about a government takeover of the nation's health care system. Under the bill we all have the option of private coverage. Where did the rage come from that led to death threats against the House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and other members of Congress who supported the bill?

Glen Beck of Fox News stated on his television show that people should leave churches that speak of social or economic justice. He said that they were Marxist code words. Both the Pope and the Archbishop of Canterbury have recently called for all Christians to work for economic justice—I assume that Beck believes that both the Pope and the Archbishop are promoting

Marxism and that all Roman Catholic and Anglicans should leave their churches.

In the world in which we live it is so much easier to understand "Jesus wept" than "He is risen!" Yet it was in the very presence of the power of death that the writers of the gospels spoke of resurrection. It was in the presence of hatred, violence, crucifixion itself that the possibility of a new creation was announced. The writers of the gospels knew a great deal about the reality of misinformation, hatred and violence. In the context of the cross they announced that death was defeated. The final word is not racist slurs, homophobic epithets, the ongoing destruction of the earth or crucifixion itself, but life. The final word is that God raised Jesus from the dead and we can participate in the resurrection now.

One of the implications of the resurrection is that we are called to speak and to be God's truth in our world right now. We are to speak of God's love for all of God's creation, especially of God's love for the poor, the outcasts and the oppressed. We are those who come to the Eucharist, hear scriptures and the proclaimed word, receive communion and then seek to live as God's new transformed human beings in our daily existence. The Risen Christ waits for us to serve him among those who are attacked

See *Becoming* on Page 2

In This Issue

Fr. Atkins' Message.....	1
Birthdays & Anniversaries	2
From the Vestry.....	3
Treasurer's Corner.....	3
Outreach	3
Episcopal Visitation	3
Calendar.....	4
Photos Around St. Michael's	6
Bishops Suffragan Ordination.....	7

Becoming *from Page 1*

because of their class, race, sex or sexual orientation. If you say you love the Risen Christ you will find him among the poor, the hungry and the battered of this world.

Members of the Christian Church do not always choose God's ongoing gift of new, resurrected life. I remember that the day after Martin Luther King Jr. was killed, I received a call from a friend of mine in South Carolina who told me that when the announcement of the assassination of Dr. King had been made at Bob Jones University, a right wing Christian college in South Carolina, students stood and cheered, rejoicing over his death. That same kind of violent hatred is no stranger to us today in parts of the Anglican Communion.

The first witnesses to the resurrection, who lived in a violent and polarized world, opted for new life in the face of the presence of death in large part because they allowed themselves to be stretched by the Holy Spirit. The late Walter Burghardt used to refer to two types of Christians "strict" and "elastic". The "elastic" are those who are open to being stretched by the Spirit. They are willing to be stretched to the point where they believe that even now God is making all things new and it is possible to envision a new heaven and a new earth where justice and peace shall reign and God shall be all in all. Let us claim the resurrection, let us not seek to freeze life but let God's Holy Spirit stretch us into new life.

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

Thanksgiving for a Job Well Done

To: Ed Sugar, Preston Fray, and all those who participated in the parish cleanup day on March 27. Everyone who visits St. Michael's campus benefits from their hard work and dedication

All those who contributed to the Maundy Thursday Agapé Supper:

Homemade Soup "Chefs": Dan and Dorothy Baran, Hallie Baran, Maria Aukee, and Mary Ann Jacobson

Soup Servers: David Connors, Ron Schwartz, Leonard Harman, Nancy Woods, Dan and Dorothy Baran

Kitchen Elves: Norma Johnson, Nancy Woods, Jane Mason, Treadwell Atkins, and Hallie Walker

All who helped make the Easter Sunday coffee hour special: Julie Quinlan, Maria Aukee, Hallie Walker, Norma Johnson, Treadwell Atkins, and Elaine Robertson

Betsy Hailey who was recently honored at a meeting of Interfaith Communities United for Justice and Peace (ICUJP) by state senator Gilbert A. Cedillo who presented her with a certificate "in honor of [her] tireless dedication to social justice and universal human rights and for [her] commitment to peace, fairness, and equality." Congratulations and thanks, Betsy.

Betsy Meiman, who was the featured speaker at "How Green Is My Faith?," an event sponsored by the Valley Interfaith Council and held at St. Michael's on April 21. Betsy outlined the process leading up to the installation of St. Michael's solar panels and the continuing work of the Solar Outreach Committee helping other non-profit organizations to install solar panels.

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.

May Birthdays

Day	Name
1	Ayana Coha
3	Lise Friedman
7	Alexandra Lake
11	Lena Mitchell Maddie Charlton
15	Amanda Schwartz
16	John Pryor Jr.
17	Peter Bull
18	Lois Vaughan
19	Brooks Taylor
21	Cathy Lewis-Dougherty
23	Anna Wilson
24	Gary Lucy
25	Kline Swonger
28	Barbara King
30	Rae Markus
31	Bonnie Winings

May Anniversaries

Day	Name
8	Jose Carrillo & Bill Kastak
26	Donald & Norma Johnson
27	Gary Lucy & Jane Wilson

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.*



From the Vestry

Anne Kelly, Senior Warden
David Connors, Junior Warden

Parish Profile Complete

At the April Vestry meeting, we reviewed the report of the Parish Profile Committee.

We are very fortunate to have a stellar group of parish members that created this impressive report: our former Senior Warden, Betty Ferrell, and Junior Warden, John Pryor, and fellow parishioners, Betsy Hailey, Betsy Meiman, Bill Wright, and David Connors, our current Junior Warden.

The report describes our parish, reviews our history, details our current

activities, and provides a vision for how we want to move forward under the leadership of a new priest. The Committee has done an excellent job and produced a report that will guide us over the next several years. Most of us will learn new things about the parish as we read the report. And we'll be impressed by all that has been accomplished in the past and is being done in God's name currently by our members.

The Vestry was very inspired by the report's comprehensiveness and clarity. We thank the Parish Profile Committee for their good work. We

also thank the members of the parish for all the input that was given to the Committee through the surveys, the group discussions, and the various conversations that were part of this process.

The report will be sent to the Bishop's office as soon as it is finalized and distributed widely throughout the parish. The Bishop will use the profile in making his selection of the next priest for our parish. Please thank the members of the Committee when you see them. We are grateful to them for all their hard work.



Treasurer's Corner *Margie Mullen, Treasurer*

March 2010—Revenue and Expense Summary

	<i>March Actual</i>	<i>March Budget</i>	<i>YTD Actual</i>	<i>YTD Budget</i>
Total Revenue	\$ 25,295	\$ 28,126	\$ 86,265	\$ 86,068
Total Expense	30,912	35,683	104,921	119,149
Net	(\$ 5,617)	(\$ 7,557)	(\$ 18,656)	(\$ 33,081)



St. Michael's Community Outreach Projects

By Jane Wilson

Lit.Up!

On Saturday, May 8, at 8:00 p.m. we will have another great show! This month's theme is "Chapel of Love" and includes performers Scott Carter (Real Time with Bill Maher), Annabelle Gurwitch and Jeff Kahn (with their new book *You Say Tomato, I Say Shut up!*), David Feldman (writer for Dennis Miller, Comedy Central, etc), Jimmy Dore (from KPFK's Citizen Jimmy show), Eddie Pepitone, Stephen T. Brophy and Ebbie Parker, and Valerie Watson. The box office goes to Get on the Bus (<http://www.getonthebus.us/>), a group that brings children to visit their incarcerated moms and dads. Gary Lucy is your host, delicious desserts, free childcare, and only \$10! This is the hippest, funnest show going on a Saturday night!

Next SMCOP Meeting

The next meeting will be May 4, 7:30 p.m. in the Youth Lounge (south end of the Projects room with the sofas!). We need you on our outreach team! Phone Jane Wilson for more information at 818.267.4058.

Episcopal visitation scheduled for Sunday, May 16

Bishop Sergio Carranza to Administer Confirmation

On Sunday, May 16, Bishop Sergio Carranza will be with us to administer confirmation and to celebrate the Eucharist and preach at 10:30 a.m. This will be a wonderful occasion to welcome newly-confirmed members of St. Michael's parish and of the Episcopal Church. This will also be our last opportunity to welcome Bishop Carranza to St. Michael's since he will retire later this year, so please be sure to attend. (See page 7 for more on the reception to honor Bishops Talton and Carranza as they prepare to retire.)



June 2010 MIKE Deadline: Please send copy and/or pictures via e-mail to administrator@stmikessc.org by *Tuesday, May 11*. 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, 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 through its link. St. Michael's gets a small rebate for each purchase made through this link.



The Calendar

May 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

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

1 St. Philip &
 St. James, Apostles

2 Easter 5
 12:00 noon Big Sunday
 Healing Prayer
 Gathering *Cancelled*

3
 7:00 PM Book
 Discussion
 Group

4
 7:30 PM SMCOP
 (YL)

5
 7:00 PM Andre
 Heuer Report on
 Mission (FR)

6
 7:30 PM Choir
 rehearsal (CR)

7

8
 8:00 PM Lit.Up!
 (PH)

9 Easter 6
Mothers' Day
 No Children's Sunday
 School
 12:15 PM Liturgical
 Committee (CO)

10

11
 7:00 PM Finance
 Committee (CO)
 8:00 PM Executive
 Committee (CO)

12
 7:00 PM Bioneers
 (FR)

13 Ascension Day
 7:30 PM Choir
 rehearsal (CR)

14

15
 12:30 PM Bishops
 Suffragan
 Consecration
 (Long Beach
 Arena)

16 Easter 7
 10:30 AM Episcopal
 Visitation and
 Confirmation
 No Children's Church
 12:15 PM Healing Prayer
 Gathering (FR)

17

18
 7:00 PM Vestry
 (UR)

19

20
 7:30 PM Choir
 rehearsal (CR)

21

22

23 Pentecost

24

25

26

27
 7:30 PM Choir
 rehearsal (CR)

28

29
 12:00 noon
 Celebration for
 Bishops Talton
 & Carranza
 (Cathedral
 Center of St.
 Paul)

30 Trinity Sunday
 12:15 PM Pastoral Care
 Committee (FR)

31 Visitation of
 the BVM
*Memorial Day—
 Parish Office
 closed*

BIG SUNDAY



WHAT ARE YOU DOING BIG SUNDAY, MAY 2?

*Saint Michael & All Angels Church
& St. Michael's Community Outreach
Projects Committee Invite You to a*

FAMILY FESTIVAL

*Benefiting wounded soldiers
& soldiers on the front line.*

**SUNDAY
MAY 2, 12-3^{PM}**

**BBQ,
BAKE SALE,
CRAFT SALE,
GAMES, MUSICAL
ENTERTAINMENT**

ALSO

- ★ Letter writing station for frontline troops ★
- ★ Donation drop-off for frontline/wounded troops ★
- ★ Sponsor a wounded soldier visit to California ★
- ★ Luncheon with special veteran guests of honor ★

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO SoldierCare

A non-political wounded soldier mentoring project providing year-round support for wounded veterans from the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts.

Saint Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church
3646 Coldwater Canyon Avenue, Studio City, CA 91604 818.763.9193 • www.stmikessc.org

Around St. Michael's



Hard-working vestry members Ed Sugar and Preston Fray who organized the spring cleanup day.



David Connors, Alex Morales, Treadwell Atkins, and Denise Schwartz are ready to work.

This is my body...



Above: Fr. Atkins leads an instructed Eucharist as part of the Maundy Thursday Agapé Supper.



Above: Preston Fray and altar guild director Gail Green admire kneelers repaired by Preston and his wife, Kaye.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.



Welcome the newly baptized, Madeline Charlton, left, and Meredith Rimmer, above.

Below: Mary Ann Jacobson receives some canine assistance as she and Norma Johnson prepare eggs for the Easter egg hunt.



All Invited for Ordination, Consecration of New Bishops Suffragan; May 15 Liturgy Set for Long Beach Arena

by Episcopal News and The Mike Staff

Everyone in the Diocese of Los Angeles is invited to attend the ordination and consecration of two new bishops suffragan, Diane Jardine Bruce and Mary Douglas Glasspool, on Saturday, May 15, at the Long Beach Arena. No tickets are required, and 6,700 seats will be available. Friends and family of all ages are welcome. A gathering celebration featuring music from around the Diocese will begin at 12:30 p.m., and the liturgy will start at 1:30 p.m. Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori will be chief consecrator, and Diocesan Bishop Jon Bruno will preach the homily.

A diocese-wide choir will share in the liturgy, and the offering is designated for the discretionary funds of the new bishops. Seating will include reserved areas for anyone with hearing or other physical impairments. Translation into Spanish will be provided via headsets. Ample parking, priced at \$10 per car, is available at the Arena, located at 300 East Ocean Boulevard, Long Beach. A fact sheet offering further details is available on the diocesan web site, <http://www.ladiocese.org>, or by phone at 213.482.2040.



Reception to Honor Retiring Bishops

Bishop Diocesan J. Jon Bruno invites all in the diocese to an open house reception in honor of retiring Bishops Chet Talton and Sergio Carranza on Saturday, May 29, from 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m. at the Cathedral Center of St. Paul, 840 Echo Park Avenue, Los Angeles. Light refreshments will be served at this family event, which will also feature live entertainment for all ages. No reservations are necessary. Limited underground and street parking is available; carpooling is encouraged.



The Reverend Canon Diane Bruce is the first woman to be elected a bishop in the 114-year history of the Diocese of Los Angeles and the 16th woman to be elected a bishop in the 2.4 million-member Episcopal Church.

A resident of Irvine, Bruce has been rector of St. Clement's by-the-Sea in San Clemente since 2000. She was previously associate rector of the Church of the Messiah, Santa Ana. Throughout her ministry, Bruce has specialized in interfaith-ecumenical work, social-service outreach, and multicultural ministries in Orange County. Bruce speaks Spanish and Mandarin Chinese as well as English, and she is currently completing a doctoral dissertation on emergent church ministries. She holds a master of divinity degree from the Claremont School of Theology and a bachelor's degree in linguistics from the University of California at Berkeley. Prior to ordination she served Wells Fargo Bank as vice president, compensation management and analysis. She was employed by Wells Fargo (formerly Crocker Bank) in various capacities since 1980.

A former Roman Catholic, Bruce joined the Episcopal Church in 1986. She was named an honorary canon of the Cathedral Center of St. Paul, Los Angeles, in 2003.

She is married to Gregory Stephen ("Steve") Bruce, and the couple has two adult children—a son, Max, and a daughter, Jardine.



The Reverend Canon Mary Douglas Glasspool is the second woman to be elected a bishop in the Diocese of Los Angeles. Glasspool is also the first openly partnered lesbian to be elected a bishop in the Episcopal Church, which includes 109 dioceses in 16 nations. She is the 17th woman to be elected a bishop in the Episcopal Church.

A resident of Annapolis, Glasspool has been canon to Maryland's bishops since 2001. Previously she was rector of St. Margaret's, Annapolis (1992-2001); rector of St. Luke's and St. Margaret's, Boston (1984-1992); and assistant to the rector of St. Paul's, Philadelphia.

Ordained a priest in 1982 in the Diocese of Pennsylvania, she holds a master of divinity degree from Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and a bachelor's degree from Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. In 2006 she was a Merrill Fellow at Harvard Divinity School.

Glasspool's life partner, Becki Sander, holds a doctorate in social work.

Glasspool and Bishop-elect Bruce together will succeed the Right Reverend Chester L. Talton, 68, who plans to retire in May 2010 after serving as bishop suffragan since January 1991. Also retiring in 2010 is the Right Reverend Sergio Carranza, bishop assistant in the Diocese of Los Angeles since 2002 following his retirement as bishop of the Diocese of Mexico in the Anglican Church of Mexico.

St. Michael and All Angels Church

3646 Coldwater Canyon Ave., Studio City, CA 91604

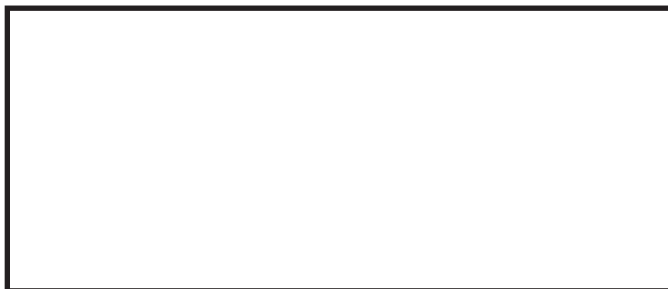
phone • 818.763.9193

fax • 818.763.2172

general e-mail • mail@stmikessc.org

web address • www.stmikessc.org

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



VESTRY

Anne Kelly, Senior Warden
David Connors, Junior Warden
Margie Mullen, Treasurer
Alex Morales, Clerk
Rodney Dickson
Preston Fray
Gail Green
Betsy Hailey
Leonard Harman
Mary Ann Jacobson
Norma Johnson
Amador Rondilla
Ron Schwartz
Ed Sugar

PARISH STAFF

Priest-In-Charge	The Rev. Canon Henry L. Atkins, Jr. (fratkins@stmikessc.org)
Priest Associate	The Rev. Julian Bull (bullj@campbellhall.org)
Deacon	The Rev. Catherine Wagar (ctswagar2@aol.com)
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 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.