



ST MICHAEL'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## St. Michael's Weekly News & Updates



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## FROM THE DESK OF FATHER RALPH

Many of you heard last Sunday that I will begin to work fewer hours in August. This is true. I will continue to be the Priest in Charge going forward, but plan to be spending two weeks per month traveling with Cindy. I will be reachable by phone and will continue to have influence on what happens at St. Michael's. This will be especially true of any emergencies. All the right people know my phone number, and I know theirs. I will continue to follow all the email chains between the leadership of our various committees and groups. I will still not ask for any financial help by email or text. So, if you get a request like that, it is still not me!

In the next few days, I will be beginning my 15<sup>th</sup> month as your Priest. You have blessed me. I am grateful for you. So many of you have stepped forward and served/helped. I see your love for God and for St. Michael's. Some of you are new. Welcome! You too are invited to participate in the life of our church. Your help, ideas and leadership are wanted.

Pray for Cindy and me as I transition to more part-time hours. It's not here yet and I am already feeling the change. It's like a harbinger of the time that our new rector will be here. I think we have done good work getting ready. Our new rector will be blessed by you.

The Apostle Paul, when writing about wanting to know Christ, told the Philippians this, "Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus." Let's keep pressing forward.

Looking forward with you,

Fr. Ralph+



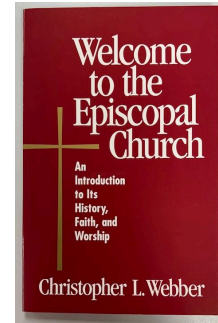
## UNITED THANK OFFERING

Our ingathering for the United Thank Offering is this Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup>. Bring your boxes and envelopes on Sunday. There are empty boxes and envelopes available. Let us cheerfully give.

## EPISCOPAL 101 THIS SUNDAY JUNE 28TH

Episcopal 101, with Deacon Tim, will be held this Sunday June 28th after the 10 am service in the library. This week's topic is spirituality and governance.

Please contact Deacon Tim with any questions  
[tmurray@stmichaelsbarrington.org](mailto:tmurray@stmichaelsbarrington.org)



## PARISH DIRECTORY

Work is under way on the new 2026 Parish Directory! This directory will be a gift to our new rector; it will allow him/her to put faces to names and begin to learn their new congregation. In order to make this a reality, your help is needed.

Father Ralph will be available after service the next three Sundays to take a professional quality photo of your family. If you have a recent professional quality photo, please email that photo as a JPEG to [jcisco@stmichaelsbarrington.org](mailto:jcisco@stmichaelsbarrington.org).

If you do not have a recent high quality photo and are unable to make it to church to get your picture taken, please reach about to Jamie at the parish office, **847-381-2323**, to make arrangements to have one taken. These photos will all be used in the new directory.

The directory information form will be coming soon for you to complete for your household. Look for a Sword article letting you know when they will be available. The forms will be distributed via email as well as paper copies available at the church to complete.



## OUTREACH MINISTRIES

Chalice House Update

Chalice House, an organization supported by St. Michael's Outreach and several other area churches, provides housing to immigrants seeking legal protection in the United States. Since 2020, the house and its volunteers have helped 15 people by giving them a place to live for about a year until they are able to get work permits, learn English, find their way around the community, develop a network of friends and move into their own apartment. Great news: Our latest guests, Timothy and Melany have just gotten their work permits - a major blessing and step forward in this current immigration environment. They will now begin to look for work. Their two children are in summer school and enjoying the pool.

There are two ways you can help at this time.

- We are looking for 3 used bicycles for former residents of the house. All are between 5' and 5'6." If you have a bike sitting idle in your garage, please contact Chalice House.

**(847) 359-8440 or [chalicehouse@ccuu.org](mailto:chalicehouse@ccuu.org)**

- Chalice House is also participating in a School Supply Drive for 100 displaced immigrant families in need in the area. You can participate through Amazon Wishlist to make shopping easy. Items can be shipped to ICDI/Rosa Hernandez, whose address will appear in the shipping address section.

Thanks for your support of Chalice House.

If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Seth at [ncseth35@hotmail.com](mailto:ncseth35@hotmail.com)

[Amazon Wish List](#)



## WORK HAS BEGUN...

Buildings & Grounds committee is hard at work!

The primary bathroom remodel project is underway at the Rectory as we are preparing for our eventual new Rector.

If you would like to contribute financially to this undertaking,

please indicate "Rectory" on your gift. Stay tuned for more updates...

# Minecraft Vacation Bible School Experience

August 3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup>  
9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
Snack is included

St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 647 Dundee Ave. Barrington, IL

Vacation Bible School is open to  
all children pre-school - 5<sup>th</sup> grade  
for the 2026-2027 school year

Click on QR Code to  
Register or Volunteer



VBS is free to attend, a \$10 donation per child is appreciated



Contact Kim Curtis  
[kcurtis@stmichaelsbarrington.org](mailto:kcurtis@stmichaelsbarrington.org)  
for more information

## NEIGHBOR APPRECIATION ICE CREAM SOCIAL OPEN HOUSE

Ice cream cones as big as your head!  
Ask and it shall be given to you, extra scoops included.



On Saturday August 8 from noon to 3:00 PM we're showing hospitality to our neighbors by serving ice cream along with an invitation to come in and visit.

We are seeking approximately 12 volunteers to help with:

- Creating signs/banners
- Setup and cleanup
- Greeting neighbors
- Serving ice cream
- Directing traffic
- Hospitality and fellowship

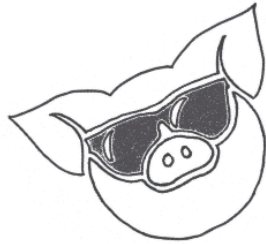
Please email Pat Okonek for more details. [Patokonek1@gmail.com](mailto:Patokonek1@gmail.com).

This is an opportunity to open St. Michael's doors to people who may never have considered visiting before. With your help, we can create a joyful afternoon of hospitality that leaves a lasting impression long after the last scoop is served.

More details to come - watch the Sword!

# SAVE THE DATE - 8/29

END OF SUMMER CELEBRATION & ALL PARISH BBQ



## WE'RE GOING WHOLE HOG REVIVING RIBFEST

Saturday August 29, Rain or Shine

St. Michael's Church

4:00-7:00 pm

Fun for all Ages

**Bands, Bingo, Bounce House, Bags Tournament, & Reptiles**

Join the planning team! Contact:  
Steve Kahn at [stevekahn@gmail.com](mailto:stevekahn@gmail.com)  
or Bob Hoyler at [bobhoyler@yahoo.com](mailto:bobhoyler@yahoo.com)



ST. MICHAEL'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## AND ALL THE ANGELS GIFT SHOP

### Handblown Glass Cross Suncatcher

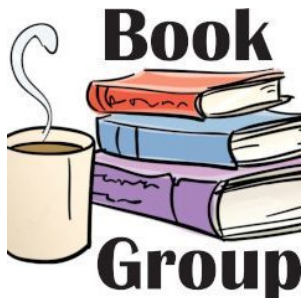
Tri-colored crosses, crafted with a glass loop at the top for hanging, are now back in stock at And All the Angels gift shop. Artfully handblown by Luke Adams Glassblowing Studio, these crosses, glass ball ornaments and stars, are stunning, one-of-a-kind, suncatchers. Made in Massachusetts.

For more information, contact Kathi Frelk [kfrelk4@gmail.com](mailto:kfrelk4@gmail.com) or Cindy Osborne [cosborne46@gmail.com](mailto:cosborne46@gmail.com).



*The Store will be closed on Saturday July 4th*

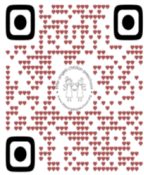
## BOOK GROUP



Danny Warner will lead the discussion of **My Friends**, by Fredrik Backman, on July 15th, 7 pm, in the church library.  
Susan DeBauche will lead **Lula Dean's Little Library of Banned Books**, a novel by Kirsten Miller, August 19th. Georgianne Harms will lead **Phosphorescence**, by Julia Baird, September 16th.

Everyone is welcome to attend. Questions? Contact Kathi Frelk [kfrelk4@gmail.com](mailto:kfrelk4@gmail.com)

**LITTLE ANGELS CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL  
IS NOW HIRING**



Christian Preschool Music Teacher, part-time 3 hours per week  
Substitute Teachers for the 2026-2027 school year

**If interested, please contact:**  
**Janelle Aynessazian, Preschool Director**

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

(847) 381-5490

Scan QR Code for more information

## Prayer Requests

Jackie, Bob, Gina, Maryann, the Richards family, the Lindeen and Grant families, Jeff, Katie and Jim, the Field family, Marilyn, Frank, the Zukowski family, Megan, Heather, Bonnie, Mitzi, Morgan, Paul, Braelyn, Kimberlie, Kathy, Doug, Sally, Mary, John, Teresa, Liam and family, Nancy, Caden, Dave, Brian, Barb and Steve, and Patty, and for all whom you alone know.

Over the next several weeks and months you will begin to notice changes to the Sword and other church publications. The communications committee has been hard at work developing standards to streamline and coordinate the church's communication efforts.

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### Birthdays

6/30 Bill Ferry  
6/30 Janette Warner  
6/30 Marty Guthrie  
7/1 Renee Buxton  
7/2 Mason Guthrie  
7/3 Leslie Yerger  
7/4 Michelle Smith

### Anniversaries

7/1 Sandy and David Rauchenberg

### In Loving Memory

6/28 Marjorie Hussey  
6/29 Sarah Rowe  
7/4 Ned Dally  
Sarah Field  
Kitty Grant  
Kay Richards  
Tami Zukowski  
Deb Angel

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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](http://www.stmichaelsbarrington.org)

### The Sword

The Sword is published each Thursday. The deadline to submit items to be included is Wednesday at 12:00 p.m.  
Any questions or comments regarding this publication should be sent to [sword@stmichaelsbarrington.org](mailto:sword@stmichaelsbarrington.org)

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

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