



ST MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Sword April 5, 2023

St. Michael's Weekly News & Updates



Palm Sunday
Sunday, April 2
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM

Mundy Thursday

Thursday, April 6
6:30 PM



Good Friday
Friday, April 7
12:00 PM

7:00 PM @ Salem United
Methodist Church

Easter Vigil

Saturday, April 8
8:00 PM



Easter Sunday
Sunday, April 9
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

Watch us on Vimeo Live

Watch us on Facebook Live

Zoom Worship

Previous Sermons

Our Website

A Note From Our Rector

Jesse Perkins

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This week, we are entering our Holy Week where we “contemplate those mighty acts” that God has accomplished through the life, death, and life of Jesus Christ. Today I am

reflecting on what it means to worship a God who died. It was just a few days ago on Palm Sunday (Sunday was so good, by the way!) where we walked with Jesus into Jerusalem, carrying our Palms and shouting "Hossannah!". Jesus brought so much of what he taught and lived into that procession's details, especially with the donkey and Jesus's own determination. Jesus was committed to this way of the cross, this way of suffering and death, as the way he would help bring about God's Kingdom in our lives. And Jesus was committed to this that he was not going to let anything stop him, not even the cross.

It was with this commitment to God's Kingdom that Jesus kept going, and kept going, for our sake; Jesus processed into Jerusalem and carried that cross so we would know, see, and understand what suffering love is all about. So we would know what it really means when we say God Loves us. Jesus showed us just how much and how far that love is willing to go- to the very bitter end. God was willing to suffer and die if it meant that you and I could learn to love God and each the right way. The kingdoms of the world, those propped up by violence and domination, did exactly what they do (and still do) when threatened- they responded with violence and crucified our Lord.

We all know, however, that within God's determination was not only the refusal to stop working for the Kingdom and spreading God's message of love, there was also the determination to turn it all on its head and not let the violence and determination win. The big reversal is that what had always won suddenly did not work- God who loves, suffers, and longs for us also cannot be stopped with human domination and oppression. God's love always wins. Do we believe it? Did the resurrection convince us? Did it call us to a deeper faith and trust in that divine truth?

One of my spiritual exercises this week is to look around and start naming times when groups, news articles, and social media posts use fear and empire tactics to try and get me to act in one way or another. When I see people rage and flail, shout in angry words and tones, and try their best to suppress and dominate, I am trying to notice. Nothing more today, just notice when the values of God's Kingdom are missing and in their place are the tried and true methods of empire. And then, on the other hand, to notice when they are: when fruits of the Spirit are visible: care, concern, slow to anger and of great kindness, strength found in humility, tolerance of difference... suffering love. The Kingdom is all around us and in us- has Jesus's actions this week moved you to see this Kingdom and to be this Kingdom?

In Christ,
Jesse+

A Note From Our Sunday School Director

Kim Curtis

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Journey Through Holy Week event is tomorrow. We will have about 13 kids travel throughout the church to participate in the sacred story. Please join us on Good Friday morning from 10:00am-12:30am for a fun filled children's experience. We will journey thru activity and discussion of the Last Supper, foot washing, praying in the Garden of

Gethsemane, Jesus's Arrest and Trial, Peter's denial of Jesus, the Crucifixion, and a Joyous Resurrection. Lunch will be included. If you would like your child to attend, we still have some spots available. Please feel free to email me directly as the sign up genius is closed.

I hope to see you all on Easter Sunday for our "Eggstravaganza" Easter Egg Hunt following the 11am service. We will be having Sunday School on Easter Sunday at both services. At the 11am service we will join the rest of church as usual during the Doxology.

LIFT



Jr. & Sr. LIFT meets EVERY Sunday morning - 9:00 a.m. Sturtz House

[LIFT Schedule](#)

From the LIFT Leader's Desk

This past Sunday, I was teaching the LIFT group about the two processions that entered Jerusalem on the Sunday that we now call Palm Sunday. I told them about the contrasts between the two groups on opposite sides of the city.

On one side of the city, there was the parade of war horses, soldiers, weaponry, the power of Rome that made it clear to the extra 200,000+ Jewish people in the city for Passover - *Don't even think about it!* Not only was this representing a king of power, but also a contrasting theology. Caesar's very name meant son of God. No wonder the Jewish people hated this Roman occupation. (Listen to Fr. Jesse's sermon on Sunday for his excellent message on this.)

On the other side of the city, on a lowly donkey, seemingly mocking the Roman parade, the King of Peace rides in. The hordes of peasants who have heard him preach up north in Galilee are waving their simple palm branches and shouting Hosanna. This procession was a different type of majestic, with the crowd joyously welcoming Jesus.

I laid out the week for the LIFTers and how folks often want to jump from Palm Sunday straight to Easter but that it's important to keep walking with Jesus through the three holy days of the Triduum. We need to feel his pain to truly experience the wonderful joy on Easter Sunday. I talked about how Jesus took Peter, James and John (his three best friends) with him to the garden to wait and watch with him. I acted out the falling asleep part as Jesus begs them to stay awake and pray with him, twice. I got out the map to show them where everything was happening. I was teaching my head off (and loving it), trying to give them a drink with a firehose. But they were with me.

At the end of our lessons, I usually ask *What's your takeaway today? What's something new that you learned?* Well, I knew that they had just learned a LOT. So I passed the talking stick around and I made each one tell me what made them say *Whoa!* or *Wow!* or *ooh...* Several tried to pass off easy answers (*You've known that since you were three years old. Tell me something else*). They were squirrely but I threatened that they were going to miss the bagpiper if they didn't hurry up with something new - they had a lot

to choose from.

The talking stick made it to Winston. He was ready with an answer that I was not expecting. *Even Jesus needs friends when he's going through something hard.* Boom! Mike drop! I was totally stunned. I shouted, *Yes! I love that!* We all clapped.

This is why I love teaching. Out of the mouths of babes...I get blessed.

May you get blessed this precious Holy Week. *Even Jesus needs friends when he's going through something hard*, so get in touch and walk with Him this week. That's what friends do.

Peace & Blessings,
Kay Lewis

Our LIFTers are great at multi-tasking!

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Remember that not getting what you want is sometimes a wonderful stroke of luck.

– The 14th Dalai Lama



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Upcoming Events



Maundy Thursday

April 6

The Maundy Thursday service will be at 6:30PM.



Good Friday

April 7

Good Friday Service will be at 12 PM at St. Michael's and 7 PM at Salem United Methodist Church in Barrington.



Easter Vigil Service and Reception

April 8

Easter Vigil, Holy Saturday Evening service will be at 8 PM.

"PLEASE JOIN US!!!!...We are hosting a reception after the service, featuring a jazz pianist, chocolate fountain, champagne & other sparkingly drinks, and plenty of savory treats! "

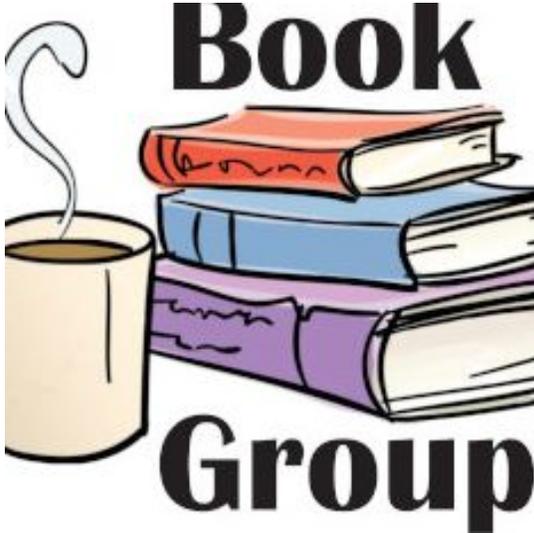
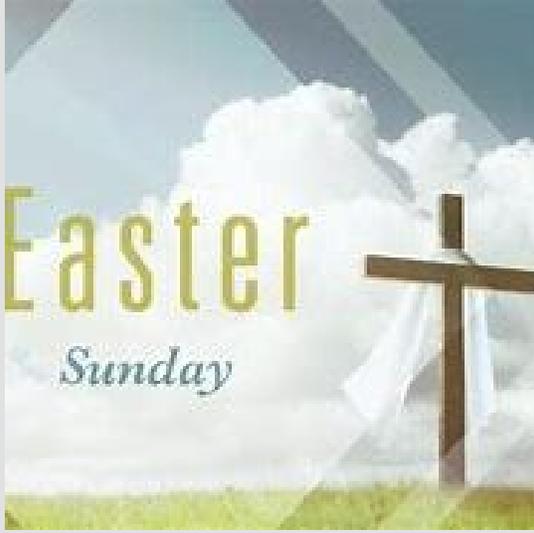
LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU

Easter Sunday

April 9

Easter Sunday services will be at 9 AM and 11 AM.

We will be having an Easter egg hunt following the 11 AM service.



Book Group

"The Island of Missing Trees" by Elif Shafak is our book selection for April. The discussion will be led by Amy Hoff.

We will meet at 7 pm, in the church library, on Wednesday, April 19.

Announcements

Overnight Vigil at the Altar of Repose

My friends, a quick mention of a tradition that has not been advertised much this year (totally my fault): once again we will have the overnight vigil at the Altar of Repose beginning Maundy Thursday evening and going until Friday at 11am. Instead of signing up for in-person time slots, we are offering the vigil by livestream all night (<http://www.stmichaelsbarrington.org/>). The chapel will also remain unlocked for anyone wishing to come in person to pray; come any time you desire.

As Jesus prayed with his disciples immediately before his arrest in the garden of Gethsemane, we too can pray with Jesus at this altar. The disciples of course kept falling asleep, and Jesus admonished them to stay away and pray. If you feel called to come and pray with Jesus as he is present in the Reserve Sacrament of blessed bread and wine, the chapel and the livestream are available to you.

I pray that your journey this week be holy and prayerful, and that the transformation that came in the Resurrection once again arrives in our hearts.

Jesse+



Rebuilding Together: Leticia's Home in Blue Island

We are very grateful for the generous team of volunteers who will work on April 29th to spruce up Leticia's home. 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 Leticia and her 3 sons--purchase supplies and gift cards for home supplies.

Items needed are queen and twin bed sheets, bath and hand towels, cleaning supplies, toiletries and storage bins. She also shops at ALDI, so gift cards are a welcome donation.

In order to have the right amount 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 23, and the volunteers will deliver to Leticia and her family on April 29.

[Sign up genius](#)

[Amazon List](#)

[View Our Announcement Page For More News!](#)

Birthdays

4/9 George Lorenzo

Anniversaries

4/9 Katie and Jim Blair

In Loving Memory

4/8 Kenneth Barton

4/9 Jackie Allen
4/9 Patrick Duncan
4/10 Brian Atkinson
4/11 Marti Callahan
4/12 Jill Deichmann
4/12 Benjamin Deichmann
4/15 Dave Evans

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

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
4/14 Lawrence Dickson
Louis McMahan
James Zadrizal
Pete Mendoza, Jr.

Prayer Requests

Janet, the Harms family, Barb, Leslie, the McMahan and Perkins families, Bill, Jackson, Jack, the Mendoza and Duncan families, Cliff, the Zadrizal family, Sharon, Allison, Maelyn, and Conner, Cindy, Art, Brittany, Marilyn and Pat, Ann, Dave, Phyllis, Cameron, Maribeth, Pat, Ruth, Brian, Ted, Barb and Steve, Patty, and Amy.

[Donate to St. Michael's](#)

[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 pbllass@stmichaelsbarrington.org

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

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