

Clergy Corner: St. Michael



The name of our church is “St. Michael the Archangel,” and you can find him in almost every corner of the church. He’s in the great window behind the organ, of course. And he shows up on a plaque near the back door and as the statue in our Memorials Chapel. He’s also rendered in fabric on our banner—it hangs in the hallway between Yeaton Hall and the church office. At St. Michael’s, St. Michaels are everywhere!

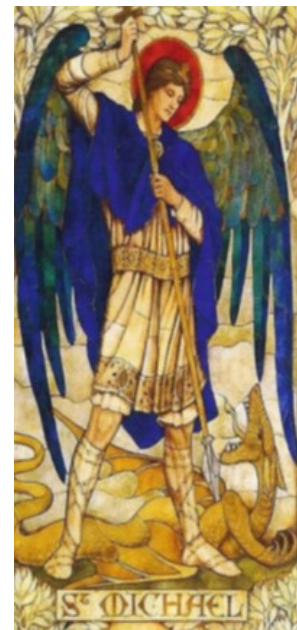
While he (a pronoun used for convenience, since angels are considered without gender) is a “saint,” he’s not like his human counterparts. We know the life and history of these human saints, but Michael is much less knowable. He is called a “saint” in the sense of “holy” because he is one of God’s holy archangels—ranking among the highest of the heavenly host. He is one of only four angels who are called by name in scripture.*

He shows up in the book of *Daniel* as the “great angel Michael, who guards your people”—the patron angel of Israel. And he appears in the book of *Revelation* leading the angels of God in casting out

“the great dragon...the deceiver of the whole world.” This is why the image of St. Michael usually includes a bound dragon at his feet. And it is why Michael is called the guardian of the people—he stands between “the great Satan” and God’s people. To quote, “He is a powerful agent of God who wards off evil from God’s people and delivers peace to them at the end of this life’s mortal struggle.”*

I have heard that when our community began, the Sunday School youth were given the privilege of naming the new community and chose the name St. Michael the Archangel. I’ll bet they really liked the story of the angel who led the charge and cast Satan out of heaven! So we claimed the name St. Michael. And so we will celebrate our patron archangel on October 3rd—it’s the Sunday after the day the church sets aside to honor St. Michael and All Angels, September 29th. I hope you will join us!

Mother Dina+



O glorious Archangel
St. Michael,
watch over us during
life, defend us against
the assaults of the
demon, assist us
especially at the hour
of death; obtain for us
a favorable judgment,
and the happiness of
beholding God face to
face for endless ages.
Amen.

*The others are Gabriel, Uriel and Raphael.
Holy Women, Holy Men, p. 612.

THE McKEOWNS VISIT FROM IRELAND



We were so happy to see Niall, Michelle, Dannan and Kira!

Until next time...



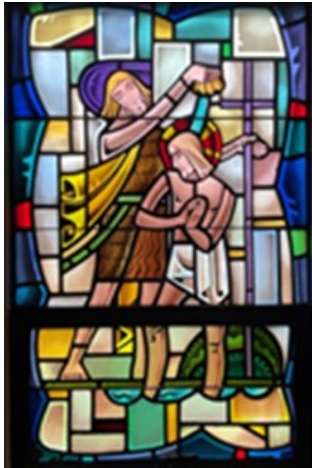
A Lovely Farewell!

We had a lovely celebration of Julie Bergeron's ministry and presence at St. Michael's over the last 25+ years on Sunday, August 15th with prayers in church and coffee hour on the lawn. Julie left on her cross country road trip to New Hampshire (that seems to be the final choice!) later in the month. We will keep you updated on an address when we hear, just in case you want to send a housewarming note. In the meantime, enjoy these photos of the day.



And by the way, we had so much fun talking after church that **we are hoping we can have coffee on the lawn on a monthly basis. Would you be willing to host?** You'd just need to bring a couple of hotpots of coffee, some cold drinks, and cookies. Let us know, and we'll figure out a schedule. Yay for community!

Sponsor a Window

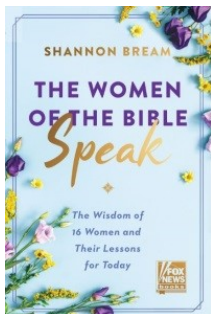


When our stained glass windows were installed at St. Michael's in the 1960s each window was sponsored by a family or member of the church. The details of who sponsored which window are lost in the mists of history—but we are grateful for their generosity in providing the beautiful windows that grace our sanctuary.

It's been a few years since the 1960s. And we are very fortunate that our windows have passed the test of time (so far, at least) in great shape. The one concern that the vestry has about our windows is protecting them against damage. The windows are by far the most expensive asset we have—and an errant baseball could be a real problem! So, over the last few months we have investigated craftsmen and companies that specialize in protecting stained glass. We have narrowed our search and would like to start work on protecting the windows this fall.

This work is not a typical part of our budget. So, reaching back to that earlier tradition, you are invited to “sponsor” a window. You can sponsor an entire window at \$500. Or be a partial sponsor at the amount you choose. And you can select which window you want to sponsor. I hear tell that when the windows were first sponsored no one wanted to sponsor the one with Jesus in the Wilderness—presumably because that window includes that wizened purple devil! You can sponsor that one... or any other. We'll keep you posted on which windows are the favorites! Thanks!

Bible study will return in September...



And you can get a head start by picking up a copy of the book, *The Women of the Bible Speak* by Shannon Bream. Here's a bit about it from the publisher's review:

From the shepherdesses of ancient Israel who helped raise the future leaders of the people of God, to the courageous early Christians, the narrative of the Bible offers us many vivid and fascinating female characters. In their lives we can see common struggles to resist bitterness, despair, and pride, and to instead find their true selves in faith, hope, and love. In studying these heroes of the faith, we can find wisdom and warnings for how to better navigate our own faith journeys.

We expect that we will start by Zoom (and hope to move to in-person as circumstances allow), and our start date and meeting time have not been set yet. If you'd like to join us, let me know so you can be part of that conversation.



Our outreach spotlight for September is *Rise Against Hunger*
“Hunger doesn’t have to exist—Let’s end it together”



The Rise Against Hunger meal packing events are a blast! Do you remember?

On a couple of previous occasions, we joined with the El Segundo Methodist Church and El Segundo Rotary for a great morning of good work. There was music and laughter and *lots* of rice as we packaged *ten thousand meals* for families in the developing world. What an accomplishment!

Rise Against Hunger works to keep kids in school (by distributing meals through the schools) and thus providing a better basis for the children’s success, health and future. They recognize that parents are more likely to allow their children to continue in school if they can still help the family by bringing meals home. So Rise Against Hunger works toward increasing education while decreasing hunger. A real win-win!

The rice and soy base of the meal lends itself to many world cuisines, so the recipients can spice it up to “taste like home.” That way, the meals fit right in with what they are accustomed to eating. We are not trying to change what they like to eat, just making sure they get nourishing meals for the whole family.

Unfortunately, we had to cancel the event last year due to the pandemic restrictions. But the Rise Against Hunger team has figured out how we can do it safely and replenish their diminishing stock of meals so that the work can go on. So we’re planning to do it! We are coordinating with the Methodist Church and Rotary for an event on Saturday October 23rd. We hope you’ll be part of the action!

Tuesday Meditation Service ~ September 14th



Our **Candlelight & Meditation** service for September is scheduled for Tuesday the 14th at 7pm. Since September 14 is Holy Cross Day—a feast day in the church—it is our theme:

“Holy Cross Day”

You are invited to end this day with us in prayer. The service will be in-person at St. Michael’s and livestreamed on our Facebook page.

A moment of tension in Vatican.
 If the bishop moves forward the
 queen can take him.



September Calendar

*Bible study will resume in September—to be announced.
The choir schedule is still pending.*

Monday, Sept 6

Labor Day

Sunday, Sept 12

Dan Ince is our preacher at both services

Tuesday, Sept 14

Candlelight & Meditation Service at 7pm

This service will be livestreamed on our Facebook page

Sunday, Sept 19

C.A.S.E. Ingathering

Thursday, Sept 23

Vestry meeting in the Rector's office at 9-11am

Sunday, Oct 3

St. Michael's Day celebration



Continuing Events

Monday-Thursday

Weekday online service of Compline at 7pm

Monday & Wednesday

with the community of St. Cross in Hermosa Beach

<https://www.facebook.com/stcrosshermosa>

Tuesday & Thursday

on the St. Michael's Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/stmichaelselsegundo>

Save the Date!

The fun and fabulous evening to celebrate and support Family Promise of the South Bay returns on October 9th at American Martyrs Church. We hope you will put it on your calendar and plan to join us!



C.A.S.E. Ingathering September 19th

Oil—vegetable, canola, olive

Coffee—regular & decaf

Canned tuna—albacore & chunk light

Canned chili—turkey chili, no beans chili

Bottles of juice—apple, orange, cranberry

Oatmeal—in canisters, not individual packets

Salad dressings—1000 Island, Honey Mustard

Laundry soap / Body wash / Shampoo & conditioner / Toothpaste / Toilet paper

Sugar—granulated, powdered, brown

Dry beans—pinto, black, lentils

Canned pinto beans

Jell-O boxes

Cereal—kid friendly, sugary

Honey

Mayo



Donations to Camp Pendleton *for Mothers and Children*

Presented By:



There are over 70,000 Marines at Camp Pendleton and 10,000 children under the age of 5! More than 160 babies are born there each month! Most families arrive with whatever they can fit in their car. With a very low income,

most do not have everything they need for newborns and small children. They also have to furnish an apartment and set up a kitchen.

The Rotary Clubs in Rotary District 5280 are collecting new and gently used baby, child and household items for these families. The families will select what they need from our contributions to the “Warrior Warehouse”

Items in greatest need are:

Diapers, diapers and more diapers, baby and young children’s clothing, toys, books, bathtubs, strollers, cribs, dishes, cookware, meal preparation tools, bedding and gift cards (\$25) from Target and Walmart.

If you are interested in donating, you may give your donations to Melissa Albers before September 11.



Saturday September 11th
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Hawthorne High School
4859 El Segundo Blvd.
Hawthorne, California 90292

David Henseler
South Bay Sunrise Rotary Club
(310) 753-0929

September Birthday Blessings

- 11 Victoria Samia
- 13 Oliver Mason
Maryjane Fitzpatrick
- 14 Ryley Albers
- 16 Lindy Markarian
Stephen Saylor
- 17 Kay Wallace
Adam Behlen
- 19 Marilyn McCaverty
Kristie Wallace
- 23 James Volturmo
- 29 Sally Lowe



Children’s Center News

The Children’s Center is so excited to be starting another new school year. We have been blessed to retain most of the staff and families throughout the pandemic and are happy to be opening doors to new families this fall. We will have a classroom for each age group now (2, 3, and 4) and our infant/toddler room.

This month the children will focus on getting to know each other and themselves with All About Me and Friendship units. They will also have some fun with apples and begin talking about the fall season.

We thank the church and its members for continuing to support and pray for us. The staff and families have definitely felt the love.



FAMILY PROMISE

Family Promise is working on a plan to get our families in transition back to in-person housing and rotating among our churches. Due to the changing COVID environment the reopening plan is still being revised as far as requirements for our families and volunteers to keep everyone safe.

We hope to host families in person the week of December 12 at El Segundo United Methodist Church!

Thank you to everyone who volunteered at Summer Camp.

It was our first year hosting a camp like this and the six weeks flew by. Every Wednesday, we set up water toys and water slides, and every Friday was field trip day. Our partner support church, Manhattan Beach Community Church, donated backpacks filled with school supplies for all 35 kids on their last day of camp!

9th Annual Empty Bowls - Saturday, October 9th at 5PM

O'Donnell Hall at American Martyrs Church, Manhattan Beach

Save the date! This is a really fun event you don't want to miss. We're looking for donations for the silent and live auction now.

We celebrate another family graduating from our program

Marlon and Sarai along with their 3 children have moved into their own apartment! We wish them the very best.

We are currently serving 2 families in transition with children

Family #1

Rayshell (Mom), Jacquelyn (13), Makayla (11), Raven (8), Laila (7), King (4), Angel (3)

Family #2

Ronnell (Dad), Jennifer (Mom), Arayah (5), Alethea (4)

Wish List

Gift cards for gas, laundry detergent, full size toiletries, cleaning supplies

With love, Jeanie Powell

cheeriochewer@gmail.com, 310-462-9904



Voices from the Vestry

Have you ever had someone ask for prayers? Have you said yes and then quickly forgotten about it? Yup, me too!

I have not always been someone who prayed. Now prayer has become an important part of my life. I first started my prayer life after a former priest gave me a book with the daily offices in it. I began simply by doing morning prayer every day. I progressed to doing a different prayer every day. One day morning prayer, the next noon day, on to evening prayer and compline. I found each interesting and helpful in its own way. I still use this book each day but I have added praying for family and friends as well. Now when someone asks me to pray for them or I find someone in need of prayer, I know I will actually do it! Prayer is a great time to relax, settle your mind and just share your heart and cares with God.

Melissa





THE GUARDIAN

St. Michael the Archangel Episcopal Church El Segundo

Parish Office: 310-322-2589
Web site: www.stmichaels-elsegundo.org
Email: StMichaelsElSegundo@gmail.com

St. Michael's Children's Center
Ms. Lauren Cherrington
School Office: 310-322-7522

Worship Schedule

Sunday 8:00am Rite I Said Service
Sunday 10:00am Rite II
with Music and Childcare
Sunday School: 1st, 2nd & 3rd Sundays

The Reverend Dina Ferguson, D. Min.

Mission Statement for St. Michael's Church

*Growing in God's Love.
Working in God's Spirit.*

September 2021

St. Michael the Archangel Episcopal Church
361 Richmond Street
El Segundo, CA 90245

TO: