



ST MICHAEL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Sword November 16, 2023

St. Michael's Weekly News & Updates



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A Note From Our Deacon

Tim Murray

tmurray@stmichaelsbarrington.org



ADULT SUNDAY FORUM

When: Sunday, December 3, 2023, 9:10 am to 9:40 am.

Where: Conference Room near the Community Room

Topic: AI and God, with Bernice McCarthy

Dear People of St. Michael's,

I hope you have some idea how many of God's people connected with St. Michael's have vibrant ideas about faith and walking the walk of discipleship. Beginning with Advent season, Sunday, December 3, I plan to introduce presenters from among the community to share their ideas and experiences in an adult Sunday forum between the two Eucharist services.

Bernice McCarthy will lead off with a presentation on "AI and God." Bernice typically attends the 10am Eucharist. So, if you typically attend that service, I hope coming to church a little earlier would yield some insight into the mind and heart of someone you might want to know better. If you typically attend the 8am service, then I hope you might stay for a while longer and get to know one of the interesting and faithful people who attend the later service. And, if you are a parent delivering children for Sunday School, perhaps the adult forum will provide a stimulating way to occupy the time before the start of the later Eucharist service.

We Episcopalians are people of Both/And, the Middle Way (*Via Media*), so it is expected that the forum could prompt lively discussion! Watch the Sword for announcements about future Adult Sunday Forum presentations.

Peace,
Deacon Tim

A Note from our Sunday School Director

Kim Curtis

kcurtis@stmichaelsbarrington.org



This Sunday the bridge kids and Jill's room will be singing during offertory. Please arrive at 9:40am for rehearsal. The kids can be brought right into the Nave. The church will be discussing gun violence on Sunday so we are asking everyone to wear Orange!

On December 3, during Lessons and Carols, we will have childcare for those folks who would like to enjoy the service. The kids will be able to participate in some fun activities in the community room.

Advent one is also 12/3. Like in past years, we would like to offer for our families to make an advent wreath. Please join us during coffee hour in the community room. It will be set up with all the supplies following both the 8am and 10am services.

Reminder we will not have Sunday school on November 26th. Nursery will still be provided.



“From Humbug to Hallelujah”

Advent Reflection Series with Fr. Jim

Wednesdays 7-8pm in Advent (December 6, 13, & 20)

Christians aren't immune from the stress and busyness that mark our culture at Christmastime, so "From Humbug to Hallelujah" really says it all. Fr. Jim suggests that the transformation in the life of Ebenezer Scrooge in Charles Dickens's classic tale "A Christmas Carol" can be the real experience of ourselves, families with gratitude to the power of Immanuel . . . "God with us!"

Advent Reflection Series going from humbug to hallelujah:

1. Break Christmas Chains Forged in Life (Advent Sunday 1)
2. Reawaken the Joy Inherent in Christmas (Advent Sunday 2)
3. Value Relationships Especially at Christmas (Advent Sunday 3)
4. Celebrate a Christmas Miracle of Heart all year round!

Discouragement overwhelms us when we focus on our own circumstances. This series will help you focus your people's attention on the Creator of our circumstances, and point ourselves and others to His good and greater plan for our lives. We will

discuss breaking the chains that have been forged at times in our lives to reawakening the pure joy of Christmas, then through understanding the value of our relationship with Christ and with others, to understanding the transforming power of the Christmas miracle, and on to living that miracle all year long as we become AWAKE to change lives from humbug to hallelujah.

Music Ministry



Community Music Events:

Chicago Master Singers Christmas concerts will take place December 9 and 10th 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/chicagomastersingerstickets/1978>

Peace and Justice



Gun Violence Prevention

On Sunday, November 19, 2023, at St. Michael's Church, Barrington, the Peace & Justice Committee is sponsoring a Gun Violence Prevention Sunday, so all who would like may participate in the national Episcopal Peace Fellowship campaign called "A Season of Pentecost: Gun Violence Prevention." From the first Sunday of Pentecost, May 28 until Nov. 29, the last Sunday before Advent, churches across the nation are working to end gun violence with a designated Sunday of actions.

Ours will include liturgical action with a "Make Us Instruments of Your Peace Litany" as a special Prayers of the People and reading the names of those who died by gun violence in the area. Our public action is to ask our parishioners to **wear orange** as a sign of caring about gun violence prevention. Hunters wear in the woods to protect themselves from harm.

For legislative actions, we will have information for people who want to participate in local, state, or national Letter-writing campaigns, use the advocacy toolkit for School Boards created by Students Demand Action for Gun Sense, call their legislators, investigate the state's laws regarding buying, keeping, or storing guns and work with Bishops Against Gun Violence (an Episcopal organization of bishops formed in 2013), Moms Demand Action, Brady, and Everytown for Gun Safety.

There is no specific action that you must be involved in to participate by wearing orange. The act will simply signify that you feel gun violence must be prevented, and the church is a place to start. We are not all united in what gun violence prevention means. Many think it involves background checks or ending sales of automatic and semi-automatic weapons. Despite 88% of Americans supporting these actions, Congress members have not been willing to try to pass these laws. Another statistic many do not know is that over 50% of all gun violence deaths are suicides. As Christians, we are called to act.

If you do not want to act, we can pray and devote a Sunday to caring about and for those who have lost their lives to gun violence, those who have lost family members to gun violence, and those who have been injured and traumatized by gun violence. Please come and wear orange as an act of prayer.

LIFT



LIFT Schedule

FROM THE LIFT LEADER'S DESK

If you went to camp(s) when you were a kid, and had a good experience, then you can relate a bit to my experience on the Confirmation retreat this past weekend. I can't speak for the kids, I can only speak for myself and my fellow chaperones - we had a great time! Cool fall weather was the backdrop for our trek to Stronghold Retreat Center in Oregon, IL, only 1 1/2 hours away and half of it along the beautifully scenic Rock River.

There is a struggle every year to get young people away for 31 hours to bond and to kick off their confirmation journey with each other, but I think the benefits are worth it. Again, this is the adult speaking; I'll ask the kids at the end of the year when Fr. Jesse and I reassess how to go forward with teen confirmation.

But seriously, where else can you go to have someone else cook for you, have a huge field to yourself for playing football (my quads are still yelling at me), a chance to climb a tall telephone pole and fall off in freedom and safety ("You're on belay!"), build a big bonfire, and go on a spooky walk?? I'm just saying.

Special thanks to my fearless chaperones Kim Lessner and Forest Mayberry who also gave up their time and energy to be my excellent helpers. Thank you Fr. Jesse for trekking out to spend the afternoon with us and kick off their lessons.

Pray for these five young people, and their leaders and speakers this year, as they walk this walk in learning about the church and themselves. Jackson Summerfield, Jack Hefferan, Matthew Arnold, Sam Weibel and Mia Semcken.

Peace, Kay Lewis

Upcoming Events



St. Michaels Helping Others--Ravenswood Community Services Update

Lori Gee, Executive Director of Ravenswood Community Services, joins St. Michaels as guest preacher on Sunday, November 19, at the 8 and 10 a.m. services. She will share the story of the small food pantry at All Saints Episcopal Church that has grown into a ministry serving 14,800 meals and 350,000 pounds of groceries a year.

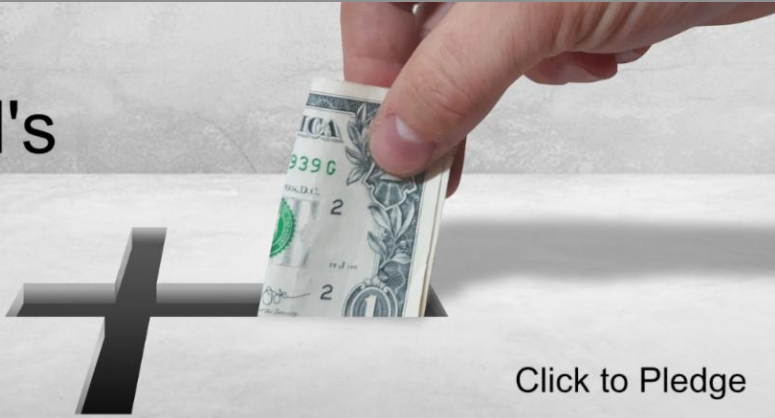
Powered by your pledge donations, Outreach grants have supported RCS for 2 decades, most recently the After School Pantries, where families in need can pick up a variety of groceries at school pick up time. You have also supported these pantries during our quarterly food drives. See the food pantries in action in this [video](#).

About Lori: "After more than 10 years as a volunteer, I joined the Ravenswood Community Services staff in 2012, bringing my business background and volunteer experience to the ED role. I've worked as a project manager, a marketer, a product manager, a systems analyst, and a professional organizer and each job had parts that I enjoyed, but I love working in the nonprofit space, surrounded by people who believe that if you can do something to help someone, you should."

"Ravenswood Community Services strives to be a place where people, neighbors – whether those in need or those of means – are fed, welcoming all who come to our doors, treating each with dignity. Our hunger relief programs work to provide nutritionally balanced bags of groceries and meals of the same quality we all want for our own families. We include fresh produce, milk, bread, and meat each week and offer alternative items for those neighbors without access to a kitchen."

On the 19th the Peace and Justice Committee will also be sponsoring Gun Violence

Support
St. Michael's
in 2024



Click to Pledge

Support St. Michael's in 2024!

[Click here](#) to submit your pledge, and further the life and ministries of the parish.

And All The Angels Christian Gift Shop Annual Holiday Sale



Friday, November 17th
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Saturday, November 18th
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, November 19th
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.

Announcements



Reverse Advent Calendar is coming!

**Reverse Advent Calendar begins
Sunday, November 26th**

"It is not how much we give, but how much love we put into giving." - Mother Teresa

The Reverse Advent Calendar and blue collection bags will be distributed this Sunday, November 19th. The calendar can also be downloaded [here](#). The theme of our Reverse Advent Calendar is grateful hearts and focuses on the spirit of giving by reflecting on our personal abundance during the Advent season. In addition to reflection and prayers, we will be collecting donations for Cumali, Ravenswood Community Services, and St. Leonard's Ministries. Collection boxes can be found outside the Community Room.

Returning this year: An [Amazon Smile Wish List](#) can help you purchase specific items that these organizations need and even have them shipped directly to St. Michael's!



Volunteers Needed

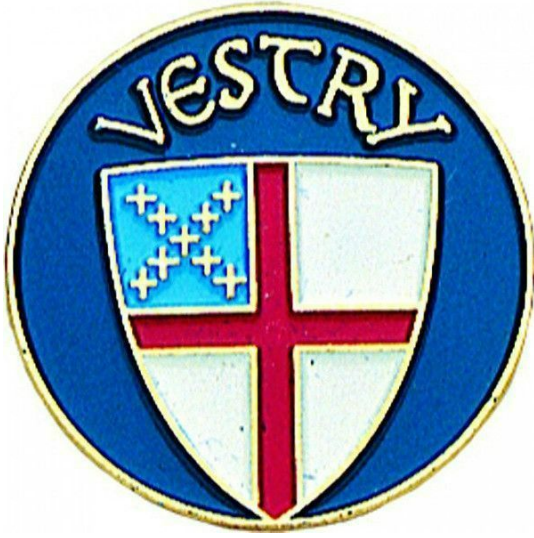
And All The Angels needs your help!

With the holidays and our 30th 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 11th. 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.

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

Llora

Wonder, llkwonder18@gmail.com or

Melissa

Buckley, 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

Home Lay Eucharist Ministry (HLEM)



"For where two or three gather together in my name there am I with them." That's what Jesus said and it's a nice way to describe Home Lay Eucharist Ministry. When we visit someone at home who can't be with the rest of us at church to deliver bread, wine and prayer it's a simple expression of fellowship. Lynn and I have found it an honor over the years to share communion this way because it is personal one to one.

Sometimes we have been with parishioners that are friends already. Better yet we have made new friends; gotten to know people we otherwise would not have met. After the simple service there is time to share news about church, or what's going on in their families lives or ours. Some folks have been members for a long time who recall St Michaels history with funny stories from the past.

We have met a life-long Barrington resident who was a WWII naval aviator that narrowly escaped capture after his plane was shot down. As his health declined, he asked us to give communion in hospital where we got to know his family during their visits. We also came to know a lady with family pictures all around and each time we visited she'd have an update on nearly every one of them. One lady, who had never attended St Michaels and shared her hospital room with a parishioner we had just seen asked us to bring her communion the next time.

After all our visits we always feel so happy to have shared simple prayer, communion and fellowship.

There are many different ways to enrich the steps along the circle of our Christian life. HLEM is a very unique opportunity to experience something Jesus did every day, share love, hope and the good news. If you'd like to join HLEM please email.

Forest Mayberry
Forestmayberry@comcast.net

[View Our Announcement Page For More News!](#)

Birthdays

11/20 Paulette Forrest
11/22 Michelle Chan
11/23 Colleen Buckley
11/23 Robert Lick
11/23 Virginia Qualiardi
11/25 Sof Ts'o
11/25 Maribeth Totten

Anniversaries

11/22 Erica and Michael Ward

In Loving Memory

11/19 Judy Fisher
11/20 Rowland Fisher
11/20 Jack Rieke
11/22 Bob Walerius
11/22 Hugh McClure
11/22 Andrew Greene
11/23 Eric Plane
11/24 Richmond Birge
11/24 Gene Parkhurst

Prayer Requests

Richard, Christine, Charlie and Meg, Evelyn and Sarah, Lynda, Emma Rose, Sharon, Danielle, Andy, Marilyn and Pat, Cayden, Sadie, Cindy, Dave, Phyllis, Cameron, Maribeth, Ruth, Brian, Barb and Steve, Patty, and Amy.

Confirmation Retreatants:

Matthew Arnold, Jack Hefferan, Mia Semcken , Sam Weibel, and Jackson Summerfield.

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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 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



BarringtonFOP.org



Barrington Police

Benefiting
Local Food
Pantries

FOOD DRIVE

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

Soups and stews
Grain breakfast
Canned or dried
beans

Canned fish,
meat
Peanut butter /
other nut butters

Pasta sauce,
canned tomatoes
Shelf-stable milk
Canned
vegetables



FOOD DRIVE

SPONSORED BY:



150
W MAIN ST



BARRINGTONFOP.ORG



BARRINGTON POLICE

11/17/23
8AM-4PM

"Stuff a Squad"



FOOD ITEMS REQUESTED

CANNED FRUIT AND MEAT; COFFEE;
PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY; BAKING
MIXES; CANNED PASTA MEALS; DRIED
BEANS; PASTA SAUCE

ALL DONATIONS GO TO LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES
SERVING OUR BARRINGTON NEIGHBORS IN NEED



PROJECT
HOPE



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

The Sword

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

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