

The Sword



Your weekly connection with St. Michael's Episcopal Church

November 21, 2013

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Ministry



In 2003, I was hired as the Director of Children's and Youth Ministry at an Episcopal parish in Chicago. As a condition of my employment, I had to agree to be trained in the [Catechesis of the Good Shepherd](#) AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. And so, about once a month, I found myself leaving the city on a trek to some town in the suburbs called Barrington. It was in this class, when we were both training to be Catechists, that Nerissa and I first met. Seven years later, when I came to St. Michael's, I was thrilled to have the chance to serve with someone I considered a friend. As you can imagine, it is with more than a bit of personal sadness that I am writing this letter reflecting on the transition we now face.

For 10 years, under a variety of titles and job descriptions, Nerissa has faithfully served this parish and this Sunday we will be bidding her a fond farewell. **We will recognize Nerissa's ministry during our 9am worship and at a reception between the 9am and 10:45am liturgies (the reception will begin around 10am).** I hope you will join in this celebration of her ministry. And, either way, please keep Nerissa and her family in your prayers. Here ([link here](#)) is a special blessing written by Harriet Claiborne for this occasion.

While these sorts of good-byes are rarely easy, they can nevertheless be done well! And over the past month, Nerissa has put us in a great position to have as smooth a transition as possible. For now, Fr. Patrick has asked me to serve as the interim Director of Children's Ministries (which is why I am writing this letter). In that role, I have been working closely with Nerissa to 'download' as much information about our Children's Ministries as possible. Moreover, Nerissa and I already met with a group of Catechists to discuss a number of details related to the transition. At this point, we have every intention of continuing all the ministries that have been planned. That being said, we will be taking this opportunity to take a good look at ministries involving children and families. If you have any particular questions or comments, please do not hesitate to be in touch kcaruso@stmichaelsbarrington.org.

Kevin Caruso+, Associate Rector

Quicklinks

- Our Website

For those interested, in contributing to a purse for Nerissa, there is more info below.

Remembering This Week

Birthdays

11.25

Maribeth Totten
Sophia Tso

11.26

Nancy Carney

11.27

Bill Bradtke
Eric Perrine
Ashley Keclik

11.28

B. Rae Buckley
Elisabeth Schoon
Jennifer Beverly
Alice Tate

11.29

Patrick Okonek
Pat Kane

11.30

Noell Poidomani
Michael Ward



From the Rector

\$1000 in Typhoon Haiyan Relief. Many thanks to all who spontaneously responded on Sunday to the open offering appeal in response to Typhoon Haiyan. One household stepped up to make our gift an even \$1,000, which will be sent to Episcopal Relief and Development. To read about ERD's typhoon response strategy, [click here](#).

Expansion of Preschool facilities and programs approved by Vestry. At it's meeting on Monday, November 18, the Vestry approved a resolution allowing the Preschool Director and parent advisory board to proceed with a plan to expand preschool programs and incorporate some downstairs space that has now been unused for Sunday children's ministries for several years. The resolution included several contingencies and quite a bit of detail, all of which can be read by [clicking here](#).

Please pray for the Diocese of Chicago Convention, tomorrow and Saturday, in Lombard. Your elected lay representatives are **Patrick Duncan, Sean Harrington, and Jackie Smith**. Beginning with this convention, our diocese now includes and incorporates parishes in the former Diocese of Quincy, and several individuals from the related congregations have made themselves available for election at this convention. To see a map of the now expanded diocese, please [click here](#).

Fill in the blank ... before you die. In my Sunday sermon, I referenced the curious and wonderful 'Before I die' project, pioneered by New Orleans resident Candy Chang. You can read more at the related website by clicking here [<http://beforeidie.cc/site/about/>] or you can read the [sermon here](#).

Financial Review for 2012 finished! At its meeting on Monday, November 18, the Vestry also discussed the favorable review of our 2012 financial

statements by Chiuminatto Consulting. Due to the nature of some of the material (some of which describes compensation practices for church staff members) the report is not being made public here. But parishioners interested in learning more about the review may contact parish treasurer John Davis.

From the Youth Minister

Youth outreach projects are in full swing. Thanks to the members of LIFT, we are pretty close to being prepared for our parish-wide Advent Celebration, December 1. And SMUSH keeps cranking out fleece blankets for Barrington Giving Day. Thank you for the fleece donations! The more fleece we get, the more blankets we make, the more people who get the gift of warmth this Christmas!

Anniversaries

11.24

Laura & Jeffrey
Anetsberger

THIS WEEK:

Sunday, 11/24 @ 9:00-LIFT Worship & Nerissa's Celebration

Sunday, 11/24 @ 10:45-SMUSH Worship & Fleece Blanket Making

11.25

Marcene & Charles
Penhaligen

UPCOMING:

Friday, 12/6 Deadline-Those who signed up to sponsor LYDIA Home children, please bring Christmas presents to Kara's office.

11.26

Florence & Frank
Compton

Saturday, 12/7 @ 1:00-6:00-LYDIA Home volunteering. We are doing a new project for them this year and there are only 6 spots. Let me know if you would like attend.

Friday, 12/20 @ 5:00-8:00-Feed My Starving Children in Schaumburg

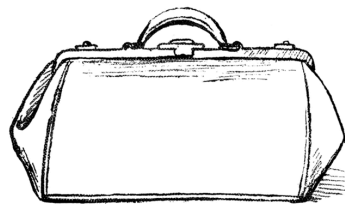
11.27

Patsty & Stuart
Taylor
Katherine & Joe
Mangan

11.29

Ann & Todd Ross

We Are Grateful



'Purse' for **Nerissa Brueckbauer**. Key clergy and staff who leave their ministries at St. Michael's are often thanked by the congregation with a cash gift collected from grateful members. Parishioners are welcomed to send a check (*made out in Nerissa's name*) indicating (anything like) "Mrs B Purse" in the memo line anytime before **Nerissa's farewell reception on Sunday, November 24 at 10:00 a.m. in the Community Room.**

FOOD FOR THE JOURNEY

Food for the Journey, November 24 - Farewell Reception at 10:00 a.m.!

There will be no Food for the Journey offering on November 24. Instead please join us after the 9:00 a.m. service (approximately 10:00 a.m.) at a reception in the Community Room as we say farewell and give thanks to **Nerissa Brueckbauer** for her ten year ministry as Director of Children's Ministries.

Sunday, November 24

Loose plate offering at all services on Sunday, November 24 will go towards **The Little Red Wagon Food Pantry Fund**. Thank you for your generous donations.



Rest in Peace

11.24

Richmond Birge

11.28

Catherine Silver

11.29

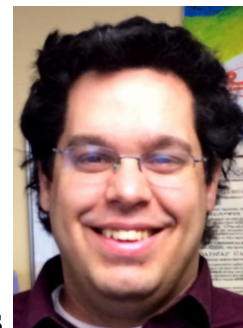
Ann Hamm

11.30

James Knaak

Hail, Interim Webmaster: Jonathan Galliher!

As Nerissa Brueckbauer has prepared to leave her role as Communications Coordinator, the staff and others have been busy understanding, learning and allocating her roles. Parishioner Jonathan Galliher has agreed, on an interim basis, to serve as webmaster. For now, he'll mainly devote only the time required to keep the calendar and home page current. For website related matters, St. Michael's members can reach Jonathan at web@stmichaelsbarrington.org. As explained in a previous Sword feature, Nancy Holmes is now taking on duties for the weekly e-Sword and Sunday Sword. Father Raymond will be doing his best with Facebook. The public spaces initiative will move forward, as we're able, with continuing leadership from Janet Nations and others. Prayers for smooth transitions in all areas are most welcomed!



In the Parish family



+It's a girl! **Emeline Beverly Summerfield** was born on November 15 weighing in at 8lbs. 12oz. She is the daughter of Tina & Brian Summerfield, sister of Jackson and Winston, and granddaughter of Sue & Clark Beverly. Blessings to all!

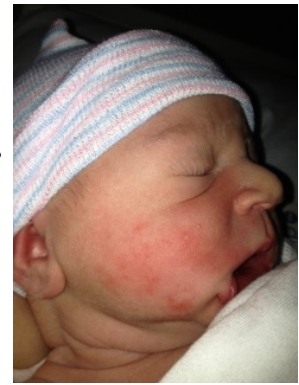
+It's a boy! **Cannon Krueger Kilanski** was born on November 19 weighing in at 8 lbs. 13 oz. He is the son of Jennifer & J.P. Kilanski, brother of Hunter and Gunnar, and nephew of Kristen Krueger. Blessings to the family!

Little Red Wagon

In November we will be gathering food for St. Cyprian Food Pantry. It is the largest pantry to which we donate food. It serves over 1,600 people each month. The needs are great! With the approach of Thanksgiving, items such as yams, cranberry sauce, canned pumpkin and stuffing mix would be great additions to the usual breakfast, lunch and dinner foods. The pantry further requests, TUNA, TUNA, TUNA, soups & cereals!

Monetary donations to the Food Pantry Fund are always welcome.

+Congratulations to the Barrington Broncos Varsity Football team for advancing through two rounds of playoffs this fall and to St. Michael's member **Hugh Harris**, a senior at BHS and #9, a backup quarterback, for the Broncos. Since we also have Stevenson High School students at St. Michael's we won't editorialize about the Broncos loss to the Patriots at home, in driving rain, this past Saturday, November 16.



+Those for whom prayers have been requested: Joe, Joan, Mary, Kathy, Kasey, the Tarulis family, Paulette, Bill, Doris, Brandon, Cathy, Carmen, John, Amy, Rollo, St. Cyprian Food Pantry, safety & peace in South Sudan; military troops in danger including those from our parish, especially, Zane, Ryan, Michael, Bruce, and Taylor.

Spotlight at St. Michael's



On Veteran's Day November 11, 2013, parishioner **Jim Tammi** was caught by surprise as he was honored with a certificate and medal during a St. Michael's Veteran's Ministry meeting. Jim served in the United States Air Force (1962-1967) as a First Lieutenant. He was promoted to Captain six days after his honorable discharge.

Fellow parishioner **Larry Quinlan**, a Vietnam veteran and member of the ministry, took it upon himself to find a way to say thank you to Jim for all he has done - past and present. The certificate and medal was Larry's way of thanking Jim for all he has done to initiate and coordinate the veteran group meetings at St. Michael's. Certainly all participants in the meetings are grateful but Larry was especially appreciative. Being a Vietnam vet Larry was always reluctant to publicly acknowledge his service which relates back to how the public perceived the military at the time of the Vietnam conflict. He stored his uniform in a 'Halloween costume box' and what medals he had kept he tucked away out of sight and out of mind. Thanks to Jim and the other veterans in the group he

'opened' the box of memories and is now proud of his service. He rescued his uniform, cleaned and replaced missing uniform accessories and is openly displaying his awards with the hopes that someday his children and grandchildren will continue to display them as a remembrance of their dad and granddad.

With those new feelings stirring in his heart Larry wanted to express his thanks to Jim. He decided to create a handmade certificate and commemorative medal using awards previously issued to him as a guide. What Jim received that evening was a unique and one of a kind award, only for him. The fact that they are not authorized or sanctioned by an official body should not diminish the meaning behind them. Jim rightfully received a round of applause from all of the veterans at the meeting in support of the presentation. It was very appropriate that the presentation was on Veterans Day and as it turned out Jim was also the speaker recounting his experiences in service to our country.

The Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal (modified): the certificate reads...*"Through his initiative, perseverance, and dedication he planned and organized a Veterans Group at St. Michael's for the support and camaraderie of all who have served. This conspicuous performance of duty represents exemplary patriotism in the finest traditions of the Armed Forces and reflects great credit upon the recipient."*

The St. Michael's Veteran's Group has been meeting for three years. They gather 3-4 times during the year to share stories and solidify friendships. If you would like more information about St. Michael's Veterans Ministry please contact Jim Tammi at james8560@att.net.

FOOD DRIVE!

Help a Needy Family have a Thanksgiving Meal!

Little Angels Christian Preschool and St. Michael's Church School are sponsoring a Food Drive to benefit St. Cyprian's Ecumenical Food Bank in downtown Chicago.

We will be collecting donations
Monday, November 4 - Tuesday, November 26.

Suggested donations are:

Canned Ham Canned Yams

Canned Vegetables

Box Potatoes Stuffing Mix Cornbread Mix



Canned Cranberry Sauce Canned Chicken/Tuna
 Cake Mixes/Icing Brownie Mix Any Box Dessert
 Gift card to Jewel Osco Cash Donations are welcome
***Please place donations in the box located in the
 Preschool Entryway.***

Monday Morning Meditations and Mandalas

Monday Morning Meditations and Mandalas meets November 25 at 6:00 a.m. Meditations led by Janette Warner. Mandala guidance and drawing materials provided by Brooke Raymond. Monday Morning Meditations and Mandalas aims to provide a space to step away from stress and into some breathing room of your own making - for reflection, quiet and calm. No artistic or meditation experience is necessary. The brief meditations will focus on breathing and on appreciation for the present moment. Pre-drawn mandalas for coloring will be provided for those who prefer not to draw their own. All are welcome, to any or all sessions. No registration required. No charge, but donations will be welcomed and contributed to St. Michael's ongoing mission in Jeanette, Haiti. Questions? Contact brookewraymond@gmail.com or janet.warner1@gmail.com.



Free Community Thanksgiving Dinner at St. Michael's!

St. Michael's is preparing to host our **8th annual free community dinner on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 28**. In the past, our guests have included members of the community, recruits from Great Lakes Naval Base, youth from Maryville Academy, and many from our parish. **Volunteers are still needed to bake pies and monetary donations are gratefully accepted and appreciated!** Items needed to borrow just for the day: laptop computers, cell phones, (the recruits love this special time to connect with their families), guitars, and a karaoke machine. A sign up poster is located on the cork strip outside the Parish Office.

If you would like to learn more, contact Nancy Holmes in the Parish Office at 847-381-2323 x11 or nholmes@stmichaelsbarrington.org.

And All The Angels Christian Book and Gift Shop Annual Holiday Gift Sale

Lower level of St. Michael's Episcopal Church

Friday, November 29th ~ 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Saturday, November 30th ~ 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, December 1st ~ 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

If you cannot make it this week we will have everything thru Christmas!
 Our holiday hours will be Wednesday 11-5, Saturday 9-1, Sunday 8:30-12

We have gift offerings to include something for everyone on your list.
 Stop by to see what's new this year.

We also have a great selection of holiday decorations, ornaments
 and Advent wreaths/calendars.

*All proceeds from this sale
 and from our gift shop
 benefit women's and
 children's' charities.*

*Shop early for the
 best selection!*



**647 Dundee Ave.
 (Dundee and Hillside)
 Barrington
 847-382-6435**

Christmas Flower Donations

We need your help to adorn the altar with a wondrous floral display for Christmas. Please consider giving a donation. Your donation will help cover the cost of the flowers we need to create the beautiful display. Your donation can be made in memory or thanksgiving of someone and their name(s) will be printed in the Christmas Eve bulletin. You can find envelopes on the counter by the front door for your donations. To help ensure that your name(s) appear in the Christmas Eve bulletin, please return your envelope to the parish office by December 18.



A Celebration of Advent Sunday, December 1st

Join us for our 3rd annual Advent Celebration. Join in as we mark the shift into the liturgical season of Advent by doing something different from our typical weekly practice. Between the 9:00 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. services, **everyone** in the building, young, not-so-young and in-between are invited to the Community Room where we will have an opportunity to reflect on the season of Advent. This year, the Bridge (our 4th and 5th graders) and the Jr. High Group took responsibility for planning this event!



There will be a chance to make an angel bell, a 'stain glass' star, or to make a snowman (and yes there is a spiritual significance!). We will also set up a station for those interested in making an Advent Wreath, although you will need to bring, or purchase the circular metal bases for the wreath. (if you typically attend the 10:45 a.m. service consider coming early to join in the celebration.)



Calling all knitters!

Prayer Shawl will meet on Tuesday, December 3, from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the church library. We have been gathering scarves that will be blessed on Sunday, December 8. The scarves will be matched with gloves and distributed to those in need. As always, we will meet at Bologna's around 5:00 p.m. on December 3. We will not gather in November due to Thanksgiving. Hope to see you on the 3rd.

**A.W.S.M. Advent
Gathering
December 4th
7:00-9:00 p.m.**

Join All Women of St. Michael's for an evening of fun and fellowship at Michele Phillip's home - 50 Oakdene Road, Barrington Hills, IL. Enjoy catching up with your friends, singing Christmas carols and learning about Advent traditions and activities. OPTIONAL donations of diapers, wipes, baby food and formula will be collected for St. Cyprian food pantry both at the gathering and at a drop off box by the Community

Room. Checks with "diapers" written in the memo section can be donated the night of the event or to the church office. For additional information such as what refreshments to bring, please read the sign near the Community room, the Evite sent to all women's emails or contact Michele Phillips at flips712@comcast.net or 847-304-4107.



CASTING CALL!



Calling all kiddos who would like to be involved with our **Advent Pageant**...this year the pageant is called The Advent Tree. Our pageant will be shared in short excerpts serving as the Children's Moment at the 9:00 a.m. service each Sunday of Advent. I will need 6 volunteers, to be selected each Sunday morning, to "dress" our Advent Tree with the symbols of Advent. Finally, we will present the final Nativity Scene at our 2:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service. If you would like to participate in our pageantettes, be sure to be present on all four Sundays of Advent! For more information Kara Baker at kbaker@stmichaelsbarrington.org.



The Service (or 'Festival') of Lessons and Carols was conceived and first celebrated in 1918 at King's College, Cambridge, England, and it is now a regular part of Advent worship in many churches. In this service, we listen to Scripture lessons which recount the Fall, the promise of a Messiah, the Incarnation, and the Great Commission to preach the Good News. Each lesson is followed by a carol or other song that reflects on the lesson's message and a brief prayer. Part of the original vision for this service that St. Michael's so well honors is the invitation of community leaders to read the appointed Bible lessons. The evening concludes with a festive reception in our Community Room. **We welcome all to join us on December 8th at 5:00 p.m.**

Home Improvements



An installer puts finishing touches on one of the new walk off carpets that were installed on Monday, November 18, inside all three exterior door entrances. A worn section immediately inside the Community Room doors was also replaced with the new durable high-traffic carpet. Special thanks to parishioner **Carter Brett**, commercial line rep for Mohawk Group, for sourcing and contributing the carpet for the project and for arranging for the installation.



Come, Watch and Wait!

It's Advent! app for iPhone and iPad

Walk, don't run, through Advent with the inimitable artwork of Jay Sidebotham. *It's Advent!* is a daily devotional suitable for all ages brought to you by Church Publishing, Inc. Scripture readings and the Sermon on the Mount bring the anticipation of Advent to life. Email or post daily to social media. Keep track of your daily thoughts with built in journaling.

It's Advent! is only for iOS7 and runs on any device that runs that platform. It's optimized for iPad too, with full retina display images. There is a cost of \$0.99 for the app.

Fr. Sidebotham serves as rector of Church of the Holy Spirit, Lake Forest, IL. Before hearing a call to ordained ministry, he worked in New York in the fields of animation, illustration and advertising. (Some would say he is still working in

advertising!). He is grateful not only for the opportunity that parish work affords to continue expressing himself through his drawings, but also for the abundant supply of cartoon material that emerges in parish life.

COLLECTING COATS AND TOYS

Barrington Giving Day December 14, 2013 at Station Middle School

Each December Barrington Giving Day invites families who are on the Free & Reduced Lunch program in Barrington School District 220 to a Giving Day. Here they receive boxes of food, warm coats, blankets, books, and gifts. Members of Barrington churches, schools, businesses and civic organizations are always generous in their support of this day. In 2012 Barrington Giving Day served 1,017 families. This included 3,000 children and senior citizens.



What can WE DO? There is a large box by our Outreach Table (upper level next to elevator) to collect new and gently used coats and toys. If you like to craft they are also grateful for knot-tied fleece blankets! Please have your donations in the box by December 8.

Volunteers are needed on Friday afternoon at Station Campus and for the actual event at Station Middle School. If people would like to help sort clothing that is being done at the Christian Science church. For additional information and how to volunteer for Barrington Giving Day please visit their website at <http://www.barringtongivingday.org/how-to-helo/>.

Upcoming Events

- +November 22-23, Convention of the Diocese of Chicago
- +November 24, Farewell Reception for Nerissa Brueckbauer, 10:10 a.m.
- +November 25, Monday Morning Meditations & Mandalas, 6:00 a.m.
- +November 28, Holy Eucharist, 10:45 a.m.
- +November 28, Free Community Thanksgiving Dinner, 12:00 p.m.
- +November 29-December 1, And All The Angels Holiday Bazaar
- +December 1, A Celebration of Advent, between the 9 & 10:45 a.m. services
- +December 3, Prayer Shawl Ministry, 7:00 p.m.
- +December 4, Women's AWSM Advent Gathering, 7:00 p.m.

+December 8, Lessons and Carols, 5:00 p.m.

Revised Common Lectionary Year C, Last Sunday after Pentecost, Christ the King

Jeremiah 23:1-6; Canticle 16; Colossians 1:11-20; Luke 23:33-43

Contact Info

St. Michael's Vestry

Kathy Sawyer Randolph - Sr. Warden, Shan Atkins - Jr. Warden

Pete Douglas, Lora Gier, David Bishop, Sof Ts'o

Dolores Kampert, Ray Kean, Pat Kane, Mike Savage

Cristy Cressey, John Totten, Teri Doran, Lance Marcinek

John Davis - Treasurer, Craig Anderson - Clerk

Marissa Longo, Youth Representative Madelyn Lanham, Youth Representative

Clergy and Staff

The Rev. Patrick Raymond, Rector; The Rev. Kevin Caruso, Associate Rector; The Rev. Laurie Michaels, Deacon; Caren Hunter, Director of Little Angels Christian Preschool; David Baker, Director of Music Ministries; Thom Wibbels, Organist; Kara Joy Baker, Youth Pastor & Director of Children's Choir; Nerissa Brueckbauer, Children's Education Director & Communications Coordinator; Kim Lessner, Parish Operations; Nancy Holmes, Parish Administrator & Rector's Assistant; Rich Hornickel, Sexton.

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The Sword, St. Michael's Episcopal Church 647 Dundee Ave. Barrington, IL 60010

Phone: 847.381.2323 Fax: 847.381.3517

website:

[www.stmichaelsbarrington.org](http://www.stmichaelsbarrington.org)

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The Sword is published each Thursday. The deadline to submit items to be included is Tuesday at Noon. Any questions or comments regarding this publication should be sent to

news@stmichaelsbarrington.org

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