

# The Episcopal Parish Church of Saint Michael & All Angels

3233 Pacific View Drive  
Corona del Mar, CA 92625

*Shane Scott-Hamblen, Th.D., Rector*

## Minutes of a Special Vestry Meeting Saturday, Feb. 7, 2026

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Rector – Fr. Shane Scott-Hamblen  
Junior Warden – Jill Draffin  
Elizabeth Henry  
Jamie Mead  
Pat Albers

Senior Warden – Mark Peterson  
Susan Brown, acting clerk  
Jim Headley  
Cathy Dunlap  
Tom Nicholson

Missing:  
Steve Gribben  
Ali Haghjoo

Brian Robinson

Also present:  
Ruth Cobb, choral consultant  
Matthew Cook, assistant director of music

Lukas Hasler, director of music

1. Opening at 9 a.m.
2. Rector's announcement

Fr. Shane reported that under his vow of obedience, he consulted Bishop John Taylor about how to handle a dating relationship between him and a partner who has joined the choir of St. Michael's. Bishop Taylor has given his blessing to the continuation of the relationship, with the proviso that its existence is officially recorded in the minutes of a Vestry meeting. The bishop understands that the partner, who is Jewish, is not under Fr. Shane's pastoral care and will remain unpaid for his singing.

3. New Business

The Vestry approved the form of a purchase and sale agreement and a profit participation plan with Knighthall Capital, LLC, for a townhome project on part of the parking lot. The Vestry amended the resolution to provide that if the parties fail to agree on the general site plan and on development standards during a 90-day period, St. Michael's may terminate the agreements. Jamie Mead moved and Mark Peterson seconded the motion. A copy of the resolution is attached.

4. Presentation

Ruth Cobb, former director of admissions for the St. Thomas Choir School in New York City, discussed her experience with children's choirs and presented the potential advantages of forming a girls choir. She emphasized that many parishes have successful choirs, but ownership of them needs to be more widely vested than in just the director. The choir is a ministry of the church, not a community choral group. Creating a vision for a choir requires a process. Vestry members and staff had many questions, such as how a choir might be recruited and sustained, why it should be limited to girls, how much it would cost, who would teach sight-reading to the girls, and how the girls choir would remain independent of the adult choir. At the conclusion, the Vestry asked Cobb for written recommendations so as to determine the degree of consulting needed going forward.

5. The Vestry meeting concluded at 11:56 a.m.