

Saints Alive

ALL SAINTS CHURCH PASADENA JANUARY 2017

**Mike Kinman:
MLK, Jr.: Beyond the
Sound Bites**

Spotlight: Lorenzo Bacani

**Worship: Taking It to
the Streets**

LOOKING BACK ON 2016

Comings and Goings On



All Saints Rector John Burt sitting in solidarity with
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., at Wrigley Field, Los Angeles, 1964

MLK, Jr.: Beyond the Sound Bites

from Rector Mike Kinman

Like most Americans, I grew up knowing the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King by the sound bites.

"I have a dream."

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness, only light can do that."

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

About 15 years ago, a friend gave me "A Testament of Hope: The Essential Writings and Speeches of Martin Luther King, Jr." It sat on a shelf for a while, and then, on King's birthday, I pulled it down and decided I would spend an hour or so reading it.

I opened the book ... and didn't put it down for hours.

A whole new King was opened up to me. One whose love was radical, whose love allowed for anger and even rage. One who railed against capitalism and poverty, Viet Nam and white moderates. A King who was so different from the whitewashed, kum ba yah King that had been sold to me for most of my life.

And so I began a personal tradition, every year on MLK Day, of pulling out that book and spending the day immersing myself in all of his words – not just the sound bites.

When I started at Christ Church Cathedral eight years ago, I learned that our pulpit was one of four places in St. Louis where Dr. King had preached. One day, I was mentioning to someone how meaningful it had become to me to spend King's birthday reading his writings, and out of that conversation came the idea of a daylong, community reading of Dr. King's speeches, sermons and writings from the very place where he had preached.

"Let Freedom Ring" was born. We used *A Testament of Hope* and the extensive collection of the King Papers Project at Stanford (<https://kinginstitute.stanford.edu/king-papers/about-papers-project>), contacted the King Center for permission for a public reading, and set up a simple structure. A large book of readings would be at the front of the church – first at the lectern and eventually in the pulpit from where King preached. People would sign up for half-hour shifts to read ... but at any time, someone could walk up indicate they want to take over reading, and just take over. We'd ask people to read for no more than 5 minutes if someone was waiting, and if there was a gap, the shift leader would be there to make sure the reading continued.

We advertised it as a complement of reflection to the



PHOTO BY KEITH HOLEMAN

King National Day of Service activities taking place in the community. And people came.

They came for a half hour, for two hours, for the entire day. They read and they listened. School groups came after doing service projects and then had conversations about how what they had done and what they heard were related.

The idea of getting "celebrity readers" to draw more people in was floated and quickly dismissed. This was about the people. When Sen. Claire McCaskill showed up to read, she waited her turn like everyone else.

Attendance grew every year, and it became one of the signature events of the year at Christ Church Cathedral ... and other churches around the country began to pick it up.

School groups came after doing service projects and had conversations about how what they had done and what they heard were related.

And this year, we're bringing it to All Saints. On Monday, January 16, from 9 am – 5 pm, we will be hosting "Let Freedom Ring." A sheet will be available in the sign-up center in the Sundays leading up for people to sign up to be shift leaders, and anyone throughout the day can come to read, or listen or both. Thanks to the translating skills of Antonio Gallardo, we'll have the option of reading in Spanish as well as English... and for those who can't make it down to the church, the whole day will be streamed live online.

I hope you will join me in spreading the word about this event ... and coming down for an hour, or two, or even eight and letting the words of this great man wash over you. Hear more than just the sound bites, and let your life be set on fire.

The Racial Justice Ministry

by Monique Thomas

In the wake of the 1992 Rodney King beating in South Los Angeles and the city-wide civil unrest that ensued, a group called "Black and White Together" formed to create safe space to address issues around race and racism. It was partially concerned with the lack of diversity in the staff at the time and apathy of the congregation toward race. Soon after, this group became the anti-racism ministry COLORS (Christians Offering Love to Overcome Racism in Society). It would be multi-racial and multi-ethnic in membership and focus.

"I started the COLORS ministry because I wanted to help create a better world for my children," said **Celesta Cheney-Rice**, founding member of COLORS. "I didn't want them to grow up experiencing the same racism I faced when I was young."

Sarah Tatum, a 25-year RJM member, reflected, "I was one of the original co-chairs along with Justin McNeil and Manson Yew. Over the past 25 years, we have made some progress. But we must keep up the battle, no matter how long it takes."

The ministry continues to thrive today and builds on the legacy of its rich past. In early 2016, members of COLORS drafted the Racial Justice Resolution that was adopted by All Saints' Vestry last April and met by overwhelming enthusiasm and participation by the parish.

New steering committee member **Jenny Watts** said, "I'm a newcomer to the Racial Justice Ministry and my desire to serve in this ministry was inspired in large part by two things: Bryan Stevenson's electrifying sermon at All Saints in February 2016, and ASC's passage of the Racial Justice Resolution last spring. I had already begun the difficult spiritual work of excavating my deeply held biases. Stevenson's words challenged me to understand that it is not enough to simply love justice, I must act as well."

Jenny's personal reason for joining was compelling, "I am the descendent of slave traders and holders. I've had to grapple with that painful truth in facing this country's foundation and how it has shaped my life of privilege. I believe that we are the stories we tell ourselves and one another about the past. I see it as my spiritual and moral obligation to tell the truth about my ancestry and actively work to correct systemic wrongs."

Wendy Gutschow, also new to the RJM steering committee, said, "I got involved in the Racial Justice Ministry because justice is at the heart of Jesus' Gospel message. When coming to All Saints for the first few times as I was looking for a church home in 2015, I quickly saw that racial justice was a priority and knew this was the place for my daughter and me."

In December, COLORS members officially changed their name to the Racial Justice Ministry. They felt it important for parishioners to know exactly who they are as a ministry and for what they stand. They wanted to have a name that was both aligned with the resolution and spoke to their continued commitment towards racial justice for all.

As for the name change, Celesta is supportive. "We've always been about racial justice; now we are just saying exactly who we are. I just want to make sure that everyone knows and understands our history."

Wendy summed it up: "While I don't want to simplify why I do this work, the reason really is quite straightforward: it is the Gospel. Jesus simply called us to love one another as He loved us. As Christians we have to be at the forefront of showing our community, our country, and the world what racial justice looks like as we live out the gospel in our daily lives."

On Sunday, January 15, 12:30-2:30 p.m. in Sweetland Hall, the Racial Justice Ministry will celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with *Solidarity in the Struggle*, focusing on community solidarity in these challenging times. Guest panelists will include **Harlan Redmond**, Executive Director of Harambee Ministries in Northwest Pasadena, and **Tarek Shawky**, local defense attorney and leader in the Muslim community. Suggested donation is \$10 (no one will be turned away for lack of funds). For child care call 626.583.2781 at least 48 hours prior to the event. To RSVP, contact Ada Ramirez at aramirez@allsaints-pas.org or 626.583.2734.



Celesta Cheney-Rice



Jenny Watts



Sarah Tatum



Wendy Gutschow



Racial Justice Ministry's Open House

Spotlight

Lorenzo Bacani

by Matt Mueller-Curson

It shouldn't come as a surprise to anyone that the youth of All Saints Church embody the spirit of this parish with enthusiasm and dedication. And it would be hard to get any more involved at All Saints than high school junior Lorenzo Bacani. Acolyte, chorister, Vestry member – Lorenzo has done it all.

Lorenzo and his dad, Roland, have attended All Saints since Lorenzo was very young. Together they joined this community after searching for a church where they felt comfortable with the attitudes and teachings. From an early age, Lorenzo was ready to get involved at All Saints, and he became an acolyte as soon as he was old enough. Lorenzo reflects that, "while sitting in a pew and observing Sunday services is fantastic, when given the opportunity I'll always choose to get up and join in." Lorenzo now serves as the captain of his acolyte crew and cherishes how he's able to be so involved in the flow of the weekly worship.

Lorenzo attends Los Angeles High School for the Performing Arts and can't say enough about how great his school is for him. He really values his art education. His primary medium is music and he concentrates on vocals

and playing the saxophone. Music is a driving force in his life and he plans to pursue higher education in music after high school. He hopes to spend his life performing music and, someday, teaching. All Saints has given him the opportunity to move into leadership in worship by performing musically as a member of both Trouveres and Vox Cambiata youth choirs. Lorenzo also serves as one of the two youth members on the All Saints Church Vestry – the elected group responsible for articulating the mission of the church as the equivalent of its lay board of directors. He has greatly enjoyed his time serving on the Vestry and says that the most exciting activity has

been the selection process of the new rector, Mike Kinman.

Lorenzo is an active member of the ASC Youth Group and their weekly Wednesday get-togethers are always

one of highlights of his week. Some of Lorenzo's closest friends are in youth group with him. He loves their group discussions. "Some of my favorite memories have come from just hanging around talking with the group."

One of his most rewarding experiences was their recent mission trip to Mexico. The crew traveled to Baja California where they were able to help improve the conditions of an impoverished elementary school. When Lorenzo reflects on that trip, he values the opportunity to help those who are in a tougher spot in life than he himself. "Being down there, I was acutely aware of the severe disparity between my own situation and those of the families we met there. Being able to paint classrooms and help improve the general upkeep of the school was an awesome way to practice what I think is the core value of All Saints Church – making life better for everyone."

Lorenzo says it is important to give back to your community, whether that is your local church or the global community. Lorenzo's words are pure and simple: "There is never a bad time to reflect on how we can all be of service in our communities, small and large."



PHOTO BY CAM SANDERS



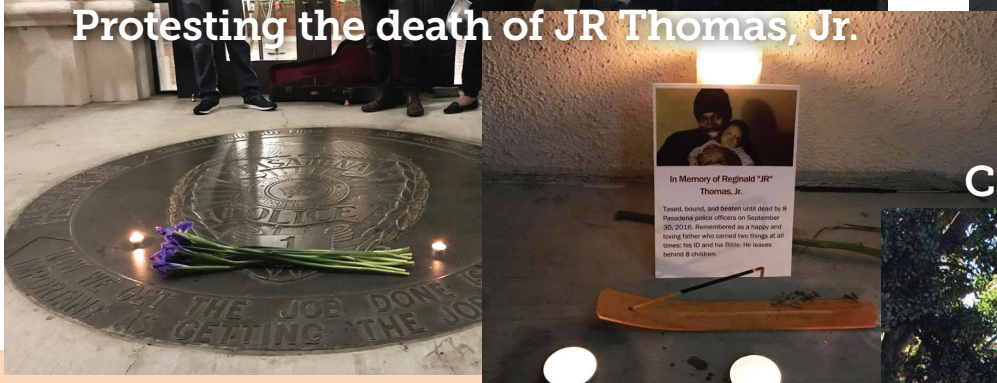
Taking It to the Streets

Worship is not limited to liturgy in a sanctuary or to prayers in a prayer book. We worship as we live our lives outside the church walls, aligned with God's values of love, justice and compassion. And we pray when we put our faith into action in ways large and small. As we prepare for the New Year ahead with both its opportunities and challenges, here are just a few of the ways All Saints has taken worship out into the world – from subversive liturgies to prayer vigils to protest marches.

Worship



Subversive Liturgy at Pasadena PD
Protesting the death of JR Thomas, Jr.



California: Fearless, United
Rally & March





Bishops Gene Robinson & Rob Wright in January



Easter in March

Looking Back on 2016

As we begin 2017 we look back at 2016 – a year of both opportunity and challenge. We hosted bishops, celebrated our youth, said goodbye to Ed Bacon and welcomed Mike Kinman. We blessed animals, celebrated the departed, marched in protest rallies and staged prayer vigils. We redecorated our lobby, recommitted ourselves to strive for peace and justice and reenergized ourselves for the work ahead. The Annual Report will tell the whole story: here are a few of the highlights! (Chronological from top left, clockwise)



Día de Los Muertos in November



LA Protest in December



Christmas



Ed's last Sunday in May



Blessing of Animals in October



Christmas



Zelda in charge in June



Homecoming in September with the new rector



Lobby update in August



Prayer March in June

Comings and Goings On

Some things of interest coming in January to All Saints Church!

Candidates for Vestry

The Vestry Nominating Committee has selected this stellar slate of candidates for election at the Parish Annual Meeting on Sunday, Feb. 12, 2017: MaryAnn Ahart, Hannah Berry (youth member), Sharyn Delahousie, Max Molina, Terry Moore, Isabel Ramirez, and Brian Robinson. Biographical information and photos will appear in the February edition of Saints Alive. It is possible to nominate a candidate by petition. Forms are available by contacting Christina Honchell at chonchell@allsaints-pas.org. The deadline for submissions is 5 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 12, 2017. Names and photos of those nominated by petition will be printed in the February Saints Alive.

Norma Guerra Ordination

All are invited to the ordination of former All Saints staffer **Norma Guerra** to the priesthood on Saturday, Jan. 14, 10:00 a.m., at St. John's Pro-Cathedral, 514 W. Adams Blvd., Los Angeles. All Saints Church sponsored Norma's candidacy. There will be a reception following the ordination at Church of the Messiah, 614 N. Bush St., Santa Ana, at 2:00 p.m. Join us for the celebration!



Diocesan Lutheran/Episcopal Event with Michael Curry: Living the Dream of God Now

Presiding Bishop Michael B. Curry will be the keynote speaker for a joint Episcopal/Lutheran worship service celebrating the life and legacy of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The theme for the gathering is Living the Dream of God Now. This event will be held Sunday, Jan. 15, at 3:00 p.m. at Westchester Lutheran Church located at 7831 South Sepulveda Blvd, Los Angeles. Don't miss this opportunity to be part of this historic ecumenical celebration and hear one of the finest preachers of our generation – our own Presiding Bishop Michael Curry. More information = Frank Alton at 213.482.2040!

Jazz Vespers in January: Russell Ferrante

Join us Sunday, Jan. 15, at 5:00 p.m. on the Chancel. All Saints Parishioner and founding member of the YellowJackets, **Russell Ferrante's** first exposure to music came from his church, where his father was the choir director, a frequent vocal soloist, and leader of a vocal gospel quartet. He began piano lessons at 9 with the expectation that one day he would be the church pianist...but his musical interests took him elsewhere. Russ has performed with Jimmy Witherspoon, Jim Pepper, Joe Farrell, Joni Mitchell, Bobby McFerrin, Robben Ford, Al Jarreau, Marilyn Scott, Ernie Watts, Sadao Watanabe, GRP, Big Band, Lee Ritenour, Tom Scott, Take 6, Michael Franks, Eric Marienthal, and Brenda Russell. Russell currently teaches in the Jazz Studies department at USC. Zelda Kennedy offers a meditation. Information = Melissa Hayes, 626.583.2725 or mhayes@allsaints-pas.org.



"Let Freedom Ring": Daylong community reading of MLK speeches, sermons and writings

To balance action with reflection, the nave of All Saints Church will be open from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 16, for a continuous reading of Dr. King's speeches, sermons and writings. Anyone can come and take part either as a reader or listener. Texts will be available in English and in Spanish. More information coming soon.

Women's Rally and March on January 21

On January 21, the day after the inauguration of President-elect Donald Trump, hundreds of thousands of people are saying they will participate in a "Women's March on Washington." The event's Facebook page, as

of the end of December, lists over 158,000 individuals who say they are going, and more than 241K people who say they are interested.

Locally, the "Women's March Los Angeles" will simultaneously take place, beginning in Pershing Square in downtown L.A. and marching to L.A. City Hall and back from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. The march is not for women only, but is open to everyone who stands for human rights, civil liberties, tolerance of diversity, and compassion for our shared humanity. It will be a show of solidarity for the protection of rights, safety, health, and families – recognizing that our vibrant and diverse communities are the strength of our country.

In Pasadena a pre-march rally will take place in the City Hall Rotunda at 8 a.m. on the 21st. Parishioner Jan Sanders is one of the organizers of the pre-march rally. "Our purpose is to promote solidarity and awareness of issues of interest to women," Jan said. "Topics include health, workers rights, and legislative conversations." Following the rally, participants will march to the nearby Gold Line and ride to Los Angeles to join in the march from Pershing Square. "It is not partisan in nature," Jan continued, "but it seems to unite women in our struggle for equal rights and equal justice."

The march is free, public, and there is no need to register. For more information on the march visit <https://womensmarchla.org/>. For information on the pre-march rally visit Women's Rally Pasadena on Facebook.

Save the Date: Monday, February 27th

A New Chapter Begins: Celebrating the Ministry of the All Saints Church Community

We are thrilled that the Reverend Becca Stevens – recent CNN Heroes inductee and author of our 2016 One Church One Book "Find Your Way Home" – will be with us to help celebrate the installation of her friend, Mike Kinman, as our 10th Rector. **Bishop Diane Jardine Bruce** will preside and **Becca Stevens** will preach at the festive Eucharist at 7:30 p.m. in the Church. Mark your calendars now. More details to come!

Calendar of events for the month. Please check our website at www.allsaints-pas.org and the weekly *This Week At All Saints* for details and contact information.

January

- 1** — Sunday, **9:00 and 11:15 a.m.** Eucharists only, Church
Labyrinth, 8:30 a.m.-12 noon, Sweetland Hall
- 2** — Monday, **New Year's Holiday**, Office Closed
- 8** — Sunday, **Reyes Magos**, 2:00 p.m., Sweetland Hall
Revisiting Manzanar, 5:00 p.m., Sweetland Hall
- 13** — Friday, **Not So Bored Game Night for Youth**, 6:00 p.m., Sweetland Hall
- 14** — Saturday, **Ordination of Norma Guerra**, 10:00 a.m., St. John's Pro-Cathedral, L. A.
- 15** — Sunday, **Racial Justice Ministry Event: Solidarity in the Struggle: Celebrating Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**, 12:30 p.m., Sweetland Hall
Diocesan Lutheran/Episcopal Event with Michael Curry: Living the Dream of God Now, 3:00 p.m., Westchester Lutheran Church
- Jazz Vespers with Russell Ferrante**, 5:00 p.m., Chancel
- 16** — Monday, **Let Freedom Ring, Community Reading of MLK Speeches, Sermons and Writings**, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Church
- 20** — Friday, **Women's Community Half-the-Sky Discussion**, 5:00 p.m., Sweetland Hall
- 21** — Saturday, **Women's March Los Angeles**, Pershing Square, Los Angeles, 9 a.m.
- 22** — Sunday, **Training for Small Group Facilitation**, 12:30 p.m., Guild Room
- 27** — Friday, **Fiction Fun!**, 7:30 p.m., Guild Room
- 29** — Sunday, **Parody and Subversion in Matthew**, 1:00 p.m., Forum
- 31** — Tuesday, **Candidates Forum on Affordable Housing**, 12:30 p.m., Forum

Adult Ed in January, 10:15 a.m. Sundays

- 8** • **Stories from the Undocumented in Our Community**, with Pablo Alvarado & the National Day Laborer Network, Rector's Forum, Church
- **Why People Don't Understand that Climate Change Threatens (Our) Humanity**, Sweetland Hall
- **Transformational Journeys**, with members of the TJ to El Camino, Guild Room
- **Parent Culture**, Scott Hall 2
- 22** • **TBD**, Rector's Forum, Church
- **12 Ministries/136 Participants: A Multicultural Assessment**, with Isaac Ruelas, Sweetland Hall
- **The Anglican Communion & The Episcopal Church**, with Jim White, Guild Room
- **Parent Culture**, Scott Hall 2
- 29** • **TBD**, Rector's Forum, Church
- **Worship, Liturgy, and the Book of Common Prayer**, with Susan Russell, Guild Room
- **Parent Culture**, Scott Hall 2
- 15** • **MLK Day Panel**, with panel TBD, Rector's Forum, Church
- **TBD**, Sweetland Hall
- **Letters, Songs, and Life Stories of African Slaves in America**, with Michal Dawson Connor, Guild Room
- **Parent Culture**, Scott Hall 2



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