



ST MICHAEL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

St. Michael's Weekly News & Updates



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Notes from the Vestry



**The Annual Meeting will be held in the Community Room on
February 1st after the 10:00 a.m. service.**

Preparing for the Annual Meeting

Just a short note to let y'all know that the Wardens will be sending out a separate email tomorrow covering all the important information and decisions we as a church will be covering at the Annual Meeting. The agenda for the Annual Meeting will be far different than previous years and will focus what we are doing with a shortened discussion on finances. If you are interested in finances, and we hope you are, there will be in depth financial presentations on Sunday January 25th after both the 8am and 10am services. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Technology/Communication Brew this Sunday after the 10am Service
Whether we like it or not, most if not all, of our communication these days require technology. St. Michael's depends on a myriad of software tools. As a church we are becoming ever more reliant on streaming and Zoom to keep everyone informed and involved. Most of our "growth" initiatives will require being far more effective in the use of technology. St. Michael's technical activates are being totally managed by volunteers and will be for the foreseeable future . Please join us to learn what tools we're using, our plans for the future, and how easy it would be for you to help. The event will also provide training on how to use our Zoom tools. Techies, nerds and luddites of all ages are invited.

SEARCH COMMITTEE

Rector Search

The search team is currently creating our Parish Profile and completing the Office of Transition Ministry (OTM) forms. The parish profile sums up data from the CAT survey and small group discussions, along with parish data and demographics. This material will be presented in a brochure and online format for potential candidates. The OTM forms are used in the official job posting for our rector position.

We have been asked about other congregational searches in process--the latest information can be found on the [diocesan website](#). Do you have other questions? [Contact us](#).

A call for photos!

As the Search Committee is finalizing our parish profile, we have a need for photos to include that will help share who we are. Please email any photos you have of the church, of parishioners, baptisms, events, etc. to Mary Ann Seagrist at seagrist5@comcast.net. Either horizontal or vertical for possible inclusion.

Thanks so much!

LEMS, READERS, ACOLYTES

Happy New Year fellow parishioners!

If you are looking for ideas for a New Year's resolution that involves becoming more involved in church services, have we got a deal for you. We are in need of additional

people to serve as Lay Eucharist Ministers (LEM's) and Lectors (readers) for both 8:00 and 10:00 services.

The 8:00 service is a little different in that our volunteers serve as LEM, Lector, and Acolyte. For the 10:00 service, the LEM volunteers mostly serve the wine.

The Lectors are responsible for reading the scriptures and Prayers of the People.

The Acolytes include anyone who wants to volunteer from about age 9 to adult. Their responsibilities may include lighting candles, serving as Crucifer during the processional and Gospel reading, torch bearers, and assisting with the Eucharist.

Volunteers are usually scheduled once a month to serve. If we had more volunteers, we would be able to space them out even more. David and I have been performing the LEM function for several years now, and I have to say it is a very rewarding experience. When serving I am able to focus more on the service, with fewer distractions, and honestly, I feel closer to God. Plus, I am coming to church anyway, so why not serve while I am there.

If you are interested in volunteering for these very important functions, please see or contact me, David, or Wes Kimes for more information. Full training is available.

Thank you,
Sandy

Sandy Rauschenberg
sandyr1952@comcast.net

David Rauschenberg
Rauscrd@comcast.net

Wes Kimes
wkimes@comcast.net

PRE-SCHOOL

Registration for the 2026-2027 school years begins on January 26th.

Open Positions

Co-Lead 4's Preschool Teacher, Rainbow Room:

Start Date: March 1, 2026

Hours:

Monday: 8:30-1

Tuesday: 8:30-12

Wednesday: 8:30-3

Thursday: 8:30-12

We will hope this person can stay on in the summer and fall 2026.

For Fall 2026-2027, we will need a co-teacher five days per week in the Rainbow Room.

1 preschool aide

Start date: asap

Hours:

Tuesday: 8:30-12

Thursday: 8:30-1

Friday: 8:30-12

We hope this position will carry over into the 2026-2027 school year and beyond

Summer Camp staff (3 people needed)

2nd week of June-last week of July, with the week o July 4th off.

Hours:

9am-12 pm

Days:

Monday-Thursday

Thank you for your assistance in getting the word out!

Janelle

Janelle Aynessazian

Director, Little Angels Christian Preschool

A ministry of St. Michaels Episcopal Church

(847)381-5490

Email: jaynessazian@stmichaelsbarrington.org

"For children, play is serious learning.

Play is really the work of childhood."

-Fred Rogers

ALTAR GUILD

The altar Guild has placed some poinsettias in the narthex and by the community room that are looking for a new home. If you have a green thumb and would like to take one, please do!

Also, join us this Saturday in the chapel at 9 AM for a short Eucharist. The service proceeds our monthly meeting, which you are also welcome to join!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

This past Epiphany season was a beautiful reminder of why our St. Michael's community is so special. I am deeply grateful to everyone who made it possible for our Sunday School children to share the story of Epiphany through Lessons and Carols.

Watching our children participate with such sincerity, courage, and joy was truly moving. Through scripture, music, and simple reverence, they helped lead us into the mystery and light of Epiphany—the revelation of Christ to the world. Their voices and presence were a gift to our congregation and a powerful witness of faith being nurtured in the next generation.

Thank you to the children for their enthusiasm and willingness to serve, to the parents and families for their encouragement and support, and to the Sunday School teachers and volunteers who devoted their time, patience, and love to prepare them. Your behind-the-scenes efforts made this service meaningful and memorable.

I am also grateful to our clergy and church leadership for the opportunity to be part of this special service. It was an honor to help bring together scripture, music, and

young hearts in worship.

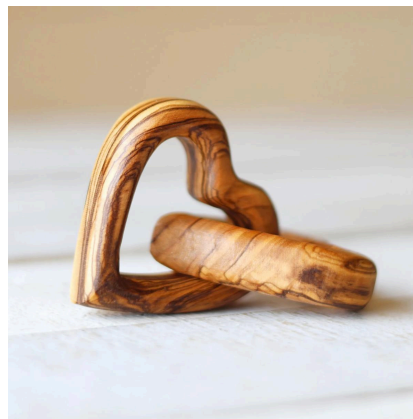
I was inspired by Father Jimmy's twinkling sermon a few Sundays ago that lead to this years performance. May the light of Epiphany continue to shine through our children and our parish as we move forward together in faith.

LIFT



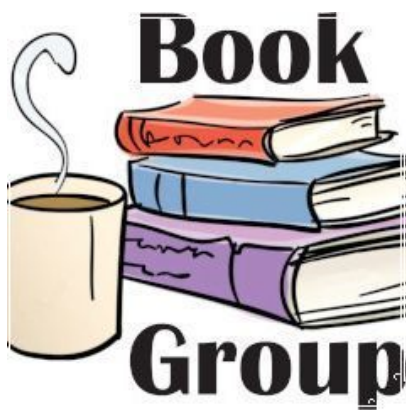
[Visit our Website](#)

AND ALL THE ANGELS GIFT SHOP



Have you noticed how rapidly Valentine's Day decor replaces Christmas in retail stores? And All the Angels is joining the trend! Come down to shop from our sweet selection of heart-shaped gifts, like these intertwined hearts handmade of olive wood in the Holy Land.

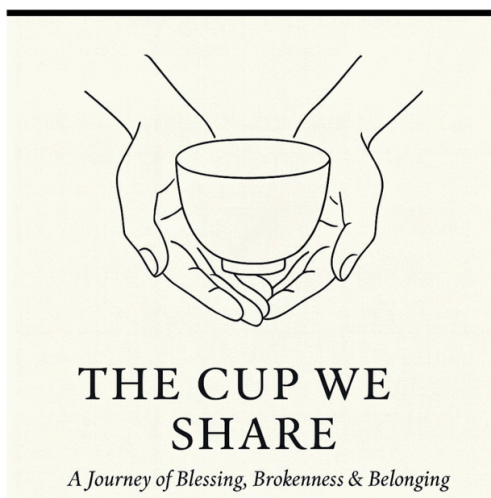
BOOK CLUB



Ellen Lindeen will lead the discussion of "Lincoln in the Bardo" by George Saunders, on Wednesday, January 21. We will meet in the church library at 7 pm, and new members are always welcome. Questions? contact Kathi Frelk, kfrelk4@gmail.com

Thanks,
Kathi

UPCOMING EVENTS



Women's Lenten Retreat Day
Saturday, February 21 | 8:30 AM–3:00 PM

The Cup We Share: A Journey of Blessing, Brokenness, and Belonging

Join us for a day of reflection, prayer, and connection led by Rev. Laurie Michaels. The retreat includes a continental breakfast, themed talks, self-guided experiences, small-group discussion, and Celtic prayer.

An optional boxed lunch is available for \$15, or participants are welcome to bring their own.

Registration deadline: Sunday, February 8

To register and request the optional boxed lunch, email
Kerry Kean at kerry.kean@gmail.com

Kristin Cannon & Andrea Clementi Beth Coulter & Lesley Olson Brynne & Dave Crosson
Jen & Tyson Lagoni Jennifer McHugh Allison Murray & Agnes Tomasian

FEBRUARY 7th 2026 at AVANTE BANQUETS



BACOA is a truly wonderful organization with tremendous outreach to the aging population in Barrington. I quickly realized how special BACOA is when my father was suffering from dementia while living in East Tennessee, and there was simply nothing like it in his town. Almost everything I had to do for him—doctors appointments, transportation, power of attorney, in home visits, etc., were like reinventing the wheel every time. In fact, BACOA was able to advise me on how to navigate many of the challenges even though he lived outside of the area. I can't say enough good things about them!

The event information follows for both attending and/or donating. Please let me know if there's anything else required for the submission, and thank you for the opportunity

Sincerely,

Allison Murray
919-259-8282

ANNOUNCEMENTS



The long-awaited nametag boards are installed!

As many of you know, our movable nametag board was quite overcrowded and difficult to keep tidy looking. After much discussion, the welcome ministry came up with a plan for two nametag boards. One is hanging in the narthex, and the other is hanging in the hallway between the parking lot and the Nave. Most of the nametags are in alphabetical order on the board in the narthex and some are already moved to the board in the north hallway. **You may store your nametag on whichever board is most convenient to you.**

When installing, we moved choir members tags to the north board because of its proximity to the choir room. Other nametags of those of you who we thought regularly used the north doors from the parking lot have also been moved.

Thanks for wearing your nametags, it helps build a stronger community!

If you need a nametag, please either add your name to the list on the clipboard on the welcome table in the narthex or email Mary Ann Seagrist at seagrist5@comcast.net

Thanks!

Mary Ann Seagrist

“Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life”

Melody Beattie

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Birthdays

1/18 Tina Roper
1/18 John Totten
1/21 Marisa Boynton
1/23 Judy Tolle

Anniversaries

In Loving Memory

1/11 Ceres Locher
1/14 Stephen Wright
1/14 Lucille Capulli MacLennan
1/14 Helene Dickson
1/14 Lysa Meyers
1/16 Denis Chaudruc
Nancy Waring

Prayer Requests

Jerrina and family, Jordan, Amor, the Beverly family, Ann, Braelyn, Lisa, Kimberlie, Matt and family, Heather, Kara and Oliver, Bob, Jesophine, Kathy, Denise, Doug, Sally, Mary, Ben, John, Teresa, Dolores and family, Mark, Kitty, Olivia and family, Liam and family, Nancy, Caden, Dave, Brian, Barb and Steve, and Patty, and for all whom you alone know.

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[Vestry Members and Minutes](#)

[St. Michael's Staff](#)

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 Wednesday at 5:00 PM. Any questions or comments regarding this publication should be sent to sword@stmichaelsbarrington.org

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

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