



The Cloak

a weekly e-newsletter
from Saint Martin's Church

September 14, 2017

In This Issue

[Greeting](#)

[St. Martin's Choir](#)

[Sunday School](#)

[Chapel Chat](#)

[Hurricane Relief](#)

[Bible & Beer](#)

[SWIC Matching
Gift Challenge](#)

[Save the Date:
Family Worship](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

[This Week's
Scriptures](#)

[Participate in The
Cloak](#)

Greeting

"They didn't belong there. They needed to be used."

~ Sister Margaret Ann

*Principal of Archbishop Coleman F. Carroll High School
Miami, FL*

On Tuesday after Hurricane Irma blew through, Sister Margaret Ann was on her way to work in Miami. "The road was blocked, we couldn't get through...So, there was a need, I had the means - so I wanted to help out." She went to a closet at her school and got out a chainsaw and began to clear trees and branches out of the road. When we pray for those in distress, and ask God not merely for mercy for them, but also to inspire and empower us to be the instruments of taking action on their behalf- this is exactly what it looks like.



Peace & blessings,
Chris+

St. Martin's Choir



Do you enjoy singing? Have you considered joining the choir? Now would be a good time to participate. The time commitment is minimal with just an extra hour on Sunday mornings. Rehearsals continue this Sunday at 9 a.m. with this Sunday's organist, Mary Eileen Johnston.



Feed Your Spirit

This Week at St. Martin's

Sunday

Rite I
Worship
8 a.m.

Choir Rehearsal
9 a.m.

Sunday School
9:30 a.m.

Rite II Worship
with music
10 a.m.

Tuesday

Global Mission
Meeting
3 p.m.

[back to top](#)

Sunday School

The NEW Sunday School year began at 9:30am last Sunday, September 10th. Rolling admission continues as children and youth (preschool through 8th grade), and parents too, are invited to gather in the large Sunday School room to participate in the new curriculum year. Our focus will be on the Psalms and the use of building bricks like Legos to interpret the Bible. Nursery care will also be available.



[back to top](#)

Chapel Chat



Join other adults at St. Martin's in the chapel at 9:30 am, to ponder this week's scripture before the 10am service. This is the first week for the scripture discussions and everyone is invited. Parents with children are welcome to participate after the children are in Sunday School or the nursery.

[back to top](#)

Hurricane Relief

We stand with you, but not only we. The Lord who sacrificed His life for us all and was raised from the dead is with you. Remember that we are your brothers and sisters, and we're in this together. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up the light of His countenance upon you and give you His peace, this day, and forever more. Amen.



~ Presiding Bishop Michael Curry

St. Martin's is collecting funds for Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) and the Episcopal Diocese of Texas (EDOT) to aid hurricane victims. More information can be found in The Gurley room. In addition to collecting at church, checks can be mailed to church (400 King of Prussia Rd, Radnor, PA 19087). Please include "hurricane relief" on the memo line.

Vestry Meeting
7 p.m.

Wednesday

Holy Eucharist
12:10 p.m.

Bible Study
7 p.m.

Thursday

Bible & Beer at the
Black Powder
Tavern, Wayne
7 p.m.

Many thanks and may God bless and protect the people in Texas, Florida and the Caribbean during this crisis.

[back to top](#)

Bible & Beer



Bible & Beer sessions resume at the Black Powder Tavern (1164 Valley Forge Road, Wayne) on Thursday, September 21st at 7 p.m. Come join in some lively discussions that put a spiritual twist on current topics. All people and viewpoints are welcome!

[back to top](#)

SWIC Matching Gift Challenge

From August 15th through December 15th, a generous donor will match ALL contributions to Stand With Iraqi Christians. To donate and have your contribution matched, click here:



<http://standwithiraquichristians.org/donate/#paypal>

You can also visit www.StandWithIraqiChristians.org and click the red donation button.

Checks may also be sent to *Stand With Iraqi Christians*, 400 King of Prussia Rd, Radnor, PA 19087 (or simply dropped off in the main church office)

[back to top](#)

Save the Date: Family Worship



On October 1st at 10am, there will be a "Families in Worship" Eucharist service. Families with members of all ages are invited to join the celebratory worship. Children will have a chance to come close to the altar, and there will be a special space for babies and preschoolers. The St. Martin's extended family, parents, grandparents and family friends are all welcome. So plan to attend this multigenerational event.

[back to top](#)

Upcoming Events



Global Mission Meeting

Tuesday, 9/19, 3 p.m.

Vestry Meeting

Tuesday, 9/19, 7 p.m.

Bible & Beer

Thursday, 9/21, 7 p.m.

At the Black Powder Tavern, 1164 Valley Forge Road, Wayne

Parish Breakfast

Sunday, 10/1, 8:30 a.m.

Family Worship

Sunday, 10/1, 10 a.m.

Read and Ponder this Week's Scriptures



The scripture readings for this Sunday are:

Exodus 14:19-31

Exodus 15:1b-11,20-21

Romans 14:1-12

Matthew 18:21-35

The Collect

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Old Testament

Exodus 14:19-31

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and

went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt." Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

The Response

Exodus 15:1b-11,20-21

"I will sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously;
horse and rider he has thrown into the sea.

The Lord is my strength and my might,
and he has become my salvation;
this is my God, and I will praise him,
my father's God, and I will exalt him.

The Lord is a warrior;
the Lord is his name.

"Pharaoh's chariots and his army he cast into the sea;
his picked officers were sunk in the Red Sea.

The floods covered them;

they went down into the depths like a stone.

Your right hand, O Lord, glorious in power--
your right hand, O Lord, shattered the enemy.

In the greatness of your majesty you overthrew your adversaries;
you sent out your fury, it consumed them like stubble.

At the blast of your nostrils the waters piled up,
the floods stood up in a heap;

the deeps congealed in the heart of the sea.

The enemy said, 'I will pursue, I will overtake,
I will divide the spoil, my desire shall have its fill of them.

I will draw my sword, my hand shall destroy them.'

You blew with your wind, the sea covered them;
they sank like lead in the mighty waters.

"Who is like you, O Lord, among the gods?

Who is like you, majestic in holiness,
awesome in splendor, doing wonders?"

Then the prophet Miriam, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand; and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dancing.

And Miriam sang to them:

"Sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously;
horse and rider he has thrown into the sea."

The Epistle

Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

The Gospel

Matthew 18:21-35

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

Optional parts of the readings are set off in square brackets.

The Bible texts of the Old Testament, Epistle and Gospel lessons are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian

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[back to top](#)



Participate in The Cloak

We invite your input into The Cloak. If you would like to contribute your voice to "From the Congregation," or if you would like to share a prayer, an idea, an essay, a photo, or something else, please let us know!

[Contribute to The Cloak.](#)

[back to top](#)

Saint Martin's Episcopal Church of Radnor

400 King of Prussia Road
Radnor, PA 19087
(610) 688-4830

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