

Siasconset Union Chapel

SUMMER 2016

Protestant Service

Sunday 10:30am

June 12-September
18

Eucharist and
Healing Service
Thursday 8am
beginning June 16

The Reverend J.
Carr Holland III

Roman Catholic Services

Sunday 8:45am

June 26-September
4

Father Marcel
Bouchard

Welcome Friends and Visitors

I have just spent some early morning hours reclaiming my iris bed from the crab grass. I pull out last season's dead runners only to find tricky new ones traveling just out of easy sight and stubbornly insistent. It reminds me how easily our life can seem that way. You clear one thing only to find another weaving its way in.

Most of us live active and full lives long before we arrive on Nantucket for a week or a season. We can arrive here breathless with tasks done and tasks still to do. We also can arrive here

wanting to shift gears to regenerate our lives. We can arrive wanting to pull away from things that cloy at us, pull us in too many directions. Sometimes tennis or golf or sailing or just having a few hours on the beach or Ruddick Commons can be our way of shifting and reclaiming our quieter selves, our differently creative selves. They help us remove ourselves from other insistent duties, opportunities or pleasures...and just be.

The Chapel aims to be one more place where we



can come and find our quieter or differently creative selves (continued p.3)

25th Anniversary of the Needlepoint Kneelers

A committee was formed under the leadership of Judy Darby and included Ginnie Chambers, Sarah Hindle, Barbara Dearborn, Dorritt Gutterson and Sheila Daume. They were inspired by the existing needlepoint in the Chapel: the minister's kneeler, the two altar chair cushions, the minister's stole

and the wedding kneelers. It was decided that the brown vinyl kneelers be replaced and the women started with the 30 scenes of 'Sconset and continued on with Nantucket wildflowers, Nantucket birds, ocean scenes, Nantucket scenes, fruits of the spirit, (continued p. 5)





Outreach News

Outreach at the Chapel continues to be blessed by your generosity! Last year we were able to support both local and global causes. The Community Foundation for Nantucket remains a critical recipient of our donations. The 'Sconset Chapel funds many grants to aid specific island causes as well as local village emergencies. The Chapel has held a toilet

paper drive to help the Nantucket Food Pantry the last two summers and we hope to continue this summer as well. Camp Tulgey Wood and the Nantucket Cottage Hospital also were recipients of our Outreach dollars.

Globally, the Chapel supported EFAC (Education for All Children) which provided schooling for a

young girl in Kenya for four years. To help in the migration crisis in Europe we provided aid to mercy Corps and Syria Relief and Development. As you can see your support has had a significant impact.

You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce Thanksgiving to God.

2 Corinthians 9:11



Family Picnic

Mark your calendars for the annual family picnic being held Sunday July 10 at 5pm on the chapel lawn. A hymn singing will precede the cookout.

Sign up to bring your favorite salad or dessert to share. Both congregations have enjoyed this wonderful event with family

now for many years.

If you are a baker and have a favorite recipe, please volunteer to bring something to share on scheduled Sundays. As usual, they will occur following the 10:30 service and offer not only a cool drink and tasty morsel, but will continue the tradition

of providing a space and time to briefly reflect on the sermon, reconnect with friends and enjoy the beauty of Sconset.

Please email Deb Martin at dmartin@rogers.com if you would like to help.



Behold Book and Ornament

The **Behold** book began as a project of the Needlepoint Committee on the Chapel needlework and evolved into a history of the Chapel and its relationship with the village of 'Sconset. There are beautiful photographs of

the kneelers and many amusing stories about the Chapel. Wait until you see some of the old pictures - fabulous!

Also, do not forget the wonderful Chapel ornament as a gift for friends and family. You may

work the canvas yourself or buy it completed for you. Please contact Sheila Daume at P.O. Box 604 Sconset 02564 to purchase. The book is \$50 and the ornaments are \$50 unfinished and \$100 finished.

Volunteers Needed



The Chapel is open every weekday from 10:30 to 12:30pm for visitors to enjoy the beautiful architecture and

learn about the history of the chapel as well as admire the needlepoint kneelers.

If you are interested in being a docent, please email Isabel Seeman at ISEEMAN45@gmail.com with your preferred day of the week, your availability and your contact information including your phone and mailing address.

Others are needed for Sunday services to usher, greet or be a

reader. This includes helping at the beach service as well as the regular chapel service. Please contact Lynn Stroud at rstroud@cinci.rr.com for more information or call 508-257-6676 after May 16th to sign up.

If you can play the electric keyboard we would love to have you volunteer at the beach service. Contact Catherine Saynor at irishpoet@aol.com.

Did your address or email change? New to the Chapel and want to be included in our newsletter and email blasts? Send your name, address and email to:
sconsetchapel@gmail.com

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Religious series, and a historic series...all 189 kneelers designed by Erica Wilson and lovingly stitched by the members of the congregation. Later additions were the brick door stops, the oak bench cushion, the book mark, the altar hanging and the altar stair risers. In 2008 the committee published the **Behold** book which includes the Chapel history and its role in the village of 'Sconset. The book also

memorializes and documents all the needlepoint in the chapel.

We are eternally grateful to all the wonderful men and women who so devotedly stitched all the glorious needlepoint in the Siasconset Union Chapel, to add to its simple beauty that we all love.

The Needlepoint Committee



Weddings

As the Chapel guidelines highlight, marriage is a challenging and rewarding relationship that is “meant to be lived out in a community of faith.”

The Chapel is a beautiful setting for a wedding on the island. This summer there are 11

weddings on the calendar and one already being planned for 2017. We encourage year-round residents of Nantucket, Chapel summer worshippers, off island Nantucket property owners and those who vacation regularly on the island to reserve the Chapel. Information on Chapel policies can be found

at www.sconsetchapel.org and by contacting Elaine Boehm at 508-257-9868 to reserve a date. The cost for weddings starting in 2017 is \$4,000 with proceeds directed toward the building and garden maintenance.





Memorial Gifts

We are grateful for the following gifts:

In Memory of:

Lou Bixler
 Dudley Bursch
 Marsh Chambers
 Elizabeth Simmonds Cook
 Sam Daume
 Dempsey Family
 Mr. and Mrs. Colbert Drane
 Jane Guido
 Winston Hindle

Longley Family
 Joseph W. Powell III
 Frank Rovinski
 William Sperry
 Jane and Duane Todd

In Thanksgiving and appreciation:

Sheila Daume
 Arlene and Walter Elisha
 Rev. J. Carr Holland
 Judy and Bill Holding
 Dr. Maxwell Mundy



Columbarium

The memorial gardens on the west side of the Chapel were enlarged over the fall with the addition of a new wall beautifully incorporated with existing garden space. This is a quiet final resting place for worshippers at the Chapel who are past or present 'Sconset residents (summer or year round).

Upon acceptance of a request, the current cost is \$2,500 per person (1/2 niche). An additional \$1,000 fee includes the required urn, plaque and opening/resealing of the flagstone at the time of internment. An acknowledgement letter of the reserved niche will be sent for the applicant's records.

The pet columbarium in

the west garden has available space for a fee of \$150. With approval from the Chapel, the pet's ashes may be scattered in this separate garden and a memory log will be kept.

Please contact Marianne Felch at mhfelch@aol.com or write her at the P.O. Box 339 Siasconset MA 02564.

A Historic Visit: the Bishop of Fall River

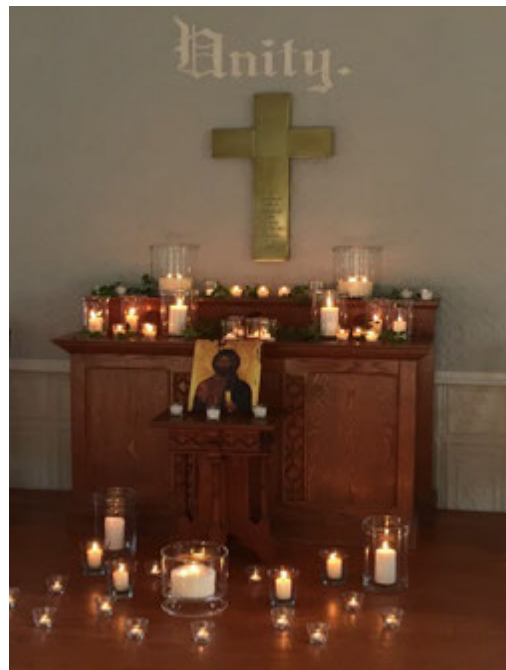


On July 26, 2015, for the first time in the history of the Chapel, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Fall River celebrated Mass in 'Sconset during his two day visit to the island. A highlight of his visit was greeting Elsie Niles, the oldest parishioner of St. Mary's (99 at the time), who came from Our Island Home to greet the Bishop. Bishop Edgar Moreira da Cunha, SDV, a native of Brazil and the Auxiliary Bishop in Newark, New Jersey, was

appointed Eighth Bishop of the Fall River Diocese by Pope Francis. He was installed on September 24, 2014 by Cardinal Sean O'Malley, Archbishop of Boston and Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano, Apostolic Nuncio to the United States. He oversees 83 parishes throughout Southeastern Massachusetts including Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket with over 290,000 parishioners.

New Taize Service

The Chapel offered this simplified service of scripture and song last summer for the first time thanks to Jeff Haines who designed the space and provided the music. The Taize community originated in France and is dedicated to reconciliation among Christians and humanity. Using just a few words and the repetition of songs, the service creates a meditative atmosphere. We are planning on having two Taize services this year as it was clear from the feedback we got last summer it was a delight for all who attended and who requested more.



Summer Beach Services

This is the third year of hosting a thirty minute service at the 'Sconset beach at 8:00am weather permitting. There will be two services in July and two services in August.

Worshippers are encouraged to bring their children, grandchildren, dogs and house guests to this wonderful casual and serene early morning prayer. The Rev. J. Carr Holland leads the prayers with assistance from a lovely guitar and some simple hymn sings.

Blessing of the animals occurs once each month.

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

JULY 10, JULY 24, AUGUST 7, AUGUST 21



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President's Message

Winter was kinder to 'Sconset this year, allowing our planned extension of the Columbarium to be completed before Christmas. I think you will agree that it is beautiful and looks as if it was always there. Our thanks to Ben Champoux and his team for the superb execution of the plan in such a timely way.

The other news is that we are having a state of the art sound system installed in the Chapel at the end of May. We are very excited that everyone now will be able to hear our soft spoken and wonderful Carr without any difficulty. We have hired a firm that specializes in

doing this in historic buildings, many of which are on the National Register of Historic Places and they are keenly aware of our concerns about aesthetics and simplicity in the chapel. We are assured that the speakers will blend entirely in to their surroundings and no wires will be visible.

Once again, the results of our Christmas appeal surpassed all expectations with \$52,000 received to help us with our commitment to maintain our beloved building and to fund our outreach objectives. This is particularly good news in light of the gyrations in the stock market, which

impact our endowment and the support it provides for our budget. It speaks volumes about the regard in which Carr is held and about the spirit of love and inclusiveness that he promotes in everything he does. My thanks to all who are so generous and willing to share your gifts, whether material, spiritual, intellectual or practical—please be assured that they are appreciated with great joy and gratitude.

As we gather anew, let kindness be our beacon, shining God's light into this weary world's wilderness.

"Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see."

Catherine Saynor



Special Events This Summer

This year we welcome the Charness family for another special concert on July 3rd at 5pm.

'Sconset summer residents John Lancaster and Kermit Roosevelt will also be speaking on August 7 and

21, respectively.

John is a veteran correspondent and magazine journalist who worked at **The Washington Post** for 20 years.

Kermit Roosevelt, a law professor at University

of Pennsylvania, has written a new legal thriller centering on the Japanese American internment.

Join us at 5pm for these special events. Admission is free of charge.

Minister's Corner

(continued from p. 1)

and just be or engage good company. There is the most apparent possibility: Sunday worship with its strong emphasis on music and scripture. There is also, on Thursday, that time when we gather to be quiet, focusing on healing prayer with Holy Communion; woven into this service is an opportunity to encounter Holy Scripture together. We will also continue to offer early services on 'Sconset beach twice monthly and the quiet, evening service modeled on Taize in France will be offered twice this summer.

As you read further in this newsletter you will find other times to experience fellowship and to grow your

mind and heart. They all share one purpose, to help us shift into a reflective place either by growing our mind, centering our spirit or enlarging our heart. Thus we create a different encounter with the more insistent aspects of our lives.

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 here to be gentled or enlivened as you need. May this be for you, in the fullest sense, home.

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



***“Behold how good and
how pleasant it is for
brethren to dwell together
in unity”***

Endowment and Financial Report

The Chapel endowment at mid-March stands at \$1.7 million. This amount is after withdrawing more than \$50,000 in January to pay for the enlargement of the Columbarium. The current investment returns have followed the market and the endowment is down 4.9%. However, over the last five

years we have had an annualized return of more than 5% (a cumulative return of +28%).

The actual 2015 expenses came in slightly under budget. The congregation's generous response to the Christmas appeal and the Sunday plate collection gave us a small operating surplus. We completed the capital improvements to Amen Cottage

and the Columbarium. All Chapel and Amen improvements are now complete with the exception of the new sound system being installed in May and repairs to the front door scheduled for the fall. The Board approved the 2016 budget with operating expenses virtually unchanged from 2014 and 2015.

Siasconset Union Chapel

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

Calendar of Events 2016

JUNE

12 Protestant Service begins
10:30am

16 Eucharist and Healing
Service begins 8am

26 Roman Catholic Service
begins 8:45am

JULY

3 Charness Family Chamber
Music 5pm

4 Lawn Games/Sconset Trust
11am

10 Beach Service 8am
(weather permitting)

10 Annual Family Picnic and
Hymn Sing, 5pm

24 Beach service/Blessing of the
Animals 8am (weather
permitting)

24 Communion Sunday 10:30am

31 Outreach Sunday 10:30am

31 Taize Service 5pm

AUGUST

7 Beach Service 8am (weather
permitting)

7 John Lancaster, journalist, 5pm

21 Beach Service/Blessing of the
Animals 8am (weather
permitting)

21 Communion Sunday 10:30am
21 Kermit Roosevelt, author,
5pm

28 Outreach Sunday 10:30am

28 Taize Service 5pm

SEPTEMBER

4 Last Roman Catholic Service

18 Last Protestant Service

www.sconsetchapel.org for
more information