



ALL SAINTS CHURCH

## RESOLUTION OPPOSING WAR AGAINST IRAQ

**WHEREAS**, the United States is poised on the brink of war against Iraq; and

**WHEREAS**, war brings great suffering and loss of life, which is incompatible with our belief in the sanctity of all life and the image of God that dwells in every human being; and

**WHEREAS**, as a Christian faith community, our prophetic call is to stand as a beacon for peace and justice and to embody God's inclusive love by respecting the dignity and presence of Christ in all humanity; and

**WHEREAS**, we honor and respect the loyalty of the women and men of the Armed Forces to this nation and pray for their safety and well being; and

**WHEREAS**, we recognize Saddam Hussein as an oppressor and one who has perpetrated great human rights abuses on his own people as well as others and has violated United Nations resolutions; and

**WHEREAS**, the government of the United States has failed to demonstrate that war with Iraq is justified as the only and last resort to stop the immediate use of weapons of mass destruction by the government of Iraq against the innocent; and

**WHEREAS**, the government of the United States, in contradiction to 1,500 years of Church teaching, has failed to demonstrate that this war will be waged to redress actual wrong suffered; that the violence to be used will be proportional to the actual harm suffered; and that the prosecution of this war will effectively discriminate between combatants and non-combatants; and

**WHEREAS**, that the end, no matter how desirable, cannot justify the means employed to achieve the end but, rather, the means employed must be justified on their own merits;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that, after prayerful consideration, we, the Vestry of All Saints Church, Pasadena, California, do hereby support the continued work of the United Nations weapons inspectors in Iraq, enhanced by sufficient support to guarantee unfettered access to all designated sites for the purpose of ensuring Iraq's compliance with United Nations resolutions; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that given the lack of immediacy of the threat by Iraq against the United States or any other nation, war at this time by the United States against Iraq, whether waged alone or with others and whether or not approved by a vote of the Security Council of the United Nations, has not been and cannot be morally justified.

*ADOPTED BY THE VESTRY OF ALL SAINTS CHURCH, MARCH 11, 2003*