



ST MICHAEL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

St. Michael's Weekly News & Updates



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A note from Rev. Ralph Osborne



I watched the funeral for President Jimmy Carter. The service took place in the National Cathedral, which is an Episcopal Cathedral that serves our nation, and serves as the seat for the bishop of Washington. His funeral was not an Episcopal liturgy, but it had some of the important parts of our burial service. I always need to hear the words of the Commendation at a funeral, and I was not disappointed. It was led by the Dean of the Cathedral, the Episcopal bishop and our presiding bishop. They did the Commendation together. We were reminded that, "all of us go down to the dust, but even at the grave, we make our song, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia." The people respond by saying, "Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting."

I was thinking of these words while I took a walk later in the day. My mind took me to the part where it says that sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting. It is comforting to think that sorrow and pain are no more. I usually focus that. On the walk, my thoughts shifted from those words to the words right after, "neither sighing". Jimmy Carter was who he was because he saw the sorrow and pain of so many. He acted to alleviate suffering. His own sorrow and pain are no more. He must have sighed though. He probably sighed for all the things he didn't get done. He probably sighed over those who could not see or hear the pain and sorrow of others. He had sighs about his own limitations. His sighs are gone too! This promise in the Commendation reminds us that God hears our sighs, and is moved by them. The removal of pain and sorrow shows the power of God, I think the ending of our sigh shows God's heart.

What causes you to sigh? If you pause, you can hear and feel it in your chest. What makes up a sigh? Is it tiredness, or disappointment, or frustration, or sadness? The hope of the resurrection brings the promise of the end of pain and sorrow, but also the end of the weight of our sighs. The Resurrection is our surety of life everlasting and lets us say those words even at the grave, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Grateful for the saints who have gone before,

Fr. Ralph+

Music Ministry

LIFT



LIFT Schedule

Upcoming Events

Announcements

Annual Meeting



Our annual meeting and vestry election will be held on February 2nd at 11:30am.

[Early and Absentee click voting here.](#)

The Vestry Slate for 2025 is listed below:

1. Liz Gabis, Sr Warden
2. Bob Hoyler, Jr Warden
3. BJ Seabrist, 3 year term
4. Cathy Koehlinger, 3 year term
5. Pat Okonek, 3 year term

6. Craig Anderson, 2 year term (filling open seat)

For more information and bios for all candidates, please visit

<https://www.stmichaelsbarrington.org/church-blog/1493-annual-meeting-2025>



St. Michael's Book Group

The first book for St. Michael's Book Group for the New Year is "The Last Lecture" by Randy Pausch. Susan DeBauche is discussion leader.

All adult readers are welcome to join us in the church library at 7 pm, Wednesday, January 22.

Questions? Contact Kathi Frelk
kfrelk4@gmail.com

Do you like flowers? The Altar Guild is looking for homes for the poinsettias that decorated the church at Christmas. There are poinsettias located in the narthex and by the community room. Please feel free to take one or more home with you.



Inclement weather policy



Hello everyone! Happy Winter!

As the seasons change and the snow has arrived, I wanted to remind everyone of our Sunday and Weekday inclement weather policy. You can find it below and on the website.

We generally follow the B220 schedule during the week: if the kids are virtual, we are also working virtually. On Sundays, I will have regular in-person Sunday services and will live stream them regardless of weather, and will only cancel in-person Sunday services should we lose power/heat. For staff and parishioners, please put your safety first and join us virtually if needed.

Blessings,
Jesse+

[Inclement weather policy](#)

Community News

View Our Announcement Page For More News!

Birthdays

1/21 Marisa Boynton
1/23 Judy Tolle
1/25 Margaret Longworth
1/25 Brendan Willis

Anniversaries

In Loving Memory

1/20 Lena Pesce
1/21 Stuart Parker
1/22 Robert Patten McLaughlin
1/22 James Carney
1/23 Norma Sayles
1/24 Jeanne Cappulli
1/24 Dorothy Holvay
1/25 Nancy Race
1/25 Lolita Ewart
Lisa Milford

Prayer Requests

The Milford family, Forest, Carol, David, Catherine, Jay, Denney, Richard, Olivia and family, Liam and family, Emma Rose, Nancy, Christine, Sharon, Andy, Caden, Dave, Brian, Barb and Steve, Pat & John Chambers, 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

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

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

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