



St. Michael's Episcopal Church
Barrington, Illinois
2016 Profile



From Our Sr. Warden



David Buckley, Jr.
Senior Warden

We have prepared this profile to provide an overview of St. Michael's, including our deep faith and strengths, our challenges, and our history. We have tried to describe the things about us that are significant, but a complete sense of who we are cannot be obtained in a profile alone, so we encourage you to take the next step and to get to know us personally.

We are a caring community of Christians who has seen a great deal of change in the past few years. We are working to process that change, to identify what it is that really makes our community so special to us, and to identify what is next for us as a community.

We have called an experienced interim rector to guide us in this "In Between" place, and to help us reflect on who we are and to decide what we are called to become. We look forward to discovering what comes next, and to living out what we are called to do.

We look forward to speaking with you as part of this Search process, and getting to know one another.

DAVE Buckley

Our Prayer

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a rector for this parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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Who we are . . .

We are the Church. Our Christian baptismal covenant is to be a welcoming community of believers in relationship with God through Jesus Christ. We embody the Anglican tradition of the middle way. We respect tradition. As well, we adopt fresh ways of expressing Christian life. We have conservatives, we have progressives, and we share a gift of binding these differences in baptismal commitment to respect the dignity of all persons.



We perceive that God's promise to us is grace and love, and that our promise to God is to live as Christ's presence in a broken world. We therefore see ourselves as active participants in loving our neighbors locally, regionally and globally. We commit to tithe for Outreach. We are developing new models of partnership with other congregations and ministries. We are active in the life of the Diocese.



Over the past 70+ years, St. Michael's has gradually changed, largely in step with the Diocese and the National Church. Our practice is to consider carefully each question set before us, to discern the true will of God, and then to have the courage to live into the directions we are called to follow.

BLACKHAWKS



. . . *in our own words*

We are a strong community of faith ready for spiritual renewal.

We foster a strong sense of community and fellowship.

We care: our pastoral care team helps sustain members in times of difficulty.

We're in for the long haul; many parishioners have been members a long time.

We come together, committed to full participation of time, talent and treasure.

We are flexible, resilient and not afraid of change.

We value strong partnerships and connections with other parishes and organizations in our deanery.

We walk the talk; we consistently set priorities and budget 10% of our annual income for Outreach.

We tend to be affluent and highly educated with minimal racial and ethnic diversity despite our efforts to be inclusive.

We are comprised of many types of households, families with children, singles and empty nesters, and we desire to be effectively hospitable for all other kinds of households.





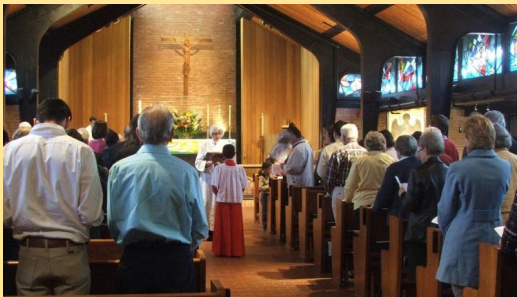
Our Worship

A powerful spirit pervades our worship services. They are typically well-attended with congregants intensely engaged.

Our worship ministries are planned by a dedicated corps of parishioners and clergy who ensure that our services inspire us as desired. Our services are unique expressions of our faith, grounded in the same traditions. We have strong participation across the ministries of acolytes, altar guild, home lay eucharistic ministers, lay eucharistic ministers, lectors, ushers, and musicians.

With a traditional broad church approach, our liturgy utilizes Rites 1 and 2 from the *Book of Common Prayer*, with supplemental additions or substitutions from authorized alternative liturgies.

In 2015 we consolidated our Sunday morning worship schedule to two services (8:00 and 10:00), from a prior choice of three services, a change driven by several practicalities. First, the clergy burden and congregational expense to sustain two “All Family” services became too much to sustain; Second: Two later services proved somewhat divisive for the congregation, where congregants loyal to a specific service had less interaction with the other group. Finally, moving to one 10:00 service better met the difficult scheduling balance to accommodate church school, adult formation and worship, within aggressive schedules outside of church. The later service simply became “too late”.



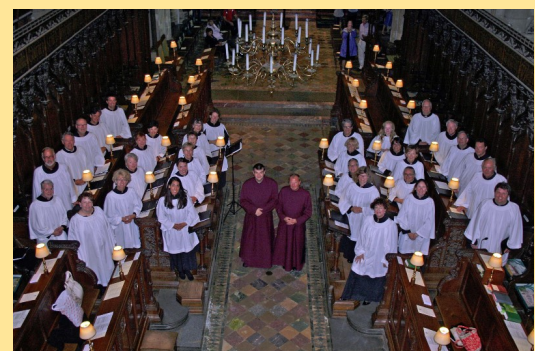
Our Music

St. Michael's has always placed a very high value on sacred music. This is apparent in the variety, quality and commitment to music in the liturgy, and to music as a means of spiritual understanding and growth.

St. Michael's Chancel Choir sings each Sunday at the 10:00 a.m. Eucharist, September through May. The choir leads congregational singing of service music and hymns, and also prepares appropriate seasonal offertory anthems. High standards and goals are set for the group, which is comprised of volunteers with varying levels of ability. St. Michael's Choir offerings may include professional vocalists and instrumentalists on major feasts.

The Children's Choir is a powerful draw for young families. The choir contributes musical offerings throughout the school year and performs a musical drama each December.

The Music Ministry which is supported by our own St. Cecilia's Guild, is comprised of emeritus choir members, current choir members and non-musicians. The Guild supports the strategic vision of the Music Ministry by organizing periodic recital fundraisers and delivering regular music education programs for the appreciation of sacred music. The Guild fosters excellence in sacred music by providing partial scholarships for choir members to attend periodic cathedral residencies in England.





Our Strengths

There is a strong bedrock formation within the congregation that sustains our life together through the ebbs and flows of parish life.



We share a deep desire to sustain our Christ-centered focus and deepen our lives of faith.

We are intensely committed to Outreach, as manifest in the sustained giving (absolute dollar amounts and proportion of the annual operating budget).



We have strong ordained and lay leadership.

Our building facilities enable community engagement.

Our committed membership has deep, strong roots; we engage in and support new initiatives.



Our Challenges

In 2016, St. Michael's faces many of the same challenges confronting all mainline denominations, and some more situational to our congregation.

Rejuvenating our Vision and Mission: We have numerous, strong ministries that continue to function at a high level, but feel the need to *reassess, regroup and rejuvenate* around a compelling central vision for the congregation.

Go Outside the Walls: We want to elevate and enhance the awareness of services and programs St. Michael's has to offer the Barrington area and to deepen collaboration with other local congregations.

Young Families and Youth: As with the church at large, we are challenged to attract and retain young families and youth. Despite dedicated youth leadership, a strong Youth Board, and dedicated facilities, attendance and participation among Junior and Senior High school students has declined significantly. We want to reinvigorate our youth program.

Shared Leadership: We tend to rely on a core group of individuals to play multiple roles. We want to broaden and deepen our pool of leaders and create a clear succession of ministry leaders.





Interim Rector Jack Fleming
with wife Tricia



The Rev. Elizabeth (Betsy) Ward,
Assisting Priest



The Rev. Laurie Michaels, Deacon



The Rev. Judith Heinrich, Deacon

Our Clergy

We have been blessed with a rich cadre of ordained clergy. Over the past 20 years, the clergy presence on a typical Sunday has been:

Rector or Interim

Associate, Visiting or Emeritus Priest

Deacon (Two active deacons with pastoral, preaching and liturgical roles.)

Former rectors have left to take leadership roles in other congregations and on Diocesan staff. Our clergy have prospered and excelled in their faith and profession while at St. Michael's.

Two of our 20th Century rectors have served the parish for 10 plus years; our most recent rector was in residence for five years without benefit of an Interim.

We currently have an Interim Rector who brings extensive experience and stability.

Our Lay Staff

The staff is critical to the smooth functioning of our parish. They play “front line” roles (Youth Pastor, Organist/Choir Master, Preschool Administrator) and “support” roles. From coordinating schedules, updating communications and getting the weekly service bulletins printed, the staff at St. Michael’s is vital to our ministry.

Julie Allord, Family Ministries

Sue Dreys, Assistant Director,
Little Angels Preschool

Nancy Holmes, Parish Administrator/
Rector's Assistant

Rich Hornickel, Sexton

Caren Hunter, Director,
Little Angels Preschool

Tammie Kennedy, Director, Nursery

Kim Lessner, Parish Operations

Nate Nesbit, Youth Pastor

Mark Sikkila, Organist & Director of Music

Tina Summerfield, Director, Children's Music



Julie Allord



Sue Dreys



Rich Hornickel



Caren Hunter



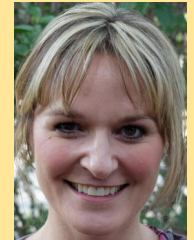
Kim Lessner



Nate Nesbit



Mark Sikkila



Tina Summerfield

Not pictured: Nancy Holmes
and Tammie Kennedy



Christian Formation

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd... focuses on the individual child, particularly the religious life of the child. We offer two levels:

Level I: 3 years through kindergarten

Level II: first through third grades

The Bridge... was created for our fourth and fifth graders. Developed in-house, it is loosely based around the liturgical calendar.

Nursery care... is available for younger children during the 10:00 am service.

LIFT (Life in Faith Together)

Middle School Students, grades 6-8

Sunday morning discussions may include the scripture readings of the day and how they apply to our lives, upcoming youth events, and activities designed to enhance friendships with one another.

SMUSH (St. Michael's Unnamed Senior High)

High School Students, grades 9-12

High school students worship together at the 10 a.m. Sunday service then gather for fellowship, food, and formation. Discussions may include real life application of the scripture readings of the day and getting to know one another better. This group is responsible for planning and executing much of their own service and fellowship events. Youth activities include: Confirmation Class, frequent opportunities for service and fellowship, Summer Mission Trips, Youth Choir and Camp Chicago.

Food for the Journey

St. Michael's provides a weekly offering for adult formation each Sunday. A dedicated team of parishioners organizes the events. Leaders can be members of the parish, clergy, Diocesan personnel, community leaders or representatives of organizations supported by St. Michael's Outreach grants. Topics chosen to enrich and strengthen our individual faith journeys have varied from information about the Episcopal Church and the Bible to prayer, current events and social justice issues. Parishioners are encouraged to share their questions and areas of interest.

Spirited Sisters (Evenings)

All women of the parish are invited to experience the joy of Christ-centered fellowship and opportunities to grow in faith and love by discovering more about ourselves, our faith journeys, our knowledge of God's Word and its application to our lives. Since 2008, we have offered both Fall and Lenten sessions that are led by a lay leader.

Women's Bible Study (Tuesday Mornings)

Led by a lay leader, this is a multi-age group of women (20-something to 80-something) that shares fellowship, prayer needs and bible study. We have studied different books and topics in the past, but we are currently studying the lectionary.

Small Groups

Meet once a month for prayer, fellowship and study.

Exploring Sacred Music

Programs are presented several times per year including audio sampler and historical background. Topics span from plain song to Anglican reformation to contemporary sacred music genres.



Parish Ministries

We have passionate commitment to a wide repertoire of ministries. They, individually and collectively, are vital to our liturgical life, our caring for each other and for living out our faith in the world.



Healing Ministry Team



Book Club



And All The Angels Gift Shop Staff



Prayer Shawl Ministry

Acolytes

All Women of St. Michaels

Altar Guild

And All The Angels Gift Shop

Book Club

Building & Grounds

Diocesan Delegates

Family/Youth Ministries

Foyers

Friday Fellowship

Fifty Something Fellowship

Food for the Journey

Garden Angels

Greeters

Healing Ministry

Home Lay Eucharistic Ministries

Lay Eucharistic Ministers

Lectors

Little Angels Christian Preschool

Little Red Wagon

Meals on Wheels

Music (Chancel and Children)

Pastoral Care

Peace & Justice

Prayer Shawl

Renk Ministry Partnership

Soup Kettle/Kitchen

Spirited Sisters

Small Groups/Prayer Groups

St. Cecilia's Guild (music)

Ushers

Veterans of St. Michaels

Women's Bible Study



Tuesday morning women's Bible study group



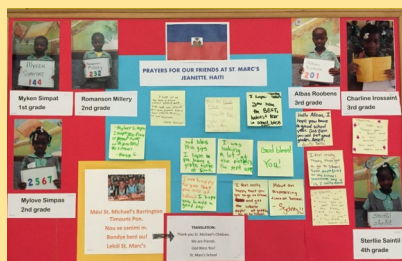
Veterans of St. Michael's



Garden Angels



Little Red Wagon Ministry



St. Michael's in Haiti



Bishop Joseph, Diocese of Renk, South Sudan



St Michael's Annual Thanksgiving dinner honoring our soldiers



St. Michael's offers jeans for school children on Barrington Giving Day.

Outreach

At St. Michael's, Outreach is a core value and central to living out our Christian identity and calling. Outreach is a visible and physical manifestation of our concern for those outside the parish who need our help. Every parishioner is directly or indirectly a member of Outreach, as our pledges, our service and our direct donations sustain an atmosphere of selfless giving.

The Outreach Committee researches organizations and develops an annual list of contributions to outside organizations based on the annual Outreach budget. These recommendations are presented to the Vestry for approval.

We donate money to more than thirty charities. Each year, a percentage of our budget is designated for Outreach, typically 10% as a tithe by St. Michael's. In addition, parishioners make direct contributions designated for Outreach. These funds are essential for many of the Episcopal and outside agencies to continue their work and to maintain their critically needed ministries.

Additional Outreach activities beyond our budgeted tithe include:

Diocese of Renk: We have been involved for 18 years in a covenant relationship with Renk Diocese in South Sudan. Blessings have flowed back and forth, including building and rebuilding Renk Theological College, supporting its operation with a three-year \$200,000 campaign, and several mission trips. We continue to host periodic visits of Archbishop Daniel and Bishop Joseph to St. Michael's and the Diocese of Chicago.

Samaritan Center: We helped launch the Samaritan Counseling Center as a separate entity providing a Pastoral Psychotherapy Center for the entire community. Samaritan Center is now supported by a number of local church communities.

Thanksgiving Dinner: We held our 12th Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner on Thanksgiving Day. More than 50 sailors from Great Lakes Naval Academy along with many community residents joined us in the Community Room for a homemade meal and warm hospitality. Dozens of volunteers make this happen each year.

Christmas Baskets: Each year we obtain Christmas lists from St. James Cathedral, St. Cyprians Food Pantry, and Church of The Redeemer in Elgin. Typically, parishioners sponsor several dozen families by purchasing Christmas gifts for the entire family. Seeing hundreds of boxes of gifts stacked in the Community Room each December is truly an inspiring sight.

Little Red Wagon: The wagon is located in the Church Narthex. It is a place to deposit food items which are donated to local food pantries. In addition, our Food Pantry Fund provides funds to purchase extras such as canned meats, food items, cards, personal items, etc.



Parishioners comprise a drum circle at the Annual Sudan Soirée, raising funds for Renk Theological College.



St. Michael's/St. Mark's Clergy Partnership



BRIDGE group making pretzels to raise funds for Haiti



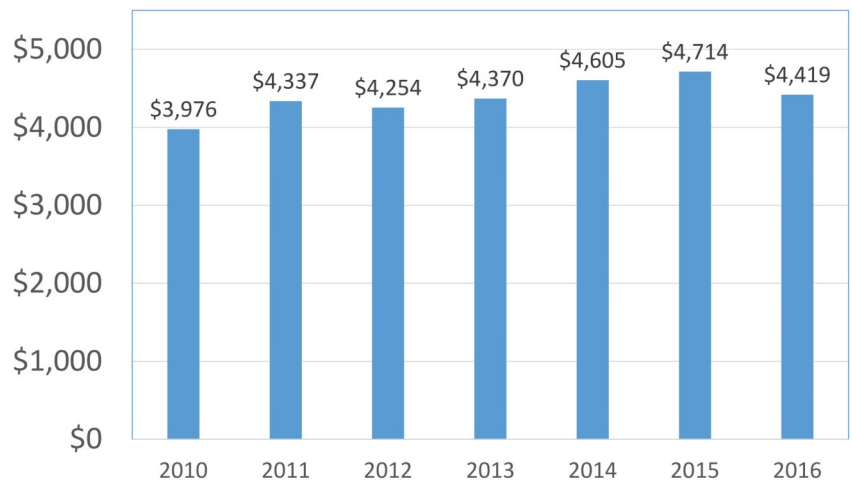
Christmas baskets boxed and ready to go.

Stewardship & Finance



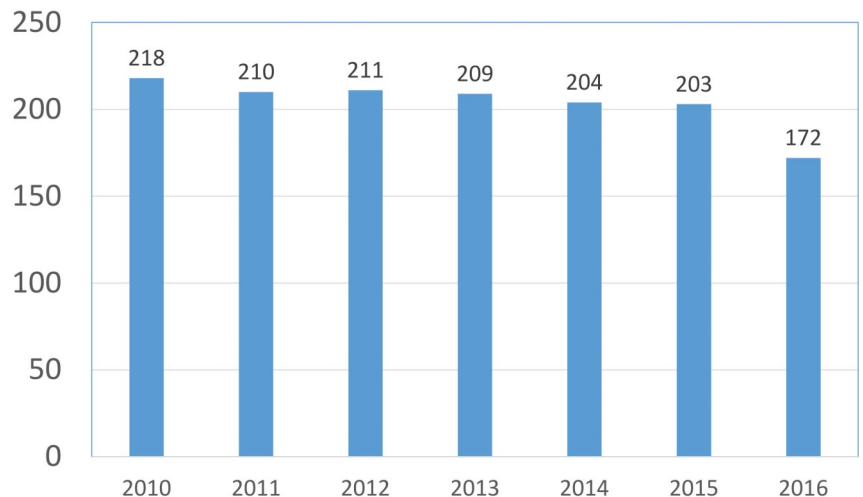
St. Michael's has a long history of financial foundations. The parish has a strong balance sheet and recently 'burned' the mortgage on a \$4 million building expansion five years early.

Annual Pledge \$/Unit



	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Pledging Units	218	210	211	209	204	203	172
Pledge/Unit	\$3,976	\$4,337	\$4,254	\$4,370	\$4,605	\$4,714	\$4,419
Annual Pledges	\$866,844	\$910,702	\$897,690	\$913,373	\$939,323	\$956,998	\$760,092

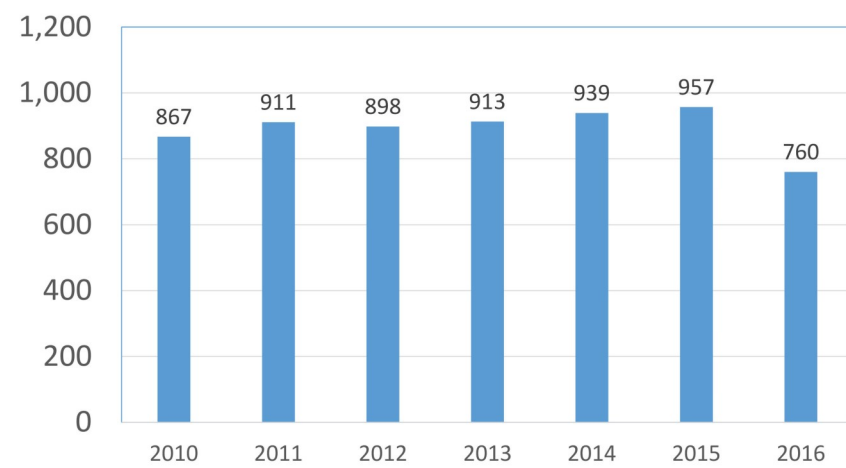
Pledging Units



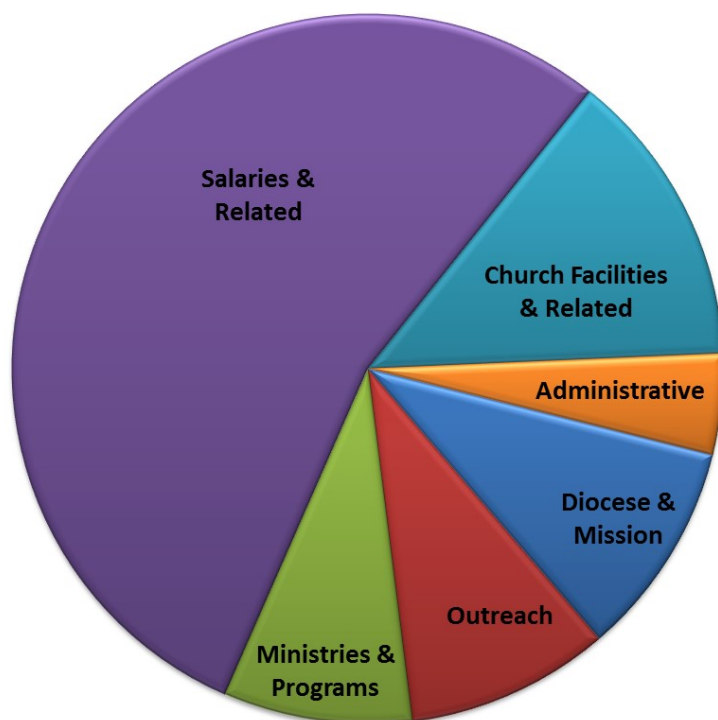
In 2016, current pledges will sustain a balanced budget with an income in the area of \$770,000.

Increasing pledging of time, talent and treasure is a goal at St. Michael's.

Annual Pledges
(\$000)



2016 Expenses





At the International Breakfast



Families preparing for Advent



An AWSM gathering at the Phillips' home.



LIFT members enjoy playing golf

Generations of
parishioners coming
together to prepare for
Lent



Fellowship . . . We Like to Have Fun!



Fun for all at the Daddy-Daughter dance



A lovely garden walk at nearby
Chicago Botanical Gardens



A summer AWSM gathering



Solemn Communion Class
enjoying a light moment



Dancing at our
Mardi Gras Celebration



We Want To . . .

- Continue to deepen our spiritual growth and sustain our faith in Christ
- Develop a solid sustainable youth program, particularly for teens and preteens
- Retain our core members and increase participation
- Attract young families and expand our community
- Focus outwardly beyond the walls of the church to deepen our faith through action, to help others and to invite others into our community
- Balance our stewardship across our congregation by encouraging more members to embrace this commitment
- Retain our broad church liturgical tradition while remaining open to new ways of worship





Our Next Rector

We seek a “Leader of Leaders”— someone to call forth greatness from our parishioners and across our ministries to help us live fully into our Christian calling in the world.

We seek someone who has:

- ♦ High energy, optimism and infectious enthusiasm for the church
- ♦ Thirst for God—deep spirituality sprinkled with humor and humility
- ♦ Ability to preach sermons that teach and inspire
- ♦ Demonstrated parish leadership
- ♦ Passion for engaging young people
- ♦ Strong liturgical skills

Buildings and Grounds

Edward D. Dart's Design

Architect Edward D. Dart, a parishioner of St. Michael's, designed the original church in 1954. Dart's design was a radical departure from the traditional colonial church. The concept was of a simple basilica featuring a unique open bell tower and clerestory windows.

The church was expanded several times, most recently in 2000. They ensured that the nave would not be architecturally altered, and much care was taken to ensure that the improvements and modernization efforts were consistent with the original design concept.

The Bard Memorial Bells

Among the unique features of St. Michael's is the 30-foot tall bell tower and the twelve cast-bronze bells inside. Each of the twelve bells is named and inscribed with texts from Holy Scripture. All the bells chime, and the largest bell (Michael) peals and tolls as well. There are switches in the sacristy for tolling and ringing the bells. A hand held switch near the high altar enables acolytes to ring the bells during the Eucharist prayers.

The bells were handset in the Netherlands by the Petit and Fritsen Ltd. Bell foundry, which opened in 1660.





The Crucifix Above the Altar: St. Michael's was presented the Crucifix over the altar in loving memory of the young Americans who died while serving in the 14th Infantry during World War II. The Corpus was obtained by Fr. Joseph B. Williams in Austria in 1945.

The Stained Glass Windows: When the sun shines through the colorful pieces of glass in the nave of St. Michael's, the stained glass windows come alive with a magnificent brilliance and the design's glow. The symbols sparkle, and filtered light casts rainbow-like reflections onto the paneling and pews. The decorative designs tell the story of Christ's life with symbols and words. White, triangular-shaped pieces of glass weave from window-to-window in a connected pattern depicting the Holy Spirit.



The Altar: The black marble altar was designed by architect Ed Dart and made by the Vermont Marble Company. The *mensa* is one solid slab of marble four inches thick and it rests on a pedestal. The altar contains a relic: a piece of bone from St. Vincent, Bishop and Martyr who was born in Spain.



The Bosch Pipe Organ: The pipe organ was built by the Werner Bosch Orgelbau in West Germany in 1970. It is a tracker-action instrument with six adjustable combinations, 34 ranks and 1,772 pipes. It features two manual (keyboard) organs and a pedal organ. This magnificent instrument adds majesty to worship services and is featured in concerts and recitals with resident and guest musicians.

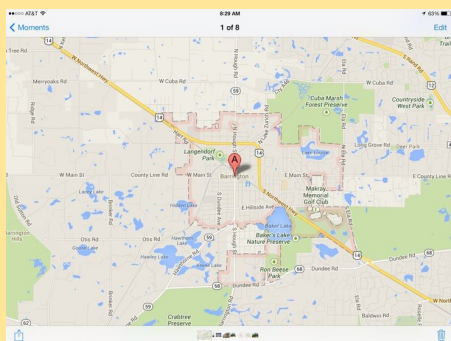
St. Michael's additionally owns three residential properties in immediate proximity to the main campus.

Rectory: St. Michael's continues to own a home directly across from the church. Initially serving as the Rectory, in recent years it was the residence of the Associate Rector and his family. Our Interim Rector is currently living here.

Sturtz House: The Sturtz House is a residential property adjacent to St. Michael's. This home has been renovated to serve primarily as the meeting place for Junior and Senior High educational and social events. It is also used by Barrington School District 220 for the LIFEKO program during the school day.

The Hillside House: The Hillside House has served as the residence for an Associate Rector or staff as needed.





The Greater Barrington Area

St. Michael's draws parishioners from the Barrington Area and more than 15 surrounding communities. The Barrington Area features a traditional downtown surrounded by wetlands, forest preserves, parks and horse trails in a country suburban setting.

The heart of the Barrington area is just 35 miles northwest of downtown Chicago, which is readily accessible by train or car. The community is well-situated at the intersection of the ever expanding Golden Corridor of the Northwest Tollway and the rapidly growing Fox River Valley Corridor.

Barrington has one high school, nine public elementary schools, two middle schools, one parochial elementary school and one community college nearby. More information is available at www.district220.org.

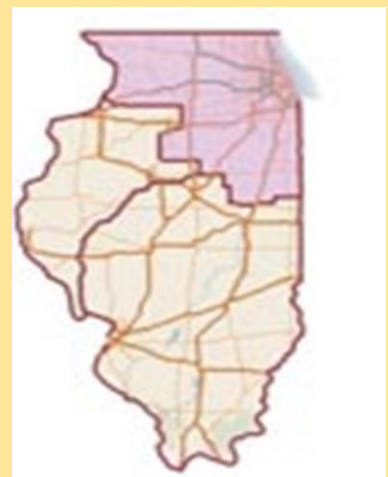
Further demographic information is available at: <http://www.episcopalchurch.org/page/studying-your-congregation-and-community>. Select Diocese of Chicago and St. Michael's, Barrington.

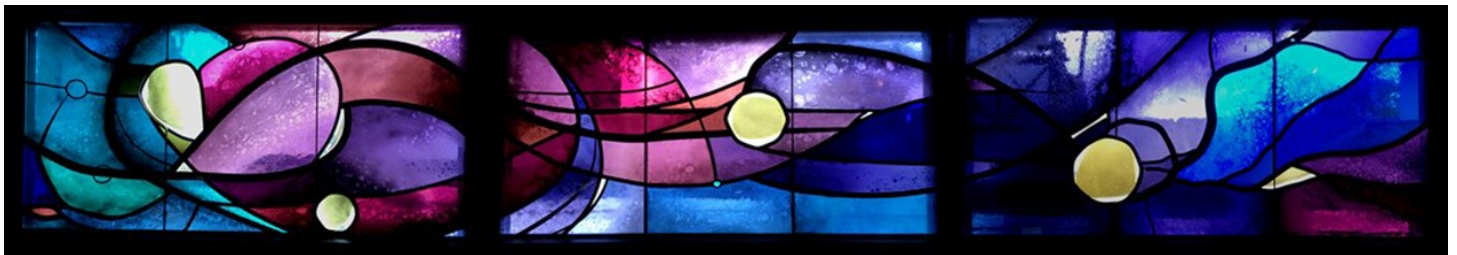
The Diocese of Chicago

The Episcopal Diocese of Chicago is led by Bishop Jeffrey Lee and has 123 member congregations, spreading from Lake Michigan on the east, to the Wisconsin border on the north and the Iowa border on the west. The office of the bishop and his staff is located at St. James Commons in downtown Chicago.

The Diocese is known for its leadership initiatives designed to support congregational vitality. To this end, the Diocese focuses its energies on four key programs: the College for Congregational Development, Fierce Conversations, Project Resource, and Living Compass. The Nicholas Center, located on the fifth floor of the Diocese's office building, provides classroom space and accommodations for these programs as well as other leadership initiatives.

To find out more about the Diocese, go to www.episcopalchicago.org.





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