



# The Episcopal Diocese of Northern California

*Making Disciples, Raising Up Saints & Transforming Communities for Christ*

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## Vine & Branch Bears Fruit

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### Vine & Branch Bears Fruit

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by *Martha Larkey*

Many people ask what Vine & Branch Society is. Simply put, it is when you leave your church, the diocese, a program or service of the Episcopal Church in your will!

In keeping with the Bishop's request that all diocesan level programs and services provide direct value to local

congregations, [The Episcopal Foundation of Northern California](#) held the first local Vine & Branch Celebration in collaboration with the Bishop and local clergy. Eleven congregations participated and over 50 people attended to recognize local Vine & Branch members and other supporters of the Episcopal Church in Northern California. The Board of Directors of the Foundation sponsored the event, provided the place, the food, managed the invite and RSVP process. Local clergy hosted their guests and had a good time. Lisa Sargent of [St. Michael's, Carmichael](#) (pictured above left with [Bishop Beisner](#)) noted:

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"We demonstrate what we value by how we spend our time, money and attention. I have been nurtured and fed spiritually, emotionally and intellectually by the Church. The Church has enhanced my life in many ways and I have given back my time, talent and treasure. When I wrote my trust, I named St. Michaels' and the Diocese as beneficiaries along with my family. A very clear demonstration of what has been important to me and what I value."

There will be four additional local events in the diocese when the Bishop returns. For information on how you can remember the Church in your will, contact Foundation Director Rick Harrison-Smith: [rick@norcalepiscopalfoundation.org](mailto:rick@norcalepiscopalfoundation.org) or (916) 442-6918 ext. 216, or go to [www.norcalepiscopalfoundation.org](http://www.norcalepiscopalfoundation.org).

Prayer Path to  
Reflect, Refresh  
*Thu, March 24, 2011 (No  
comments)*

The Pain, Power and  
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