



ST MICHAEL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

St. Michael's Weekly News & Updates



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A note from Reverend Jim Swarthout



Easter Joy!

I like to use the word “Easter” as a verb, not as a Noun, A Verb “Now, I know ‘Easter’ isn’t officially a nautical term — it should be. Because to Easter is to turn your life toward the rising light of Christ.” A nautical term. To easter means to steer a vessel toward the east — toward the rising sun — toward the light.

“Let Him Easter in us.” Because Easter is not just something that happened. It is something that happens. Not just a feast we celebrate — but a life we live.

“Let Him Easter in us” that we may live in the light of his compassion and peace, his justice and forgiveness.

“Let Him Easter in us” that we may become servants like him, healers like him, teachers like him — foot-washers like him.

“Let Him Easter in us” that we may carry one another’s crosses, as he carried the cross for us.

At Easter — we do not just remember. We entered. As we renew our Baptismal call we welcomed the waters of baptism. The same waters that echo creation. The same waters that echo the Red Sea. The same waters that echo the Jordan.

And in those waters — we die... and rise.

That is Easter. All through Lent, we have been steering our lives — trying to move toward the light. Trying to let go of darkness, of burdens, of regrets, of fear.

At Easter — the Church says: You are not just observers of resurrection. You are participants. So let us not just celebrate Easter.

Let’s do Easter. Let us easter —in the way we forgive, in the way we serve, in the way we show up for one another. When we choose compassion over judgment —we Easter. When we choose hope over despair — we Easter. When we choose love over fear — we Easter. Because Easter is not the end of the story. It is the direction. It is the heading of our lives.

And if we keep steering that way — toward the light — toward Christ — Then one day, at the end of our voyage, we will not just Easter in this life... We will Easter into Him. So — take the light.

Remember the story. Enter the water. Come to the table.

And then go — and Easter. Every day.

Amen.

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 or QR code to register your child now

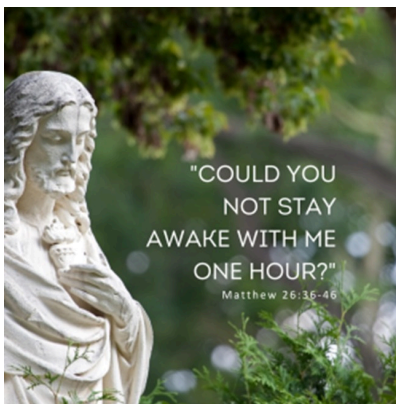
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050944ABA623ABFF2-journey>

Join us this Easter Sunday for a joyous celebration of the Resurrection! Our 11:00 a.m. service will include the children's sermon, after Sunday school which children will return to their families to join in communion. Following the service, children of all ages are invited to participate in our Easter Egg Hunt, a fun tradition for the whole family which will be held on the front lawn and will be moved inside if it rains.

Our Sunday school classes will follow their regular schedule immediately after the children's sermon, ensuring that students continue their faith journey in a familiar, nurturing environment.

We are thrilled to see growth in our community and invite everyone to participate in the Journey through Holy Week, a meaningful way to reflect on the Easter story. There's still time to sign up—click the link below to join this transformative experience.

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.

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



FROM THE LIFT LEADER'S DESK

Resume LIFT - Sun. March 29 (Palm Sunday)

Friday, April 3 - LIFT Service Day - 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Visitation to some of our St. Michael's shut-ins.

We will then go as a group to the noon Good Friday service.

NO LIFT - Easter Morning - April 5

Sun. April 12 - FINAL Sr. LIFT (for this year)

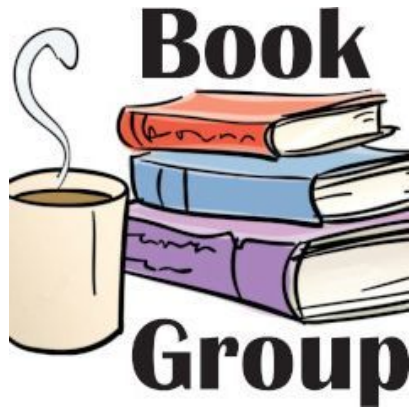
Sunday, May 3 - Youth Sunday/Graduate Recognition Day/Reception - Jackson Summerfield, youth preacher that day

Sun. May 17, FINAL LIFT DAY

Final Spring Event - Top Golf - to be announced later

LIFT MISSION TRIP TO MILLER BEACH (GARY, IN) - Friday, July 31 - Sun. Aug. 2. Two nights this year! Mark your calendars now! More info to come!

BOOK GROUP



The novel "Theo of Golden", by Allen Levi, explores themes of generosity, community and finding holiness in everyday life. The discussion will be led by Carol Berman, in the church library, on Wednesday, April 15, beginning at 7 pm. All adult readers are welcome to join us!

AND ALL THE ANGELS GIFT SHOP



Join us in supporting Christians in the Holy Land when you choose holding crosses, handcrafted from beautifully grained olive wood, for yourself or as gifts. Also called comfort crosses, they are smoothly sanded from a single piece of olive wood pruned from the olive trees that flourish around the holy city of Bethlehem, the birthplace of Jesus. These crosses make wonderful gifts of comfort and peace, and as reassuring reminders that God is with you always and everywhere.

Open: 9 - Noon on Saturday, April 4, but **CLOSED EASTER SUNDAY.**

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:

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

4/5 Liz Gabis
4/6 Libby Rieke
4/9 George Lorenzo
4/9 Jackie Allen
4/9 Patrick Duncan
4/10 Brian Atkinson
4/11 Marti Callahan

Anniversaries

4/9 Kay and Randy Lewis
4/9 Katie and Jim Blair

In Loving Memory

4/5 Pamela Hartman
4/6 Dorothy Peterson
4/8 Kenneth Barton
4/8 Richard Loreno
4/8 Derek Harms
4/9 Babbie Wastcoat
4/10 Ralph Crist
4/10 John Arthur Ward IV
Jesophine Flowers
Judie Buckley
Florence Compton

Prayer Requests

The Compton family, Morgan, Paul, Clark, the Buckley family, the Flowers family, Kristen, 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