



ST. MICHAEL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

St. Michael's Weekly News & Updates



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MINECRAFT VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2026



What an amazing week we had at St. Michael's Vacation Bible School Minecraft Building Camp!

Our campers spent the week building, creating, learning, and having fun together as we explored how the world of Minecraft can help us think about something even more important. God calls us to build our lives on a strong foundation of faith.

Throughout the week, the children used their imaginations and creativity through Minecraft-themed activities, challenges, crafts, games, and plenty of building. We talked about teamwork, kindness, helping one another, and how each of us has unique gifts that we

can use to build up our church, our friendships, and our community. They learned how to chant with the dance HEY HEY GOLIATH.

Just like a Minecraft creation starts one block at a time, our faith grows one step at a time. Every act of kindness, every prayer, every time we help someone, and every time we choose to love one another adds another “block” to the foundation we are building with God.

Click the button to read more...

VBS Continued



FROM THE DESK OF FATHER RALPH

Please click on the button below to read Father Ralph's sermon from Sunday, August 9th in its entirety.

Father Ralph's Sermon

KEY DATES IN OUR TRANSITION

Last week's special announcement regarding our call of Fr. Nate Huddleston as our next rector gave you the important information about the good news. To help everyone with the details, here are the important dates in the transition.

- Saturday, August 29th - Parish BBQ and celebration of Fr. Ralph and Cindy
- Sunday, August 30th - Fr. Ralph's last Sunday at St. Michael's
- Monday, September 21st - Fr. Nate's first day at St. Michael's
- Sunday, September 27th - Fr. Nate presides at both Sunday services with celebratory coffee hour/meet and greet after each service.



WHAT'S A PURSE IN THE EPISCOPAL TRADITION?

Wrong kind of purse! A purse is a monetary gift/thank you from the parishioners to a clergy person when they leave a parish.

The vestry has established a purse for Fr. Ralph. We will be giving it to him on August 29th. There are many ways you can participate: Put a check in the offering plate marked “Ralph's Purse”. The ushers will have large envelopes after each service for the next two weeks, if you would like to contribute cash just put it in those envelopes. You can mail a check to the parish, attention Carol Hebert with “Ralph's Purse” in the memo line, finally you can also go to the parish website and click on give, then go to the online giving portal and select “priest in charge”.

Purse Link



Sunday, Aug. 16th is Stock the Shelves Sunday!

The list has been updated to reflect the items most needed this month by the three food pantries we support. Food subsidy programs don't include non-food items which is why the list includes more of these items. Your donation helps 1,000-1,500 people each month every box/bag/can makes a difference!

- Canned salmon/tuna/chicken/pork
- Cereal
- Pasta Sauce **with Meat**
- Coffee- **1 pound or smaller** - no K-cups, please!
- Liquid Laundry Detergent – **37 ounce or smaller** – no pods, please!
- Paper towels
- Toilet paper
- Facial tissue
- Shampoo – **adult and baby**
- Razors
- Shaving cream
- Body lotion – **adult and baby**
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Bar soap/body wash
- Deodorant
- Diapers sizes 4, 5, 6

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

Stock the Shelves/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!



HEAR YE! HEAR YE! THE CHOIRS ARE COMING!

We have an exciting season of music ahead of us and would love for you to be a part of it!

All are welcome, everyone can sing (or ring!), and God loves joyful noises (practice and regular participation can improve those noises!)

Adult choir: Rehearsals Thursdays 6-7:30pm starting August 20th

Supports the hymns and provides anthems at our 10am Sunday Services. We sing several special services throughout the year including a Choral Evensong (a sung prayer service), Requiem service, Lessons and Carols, X-Mas Eve, and Holy Week services. Learn exceptional music and experience joyful comradery and fellowship with our devoted singers. Childcare is available during rehearsal and service times! Consider committing for a shorter sequence, or the whole year!

Handbell Choir: Rehearsals Saturdays 9:00-10:30am starting August 22

Youth and Adults welcome, we play preludes and special music every 4-6 weeks in Sunday Services and are preparing to play in the Barrington Area Bell Festival in April. It is a great place to learn rhythms and note reading and is truly a musical team sport! If you try it, you will be hooked. Kids age 6-adults welcome (younger kids may benefit from a parent helper)

Children's Choir: Rehearses Saturdays 10:45-11:15am starting August 22

Our Children's Choir sings special music in Sunday services every 4-6 weeks, and for occasional special services such as Choral Evensong and Christmas Eve. It is a great place to learn foundational music skills and vocal techniques while singing fun, beautiful, and engaging songs about God and their faith. Recommended Ages 5-13. We also love our teen volunteer singers who support our anthems. If you have a child who likes to sing, please reach out (and invite friends, the more the merrier)!

Upcoming Choir Events



INTRODUCING THE COMMUNICATIONS REQUEST FORM

The communication ministry team is ready to help you communicate information and requests for your ministry to the parish and to the community. Do you need to add something to the weekly Sword? A banner on the website? A physical banner on the porch? A Sunday announcement? A social media post?

We can help you!

The Communications Request Form can be submitted in several ways:

- 1) It can be accessed from the News and Events page on the St. Michael's website. The fillable form can be completed and sent by using the submit button at the top of the form to email it to the communications team. Attach any images you would like included in your communication.
- 2) Physical copies are also available in the wall rack in the church office. Once completed, please place in Jamie Cisco's mail box in the office.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Communication Request Form



CONFIRMATION CLASSES

St. Michael's will be offering a high school confirmation class for our students and other parishes (in our area) this coming year. It begins with a one-night retreat in late October and continues with monthly meetings through May.

We at St. Michael's have chosen the high school years as the best time to ask our young people to make this commitment. The target year is their sophomore year in high school, but all high school students are welcome.

Part of the curriculum includes:

- Learning about our Anglican/Episcopal history
- Experiencing a connection between their faith and their everyday life
- Understanding that our spiritual journey is a life-long event

This is designed to be a safe place for them to bring both their questions and their doubts. *We have invited young people from our area Episcopal Churches to join us in the journey. If you know of other young people in our area, please spread the word. We are not proselytizing, we just want a good group of teenagers to share in the Journey!*

There will be an information meeting for parents and students on **Sunday, Sept. 13 at 6:00 p.m.** at St. Michael's. You can ask questions and see our youth Sturtz House where the meetings will take place. We invite you and your teenager to attend.

Blessings,

Kay Lewis, Youth Group LIFT Leader (Living In Faith Together)
847-909-8374 kaylewis1029@gmail.com

Fr. Ralph Osborne (Interim Head Priest)
847-381-2323 Rosborne@stmichaelsbarrington.org

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Please reach out to Steve Kahn (steveakahn@gmail.com) or Bob Hoyler (bobhoyler@yahoo.com) to see how you can help!



The flyer features a red and white checkered border at the top. In the center, a black box contains the event details: "END OF SUMMER CELEBRATION & ALL PARISH BBQ", "BINGO", "FREE", "Saturday August 29", "Rain or Shine", "St. Michael's Church", and "4:00-7:00 pm". To the left of the box, a pig wearing sunglasses is labeled "Whole Pig", and below it, "Inflatable Obstacle Course" and "Live Band". To the right, another pig wearing sunglasses is labeled "Family Fun", and below it, "Live Reptiles" and "Bags Tournament". At the bottom, a list of activities for all ages is provided, along with a menu of food items. The St. Michael's Episcopal Church logo is at the bottom center.

Whole Pig

Family Fun

**END OF SUMMER CELEBRATION
& ALL PARISH BBQ**

BINGO

FREE

Saturday August 29
Rain or Shine
St. Michael's Church
4:00-7:00 pm

Live Band

Live Reptiles

Bags Tournament

FUN FOR ALL AGES

- 4pm to 7pm- Inflatable Obstacle Course
- 4:30pm- Reptiles
- 5pm- Food Served
- 5:45pm- Bingo

MENU

- Roast Pig
- Pulled Chicken
- Mac N'Cheese
- Cornbread

**BRING YOUR FAMILY AND A SIDE DISH
OR DESSERT TO SHARE**

**ST. MICHAEL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

NEIGHBOR APPRECIATION EVENT A SUCCESS!

Our Neighbor Appreciation Ice Cream Social and Open House was a success. We were blessed with great weather. We served quite a few of our neighbors and several even said



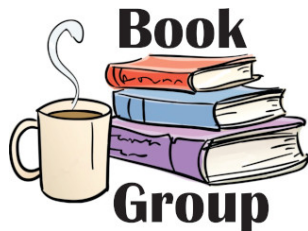
they would like to join us for worship services! We had enough ice cream left over to serve during our upcoming Pig Roast.

Although we would have liked to have had more guests and less ice cream at the end, we learned a lot from our experience and we'll apply those lessons next year. Thank you to our Ice Cream Dream Team volunteers whose enthusiasm and energy made this such a fun event.

A huge thank you to Pat Okonek & every who helped with the event Liz Gabis, Rick Ryba, Judy Heinrich, Cathy Koehlinger, Greg Koehlinger, Llorra Wonder, Bob Wonder, Max Brett, Kristen Krueger, Marilyn Okonek, Dave Evans, Betsy Wintringer, Rob Wisnowski, Ann Kimes, Wes Kimes, Austin Gabis, Carter Brett and Father Ralph Osborne.

AND ALL THE ANGELS GIFT SHOP

'Starry Night' is one of the handblown glass ball ornaments from the Luke Adams Studio that are now in stock at And All the Angels gift shop. Come down to our Basement Boutique on Wednesdays from 11 am to 5 pm, and on Saturdays and Sundays from 9 am to Noon.



BOOK GROUP

Just a reminder--our August book is "Lula Dean's Little Library of Banned Books" by Kirsten Miller. Susan DeBauche will lead the discussion. All adult readers are welcome to join us in the church library at 7 pm, Wednesday, August 19th.

Questions? Contact Kathi Frelk kfrelk4@gmail.com

PRAYER REQUESTS

Jeff, Jamie, Tom, Paula, Maribeth, Bob, Marilyn, George, Jackie, Katie and Jim, Heather, Bonnie, Mitzi, Paul, Braelyn, Kimberlie, Kathy, Doug, Sally, Mary, John, Teresa, Liam and family, Nancy, Caden, Dave, Brian, Barb and Steve, and Patty, and for all whom you alone know.

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

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Birthdays

8/16 Jeffrey Eaton
8/17 Austin Gabis
8/17 Tyler Gabis

Anniversaries

8/21 Jeni and Jay Younger

In Loving Memory

8/17 Ralph Morris
8/19 Gustie Olson
8/21 Christopher Brashear

8/18 Ray Kean
8/19 Kerry Kean
8/21 Jeni Younger

8/21 Virginia Kenney
8/21 Ann Dickson

Donate to St. Michael's

Vestry Members and Minutes

St. Michael's Staff

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 12:00 p.m.
Any questions or comments regarding this publication should be sent to sword@stmichaelsbarrington.org

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