



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

February 14, 2014

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- February 19, The Community Meal @ St. Anne, 5:00 p.m.
- February 23, CAT Survey Briefing Sessions, 9:00 & 10:45 a.m.
- February 26, Newcomer's Dinner Gathering, 6:30 p.m.
- March 5, Ash Wednesday (see side bar for service times)
- March 9, Lent Kick Off, between the 9 & 10:45 services



From Our Associate Rector

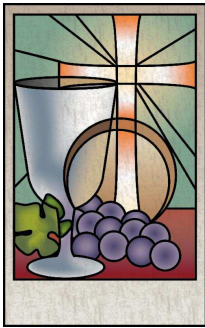
The School of Faith: No one can do it for you...

The thing about cliché's is that they are often born out of truths. And so despite it being a bit cliché, I think it is nonetheless worth reminding ourselves that when it comes to leading a life of faith... **no one else can do it for you.**

Based on our experience with last year's Faith Reflection Groups, The School of Faith was born out of a desire to offer those groups again while also providing parishioners with places to gather in groups which will explore particular topics of interest. So, during February, March and April, not only will we be starting Faith Reflection Groups, but a number of small groups will meet to discuss some specific topics. And it is our hope that YOU will seriously consider joining a small group. With options ranging from Faith Reflection Groups to Cultivating Gratitude to Exploring Spiritual Gifts and more, we hope there is a conversation you will find compelling and enriching. BUT, space is limited in the topical groups, so be sure to be in touch sooner rather than later! For more information about the specific topics, meeting times, etc. click on this [link](#). And as always, if you have an idea for a group, I hope you will be in touch (we are already working on putting together a group focused on

St. Michael's
Episcopal Church
Service Hours

Sundays:
7:45 a.m.
9:00 a.m.
10:45 a.m.



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](#)

the relationship between business and faith)!

In the weeks and months ahead (especially as we enter the season of Lent), why not make exploring your faith a priority? Participate in a small group, or set aside some time for prayer/reflection at home, or have a cup of coffee with a friend who has been a meaningful part of your journey of faith. Whatever you decide, make the choice to invest in your life of faith, because what we pay attention to grows.

Kevin+

CAT Survey Results

We recently asked members of the congregation to take the Church Assessment Tool ('CAT') survey. The CAT is widely used in the national Episcopal Church as well as here in the Chicago diocese. Many of you will recall that we used this same survey four years ago as input to the rector search process. This time around, our purpose was to provide information to help guide our THRIVE (congregational vitality) process.



Over 235 members completed the survey, so we have a sufficient sample size. Thank you for your participation! In both 2010 and 2013, Susan Czolgosz (a consultant from the diocese) interpreted the results and provided us with a summary. Most of the 2013 results were better than the corresponding 2010 results. To see the complete executive summaries for both years, click [here](#).

Here are a few highlights:

- Although we have many satisfied members, there are a significant number who are "on the fence." It is important that these individuals strengthen their relationship with St. Michael's or we may be at risk of losing them.
- We consider ourselves to be less adaptable and flexible now than in 2010. Perhaps we have a bit of 'change fatigue', but change is inevitable for the long-term health of the parish. Clearly we will need to be even more thoughtful about what we do and how we do it.
- Our primary goals have remained the largely the same since 2010. They are: (i) to develop and implement a comprehensive strategy



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to reach new people and incorporate them into the life of the church; (ii) to make necessary changes to attract families with children; (iii) to develop healing ministries for those broken by life's circumstances; and (iv) to strengthen the process by which members are called and equipped for ministry and leadership.

- An area of possible concern is our spiritual vitality. Two-thirds of parishioners indicated that there 'are more pressing things in my life right now than my faith, although my faith is important to me.' Largely due to the response to this question, our ranking on the CAT's 'Spiritual Vitality Index' was in the 13th percentile. While this result may be similar to other suburban parishes in our diocese, it challenges us to find ways to enhance our spiritual health individually and as a congregation.
- We remain a relatively 'rector-centric' parish, although we've identified for some time that this is something we'd like to change about ourselves.

To see a summary of key statistics comparing the 2013 and 2010 results, click [here](#).

We will be holding briefing sessions on Sunday, February 23 at 9:00 a.m. and again at 10:45 a.m. to go over the results of the CAT in some detail. Please plan to join us for a good discussion.

Ash Wednesday March 5



6:30 a.m. Eucharist &
Imposition of Ashes

4:00 p.m. Abbreviated
Children's Service &
Imposition of Ashes

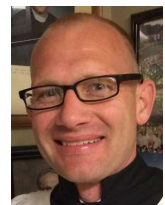
5:30 p.m. Eucharist &
Imposition of Ashes

7:30 p.m. Eucharist &
Imposition of Ashes

Your wardens,
Shan Atkins and Dave Buckley, Jr.

Food for the Journey: Sunday Morning Formation

Sunday, February 16 - "Spiritual Gifts: What are they and do I have any?" Please join us as **Josh Baudin** leads a conversation on those wonderful endowments given to *all* of us by the Holy Spirit.



Josh

NEXT SUNDAY: February 23

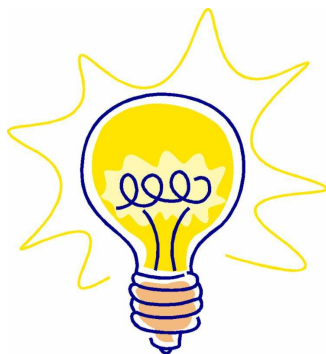
Reminder:

In many Christian congregations, the ashes for the Ash Wednesday liturgies are made by **burning the palms** from the prior year's Palm Sunday services. In the next couple weeks please bring your palms to the church and place them in the marked basket in the nave, or bring them to parish office. Thank you.



Lent Madness is a fun and unique Lenten devotion which engages people to learn about the men and women comprising the Church's Calendar of Saints. It combines a love of sports (32 saints are placed into a tournament-like single elimination bracket) with a quest to learn more about the lives of the saints. Join Tim Murray as he gets us started and *let the games begin!*

A "Side" Note from the Rector



The gospel this past Sunday was from the Sermon on the Mount and featured Jesus' teaching: "You are the light of the world ..." Whether corny

Parting is Such Sweet Sorrow

Caren Hunter, Director of Little Angels Preschool, has tendered her resignation as of the end of the current school year. We join in gratitude for her leadership and commitment to the children and families she has overseen since she began her role in 2011. A letter from Caren and a letter from the rector, assistant rector and preschool board president was mailed to the preschool families on February 7. [Click here](#) to read a copy of that mailing.



Newcomers Dinner

Wednesday, February 26th from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Are you new to St. Michael's? Or perhaps you have been here for a while, but you still feel new! Then join us for dinner on February 26th from 6:30-8pm. We will happily provide childcare if that would make it easier for you attend. In our time together you will have the chance to some members of the parish and the clergy. We will also take you on a tour of the building and answers any questions you might have.

or profound, I decided to include a few Thomas Edison quotes, as follows (with possible 'spiritual' application in parentheses): *"We often miss opportunity because it's dressed in overalls and looks like work."* (Much of what is genuinely 'spiritual' requires discipline.) *"When you have exhausted all possibilities, remember this - you haven't."* (Don't give up on the path of faith.) *"If we all did the things we are capable of, we would astound ourselves."* (Haven't we all been astounded by others who have believed and persevered? What about us?) The variety of responses I received in response to Sunday's sermon was ... well, to say the least, **illuminating!** Thanks to all of you who shared your thoughts and questions.

Patrick+

Register Now

Questions? Contact Fr. Kevin at kcaruso@stmichaelsbarrington.org or 773-519-0159.



From the Youth Minister

Kara Joy Baker

kbaker@stmichaelsbarrington.org

Every day I keep praying for warmth, less snow, and the end of winter. But then I stop and look around at how beautiful the snow is, the glorious sunshine, & how crisp the air feels outside. God's magnificent creation, and spring will come in His time. It's nothing that a groundhog can predict. So as we trudge through the snow, driving is more difficult, and snow gear seems a permanent fixture in our wardrobes, I challenge myself to stop and enjoy the beauty of God's winter.

THIS WEEK:

Saturday, 2/15 @ 1:00-5:00 p.m.- Youth Outing to Xtreme Trampoline. PLEASE let me know if you'd like to attend. Fill out the waiver here- <https://xtremetrampolinebuffalogrove.plfstore.com/waiver/>.

Sunday, 2/16 @ 9:00 a.m.-LIFT Worship & Formation

Sunday, 2/16 @ 10:45 a.m.-SMUSH Worship & Formation

UPCOMING: [Click here.](#)

Does this pancake have YOUR name on it?

Shrove Tuesday (March 4 this year) is the day preceding Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent. The expression "Shrove Tuesday" comes from the word *shrive*, meaning "confess". Related popular practices are associated with celebrations before the fasting and religious obligations associated with the penitential season of Lent. The term *Mardi Gras* is French for **Fat Tuesday**, referring to the practice of the last night of eating richer, fatty foods before the ritual fasting of the Lenten season, which begins on Ash Wednesday (March 5).

In the past St. Michael's has offered a Shrove Tuesday dinner of pancakes and sausage. This year we are asking if there is anyone *or* any one ministry who would like to step forward to organize and prepare the dinner for the parish. We can only proceed with the event if we have a team to cook and flip the flapjacks. Please contact Fr. Patrick if you feel called to don the chef hat.



Little Angels Preschool
2014-2015 open
enrollment is now in
progress. Contact [Caren
Hunter](#) for more
information or to schedule
a school tour. [Click here](#)
for registration form.



Samuel Mascheroni, son of Cristina Kuechmann and Jorio Mascheroni, was born in Lausanne Switzerland on February 2nd. Grandparents are St. Michael's parishioners John and Maria Kuechmann. Blessings to all.



Reese Ellen Laumann was born Monday, February 3 to Eric & Ali Laumann and big brother Jack (Little Angels Preschool student). Blessings to the Laumann family.

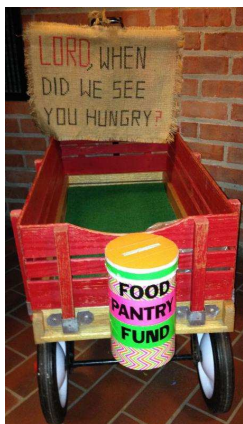
Passings

David Boyd Hoffman, son of former St. Michael's member Jane Hoffman, died February 10. Click [here](#) to read obituary and information on service times.

May his soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Did you know?

Little Red Wagon



- A new altar book was dedicated to **JoAnn Bailey** in thanksgiving for her many years of ministry at St. Michael's Church.
- **Conner Rejman** has received a golf scholarship to attend Western Illinois University.
- **Megan Yerger's** Lake Zurich cheerleading team took 6th place at state competition.
- **Kim Lessner** had lunch with **Fr. Orpen** last week. He turns 93 years 'young' this March and gives definition to the *energizer bunny*!
- **The Rev. Eva Baydoun** will be taking part in a healing ministry conference in Florida next week. Please keep her in your prayers.

In February, **Wauconda/Island Lake Food Pantry** will be our focus on supplying food for the needy. Please keep the Little Red Wagon full of the regular supplies and in addition this month: cookies, crackers, jello, pudding, paper goods and personal hygiene products. Note: W/IL Food Pantry served over 200 families in December.

Fr. Patrick has learned of a family with connections to St. Michael's faced with significant financial challenges and in need of a washer and dryer. If your household may be getting rid of a **washer or dryer** that is still in good working order, please contact Patrick at praymond@stmichaelsbarrington.org. Removal of the unit(s) from your home is possible. Thank you.



Reaching Out in Love

Valentine's Day is a GREAT time of the year to share the love of Jesus. And the youth at St. Michael's combined with Girl Scout Troop 40836 from Quest Academy in Palatine (Karen Dickerson troop leader) did just that. They overflowed a wagon full of **heart-y** treats for the guests at Church of the Redeemer Soup Kitchen in Elgin. Over 100 bags were filled with the scout's homemade cookies then candy was added and finished off with a personalized Valentine's Day card. The sweet treats will be distributed at the soup kitchen at this evening's meal. Thank you to the youth who opened their hearts to help fill someone else's.



Thanks to Karen Dickerson, Mary Beth Kovacik, Kara Baker, John & Janet Kline, Girl Scout Troop 40836, and St. Michael's youth in grades 4-8. Job well done by all!

Remembering This Week

Note: Additional volunteers for the soup kitchen are always welcome. Contact Mary Beth Kovacik at 847-304-8726 or krebskovacik@gmail.com.

Birthdays

2.16
Carol Erker
2.17
Marilyn Okonek
Ginny Conners
Kevin Chrisos
2.18
Penny Kazmier
2.20
Scott Knoop
Debra Blohm
2.21



March 14 (5:00 p.m.) to
March 15 (2:00 p.m.)
at The Cenacle,
513 West Fullerton Parkway,
Chicago, IL

Join the women of St. Michael's in a retreat lead by the Rev. Jeanne Stewart, Associate Rector Christ Church Winnetka.

Open to all women 16 and over.

Cost per individual double occupancy \$90

Cost per individual single occupancy \$110

Price includes meals.

Kristen Mathison

2.22

Fran Collins

Suzanne Fleer

Hollis Schoepke

Connie Wolff

Grace LaBarge

[Click here](#) for registration form.

Please sign up and pre-pay for this event. You will not have a confirmed reservation until your check is handed in to the church office with the word "Women" in the memo section. Carpooling suggested.

Any questions, please contact

Marti Kahn ~ kentkahn@bellsouth.net or 847-842-2287

Terri Longo ~ terrilongo@yahoo.com or 847-387-3645

Anniversaries

2.21

Kitti & Alan Quarfoot

2.22

Kristy & Sean Harrington

Rest in Peace

2.16

Juanita Fisher

Jim Galasso

Michael Foort

2.18

Henry Parker

2.21

Agnes Sanford

Terrence Willis



Mission and Evangelism Lessons from South Sudan

On March 18, Episcopal Church Foundation will offer a free webinar, *"Faithful and Trusting Christians: Mission and Evangelism Lessons from South Sudan."* Using case studies from Sudanese church history, 2013 ECF Fellow, the Rev. Jesse Zink will share lessons for evangelism and church growth.



Jesse Zink

Registration will be closed at 5:00 p.m. ET on March 17 or when the web conference is fully booked. For those unable to participate a recording of the webinar will be made available online. [Click here](#) to sign up online.

IF INTERESTED, WE CAN HAVE A VIEWING AT ST.

MICHAEL'S. Contact Fr. Kevin at kcaruso@stmichaelsbarrington.org.

Prayers and Action for South Sudan

Thursday, February 20 at 7:30 p.m.

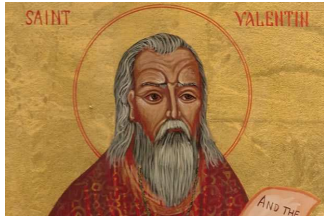
Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori has called upon the church to pray for the people of South Sudan, particularly in the week beginning February 16. The situation there is dire, with more than 800,000 people displaced and the top United Nations aid official warning of a possible famine.

On Thursday, February 20 at 7:30 pm, Bishop Lee and the people of the Diocese of Chicago will **gather at All Saints' Episcopal Church** in Chicago (All Saints' is located one block east of the Metra line) to respond to this call and honor the partnership with the Diocese of Renk. All are welcome to hear stories and scripture, sing and chant, pray for our loved ones in South Sudan, and act on their behalf.

Contribution Statements

Contribution Statements for 2013 have been mailed to all parishioners as of February 11. Please take a moment to review your statement for any donation discrepancies between our records. If you have not received a statement or find a discrepancy on your statement after reviewing, please contact Kim Lessner at the parish offices, 847-381-2323, ext. 16 or via email klessner@stmichaelsbarrington.org. Thank you!

St. Valentine



February 14 is St. Valentine's Day. [Click here](#) for 6 surprising facts about St. Valentine.



Christmas in February



19 staff and volunteers gathered at The Onion Pub on February 11 to celebrate St. Nicholas *and* St. Valentine! With the hubbub of the Christmas season it was decided to get together when things calmed down (does it really ever?). The slower pace allowed for great fellowship with the office staff and the preschool staff which usually only see each other in work mode. Our Christmas in February is a keeper. **Merry Valentine's Day** to all!

Upcoming Events

- +February 19, The Community Meal @ St. Anne Parish, Barrington, 5:00 p.m.
- +February 23, Holy Baptism @ 9:00 & 10:45 a.m.
- +February 23, CAT Survey Briefing Sessions, 9:00 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.
- +February 26, Newcomer's Dinner Gathering, 6:30 p.m.
- +March 5, Ash Wednesday @ 6:30 a.m., 4:00 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m.
- +March 9, Lent Kick-Off Happening, between the 9 & 10:45 a.m. services
- +March 14-15, AWSM Women's Retreat, at The Cenacle, Chicago
- +March 18, South Sudan Webinar, 5:00 p.m.

Revised Common Lectionary Year A, Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Psalm 119:1-8; 1 Corinthians 3:1-9; Matthew 5:21-37

Contact Info

St. Michael's Vestry

vestry@stmichaelsbarrington.org

Shan Atkins - Senior Warden; David Buckley, Jr., Junior Warden

David Bishop, Sol Ts'o, Dolores Kampert, Ray Kean, Pat Kane, Mike Savage

Christy Cressey, Teri Doran, Lance Marcinek, Randy Lewis, Leslie Yerger, Jay Younger

John Davis - Treasurer, Craig Anderson - Clerk

Marissa Longo, Youth Representative Sean Tucker, Youth Representative

Clergy and Staff

The Rev. Patrick Raymond, Rector; The Rev. Kevin Caruso, Associate Rector;

The Rev. Ulrika (Eva) Baydoun, Assisting; The Rev. James Bullion, Assisting; The Rev. Elizabeth (Betsy) Ward, Assisting; The Rev. Laurie Michaels, Deacon; The Rev. Judith Heinrich, 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.

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