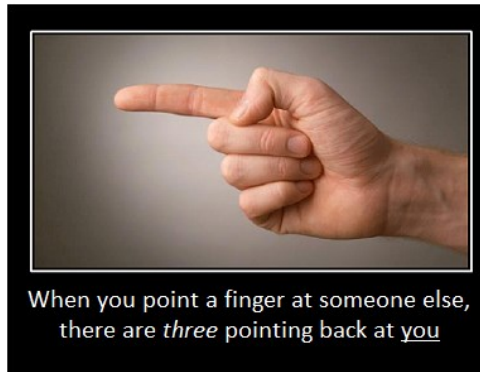


## CORNNER'S CORNER

### CAN THE HOLY SPIRIT USE OUR POINTING FINGERS?



This piece is a reflection on how valuable the pointed finger can be to those of us who seek to confess the many ways we "ere and stray" from loving God and loving our neighbors. Our pointed fingers assume a self-righteousness that covers our deep fear of being accused ourselves and prevents us from seeing our own complicity in the ways we are guilty. As it is said: "A good offense is the best defense."

The accusing finger is so powerful anthropologically that we call the process "Satan" which means "the accuser" and the Holy Spirit is called the Paraclete which means "a legal advocate" or "counsel for the defense of the accused". As human beings, we plead in prayer that God does not take the Holy Spirit from us, individually and corporately. While all times are filled with the pointing of fingers, the Holy Spirit continues to be present as an advocate for the accused and as the one who lovingly, if painfully, shows us how our other 3 fingers reveal our fears of being accused and our own sins that are forgivable, if confessed and which are directed to our own soul's redemption.

May we give thanks for the presence of the Holy Spirit in the midst of our fears and finger-pointing. May the Spirit heal us of our fears and gives us the courage to deal with the logs in our own eyes.

How will we know when we are able to judge others? How will we know when we have successfully removed that log in our own eyes?

Here is Jesus' word on judging others that would be well worth a prayerful read:

3 Why do you see the speck in your neighbor's<sup>[a]</sup> eye, but do not notice the log in your own eye? 4 Or how can you say to your neighbor,<sup>[b]</sup> 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' while the log is in your own eye? 5 You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your neighbor's<sup>[c]</sup> eye.

God's peace in the fingers we point at ourselves.

Bob+



### C.A.S.E. Ingathering July 17 & August 21

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

Oil—vegetable, canola, olive

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

Dry beans—pinto, black, lentils

Canned pinto beans

Jell-O boxes

Cereal—kid friendly, sugary

Honey

Mayo

Sugar—granulated, powdered, brown



#### July Birthday Blessings

3 Jacob Samia,  
Valerie Wallace

6 Alex Brill  
Jane Okon

8 Melissa McCaverty

14 Jeremy Okon

20 Kristin Van Heuven



#### August Birthday Blessings

13 Gerri Pisciotta

25 Sam Nilsson

26 Elvin Lowe



#### July/August Calendar

July 3 8am & 10am

July 4

July 17 8am & 10am

July 23 & 24

July 24 8am & 10am

August 7 8 & 10

August 21 8am & 10am

Holy Eucharist followed by coffee hour

Celebrate USA

Holy Eucharist & CASE ingathering

Vestry Retreat

Holy Eucharist with guest celebrant Josh Paget+

Holy Eucharist followed by coffee hour

Holy Eucharist with guest celebrant Greg Brown+

CASE ingathering



## Voices From The Vestry

I'm lucky to have my family living close by. In April, my son married his college sweetheart and as mother of the groom, I hosted a fun rehearsal dinner for 40 people. He and his wife live in El Segundo and after the honeymoon, they adopted an adorable puppy from a German Shepard rescue group. My daughter and granddaughter live near by, too, and I spend most Fridays with the three year old. She loves to tell me that she will be 4 on her birthday which is in August. My husband and I like to visit the South Coast Botanic Gardens and play in the ocean. Since I am an early riser, I mostly attend the 8am service unless I am live-streaming the ten o'clock service. Then you will see me with my tripod.

I walk every weekday morning on the Strand with a couple of long time friends. I treasure their companionship and commitment to our walking routine. I also practice yoga three times a week near the MB pier. You can follow me on Instagram for my beach photos @mekathyv. My sun gold tomatoes are doing very well so I have many colorful pictures of them. The current book on my nightstand is *Do I Stay Christian? A Guide for the Doubters, the Disappointed, and the Disillusioned* by Brian D. McLaren which my Spirit Group is discussing.

Kathy Van Orden



This is my granddaughter meeting her aunt and uncle's new puppy.

**Sacristy Update**

Before Mother Dina's retirement, she requested that any donation in her name be given to our sacristy project. The Altar Guild and vestry want to thank everyone who donated. So far we have received donations of \$7500. Unfortunately the original bid we received was \$25,000! We will continue to take donations until we have reached our goal.

Stuart Galloway and members of the altar guild will soon be doing a walk-through of the sacristy to determine specific needs for the area.

Any donations are gladly accepted. Thanks!

**Children's Center News**

This summer the Children's Center will be learning about Ocean life and Sea Animals. We will also enjoy the warm weather with some water play days. The preschoolers will venture off campus for the first time in a couple of years with trips to story time at Library park and the toddler play area at Recreation Park.

We will have a good bye celebration for the children going off to TK and Kindergarten in July. We wish them well as they go off to "big kid school."

Happy Summer!  
Lauren

**Prayer requests**

Please forward any prayer requests to [melissaasings@gmail.com](mailto:melissaasings@gmail.com) I will add them to our weekly Prayers of the People.



## Family Promise

**We raised the funds needed to support our 4 families during our June host week!** We have 3 families at the Family Resource and Respite Center in San Pedro and one family at First Christian Church in Torrance. Thank you for supporting this awesome outreach and a successful host week!

**We're excited to have Summer Camp back again this year at First Christian Church.**

Summer Camp will provide 40-60 children between Kindergarten - 8th grade with a 6-week memorable experience Monday through Friday from June 27th - to August 5th. Camp is open to current and graduate families, and local neighboring school children from low-income households. The summer camp provides a space for the children to participate in a variety of STEM, sports, and educational activities to encourage and develop relationships with peers.

There are still a few items left on the Summer Camp wish list. If you are interested in donating supplies that help us run Summer Camp, our wish list is here: [Family Promise Summer Camp Wish List](#)

### **Brunch and Open House at First Christian Church in Torrance**

Each Volunteer Coordinator can bring 2 guests to the brunch at the end of July. Please let me know if you would like to go! It's a great way to find out more about Family Promise of the South Bay and all the exciting things that are happening.

### **Follow us Today!**

We would love to stay connected with you all, please join us today on our social media!

Instagram: @fpsouthbay

Facebook: @FamilyPromiseOSB

Twitter: @FPSouthBay

Youtube: @Family Promise of the South Bay

### **Friendly reminder to go, visit and have some fun at Wrigley Coffee!**

Monday - Sunday 7am - 4pm

437 W Willow St., Long Beach, CA 90806

### **Our Upcoming 2022 Host Weeks**

Third quarter: Oct 9 - 15

Fourth quarter: Dec 11 - 17

With Love, Jeanie Powell, [cheeriochewer@gmail.com](mailto:cheeriochewer@gmail.com), 310-462-9904







## May He Rest In Peace and Rise In Glory

### Razza Samia

Razza was the beloved husband of Victoria Samia and loving father of Jacob and Chloe.

The memorial service for Razza will be on July 7 at 4PM at St. Michaels

Thank you Mother Dina for your years of service and dedication to St. Michael's. On Dina's last Sunday, June 5, the church was decorated to celebrate her ministry



#### Search update

Many people have asked what the vestry is doing to find our new priest. Mother Dina is currently on vacation and then will be taking two months of sabbatical. According to Diocesan rules, we are not allowed to begin our search until her time here is completed which is September 5. We are in contact with the diocese and the vestry will be working on getting everything set to begin our search as soon as we can.

We will be distributing a survey in August to determine what the congregation feels our needs are and what they are looking for in a new clergy person. We will keep you updated as we get more information. We especially ask for your prayers for the vestry in this challenging time.



# THE GUARDIAN

**St. Michael the Archangel Episcopal Church El Segundo**

Parish Office: 310-322-2589  
Web site: [www.stmichaels-elsegundo.org](http://www.stmichaels-elsegundo.org)  
Email: [StMichaelsElSegundo@gmail.com](mailto: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

**Mission Statement for St. Michael's Church**

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

**The Reverend Dina Ferguson, D. Min.**

# July/August 2022

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

TO: