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# The Sword



Your weekly connection with St. Michael's Episcopal Church

20 December 2012

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## You can anticipate the next edition of the *Sword* 3 January 2013.

Unless something unforeseen, unbelievably exciting or unanticipated occurs, I believe we will hold off publishing until the New Year.

## This Sunday and This Week At St. Michael's

- +Food for the Journey, Nativity in the Art of John August Swanson, Sunday, 23 December, 10:05 a.m., *read more below...*
- +Please plan to stay after the 10:45 service on Sunday to assist the Altar Guild with the "greening" of the church! *Your* help will make all the difference!
- +Christmas Eve, Monday, 24 December, Holy Eucharist with Carols, Children's Message, 2:00 & 4:00 p.m. (childcare available at these services only)
- +Christmas Eve, Monday, 24 December, Choral Holy Eucharist with Sermon, Organ & Strings, 9:00 & 10:00 p.m. (incense at 11:00 p.m.)
- +Christmas Day, Tuesday, 25 December, Said Eucharist, Sermon, Carols & Organ, 10:00 a.m.
- +Sunday, 30 December, The First Sunday after Christmas Day, Yes! We'll be here! Regular service times, 7:45 a.m., 9:00 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

## Small Packages

*a letter to the people of St. Michael's from the Rector*

Dear People of St. Michael's,

'Tis the season for gifts, and you may know the saying, "The best things come in small packages."



[week](#)

## Did You Know?

...there were over 35 children and Middle Schoolers involved in this year's Advent Pageant?

## Anniversaries

### This Week

### Birthdays

12.23 Jessica Haycock, Jada

Kampert

12.24 Renee Blue, Susan Lukovich

12.26 Carrie Van Eaton

12.27 Chuck

Boetsch, Jimmy

Couch, Emily Kean, Katie Lindeen, Len Azzaro

12.28 Bill Heinrich, Ellen Weiss

12.29 Lori Pepper, Leanne Tresnowski

## Anniversaries

12.27 Betsy & Len Azzaro

## Rest in Peace

12.24 Eleanor Conlon

12.25 Nancy Wolters

Might the intended meaning favorably apply to a rector's holiday newsletter message?

It seems worth a try! Therefore:

## Merry and Blessed Christmas to all!

I look forward to seeing you here at St. Michael's for worship, fellowship and faithful service in the days, weeks and year ahead!

-Patrick +

Additional 'small packages' from the Rector

+ **Newtown.** Many of us continue to feel shaken about events in Newtown, Connecticut, on Friday, December 17. We will keep the related prayer altar and print materials available at the church at least through this coming Sunday. Feel free to call upon any of your parish clergy for pastoral care and support. Parishioner and psychotherapist Dave Evans is also available to all parishioners. You may reach him at 224.628.3654. The text of Fr. Kevin's thoughtful and faithful related sermon this past Sunday will be made available shortly to those who wish to read it or have a copy. Watch the *Sword* for its availability.



+ **Christmas Rides? Drivers?** Your parish clergy and staff are aware that some parishioners or others in the community may be unable to take part in Christmas worship without a ride to St. Michael's. And we hope there are some souls who may be willing to offer rides. Please leave word at the church office if you're in either category. We'll do our best to connect riders and drivers. (847) 381-2323.

12.24 Eleanor  
Conlon  
12.28 Katherine  
McIntosh

+ **My Christmas came early!** Three young people seeking community service opportunities beautifully cleaned the carpet in the library and removed many of the coffee stains from the chairs used in the community room.

+ **Special thanks** to all who've contributed to our worship, music, fellowship, service and learning throughout Advent and in preparation for Christmas. We're blessed!

### In the Parish family

+Jackie Kraus forwarded the picture below of Michele & Grace, daughters of Bishop Joseph and Roda, on their 6th birthday, 19 December.



+Those for whom prayers have been requested:  
Bonnie & Steve; Judie; Mary; Stanley & family; Nancy; Paulette; Sarah; Amy; Doris; Dave; Connie; Arlie; Lindsay & Joanne; Bob; Dolores; Bishop Joseph, Roda, Michele & Grace; Amy; Families in Crisis at Church of the Redeemer; military troops in danger including those from our parish, especially, Zane, Robert, Ryan, Michael, Bruce, and Taylor.



Candles lit as part of the Praying in the Wilderness service.

+On Saturday, 22 December, Whitney Knobe will marry Michael Brown, Jr., in the Chapel at St. Michael's. This intimate wedding will be officiated by The Rev. Alvin C. Johnson, Jr. The parents of the bride are Larry and Melinda Knobe. Sister, Kristin, will also be a part of the ceremony.

+Pictures from the Advent Pageant last Sunday:



Rhett, Jack, Morgan, Jackson and Jack.



Millie, Ella and Chloe.



Aubrey, Samantha, Abby, in front of the wonderful scenery painted by parishioner Nancy Marks; Danny, Jillian, Grace and Jack are behind while Riley narrates.



Last words from the Advent Pageant.



**Food for the Journey,  
Sunday, December 23,  
10:05 a.m.: The Nativity  
in the art of John August  
Swanson**

**A conversation led by  
Father Kevin  
Join us we explore  
Christ's birth using John  
August Swanson's  
serigraph of the nativity  
as a starting point.**

**"John August Swanson  
is noted for his finely  
detailed, brilliantly  
colored painting and  
original prints. His  
works are found in the  
Smithsonian's National  
Museum of American  
History, London's Tate  
Gallery, the Vatican  
Museums' Collection of  
Modern Religious Art,  
and other prestigious  
venues..."**

**Food for the Journey, Sunday, 30 December, 10:05  
Exploring Sacred Music in the Anglican Tradition:  
The Christmas Carol**

**Greg Michaels will explore Christmas Carols with us during this  
presentation. Greg has hosted the very popular series Exploring  
Sacred Music in the Anglican Tradition for five years and is  
delighted to bring a taste of that experience to the Food for the**

## Journey table.



### The Loving Memory Tree

In this season of Advent and Christmas, a "Loving Memory Tree" has been placed in the narthex. It's a simple tree with no decorations other than small white lights. You are invited to write the

name of a loved one who has passed away on one of the white ribbons provided, and tie it onto the tree. The tree starts out barren, but over the course of the Christmas season it will become filled with the memories of loved ones who are no longer with us. By putting their names on the tree, we remind ourselves that our dear departed are present with us in the body of Christ and in our Christmas worship. You are welcome to place as many ribbons on the tree as you would like. Messages of hope, written on the ribbons, are also encouraged. The tree will stay up in the Narthex until after our celebration of Epiphany on January 6th.



### The Bells of St. Michael's to Ring in Concert

We are to receive a wonderful gift from our organist, Thom Wibbels! He will offer a Carillon Bell Concert using the bells of St. Michael's in the seasons of Christmas and Epiphany! Please download the flyer and let your family and friends know! (flyer [here](#))

Christmas Concert December 24, 2012 5:00PM

Epiphany Concert January 06, 2013 Noon



### Anticipate Christmas Eve Music at St. Michael's

2:00pm and 4:00pm

Tina Summerfield, soprano (2:00pm)

Kara Joy Baker, soprano

David Baker, baritone

Brandon Viliunas, trumpet

9:00pm and 11:00pm

St. Michael's Festival Chorus  
 Solisti Di Camera String Quartet  
 Paul G. Ross, timpani  
 St. Michael's Flute Choir  
 Kara Joy Baker, soprano  
 David Baker, baritone



### Little Red Wagon in December

During the month of December food put in the Little Red Wagon will go to Families in Crisis at Church of the Redeemer in Elgin. So as we prepare for entertaining family and friends this Advent and Christmas season, please buy some extra food for these families of many needs. Suggestions are - rice, beans, corn, tomatoes, canned meats, canned



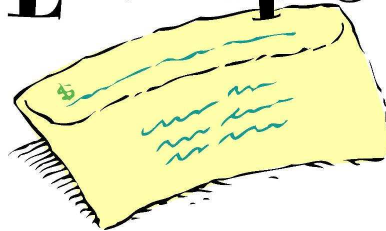
### Get Your 2013 Calendar Now!

Featuring 12 beautiful paintings done by Children of St. Marc's Jeannette, Haiti.

An 8 1/2" x 11" full color calendar  
 Calendars are \$ 18 each. All proceeds support the school in Jeannette, Haiti where we traveled in October.

Calendars are available for purchase in And All the Angels gift shop.

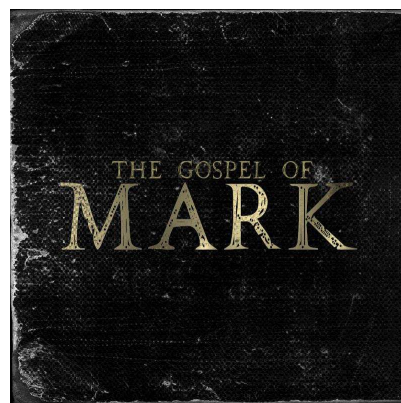
## Offering Envelopes



### Offering Envelopes for 2013

Your 2013 offering envelopes are available for pick up in the Community Room foyer. 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!



### SOUL JOURNEY: A WOMEN'S GATHERING...

returns after the holidays on Tuesday, 8 January. We are continuing with our study through the Gospel of Mark. We meet on Tuesdays in the library from 9:30-11:30. Remember, there is NO requirement for attendance, and no prior knowledge of bible,



fruits, flour and sugar. Personal items are always welcome.

prayer book, etc. required. We will AGAIN repeat the splendid DVD performance of Max McLean (an actor) who has memorized the whole gospel of Mark. (It's very cool.) That takes about 2-3 weeks, if you'd just like to come to that.

Also, for you frazzled mothers, we have a lovely (mother) babysitter so that you can come and have an oasis of time to be with other women from all walks of life.

We have a space on the couch for you.  
Any questions, call or email Kay Lewis.

Kay Lewis - 847-381-7820, [kaylewis1029@gmail.com](mailto:kaylewis1029@gmail.com)

### **A Story of St. Michael's Outreach Grant**

St Michael's Outreach grants have supported St Leonard's Ministries for many years and members of the congregation have served on the board and as volunteers. A member agency of Episcopal Charities and Community services, St Leonard's provides comprehensive residential, case management and employment services for those released from prison. St Leonard's is crucial to helping men and women released from prison who don't have the resources available to rebuild their lives. The *Chicago Tribune* recently ran a story about this ministry; click [here](#) to read the story.



### **Children's Ministries and the Rectory are in Need of Your Help in the as you Clean Sweep for the New Year!**

We are currently working on the appearance of Room 6 in the Church School hallway. This room is going to be used as a space designated for the Solemn Communion Meditations and Retreats. It will also be available to

the children at any time for a quiet place of reflection, meditation and prayer. There will be art supplies always available, a substantial library of appropriate reading material and a prayer table. This room is also used for meetings by groups at St. Michael's and by outside groups for meetings - such as, AA. We are hoping, as you begin the New Year, if you find that you have any couches in good repair that you might consider donating them to us for this special gathering place for children and adults. Two small couches would work or a couch and a chair would work, also. Please contact Nerissa at

847.381.2323 extension 15 or  
nbrueckbauer@stmichaelsbarrington.org.

Additionally, we need to replace the gas stove/dual oven in the Rectory. The knobs are falling off and the temperature of the oven is always a bit of a guessing game. This appliance is challenging to work with at best. (It would be lovely to replace this outdated appliance for the Caruso's with a gas stove/oven that might even have a microwave in place of the upper oven.) If you received a new gas stove/oven in your stocking this year, please consider donating your old one for use in the Rectory. Please contact Kim at 847.381.2323 extension 16 or klessner@stmmichaelsbarrington.org.



### **St. Michael's Veterans' Group**

Next scheduled formation is Thursday, January 10th @ 1900 hours in the Library.

We have another fine speaker lined up for our war stories hour. Point of Contact is Jim Tammi,

847.382.4262.

### **From our Youth Minister**

**THIS WEEK:**

Saturday 12/22--Youth Christmas Extravaganza & Cookie Decorating 6:00-9:00 in the Sturtz House. Bring Christmas movies & board games. Please let me know if you are attending so I can be sure there is enough snacks.

Sunday 12/23--LIFT Worship & Formation @ 9:00/SMUSH  
Worship & Formation @ 10:45

**UPCOMING:**

Thursday, 1/3 & Friday, 1/4--Sturtz House Painting Party. We will be painting the Sturtz House in shades of blue. COME ONE, COME ALL (including parents)



Father Caruso during Clergy Time with a class of three year olds from Little Angels Christian Preschool on Thursday, 20 December, wondering, "Is it time?"

### Upcoming Events

+Christmas Eve, Monday, 24 December, Holy Eucharist with Carols, Children's Message, 2:00 & 4:00 p.m. (childcare available at these services only)

+Christmas Eve, Monday, 24 December, Choral Holy Eucharist with Sermon, Organ & Strings, 9:00 & 10:00 p.m. (incense at 11:00 p.m.)

+Christmas Day, Tuesday, 25 December, Said Eucharist, Sermon, Carols & Organ, 10:00 a.m.

+Sunday, 30 December, The First Sunday after Christmas Day, Yes! We'll be here! Regular service times, 7:45 a.m., 9:00 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

+Sunday, 6 January, The Feast of the Epiphany (rumored visit from the Wise Men) Regular service times, 7:45 a.m., 9:00 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

+Sunday, 6 January, Commissioning of the Solemn First Communion Class at the 9:00 a.m. Service

+Tuesday, 8 January, Soul Journey Women's Study, 9:15 a.m. in the Church Library

+Thursday, 10 January, St. Michael's Veterans Group, 7:00 p.m., Church Library

**Revised Common Lectionary Year C, Advent 4** Micah 5:2-5a,  
Canticle 3 or 15, Hebrews 10:5-10, Luke 1:39-45

### Contact Info

St. Michael's Vestry

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

Pete Douglas, Lora Gier, Dave Evans

Dale Griffith, Sean Harrington, Pat Kane, Mike Savage

Cristy Cressey, Bob Gilbert, Michele Philips, Lance Marcinek

John Davis - Treasurer, Craig Anderson - Clerk

Joe Schmidt, Youth Representative Madelyn Lanham, Youth Representative

### Clergy and Staff

The Rev. Patrick Raymond, Rector; The Rev. Kevin Caruso, Curate; 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; Jeff Schirmer, Sexton.

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The Sword is published each Thursday. Any questions or comments regarding this publication should be sent to [news@stmichaelsbarrington.org](mailto:news@stmichaelsbarrington.org).

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