



Siasconset Union Chapel

SPRING/SUMMER 2024

WELCOME TO OUR 141ST YEAR

Worship Schedule

Protestant Services

Sundays 10:30 AM
June 9 to September 15, 2024

Midweek Prayer Service

Thursdays 8 AM
June 13 to September 12, 2024

Roman Catholic Masses

Sunday 8:45 AM
June 30 to September 1, 2024

Beach Services

Sundays 8:00 AM
July 7 and July 21
August 4 and August 18
September 1



Dear friends of the Chapel,

Our daily approach to life is influenced and framed by many things. We take in local and world news by print or viewing. We connect to family life by conversation, social media, and by time focused on family, such as a vacation together.

Our faith also informs our life through scripture, prayer, other reading, and community reflection. Hymns and anthems also help us to think theologically. One of my favorite Easter hymns, *Now the Green Blade Riseth*, connects Jesus' resurrection to our emotional healing, where we rise to new or renewed life. The fourth verse is:

When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain, Jesus' touch can call us back to life again, Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been: Love is come again like wheat that springeth green. (1)

What is caught here is our need to awaken to the deepest rhythms of life as designed by God. Here, also, is the idea that we come through times and spaces where we need to reawaken to the currents of life as God intended, where we are both loved and loving. The core image of Christianity is the resurrection of Christ, promising more than life eternal at the end of our earthly journey but life eternal every day of our journey. The spiritual energy of the Christian life is other-centered love. We gather to be called and recalled to God's touch, which we know best in Jesus Christ, through the

deep and often quiet spaces in our life. When we cease from busyness, we can open inwardly, listen, be better made, and find that place where we "springeth green" anew.

We gather again this season to offer a haven for our renewal and growth, not as an occasional thing but rather as the very rhythm of our lives. Largely that comes through patterned worship, the stilling of ourselves, in the Chapel, in the garden or on the beach perhaps. Life is also renewed, deepened in the greeting and being present to those for whom we care and in offering care to others in their need. In this publication you will find opportunities to be fed, to nurture our young, to gather for enlightenment, to care for one another in the changes of life, to serve the broader community, to awaken continually and purposefully to your inner/outer life as God intended.

We hope that each individual or family who visits this Chapel and its grounds, whether for the first time or the hundredth time, will find a place to be opened, welcomed, or enlivened as you need. In all the busyness of this Island, may you find here a place to pause, to be, to become renewed, to "springeth green."

In Christ's love,
The Rev. J. Carr Holland III

(1) Now The Green Blade Riseth.
By John MacLeod Campbell Crum. #247

"THE SCONSET CHAPEL IS AN HISTORIC SACRED PLACE OFFERING A SPIRITUAL HOME TO ALL AND AS SUCH PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL TO WORSHIP, CELEBRATE, LEARN, MOURN, AND SERVE TOGETHER IN THE CHRISTIAN TRADITION"

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear Friends of the Chapel,

Welcome to the Chapel's 141st season!!

We look forward to greeting you when our doors open in June. Thank you for your continued generosity! Your support enables the Chapel to carry out our mission-not only in the village but across the entire island of Nantucket. As you know, we are totally dependent upon your gifts to keep all Chapel programs viable.

There are many things we are thankful for at our beloved Chapel. The Reverend J. Carr Holland will begin his 11th summer with us. He continues to bless us every season! Chrissi Crampton and her awesome team will be heading up the Sunday Children's Program. Sincere thanks to Eileen West and the Outreach committee for carefully selecting organizations on the island for us to support. Ed Hodge and the Finance committee are thoughtful in managing our finances. The entire Board is engaged in overseeing all aspects of Chapel life. In addition to the committees mentioned, we focus on the maintenance of our beautiful grounds and columbarium areas, buildings and preservation, communications, events, hospitality and pastoral support. And we are always grateful for volunteers!

Thank you for sharing your time and talents with us. We are fortunate to have the Chapel serve as the heart of village life. All are welcome!

Special thanks to Carr for all he does behind the scenes to get us up and running every summer. And thank you also to Sheila Daume for her tireless dedication to the Sconset Chapel.

With heartfelt thanks,

Elizabeth Queally

Dear Friends in Christ,

Welcome back! It's hard to believe we are about to begin another Summer Season here on this beautiful Island of Nantucket. Soon we will begin the Celebration of Sunday Mass here at 'Sconset Union Chapel. I am looking forward to gathering with you on Sunday. While I am not able to be there every week, we have the assistance of the Jesuits from Boston College.

As we journey together in faith as disciples of Jesus Christ, let us remain committed to Him, the words of Sacred Scripture and the beautiful teachings of the Catholic Church.

Jesus reminds us, in the Gospel of John, chapter 6, that if we "eat His flesh and drink His blood" we have His life in us. This is why we gather for Mass each Sunday. God bless you all!

Fr. John Murray,

Pastor, St Mary Our Lady of the Isle

SIASCONSET CHAPEL OUTREACH - 2024

There is nothing like good neighbors. When I was sick with COVID, my neighbor went out of her way to bring me my favorite cup of coffee each day. Sometimes her husband would get into the act, driving her to COMPASS several blocks away and back. Now that my neighbor is going through a health crisis of her own, I am trying to think of ways to make her days more cheerful. My neighbor began this circle of giving, which permeates our block in Georgetown, making it so very special.

Nantucket, as an island, is very much like that. We all depend on each other for friendship, for support, for services that beautify our island, educate, entertain us, and make Nantucket singular in its appeal. We also strive to give back.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Chapel's Outreach Committee. Over the years, committee members have tried their best to identify ways to fulfill the Committee's mission, which is to provide support for "health and human services on Nantucket Island and beyond." The generosity of this Chapel is unsurpassed for a community of our size, allowing gifts to non-profits on the island to double in size from a few years ago. Committee members do their research by interviewing executive directors of island non-profits about the use of Chapel funds and future needs, checking websites, and by seeking advice and guidance from members of the community, such as The Community Foundation.

This year again, the Chapel has set an ambitious goal of distributing \$150,000 to island non-profits, matching what we have done for the past two years. This is only possible through the gen-

erosity of so many who worship here. Funds for Outreach come from collections on two Outreach Sundays – one in July and one in August – and from special solicitations, such as the raffle of a needlepoint rug, which luckily will happen again this coming summer. The Chapel is likely the fourth or fifth largest donor to the Nantucket community and that is something to celebrate.

In 2023, we funded 18 island non-profits, providing money for addiction help, behavioral support, housing, food, fuel and rental assistance, scholarships for small learners, helping the homeless, safety from abuse, travel expenses for health reasons, after-school resources for teens, and assisting those with special needs. We are so proud of the work they do: A Safe Place, Addictions Solutions, Boston Med Flight, Community School – Summer Boost Program, Fairwinds, Habitat for Humanity, Marla Ceely Lamb Fund, Nantucket Boys and Girls Club, Nantucket Food Fuel and Rental Assistance, Nantucket Housing, Nantucket Star, Our House, PASCON, Rising Tide, Small Friends, St. Paul's Meals Mission, The Community Foundation, and The Warming Place.

In his thoughtful sermon last August on ways to do God's work on earth, Carr spoke of a commitment to addressing "raw need," through acts of "generosity and kindness." We cannot thank you enough for your deep understanding of the needs of others and recognizing that by giving, we all receive so much in return.

Eileen Shields West

Chair, Outreach Committee

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM



Board of Trustees

- Lesley Blanchard
- Maggie Cooley
- Chrissi Crampton
- Caroline Ellis
- Charles Galliot
- Ed Hodge
- George Hubbs
- Deb Martin
- Valerie Paley
- Charley Polachi
- Elizabeth Queally
- Sarah Russell
- Chris Staudt
- Eileen Shields West
- George Wilson
- The Reverend J Carr Holland

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- Patti Brown
- Jeff Lockhart
- Catherine Saynor
- Mimi Young

Mary Lathrop Will
Reservationist

Barbara Bispham
Wedding Coordinator

Sheila Daume
Administrator

Nell Wilson
Eblast



After two incredibly joyful seasons of Children's Chapel, we are bursting with excitement to embark on our third season. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has contributed to the success of this program. Each gathering has been a testament to God's presence, emphasizing the values of community, love, and kindness. Together, we sing hymns of joy, delve into Christian stories, offer prayers, engage in creative activities, and bask in the warmth of our church family, finding solace in the sense of belonging within our cherished community.

As we anticipate the upcoming summer, we are eager to expand upon our previous experiences. This season, we aim to delve deeper into the foundational teachings of the Old Testament and further explore the power of prayer. We eagerly anticipate reconnecting with familiar faces and extending a warm welcome to new friends who join us on this journey.

The Children's Program will coincide with the Chapel service on non-beach service Sundays

(July 14, 28; August 11 and 25). Children will commence the Chapel service with their families before coming together during the service to transition to 'AMEN'. There, they will engage in singing, crafts, storytelling, and community-building activities. Rest assured, while fun is our priority, safety remains paramount.

We are excited to welcome children ages 3-12 and encourage you to register your children and grandchildren. Additionally, we hope to enlist teenage volunteers and individuals with musical talents to enrich our program. For those interested in contributing or with any inquiries, please reach out to Chrissi Crampton at chrissicrampton@gmail.com.

Your participation is invaluable as we strive to cultivate a vibrant and sustainable congregation. We eagerly anticipate the opportunity to gather with you and your families at Chapel this summer!

Chrissi Crampton



BEHOLD BOOK AND ORNAMENTS



The BEHOLD book was started as a project by the needlepoint committee about the Chapel needlepoint and evolved into a history of the Chapel and its place in the village of 'Sconset.

It includes great history and photographs of all the beautiful kneelers and all the other needlepoint in the Chapel. There are five ornaments which make wonderful gifts to special friends and family. You may work the canvas or buy it completed.

Please contact Sheila Daume:
P.O. Box 604, Sconset, MA 02564.

The book is \$50 and the ornaments are \$75 unfinished.



FOOD PANTRY BAGS



'Sconset Chapel Food Pantry bags will be available at the Chapel every Sunday during the season. Please take one, fill it up with suggested items from the list in the pocket of the bag. Bring it back on Sunday or to the porch at Amen and the bags will be taken to the food pantry.

THE NANTUCKET FOOD PANTRY
IS MOST APPRECIATIVE OF OUR DONATIONS.

HOSPITALITY

The Hospitality Committee is looking forward to another wonderful summer season this year. Thanks to a loyal and very enthusiastic group of committee members, we are able to provide the congregation with lemonade and treats following four services this summer.

Please join us and enjoy meeting old and new neighbours on the following scheduled dates: July 14th, July 28th, August 11th and August 25th.

Please mark Sunday, August 4th in your calendars for our annual interfaith Chapel Picnic. Details to follow.

For anyone who is interested in joining the Hospitality Committee, please know you are ALWAYS WELCOME!!!!

A HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE TEA for all committee members (new and old) will be held on Thursday, June 24th @ 1 Rosaly Lane (house name - *Sutureself*) from 3-5 pm.

This is an opportunity to get together and sign up in advance for summer events. The requests are simple: brownies, cookies, savory treats, (approximately a dozen per person) lemonade and picnic offerings (ie. a salad, appetizer, desserts).

If you are interested in this committee or have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me...dmartin@rogers.com

Thank you,

Deb Martin
Hospitality Chair

CHAPEL NEEDLEPOINT RUG

The theme of this year's needlepoint project to benefit the Chapel Outreach program developed by Cincinnati designer, Denise Strasser is based on the flora of the columbarium. Throughout the Summer months of 2023 photos of blossoms were sent to Denise. A contemporary design evolved using the photos and landscape drawings of the hardscape. The nine-panel tapestry has been completed by stitchers *Nancy Bills, Sheila Daume, Aine Donovan, Caroline Ellis, Lucile Hays, Carol Moffitt, Carver Queally, Heather Rodts, and Emma Ward.*

As in the past, raffle tickets will be sold at Chapel events and in the Great Point Real Estate garden next to the post office. The drawing will be on **September 15th.**



INVESTMENT AND FINANCIAL REPORT

I'm glad to report that, thanks to the generosity of all Chapel congregants, 2023 was a successful year financially for the 'Sconset Chapel. Thank you!

Total giving set a record in 2023. Our ordinary income (all income excluding distributions from the endowment) exceeded ordinary expenses (excluding capital expenditures and Outreach grants); a rare occurrence in a world beset with rising prices. In addition, \$44,000 was raised to overhaul the Chapel piano. As in the prior two years, the Chapel granted over \$150,000 to island non-profits funded, in part, by dedicated Outreach donations, and supported by a withdrawal from the General endowment. The two endowments (General and Columbarium) both appreciated nicely thanks to a favorable US stock market and elevated bond and cash yields. The General endowment increased by nearly 12% after withdrawals, and now exceeds \$3,000,000 in value, a level last seen in 2022.

Our 2024 budget, approved by the Board in February, provides for the services of the Chapel, support for our staff, professionals, and musicians, the care and maintenance of our buildings and grounds, and the funding of \$150,000 of Outreach grants to island non-profit organizations. While we anticipate expenses will be higher this year than last, given the rising price level of all goods and services, we do not foresee any significant capital expenditures this should help us keep our total expenses within 3% of last year. On the income side, we are off to a good start. Our just-concluded Annual Appeal generated a 7% increase over 2023, which was the largest on record. We have a strong cash position and are well-situated to meet our obligations until the Chapel season begins in June. Although we expect to take a normal withdrawal from the endowment, we continue to depend on the generosity of Chapel attendees and followers to meet our budget goals. Thank you, in advance, for your continued financial support of the Chapel.

What a blessing it is to have a vibrant Chapel in 'Sconset. I know we are all looking forward to a great summer of worship, praise, and fellowship.

Respectively submitted, **Ed Hodge**,
Treasurer and The Siasconset Chapel Finance Committee

DOCENTS & BELL RINGERS

As residents of 'Sconset, we see how integral the Chapel is to our Village, both for its spiritual and historic value. As bell ringers and docents we get a glimpse into what the Chapel means to visitors. For the few minutes each day the front doors are open wide as the bell rings loudly; those on Sankaty Golf Course stop mid swing to listen, if the wind is right the bell can be heard down by the coast guard station, landscapers listen from their trucks while eating lunch and bikers stop on their way to Milestone Rd. It touches people. The docents welcome people from all over the world for many different reasons. They were married in the chapel and come to celebrate anniversaries or bring friends and family. People come because they have heard so much about Nantucket and specifically 'Sconset. The amount of people who have heard about the kneelers is amazing. Most guests take great care in listening to the docents, perusing the kneelers and wandering through the columbarium. Some days the numbers are few but other days there might be over 15 people, including tour groups passing by. This past summer one of our docents, Hill Carter, had 2 guests who asked to use the piano. "The sounds of music and singing emanated throughout the chapel and suddenly we had a crowd inside and out. It was a great experience for all. Indeed it is a "living" part of the Village." When things get a bit crazy in the real world I think of 'Sconset and feel my blood pressure lowering. We are all very blessed to be part of this Village.

Stephanie Hodge
My email address is: stephaniehodge3857@gmail.com



WEDDINGS

The Chapel is a special and highly sought after place for a wedding on the island. Choosing it for your marriage ceremony brings your family into our Christian community. To learn more about our practices and policies concerning marriage and eligibility, please visit the website, sconsetchapel.org/weddings.

We encourage Chapel worshippers and their families, year round and summer residents of Nantucket island property owners and frequent visitors to reserve the Chapel for weddings at least eight months ahead. The fee for a wedding generates funding for building and garden maintenance. For all details, review the website, then contact Mary Lathrop Will, the Chapel Reservationist, with questions about availability and steps forward. marylathropwill@gmail.com.



PIANO

The Chapel's Steinway piano has just been totally refurbished by the generous gifts of several Chapel worshippers for which we are eternally grateful. The piano will once again perform well. One cannot think about our beloved piano in the Chapel without thinking about Grace McCreary. Grace played the piano for 45 years for Chapel services and weddings. Grace graduated in the first class at Sarah Lawrence (a two-year college at the time) in 1930, followed by receiving her BA from New England Conservatory of Music and an MS from Radcliffe College. Coming from a musical family, it is no wonder that Grace started her prodigious practicing at a very young age. When not on Island, she was in Belmont, MA where she taught piano lessons for years. Grace loved life: identifying birds by their songs, driving her MG sports car, and playing competitive golf at Sankaty Head Golf Club. She would be thrilled knowing that her precious and well-loved piano has taken on a new life in 2024. Again, we are most grateful to these generous donors.

Lynn Stroad



Did your address or email change?

Are you new to the Chapel and want to be included in our newsletter and email blast?

Send your email and address to:

sconsetchapel@gmail.com



MEMORIAL GIFTS

We are grateful for the following gifts In Memory of:

Barbara and John Bartlett
 Thomas Bispham
 Elaine A Boehm
 Howard W. Boehm
 Richard W Boehm
 Edward Callahan
 Douglass Ellis
 Marianne Felch
 Jeffrey Haines
 Judy and Bill Holding
 Donald Hollings
 Stanley and Sally Johnson
 Paul Judy
 John Gardner Lathrop
 Maggie Lockett
 Robbin Lockett
 Grace McCreary
 Willem McRobie

Kate Spencer Morton
 Mary Virginia Polachi
 Michael Price
 David St. Clair
 Joly Stewart
 Richard Stockton
 Jane and Duane Todd
 Carol Vittorini
 Bobbie West

In Thanksgiving for:

Chrissi Crampton
 Carr Holland and
 Maxwell Mundy
 Catherine Saynor

THE PET COLUMBARIUM THE COLUMBARIUM

The Chapel garden includes a small columbarium in the west garden where pet ashes may be interred. There is a \$150 fee and a memory log is kept in the Chapel.

"all things bright and beautiful all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful. The Lord God made them all"

The columbarium is a beautiful and peaceful final resting place for Chapel worshipers and Sconset residents - summer and year-round.

The current cost to reserve a half-niche is \$3,000 (per person) and \$6,000 for a full niche for two people. An additional fee, which cannot be prepaid, is currently \$1,200 for interment of a deceased person's ashes. This fee includes a Chapel-issued urn, a niche-top plaque and opening/closing of the niche at the time of interment. Please see the "Memorials" page of the Chapel website for more details on how to apply.

There is another option for direct in-ground interment of ashes. A granite stele wall "niche" (located in the west garden) can be reserved for \$500. This option allows for a plaque to be affixed to the wall and the ashes will be interred in a designated location on the grounds. The same interment fee, currently \$1,200, will apply at time of interment.

Please contact Robert Felch at rdfelch@gmail.com with inquiries or when applying for a niche.

Or write to:
 PO Box 339, Siasconset, MA 02564

SUMMER BEACH SERVICES

Don't miss out on the very popular 'Sconset Chapel Beach Services! The services take place on the 'Sconset Beach at 8:00AM (weather permitting) on July 7th and 21st, August 4th and 18th and September 1st. The Blessing of the Animals takes place on July 21st and August 18th.

This is an opportunity to worship in comfortable attire surrounded by friends, house guests, children, grandchildren and, of course, dogs! Don't forget your chair! The Reverend J. Carr Holland leads the prayers with musical accompaniment while the ocean is our backdrop.

Lynn Stroad



Call the Chapel after 7:30 am if weather looks questionable. 508-257-6616

VOLUNTEERS

Dear friends of 'Sconset and the Chapel. It is once again that glorious time of year - getting ready for summer in our little piece of heaven on earth. For our 15 week Chapel season, we need 60 volunteers. Two to welcome and greet everybody and two to do the assigned readings each Sunday. If you would like to participate in these essential ministries, please email me at: **irishpoet3@gmail.com** and let me know the dates you will be available. I will be back during the first week of June and will be in touch with all of you shortly thereafter.

Thank you!
Catherine Saynor



POEM FOR THE WARMING PLACE

Have you ever felt abandoned
Alone, no place to go-
Amidst excess of earthly things
And poverty of soul
When wind and rain and heavy fear
Hold every sinew bound
And love and peace and gentleness
Seem nowhere to be found.
Into this barren landscape
Our island's spirit shines
A light to beckon all who need
Some shelter, gather round
And welcome to "The Warming Place"
Where God.. as love..is found.

Ubi caritas et Amor
Deus ibi est
Where charity and love prevail
There is God

- Catherine Saynor

Siasconset Union Chapel

P.O. Box 400, 18 New Street
Siasconset, MA 02564
508-257-6616

This season, it's important we have your **CORRECT** email address sent to: SconsetChapel@gmail.com
Stay tuned to the E-blast and the Chapel website: www.sconsetchapel.org

CHAPEL CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2024

JUNE

- 9** 10:30 Protestant Service begins
- 13** 8:00 Communion and Healing Service
(Thursdays through September 12)
- 20** 9:30 Board Retreat at Amen
- 30** 8:45 Opening Catholic Mass
(Runs through September 1)

JULY

- 7** 8:00 Beach Service
- 14** Children's Program
- 18** Board Meeting 9:30
- 21** 8:00 Beach Service, Blessing of
the Animals.
10:30 Communion Service
- 21** Page Dickey - Garden designer
- 28** Outreach Sunday / Children's program

AUGUST

- 4** 8:00 Beach Service
- 4** Picnic at the Casino
- 11** Children's Program
- 11** Charness Family concert
- 15** Board Meeting
- 18** 8:00 Beach service, blessing of
the Animals.
10:30 Communion Service
- 25** Outreach Sunday / Children's Program

SEPTEMBER

- 1** Final Catholic Mass
- 1** 8:00 Beach Service
- 1** 'Sconset Stories - Bonnie Levison
- 12** Board Meeting
- 15** Last Protestant Service

Coming this summer - watch for date!

Half-Share Man: A new musical, staged by our own Mollie Glazer, about Nantucket's early colonists. Advancing the successful winter Atheneum performance, this will be a staged reading with ensemble musical accompaniment.