



ST MICHAEL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

St. Michael's Weekly News & Updates



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A note from The Reverend Ralph Osborne



This beautiful photo is of the blooming branches behind our altar in the church. Be sure to enjoy them when you are in church. They remind us of the importance and gift of beauty in our lives and in our worship. If you would like to participate in

providing that beauty for St. Michael's, it can be done through a gift to St. Michael's for flowers. If you prefer, In the Narthex, (the area just inside the entrance to the church) there are envelopes and even a form for a gift for flowers on a specific Sunday. Get ready for wonderful sights and smells when you come on Easter.

Fr. Ralph



Special Meeting on Sunday March 15th

If you have not voted for the Wardens, Vestry and Delegates to the annual diocesan convention, you have two options to participate.

Option 1 – Come to the Special Meeting this Sunday after the 10am service.

Option 2 – Join the Special Meeting via Zoom using the link listed below.

St. Michael's is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86758247626?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86758247626?pwd=KvaA5okf0NmLhtsmn8jX3uLnu4SDPG.1)

[pwd=KvaA5okf0NmLhtsmn8jX3uLnu4SDPG.1](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86758247626?pwd=KvaA5okf0NmLhtsmn8jX3uLnu4SDPG.1)

Meeting ID: 867 5824 7626

Passcode: 907762

Thanks to all who have already voted.

Sunday School

Journey through Holy Week (for Kids)

Join us on Good Friday for a fun kid experience, April 3rd, 10am – Noon. (your child can remain in the after-program if you attend the Good Friday Noon service.) This program helps children walk step-by-step through the story of Jesus' final days before Easter. Instead of only hearing the story, kids move through activities or stations that represent important moments of the week. This was created in stops throughout the church. The goal was to experience the Last Supper, the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus' arrest and trial, Peter's denial of Jesus, and end with the resurrection.

Use the link below to register your child now.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050944ABA623ABFF2-journey>



A Rainbow After the Fall

Lent is a season that reminds us we are human. We stumble. We fall. Sometimes quite literally.

Recently, while helping sell cookies with a young Girl Scout, we were pulling a cart loaded with boxes through the neighborhood. At one point, the cart tipped and we both fell. The boxes crushed, the cart tangled, and for a moment everything felt like a mess. We picked ourselves up, gathered what we could, and quietly walked home.

It wasn't dramatic. It was just one of those ordinary moments when things don't go the way we planned.

But Lent is often like that. We start the season with good intentions — to pray more, to sacrifice something, to grow closer to God. And then somewhere along the way we stumble. We lose patience. We forget our commitments. We realize again that we are not perfect.

The temptation in those moments is to think we failed.

But the truth is, falling is not the end of the story.

The next time we went out, the weather had turned rainy. Gray skies, wet pavement, the kind of day when you might rather stay inside. Yet as we walked, something beautiful appeared across the sky — a bright rainbow stretching over the parking lot.

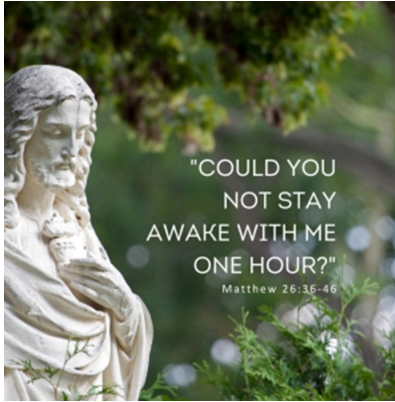
It felt like a quiet reminder.

After the fall comes the walk home.
After the rain comes the rainbow.

Lent teaches us that God does not expect perfection. What He asks is that we get up again. That we keep walking. That we trust that even in the gray and messy moments, grace is still waiting on the other side.

Sometimes the rainbow shows up when we least expect it.

ALTAR GUILD



"Stay here and keep watch with me. The hour has come. Stay here and keep watch with me. Watch and pray."

Our Maundy Thursday service will end at the Garden of Repose in the chapel. As in the past, people are welcome to sit vigil in the chapel. It serves as a, quiet space for meditation, prayer, and "keeping watch" with Christ. Returning this year will be a poster where you can sign up for a time to sit vigil. It will be located in the Narthex. Please prayerfully consider signing up for a time slot.

Choir

March 15th 4pm Choral Evensong, St. Michael's Episcopal Church
647 Dundee Ave, Barrington

Evensong is a contemplative sung evening prayer service, usually held around twilight hours, featuring musical settings from the Book of Common Prayer 1662, sung canticles, and chanted psalms. It has strong historical ties to the Anglican and Episcopal churches and relates further back to Evening Vespers and Compline services as early as the Middle Ages. This peaceful service lasts around 45min and features the St. Michaels Choir and Children's Choir. Musical settings by John Blow, Roland Martin, Kevin Hackett, Fraser Wilson, St. James Service by Robert J. Powell, and canticles by Robert Lehman. Please join us for a moment of prayerful repose on your Lenten journey. All are welcome!

OUTREACH

March 22 Reach Out and Help Someone Sunday!

Ravenswood Community Services (RCS), a longtime Outreach partner agency, is embarking on 2 new food pantry offerings that are perfect for a Sunday service project for us all to work on together.

Girl Forward recently approached RCS requesting after school snacks for their Safe Spaces program for high school girls who are new to the USA as refugees or asylum seekers. Girl Forward lost funding for the snacks, which are a valuable source of nutrition for these low-income students. We will assemble non-perishable snack bags for program participants--we would need about 250 bags to supply one month.

Secondly, RCS is creating spice packets to distribute at their Food Pantries because spices are so expensive. They are starting with a rub for chicken. We will purchase the spices in bulk and need you to put them into small ziplocks. 250 bags would provide enough for 2 weeks inventory at the pantry.

St. Michaelites of all ages are invited to the Community Room after the 10 a.m. service on Sunday, March 22 to assemble these two packages and share lunch together. The Outreach team will provide roasted chicken (made with the rub!) and we are requesting folks to bring a side dish or dessert to share.

Service plus potluck lunch equals grand fellowship!

If you can't join us on the 22nd, you can still help--we will need lots and lots of shelf-stable healthy(ish) snacks to fill up the snack bags. Please bring a box of snacks and place them in the GREEN WAGONS near the Community Room.

Thanks and see you soon, your Outreach Team

*RCS provides hunger relief through a variety of food pantries at All Saints Episcopal Church, and is a member of Episcopal Charities.

Meals with Wheels – In-Home Delivery Volunteers Needed

St. Michael's has proudly supported Meals with Wheels through BACOA for many years by providing volunteers and financial support. The program delivers nutritious meals five days a week to older adults facing health or financial challenges. Last year alone, 3,831 meals were served in the Barrington area.

Our St. Michael's volunteers deliver meals once a month, typically to 3–5 homes. This is an easy, rewarding way to serve our community, and we are currently looking for additional volunteers. Hope to hear from a few of you!

If you are interested, please contact **Susan Ferry** at susancferry@gmail.com or **847-404-5040**.

Additional info on BACOA and Meals with Wheels can be found at: www.bacoa.org

SEARCH COMMITTEE

Possibly, you know someone.....

You know the theory of 6, right? Everyone is connected by 6 steps. Now that we have moved into the “accepting applications” portion of our search, we believe you can help us in this mission to find our next Rector. In addition to the extensive search currently being coordinated through the Diocese of Chicago, we are asking if any of you may know (through your travels or acquaintances or family) of any priests who might be interested in applying. If you do have any leads or suggestions, please let us know by emailing the search committee at searchstmikes@gmail.com or reaching out directly to

a committee member. We will then direct them to <https://episcopalchicago.org/for-clergy/clergy-openings/>

Thank you!

Now that our Rector position is posted on the Diocesan website, We invite you to take a look at our Parish Profile!

<https://stmichaelsbarrington.aflip.in/6ebe0890eb.html>

LIFT



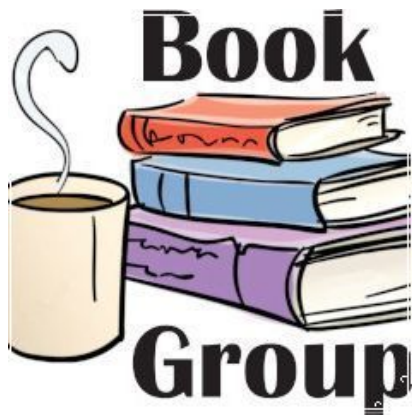
[Click for LIFT Schedule](#)

AND ALL THE ANGELS GIFT SHOP



Hang these colorful glass hearts in your windows! Choose from a wide selection of decor and gift items in And All the Angels gift shop. Our hours are: Wednesdays 11am to 5 pm, Saturdays and Sundays 9am to Noon.

BOOK GROUP



Remarkably Bright Creatures, an award-winning, heartwarming debut novel about a 70-year-old widow who works at an aquarium, by Shelby Van Pelt, is this month's Book Group selection. Marti Kahn will lead the discussion, in the church library, on Wednesday, March 18. Meetings begin at 7 pm, and all adult readers are welcome to join us.

For more information, contact Kathi Frelk: kfrelk4@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS



”Stock the Shelves” Sunday – March 15

Your donations will help to feed 1,000 – 1,500 people each month. Every bag/box/can helps!

Food – pull tab lids on all canned goods greatly appreciated

- Canned stew or chili
- Canned salmon, ham, tuna
- Chunky soups
- Tomato sauce with meat
- White or brown rice- 1lb bags
- Boxed rice meals
- Cereal and granola bars
- Canned tomatoes – diced, chunks or paste
- Black or pinto beans – 1lb bags
- Pasta noodles
- Pasta Sauce
- Condiments – ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise

Personal Items:

- Shampoo/Conditioner
- Toothpaste/toothbrushes

- Body Wash
- Deodorant
- Diapers, size 4, 5, or 6
- Baby Wipe Packets

Household supplies:

- Liquid Laundry Detergent – 32-37 ounce size preferred, no pods please
- Liquid dishwashing soap
- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Facial tissues
- Storage bags – quart and gallon
- Garbage bags (small boxes)

Special request: EMPTY egg cartons

Please leave donations in the Silver Wagon by the front door, the green wagon by the Community room or in the library.

The Silver Wagon ministry honors Ruth Silver, a long-time member of St. Michael's, and her dedication to this essential mission.

Questions? Contact Llorra Wonder at llkwonder18@gmail.com. Thank you for your support!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Can you please help us get the word out that St. Michael's is AWESOME? Please review our church - the more 5 stars we get will help us appear in more searches for people who are looking for a church home and researching churches online. See the link below:

[Church Reviews - St. Michael's Barrington](#)

Skip the first part "AI", look for the box with the St. Michael's photo of the front of the church, and click on "google reviews". Please review us on Facebook and Yelp too (those links are on the same page). Thank you!

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

[Want to Submit to the Sword? Click here to find out more!](#)

Birthdays

3/15 Harry D. Wintringer, IV
 3/16 Linda Keclik
 3/17 Claire Buckley
 3/18 Ben Mears
 3/18 Kathryn Ward
 3/19 Sophia Younger
 3/20 Heidi Guthrie
 3/21 Linda Thompson
 3/21 Kate Chan

Anniversaries

In Loving Memory

3/15 Max Hoffman
 3/17 Shepard Robinson
 3/18 Jo Kuffel
 3/18 Nicholas Johnson
 3/19 LaVerne Jones
 3/19 Loin "Mike" Bowen
 3/20 Thomas Myers
 3/21 John A. Ward
 3/21 Richard Von Albrecht

Jesophine Flowers
Nancy Wandzel
Judie Buckley

Prayer Requests

The Buckley family, the Flowers family, The Brett family, Kristen, Amor, Braelyn, Kimberlie, Kathy, Denise, Doug, Sally, Mary, John, Teresa, **Kitty, Olivia and family**, Liam and family, Nancy, Caden, Dave, Brian, Barb and Steve, and Patty, and for all whom you alone know.

[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 sword@stmichaelsbarrington.org

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

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