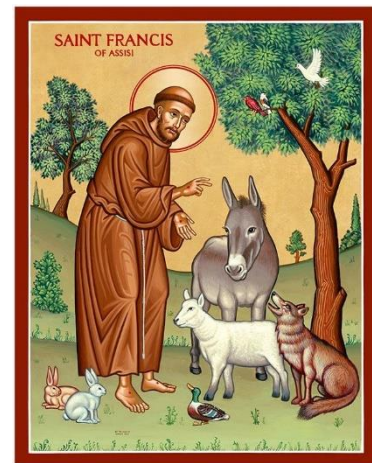


Wednesday Information – September 30, 2020

Blessing of the Animals

On Sunday, October 4, at 11 am - the Feast of St Francis of Assisi - we will host the Blessing of the Animals, weather permitting, outside the church on Maplewood Street. All creatures great and small are welcome. For everyone's safety, especially since this is a novel experience for many of the animals, please follow the guidelines:

1. dogs and cats must be on leashes or in carriers
2. birds, small mammals, reptiles, etc. must be in cages or tanks with secure lids
3. each animal may receive an individual blessing during the service
4. since we will be outside, please bring a blanket or chair to sit on during the service
5. if an animal is too frightened to attend, please bring a photo instead
6. if children have a favorite stuffed animal, they are invited to bring it for a special blessing.
7. All persons to wear masks for the service (around fifteen minutes long).



See you there!

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT: ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting will take place via Zoom on November 8, 2020 at 11 am.

CLICK [HERE](#) FOR MORE DETAILS.

Upcoming events at St. Martha's

Coffee Hour

This Sunday, **October 4, at 11 am Coffee Hour** will be hosted by Ron Kerchner, the Senior Warden. A link will be provided in the Saturday Inspiration email.

Wedding

On Sunday afternoon, **October 4, at 4:30 pm** Father David will officiate at the wedding of Angeline DiFebo and Scott Shelton. The ceremony will take place at Bayside Resort. Please keep the couple in your prayers.

Bible Study

A study of Exodus, Chapter 1 led by Dianne Burlew. Meet in the Parish Hall. Masks and physical distancing required. **Tuesday, October 6 at 1 pm**

Art and Faith

An online study which draws us deeper into the mystery of faith through the study and appreciation of art, led by Father David. The evening will conclude with Compline. This week's painting is "The Thebaid" or "Scenes from the Life of the Holy Hermits" by Paolo Uccello. **Tuesday, October 6 at 7 pm**

SMVBC - Continuation of "Outliers"

St. Martha's Virtual Book Club meets tomorrow, **Thursday, October 1st** from 3:00-4:00 PM. This week the book club will discuss Chapter six – cultural norms and how we tend to not question them and Chapter seven – how cultural legacies and overlooked factors influencing success.

Come one, come all – participants from the most recent book, "The Alchemist", those who joined us for "Welcome to Anglican Traditions," or anyone interested. No need to have read the chapters – you can always join in the meandering conversation. Contact **Rick Legeer** at rlegeer@comcast.net by **Thursday at 9:00 AM** so you can be added to the zoom invitation.

"Outliers" is available on Amazon (e-reader and hard copy) and possibly at local bookstores as well.

Bishop's Forum

The Bishop of Delaware, the Rt. Rev. Kevin Brown, would like to check in with St Martha's members online about our transition, on Sunday, October 11 at 11 a.m. A Zoom link will be provided in the Saturday, October 10 email. If you have specific questions for the bishop which you would like him to consider in advance, please email them to admin@stmarthasbethanybeach.org.

Focus Topic: Aligning the Vestry

St. Martha's is preparing to present next week the candidates for Vestry elections at the annual meeting November 8. Today, September 30, is the deadline to apply as a candidate for Vestry by contacting Junior Warden Tina Edgar. We offer this last commentary on Vestries from the Episcopal Church Foundation Vital Practices. October's focus topic will be stewardship.

By Greg Syler

The Vestry is a thing, an entity in our church which needs serious re-examination and balance. I believe that at least one of our problems lies in our unspoken, unexamined but nevertheless shared core concepts around The Vestry. Frankly, too many people in too many congregations feel responsible to do nothing more than replicate an outdated oversight and management model year after year after year. Put that way, The Vestry is far from the kind of body which would help the Body of Christ keep the main thing the main thing. I believe the problem is much deeper than any of us realize, and it's deep in the engine room of The Episcopal Church.

The solution? I'll say it as simply as I know how: we need to better align the Vestry with the methods of a missionary church. It's about alignment, not a new program or crafty idea. It's about making The Vestry work for Christ's Body, and not the other way around. It's about making The Vestry as healthy and gifted and inspired as our healthiest, most gifted, most inspiring member.

Easier said than done, right? Yes, it is much easier said than done. But if you take nothing away, take this. First, it can be done; I know that to be true. And, second, it will only be done at the grassroots level if you start to do it.

So here are ten key steps toward Aligning (your) Vestry, some conceptual, some practical

Click [here](#) to read more

Committee Updates

Search Committee

The Search Committee met in person on Monday, September 28 and is continuing its work to compile a parish profile to post on the Rector Search Page. This is a slow process, and although we don't have much news to report, we continue to move forward in our journey

to find a new rector. Sue Proska, a member of our committee, is relocating and but will continue to participate via Zoom.

Outreach

Join St. Martha's team for **Crop Hunger Walk 2020**. The "walk" will be open from Sept. 20 to Oct. 18. You may donate on-line (crophungerwalk.org, click search, type in St. Martha's) or send a donation to St. Martha's made out to CWS with Crop Walk notated on the memo line of your check. Contact franmcelvey@verizon.net for more information.

Outreach needs your monetary donations to help with school supplies this year. Instead of backpacks, we are purchasing supplies and plastic containers for the supplies. Please send your donation to St. Martha's (P.O. Box 1478, 117 Maplewood, 19930) with "school supplies" notated on your check. Contact franmcelvey@verizon.net if you need more information.

Stewardship

Our Stewardship Campaign, "All Things in Love", continues even as we experience new ways to worship and to socialize. St. Martha's remains the bond that keeps us together, inspires us and gives us hope. Please support St. Martha's by making your pledge now. Thank you to those who have already returned a pledge card.

Prayer List

Bob Bauer, Ruth Simone, Ron Sutton, Kristen Jankowski, Martha, Wayne Argo, Paul Stutts, Justin Bence, James Moore, Jr., Evan Ballard, Cameron Vlassis, Charmaine Zoller, the family of Ron Smith, Tara Sprouse, Don Louk, Joey, Sara Suerose, Nancy Moore & family, Bill Ensor, Katherine Hobbs, Joe, Nicole Filipelli, Dominic Filipelli, Noelle Filipelli, Nancy Reed, Leigh Alexander Loeber, Ron Pickup, Ann Adams, William L Brintnall, Laura N. Brintnall, Cuthie Family, Janice Fritsch, Cassandra Riddle, Mimi Drew, Sammy Schweers, Pauline Wise, Becky Warlow, Jean Bunker, Carolyn Clarke, Richard Hay, Frankie Ferrell, August Goeller, Josie Legeer, Jane Robbert, Bev Shubert, Margaret Duval, Marilyn Hoffman, Clari Hernandez, Lisa Carver and AJ Evans

For Our Serving Military: Quinn Barber, HM3 Kevin Murphy, Conner Warlow, Daniel Olnick

Prayer LIST – If you would like to add someone to the Prayer List please contact the office at (302) 539-7444 or email admin@stmarthasbethanybeach.org. The Prayer List is a way to ask for prayer from the whole congregation for a loved one who is dealing with a stressful issue such as chronic illness, job problem, or other personal problem. Only the person's name is listed. Names stay on the list for two months unless and until renewed.

Prayer CIRCLE – These volunteer prayer warriors pray for a person who has asked for urgently needed short-term prayer for a specific purpose like surgery or an upcoming medical test. These requests are confidential. You can email prayercircle@stmarthasbethanybeach.org for Prayer Circle intercessions. You can also contact Jaclyn at admin@stmarthasbethanybeach.org or 539-7444. Voicemail messages are being monitored and you will receive a return call during normal office hours (Monday-Thursday, 9am-1pm).

Pastoral CARE –If you have a pastoral care need, please call Elsa or Carol at (732) 216-6875 or contact the office using the email address or phone number listed above.

Pastoral Care EMERGENCY – Please contact Father David Beresford at (302) 468 9062.

Do You Know Your Hymns?

Dentist's Hymn	. . .	Crown Him with Many Crowns.
Weatherman's Hymn	. .	There Shall Be Showers of Blessings.
Contractor's Hymn	. . .	The Church's One Foundation.
Tailor's Hymn	. . .	Holy, Holy, Holy.
Golfer's Hymn	. . .	There's a Green Hill Far Away.
Politician's Hymn	. . .	Standing on the Promises!
Optometrist's Hymn.	. . .	Open My Eyes That I Might See.
IRS Agent's Hymn	. . .	I Surrender All.
Gossip's Hymn	. . .	Pass It On.
Electrician's Hymn	. . .	Send The Light..
Shopper's Hymn	. . .	Sweet Bye and Bye.
Realtor's Hymn	. . .	I've Got a Mansion, Just Over the Hilltop.
Massage Therapist's Hymn.		He Touched Me.

AND for those who speed on the highway - a few hymns:

55 mph	. . .	God Will Take Care of You
75 mph	. . .	Nearer My God To Thee
85 mph	. . .	This World Is Not My Home
95 mph	. . .	Lord, I'm Coming Home
100 mph	. . .	Precious Memories

Give me a sense of humor, Lord, Give me the grace to see a joke,
To get some humor out of life, And pass it on to other folks.

Vestry Members Wanted

Do you feel called to serve as a member of St Martha's Vestry in 2021/2? We are seeking nominations for three vacant positions for this leadership role within the church. For further information about the role please speak to Father David or one of the wardens. Elections

will be held by mail and successful nominees announced at our annual meeting in November. Deadline for applicants is **today**, Wednesday, September 30, 2020.

Delegates to the Diocesan Annual Convention Wanted

Each year St Martha's sends two delegates to the diocesan annual convention. In previous years this was held in Dewey Beach. If you are interested in attending - it is usually a three day event - please speak to Father David or one of the wardens. Elections will be held by mail and successful nominees announced at our annual meeting in November. Deadline for applicants is **today**, Wednesday, September 30, 2020.

Please give by mail or website donate button

Please continue to support our mission work by submitting your pledge to St. Martha's Episcopal Church, PO Box 1478, Bethany Beach DE 19930 or give via the donate button on the website where there is a box to note your contribution purpose:

<https://www.stmarthasbethanybeach.org/make-donation-or-pledge/>.

Email Dave Kemper with your hymn request

Remember to email Director of Music **Dave Kemper** at dc.kemper@hotmail.com if you want to request a particular hymn.

FOR LAST WEEK'S SERMON CLICK [HERE](#)

St Francis of Assisi CANTICLE OF CREATION

Be praised Good Lord for Brother Sun
who brings us each new day.
Be praised for Sister Moon: white
beauty bright and fair, with wandering
stars she moves through the night.
Be praised my Lord for Brother Wind,
for air and clouds and the skies of every season.
Be praised for Sister Water: humble,
helpful, precious, pure; she cleanses
us in rivers and renews us in rain.
Be praised my Lord for Brother fire:
he purifies and enlightens us.
Be praised my Lord for Mother Earth:
abundant source, all life sustaining;
she feeds us bread and fruit and gives us flowers.
Be praised my Lord for the gift of life;

for changing dusk and dawn; for touch
and scent and song.
Be praised my Lord for those who
pardon one another for love of thee,
and endure sickness and tribulation.
Blessed are they who shall endure it in
peace, for they shall be crowned by Thee.
Be praised Good Lord for sister Death
who welcomes us in loving embrace.

Have a wonderful week!

The Rev. David Beresford, 302-468-9062, davidberesford@gmail.com
Senior Warden Ron Kerchner, 609-424-7281, thekerchners@msn.com
Junior Warden Tina Edgar, 302-519-8688, tedgar543@mchsi.com
Secretary Mimi Dupont, 302-228-2755, mdupont228@yahoo.com
David Kemper, Music Director, 267-421-4453, dc.kemper@hotmail.com
Jaclyn Hickman, Administrative Asst., 302-539-7444, admin@stmarthasbethanybeach.org

