



Dedication of the
Drs. Michael & Kate Bárány
May House Courtyard

Episcopal Church Home • Sunday, July 22 • 2012
Program begins at noon • Buffet luncheon follows

Welcoming Remarks on Behalf of the Family

George Barany

Reading

Francis Barany

We gather from across the country on this day, a time we will long cherish. We are filled with gratitude. We are sustained and strengthened through memory. This moment is for us a time to celebrate even as we remember with love, affection, and sadness, our mother and father, grandmother and grandfather, and loved relatives, Kate and Michael.

Today we dedicate a place to celebrate their creative contributions to the world in the place that became their final home, a home filled with kindness and compassion. When we return to our own homes, we pledge to tell and retell the stories of this day.

We will learn the narratives of Kate and Michael, weave them into our lives, and witness them unfolding in the lives of generations to come.

Reading

Strange is our situation here upon earth. Each of us comes for a short visit, not knowing why, yet sometimes seeming to divine a purpose. From the standpoint of daily life, however, here is one thing we do know: that we are here for the sake of each other, above all, for those upon whose smile and well-being our own happiness depends, and also for the countless unknown souls with whose fate we are connected by a bond of sympathy. Many times a day I realize how much my own outer and inner life is built upon the labors of others, both living and dead, and how earnestly I must exert myself in order to give in return as much as I have received and am still receiving.

– Albert Einstein (adapted)

Remarks

Chaplain Kay Provine

Director of Spiritual Life, Episcopal Homes
Saint Paul, Minnesota

Rabbi Adam Stock Spilker

Mount Zion Temple
Saint Paul, Minnesota

Marvin J. Plakut

President & CEO, Episcopal Homes
Saint Paul, Minnesota

Dedication and Unveiling of the Memorial Plaque

We give thanks for the blessing of life, of companionship, and of memory. We are grateful for the strength and the faith that sustained us in the hour of our bereavement. Though sorrow lingers, we have learned that love is stronger than death. At this moment of dedication and remembrance, we sense Kate and Michael's presence in our hearts. How blessed we are to be together on this sacred occasion. Amen.

Reading

For me to have made one soul
the better for my birth
To have added but one flower
to the garden of the earth;
To have struck one blow for truth
in the daily fight with lies;
To have touched another living soul
to have done one deed of right;
in the face of adversity
to have sown in the souls of humanity
one thought that will not die -
to have been a link in the chain of life
This shall be immortality.

- Anonymous

When we are dead, and people weep for us and grieve, let it be because we touched their lives with beauty and simplicity. Let it not be said that life was good to us, but, rather, that we were good to life.

- Rabbi Jacob Philip Rudin

Reading in Unison

סְלוּעָה רָלָם וּנְיָהֲלָא יִי הָתֵא רֹרֵב,
הַזֶּה נִמְזַל וְנַעֲיָגָהּ וְנִמְיָקוּ וְנִיַּחָהּ.

Baruch ata Adonai, Eloheinu, Melech HaOlam,
she'he-che'ya-nu, v'kee-y'ma-nu v'hee-gee-a-nu, laz-man ha-zeh.

We thank You, Eternal God
for telling us,
"My love around you,
My blessings on you
have surely brought you
to this day."

– *Shehehiyanu*, by Ruth Brin from *Harvest*, p. 126



TRANSITIONAL CARE

This is a tribute to **Michael and Kate Bárány**, two Holocaust survivors who exemplified the art of living, both personally and professionally. We were privileged to serve them and their family at the ends of their remarkable journeys.

Have you or anyone in your family ever had an MRI? Had it not been for **Michael Bárány's** pioneering research, exploratory surgery may have been needed to find out what was going on inside you or your loved one.

That was just one chapter in the story of Michael's life and work. The story of **Kate Bárány**, his wife of nearly 62 years, is every bit as remarkable.

Both Michael and Kate were born in Hungary. He, the son of a Jewish farmer. She, the daughter of a Jewish physician. During the war, Michael survived Buchenwald and Kate

survived Auschwitz. Most close relatives did not. Both returned to Hungary after the war to continue their educations. Michael pursued his M.D. and a Ph.D. in Biochemistry. Kate, a Ph.D. in Physics.

The two met by chance in June 1949, after Kate had cut her finger slicing bread and Michael gave her first aid. They met again on August 1 at a student retreat, where a four-day courtship led to marriage on October 20, 1949. For the next six decades, Michael and Kate celebrated anniversaries of both August 1-4 (the high holidays) and what they called their "legal" marriage.

In 1956, the Báránys took part in a student march that sparked the Hungarian Revolution (soon crushed by the Soviets). Early in 1957, they fled Hungary by walking 10 miles through the snow-covered border with their toddler son, George. Kate was pregnant with their second son (Francis) at the



Michael and Kate in the early 60's, conducting research with an analytical ultracentrifuge.

time. In 1960, after stops in Israel and Germany, the couple found their way to New York City's Institute for Muscle Disease. When it closed in 1974, Michael and Kate found a new home at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) College of Medicine. They continued their research, made a number of fundamental discoveries, published many papers and book chapters, and were beloved by their students and colleagues.

Still, nothing gave Michael and Kate greater pride than their sons (both "in the family business" as professors) and their four grandchildren. George works in the University of Minnesota's Department of Chemistry. Francis works in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology at Weill Cornell Medical College in New York.



On the UIC campus, the Báránys were known as "the professors who hold hands."

Learn more about Michael Bárány's life and work at:

<http://www.chem.umn.edu/groups/baranygp/michaelbarany/>

Learn more about Kate Bárány's life and work at:

<http://www.chem.umn.edu/groups/baranygp/katebarany/>

After their retirements, Michael and Kate continued to live in their apartment near the UIC campus, and they maintained offices at the school. In recent years, Kate had developed health problems and Michael was overseeing her care. But in February 2011, he fell and broke a hip. All of a sudden, big changes had to be made.

Kate was alone in the apartment and needed a 24/7 live-in caregiver. And after his discharge from the hospital, Michael started a difficult rehabilitation. The consensus was that he would never be able to return home.

The family decided that it would be best to move both Michael and Kate to the Twin Cities to be close to son George and his wife Barbara. In April 2011, Barbara took a leave of absence from teaching at Highland Park Senior High in order to explore their options. The initial plan was to find a transitional care facility where Michael could complete his rehab and a condo where Kate could live with support from home health aides. The family also needed to plan for Michael's eventual move into Assisted Living.

"Finding the right transitional care facility for Michael was a challenge," says Barbara. "He was a professor and M.D., and was used to being in charge. We needed to find a place where he would feel duly respected and empowered. The mother of one of my students recommended Episcopal Church Home because of her parents' and family's experience there."

Barbara says that from her first visit, she felt that our **Transitional Care Center** would be the best place for Michael to complete his rehab. The facility was beautiful, but what really stood out for her was the competence and compassion of the staff. *"They addressed him as 'Professor,'" says Barbara, "and rather than tell Michael what was going to happen and when, they made appointments with him for his care and therapy. His dignity remained intact, and his outlook brightened dramatically."*

On June 5, a week before Kate was scheduled to move into her condo, she suffered a stroke in Chicago. It left her paralyzed and unable to eat. Admissions Director **Deb Veit** felt it was important for Michael to be with Kate in her final days, so she offered the family a room for Kate that was close to Michael's. *"We were wondering what to do, and Deb just volunteered it," says Barbara.* Kate arrived in the Twin Cities on June 8 and passed away on June 13 with Michael by her side.

Michael continued to make excellent progress, but he succumbed to complications of his age and joined his beloved wife on July 24. His last word was, "Kati."



A POEM

Jim Palmer
Cornelia House
Resident and
Poet Laureate

Changing Times

When I was young and
rich with time
to spend on things
eternal,
tomorrow and in just
a little while
seemed to me
forever.

Now I grow old
and days are dear,
tomorrow and
forever
seem just
a little while
at last.

Jim and Lee Palmer have lived at **Cornelia House** since it opened in 2005. They hail from the Groveland Park neighborhood. Both were teachers (Jim was also a counselor, then principal). As we go to press, Jim is in our **Transitional Care Center**, and Lee just moved to **Iris Park Commons** for Assisted Living. *"Everything we need is right here," says Jim. "That makes it easier to roll with the punches."*

Michael and George holding Kate's hand while keeping vigil at her bedside.



New courtyard honors the memory of Drs. Michael and Kate Bárány

Drs. Michael and Kate Bárány were Holocaust survivors who exemplified the art of living, both personally and professionally. We were privileged to serve them and their family at the ends of their remarkable journeys. Son George, who works in the University of Minnesota's Department of Chemistry, says that his family was deeply touched by the kindness of the people at Episcopal Church Home. *"Deb Veit and her staff went to great lengths to enable my parents to be together at my mother's end. After her passing, my father – who was in transitional care – took comfort sitting in the sun, watching the waterfalls and butterflies in the courtyards. That inspired our family to make the Church Home's fourth courtyard a beautiful, peaceful refuge like the other three. It is our wish that current and future residents, with their families, should derive their own joys and lasting memories when they visit and relax in the Michael & Kate Bárány May House Courtyard."* Amen! The dedication will be July 22.

EpiscopalHomes.org



Learn more about Michael Bárány's life and work at:

<http://tinyurl.com/michaelbarany>

Learn more about Kate Bárány's life and work at:

<http://tinyurl.com/katebarany>