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**Ash Wednesday
February 14**

Services and
Imposition of Ashes
at
12:00 PM
7:00 PM

Children gather in
the chapel at 7PM,
then join their
families for
Communion in the
Nave.

Childcare at 7PM.



From Our Rector

The Rev. Jesse Perkins

jperkins@stmichaelsbarrington.org

While we still have one more Sunday of Epiphany, Ash Wednesday will be here before our next newsletter is sent out. We will have begun our Lenten journey together by receiving ashes on our foreheads during the Ash Wednesday Eucharist (12:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m). So even though this is a bit early, I did not want to miss the opportunity to write about Lent before we begin it together.

I have always looked forward to this time on our liturgical calendar, as I think it, more than most, calls us to a deep place of faith, self-assessment, and the possibility for a change in the direction our life is taking. It is not an opportunity that is offered readily in our society, instead we tend to focus on the positive, the good times, the never-ending self-gratification, and any other "negative" thoughts are discouraged and dismissed. We numb ourselves with TV, food, alcohol, medication, tablets... anything to keep us from going there. Think about it: when is it, other than during Lent, are we called to remember that one day we will die? It is rare. Yet in church we even put ashes on our heads symbolizing our sorrow at our sins, and the dust to which we will return. When is it that, other than in Lent, we make note of our sins and imperfections, rather than justifying them, and ask God for forgiveness and the strength to do better? And while we are doing all of this "inner heart work," we also sometimes fast in some way to engage the body in the journey. We ask, while denying our body something it enjoys, who am I? Who does God want me to be? How is it that I have not lived up to God's vision of me? And most importantly, how do I begin to move towards God's calling and purpose for my life while there is still time?



While this hopefully is sobering, it is not depressing. Through this 40 days of fasting and soul searching, we also know that God is ever gracious and merciful.



Worship Times Sundays

8:00 a.m. Rite I
10:00 a.m. Rite II
*Coffee & Fellowship
after each service.*

For additional service information, events and activities, please visit our website by [clicking here](#).

Church School Schedule

Children ages 3 through 5th grade:

9:45 drop-off.
Church school for children ages 3 thru 5th grade starts promptly at 10am in the lower level classrooms. They will join their families in time for communion.

Nursery (infants and children up to 3 years old) is available downstairs from 9:30am through the 10am service.

Junior High
9:00am ~ Junior High meet in St. Michael's library & join the

God perfectly combines and interweaves love for who we are, and a desire for us to be more Christ-like. As Max Lucado says in his daily devotion *Grade For the Moment*, for February 6, God is always ready to give grace - God invented it!

We still have a week or so before Lent comes. I encourage you to make plans to fast in some way- refusing to give the body something it craves is a great way to create just enough angst to allow new ideas and possibilities to enter in. I think of it like this: there are many times in my week that I enter "auto-pilot" and for the most part I am less aware of life and the world around me. Does this happen to you? It happens frequently while I am driving a familiar route- I get to my destination and do not remember driving there. However, if I am giving up alcohol and eating less carbs, my stomach usually reminds me of this fact frequently. And guess what? Settling into auto-pilot happens much less often. My disquieted stomach keeps me in the present moment. Combined with prayer, it is a powerful tool to help us reflect inward on our spiritual lives.

This Sunday, we will hear of Jesus' Transfiguration and the disciple's Epiphany (realization) about who he really is. Then shortly thereafter, knowing this truth about Jesus, the church will call us to a Holy Lent of self-reflection and penitence. May God, the source and inventor of grace, accompany us on this journey.

See you in church,
Jesse+



From Our Curate

The Rev. Lisa Erdeljon
lerdeljon@stmichaelsbarrington.org

For me, Lent is a time to reflect and anticipate: to think about what has been done and what will be done. It is also a time to renew my relationship with God, especially by reinvigorating my prayer life.

This Lent, to help reignite that, I invite you to join me for weekly study and reflection. On Thursdays during Lent (that is 6 gatherings-we won't meet during Holy Week), starting at 6:30 .pm., join me in St. Michael's library. Each week we will look at a different passage from either a theologian or Scripture, and discuss what the passage means, how prayer is reflected in it, and how we can live into our own prayer lives within this framework.

service at 10am (or earlier if serving).

Senior High

9:00am ~ Senior High gather at the Sturtz House & join the service at 10am (or earlier if serving).

Since this will also be a time to gather together, I am asking that we share a meal together, too. Each week, I am looking for a volunteer to provide a simple dinner for everyone. I imagine soup and/or salad - something that reflects the modest nature of the season. If you are interested in bringing a meal, please [click this link](#) to sign up for a week.

I am gathering my resources right now, but some of the people we read may include Howard Thurman, Julian of Norwich, Barbara Brown Taylor, Augustine, Henri Nouwen, Benedict, or even Thomas Merton. As you can tell, it'll be a broad range of perspectives and eras.

I look forward to gathering with you and learning more about prayer, as we journey through this Lenten season.

In The Parish Family

It is with a heavy heart and prayers that we share with you news of the death on February 3, of Dean Frelk.

Dean is the loving husband of Kathi Frelk and father of Hilary, Alyssa, Jordyn and Meghan.

Visitation is Friday, February 9 from 3:00-6:00 p.m. at St. Michael's Church. The memorial service will be at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, February 10 at the church. A luncheon reception will follow the service.

Memorial donations in Dean's name may be made to St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 647 Dundee Avenue, Barrington, IL 60010.



A memorial service for Roberta Ball, former Little Angels Preschool teacher, will be held Saturday, March 10. Roberta died November 5, 2017.

The service begins at 1:30 p.m. at the Presbyterian Church of Barrington followed by a reception at the Biltmore Country Club.



Those who have asked for our prayers: Danielle, Kristin, Tim, the Lesks family, John, Catherine, Ann, Vicki, the Frelk family, the Meadors family, Converse, Adeline, Monique, Scott, Tricia, Bryan, Irene, Nathan & Kallyn, Millie, Laurie, Mark, Ted, Christina, Barb & Steve, Patty, Phyllis, Jean, Amy.

Quick Links



[Our Website](#)



[Little Angels Preschool](#)

Preparing for Lent



[Listen to Sunday Sermons](#)



[Follow us on Facebook](#)



Vestry Meeting
Summary
Jan. 16, 2018
Click [here](#).

**EPISCOPAL
DIOCESE OF
CHICAGO**

Click [here](#).

Little Red Wagon

Shrove Tuesday

February 13

7:00 p.m.



This was so much fun last year so please come again or come for the first time. Bring the entire family! [Click here](#).



Wednesday, February 14
Services at 12:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

We invite you to enter into a Holy Lent.

[CLICK HERE](#)

for a complete guide to
St. Michael's 2018 Lenten Opportunities.

Adult Lenten Confirmation Class

If you are considering being confirmed as an adult, reaffirming your baptismal vows or simply interested in learning about the Episcopal Church, Fr. Jesse will be leading an Adult Lenten Confirmation Class. The classes will meet February 18 through March 18 at 11:30 a.m. in the library. The classes will focus on worship, the Creed and church organization. Please email Fr. Jesse at jperkins@stmichaelsbarrington.org if you plan to participate or have any questions.

A Lenten Study on Prayer

Mother Lisa will host a Lenten Study on prayer Thursdays, beginning February 15 at 6:30 p.m. in the Library (2/15-3/22). We will read a different theologian or scripture passage and discuss how prayer is reflected in the passage and how we can live into our own prayer lives.

Participants are invited to provide dinner for each other. Please sign up to provide a simple meal (soup and/or



Wauconda Island Lake Food Pantry is our recipient for February. Their special requests this month are: baking items, cake mixes, jello, popcorn. And they always need the basic staples. Thank you.

Remembering This Week

Birthday

2.11

Brittany Johns

2.13

Jean Gale

Daniel O'Riordan

Molly O'Riordan

2.14

Charley Wickman

2.15

salad) for 10 to 15 people. [Sign up link here.](#)

Lent Madness Begins February 15

With its unique blend of competition, learning, and humor, Lent Madness allows participants to be inspired by the ways in which God has worked through the lives of saintly souls across generations and cultures.

Scorecards are available now at church. Click [here](#) to read more about this fun Lenten opportunity.

Hurricane Maria Update

from Rica Cuff

Our Governor is calling for a reduction in several taxes, including the 11.5% sales-and-use tax, to 7% for prepared food. [Read more...](#)



Jr. and Sr. LIFT youth enjoyed an evening at the home of Michelle and Kirk Chan. Thanks for a delicious meal and a place where we could play games and enjoy a movie on a Friday night. [Photos here](#)

Little Angels Preschool Registration 2018/19

Registration for in house/alumni/church members begins January 16. Registration for the community begins January 29. Please contact Caren Hunter at 847-381-5490 or chunter@stmichaelsbarrington.org.

Year End Contribution Statements for 2017 have been mailed to all parishioners as of February 2. Please take a moment to review your statement for any donation discrepancies between our records. If you have not received a statement or find a discrepancy on your statement after reviewing, please contact Kim Lessner at

Kara Nance
Lauren Gabis
2.17
Marilyn Okonek
Ginny Conners
Kevin Chrisos

Anniversaries

2.13
Dayna & Scott
Imhoff

Rest in Peace

2.11
Patricia Johnson
2.13
Dorothy Rose
2.14
Ken Locher
2.16
Juanita Fisher
Jim Galasso
Michael Foort
Jan Rutkowski

the parish offices, 847-381-2323, ext. 16 or via email
klessner@stmichaelsbarrington.org. Thank you!

COMMUNITY NEWS



The Community Meal: Today, February 8, 5:00-7:00 p.m.
at St. Anne Catholic Church, 120 Ela Street, Barrington. All
welcome.

St. Michael's Vestry

vestry@stmichaelsbarrington.org

Wes Kimes, Senior Warden; Dayna Imhoff, Junior Warden
Bill Ferry, Ann Ross, Jim Stevens, Rob Wisnowski, Greg Michaels, Lisa Farran, Tim
Raynor, Deb Blohm, Gene Dawson, Michele Phillips, Suzanne Fleeer, Renee Buxton
John Davis - Treasurer, Craig Anderson - Clerk

Clergy and Staff

The Rev. Jesse Perkins, Rector; The Rev. Elizabeth (Betsy) Ward, Assisting Priest; The
Rev. Lisa Erdeljon, Curate; The Rev. Laurie Michaels, Deacon; Caren Hunter, Director of
Little Angels Preschool; Mark Sikkila, Organist & Director of Music; Sara Lloyd Torbeck,
Director of Children's Music; Ric Lindeen, Jr/Sr High Youth Ministry; Julie Allord, Family
Ministries; Kim Lessner, Parish Operations; Nancy Holmes, Parish
Administrator/Rector's Assistant; Rich Hornickel, Sexton

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 5:00 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 Noon. Any questions or comments regarding this publication should be
sent to news@stmichaelsbarrington.org