

Dear friends,

April 10, 2013

I wish to call to your attention our lovely chapel and the great gift that we have received from our founders and benefactors. Interestingly, there was no plan for a chapel in the original blueprint during the planning stages of Canterbury Woods. We can thank the late Rev. Nicholas, associate Rector of St. Mary's by-the-Sea at that time, who envisioned the importance of having a chapel here and urged its establishment in the life of this community.

I am writing as your chaplain with the hope of encouraging you to cherish what I believe to be a wonderful resource as well as to remind you that it is your chapel. I also need to report that contributions to the chapel, both volunteer and financial, are at a low point. Canterbury Woods and Episcopal Senior Communities cover the cost of chapel maintenance, as well as my salary, but all other expenses are paid for out of our chapel funds.

That being said, I feel that it is my duty to ensure that the chapel is serving, as best it can, the spiritual needs of all our residents, and so I welcome your ideas and suggestions either in writing or in person: *Is there anything that we could be doing which might increase your sense of ownership and participation in the life of the Chapel of the Prince of Peace?*

At the present time, a Eucharist is offered every Tuesday at 10:00 am and a Catholic Mass every first Wednesday of the month, also at 10:00 am. Other religious groups may make use of the chapel upon request and the door is always open for private devotion. Historically, services have been held on weekdays to allow those who attend local churches on Sunday to join.

Also at the present time, there is a need for able bodied volunteers to assist with preparing the chapel for services as well as putting things back in order afterwards. I am happy to train anyone who would be willing to do altar work. We are blessed with a full working sacristy containing many fine liturgical items which have been gifted over the years. There are opportunities for flower arranging, laundering the linens, caring for the communion vessels, and decorating the chapel for the holidays. I also welcome anyone who would like to participate as lay readers, Eucharistic ministers and acolytes. Please let me know your thoughts.

I wish you many blessings during this Easter season!

Faithfully yours,

The Rev. Kevin Philips
Chaplain