



ST MICHAEL'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Sword October 26, 2023

## St. Michael's Weekly News & Updates



[Our Website](#)

[Watch us on Vimeo Live](#)

[Watch us on Facebook Live](#)

[Previous Sermons](#)

### A Note From Our Rector

Jesse Perkins

[jperkins@stmichaelsbarrington.org](mailto:jperkins@stmichaelsbarrington.org)



[Jesus] said to them, "Whose image is this and whose inscription?" They replied, "Caesar's." At that he said to them, "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God." Matthew 22: 15-21

#### The Word:

In today's Gospel, two opponents of Jesus, the Pharisees and Herodians (supporters of Herod's dynasty), join forces to trap Jesus. If Jesus affirms that taxes should be paid, he alienates the religious nationalists; if he denies that taxes should be paid, then he is subject to arrest by the Romans as a political revolutionary. But the very fact that his inquisitors could produce the emperor's coin from one of their purses was to admit a Roman obligation: If one used the sovereign's coin then one automatically took on an obligation to the sovereign; in other words, the Pharisees and Herodians, in trying to trap Jesus, answered their own question. But Jesus takes the debate to an even higher level by challenging them to be just as observant in paying their debt to God.

#### Reflection:

We seek surety in numbers; we look for black and white answers to complex questions. We devise formulas to define every set of circumstances; we depend on society's structures and institutions — government, medicine, education, business — to set clear, indisputable rules to decide complex issues and situations once and for all. But God transcends the lines we have drawn and the boundaries we have set up in order to make sense of our lives. God calls us to realize his hand in all things, his spirit making all things whole and good, his vision creating a human family united in his peace, justice and mercy. We cannot put a "price tag" on compassion; we cannot assign a value to forgiveness; we cannot measure or limit the justice and peace of God. In the love of God, we come to understand our shared responsibility to provide for the common good and protect the most vulnerable among us.

Written by Fr. Jim Swarthout



**A Note from our Sunday School Director**

Kim Curtis

[kcurtis@stmichaelsbarrington.org](mailto:kcurtis@stmichaelsbarrington.org)



Wanted. Candy donations for Halloween ☐ on Tuesday.

Please bring some candy to church on Sunday for us to pass out with the hotdogs on Halloween!

## Music Ministry



### All Souls Requiem Mass

November 5th, 6:30pm, St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 647 Dundee Ave, Barrington, IL 60010

This peaceful evening mass provides a place to remember departed loved ones, to sit with our grief, and receive hope and comfort through music, prayer, and scripture. The joint choirs of St. Michaels Episcopal Church, Salem Methodist Church, and Atonement Lutheran will be singing movements from Gabriel Fauré's Requiem Mass setting, accompanied by string ensemble and organ.

Questions, Please contact Sara Torbeck, Music Director.

[storbeck@stmichaelsbarrington.org](mailto:storbeck@stmichaelsbarrington.org)

Please click on the link below to list names of departed loved ones that you would like read and prayed over during our All Soul's Requiem Mass.

<https://forms.gle/9btKQbkMhMh2KRAc9>

---

## Community Events:

Chicago Master Singers opens its 45th annual season with **Baroque Splendor** on Saturday, October 28 at 7:30pm and Sunday, October 29 at 3:00pm.

Three brilliant works will be featured: J.S. Bach's Magnificat, Handel's Dixit Dominus, and Vivaldi's Beatus Vir. The chorus, led by Music Director John C. Hughes, is joined by the Metropolis Symphony Orchestra and professional soloists.

Our Music Director, **Sara Torbeck** along with several of our volunteer bell choir members perform with this Choir!

Also upcoming, their Christmas concerts will take place December 9 and 10<sup>th</sup> and often sell out so get your tickets early!

All concerts are performed at

**Glenview Community Church, 1000 Elm Street in Glenview, Illinois**

For tickets and information, please click here:

<https://www.tix.com/ticket-sales/chicagomastersingertickets/1978>





## LIFT Schedule

### **FROM THE LIFT LEADER'S DESK**

*Do you want my real answer, or do you want the Sunday School answer?*

After I recovered from laughing, I told Jackson that, yes, I wanted the real answer, but I really appreciated that he was being honest.

Real questions and real answers are hard.

I then reiterated to the class how important it is that we keep it real. I want them to ask the real questions and give the real answers. How else will they grow into adulthood and adult faith?

Real questions and real answers **are** hard. As young people move away from the literal safety of some of those old bible stories, they have to transition into the cold hard reality that sometimes *there are just no simple answers*. We can no longer paint the picture in black and white. There are many shades of gray, with splatterings and splotches of black and white. That's where we have to teach them that no matter what their reality is, God is with them...No Matter What!

Two weeks ago, I shared a story with the LIFTers. The story was written by a mother about her 3-year-old who had climbed out of his crib one night and gotten into the bathroom. She was awakened by glass shattering and a scream. She rushed in to find her toddler OK but surrounded by broken glass and aftershave, with him excitedly repeating, "Where are the two Jimmys?" Of course, she saw no one.

Days later, when the mother was teaching Sunday School, she showed a poster of two male angels. Her son excitedly started telling the whole class, *Mommy! That's my two Jimmys!* He then told the little girl next to him how *the two Jimmys knocked Daddy's aftershave out of my hand. They didn't want me to drink it and get sick.*

I asked the LIFTers what they thought about the story. Clearly, these guardian angels had saved this boy's life. During the discussion, Henry slowly raised his hand... *Why doesn't God save all the children?*

I wanted real questions from this group, and I got one.

My fellow teachers and I grappled for explanations. I thanked Henry for his hard and honest question because I want to encourage these types of questions and never shut them down. The bottom line, Henry, is that **we just don't know why** one toddler gets saved and another one doesn't.

Theologians call it *The Problem of Evil*. Books have been written about why bad things happen to good people. I've told the LIFTers to *not* be like the many adults that I know who have left God because they couldn't understand why a loving God would allow such suffering. (That's a long topic for Fr. Jesse.)

However, I DO know this: No matter the pain or the suffering, God is with us through it all,

No Matter What!  
And that's...my *real* answer.

## Upcoming Events

### Halloween Event October 31

Join us for hot dogs and trick-or-treating.

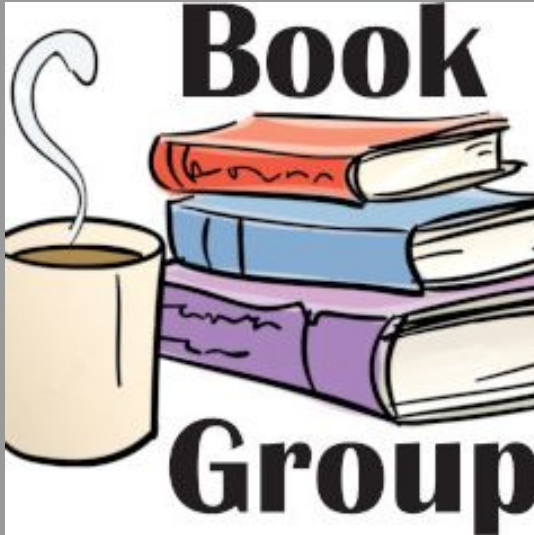


### And All The Angels Christian Gift Shop Annual Holiday Sale



Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup>  
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup>  
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>  
9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

All proceeds from this sale and from our gift shop benefit women's and children's charities.



## Book Club

Book Group will meet Wednesday, November 15, 7 pm, in the library.

Judy Tammi will lead "The River We Remember" by Wm. Kent Krueger.

All adult readers are welcome to join us! Questions? Call or email Kathi Frelk, [kfrelk4@gmail.com](mailto:kfrelk4@gmail.com)

## Announcements



## 75th Anniversary Gala photos

*The Gala photos are here!*

*Click the banner below...*

75th Anniversary Photos



## Volunteers Needed

And All The Angels needs your help!

With the holidays and our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary fast approaching, we are in desperate need of a few more volunteers. We aren't looking for a huge commitment, just a few hours on a Wednesday, Saturday morning or Sunday morning. Even once a month would be a great help. The shop is easy to run and I would be more than happy to walk you through the process. We are getting more and more new customers from the outside and I would hate to reduce our hours.

Any help you could give would be greatly appreciated. This ministry has helped a lot of organizations over the years and I would hate to see it disappear. We also have the holiday sale starting next month and could use a few pair of hands to help set up on November 11<sup>th</sup>. We start about 8:00 and go until we are done (which is usually by noon).

Please feel free to stop in the shop on a Sunday or give me a call at 847-358-1334. Thank you for your continued support in this ministry.  
Marti Callahan



### **Vestry Volunteers**

The Vestry is preparing its slate of candidates for next year. If you would like to volunteer, or know someone who would be a great candidate, please e-mail Bill Ferry (Junior Warden) at [wkf630\\_2002@yahoo.com](mailto:wkf630_2002@yahoo.com).

It's a great opportunity to get involved. We have 3 positions to be filled.

Questions, please feel free to call me at (847) 450-3846.



### **'Tis the Season for Katy's Christmas Baskets**

Adopt a family and make their Christmas wishes come true. We will have about 35 families from Church of the Redeemer and Revive Center who need our help putting presents under the Christmas tree and food on the holiday table. Families range in size and ages.

Sign up online: [Katy's Christmas Baskets link](#). If you have questions, contact Llor

Wonder, [llkwonder18@gmail.com](mailto:llkwonder18@gmail.com) or Melissa

Buckley, [mdbuckley92@gmail.com](mailto:mdbuckley92@gmail.com).

This ministry honors Katy Pepper, who coordinated our Christmas basket program for many years. We remember her kindness and generosity through our parish's commitment to supporting less fortunate families during the Advent and Christmas season.





## Artwork Display

Hello everyone!! Please remember to call me about posting a beautiful piece of your artwork by the Community Room. PLEASE DO NOT THINK you need to BE the ARTIST,, just a treasured piece of work to share for two weeks, plus a short description of why it means so much to you. It could be one of your children's drawings, a photograph ( not necessarily a Church related theme). Look around your home and pick out something you love and let me know if you would like to participate!!

Call me please: Paulette Forrest.  
224-213-6483

Thanks so much!!  
[Pforrestpayne@gmail.com](mailto:Pforrestpayne@gmail.com)

---

## Foyers Sign-up Time is here!

Foyers is a wonderful opportunity for all members of St. Michael's, to engage in fellowship together. Foyers features 2 types of gatherings. The first type is adult Foyers and the second is family Foyers. Adult Foyers are typically 4 groups of couples/singles, that are all adults, that meet as a group in each other's homes for a simple meal, 4 times over a period of a year. Family Foyers follows the same format, but it is adults and their children that form as a group, during the year period. This is a wonderful way for adults with young kids to be able to still enjoy fellowship with other families at St. Michael's.

Sign up for the next season of Foyers is underway for this next year's groups. The groups are randomly formed, and include adult couples and singles of all ages or a family of adults and their children. There is no formal format for the group get together, other than beginning the evening with the Litany of Reconciliation, a simple meal and getting to know each other in a small group setting.

Forest and I will be signing people after each service, for the next few weeks. Come find us and fill out your sign-up information. You can also email us to sign up for Foyers. If you are emailing your sign up, send us your first and last name, address, email and contact phone number. Our email is [forestmayberry@comcast.net](mailto:forestmayberry@comcast.net).

We are looking forward to another fun year of gathering together for Foyers!

Lynn and Forest Mayberry

## Birthdays

10/29 Kim Curtis  
10/29 Audrey Brett  
10/29 Kay Lewis  
10/29 Ralph Osborne  
10/29 Lawrence Garbarek  
11/1 Bob Hoyer  
11/2 Jamie Sproul  
11/3 Jenny Wickman  
11/3 Greg Smith  
11/4 Ben Weibel  
11/4 BJ Seagrist

## Anniversaries

11/2 Adele and Rob Osmond

## In Loving Memory

10/29 Mary Michelle Lewis  
10/29 Raymond Raufeisen  
10/29 John Papamarcos  
10/30 Esther Johnson  
10/30 John Betzold  
10/31 George VanHagen III  
11/1 Dorothy Peterson  
Rollo Nessel  
Joe Ridges  
Gene Parkhurst

## Prayer Requests

Lynda, Emma Rose, Vicki and the Ridges family, the Nessel family, Sharon, Danielle, Andy, Jeff, Marilyn and Pat, Cayden, Sadie, Cindy, Dave, Phyllis, Cameron, Maribeth, Ruth, Brian, Barb and Steve, Patty, and Amy, Joseph, Tonya.

[Donate to St. Michael's](#)

[Vestry Members and Minutes](#)

[St. Michael's Staff](#)

## Community News



### Big Fish at Harper Community College



Two St. Michaels parishioners are starring in this funny, larger than life musical about Edward Bloom and his fantastical stories! Marisa Boynton and her son Henry will be

portraying Sandra Bloom and their son, Will Bloom.

Shows are:

November 10, 8pm

November 11, 8pm

November 12, 2pm

November 17, 8pm

November 18, 8pm

November 19, 2pm

***For Tickets please follow this link to the Harper Box Office:***

[The Harper Ensemble Theatre Company presents Big Fish - Harper College](#)

## **Barrington Police Department Food Drive**

Accepting  
Donations until  
Mid December

Benefiting  
Local Food  
Pantries



BarringtonFOP.org      Barrington Police

# **FOOD DRIVE**

Drop off donations at Barrington PD  
[400 N Northwest Hwy]

Soups and stews	Canned fish, meat	Pasta sauce, canned tomatoes
Grain breakfast	Peanut butter / other nut butters	Shelf-stable milk
Canned or dried beans		Canned vegetables





St. Michael's Episcopal Church  
St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 647 Dundee Avenue, Barrington, IL 60010  
The Parish Office is open 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.  
website: [www.stmichaelsbarrington.org](http://www.stmichaelsbarrington.org)

#### The Sword

The Sword is published each Thursday. The deadline to submit items to be included is Wednesday at 5:00 PM. Any questions or comments regarding this publication should be sent to [pblass@stmichaelsbarrington.org](mailto:pblass@stmichaelsbarrington.org)

St. Michael's Episcopal Church | 647 Dundee Avenue, Barrington, IL 60010

[Unsubscribe thalminiak@stmichaelsbarrington.org](mailto:thalminiak@stmichaelsbarrington.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [thalminiak@stmichaelsbarrington.org](mailto:thalminiak@stmichaelsbarrington.org)