



Siasconset Union Chapel

SPRING/SUMMER 2023

WELCOME TO OUR 140TH YEAR

Worship Schedule

Protestant Services

Sundays 10:30 AM
June 11 to September 17, 2023

Midweek Prayer Service

Thursdays 8 AM
June 15 to September 14, 2023

Roman Catholic Masses

Sunday 8:45 AM
June 25 to September 3, 2023

Beach Services

Sundays 8:00 AM
July 2 and July 16
August 6 and August 20
September 3

This Chapel is a place where generations have gathered to be grounded in the Christian faith. Here among the joys and challenges of family and the care of friendships, during vacation's ease, we touch the deep rhythms of life. We come here to restore, perhaps to heal, to taste peace, to love each other in the ways that summers allow. The rugged work-a-day world can be a little more distant here.

The Chapel and its grounds sit as a reminder that there is a Godly life that seeks to find occupancy within us. Here we reorient ourselves to God whom we know best in Jesus Christ. Here we are reminded that every act of care finds its roots in the core Christian experience and that the energy we call love originates in God, who desires our cooperation, creativity, loyalty. Every kind deed we muster is its child, a sort of prayer of gratitude, tapping us into God's dream for us. Our worship offered variously – on the beach, in the cool of the Chapel, on Thursday mornings in the garden - accepts our pause and informs our conscience and hope. The columbarium walls pepper us with names of those who have followed this way of return. Children's voices in the Chapel programs speak of the present and future praise of God's goodness. All of us seek to live lives of resurrection beauty, lives that rise above divisions and seek harmony in holy goodness. The Chapel is not so much a building or a garden. It is a people with an Easter orientation of life. In a world often peppered with disconcerting malice, we seek here a deep unity in the call of God to tend love, to seek and give forgiveness, to rise to our better selves as God has designed us, to

lovingly serve one another following the pattern of Christ's love. Here we open ourselves to be restored to God's intended beauty. This is the joy that calls out to us from this sacred space so lovingly tended at the heart of this village.

As you read this newsletter, you will find times to worship, opportunities to share fellowship, ways to be intellectually nourished, avenues of reaching out to offer and to receive loving care.

Please join us in worship, on the beach, in the Chapel or in the garden. Join in educating our children in the ways of faith and loving service. Support our life with your life. Through your giving and service, remember those whose economic or healing needs are very real on this Island. Find the rise in your heart/mind that is the Easter orientation of life!

Welcome to this 'Sconset season grounded in this sacred space.

The Reverend J. Carr Holland III



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

"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"

Dear Friends of the Chapel,

Welcome to the Chapel's 140th season!!

We look forward to greeting you when our doors open in June. Thank you for your continued generosity and support, which enables the Chapel to carry out its mission. As you know, we are totally dependent upon your gifts to keep all Chapel programs viable.

There are many things that we are thankful for at our beloved Chapel. The Reverend Carr Holland will begin his 10th summer with us. What a gift he continues to be! Our Children's Program continues this summer. We were all delighted by the JOY that the children brought last year. Chrissi Crampton and her team have been hard at work to make this summer very special. Sincere thanks to Eileen Shields West and the Outreach Committee members for their care in researching the needs of so many island non-profit organizations. Joe Wright and the Finance Committee are thoughtful in making sure the Chapel's

financial health is solid. 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, as well as communications, events, hospitality and pastoral support. Volunteers are always needed so please reach out!

We are very grateful for all of you and the gifts that you share with us. We are very fortunate to have the Chapel serve as a cornerstone of village life. All are welcome!

As we begin another season together, I would like to thank Carr for all he does behind the scenes. And I would also like to thank our administrator, Sheila Daume. I am in awe of their tireless dedication to our beloved Chapel!

With abundant thanks,
Elizabeth Queally

SIASCONSET CHAPEL OUTREACH - 2022

There are so many wonderful aspects to being a member of the Siasconset Union Chapel community. Certainly, near the top of the list is knowing that, through the generosity of so many parishioners, the Chapel is giving more than ever to those in need on our very special island through its outreach program. In fact, the Chapel is likely the fourth or fifth largest donor to the Nantucket community.

The mission of the Chapel's Outreach Committee is to provide support for "health and human services on Nantucket and beyond." Lately, the needs have been so great locally that we have not looked beyond; although in the past, we have donated to such humanitarian groups as World Central Kitchen. However, increasing inflation, the scarcity of affordable housing for islanders, and the ongoing ripple effects of the pandemic that disrupted so many livelihoods have focused our attention on island non-profits.

In 2022, we funded 19 island non-profits, providing money for housing, fuel and food assistance, professional support for teachers, scholarships for small learners, travel monies for health reasons, helping homeless and immigration resource centers, safety from abuse, and after-school resources for teenagers. We are so proud of the work they do: A Safe Place, Boston Med Flight, Community School Summer Boost Program, David Glidden Travel Fund, Fairwinds, Habitat for Humanity, Immigration Resource Center, Marla Lamb Travel Fund, Nantucket Boys and Girls Club, Nantucket Food Fuel and Rental Assistance, Nantucket Star, Nantucket Warming Place, Our House, Palliative & Supportive Care of Nantucket Foundation, St. Paul's Laundry Love, St. Paul's Meals Mission, Rising Tide Preschool, Small Friends, and The Community Foundation – The Nantucket Fund.

And, they let us know what it means to them: "Your donation is a burst of hope for our community members that are experiencing insecurity." "Our teams would not have the resources to provide expert, efficient and compassionate critical care medical transport without thoughtful donors like you." "Your generous donation... enables the unsheltered to stay in a hotel when the weather is 32F or below." "Your recent donation guarantees that we are able to continue to provide trauma informed care in the aftermath of abuse as well as prevention programs to try to eliminate future

abuse from occurring." "I would like to extend our heartfelt thanks for your generous donation towards our work supporting the special needs population on Nantucket." "We have noted that your donation is for tuition assistance for our families who need this extra help." "Your thoughtful and generous donation will support Nantucket high school youth after-school." "Your donation helps us to provide evidence-based professional mental health counseling...and other critical programs to our island community, regardless of ability to pay or insurance status." "Please extend our sincere thanks to the entire Chapel Board for their confidence in us."

Funds for Outreach come from collections on two summer Outreach Sundays – one in July and the other in August. Last summer, we also raised money with our third annual Lobster Lalapalooza and a raffle of another beautiful needlepoint rug. This year, we have a few other fundraising ideas in mind; so stay tuned.

The bottom line is that we could not begin to help our valued neighbors and this special island community without your support and commitment. We look forward to reuniting with you and celebrating another summer with our beloved Chapel community.

Eileen Shields West
Chair, Outreach Committee



CHILDREN'S PROGRAM



Board of Trustees

Lesley Blanchard
Maggie Cooley
Chrissi Crampton
Caroline Ellis
Charlie Galliot
Ed Hodge
George Hubbs
Deb Martin
Valerie Paley
Charlie Polachi
Elizabeth Queally
Eileen Shields West
George Wilson
Joe Wright

Presidents Emeriti

Mimi Young
Jeff Lockhart
Catherine Saynor



Last summer we rejoiced as our Chapel launched a Sunday Children's Program, a long and much awaited gathering of our youngest members and friends. Each occasion was a celebration of God; focusing on community, love and kindness. We joyfully sang songs, read Christian stories, built a bible village, created uplifting cards and paper flowers for our congregation, played games and basked in the warmth of our church family with a true sense of belonging. This coming summer we look forward to building upon our experience and expanding our lessons by partnering with Chapel Outreach efforts, all while greeting familiar faces and welcoming new friends.

The Children's Program will take place during the Chapel service on non-beach service Sundays (July 9, 23, 30; August 13 and 27). Children will begin the Chapel service with their families, coming together during the service and transitioning to 'AMEN' for singing,

crafts, stories, and community building. Please know that in addition to fun, safety will be top of mind.

We very much look forward to welcoming children ages 3-12 and hope you will register your children and grandchildren by our chapel website. We hope to gain a few teenage volunteers as well as someone with musical instrument talent. Please contact Chrissi Crampton (chrissicrampton@gmail.com) if you are interested in helping or if you have any questions.

This effort paves the way towards a vibrant sustaining congregation, and we are extremely grateful for your participation. We cannot wait to see you and your families at Chapel this summer!





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 it's 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.



LETTER FROM FATHER JOHN MURRAY

Dear Friends in Christ,

I pray this letter finds you well, healthy and ready for summer 2023. I am very excited to begin our time together at the Sconset Union Chapel. I enjoyed my summer with you last year and look forward to another wonderful season.

As Pastor of St Mary Our Lady of the Isle Catholic Church, my primary mission is to bring Jesus Christ to you in Word and Sacrament. I am making every attempt to do that faithfully and pray that continues as we work together in the summer months, which are far too brief!

Our Summer Masses at the Chapel will be at 8:45 on Sunday morning. I look forward to seeing you all and praying together.

In Christ
 Fr. John Murray
 Pastor, St Mary Our Lady of the Isle

CHAPEL NEEDLEPOINT RUG *We have a Winner!*

Mary Malavase was the lucky winner of the beautiful needlepoint of Nantucket Flowers.

It was a beautifully designed by Denise Strasser and lovingly stitched by Emma Ward, Lucile Hays, Mary Jo Beck, Judy Darby, Aine Donovan, Caroline Ellis, Heather Garland and Sheila Daume. It was a successful fundraiser for the Chapel and we hope to have a another beautiful rug next summer.



INVESTMENT AND FINANCIAL REPORT

Looking back on 2022 and at the first three months of 2023, Siasconset Union Chapel continues to be blessed from a financial perspective. This is thanks to the ongoing wonderful generosity of our congregation.

In 2022 income from all sources other than withdrawals from our endowment was \$280,000. This includes annual appeal, Sunday Plate, weddings and events. Expenses other than outreach and capital items were \$269,000 so completely covered by donations and other income. The cost of capital items, the painting of the interior of the chapel at \$91,000 was covered by withdrawals from our endowment. This is our usual practice for capital improvement expenses. Outreach grants and expenses of \$155,000 were covered by a combination of \$30,000 withdrawal from our endowment and a planned drawdown of our cash balance at the bank.

Our budget for 2023, approved by the Board on February 24, continues our outreach grants at \$150,000 as in 2022 and 2021. As in the last two years this level of grants is dependent on the continued generosity of our congregation backed up by access to our endowment funds.

On the income and expense side it is a conservative and risk adverse budget. We have budgeted lower levels of contributions from the Sunday plate as well as the Annual Appeal given the uncertainty surrounding the economy in 2023. On the expense side we are budgeting only \$20,000 in capital expenditures vs the \$91,000 we spent in 2022 to paint the interior of the Chapel. We have increased compensation dollars by 10% to reflect the cost of living in Nantucket.

If, as we have budgeted, our income levels fall below last years, we plan to access our endowment to the extent necessary to help fund both the lower level of capital expenditures as well as the third year of \$150,000 in outreach grants. Elsewhere in this letter the importance of this level of community support will be described in the Outreach Committee's report.

We want to remind you that if you are making changes to your estate plans this year, a bequest to the Chapel Endowment would be much appreciated. We also hope the wonderfully generous support to the Sunday plates and the Annual Appeal will be continued in 2023.

Respectively submitted, SIASCONSET CHAPEL FINANCE COMMITTEE



VOLUNTEERS

Greetings and gratitude to all who help in welcoming people to chapel and volunteering to read the lessons. We need 4 people every Sunday, 2 to greet and 2 for the readings. We have 15 Sundays so that means a total of 60 volunteers to get everything done with as much participation as possible from the congregation. Carr sends out the readings on Saturdays to the assigned volunteers.

Please get in touch with me at your earliest convenience if you would like to volunteer for these important ministries of welcome and worship. I need your email and if possible the dates when you would NOT be available and I will be in touch with you in early June when I return to 'Sconset.

My email address is:
irishpoet3@gmail.com

Thanks in advance
Catherine Saynor



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 \$4,500 fee for a Protestant 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**.





MEMORIAL GIFTS

We are grateful for the following gifts In Memory of:

Elizabeth Simonds Cook

Jane Hunter

Marianne Felch

Daintry and Julius Jensen

Sally Johnson

John Lathrop

Robert Longley

Grace McCreary

Willem McRobie

Mary McKeown

Susan Ruddick

Cindy Roberts

Elizabeth and George Simonds

George Todd

Jane and Duane Todd

In thanksgiving for:

Our beautiful Chapel

Carr Holland and Maxwell Mundy

Chrissi Crampton
and the Children's program



*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

THE PET COLUMBARIUM

The Chapel garden includes a small columbarium in the west garden where pet ashes may be scattered. 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

The columbarium is a beautiful and peaceful final resting place for Chapel worshipers and Sconset residents-summer guests 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 interment fee, which cannot be prepaid, includes a Chapel Issued urn, a plaque and opening/resealing of the niche at the time of interment. Please see website for more details on how to apply.

There is another option of direct in-ground Interment of ashes. A granite stele wall "niche" can be reserved for \$500.The stele wall located in the west garden, will have a plaque and the ashes will be interred in a designated location on the grounds.

Interments currently cost \$1,000.

Please contact:

Caroline Ellis
carolinequaise@gmail.com

Robert Felch
rdfelch@gmail.com

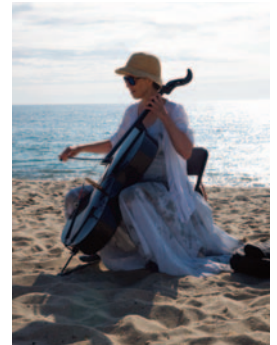
Or write to:
PO box 339, Siasconset, MA 02564



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 2nd and 16th, August 6th and 20th and September 3rd. The Blessing of the Animals takes place on July 16th and August 20th.

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.



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

CHAPEL BELL RINGING

The ringing of the Church Bell is quickly becoming a summer tradition, for young and old alike.

It represents everything 'Sconset Is...

Family Friends and Community.

There is room for all who want to tug on the rope!

Please contact:

Stephanie Hodge

shodge3857@gmail.com

if you would like to join the
enthusiastic group of Bell Ringers



SCONSET BELL RINGERS

Last summer the chapel began to tell
The little folks, in whom God dwells,
The story of His love and grace
We set aside a time and place

We gathered on the Amen porch
We wrote our name tags with great force
We told the stories of Jesus life
We sang with joyful hearts of course.

We answered questions.. some profound
We walked with them on holy ground
We built beside the River Jordan
A village such as God was born in.

We asked them to be kind to all
To help our neighbors one and all
To know that they belonged for sure
To God's big family for evermore

We hope this summer to expand
Our teaching, loving and giving plan
Please join us in this work sublime
Send us your children..help us refine

Our mission and our purpose true
To be God's love in the world anew.

— 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 2023

JUNE

- 11** 10:30 Protestant Service begins,
runs weekly through September 17
- 15** 8:00 Service of Communion and Healing,
Thursdays through September 14
- 22** BOARD RETREAT
- 25** 8:45 Opening Catholic Mass runs
through September 3
- 29** BOARD RETREAT

JULY

- 2** 8:00 Beach service, 10:30 service at Chapel
5:00 Charness family concert
- 4** Tues. - 11:00 Lawn Games hosted by
the Sconset Trust
- 9** Children's Program
- 16** 8:00 Beach service with blessing
of the animals. 10:30 Holy Communion
- 20** Board Meeting

JULY

- 23** Outreach Sunday/Children's Program
- 30** Children's Program

AUGUST

- 6** 8:00 AM Beach service. 10:30 service
at Chapel. Chapel Picnic 5:00 at Casino
- 13** 10:30 Children's Programs
- 17** Board Meeting
- 20** 8:00 Beach service with blessing
of the animals
10:30 Holy Communion
- 27** 5:00 John Lancaster, "Great Air Race"
Outreach Sunday / Children's Program 10:30

SEPTEMBER

- 3** 8:00 Beach Service
5:00 Sconset stories with Bonnie Levison
Final Catholic Mass
- 14** Board Meeting
- 17** 10:30 Closing Service