

Wednesday Information - May 12, 2021

St Martha's Helping Hands

A message from John Robbert, a parishioner.

Larry (who was blind) and Harry (who was confined to a wheelchair) and their respective wives were neighbors who took a stroll around the block every evening, that is, until both of their wives passed away. In short order they realized that Larry could continue to walk at a leisurely pace while pushing Harry's chair and Harry could give directions. Amazing what can happen when we help each other.

Another example: Abel cares for his wife Bea and hates to leave her alone. CeCe, an elderly friend, needs help with her computer (she wants to learn how to pay her bills online). Dee knows nothing about computers but she is willing to sit with Bea. So Dee sits with Bea while Abel assists CeCe. And now CeCe wants to do a Zoom class for her other elderly friends and teach them how to connect with their banks.

Welcome to the world of possibilities, also known as St. Martha's Helping Hands. In many ways the parishioners of St. Martha's have been assisting each other for year through the Pastoral Care Committee. However, the goal now is to expand that program and to make it easily accessible for those in need of any kind of assistance, whether it be transportation to doctors or to other professionals, help around the house (including small repairs), dropping off a meal, or just visiting.

Because asking for help is something that many are reluctant to do, the second goal for our Helping Hands is to make it easy to ask -- or preferably, to be offered the aid by those who are aware of the need.

This initiative is in the formative stage. If this is an effort that interests you, or if you have a particular talent that you would like to share with others, please contact Senior Warden, Ron Kerchner at 609-424-7281. All ideas and suggestions are welcome.

More news will be forthcoming as the project develops. In the meantime, we encourage random acts of kindness.

Dear friends,

The good news I promised to share with you last week is that, from May 21, restrictions on in-person worship have been amended to reduce physical distancing to three feet. Provided we meet this requirement, we can accommodate a larger number of people at Sunday worship. Our first time under these new regulations will be at Pentecost (May 23). Note that masks remain on, for the time being.

Tomorrow is the Feast of the Ascension of the Lord. A special sunrise Holy Eucharist will be held on the beach at 6:00 am. Walk to the end of Maplewood Street and on to the beach. Bring a chair and sunglasses and something warm to wear, in case there's a cool breeze. The weather forecast looks good and I hope you will be able to join us there. Afterwards we will be heading to the Bethany Diner on Garfield Parkway for breakfast.

Finally, with restrictions regarding worship being eased, this is a good time to acknowledge our greeters and ushers who have had the challenging task every Sunday of welcoming, checking in and seating the congregation. They have done this patiently and with great care. Thank you on behalf of all of the members of St Martha's!

With Easter blessings

Father David



Join us as we worship together in person.

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 16, 2021

8:00 am & 10:00 am- Holy Eucharist

If you are unable to worship in person, please join us as we livestream.

To view the livestreamed service please click the Youtube link below.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Art and Faith

This evening, **May 12** at 7 pm. Christ at the Sea of Galilee by Tintoretto. Discussion will be followed by Compline (Night Prayer).

Ascension Day

On Thursday, **May 13**, there will be a 6:00 am Holy Eucharist on the beach.

St Martha's Book Club

Thursday, **May 13** at 3 pm. This week the book club will discuss "Reflections one and two" of ***Struggling to be Holy*** by Judy Hirst. An introduction to the book.

Movie Night

We continue our monthly movie night in the Church Hall, on Tuesday, **May 25** at 6:30 pm. Our next movie will be **The Way**, starring Martin Sheen. A father heads overseas to recover the body of his estranged son who died while traveling the "El camino de Santiago," and decides to take the pilgrimage himself.

Mission and Vision Forum

We will hold our first forum on Sunday, **May 30** at 9:00 am (between the 8:00 am and 10:00 am services). The discussion is to solicit feedback from the parish on the mission and vision as well as the initiatives currently being focused on.

Men's Breakfast

The next men's breakfast will be held in the Lighthipe Hall on Wednesday, **June 16** at 9 am. Our guest will be Sgt Patrick Foley, from the Bethany Beach Police Department.

Prayer List

Bev and Jack Shubert, Marie Hogsten, Robert Hicks, Christine Mains, Carolyn Clarke, Jim Lucas, Jane Robbert, Cathy Jordan, Al Davidson, Diane, Elsa Fuentes, Madeline May, Joanne Boos, Cherisse, Jack, Dianna Irwin, Joan Kemper & family, Barbara Mahoney, Father John Mitchell, Emily Lawson, Dot Hall, Sharon Applebaum and Pauline

For the recently departed: Bill Hall and Paul Stutts

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 one month 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.

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/>.

*Almighty God, whose blessed Son our Savior Jesus Christ ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things:
Mercifully give us faith to perceive that, according to his promise, he abides with his Church on earth,
even to the end of the ages; through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.***

Have a wonderful week!

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