

Worship Schedule

All services subject to COVID limitations and may be virtual. Check website. www.sconsetchapel.org

Protestant Services

Sundays 10:30 AM
June 14 to September 20, 2020

Midweek Prayer Service

Thursdays 8 AM
June 18 to September 17, 2020

Roman Catholic Services

Sundays 8:45 AM
July 5 to September 6, 2020

Sunday Beach Service

Sundays 8 AM
July 5, July 19, August 2, and August 16, 2020



Siasconset Union Chapel

SPRING/SUMMER 2020

WELCOME TO OUR 137TH YEAR

Dear friends of the Chapel,

I once had a friend who would say every time we had to adjust something, in a way that pleased him, "New occasions teach new duties." At times that statement annoyed me. Over these last months that phrase has played repeatedly in my mind as a helper. As we open the Chapel this season, we are living into a new occasion brought to us by COVID-19. Many of us are returning to a place that has been ours by the rhythm of the changing of seasons. Others who live here year-round also have a rhythm associated with the "season" now opening. This year many pieces of that rhythm, that dependable sameness, are under significant shift. I don't need to innumerate that as we are living it in many places.

What we may not have in the front of our minds is how much we depend on rhythm, how sacred it is in our lives. We inhabit our lives, our world by rhythms. There are the simple rhythms of sleeping and waking, the things we do as we awake, as we close the day. There are other ways we mark times of inner focus, daily duties, familial love, play and pleasure, neighborliness. There are sacred rhythms of stopping, praying, reflecting, engaging the Holy and the secular, connecting both. Just as we have daily ways of this, we have a weekly, a yearly calendared sense of this engagement with the Holy and the secular and how they speak to each other. We grow to depend on these rhythms and how they help us shape meaning.

It troubles us when these patterns are disrupted or need to shift. They will be this season. Even now as I write we do not know when we can publicly gather in the Chapel or if we should.

The Board and I are actively engaging planning for what is or might be possible. "New occasions teach new duties" fits this moment in time. What is clear is we will need rhythms to continue to shape our days and weeks. As they shift new possibilities open.

Here is what you can depend on. While we will not initially gather publicly, we will Sunday by Sunday, Thursday by Thursday worship. Sunday will be virtual, by live feed from the Chapel, certainly at first. On Thursday we will find a way to adapt in a more distant, less intimate form. We are planning Beach services, but we will have to see what is permissible and wise. As social occasions diminish in the secular arena, perhaps we will birth some additional sacred ones. The wise will wear masks to protect their neighbor from the less known. Information about all this will appear on the website: <https://sconsetchapel.org/> and be adjusted as the summer progresses.

When our rhythms are disrupted, we are offered an occasion to review and revalue them. Rather than abandon them, we can reacclimate and reclaim what gives meaning to our days, our week, our lives. It is in this creativity that peace and steadiness are created. Many of us will slow down. We will find new ways of sensitivity to one another. We will surely experience limit which is not a bad thing. By God's grace, we will grow in new ways perhaps deeper ways of care in our daily lives and in this season.

We welcome you anew to the Chapel and the gift of this particular summer.

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

COVID-19 PRACTICES

1. Practice social distancing of 6 ft., refrain from physical touch.
2. When in public wear a face mask to protect others.
3. Wash your hands often.
4. When the chapel opens follow all distancing guidelines.
5. We are exploring worship aids that can be downloaded on your cell phones. All books and pamphlets will have been removed from the Chapel.
6. When using the restroom in the Chapel, you will find disinfectant spray and paper towels. Wipe down the toilet, the sink, the doorknobs before leaving as an act of care for the next person.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear Friends of the Chapel,

I hope this finds you healthy and hopeful as we approach our 137th year at the Siasconset Union Chapel. Although the Summer 2020 season will be somewhat different than what we have anticipated and experienced in the past, it will be wonderful to reunite with friends and neighbors, even with socially distanced recommendations and guidelines in place.

No one could have predicted the magnitude of the coronavirus pandemic. We have all been affected in similar yet different ways. For many, fear, sorrow and solitude have accompanied overwhelming health and economic challenges. As we endeavor to become used to a "new normal" we can still look forward to the kindness and joy that our tight-knit community always seems to radiate. The smiles with which we greet one another, even if still hidden behind masks, will mean that much more to us. Happiness and a sense of purpose will be reflected more in our eyes and deeds rather than at larger gatherings.

Since much is unknown at this writing I cannot provide you with a calendar displaying a full schedule of worship services, speakers or outside events. I can promise you that Carr, your Board, various committees and staff have been discussing many logistical and creative ideas. We are determining how to conduct our Sunday Services, including outdoor and virtual options. Time will tell if and when we will be able to gather in larger groups as we manage a fluid plan in an ever changing environment. We are striving to meet all health, social distancing, individual and spiritual needs and expectations that we can.

VOLUNTEERS



The Chapel is usually open every weekday from 10:30 to 12:30 from late June till September. We welcome visitors and share our unique history accenting the Chapel's architecture and unique needlepoint. Last year we had another very successful summer greeting many visitors old and new to our Chapel. We welcome back past docents and encourage all to consider joining our outreach to the public.

Due to the current circumstances we may postpone the opening of the Chapel to visitors until July 6th after more people have settled in and travel has normalized. While we want to make our plans, public health guidelines will determine when this might happen.

We are proud of our historic building and newly landscaped grounds and we are grateful to be able to continue to help show off the results of excellent stewardship.

Please contact Daphne McCarthy at daphnemcc@verizon.net if you would like to serve as a docent./



Board of Trustees

Patti Brown

Maggie Cooley

Robert Felch

Ray Grubbs

Jeffrey Haines

Jamie Holt

George Hubbs

Ann Johnson

Mary Malavase

Daphne McCarthy

Deb Martin

Julia Ogilvy

Eileen Shields West

George Wilson

Joe Wright

Presidents Emeritis

Mimi Young

Jeff Lockhart

Catherine Saynor



During the pre-Covid 19 winter months, your board gathered telephonically to address all Chapel matters. The maintenance of our buildings, the needs of our community and the current columbarium and grounds landscaping project have been discussed in detail. Special thanks to our Treasurer, Jamie Holt, and the Finance committee for the time consuming process of setting our annual budget. The Board gives every line item thoughtful attention before voting on a current budget. Most likely we will be making some adjustments as a result of the more recent economic conditions.

We are always most grateful for your generous support which enables the Chapel to carry out its mission. As you are aware, we are totally dependent upon your gifts to keep all Chapel programs viable. Thank you for your generosity in recognizing and addressing these ever present needs. Our Outreach committee met in the Spring to begin addressing specific island needs resulting from this health and economic crisis. Sincere thanks to Deb Martin and the Outreach committee members, for voting to make some immediate grants to island non-profit organizations.

While alternate summer worship plans are being developed, we hope that the Chapel can still offer a quiet place to retreat for personal reflection and meditation. We will keep you posted on that as well as a calendar of events. Carr, Maxwell and Lady plan on arriving at the beginning of June. I look forward to greeting each of you and together we will acclimate to a different yet enjoyable summer!

All the Best,
Patti Brown

May, 2020

LETTER FROM FATHER JOHN KELLEHER

Dear Friends in Christ,

Blessings and Peace to you from St. Mary, Our Lady of the Isle Parish. It has certainly been a strange and unsettling Spring, hasn't it? Who could have imagined that a pandemic would result in all churches being closed, and all worship services being held virtually? I hope and pray that Summer brings us better days, great weather, and the opportunity to gather once again at Sconset Chapel to praise and worship our God together.

It's hard to believe that this Summer will mark the beginning of my THIRD year here at St. Mary's on Nantucket. I look forward to celebrating Mass with all of you once again at Sconset Chapel whenever that becomes possible, and can be done safely. In the meantime, be well and be safe. May the Lord bless you and your loved ones at this difficult time.

Peace,

Fr. John Kelleher
Pastor

St. Mary, Our Lady of the Isle Parish

AN UPDATE ON CHAPEL OUTREACH - 2019

The Outreach Committee at the Siasconset Union Chapel, wishes to extend our sincere gratitude to all members of the congregation, for their ongoing generosity and support to the Outreach Program.

Thanks to all of you, we were able to contribute to **15 non profit organizations** this year, that support 'Health and Human Services' to individuals in need, on Nantucket Island and beyond.

Our 2019 summer season was very active. We began in June with members of **A SAFE PLACE** joining us for a discussion about the invaluable work they do, to assist those suffering from domestic violence on island. Thanks to the generosity of many, we were able to host a **POP UP** event which provided many much needed supplies for parents and their children.

On July 28th, we were delighted to have Dr. David Nathan join us for Outreach Sunday. He is a long time supporter of **BOSTON MEDFLIGHT**, an essential non profit organization that provides critical care transportation to Nantucket residents all year. His message to the congregation was... 'You may not need them now...Just Wait'. Many thanks to Dr. Nathan for his time and interest in the Chapel's Outreach program.

On August 13th, thanks to the generosity of Mike Coleman and the Sconset Casino team, we were once again able to host **The Tulgey Wood Sing-along & Picnic**. We were particularly grateful, as that afternoon there was a torrential downpour. We all managed to dry off and enjoy a terrific event together with our very special friends.

On Outreach Sunday, August 25th, we were blessed to have Diane Bien, Program Director of **PASCON** (Palliative & Supportive Care of Nantucket), address the congregation about the valuable programs they offer to island residents in need. The highlight of the service was, when on behalf of the Needlepoint Group (Sheila Daume, Emma Ward, Jodi Wilson, Rilice Lefton, Caroline Ellis and Mary Jo Beck), Sheila Daume presented a significant donation to **PASCON**. The donation was a result of all proceeds from ticket sales for their beautiful hand made needlepoint rug. Not only did these talented women create and make it, an anonymous donor generously matched the rug sales. This donation was specifically given to honor our Marianne Felch and her family, all very special members of our congregation. Many thanks to everyone for their kind and generous contributions to a very special Outreach Sunday.

The Outreach Committee has received many, many notes of thanks, for the donations we were able to provide in 2019. One response said so much...

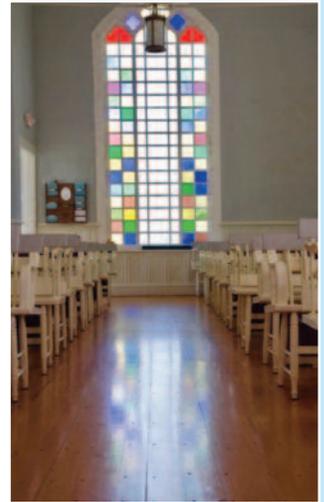
"It is wonderful to see such a small church with such a large outreach mission for our island community."

On behalf of the Outreach Committee, **THANK YOU!!**

Wishing you all a safe & healthy 2020.

Deb Martin
Outreach Chair

The Siasconset Union Chapel



NEEDLEPOINT RUG WINNER

The lucky winner of the Sconset Chapel needlepoint rug was won by Ellen Hawkes who lives in Sconset. When she was notified that she had won she said "I love the rug. I love the idea that it's the last thing I see as I climb into bed at night. I love the Sconset Chapel and what they have achieved. I will honor it"

Thank you again to the 6 stitchers of the beautiful rug; Caroline Ellis, Mary Jo Beck, Emma Ward, Jody Hilton, Rilice Lefton and Sheila Daume . The Chapel is grateful for the anonymous matching gift of \$5,000 which made it possible to donate \$10,000 to Pascon in honor of the Felch Family. Thank you to all the docents who sold tickets at the Chapel and the enthusiastic ticket sellers in front of the post office.

Thank you all for your generous support on this special fundraiser for the Sconset Chapel Outreach programs.

INVESTMENT AND FINANCIAL REPORT

Our Chapel continues to operate on a sound financial basis with your generous support. Revenues from our largest sources -- the Annual Appeal, Weddings, Outreach Donations and the Sunday plate all increased in 2019 over the previous year and the Finance Committee and the Trustees wish to convey our deep appreciation for your generosity! We were able to keep expenses flat in 2019. With the generous assistance of one of our families, we installed the new fan system, which has improved our comfort on our few very hot and humid days.

As a result of the Behold Campaign and several generous bequests, the Chapel is fortunate to have a modest endowment. The General Endowment is conservatively invested and has enjoyed growth over the last five years. In 2019 the Trustees implemented a mandatory distribution policy of 2.5% and this, in combination with your generosity in the offertory on our July and August Outreach Sundays, has enabled us to continually increase our budget for Outreach.

The Trustees approved a budget for 2020 contemplating a more conservative esti-

mate for revenue and, with a significant increase in our Outreach budget, a slight increase in expenses. We are contemplating no capital improvements in the budget.

The Chapel will experience financial challenges from the Covid-19 pandemic. The Finance and Investment Committee notes that the Covid-19 pandemic is likely to significantly impact our revenues in 2020. At the same time, we have significantly increased our Outreach budget for the benefit of Nantucket non-profit organizations. Their need has never been greater and may become more acute between now and when a vaccine is available. We are keenly aware of our duty and commitment to serve and thank you in advance for your support in 2020.

The Finance and Investment Committee looks forward to seeing you in the Chapel this summer and wants to remind you that if any of us are considering making changes to our estate plans this year, a bequest to the Chapel Endowment will be much appreciated and will serve and protect the Chapel's mission of worship and outreach into the future!

NANTUCKET PRESERVATION TRUST AWARD

The Chapel is proud to announce that one of our dedicated craftsmen, Ben Moore of Moore Woodworking, has been awarded Nantucket Preservation Trust's Traditional Building Methods award for his work restoring the Chapel's front door and entrance. In the winter of 2017-18, the trustees commissioned Ben to restore the original front doors. In the process we discovered that there might be issues with the door jamb and threshold. We determined that water infiltration had caused wet rot and a serious insect infestation and the trustees called on Ben last winter to reconstruct the entire entrance.

In his shop, Ben created a form for the door jamb and bent water-resistant mahogany into an

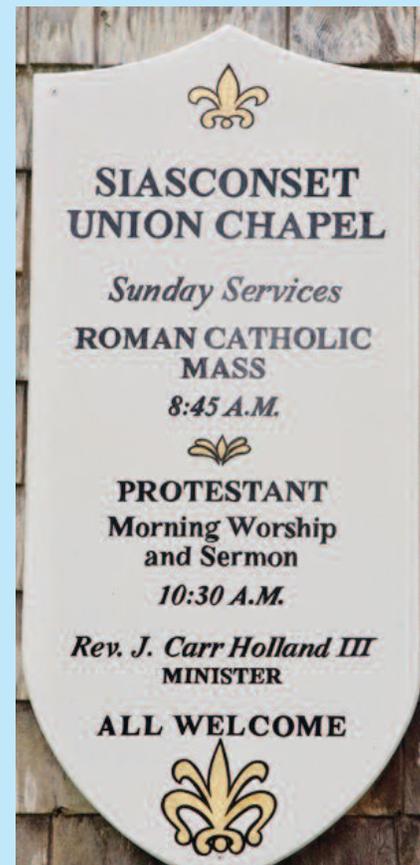
exact match of the existing form. He turned new rosettes and crafted more mahogany for the exterior casing and moldings. In the final step in the shop, Ben fashioned lead coated copper flashing and soldered it into a single protective wrapping. After the entrance was installed, the restored doors fit perfectly. As a final touch Ben helped us install period wrought iron hardware. The work of a gifted restoration craftsman often goes unnoticed because it looks like it's always been there! The next time you come through the doors, please take a moment to admire Ben's work and join us in congratulating him for his NPT award!



BEHOLD BOOK AND ORNAMENTS

The BEHOLD book was 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 \$50 unfinished and \$100 finished.



PRESERVATION AND BUILDINGS

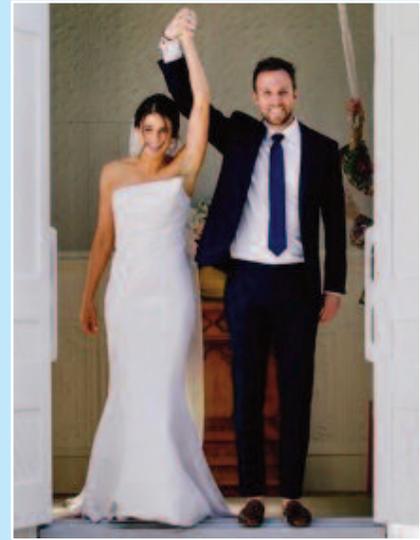
Some of you may have noticed that the Chapel has become a bit warmer over the past decades, particularly on a few hot and humid days of the year! The Preservation and Building Committees convened in 2018 and studied options to provide the congregation some relief. We decided to approach the challenge incrementally and secured a design and proposal for the ceiling fan installation we hope you enjoyed last summer. With a generous contribution from one of the Chapel's families, we engaged Dan O'Keefe Electric to perform the work. Dan has a particular fondness for historic buildings in Nantucket and by the time the job was finished, had come to love the Chapel as much as we do. In the winter before last year's season, the pews were moved aside and scaffolding erected to reach our high ceiling. Workers went up into the attic and worked above and scaled the scaffolding to work from below the ceiling to complete the installation. The fans are on two separate circuit over the aisle and the apse and dimmers permit us to vary the amount of breeze from light to near small craft warning levels. The Committee was particularly pleased that when we ran the fans on the first hot Sunday, the fans were so quiet that many worshippers didn't even notice the change. We hope that the system will continue to provide for our comfort for many years to come!

Preservation also engaged a local architect in 2019 to draft as-built plans and elevations of the Chapel in great detail. These drawings and the associated photo records have now been archived on line and off-site. This effort compliments our insurance program and fire protection system and helps assure that we can meet our obligations under the Preservation Easement we granted to the 'Sconset Trust. These records will be invaluable in restoring the Chapel quickly and accurately should damage ever occur to our beloved building!



***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

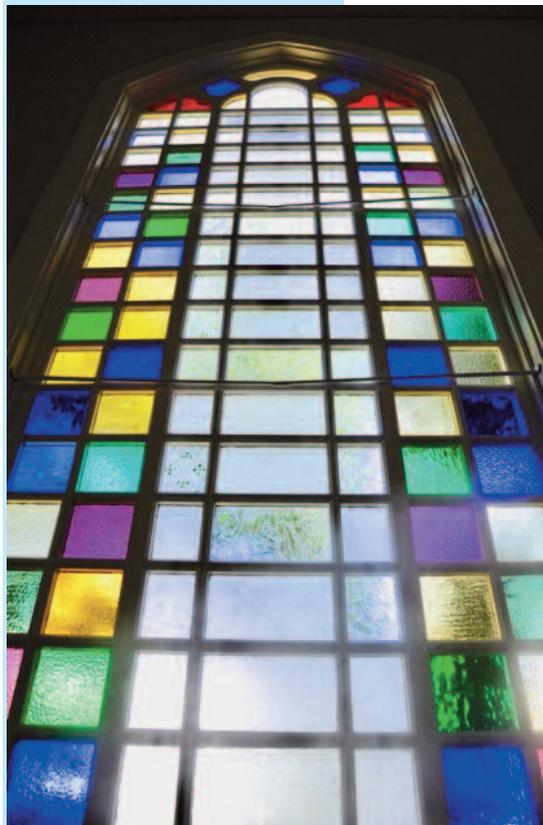


WEDDINGS

The Chapel is a special place for a wedding on the island. If you choose to be married in the chapel, you will be a part of our Christian community. Please check our guidelines on our website sconsetchapel.org which outlines the process to be married at the Chapel.

We encourage year round residents of Nantucket, Chapel summer worshippers, Nantucket property owners, and those who vacation regularly on the island to reserve the Chapel. The cost is \$4,000. with proceeds going toward the building and garden maintenance. The audio/visual system allows for taping of the ceremony. All information regarding the Chapel policies can be found on our website or by Contacting Mary Will at maryl-will@comcast.net by calling her at 978-621 5940.





MEMORIAL GIFTS

We are grateful for the following gifts In Memory of:

Stanley Johnson
 Edward Callahan
 Jane and Duane Todd
 Kate Spencer Morton
 Marianne Felch
 William Hobart
 Robert Longley
 Elizabeth Cook
 Leticitia Coniff Reed
 Dick Tevebaugh
 John Sperry
 Nancy Yates
 John Laytham
 Sam Daume
 William Holding
 Ann H. Morton
 Carol M. Lathrop

In Thanksgiving for:

Carr Holland and Maxwell Mundy
 Catherine Saynor
 Judy and Bill Holding

The Christening of Anne B. Douglas

THE PET COLUMBARIUM

With approval from the Chapel and a \$150 fee, pet ashes may be scattered in a separate space in the west garden, A memory Log will be kept by the Chapel.



COLUMBARIUM

The columbarium is a beautiful and quiet final resting place for Chapel worshippers and Sconset residents summer or year round.

Upon accepting of a request, the current cost to reserve is \$2500. per person half niche and \$5,000. to reserve a full niche for two people. An additional fee, which can not be prepaid, includes the required urn, Plaque and opening/re-sealing of the niche.

As of last year there is now the option for direct in ground interment of ashes. The fee is \$500 to reserve designated space in the columbarium. The current interment fee for this option is \$1,000. which includes a plaque on the new Stele in the west garden.

Please contact Robert Felch at
rdfelch@aol.com

or write to him at

P.O. Box 339
Siasconset, MA 02564

SUMMER BEACH SERVICE

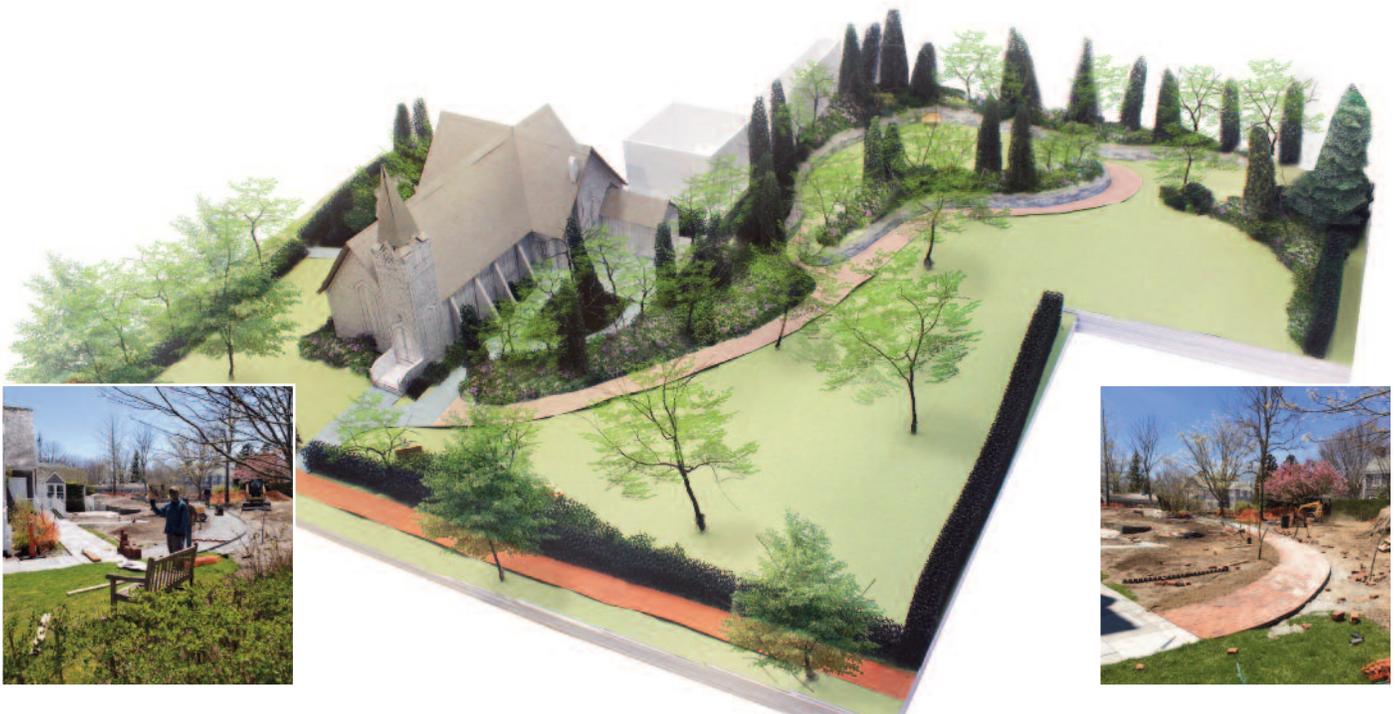
The Chapel remains hopeful that we can offer an informal and serene service on Sconset Beach. The service is to be offered at 8 am, weather permitting, on Sunday July 5 and 19, August 2 and 16. The blessing of the animals occurs once a month on July 19 and August 16.

Worshippers are encouraged to bring their children, grandchildren, dogs and houseguests to this gentle early morning service. The Reverend J. Carr Holland leads the prayer with musical accompaniment with the ocean as our backdrop. We can socially distance with care in this atmosphere.

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



GARDEN RENOVATION REPORT



Last October, the Chapel began a major landscaping project in and around the Columbarium. Funding has been provided by a generous benefactor. The scope of the project includes a new retaining wall at the eastern boundary of the Columbarium, new walkways, an enlarged terrace and replacement of older nonconforming vegetation with new trees and plant material.

This work was to be completed in early June, 2020. Plans were on or ahead of schedule thanks to a mild winter. Then construction and landscaping rulings were changed on Nantucket as a result of many coronavirus safety measures. All work on our project was halted for eight weeks. The good news is that we received the green light to resume our work on May 12th. We thank Ben Champoux for requesting waivers from

the Town of Nantucket to continue our landscape installation. Based on the sensitive and sacred nature of the Columbarium, as well as the safety of our pathways and gardens, it was important that work could begin again after Phase II of construction and landscaping was approved by the Board of Health.

The protective wooden covers built for the niches will be removed and hopefully sod laid as soon as the larger plants are in the ground. Thank you for your patience as we complete the beautiful Columbarium Master Landscaping Project.

Patti Brown

Siasconset Union Chapel

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

This season it is vital we have your **CORRECT** email address sent to: SconsetChapel@gmail.com
Stay attuned to the E-blast and the Chapel website: www.sconsetchapel.org
for changes in worship due to COVID 19.

CHAPEL CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2020

JUNE

- 14** Protestant Service begins 10:30 am
Continues weekly thru
September 20th
- 18** Midweek Prayer begins 8 am
Continues weekly thru September 17th
- 25** Chapel Trustees Retreat 9:30 am

JULY

- 5** Beach Service 8 am
Catholic Service begins 8:45 am
- 16** Trustees Meeting 9:30 am
- 19** Beach Service with blessing
of the animals
- 26** Outreach Sunday

AUGUST

- 2** Beach Service 8 am
- 13** Trustees Meeting 9:30 am
- 16** Beach Service with blessing
of the animals
- 23** Outreach Sunday

SEPTEMBER

- 6** Last Catholic service. 8:45 am
- 10** Trustees Meeting
- 20** Last Protestant service 10:30 am