



ST MICHAEL'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Sword October 31, 2024

## St. Michael's Weekly News & Updates



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### **A Note from our Rector**

**The Rev. Jesse Perkins**

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



Dear St. Michael's, I imagine if you are like me and the many people I have talked to this past week or so, your anxiety and concern are escalating as our next presidential election draws near. The Preschool is already closing, following the B220 schedule, and I have also asked the church staff to work remotely that day as violence at polling places is a new reality that just adds fuel to the fire. And as we get closer to the date, the rhetoric seems to escalate and it can feel as though everything hinges on this one election regardless of which political camp with which you affiliate. We are bombarded with ads, videos, texts and signs that are particularly designed to use fear and anger as a motivator to get us to vote their way. It is all around us- it likely starts to negatively affect our family relationships, friendships, and even coworker connections. In some ways this anxiety and negativity float around us invisible yet powerful.

And yet, we as people of faith, have something else that cannot be seen, yet floats around us and dwells with in us, and that is more powerful than fear. We have the Holy Spirit that reminds us over and over again in whispers, "do not be afraid." Reminds us of whose we are, and that we are loved. The Comforter and Advocate can speak a peace that can take up residence deep in our souls beyond the fear that anyone can create. Over and over again, Scripture tells us to "Fear Not."

In Psalm 20:7, it says, "Some trust in chariots, and some in horses, but we will remember the name of the Lord our God." Nothing calls me back to my center faster than this verse, and a song I used to sing growing up in the Baptist Church based on it. It is easy to get consumed by all of the fears out there- but in the end, in what do we put our trust? What carries us through any storm, any war, any election, and even death itself? What is the one thing that cannot be shaken? It is our faith, and the deep trust in the God who created us, loves us, and redeems us. Paul says, "For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord". (Romans 8:38-39)

Pray and breathe this week, my friends, and vote your conscience as we should do as good citizens of this great nation. And hold on to hope that regardless of the outcome of this election, God is still here and with us, and working in and through us, to help bring healing and wholeness to the world.

Join me on election night, November 5, at 7pm in the chapel for Evening Prayer and prayers for our country. Also, remember that the small chapel is open 24x7 for prayer as well.

## **A Note from our Sunday School Director**

Kim Curtis

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



Last Sunday, during announcements, Father Jesse explained I was resigning from St. Michael's in my full time capacity. I feel like I was not prepared for all this to be happening so quickly with my new job opportunity. I had to take a moment of reflection before writing this message.

I have so many memories and people to thank. This has not been an easy decision. Perhaps, though, for God it was the opposite. He does work in mysterious ways. We all can agree, He directs our next steps in life.

Managing the pillars of our building has been incredibly rewarding. I am so grateful for the teams in which I am involved. I consider everyone here my friends and appreciate all your support. Even for the little things, like when we run out of coffee cups!

Originally, as Father Jesse explained, my first role here was Sunday School Director. The children, families, teachers and congregation are so important to me. As I explained to one of the students, change is not always easy like turning a light switch off and on. It takes time to ensure a smooth transition. I am here to assist in this process over the next few weeks.

I was so impressed with the performance last week with our Noah Groove Song. I would really love to see some pictures or videos if you have some. We will not have Sunday school November 24th for the Thanksgiving holiday.

## **An additional note from our Rector**

Dear St. Michael's,

As you have read over the last two Swords, our Sunday School and Facilities Director, Kim Curtis, has accepted a new job and given her notice. Kim has worked with me for over six years, and I am grateful for everything she has done for St. Michael's during that time. Initially brought on the team for Sunday School alone, she worked with Mother Lisa to migrate our program away from Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (a volunteer-intensive program we were unable to sustain) to the one we see today, where kids have a lesson from the Scripture, a craft, music, and a great sense of community on Sunday morning.

When the opportunity presented itself, Kim moved to full time and took on our facilities management, overseeing sextons and vendors to keep St. Michael's clean and in good repair. Multiple projects have been accomplished here at the church thanks to her work in this area. Please join me in thanking Kim for her work here, and wishing her well as she takes this next step.

While there are details still to consider, we are hopeful that Kim may continue with us in some capacity with our Sunday School. The vestry and I are considering our options that best reflect our needs and budget and I will let you know more as we move forward.

## Music Ministry

### All Souls Requiem Mass November 3rd at 6:30pm



Our Requiem service will be **Nov 3, 2024, at 6:30pm**. This is an evening of prayer and remembrance for the souls of those who have died that we still keep close to our hearts. Please use the form below to submit the names and photos of your loved ones you would like to add to the necrology list, which is read during the Eucharist.

## LIFT



Happy Halloween!



## LIFT Schedule

### Upcoming Events

Financial Review  
November 3

**FINANCIAL  
REVIEW**

Join us for a Financial Review Meeting  
in the Library on November 3rd after the  
10am service.

**Guatemala Mission Trip- March 15-22**



# Porch de Solomon Guatemala

Parish Mission Trip  
March 15-22



St. Michael's is going to Guatemala March 15-22, 2025, with Porch de Solomon. Would you like to learn more about the people and culture, and support a ministry who builds houses for the homeless and helps families rise out of poverty? Join us as we resume our partnership with Porch and support the great work they are doing.

Deadline for decision is October 31, and if you decide to go, please book your flights independently to arrive in Guatemala City before 2pm 3/15/25.

Teenagers may go with a parent. Cost is estimated at \$1100 airfare + \$900 food and hotel; a fundraiser is being planned to help offset food and hotel costs for the group. At present, we are sad to say there are no additional scholarship funds for this trip- if you would like to donate to help the group, [contact Fr. Jesse](#).

Read more [here about Porch de Solomon](#)

## Announcements

### Fall back time change



**Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour this weekend.**

**Katy's Christmas Baskets. Tis almost the season!**



Adopt a family and make their Christmas wishes come true! We will have about 30 families from Church of the Redeemer and Revive Center who need our help putting presents under the Christmas tree and food on the holiday table. Families range in size and ages.

Baskets are due a little earlier this year, by December 1st, in the St. Michael's Community Room.

Sign up online: Katy's Christmas Baskets. [Katy's Christmas Baskets](#)

If you have questions, contact

Llora Wonder, [llkwonder18@gmail.com](mailto:llkwonder18@gmail.com) or

Gwen Weibel, [gwen.crombie@gmail.com](mailto:gwen.crombie@gmail.com)

This ministry honors Katy Pepper, who coordinated our Christmas basket program for many years. We remember her kindness and generosity through our parish's commitment to supporting less fortunate families during the Advent and Christmas season.

## Election Night Virtual Prayers November 5

**The Episcopal Church Office of Government Relations** will host Election Night Virtual Prayers on November 5 from 7 to 9 pm Central. Bishop Sean Rowe, who will become presiding bishop on November 1, will offer an opening reflection and prayer. Episcopalians from around the church will hold moments of silence, as well as leading participants in prayers for peace, the nation, and all people and countries.

**Register to join the event via Zoom** (offered with simultaneous Spanish interpretation), or watch a livestream on The Episcopal Public Policy Network's **Facebook page**.



## Episcopal Relief & Development Hurricane Relief Fund



The Episcopal Relief & Development organization has set up a Hurricane Helene Relief fund. You can contribute directly by visiting the link below:

[Episcopal Hurricane Relief Fund](#)

## Book Group



Book Group will meet at 7 pm, Wednesday, November 20, in the church library.

The discussion of "Our Missing Hearts" by Celeste Ng, will be led by Marti Kahn. Meeting host is Annilee Quinlan.

December's meeting will be on the second Wednesday, 7 pm, December 11, at the Sturtz House.

## Community News & Events

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



## Birthdays

11/3 Jennie Wickman  
11/3 Greg Smith  
11/4 Ben Weibel  
11/4 BJ Seagrist  
11/5 Catherine Deevy  
11/5 Kirk Chan  
11/6 Sam Adams-Lanham  
11/7 Chloe Warner  
11/8 Sandy Rauschenberg

## In Loving Memory

11/5 Elizabeth McLaughlin  
11/6 Janice Nagy  
11/6 Sabra Capulli  
11/6 Jennie Robinson  
11/7 Timothy Crist  
11/7 Norman Dally  
11/9 Beverly Foot

Miles Clark  
Jean Tolle  
Kathy Belcore  
Martha Williamson

## Prayer Requests

Jay, Paige, John, Denney, Richard, the Tolle family, Olivia and family, the Osborne family, the Belcore family, Christy, Liam and family, Karen, the Clark family, Emma Rose, Spencer, Nancy, Christine, Sharon, Andy, Caden, Dave, Maribeth and John, Brian, Barb and Steve, and Patty.

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](http://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](mailto:admin@stmichaelsbarrington.org)

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