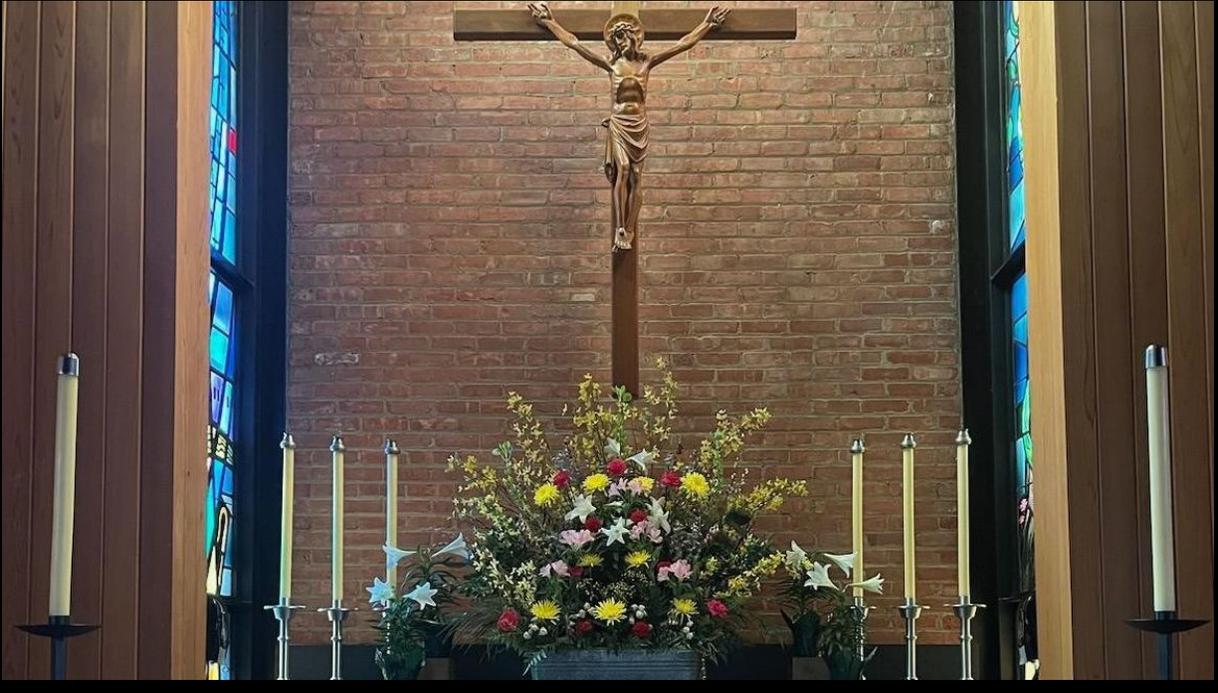




The Sword April 11, 2024

St. Michael's Weekly News & Updates



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A moment or Two from Fr. Jim



This week, a question arose regarding the differences in celebration between me and Fr. Jesse, as well as some other priests who have served here at St. Michael's. To best understand, I was trained 38 years ago in the Roman Catholic Rite, embodying what some may call a Vatican II priest. Essentially, I am, and always will be, a street priest at heart. I feel called to be among the people, much like many of my fellow clergy. I believe we are

all meant to be traveling field hospitals, to be where the people are.

Two questions were posed:

1. Why do I place the communion into the wine before distributing the Eucharist? This practice stems from early Church history. The tradition, known as "commingling," involves placing a piece of the Host into the chalice. It symbolizes the unity of the faithful with God and each other. I often recite the prayer, "May the commingling of the Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ bring eternal life to us who receive it."
2. Why do I kiss the altar before processing out of the church at the end of our Eucharist?

For me, this gesture symbolizes unity and peace celebrated and shared. The altar represents Christ, as stated in Preface V of Easter: "By the oblation of his Body, he brought the sacrifices of old to fulfillment in the reality of the cross and, by commending himself to you (Father) for our salvation, showed himself the Altar, and the Lamb of sacrifice." In our liturgy, the Church teaches that Jesus "showed" himself as a type of altar, much like our homes where conversations are entered and shared.

This makes sense on various levels. Jesus is the center, source, and goal of our worship, and the altar is the focal point of the Eucharistic celebration. When the priest reverences the altar with a kiss, it expresses love for Christ, who is the center of life and worship.

Another reason why Jesus is likened to the altar pertains to the materials used to construct altars in many churches, especially cathedrals worldwide. An altar made of marble symbolizes its permanence and prominence within the church. Similarly, Jesus on the cross remains steadfast in offering Himself for our salvation, serving as the rock upon which our hope is built.

A Note from our Sunday School Director

Kim Curtis

kcurtis@stmichaelsbarrington.org



As the end of the program year approaches, so do some upcoming "save the dates" for Sunday school.

May 5th – Youth Sunday – Early Arrival 9:40am (We will be using the small hand bells to process at the beginning of the service.)

May 19th – Pentecost (Food Truck and Sundae Fun Day)

May 26th – No Sunday school

June – One room Sunday school for the Summer

July 7th, July 14, July 21st – No Sunday school

July 28th – Sunday school resumes

July 29th thru August 1 – Vacation Bible School - registration to begin June 1st
(VBS theme is Kindom Crafters - Building Community – A Minecraft Theme)

August 1 to Sept 1 – One room Sunday school until Kick off Sunday

LIFT



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

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

LIFT Schedule

Upcoming Events

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

This year's Rebuilding Together project is in Park Forest, Illinois. Mr. Burks, the homeowner, is 83 years old, and has lived in the home for more than 18 years. He moved from the city to be closer to his daughter, and Grand / Great Grand Children.



Metro Chicago

We are very grateful for the generous team of volunteers who will work on April 27th to spruce up and insure Mr. Burks home is safe. (If you're interested in helping, please contact me at (847-450-3846). For those of us who can't volunteer, there is still an important way we can be part of St. Michael's effort to support Mr. Burks. Purchase supplies and gift cards for home supplies. Items needed include, bath and hand towels, cleaning supplies, toiletries, and storage bins. To have the right number of items, please sign up on the Sign-up genius link below. If you wish to purchase via Amazon, please use the Amazon link below. Bring your generous donations to the green wagons near the community room prior to April 25, and the volunteers will deliver to Mr. Burks on April 27.

[St. Michaels: Rebuilding Together - Mr. Burks Home \(signupgenius.com\)](https://www.signupgenius.com)

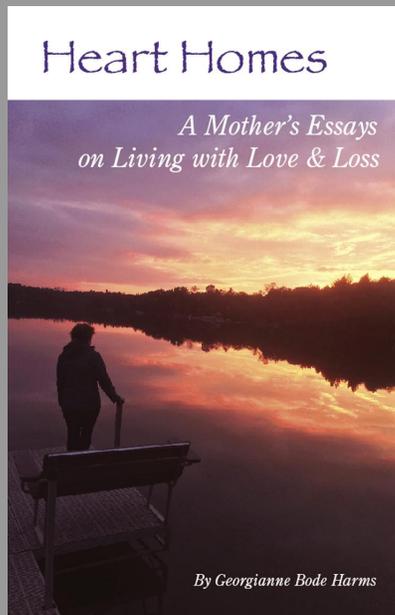
Order on Amazon and ship to St. Michaels:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1D8UH4YWE96S3?ref_=wl_share

Thanks in advance for your support.

Also please join us Sunday April 14th at both services, where Aaron Johnson - Rebuilding Together's Development Director will be our Guest Speaker.

You Are Invited to a Book Signing
Heart Homes: A Mother's Essays on Love & Loss,
by Georgianne Harms



Join us for conversation and coffee
1:00pm-3:00pm on Saturday, May 11, 2024
In the Library at St. Michael's Episcopal Church
647 Dundee Avenue
847/381-2323
Barrington, Illinois

Copies of Heart Homes will be available at St. Michael's onsite bookstore. Proceeds will benefit charities.

RSVP at: harmsgeorgianne@gmail.com

View Our Announcement Page For More News!

Birthdays

Anniversaries

In Loving Memory

4/15 Dave Evans
4/17 Susan DeBauche
4/18 Julianne Schultz
4/19 Judy Heinrich
4/20 Carol Schmidt

4/14 Lawrence Dickson
4/18 Julie Manning
4/18 Carmen Morris
Joseph Mendoza
Amy Roper

Prayer Requests

Dolores, 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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