THE SWORD

Your e-connection with St. Michael's



Christmas Edition December 23, 2014

St. Michael's Episcopal Church

647 Dundee Avenue Barrington, IL 60010 www.stmichaelsbarrington.org

In This Issue <u>+Christmas Connections</u> <u>from the Rector</u> <u>+Christmas Worship</u> <u>Schedule</u> <u>+And Beyond Schedule</u> <u>+Give a Match to Burn Our</u> <u>Mortgage</u>



Christmas Connections from the Rector The Rev. Patrick Raymond praymond@stmichaelsbarrington.org

"... the time came for her to deliver her child ..." - Luke 2:6b

Dear people of St. Michael's,

I've made my list, and now I'm checking it twice! You must have a similar list. It's all the expectations, needs and wants that seem to multiply as Christmas nears.

I can't imagine that your list includes a leisurely reading of the *Sword*! It may be a Christmas miracle if you're reading this at all. So I'll keep it short, simply asking you to check your list for the following:

+ Seek and find your heart and your faith amidst ALL OF IT.

+ Reach out to one person outside your comfort zone who might find the Christ in Christmas through your kindness - a welcome, a hug, a candle, a word of encouragement, a meal.

+ Let your parish clergy or staff members know how we can be of care to you or to others you know who may need special care or support at this time.

The Parish Office will be closed in observance of Christmas on Thursday, December 25 and Friday, December 26. That's all, except to let you know how much I look forward to sharing Christmas worship with you. - Patrick +



Celebrate the Saviors Birth Christmas Worship Schedule

Wednesday, December 24, Christmas Eve

2:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist 4:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist (Worship appropriate for families w/children at 2 & 4 p.m. With children's message, no sermon) 9:00 p.m. Solemn Choral Holy Eucharist 11:00 p.m. Solemn Holy Eucharist with small vocal ensemble (Incense at 11:00 p.m. only)

Thursday, December 25, Christmas Day 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with sermon and carols

If you are unable to be present for Christmas worship due to illness and wish to receive Communion at home from one of our HLEMs (Home Lay Eucharistic Ministers), please contact the HLEM coordinator, David Brooks, at dabrooks@parkfun.com, or a member of the parish clergy.



AND BEYOND

Sunday, December 28, Christmas 1 7:45, 9:00 and 10:45 a.m. Sunday worship and ministries at the normal time. EXCEPT NO children's church school for Catechesis Level. Jr./Sr. High will meet.

> Thursday, January 1, The Holy Name 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

This Holy Night by Eleanor Farjeon

God bless your house this holy night, And all within it; God bless the candle that you light To midnight's minute: The board at which you break you bread, The cup you drink of: And as you raise it, the unsaid Name that you think of: The warming fire, the bed of rest, The ringing laughter: These things, and all things else be blest From floor to rafter This holy night, from dark to light, Even more than other; And, if you have no house tonight, God bless you, brother.



Sunday, January 4, The Feast of the Epiphany (transferred from 1.6.15) 7:45, 9:00 and 10:45 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Tuesday, January 6, The Feast of Epiphany 6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist



Can you 'Give a Match' to Burn Our Mortgage?

Thanks to the twenty-five or so households who have already responded to the opportunity to give a

'matching gift' to help eliminate our remaining \$82,000 mortgage. The invitation was issued with special year-end gifts to St. Michael's in mind, but the vestry will be continuing to invite participation up



until we burn the mortgage or exhaust the combined \$41,000 matching gift from two households. You can find an invitation to take part and a commitment card by clicking <u>here</u>.

Quick Links Our Website





...for to you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.... "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to all men."

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