

Weekly Update

November 15, 2023

Please join us on Sunday for Holy Eucharist.

The Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

November 19, 2023

Single Service at 9 am*

Annual Meeting & luncheon to follow.

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.



This week at

St. Martha's



Wednesday, November 15th:

- Men's Discipleship Group at 8 am in the conference room. **(will not meet on 11/22)**
- Seashell Ringers Practice at 1 pm
- Scholarship Planning Meeting 2:30 pm
- Choir Practice at 7 pm

Thursday, November 16th:

- Becoming Beloved Community Meeting at 1 pm
- Outreach Committee Meeting at 2 pm
- Vestry Meeting at 3 pm

Friday, November 17th:

- Stitch & Sketch meets in the parish hall from 10 am to 1pm. We have knitters, painters, quilters and many other crafters who gather to stitch, craft and socialize. All are welcome.
- 239th Annual Convention in Newark, DE (see below for details on how to attend remotely)

Saturday, November 18th

- 239th Annual Convention in Newark, DE (see below for details on how to attend remotely)

Sunday, November 19th

- Single Service at 9 am with the Annual Meeting and Luncheon to follow.

Monday, November 20th:

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

Tuesday, November 21st:

- Bible Study at 1 pm in the parish hall. Continuation of the study of St. Paul's Letter to the Romans.
- Yoga at 5:30 pm in the parish hall. This is a beginner's class starting with the basics for anyone new to yoga or just looking for a gentle practice. \$8 drop in.

It's Convention time! Let's participate online!

Diocesan convention is in Newark on **Friday, November 17 and Saturday November 18.**

Rev. Ria and Carl and Sue Mantegna are our delegates this year.

Everyone is welcome to attend the dinner speaker Friday night and the convention business session on Saturday online at <https://delaware.church/annual-convention-239/> . The Diocesan website is [Delaware.church](https://delaware.church). The tabs will lead you there also.

St. Martha's has had a close connection to the Diocese—first as a Bishop's chapel (1940's-1983), then as a mission (1983-2005) and now as a full parish. From its beginning as year-round in 1979, St. Martha's has provided many members to serve on Diocesan organizations and committees at every level. Most recently, we had representatives on the Standing Committee, Diocesan Council and the Trustees. Diocesan Advance & Development loans and grants have helped us expand the facilities from 1979 through 2012. Let's tune in and get a greater understanding of the plans and budget of the Diocese for the next year and beyond!

Upcoming Events



HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR

Sat, Nov 18 • 9 AM - 2 PM

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA CLAUS

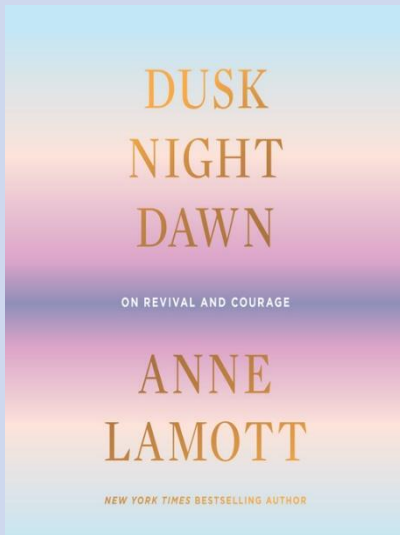
Sat, Dec 2 & Sun, Dec 3 • 9 - 11 AM

A VERY MERRY TEA LUNCHEON WITH SANTA

Wed, Dec 13 • 12 - 3 PM



35268 Homestead Way, Lewes, DE • camparrowhead.net



Please join us on **November 30th** from 3 to 4 pm in the church hall when the St. Martha's Hybrid Book Group meets to discuss Anne Lamott's "Dusk, Night, Dawn." This book grapples with the tough question of how to cope as we stumble through our own personal as well as our country's dark times. Contact Rick Legeer at rlegeer@gmail.com if you would like to join the discussion remotely.

Your help is needed. If you plan to participate in the St. Martha's Hybrid Book Club, please email [Rick Legeer](mailto:rlegeer@gmail.com) and provide your contact information. Due to technical issues, his previous list was lost. Thank you.



The Southern Delaware Chorale will be performing, "**A Candlelight Concert: Midnight Mass,**" featuring such pieces as Messe de Minuit by Charpentier, Wilmington, a Christmas Anthem on the text "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing!", O Nata Lux by Thomas Tallis, Go Tell it on the Mountain arranged by John Rutter, Christmas Day by Gustav Holst, audience sing-alongs and more! Our two Lee Mitchell Scholarship winners, Gina Garcia Perez and Caliana Velasquez will perform solos as well.

The concert will take place at Epworth United Methodist Church , 19285 Holland Glade Road, Rehoboth Beach on **Friday, December 1, 2023** at 7:30 P.M. and **Saturday, December 2, 2023** at 3:00 P.M. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased online at www.southerndelawarechorale.org, Children under 18 are free. Tickets will be available at the door! Credit cards, checks and cash are accepted. Hope to see you there!

**Christmas Cookies,
Baked Goods
and
Book Sale**

**ST. MARTHA'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9
9 AM TO 1 PM**

**117 MAPLEWOOD ST.
BETHANY BEACH**

We need a lot of volunteers for this event to run smoothly, but most importantly we need all the bakers we can get! Please consider putting your baking skills into action. Stop by the parish hall and add your name to the list!



Christmas Luncheon

Tuesday, December 12th at Noon
Cripple Creek Golf & Country Club

\$28/person, \$23/Bell Choir Members

*Let's celebrate this festive season with food, fellowship,
and a special performance by the Seashell Ringers!*

Please pick up a form from the parish hall to complete with your meal
selection and return with payment by Sunday, December 3.

Click [here](#) for form. Copies are available in the parish hall as well.

Outreach



All Thanksgiving groceries and Food Lion gift cards need to be returned to St. Martha's on **Sunday, November 19**. Since November 19 is our Annual Meeting in the Parish Hall, the bags can be placed in the library. Gift cards can be placed in the baskets on the table. Outreach will deliver the bags on November 20 and 21 to the schools. Please remember to include the envelopes so we will know which family gets the groceries. Again, Outreach is very appreciative of the great response we've had doing this project.

Announcements

Want to Make Your Own Advent Wreath?

Stop by and check out the Advent wreath display during the Annual Meeting to get some ideas for adorning your wreaths. Wreath rings and candle holders will be available for sale (\$15). You can take them home and personalize your wreath any way you choose. The 4 candles for the wreath will be provided at no cost. There will also be handouts available for advent candle lighting readings.



We hope you are inspired to participate in this memorable way to celebrate advent in your own home. There will be a signup sheet in the parish hall for those wishing to participate. This way we will be sure to have enough supplies for everyone.

Maggie's 7th Annual
Winter Coat Drive

**Donation deadline:
 December 31st**

Drop-off Locations:

- Selbyville Public Library**
 11 S Main St, Selbyville, DE 19975
- Frankford Town Hall**
 9 Main St, Frankford, DE 19945
- Coldwell Banker**
 89 Atlantic Ave, Ocean View, DE 19970
 1431 S Salisbury Blvd, Salisbury, MD 21801
 12207 Coastal Hwy, Ocean City, MD 21842
 6405 Coastal Hwy, Ocean City, MD 21842
- Next Step Learning Center**
 2 Church St, Selbyville, DE 19975
- Millsboro Lanes**
 213 Mitchell St, Millsboro, DE 19966

Please Donate
 A New or Unused Coat
 to Help the Less
 Fortunate to Keep
 Them Warm

My goal is to collect over 300 new or unused coats, hats and gloves for the less fortunate. All given will be donated to those in need in Sussex County.

**For more information:
 Email: bdupont@yahoo.com
 Facebook: Maggie's Coat Drive**

**Need us to pick up?
 Call: (302) 542-1464**

A donation container is in front of the office. If you have any further questions, you can reach out to Mimi Dupont. Maggie is Mimi's granddaughter.

Off Season Specials

Don't feel like cooking tonight? Browse this [list](#) of off season specials at all your favorite local establishments. There is something every day of the week should you desire. Show these businesses your support during this slower time of year and get a great meal for a good deal!



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
10/31/2023	\$172,090
11/5/2023	\$186,370
11/13/2023	\$196,430

Pledgers who:	Number
Increased their pledge	24
Pledged the same	43
Decreased their pledge	9
New pledgers	12
Totals	88

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