

Siasconset Union Chapel

SPRING/SUMMER 2021

WELCOME TO OUR 138TH YEAR

Worship Schedule

Protestant Services

Sundays 10:30 AM
June 13 to September 19, 2021

Midweek Prayer Service

Thursdays 8 AM
June 17 to September 16, 2021

Roman Catholic Services

Sunday June 27
8 AM and 4 PM
to September 5, 2021

Beach Services

Sundays 8 AM
July 4, 18
August 1 & 15

Dear friends of the Chapel,

As children we were taught, “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.” Often this ‘Golden Rule’ was stressed to me after I had violated the norm. I only later learned that it comes from Matthew (7:12). The origin did not matter, the meaning did. In time it became a reminder that we may teach others how we want to be treated by the respect that we show them. Later it became my character.

Recently, we sold our beach house on the Outer Banks. It went on the market quickly, before the ‘to do’ list was fully accomplished, and sold the first day, complete with most of what Maxwell and I accumulated over two decades of beach life. Even selling furnished, there were owners’ closets and personal things – not to mention a packed shed -- to be sorted and emptied. Small repairs were tasked, and advice was transcribed to aid the new owners in assuming the many skills that beachfront upkeep requires. Small repairs they will never know about were done, cans of touch-up paint were labeled and left, along with deck screws, linens washed for the season, pillows fluffed. All was guided by that simple childhood lesson, now incorporated into character, “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.”

As we open the Chapel this season, we do so in the lingering impact of COVID-19. We have spent a year plus learning how important daily, small decisions are for our own health and that of others. We have missed family, or perhaps seen more of some of them than normal. We have worn masks for others’ benefit hoping, indeed expecting, that they would do the same. We have learned the privilege, and sometimes the discomfort, of eating outdoors, even when weather dissuaded. We have learned how many people live on the edge of our national and global economy and we have been called to give much thought to our role in their well-being. Time and again we have been invited by our character to sort out how to respond. When our daughter Meghann’s salon closed, she told me of clients who were tipping her in advance to help secure her income; in turn, we tipped more generously for takeout than even in-person service in the old days. Little did any of us know how long we would live this way. We have longed for what was normal and how it might reassert itself.

Perhaps the spiritual lesson we have learned once again is how deeply we are interconnected. Much of the world, not having our wealth, longs

for health and needs our help to achieve it. What will be our role?

On this Island, in this Chapel, what will we do with the lingering of the pandemic? Thankfully, the board was able over this year to accelerate and increase our outreach to the Island. Your generosity last season increased our ability as well. The question lingers inside “do unto others...”. How will we aid those who live on the ever-fragile economy of this Island? How will we express care for those who come to assist our life but whose economy is more fragile than ours?

We also chose over this period to follow the collected wisdom of the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts as well as local regulations in our physical response to COVID: how to worship, how to act, what precautions to take, when they might be relaxed. Our Sunday worship – both Protestant and Catholic – as well as weddings, memorial services and baptisms all are impacted. Last year was all about virtual worship, limited gatherings.

Following Gov. Baker’s most recent order, the Diocese of Massachusetts raised its recommended limits to 60% of capacity (our building’s capacity is 180) until July 1st, before full capacity; this ~100 congregant limit should not impact our usual June numbers. Since everyone’s vaccination status cannot be known, masks are still recommended especially if there is to be congregational singing. Holy Communion can only be offered in one kind, the bread. Outdoor worship would allow less restriction and we are looking at possibilities beyond our norm for outdoor worship, knowing that we will need to continue to broadcast over the Internet. The worship committee is seeking a creative response to these options and needs.

We can measure this against what was “normal”, or we can measure this against last summer’s ever-changing, severe limits. The former may feed resentment, the latter gratitude not to mention hope for greater freedom to come.

This season may not harken to pre-COVID times, yet it will invite us to hold each other in care knowing that the decisions we make will enhance life, one for another. Jesus said, “...as you did this for the least of your brothers and sisters, you did it unto me.” Each action is done to align with Christ. I ask that you consider this as we adjust our expectations and actions to assist each other this season.

In Christ’s love,
The Rev. 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”



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Dear Friends of the Chapel,

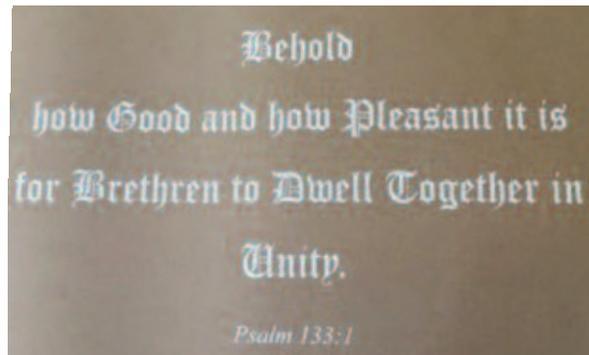
Welcome to the Chapel's 138th season, with renewed hopes for a more familiar summer than we were allowed last year. The Chapel Worship Committee, led by Catherine Saynor, has been busy meeting virtually this Spring to determine what services and events the Chapel can offer and when. Governor Baker's new guidance beginning on May 29, 2021 along with local Episcopal Diocese instructions as of May 20, 2021, will allow forms of gathering in person. I know we all are eager to resume our shared sense of community through worship and fellowship.

The dedicated work of the 2021 Outreach Committee has already begun, led by Eileen Shields West. Your gifts will continue to help local organizations with the ongoing critical needs. Enjoy reading the information in this newsletter. Thanks to dedicated board members and many additional volunteers, the Chapel weathered last season well, in spite of the pandemic. We look forward to a very special summer ahead!

I send best wishes for good health, safe travels and continued camaraderie.

Sincerely,

Patti Brown



COME TO THE CHAPEL THIS SUMMER

In order to adhere to the limit of 100 people permitted for indoor gatherings, the Chapel is using Sign-Up Genius, an online tool that helps participants sign-up online by simply providing their name (creating an account is not necessary). In each weekly Newsletter, this link (Sign-up for Indoor Chapel Worship) will be included. Upon clicking the link you will be directed to the Sconset Chapel In-Person Sign-Up page where you can check-off the Sign Up button (RED), and then at the bottom click the 'Submit and Sign Up' button (BLUE). Please type the First Name and Last Name of the individual attending (including an e-mail address is optional and will allow you to receive a reminder the day prior to the service). Lastly click 'Sign Up Now' (BLUE) which will take you to your confirmation. Should you want to sign up for more than 1 person, click 'Back to Sign Up' on the confirmation page and begin again.

Please note you will not be able to sign up for services more than 5 days in advance.

SIASCONSET CHAPEL OUTREACH - 2021

On behalf of the Outreach committee of the Siasconset Union Chapel we would like to express our gratitude to all the members of the congregation for your continued support and generosity, particularly during the unparalleled circumstances of the pandemic.

In spite of the restrictions, the Outreach Program has remained very active in the community. In 2020 we funded 13 amazing non profits on the island, in line with our mission to provide support for "health and human services to individuals in need on Nantucket Island and beyond" The committee was fortunate to have an additional \$20,000 for distribution. It could not have come at a more critical time. Our funds provided money for fuel assistance, meals programs, behavioral health, Laundry stipends, safety from abuse, housing needs and more. The list of recipients were A Safe Place, Boston Med flight, Community Foundation of Nantucket, Fairwinds, Gosnold Nantucket, Habitat for Humanity, Nantucket boys and girls club, Nantucket Food Fuel and Rental assistance, Nantucket Housing, Nantucket Star, Pascon, St. Paul's Laundry Love and St Paul's Meals mission.

As you know, the pandemic devastated the island's most vulnerable residents and laid bare increased needs in the area of mental health, addiction and domestic violence, as well as fuel, food and rental assistance. We were pleased to be able to contribute to the Community Foundation which does so much for Nantucket residents year round.

As a result of the pandemic restrictions, we were unable to proceed with several planned Outreach initiatives last summer. However in typical Sconset spirit, the summer community made the most of it with Bell Ringing, Chapel Beach Services, Thursday Morning Prayer services in the Garden and countless other creative initiatives.

The Outreach Committee, in partnership with the Hospitality Committee, Gliddens Seafood and the Food Pantry, hosted the first annual Lobster Lalapoolooza on Wednesday August 12. It was a terrific success and hopefully will become an annual event! Congratulations to all involved for their boundless energy and enthusiasm to help the Chapel and the Nantucket community.

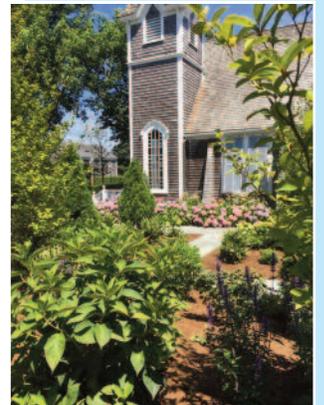
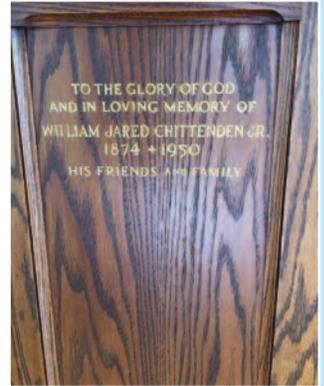
In addition, Laura Spivy held a series of concerts in her garden with Covid guidelines in place to support the Outreach program. Many thanks to Laura and her family for their thoughtful generosity.

Outreach Sundays were held in July and August as all the Chapel services were held virtually. As usual the members of the Parish were so generous each of these Sundays and enabled the committee to have more money than ever to distribute.

Thank you to all for your support of our Outreach Program. We couldn't begin to help our precious neighbors without your Support!!

We look forward to reuniting and celebrating another summer in our beloved Chapel.

Deb Martin and Eileen Shields West



LETTER FROM FATHER JOHN KELLEHER

Dear Friends in Christ,

I hope this note finds you doing well, staying safe and anticipating a great Summer! After a Summer without public worship at the Chapel last year, I look forward to celebrating Mass with you again this Summer, albeit with the necessary restrictions and guidelines for both the Protestant and Catholic services, which are noted in this newsletter. I am also glad to announce that our Jesuit friends will be helping us out again this Summer, too, after we missed them last year due to the pandemic.

In an effort to avoid overcrowding, we will try scheduling TWO Sunday Masses at Sconset Chapel this Summer, one at 8 a.m. and another at 4 p.m. Hopefully, this schedule will serve the needs of the Sconset Catholic Community during this uncertain time of lingering pandemic.

Looking forward to seeing you for public worship out at Sconset Chapel!

Blessings and Peace,

Fr. John Kelleher
 Pastor
 St. Mary, Our Lady of the Isle Parish

VOLUNTEERS

Greeters and readers are needed throughout the summer.

Please contact Catherine Saynor:
irishpoet3@gmail.com



EAST GARDEN COLUMBARIUM EXPANSION

The Columbarium Committee of the Chapel is pleased to announce the completion of a project in the East Garden, directly abutting Chapel Street, which has received an upgrade in a very understated way. Both East and West Columbarium now have a similar look and pastoral feel.

The centerpiece of the upgrade is the addition of a new "C" shaped wall under the transept window, adding niches to the original section. In addition, the East Garden has been moderately expanded toward New Street with the relocation of the brick pathway allowing additional niches within a lengthened columbarium wall.

This timely expansion adds 44 new double-niches to the original 37 in the East Garden and the 260 double-niches in the West Garden; record reservations over recent years had reduced niche availability. After careful consideration of several options, availability has been replenished and, when the need arises, this year's work will readily accommodate future expansions.

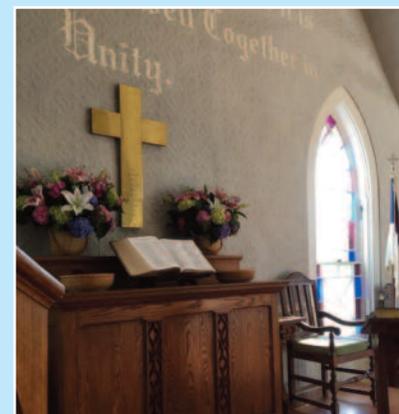
The Chapel Board approved the project in November, with work being done over the winter by Champoux Landscape in consultation with Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates of Boston, who so successfully redesigned the West Garden the year before. Dave Champoux, now joined by son Ben, has designed and constructed all of the Columbarium walls dating to the early

1980's. In conjunction, the board decided to incorporate much-needed remediation to the drainage on the east and south side of the Chapel building. The new system now in place will route runoff rainwater away from the structure and into underground water tanks. Finally, the low-hanging skirt panels affixed to the underside of the building were replaced by Ben Moore, the skilled woodworker who rebuilt our front door two years ago. We think that all these efforts have dramatically enhanced the appearance of the building façade and the East and West Gardens and Columbaria.

Funds for this expansion were drawn from the Columbarium Endowment, that part of the general endowment earmarked for columbarium maintenance and expansion. This endowment is fed by reservation fees and donations for the benefit of the Columbarium and the corpus is in good shape for long-term maintenance of the walls and grounds.

Finally, reservation costs, qualifications and procedures can be found on the Chapel website at the MEMORIALS page. We hope you will reverently peruse the Chapel's Memorial Gardens when next in the Village.

Bob Felch, for the Columbarium Committee (Lesley Blanchard, Patti Brown, Carr Holland, Elizabeth Queally)



FOOD PANTRY BAGS

Back by popular demand.... the snappy 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 on the list in the pocket of the bag. Bring it back to the porch at Amen and the bags will be taken to the food pantry.



**THE NANTUCKET
FOOD BANK
IS MOST APPRECIATIVE
OF OUR DONATIONS.**



INVESTMENT AND FINANCIAL REPORT

At this time last year, we were just beginning to contemplate the challenges we were facing in the first global pandemic in our lifetimes.

A year later, we are happy to report that the Chapel weathered the storm—our congregation and the ‘Sconset community gave the Chapel tremendous and consistent support. As a result, the Investment and Finance Committees are pleased to report that the Chapel emerged from the challenge of the last year stronger, financially and in faith.

During the year, we sustained losses of revenues from several sources, especially weddings. The initial decline in the stock market had a significant impact on our modest endowment. At the same time, we incurred additional expenses as our Worship Committee engaged with the challenge of providing live streamed worship services and as we upgraded our website to adapt to pandemic restrictions. Keeping our employees safe and the Chapel and Amen protected were high priorities. But we were most concerned about enabling our continued support of our Outreach clients, Nantucket Social Service Agencies all, knowing that they would be terribly stressed to keep their staff and clients safe while continuing to provide critically needed services. Our board committees, the congregation and the village community joined together and initiated Outreach fundraisers, like Lobster Lollapalooza and the Summer Music Concert Series, and supported Outreach generously in the July and August Outreach Plates. Our Endowment recovered from its losses over the course of the summer. As a result of this hard work and recovery of our Endowment, we became more confident of our financial position by late summer and were able to double our contribution to our Outreach clients in 2020 versus 2019. The Annual Appeal was generously supported at the end of the calendar year. For all the difficulties of 2020, we are very thankful and grateful for your support.

In the annual budgeting meeting in February, the trustees approved a new budget with 2021 projected expenses and revenues similar to 2020 with two notable exceptions. First, the trustees approved a proposal to renovate and expand the East Columbarium with funds reserved in the Columbarium Endowment. Second, the trustees made a substantial one-time additional commitment to the Outreach budget. As a result, we will be able to double our financial commitment to Outreach in 2021 over 2020. Our Outreach grants are by far the largest financial commitment the Chapel makes in its entire budget.

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!

Jamie Holt for the Endowment and Outreach Committees
(George Hubbs, Jay Riley and Joe Wright.)

BEHOLD BOOK AND ORNAMENTS



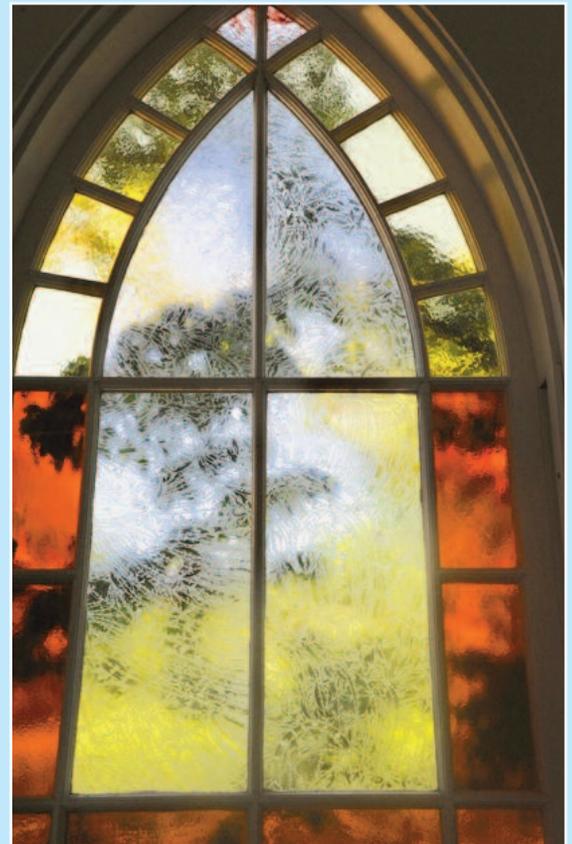
The BEHOLD book was a project by the needlepoint committee about the Chapel needlepoint and evolved into a history of the Chapel and it's place in the village of Sconset. It includes great history and photographs of all the beautiful kneelers and all the other needlepoint in the Chapel. There are five 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 \$50 unfinished and \$100 finished.



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 worshipers, 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: marywill@comcast.net by calling her at 978-621-5940.





*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:

Nancy Broll
Edward Callahan
Dr John Craighead
Marshal Chambers
Mr and Mrs George Simonds
Elizabeth Simonds Cook
The Dempster
and Longley Families
Edward Callahan
Marianne Felch
Jane Guido
Katie Hilton
Kate Morton
Dick Tevebaugh
Dorothy Holchon
Jane and Duane Todd
Katie Hilton
John C Lathrop
and Carol M Lathrop
Willem McRobie
Mary McKeown
Lawrence McQuade

Ann Humphreys Morton
Sam Daume
Jane Guido
Susan Ruddick
For all those lost
to Covid this year

*In Thanksgiving for:
Our Lovely Chapel*

Carr and Maxwell who
make the life at the chapel so
meaningful and beautiful.
Ray and Betsy Grubbs
The Board of Trustees
of the Chapel
Catherine Saynor
Harold, Elaine
and Richard Boehm
Sheila Daume
Susan Lyons, Peter O'Brien,
Sheila Mackeigan
and their families

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”

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 SERVICES

The Chapel will offer our very popular beach services again this summer . The service is offered at 8 AM on the Sconset Beach weather permitting. Sunday July 4th and July 18th and again August 1st and 15th. The blessing of the animals will be July 18th and August 15th.

Worshippers are encouraged to bring their children, grandchildren, dogs and house guests to this gentle early morning service. Don't forget your chair! The Reverend J Carr Holland leads the prayers with musical accompaniment and the ocean as our back drop. We can socially distance with care in this atmosphere.

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



CHAPEL BELL RINGING

Last summer the beautiful bell at the Sconset Chapel rang everyday at noon spreading the feeling of Hope Healing and Joy throughout the village. This wonderful tradition will continue this summer with the help of our enthusiastic Bell Ringers of all ages ..

Listen to a few of the comments from the bell ringers ...

“Entering the Chapel and ringing the bell this summer made us feel more connected to both the Chapel and the Sconset community at a time when we really were seeking a connection after so much time of isolation. It lifted our souls ... It also lifted their bodies [when our four year old held on to the bell rope the weight of it unexpectedly pulled her two feet into the air.”
The Longworthy Family

“My favorite memory of ringing the bell was having my 3 year old granddaughter watched in awe.. as her “Mimi “tugged on the rope to make the big beautiful bell sound!”
Patti Brown

“On occasion I would find that someone would sit on the benches outside the Chapel just waiting for the bell to ring out from above . Several times after I finished ringing the bell and exited the Chapel There were visitors very interested in the Chapel “
George Hubbs

“It was so much fun to send the Chapel’s Love out to the village _ Once with my mother and a second time with my daughter who was expecting her first Baby. Four Generations Calling out the count !!”
Jamie Holt

“In the strangest summer of all for most of us . The Chapel bell ringing provided a few daily moments of Joy . I found my self listening out for the bells on days I didn’t have bell duty.”
Jackie Kraeutler

Thank you all ..for bringing such joy to the village Maxwell Mundy, Kitty Sperry , Jackie Kaeutler, Elaine Boehm, Elizabeth Queally, George Hubbs ,Catherine Obrien , Andrew Heath, Julia Hobart, Robin Reid and Chris Staudt, Longworthy Family ,Crampton Family Stephanie Hodges, Jamie Holt Noreen Paulson, Ashley Kadakia, Patti Brown and Sheila Daume.

If you are interested in joining the Bell Ringers please contact Stephanie Hodge at haps861@aol.com.

SCONSET BELL RINGERS

When the Chapel bell rings out at noon
Our village listens well
It brings to mind - and none too soon
In unity we must dwell.
Above the altar, lest we forget
Are words to steer our path
How good and pleasant it truly is-
That bell makes joyful fact.
This summer let us pray for peace
And love and equal measure
Of all Gods gifts and tender care
To those whose lives He treasures .
It’s you and me and everyone
From far and near and never
Can anyone be excluded
From His promise of joy forever.

– Catherine Saynor



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 2021

JUNE

- 13** Protestant Service begins 10:30 am
Continues weekly thru September 19th
- 17** Midweek Prayer begins 8 am
Continues weekly thru September 16th
- 24** Chapel Trustees Retreat 9:30 am
- 27** Catholic Services Begin 8 am and 4 pm
Continue thru September 5th

JULY

- 3** Sconset Trust Games in Garden 9:30 am
- 4** Beach Service 8 am
- 15** Trustees Meeting 9:30 am
- 18** Beach Service 8 am
- 25** Outreach Sunday

AUGUST

- 1** Beach Service 8 am
- 11** Lobster Lalpolooza Event 5 pm
- 15** Beach Service 8 am
- 19** Trustees Meeting
- 29** Outreach Sunday

SEPTEMBER

- 5** Last Catholic service 8 am
- 9** Trustees Meeting
- 19** Last Protestant service 10:30 am

While the events committee has not scheduled any concerts or lectures to date, we do anticipate that the Chapel will be able to accommodate these over the summer; the weekly Eblast will be your guide