Weekly Update October 25, 2023

Please join us on Sunday for Holy Eucharist.

The Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

October 29, 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.



REMINDER - BE CAUTIOUS

We would like to reemphasize that neither Rev. Ria nor any other employee of St. Martha's will contact you by email or text asking for any kind of favor, especially those involving monetary transactions. Please ignore all communication of this type.

Seashell Ringers Practice

Wednesday, October 25 at 1 pm.

Choir Practice

Wednesday, October 25 at 7 pm.

Becoming Beloved Community Meeting

Thursday, October 26 at 1 pm in the parish hall.

Outreach Committee Meeting

Thursday, October 26 at 2 pm in the parish hall.

Men's Retreat

Saturday, October 28. Doors will open at 9:30 for coffee and chit-chat. The program will begin at 10 am and end at 12:30 pm. Come learn about how this fellowship will evolve as a weekly men's discipleship group.

Book Study

Sunday, October 29 in between services, 9-9:45 am in the parish hall. Continued discussion on "Learning to Pray", by James Martin.

Yoga

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

Yoga

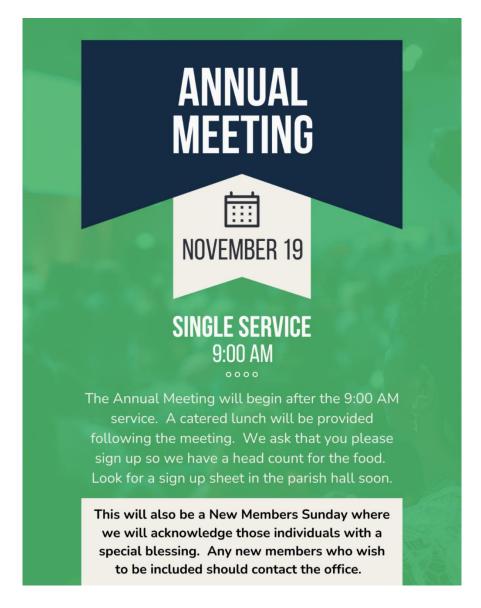
Tuesday, October 31 at 5:30 pm. This is a beginner's class starting with the basics for anyone new to yoga or just looking for gentle practice. \$8 to drop in.

Upcoming Events





Sign up sheets are now available in the parish hall.



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Vestry Nominee Bios

As part of the Annual Meeting, the Nominating Committee will present four candidates for the Vestry, three with three-year terms and one with a two- year term. Vestry members are permitted to serve two consecutive terms, but according to the church by-laws, "No member of the Vestry elected for a second consecutive term may be re-elected for at least one year following a second three (3) year term." The congregation will also elect two delegates and two alternates to the 2024 Diocesan Convention.

The Nominations Committee is pleased to submit the following four nominees for the four open positions on the Vestry:(click on their name to read their bio)

Pat Leskowitz

Frank Marchand

Marianne Pena

John Short



Outreach



Outreach will be collecting food for families in need for Thanksgiving at Phillip Showell Elementary, John Clayton Elementary, and Selbyville Middle School. Parishioners will be able to donate food and/or a \$30 gift card. The list of families in need and the food items to be purchased will be in the Parish Hall by November 5. Food and gift cards need to be returned by November 19 so they can be delivered to the schools on November 20.

Announcements



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Equal Exchange coffee tasting on October 29th during both coffee hours - POSTPONED

The Fairtrade coffee tasting is being postponed until later this year. New date to be announced. Stay tuned....you're gonna love it!

Any questions, feel free to email <u>Susan</u> <u>Callahan</u>.

Brick Blessing

On Sunday, December 3rd there will be a brick blessing at both services. If you would like to purchase a brick to be included in this blessing, please submit your form by November 12th. The forms can be found at the entrance to the church, as well as in front of the office. You can also contact the office and we will be happy to email you one.

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.





Committee Chairs

It's that time of year! The Annual Meeting is right around the corner, that means it's time to start working on those committee summaries for the Annual Report.

Believe it or not, we've already had two submitted. A big thanks to those overachievers. Now it's time for the rest of you to get down to business. If you would like a copy of last year's emailed to you just contact the office. Please have all summaries submitted by 11/8. Thank you!



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
9/26/2023	\$72,820
10/7/2023	\$87,660
10/12/2023	\$102,000
10/17/2023	\$147,120
10/24/2023	\$162,160

Pledgers who:	Number
Increased their pledge	22
Pledged the same	35
Decreased their pledge	3
New pledgers	11
Totals	71

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