

Weekly Update

October 11, 2023

Please join us on Sunday for Holy Eucharist.

The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 15, 2023

8 am & 10 am*

Celebrant: Reverend Victoria Pretti

If you are unable to worship in person, please join us on Youtube.

*To view the livestream service please click the link below.



Seashell Ringers Practice

Wednesday, October 11 at 1 pm.

Choir Practice

Wednesday, October 11 at 7 pm.

Hospitality Committee Meeting

Thursday, October 12 at 2 pm

Vestry Meeting

Thursday, October 12 at 3 pm.

Book Study

Sunday, October 15 in between services, 9-9:45 am in the parish hall. Continued discussion on "Learning to Pray", by James Martin.

Crop Walk

Sunday, October 15 at 2:30 pm. Join us at Our Lady of Guadalupe as we walk around the gardens to some lively music. This event is rain or shine and will be held indoors if necessary. 25% of all donations support our food pantries in Sussex County.

Yoga

Monday, October 16 at 9:30 am in the parish hall. \$8 drop in. Bring your own mat, blanket, block and/or strap. Some will be available.

Bible Study

Tuesday, October 17 at 1 pm in the parish hall. This session focuses on St. Paul's Letter to the Romans.

Yoga

Tuesday, October 17 at 5:30 pm. This is a beginner's class starting with the basics for anyone new to yoga or just looking for a gentle practice. \$8 to drop in.

Upcoming Events



Harvest Fest Potluck

Thursday, October 19 at 5 pm
Parish Hall

This is your chance to use all the those delicious harvest foods! Be creative! Sign up for your choice of appetizer, side dish, main course or dessert. We will also need some help to set up and to clean up.

Sign up sheets are available now.

**Save
the
Date**



Men's Retreat

Saturday, **October 28** from 9 am to noon. A discussion will take place regarding the formation of a men's group that will focus on spirituality.

All Saints' Sunday and Remembrance Sunday - November 5th

**Please bring pictures that
day of departed loved ones,
which will be placed around
the altar during the service.
We will observe a special
candle-lit prayer in their
honor during each service.**



ANNUAL MEETING



NOVEMBER 19

SINGLE SERVICE

9:00 AM



The Annual Meeting will begin after the 9:00 AM service. A catered lunch will be provided following the meeting. We ask that you please sign up so we have a head count for the food. Look for a sign up sheet in the parish hall soon.

This will also be a New Members Sunday where we will acknowledge those individuals with a special blessing. Any new members who wish to be included should contact the office.

A sign up sheet is now available in the parish hall.

Outreach



Come and join the Crop Hunger Walkers on Sunday at Our Lady of Guadalupe at 2:30 pm. There will be lively music to entertain as you walk around the gardens. The event is rain or shine. Walking will be moved indoors if necessary. 25% of all donations support our food pantries in Sussex County.

Announcements

St. Martha's Healing Ministry



We are seeking volunteers who would be willing to be trained to pray with people for healing and other requests during the services (before, after, or at Communion time, TBD) on Sunday mornings and at occasional Healing Services. This is a new ministry that we feel God is calling us to and we would love for you to join us by serving Christ in this way. If you're interested and/or have questions, please

contact Rev. Ria or the office. An initial meeting will be planned once we have a team of volunteers.

Church Directory Photographs

If you have recently been added to the directory and would like to include your photo or you've been in the directory for a while and just want an updated one then here are the options to make that happen.



1. The easiest option is to look for Wincy Jackson after services. She will be available again this week to take photos. You can find her on the way to the parish hall after both services.
2. Email a photo of your choosing to the [office](#) and we will add it to the directory for you.
3. Upload a photo yourself. If you don't already know how to access the directory online, please click the link below.

[How to access Instant Church Directory](#)

Equal Exchange coffee tasting on October 29th during both coffee hours.

What is Fair Trade? It is an opportunity to support small farmers around the globe by buying food products from small producers.

St Martha's will taste both fair trade coffee and teas and some great chocolate products. After the tasting a limited supply will be available for sale.

Our hope is to continue using Equal Exchange coffees and teas at our weekly coffee hours, then sell these same products at upcoming events.

Please come sample our coffees and teas and taste the great chocolates. Fair Trade products support outreach in so many ways!

To learn more about Equal Exchange click [here](#).

Any questions, feel free to email [Susan Callahan](#).





Join the Choir...

**You'll Be Glad
You Did!**

Now that the busy summer months have come to an end, we would love to have you join us in the choir! All parts are needed. Can't read music? No problem! Rehearsals are held Wednesday evenings from 7:00 – 8:00 and Sunday mornings from 9:15 -9:35. Perfect attendance is not required! Please consider joining us for the fall and the season of Advent. Any questions? See Dave Kemper or any choir member.



Are you 72 or older? Have you lost the ability to fully deduct charitable contributions because you no longer itemize federal income tax deductions? Do you make donations to St. Martha's regularly? If you answered yes to these questions, you may want to consider making a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). A QCD is generally a non-taxable distribution made directly by the trustee of your IRA to St. Martha's or other qualified charities. A QCD reduces your Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) and thereby reduces taxes. If you are receiving a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from your IRA, a QCD can be used to satisfy the RMD. Please consult your tax advisor or tax return preparer to determine if a QCD could benefit you.

Stewardship Update

As of date	Amount Pledged for 2024
9/17/2023	\$25,300.00
9/26/2023	\$72,820.00
10/7/2023	\$87,660.00

Pledgers who:	Number
Increased their pledge	8
Pledged the same	21
Decreased their pledge	2
New pledgers	7
Totals	38

A big thank you to all those who have submitted their pledge cards thus far. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!
