



ST MICHAEL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Sword April 4, 2024

St. Michael's Weekly News & Updates



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A Note From Our Rector

Jesse Perkins

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Alleluia, Christ is Risen!

Thank you all so much for a meaningful and moving Holy Week services. I am thankful for all of the ministries, the servers, the altar guild, the music, the preachers, and everyone who poured their hearts into our worship of our Savior Jesus Christ. We worship a crucified and risen Lord, thanks be to God. I have two other things for you:

First, we are having a new comers brunch Sunday after the 10am service in the library. If you are new, if you have never attended these before, or if you want to learn more about St. Michael's and the Episcopal Church, this is for you. This will also be the first of five sessions for people wanting to join the church through Confirmation and Reception (if you're already confirmed). It is also open to those wanting to simply participate and learn more, and perhaps reaffirm their faith with the bishop. THIS SUNDAY AFTER CHURCH April 7.

Second, we are saying goodbye to our Preschool Director, Caren Hunter, this year as she retires. Info here (<https://www.stmichaelsbarrington.org/component/content/article/17-announcements/main-church/1415-preschool-dir-announcement-2024?Itemid=571>). We would love to compile individual video messages from all the teachers, you and any parishioners who would be interested by utilizing the Memento app. Click here: <https://app.memento.com/carens-retirement/1Kcl19Uw3H/record/FeMIEzf1V5>

Blessings, and Happy Easter to each you!

Jesse+

A Note from our Sunday School Director

Kim Curtis

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1000 eggs on the lawn - gone just like that. How do they find every single egg?! Every year it's so fun to see the start of the egg race. In the beginning, I try to keep it organized in age groups. In the end, it certainly doesn't stay that way. But they all had some safe Easter fun! Thank you to the youth team who helped make the hunt happen by putting out the eggs on the lawn. Thank you to Kay Lewis for coordinating this team!

The children's stations of the cross were also a Holy Week highlight for the Sunday school. The questions and stories about Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection sparked an awareness for empathy and bravery. The children acted out many of the stations with each other. Having the children interact in dramatic role playing ensures child engagement and content retention.

I've seen such recent growth with our Littlest. They look taller and listen better each

week. There are about 5 kindergarteners that will be graduating into First Grade. We will be all smiling come Youth Sunday in May and proud of how they will be involved in that Sunday's service.

LIFT



FROM THE LIFT LEADER'S DESK

Hey, All Lifters, We're back this Sunday morning for our regular LIFT time - 9:00 a.m. I look forward to seeing you this week; it feels like it's been forever.

Also, this Sunday, April 7, our FINAL SR. LIFT NIGHT! 6:00-7:30 p.m. This will be a special one so please try your best to get there. Not only that, bring some friends! We'll have extra special time together: good food, games, (maybe even door prizes...how's that for motivation...and bribing!), and a time for reflection. Bring a jacket in case we're outside.

SPECIAL NIGHT WITH ST. MICHAEL'S AND BYFS (Barrington Youth and Family Services)

In our efforts as a parish to be a place of God's healing, both within us, and our taking that healing into the world, St. Michael's is partnering with Barrington Youth and Family Services to bring an event to the community of Barrington. Come learn tips and tricks for effective communication, healthy routines, social media management and other challenges of parenting and grand-parenting today. Leave with strategies that can be put into action at home. Bring your questions!

Join us at St. Michael's Episcopal Church (647 Dundee Ave 60010) on **April 16 at 6:30pm.** Light snacks provided.

CONFIRMATION CLASS

Our next confirmation class is Sun. April 14, 5:00-7:00 p.m. As always, a meal is provided.

Confirmation Service with Bishop Clark - Sat. May 18, Church of the Holy Spirit, Lake Forest

Please pray for our five confirmands who have been preparing for Confirmation since November. Believe it or not, they have had Perfect Attendance! That doesn't happen often. Our confirmands are: Jackson Summerfield, Sam Weibel, Jack Hefferan, Matthew Arnold and Mia Semcken. Thank you Confirmands and Parents.

Kay Lewis & Father Jesse

ALSO, FROM THE LIFT LEADER'S DESK

On a final note, I read an article the other day in my Apple Feed (I can't find it now) but it was talking about the negative aspects of excessive use of smart phones and teenagers. The news is not good. The preliminary data from an Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development study says that "increased screen time, including time spent on cell phones, is not just bad for the brain but can affect a child's psychology, thinking patterns, sleep cycles, and behavior, shortening their attention span," etc.... This dangerous trend is also feeding into kids' self-worth and self-image (especially in girls). They are losing the beautiful art of communicating.

A few Swords back, I wrote about how GenZ is not prepared for the workforce. Besides the obvious and terrible effects of the pandemic, over which they had no control, I believe this is the first (and oldest) generation to show the negative effects of too much time on screens and not enough time in person, communicating verbally with another person. "They couldn't make eye contact," was one example from a study. I, myself, have had to acknowledge that I'm checking my email and texts... all...day...long! When I'm without my phone (rarely) but if I (accidentally) left home without it when running a quick errand, I found myself jittery and nervous. Wow! Sound like an addiction?? I have finally been able to put my phone on *Do Not Disturb* for about an hour or so while trying to get something done without interruption. Again, I was anxious and jittery the first time I did it. Thankfully, it's getting a little easier.

Parents, unfortunately, you too, have to model some time "away from the phone." I know it's hard. Believe me! For the sake of our kids, they need downtime, e-free zones (which I enforce during LIFT) and just time to play and hangout.

And Parishioners, we too, have the responsibility of helping with this. Engage a young person when you're in their presence. Whenever a person is baptized, we repeat: "Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support *these persons in their* life in Christ?" We respond as one voice, *We will*. I believe *that* baptismal promise even extends to how we communicate with each other.

That's what I love about coming to church; yes, that old fashioned worship of coming together - to sit, be silent, pray, sing and listen. It's other-wordly these days. Where else can we do this? Bring your children and your teens for this special down-time that hopefully will result in blessed fruitfulness.

I preach to myself when I say, *Let us be mindful of our own behavior*. When you're in the presence of someone, look away from the phone and into the eyes of God's creation - another brother and sister. *Lord have mercy on us*. We need your help, always.

Peace, Kay Lewis

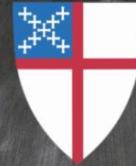
LIFT Schedule

Upcoming Events

Newcomers Brunch
April 7, 11:30am

Episcopal 101

Welcome to the Episcopal Church
Sundays 11:30am
April 7-May 5



Welcome to the Episcopal Church!

If you are new to St. Michael's, this is the class for you! If you have been here a long while but love to talk about the church, this class is for you too!

Join Fr. Jesse after church in the library April 7-May 5 at 11:30am each week for a discussion on the Episcopal Church, its history, doctrine, and modern expression.

If you are seeking to join the church by Confirmation or Reception (reception is when you are already confirmed but want to "transfer"), this class will count as preparation for that. Baptism is a prerequisite for Confirmation, so if you are seeking to join our church but are not baptized, schedule a Baptism with Fr. Jesse.

Bread Baking Sunday, April 14 11:15am

Please join us after the 10:00 am service in the kitchen to bake the next batch of communion bread. Whether you've baked with us before or have absolutely no experience, we'd love to have you check out this fun ministry! No need to bring anything except yourself, hope to see you there!

Future baking dates are:

- June 9
- August 11
- October 13
- December 8



If you have any questions please reach out to Mary Ann Seagrist at seagrist5@comcast.net or 847-212-4218

Conversation with a Counselor April 16, 6:30pm

Please join us in welcoming Aaron Johnson as guest preacher and sharer of good news about St. Michael's second year serving to restore a home with Rebuilding Together Metro Chicago.

Aaron joined the Rebuilding Together staff in January of 2023 as the Development Director. He previously worked with RTMC in the early 2000s and is excited to return to help cultivate relationships with people, organizations, and companies who also want to help homeowners experiencing financial need remain in their homes safely. For over 30 years, in partnership with thousands of volunteers, Rebuilding Together Metro Chicago has been serving Chicago-area homeowners with essential no-cost home repairs and accessibility modifications repairing homes, revitalizing communities, and rebuilding lives.

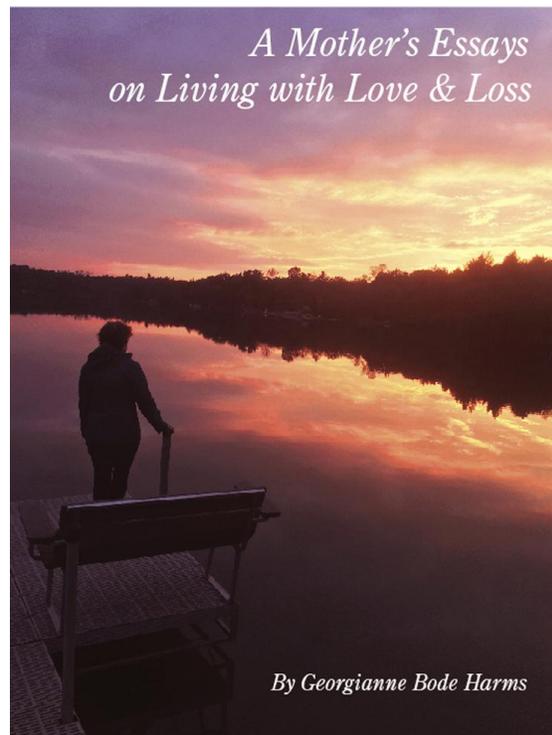
Thanks to parishioner Jill Deichman, and her team, St. Michael's volunteers will join together to work on a home on Saturday, April 27th. Stay tuned for news of how you can be a part of this exciting venture.

Heart Homes: A Mother's Essays on Living with Love and Loss Receptions

The new book, Heart Homes: A Mother's Essays on Living with Love and Loss, by Georgianne Harms is now available for sale at And All the Angels gift and bookstore.

All proceeds will benefit St. Michael's charitable causes.

Heart Homes



BStrong Together April 9, Barrington Area Library

BStrong Together is thrilled to welcome Chicago-based clinical psychologist, best-selling author, keynote speaker, and national media expert Dr. John Duffy to Barrington for an evening of learning and discussion about the complex world our tweens and teens are growing up in and what parents and other caring adults can do to help them thrive today and into the future.

REGISTER TODAY to join us for this important FREE event at <https://bit.ly/48DxytW>. BStrong Together has been the recipient of St. Michael's outreach grants which helps them bring programs like this to the Barrington area.

View Our Announcement Page For More News!

Birthdays

4/9 George Lorenzo
4/9 Jackie Allen
4/9 Patrick Duncan
4/10 Brian Atkinson
4/11 Marti Callahan
4/12 Jill Deichmann
4/12 Benjamin Deichmann

Anniversaries

4/9 Katie and Jim Blair
4/9 Kay and Randy Lewis
4/11 Shân Atkins and Jim Erbs
4/12 Judy and Jeff Tolle

In Loving Memory

4/8 Kenneth Barton
4/8 Richard Lareno
4/8 Derek Harms
4/9 Babbie Wastcoat
4/10 Ralph Crist
4/10 John Arthur Ward, IV
4/12 Jacob Guss
4/12 Barbara Kohlhase
Joseph Mendoza
Amy Roper

Prayer Requests

Dayna, Tim, the Roper family, Miles, the Clark family, Karen, Mary Jane and Nancy, Karen, Lynda, Emma Rose, Spencer, Nancy, Richard, Christine, Jeff, Sharon, Andy, Marilyn and Pat, Caden, Sadie, Dave, Phyllis, Cameron, Maribeth, Ruth, Brian, Barb and Steve, Patty.

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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

The Sword is published each Thursday. The deadline to submit items to be included is Tuesday at 5:00 PM. Any questions or comments regarding this publication should be sent to admin@stmichaelsbarrington.org

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

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