



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

The Reverend Joshua Wong, Rector

Mission Statement for St. Michael's Church

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

January 2025

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

TO:

Rector's Thoughts

Happy New year everyone!

As I write to you, it is often a few weeks before the next month in order to meet our deadline for printing. I hope you had a peaceful, happy and meaningful Advent season, Christmas Day and a bright and joyous new year ahead.



We learned during December that Christmas Day does not end for our Anglican tradition on the 25th of December, but our anticipation continues to the Season of Epiphany on January 6. The time between December 25 to January 6 is known as the Twelve Days of Christmas.

First fun fact, Epiphany is celebrated with special pastries in some countries, and children often receiving small gifts in their shoes to represent the Magi's gifts to the infant Jesus. I wish you many sweet treats during these days, and a warning to look inside your shoes before you step into them!

From January 6 until March 2, we will begin the time of Epiphany. The word Epiphany comes from the Greek meaning, "manifestation." We commemorate the first manifestation of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles by the noble pilgrims from the East (The Magi), and the manifestation of his divinity as it occurred at his baptism and at his first miracle at Cana in Galilee.

The history of this festival originated in the Eastern church, where it at first included a commemoration of Christ's birth. By 354, in Rome, Christ's birth was being celebrated on December 25 (Christmas Day,) and later part of the 4th century, the church in Rome began celebrating Epiphany on January 6.

Next fun fact, it is estimated that Jesus' birth might have occurred between 6 and 4 BCE. The biblical account in Matthew 2 indicates two sightings of the star, one before the Magi began their journey (probably from Babylonia or Persia) and the other near their journey's end, when the omen (sign or warning) "stopped over the place where the child was." Chinese annals record a novae in 5 BCE and 4 BCE, and in the early 17th century, German astronomer Johannes Kepler advanced the view that the Star of Bethlehem may have been a nova occurring in or near some conjunction of bright planets.

Whatever the fascinating discoveries in science, Epiphany is a special time set aside in our Episcopal Church for people to celebrate how a star led the Magi to visit the baby Jesus after he had been born. May the Epiphany season "reveal" more of what we need to know and learn about ourselves and about our Savior.

We have an exciting 2025 ahead. A few things happening in February that you may wish to write in your calendar. On Saturday, February 1, the Bishop will be here to install me as your seventh Rector. Please join us in this big event, and consider helping our committee with the event. There will be many guests from our Diocese, so come early. The service begins at 10 am, so if you are able to volunteer your time, please speak to Jeanie, Florine or Melissa Albers. Also, on February 9th, after the 10 am service, we will have a brief annual meeting. Have a great January.

Peace, Father Joshua+



Children's Center January News

Happy New Year! The children had a two-week break to spend time with family and now we are back to the fun! This month, the children will be learning about the winter season. They will talk about winter weather and winter animals through stories, songs and creative art activities. We will enhance the fun with some fake snow and ice play as well.

School will be closed Monday, January 20th for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday.

P.S. The school will be closed for an additional week. We are completely rehauling the children's bathrooms in the school building. Due to major plumbing issues the school needed an additional week. We are looking forward to our new, and improved facilities.
Lauren



C.A.S.E. Ingathering January 19

Honey Nut Cheerios, Frosted Flakes, Fruit Loops, Lucky Charms, Captain Crunch
Oatmeal – Plain Old Fashion or instant Quaker Oats in the cardboard cylinder or name brand (NO off brands or steel cut oatmeal please)

Canned Chicken

SPAM

Rosarita Refried Beans

Ketchup

Sugar

Salt

Cake Mixes - Chocolate or Yellow

Brownie & Cookie Mixes

please

Syrup

Strawberry and other fruit jams (not grape)

Peanut Butter - prefer Skippy, Jif or recognized store brand

Juice

Cookies

Toothpaste

Dish detergent

Multi-purpose cleaning solution

Canned Tuna

Pasta Sauce

Progresso or Campbells Chunky Soups

Mayonnaise - Best Foods is preferred

Flour

Cooking Oil

Frosting - Chocolate or Vanilla

Pancake Mix - Store brands

White Rice

Honey

Snacks

Coffee (No decaf)

Shampoo

Laundry detergent



January Birthdays

2 Pattie McCaverty

9 Kathy Van Orden

21 Bill McCaverty

27 Chris Van Heuven



February newsletter articles are due January 28th. Send articles and pictures to melissaasings@gmail.com





Bishop Taylor to install new rector at St. Michael's, El Segundo

Bishop John Harvey Taylor will preside at a celebration of a new ministry service for the Reverend Joshua Wong as seventh rector of St. Michael the Archangel at 10 am on Saturday, February 1, 2025.

Clergy are invited to wear their red stoles. A luncheon at the church will follow the service. **Please RSVP to email stmichaelsesegundo@gmail.com by January 12.**



- Sunday, Jan. 5 Holy Eucharist 8 & 10am Katherine Feng preacher
- Monday, Jan. 6 Epiphany
- Sunday, Jan. 12 Baptism of our Lord Holy Eucharist 8 & 10am Dan Ince preaching
- Sunday, Jan. 19 CASE ingathering Holy Eucharist 8 & 10am
- Monday, Jan. 20 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Saturday, Feb. 1 Rev. Joshua Wong Installation 10am
- Sunday, Feb. 9 Annual Meeting after 10am service with Pot Luck lunch

Congregational Meeting



Annual Meeting

February 9 after the 10am service.

Please join us on Sunday, February 9th after the 10am service for our Annual Meeting. It is very important to the health of the church for us to meet annually to discuss the business of the church. We will be presenting reports from committees of the church and going over the budget for the year. Please turn in your reports by February 2 so they may be included in our packet.

Washington National Cathedral

Today we got a bit of a history lesson in our sermon! I think everyone was pleased to hear about the Washington National Cathedral—especially that it was established as Anglican because of its welcoming to everyone philosophy. I am sure many of us got home and looked it up on Google! Google's statement describes it: The Washington National Cathedral, also known as the Cathedral Church of Saint Peter and Saint Paul, is an **American Cathedral of the Episcopal Church**.

Evidently George Washington envisioned a "great church for national purposes." The cathedral was chartered by the U.S. Congress in 1893, and construction began in 1907, and wasn't considered complete until 83 years later when the final finial was placed in the presence of President George H. W. Bush. It is the second largest church in the United States (the largest being in Joel Olsteen's in Texas, built in the 1950's).

From its beginning, the cathedral has been thought of as more than just a great Cathedral. Initially it was hoped it would be similar to Westminster Abbey. It was hoped it would be considered a national shrine and location of great services. For many years it has been referred to as "a house of prayer for all people." In more recent times the phrases "national house of prayer" and "spiritual home for the nation" have been used. The cathedral has achieved this status simply by offering itself and being accepted by religious and political leaders as playing this role. Some years ago, I belonged to a choir that was chosen to represent CA (a choir from each state was being chosen for each week that year) and it was such an honor to sing on the steps to the altar at the Washington National Cathedral.

State funerals for American presidents, Eisenhower, Reagan, Ford, and George H.W. Bush have been held there, as have memorial services for 5 other presidents, and presidential inaugural prayer services have been held there for at least 7 more presidents. It is also the final resting place for many famous people (or their ashes).

How wonderful to realize it is part of our great Anglican community.



Gerri Pisciotta

Please remember PV Resale Thrift Shop as you clean out your cabinets and closets!

PV Resale Thrift Shop is a huge blessing to Family Promise. The thrift shop provides funding quarterly from their proceeds to 13 local charities, including Family Promise. Each of these 13 charities receives an average of \$4,000 four times a year! It is an extremely successful outreach that has given millions of dollars to local charities. Please support this non-profit committed to community service and the support of charities by donating items in clean, working, and very good condition. They sell almost everything: clothes, bedding, towels,



dishes, furniture, small appliances, books and toys. I am happy to take donations for you if they fit in my car – let me know if you want a receipt. Palos Verdes Resale Thrift Shop is located at 2321 PCH in Lomita. The store hours are Tuesdays through Fridays, 11am - 4pm, Saturdays, 11am - 3pm, closed Sundays and Mondays.

With love,
Jeanie Powell

Voices from the Vestry

New Year's Blessings – January 2025

Dear Church Family,

As we welcome this new year, we reflect on the countless blessings of 2024. Our hearts are full of gratitude, excitement and hope for welcoming our new rector, Father Joshua with his excitement for our church and his new ideas. We are thankful for our new and old members, for our wonderful choir, and for our new website. We eagerly anticipate the opportunities and growth that 2025 will bring. The turning of the calendar is more than just a passage of time—it is a reminder of God's unchanging faithfulness and His promise to walk with us into the unknown.

This is a season of hope, a time to renew our faith and trust in the Lord. As the Apostle Paul reminds us in Philippians 3:13-14, *"Forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."* Let us press forward with hearts full of faith, believing that God has wonderful plans in store for each of us and for St. Michael's.

Our prayer for 2025 is that it be a year of peace, unity, positivity and growth. May we embody Christ's love in all we do, offering kindness, encouragement, and support to those around us. May we have the courage to stand up for what is right and to be advocates for those who are oppressed. May our hearts be open to God's guidance. May we have the wisdom to clearly understand God's voice. May all of our hearts be filled with God's great love that can dissolve division, hatred and fear.

As we begin this new year, we invite you to join us in setting intentions for spiritual growth. Whether through prayer, scripture study, acts of service, or simply being present in God's creation, let's commit to deepening our relationship with Him and with one another.

On behalf of St. Michael's, we wish you and your loved ones a blessed and joyful New Year. May God's peace fill your hearts, His light guide your path, and His love surround you always. Together, let's make 2025 a year of faith, hope, and transformation. See you at church!

With love and blessings,
Jeanie Powell



Christmas Eve 4PM Family Service

