

The Sword



Your e-connection with St. Michael's Episcopal Church

January 23, 2014

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BREAKING NEWS.....

Cease Fire Agreement Signed in South Sudan

This just in as we go to print..... The government of South Sudan and rebels loyal to the country's ousted former vice president signed a cease-fire agreement on Thursday, January 23, holding out the prospect of peace after more than a month of fighting that has torn the new nation apart. [Read more here](#) about this breaking news. Also, see below about how YOU can become a Prayer Warrior for South Sudan!

Upcoming at St. Michael's

Sunday, January 26 - Parish Annual Meeting, beginning with a light lunch at Noon in the Community Room. Childcare (with food!) provided in the church undercroft. The annual meeting materials for prior review may be found by [clicking here](#).

Wednesday, January 29 - Deadline for parishioners to take the survey known as CAT (Church Assessment Tool). Thanks for taking part! You may go directly to the survey by [clicking here](#).

Sunday, February 2 - Feast of the Presentation. This feast recalls the ritual presentation of the baby Jesus in the Jerusalem Temple forty days after his birth ([Luke 2:22-39](#)). It is one of the few feasts in the church calendar that 'takes precedence of a Sunday' when the date of the feast falls on a Sunday.

St. Michael's
Episcopal Church
Service Hours

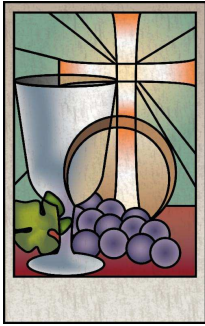
Sundays:
7:45 a.m.
9:00 a.m.



From the Rector

In praise of the *unmemorable* annual meeting

"All things should be done decently and in order."



For additional service information, events and activities, please visit our website by [clicking here](#).

Ministry Quicklinks
 - Our Website
 - Little Angels
 - Preschool Website
 - Diocese of Chicago Website
 - 2014 RCL
 - Liturgical Calendar



Follow us on Facebook!

Dear People of St. Michael's,

I'm guessing that Sunday's annual meeting may not be our most memorable at St. Michael's. I trust it will be efficient, informative and, at times, encouraging. But it may not be all that memorable.

When I first contemplated this, I felt dismayed. Part of me would like us to put on an annual meeting that's like a spiritual *Cirque du Soleil*. But then I recall some church annual meetings in which I've taken part and that have included stunts, fireworks and swooning (or the equivalent). The meetings were memorable! But more often than not the drama arose from conflict or other trouble.

So, upon further reflection, the best annual meetings may be a bit dull. Compare it, if you will, to a trip to your dentist. You consider it a good visit if it's uneventful and you hear: "Everything seems to be OK ... for your age. Come back in a year." The exam by the dentist would be more memorable but not in a good way if instead you heard: "Oh, dear! Are you insured?"

If an annual meeting is not likely to be all that memorable, why should you go to it? Well, in the case of the annual meeting, most of you are actually more like the dentist than the patient. The wardens, vestry, treasurer, clergy and staff are more like the patient - responsible for much of the day-to-day care and maintenance of the parish. And we're asking you, please, to take an hour or so for a closer look and reflect with us on how we're doing.

Your responses at the Annual Meeting needn't be memorable. But I pray we'll all do our part to contribute to the overall well-being of the good of the whole congregation. Thanks in advance for your participation.

Patrick +

Also from the Rector

John's Pointing Finger. A number of you expressed interest in the portion of my sermon this past Sunday that was devoted to the subject of paintings that show John the Baptist pointing (even though no story about John in the Bible indicates that he ever pointed). The two artworks I mentioned and two more, with some explanations, can be seen by [clicking here](#).



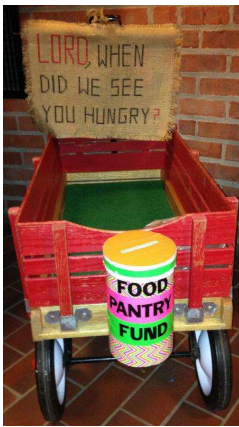
Last Stop! Hear the Whistle Blowing?



So many of you have shared your thoughts and feelings by completing the Church Assessment Tool. You have our gratitude. Rest assured that your responses are 100% confidential. If by chance you have not completed the assessment yet, you have just a few more days to make your voice heard. **HOW ABOUT TODAY!** [Click here](#) to open survey. If we don't have your input, we are still missing an important piece of the puzzle. PLEASE-share your opinions with us using this highly confidential assessment instrument.



Little Red Wagon



In January, **Church of the Redeemer**, Elgin, will be our focus on supplying food for its Families in Crisis program. The needs are many, but food is essential. Please keep the Little Red Wagon full of breakfast, lunch and dinner food - canned or packaged. Clothing would also be acceptable.

Computers are available in the conference room, or if you need a paper copy, please stop by the office, and we will provide one for you along with a self-addressed stamped return envelope.

If you have questions, please contact Fr. Kevin (773)-519-0159

A *very special thanks* to everyone who has participated in this process.

From Our Youth Minister

Kara Joy Baker

kbaker@stmichaelsbarrington.org

I have had frequent **requests for babysitters**. I have also recently been asked by AWSM, the women's group, to come up with a list of willing babysitters among the youth. If you would like to be a part of this roster for periodic babysitting gigs, please let me know. This would also mean that you would need to share your contact information.

THIS WEEK:

Sunday, 1/26 @ 9:00 a.m.-LIFT Worship & Taking Chili Orders. (Kara will be with 7 of our youth on the New Beginnings Retreat, so your Chili Co-Coordinator of the day are Madelyn Lanham, Marissa Longo, and Sharon Savage). [Click here](#) for chili order form (drop completed forms off in Kara's mailbox in the church office).

Sunday, 1/26 @ 10:45 a.m.-SMUSH Worship, Taking Chili Orders and Annual Meeting.

UPCOMING:

EYE 2014 (Episcopal Youth Event) Application deadline Jan.

31st! The diocesan youth ministry office is currently accepting applications to be part of the diocesan delegation to EYE 2014! This exciting tri-ennial event will be held July 9-13 at Villanova University in Philadelphia. The online application process will be open through Jan. 31st. High school youth in grades 9-12 and adults interested in attending EYE should apply soon. Learn more about EYE 2014 and our travel plans at <http://www.episcopalchicago.org/at-work-in-the-church/youth-ministry/eye-2014/> . Contact Chad Senuta, the Associate for Youth and Campus Ministry at cсенута@episcopalchicago.org or 312-751-4200 ext. 722 with any questions about the application process.

Touchdown Treats!



[Click here](#) for some simple but yummy treats for the BIG game on Sunday, February 2.

Saturday, 2/1-The Great Chili Cook-Off from 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided. PLEASE let me know if you are able to help with the cooking efforts for this favorite fundraising tradition. We will distribute chili on Sunday, 2/2 after all services.

Happening #98 - March 7-9, 2014

Invitation from the Rector: *"Hi everyone! I am Rebecca, and I am the rector for Happening #98 to be held at Emmanuel, Lagrange March 7-9. I have been involved in diocesan youth events since I was in 8th grade. I am a senior in High School and have been on the girl's go.f team since my freshman year. I am so excited for Happening #98! I cannot wait to see you all there! It's going to be a blast!"* Online Registration for Happening #98 is now open at <https://episcopalchicago.wufoo.com/forms/happening-98-registration/> ! Happening is a weekend retreat for students in grades 9-12. It is designed by teens for teens to develop, nourish, and live out the Christian faith.



Rebecca

Friday, 3/14-Saturday 3/15-AWSM (All Women of St. Michael's) Women's Retreat. AWSM has invited all youth women who are candidates for confirmation or 16 years old and up. As space is limited, please tell Kara if you are interested in attending. I will be sure to reserve your spot asap!

Camp Chicago, Registration for 2014 Camp Sessions Now Open!

Get signed up for summer camp at Camp Chicago! Online Registration is now open for all sessions June 22 - July 11, 2014! It won't be long until it's time for all the summer fun you've come to expect from Camp Chicago. Get signed up today and reserve your spot for the rich program, fun activities, and meaningful worship that Camp Chicago has

Remembering
This Week

Birthdays

1.26
Michael LaBarge
1.27
Ruth Silver
1.28
Nicole Anetsberger
Tim Okonek
Julia Bishop
1.29
Zachary Johnson
Zane Okonek
1.30
Justine Savage
Katie Pardun
1.31
Jay Younger
Liam Nance
Cole DiDomenico
2.1
Patty Legwig

to offer. Find out more at
<http://www.episcopalchicago.org/at-work-in-the-church/youth-ministry/camp-chicago/>.



In The Parish Family

Those who have asked for our prayers: Frank, Michael, Art, Joe, the Sykes family, the Napoleon family, the Papamarcos family, Lucille, Len, Carrie, Roberta, Sara & family, Mary, Melissa, Carol, Jim, Paul & family, Amy, Rollo, Redeemer Church Families in Crisis Program, safety & peace in South Sudan. **Solemn Communion Candidates:** Rhett, Ronan, Jacob, John, Cole, Ella, Ben, Scott, Campbell, Abby, Julianne, M.J., Natalie, Tyler, Austin, Lauren.

Kim Lessner, Parish Operations Manager at St. Michael's Church, graduated from the Volunteer Chaplain Training Program in the Spring of 2013. [Click here](#) to read her story in the Bishop Anderson House newsletter.



Anniversaries

Rest in Peace

1.26
Catherine Silver
1.27
Sara Jane Allen
1.28
Edwin Tukey
1.29
Patricia Magnuson
1.30
Alice Peto
Albert Lockett
2.1
Clara Penney

Newbies at St. Michael's!



Welcome, **Clive Thomas Uebelhor**. Clive was born on December 10. He is the son of Ann and Shea and little brother to Sunny and Crew.



Welcome, **Lilia Marie Weibel**. Lilia was born on January 3. She is the daughter of Gwen and David and little sister of Sam and Ben.



Welcome, **Gabriella Sabine Trzaska**. Gabriella was born on January 3. She is the daughter of Krisztina and Gregory and little sister Emily.

Become A Prayer Warrior



Bishop Joseph believes strongly in the power of prayer, and he also believes deeply that the prayers of St. Michael's are the reason the Diocese of Renk is being protected from the bloodshed occurring in areas outside of Renk. While there is suffering of another kind, an influx of frightened men, women and children, from those surrounding areas, he and his clergy are able to offer safety to them...because of theirs and our prayers.



Imagine the impact of **Prayer Warriors** for a ceasefire. Imagine the impact of Prayer Warriors for peace in South Sudan. Imagine the impact of Prayer Warriors to stop the bloodshed and killing of innocent people. And, imagine the impact of Prayer Warriors to change the hearts of the power mongers who have turned South Sudan into a killing field. Prayer works, and we know it, Bishop Joseph knows it. If you feel called to pray intentionally, gathering with others together at specific times to pray, communicating with St. Michael's community the 'intention for the week', please contact Jackie Kraus, 847-381-5518; kraus.jackie@yahoo.com. *...because we know God hears our prayers. As Bishop Joseph says, "Here in Renk, prayer is our daily bread."*

**THIS
SUNDAY!**



St. Michael's
Annual Meeting
January 26
12:00 p.m.
[Click here](#) for a copy
of the Annual Meeting
information packet.

Preschool Registration in Progress

Little Angels Preschool begins 2014-2015 open enrollment on Monday, January 27th. We are excited to be offering new programs for all ages. Feel free to call the preschool office at 847-381-5490 or email Caren Hunter at chunter@stmichaelsbarrington.org for more information or to schedule a tour. [Click here](#) for the 2014-2015 registration form.



TRIVIA Night

The Time is Now



Members of St. Michael's: If you haven't already done so, please [click here](#) and take the CAT survey. The survey will close on January 29 and it's important we have YOUR responses. Thank you!

Which year was Queen's hit 'Bohemian Rhapsody' originally released?
Which planet rotates clockwise?

**Saturday, February 8, 7:00-10:00 p.m.
at McGonigal's Pub**

105 S. Cook Street, Barrington, IL 60010

This fun night out is hosted by AWSM and is for all adults of the parish. Cost is \$25.00 per person which includes light appetizers (there will be a cash bar). PLEASE pre-pay at the annual meeting or at the church office by putting "Trivia" in the memo section of your check. The space is limited so reserve and pay soon! Reservations will be taken through February 3rd.

There will also be optional "Change for Change" donations going toward the Renk Diocese, Bishop Joseph and the Renk Theological School. Drop off your donation at the event or make checks out at church office with "Renk" written in memo section of check.

Offering Envelopes for 2014

Your 2014 offering envelopes are available for pick up in the Community Room foyer. We reduced the number of envelopes ordered this year so if your number was higher than 60, a new number has been assigned. If you have any questions, please contact Kim Lessner, Operations Manager in the parish office at 847-381-2323, ext. 16 or via email at klessner@stmichaelsbarrington.org. Thank you!

Upcoming Events

- +January 24-26, Jr. High New Beginnings Weekend
- +January 26, Parish Annual Meeting, 12:00 p.m.
- +January 28, Prayer Shawl Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- +February 2, Chili Pick Up, Sunday morning
- +February 8, Trivia Night, 7:00 p.m.

Revised Common Lectionary Year A, Third Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 9:1-4; Psalm 27:1, 5-13; 1 Corinthians 1:10-18; Matthew 4:12-23

Contact Info

St. Michael's Vestry

vestry@stmichaelsbarrington.org

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

Pete Douglas, Lora Gier, David Bishop, SoI 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; Jeni Younger, Coordinator of Children's Ministries; Kara Joy Baker, Youth Pastor & Director of Children's Choir; Kim Lessner, Parish Operations; Nancy Holmes, Parish Administrator & Rector's Assistant; Jonathan Galliher, Webdesign; Rich Hornickel, Sexton.

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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

[Forward this email](#)



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