St. Columba’s
The Berkeley Memorial Chapel

Celebrating 125 Years

Parish Profile
September 2011
A Prayer for St. Columba’s Journey

Ever-present God,  
we come to you,  
source of sustenance, guidance, and wisdom  
as we seek a new rector.  
As we journey together,  
we ask that your Spirit move us in full accord  
to fulfill your purposes.  
May we walk  
empowered by the joy of Christ’s rising,  
pledged to honor his name.

We pray your Spirit’s energizing of our next rector:  
for gifts to articulate your word  
that we may apply your ways to life;  
for a shepherd’s heart  
to offer nurture and comfort to all;  
for humor to help us laugh at ourselves,  
yet take you seriously;  
for a steward’s commitment  
to draw us toward giving ourselves to your worship and service;  
and for a mind of discernment  
captivated by the mystery of faith –  
Christ’s dying, rising and return.  
To us and to your priestly servant,  
give mutual recognition,  
for the spread of your love  
and the praise of your glory among us,  
then through us to your world.  
Amen.
# Table of Contents

- A Prayer for St. Columba’s Journey .................................................. 2
- Welcome to St. Columba’s ................................................................. 4
- Our Mission ...................................................................................... 5
- Our Guiding Principles ................................................................. 5
- Opportunities & Challenges ............................................................ 6
- What We Seek in a Rector ............................................................... 7
- Liturgy .............................................................................................. 8
- Music .............................................................................................. 9
- Christian Formation ......................................................................... 10
- Parish Life ....................................................................................... 12
- Outreach ........................................................................................ 14
- A History of St. Columba’s ............................................................. 16
- Buildings & Grounds ..................................................................... 19
- Our Finances .................................................................................. 21
- Our Town & Community ............................................................... 23
- Leadership of St. Columba’s ......................................................... 25

**Rector Applicant Inquiries may be forwarded to:**
Betsy Fornal, Canon for Congregations and Clergy
Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island
Betsy@episcopalri.org or 401-274-4500, ext. 225
Welcome to St. Columba’s!

It is our hope that this Parish Profile, along with our website (www.stcolumbaschapel.org), will provide you with information about the vibrant life of our church community. We are an Episcopal Church in leadership transition that remains committed to carrying on, and strengthening, the worship and programs that have characterized our parish.

This Profile was developed by a Self-Study Committee that was appointed by the Vestry of St. Columba’s in April of 2011. It outlines who we are today, as well as our hopes for the future. The committee conducted gatherings and interviews with groups and individual parishioners in order to be certain that this Profile reflects, as closely as possible, the character and desires of the entire parish.

As you read this Profile, may you discover for yourself the warm, welcoming and spiritual life here at St. Columba’s.
Our Mission

St. Columba’s is a spiritual community, aware of and responsive to God’s comprehensive, reconciling and healing love for all through Christ.

Our Guiding Principles:

Worship ~ Reflect ~ Connect

Through Worship,
we celebrate and build upon our Christian heritage
and welcome all who are seeking a closer relationship with God.

Through Reflection,
and guided by faith, scripture and reason,
we nourish our spiritual lives.

Through Connection,
we look for opportunities to engage
so that we may act on our faith and be of service to others.
A Vision for the Future: Opportunities & Challenges

We look forward to working with our next rector on the following:

- exploring and expanding the opportunities for Christian formation for all and in particular enriching the spiritual needs and interests of our teens;
- supporting and initiating collaborative activities with other churches in the Aquidneck Island Deanery;
- increasing our “hands-on” involvement with the people we serve through our outreach partnerships, while continuing our efforts in communicating with and reaching out to the larger community;
- strengthening and expanding the ways in which we reach out to and welcome people into our parish while retaining our sense of family;
- assessing the ability of the existing infrastructure to meet parish needs and interests, including resolving the issue of diminishing space in our graveyard.
What We Seek in a Rector:

- A shepherd who will provide spiritual nourishment, guidance and support to the parishioners of St. Columba’s as they continue on their earthly journey through growth and change.

- An engaging and inspiring homilist who can apply the lessons of the Gospel to our contemporary lives, and who can, without favoring a particular stance, remain open to and respectful of the diversity of views held by our parishioners.

- An open, warm, caring and accessible spiritual advisor of unimpeachable integrity.

- An effective parish administrator with an aptitude for financial management who will guide the parish in the stewardship of its precious resources.

- Someone with strong interpersonal skills who can connect with people of all ages.

- Someone with whom young people will share a mutual respect as they continue to develop their role in the life of the church and of St. Columba’s.

- Someone who possesses a strong desire to expand the educational opportunities available to adults, teens and children alike.

- Someone with a strong sense of community involvement, who recognizes the importance of the larger society, both in terms of communication and outreach.
Liturgy

“We are spiritually uplifted and enriched at St. Columba’s.”

There are several opportunities for all to worship at St. Columba’s each week and to explore the mysteries of faith with the 1979 Book of Common Prayer as our guide. Since 2009, because of our growth in membership and as an expression of welcome to newcomers, we now celebrate three Eucharistic services on Sundays. There is an 8:00 a.m. Rite I service, a quiet, contemplative service without music, at which attendance averages between thirty and thirty-five; a 9:00 a.m. Rite II service, which averages between forty and forty-five worshippers; and a 10:45 a.m. Rite II service with ninety to one hundred in attendance. There is music at both Rite II celebrations. The interval between the 9:00 and 10:45 services was created in order to have more time for educational opportunities, for both adults and children, as well as to allow more communal time for parishioners from all three services.

Once a month, children serve as liturgical helpers at the 9:00 a.m. service. Although it may seem that this celebration is aimed at families with children, many parishioners without children have expressed their appreciation of this special time. Children and youth are welcome at all of our services, and we believe that their presence enlivens our worship. Childcare is provided at the 9:00 a.m. and the 10:45 a.m. services. Children’s Chapel, our Sunday School, is held at the 9:00 a.m. service, with the children joining the congregation in church for offertory and Eucharist.

Morning Prayer is offered Monday through Thursday at 8:30 a.m. and is led either by clergy or a member of the parish. On Wednesday evening there is a 5:30 p.m. Eucharist which includes the Litany for Healing and the opportunity to receive a blessing and to be anointed with oil. These additional services provide parishioners with midweek opportunities to “Worship, Reflect, Connect.”
Music

“The music at St. Columba’s is extraordinary, vital, and appreciated.”

Music plays a central role in the life of St. Columba’s. It both draws people to the Chapel and nurtures them once they are there. While at 8:00 a.m. there is a Eucharistic service without music, the congregation provides enthusiastic praise through the hymns that are part of both the 9:00 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. services. St. Columba’s is blessed with a very fine Aeolian-Skinner 22-rank pipe organ, which was donated and endowed by the Jelke family in 1937.

Our organist and choirmaster leads our dedicated choir in anthems from a beautiful, challenging and eclectic repertoire of sacred music that spans centuries and styles. The choir size is quite large given the size of the church membership, often featuring fifteen to twenty-five singers ranging from teens to seniors. They rehearse weekly in the chapel and contribute to many of the 10:45 a.m. services, as well as special holiday and memorial services.

While we do not have a children’s choir, the young people do sing in Sunday school and during special services and pageants.

In addition to choir and organ performances at such events as the English Garden Party, guest artists and groups often perform in the parish hall, the chapel and on the grounds. These have included everything from folk rock to chamber groups, and from baroque to barbershop.
Christian Formation

“There are so many opportunities to grow spiritually, emotionally, intellectually by being engaged in the community at St. Columba’s. The worship services – the sermons, the Eucharist – continue to be the core for me . . . and the book studies.”

Parishioners of all ages are encouraged to participate in various educational and enrichment programs offered at St. Columba’s. For adults there is a weekly men’s lay-led Bible study group, as well as a women’s spiritual study group. There are also Advent and Lenten book study programs, led by the rector. Less regularly there are lectures on topics of parishioner interest, such as developments within the Anglican community, or presentations by parishioners themselves, concerning church-sponsored trips, personal experiences or reflections on healing. Our adult parishioners have expressed a wish for expanded opportunities for adult education.

Additionally, we are looking for ways to enrich the church experience for our teenage parishioners. Our teens currently assist by serving as acolytes, caring for the youngest children in the nursery, participating on the Self-Study and Search Committees, and helping with Sunday school. They have also taken part in parish hall sleepovers, as well as a ski trip to New Hampshire with the teens from Trinity Church (Newport). Our teens also contribute to our outreach efforts, most recently in conjunction with the Trinity/St. Columba’s joint “Gifts for Teens” program, for which the teens raised money, shopped, wrapped and delivered Christmas presents to other teens who might not otherwise have received them. The teens raised enough money to be able to provide each recipient with an additional $25 gift card, for which they received a Vision Award from the East Bay Community Action Program for their participation and significant contribution.

Our Sunday school, which follows the structure of the Liturgy, serves our parishioners ages four through twelve and is held each Sunday during the 9:00 a.m. service. The children learn scripture lessons, hear stories, sing and create art projects based on the day’s lessons. On the last Sunday of each month, the children participate in the 9:00 a.m. service as ushers, acolytes and readers.
Children and teens are also encouraged to participate in many of the activities of our church life, including our Advent tradition of a Christmas pageant, with the children playing all the roles of the story of the birth of Christ. They also manage, with adult supervision, the Fun Food, Children’s Tea, and Treasure Chest booths at the annual Garden Party.

Our children are valued members of the St. Columba’s community and they take great pride in their involvement. As we gathered as a parish to complete this self-study profile, without prompting, the children collaborated on the following unedited letter, which they presented to the Vestry:

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Dear Vestry,

As you are looking for a new priest we would like you to keep these things in mind:

1. Age doesn’t matter although we would like them to have little that are in school that way they have values in the chapel.
2. They should be wise, this means they should be smart, have a clear voice and help in good decision-making.
3. He should be a leader, be nice, make that will guide us through hard times.
4. He should be fun but serious when necessary.
5. Should have an appreciation for music, dance, gymnastics, swimming, art, craft, strategy, computer, football, animals, and Irish step dancing.
6. He should be able to talk to children about life but not be boring. Must be a good listener and have a loud clear voice.
7. Must be a good reader, must have read the Bible and Harry Potter.
8. We pursue the idea that children should be a youth service for kids 10 and up every Sunday from 9-10. The priest should run the service so that they get bonding time with him. We like the monthly children’s service.

There are things that are impossible to us. We hope you will consider it when you do your search.

Thank you,

Children’s Service
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Parish Life

“At St. Columba’s, we love to cook and we love to eat!”

St. Columba’s is home to a spiritually engaged and socially diverse group of people, and is an open house for all those who seek a closer relationship with God. We are also a community of individuals who take great pleasure in each other’s company, so the myriad ways in which we come together are crucial to the fabric of our parish.

St. Columba’s Chapel and its churchyard look as though they had been spirited out of the English countryside and deposited in coastal Rhode Island. Therefore it seems appropriate that our signature community event is an English Garden Party, held each June on the Saturday closest to St. Columba’s Day. In a tradition begun in 1991 by our then rector, a transplanted Englishman, the garden party brings all of us together for a day of festivity and welcome. The residents of Aquidneck Island and beyond enjoy the English traditions that are a part of the day, such as a Devonshire cream tea, the chapel flower festival, children’s games, a garden booth, a baked goods stall, a raffle and silent auction (the proceeds of which benefit our outreach efforts), and so much more. The garden party allows us to extend the hospitality of our parish and, as importantly, brings the parish together as nothing else does. For newcomers or visitors to St. Columba’s, the garden party offers a comfortable way to become involved in the life of the church.

Our efforts extend throughout the year with weekly coffee hours following each of our Sunday services, parish brunches, a Shrove Tuesday pancake supper, a Mother’s Day brunch, the fall churchyard clean-up, a Victorian Christmas tea, the children’s Christmas bake sale (with proceeds going to the charity of their choice), and the children’s Christmas pageant. Parishioners also take an active role in such outreach events as the 5K Road Race for the Island, holiday wreath decorating workshops to benefit Lucy’s Hearth (a local shelter for women and their children), as well as this year’s new outreach event, the Race for the Island sailing regatta, held in collaboration with other Episcopal churches on the island. There is an ever-present atmosphere of enthusiasm, creativity and challenge within our parish life as we continually explore new ideas for the future.
If asked, many of our parishioners would say that the reason they first came to St. Columba’s was the physical beauty of the place. Most would add that the reason they have stayed is the warmth of the parish, the caring concern with which they’re treated every Sunday and beyond, and the deep friendships that have grown from its hallowed grounds.

“Thank you for all your hard work - you are like a well-oiled machine!... I am so lucky to be a part of such a wonderful group of people....The day of the garden party you all showed true heart and generosity of spirit to one and all....We worked together to build bonds of friendship within our community. We extended our arms to our visitors and touched many. We have done good work, the work that God asks of us. Thank you all....You truly are the face of St. Columba’s.”

Chairperson, 2011 Garden Party
Outreach

“. . . through outreach, we ‘share the love and hope in our hearts.’”

When visitors come to St. Columba’s, they often remark that they have felt so warmly welcomed. Our aim is to extend that welcome to those we meet in our outreach activities, so that we can walk our spiritual path together. A visiting priest recently reminded us that, through outreach, we “share the love and hope in our hearts.”

Outreach initiatives at St. Columba’s respond to needs within our parish community, our local area, our nation and the world. They include volunteering, making donations of all kinds, and providing events which welcome all of our neighbors. Last April during Holy week adult and teen parishioners from St. Columba’s joined another local church as they traveled to New Orleans to help rebuild homes damaged by Hurricane Katrina. One goal of the Outreach Committee is to increase our “hands-on” involvement with the people we serve through our partnerships with human service organizations.

Outreach, like charity, begins at home. Welcoming is our first outreach responsibility. The Welcoming Committee has organized procedures for greeting visitors, inviting them to coffee hour, and gathering information for follow-up. Our goal is for all parishioners to take part in this important ministry. We must also be there for each other, and we are fully aware that our own members may sometimes need a helping hand. A dedicated group of volunteers prepares meals to take to those recovering from an illness, while others offer transportation to medical appointments or to Sunday services. We also open our church home to community groups, and our parish hall is used several times a week for AA meetings.
Our circle of outreach extends to the wider community, and many members are involved in volunteering with various organizations throughout the state. The Outreach Committee focuses primarily on several local agencies, such as homeless shelters, a soup kitchen, community food pantries, and family support organizations. In the past, our outreach funds were based on a percentage of received pledges, which made the planning of distributions difficult. The committee now receives seed money each year to use toward fundraisers. We are able to raise significantly more money by sponsoring such events as road races, sailing regattas and concerts. Funds also continue to be raised through The Garden Party silent auction and raffle. Funds are then distributed to our partner agencies. Even more vital than our monetary contributions, however, are the opportunities for parishioners to interact with the people served, such as helping with Soup’s On, which serves hot, nourishing meals to the needy, or with Baby Steps, which offers activities and support to parents, and stresses the importance of reading with their little ones. Sometimes organizations from within the church volunteer as a group to help with a project for one of our partners such as Lucy’s Hearth, a shelter for women and their children. We also connect with:

Meals on Wheels
Women’s Resource Center
East Bay Community Action Program
Dr. Martin Luther King Community Center
Baby Steps

The Healing Cooperative
Star Kids
Seamen’s Church Institute
Child and Family Services
Fifty Washington Square

Nationally and internationally, St. Columba’s supports Episcopal Charities, Episcopal Relief and Development, Plan USA and Church World Service-CROP.
A History of St. Columba’s

“St. Columba’s has become known as a welcoming parish.”

In 1872, Eugene Sturtevant dreamed of developing a large section of land along the Eastern Shore of Middletown, Rhode Island, which, upon his first encounter, he christened "the most beautiful place in the world". An ocean front road was built and farms were purchased including the land where "St. Columba’s, The Berkeley Memorial Chapel" now stands. New boundaries were laid and many wealthy summer residents purchased land and constructed homes along the hills overlooking the Sakonnet River. During the summers this diverse community of wealthy residents and neighboring working farm families would gather as one at the Peabody School on Third Beach Road for Sunday afternoon prayer. The Rev. John T. Huntington, also a summer resident of Middletown, would provide the sermon for this mission church. Services were so well attended that Mary Clark Sturtevant, wife of Eugene, initiated a petition among the area residents to build a small chapel for this vibrant spiritual community. For this purpose, in 1882, Mr. Sturtevant donated one acre of land on Indian Avenue near the old Taggart’s Ferry along with stones removed from walls of acquired farms.

The building was originally known as The Berkeley Memorial Chapel and was named in honor of the great Anglo-Irish philosopher, Dean George Berkeley, Bishop of Cloyne. Bishop Berkeley had purchased the nearby Whitehall Farm as a home during his stay in America between 1728 and 1732. He observed that the area “exhibited some of the softest rural and grandest ocean scenery in the world”. He is best known for his literary work The Minute Philosopher, and he wrote his work Alciphron (a dialogue challenging “free thinkers”) at a place still referred to as "Berkeley’s Seat" overlooking the ocean at nearby "Hanging Rock”. Soon, the first treasurer of the newly formed parish felt the chapel should be dedicated to a saint. Columba was named and accepted. St. Columba, born in Ireland in AD 521, founded monasteries in Derry, Durrow and Kells. In 542 he traveled to Iona, Scotland, where he was renowned for his teaching, missionary work, healing and miracles. Embedded in the walls on either side of the chapel’s vestibule are stones from both Cloyne and Iona.
Philadelphia architect Wilson Eyre staked out the land in 1882 and within four days oxen and scrapers were brought in by neighboring workers who gave their time to excavate for the foundation. The cornerstone of the Chapel building was finally laid on October 11, 1884. After two years of construction there was concern that subscribers might lose interest in the project. Consideration was given to building the chapel out of wood instead of stone, but Mrs. Sturtevant insisted that "The house of the Lord should be worthy of him" and the project continued as planned. The land, plans, furnishings and windows were all donated at a cost of $9,096.15. The first service was held in the nave on June 23, 1885, even though the chancel would not be completed for another year. During that first summer many distinguished clergymen from New York City officiated at the unfinished Chapel. Saint Columba's was officially consecrated on August 31, 1886, "to the Glory of God, and in the memory of St. Columba" by Bishop Thomas March Clark, father of Mary Clarke Sturtevant and later Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church in America. Bishop Clark decided that the Chapel should remain a mission church directly under his auspices and he often referred to it as his cathedral. It has since been elevated to full parish status.

In 1887, the Rev. John Diman was sent to permanently care for the chapel and a furnace was secured to convert the chapel to a year-round place of worship for this outlying community of faith. Two services were held on Sundays with large bible study classes which attracted locals as well as residents of the nearby City of Newport. In 1892 Rev. Diman left to form St. George's Episcopal School in Middletown, ensuring a close association between the School and the Chapel. Many of the ordained teachers officiated at Saint Columba's services and, before the school's own chapel was built, boys walked from the School to Saint Columba's for Sunday worship.

The "voices" of the Chapel have gone through some changes over the years. The original Roosevelt Organ was replaced by the current Aeolian-Skinner Organ in 1937. Many buildings on Aquidneck Island sustained severe damage during Hurricane Carol in 1954 with St. Columba's suffering its share. During the hurricane, the gable-end belfry was damaged and the basement of the church was flooded. The Middletown fire department had the only equipment able to reach the single church bell and was called to repair the bell support. Although no permanent damage was suffered, it was also decided at that point to relocate the workings of the organ from the basement to the first floor of the church to prevent any possible future damage.
The church buildings have had both liturgical and practical improvements since their construction. The altar was moved away from the sanctuary wall to allow for clergy to face the congregation. An accessibility ramp was added at the entrance of the chapel and the original stairs now extend out from there. Professional stained glass artisans were employed in 1996 and the Chapel windows were completely restored to forestall the ravages of time and to correct some issues introduced during a previous repair. The Parish Hall, then known as the Guild Hall was the center of social life for area residents and church fairs took place there in the summer. In those early years, the St. Columba’s Brass Band provided the music for entertainment and games were available for the children at these events. In 1919 a parish hall was built on the St. Columba’s property and later expanded with a gentlemen’s reading room. This building was replaced by the current parish hall in 2001, and has classrooms, offices, a meeting hall and a professional kitchen. Church fairs continue today in the form of an English Garden Party that reflects the Anglican roots of the church.

Special services with receptions following have been held at St. Columba’s to celebrate both the 50th and 100th anniversaries of the Chapel. The 50th anniversary included a church service and remembrances by early members of the church. It was noted at this service that “The backbone of the Chapel is its faithful year-round group in the neighborhood. But fortunately there are many of those who make Newport their summer home who are members of this parish.” One specific memory involves the excitement in preparations for Christmas services and the decorating of the Chapel with intricate laurel garlands hung from the turned wood ceiling trusses. This unique practice of decorating the Chapel is still honored today during the Christmas season. The 100th anniversary celebration included a special service which included psalms, hymns, prayers and additional music with brass instruments. During that service a Centennial Cross was blessed and affixed to the cornerstone to permanently mark the occasion. A celebration of the 125th anniversary of St. Columba’s is being planned at the time of this writing as a faith-filled and joyful celebration.

The character of that original “vibrant spiritual community,” as observed by Mrs. Sturtevant, is much alive today at St. Columba’s. Here, a socially diverse group of parishioners form a growing Christian community that was brought together by faith and worship. Perhaps it is because of this, and because it is the only church in this idyllic rural area, that St. Columba’s has become known as a welcoming parish.

As the Rev. Latta Griswald said in 1910,

“Every person in this community is cordially invited to worship in this church, and to receive such of its ministrations as their conscience permits and the regulations of our household enable us to offer. We stand for definite things, and no one can long be ignorant of our faith or our ways that comes here: we offer what we have gladly and freely.”
Buildings & Grounds

“... one of the ‘greatest wonderments’ in New England.”

Located on 1.36 acres of land in one of the more pastoral areas of Middletown, the property of St. Columba’s consists of a 19th century stone chapel, a parish hall, and a historic cemetery ringed by stone walls. The assessed value of the church buildings and grounds is roughly $2.5 million.

In the stone wall on the south side of the property, there is a lych-gate, the traditional canopied entrance to a burial ground found in many English churchyards. The chapel is sited in the center of the churchyard. One enters at the southwest corner of the nave, with the baptismal font at the foot of the aisle and the sanctuary and altar at the east. The sanctuary is an open space with a cathedral ceiling supported by wooden beams. The altar, above which is a magnificent depiction of St. Michael, is set out from the front wall of the church so that clergy may face the congregation during services. The nave, with rush-seated chairs modeled after those in St. Paul’s Cathedral, London, seats 130 people. When needed, additional temporary seating is available at the rear of the chapel.

Among the treasures of St. Columba’s are its fifteen stained glass windows, all of which were commissioned by individual donors around the time of the chapel’s consecration in 1886. In 2010, Yankee Magazine designated the windows one of the “greatest wonderments” in New England. Fourteen of the windows were designed by David Maitland Armstrong and manufactured by the Tiffany Glass Company of New York City, while the fifteenth was constructed by the Belcher Mosaic Glass Company of New York and Newark, New Jersey. Commissioned by Edwin Booth, the famed Shakespearean actor and brother of John Wilkes Booth, and a summer resident of Middletown, the window depicts Mary Devlin Booth, the actor’s late wife. All the windows were restored in 1996, with the exception of the Booth window which was found to be in acceptable condition.

Toward the front of the chapel one finds the console and pipes of an Aeolian-Skinner Organ built in 1937. Maintenance of the organ is supported by the independently endowed Jelke Fund. The chapel itself is in excellent repair, though the roof, nearly 100 years old, may need attention in the future. Substantial funds have been set aside for its inevitable renovation.
The parish hall is separate from the chapel and is located on the northwest corner of the property. This building was completed in 2001 on the site of an older facility that had become obsolete. It holds the church offices, three classrooms, a nursery, a meeting room, a main hall that accommodates up to 120 people, a professional kitchen, and bathrooms, all on one floor. There is a small second floor that is used for storage. The kitchen and the main hall can be accessed by a service entrance separate from the main driveway. Both the parish hall and the chapel are handicapped-accessible.

The churchyard surrounding the chapel contains a burial ground, the records for which are current and stored in an electronic database. Presently there are 340 burials or interments in the churchyard, with an additional 145 living deed holders. There are approximately 65 deeded burial lots remaining. The establishment of a columbarium for the burial of ashes has been proposed. Those buried at St. Columba’s include family members of present parishioners, former clergy, and a few people of historical significance. Maintenance of the churchyard is endowed by the restricted Harold Brooks Fund. Care of the buildings and grounds is overseen by a committee that reports to the vestry. In addition, there is a part-time sexton who handles custodial work and general maintenance of the buildings and grounds.

The church’s rectory, built in 1955 on land donated by a former parishioner, is a two-story, three-bedroom Colonial-revival. It sits on 1/4 acre of land just up the road from the church property.
Our Finances

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<td>Apportionment</td>
<td>36,311</td>
<td>72,622</td>
<td>71,388</td>
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<td>Property Operations &amp; Maintenance</td>
<td>36,726</td>
<td>70,430</td>
<td>79,753</td>
<td>63,271</td>
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<td>Administration</td>
<td>13,213</td>
<td>24,325</td>
<td>25,008</td>
<td>24,130</td>
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<td>Programs</td>
<td>20,885</td>
<td>51,614</td>
<td>51,939</td>
<td>37,800</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discretionary Fund</td>
<td>5,145</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>2,705</td>
<td>3,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Operating Expenses</td>
<td>$225,593</td>
<td>$453,783</td>
<td>$463,340</td>
<td>$429,331</td>
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**Assets @ 6/30/11:**
- Cash & Investments: $1,019,124
- Chapel, Parish Hall & Rectory: 2,564,238
- Restricted Endowment Funds: $3,583,362
- Total: $3,557,990

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St. Columba's ~ Celebrating 125 Years

Page 21
St. Columba's Stewardship Pledging

**Operating Income**
FYE 12/31/10

- Pledge Payments
- Pledge Payments-Prior
- Pledge Payments-Advance
- Unrestricted Gifts
- Plate Offerings
- Friends & Other Donations
- Fundraisers
- Outreach Events & Donations
- Endowment Draw

**2010 Operating Budget Income**

- Pledge Payments
- Pledge Payments-Prior
- Pledge Payments-Advance
- Unrestricted Gifts
- Plate Offerings
- Friends & Other Donations
- Fundraisers
- Outreach Events & Donations
- Endowment Draw

**Expenses**
FYE 12/31/10

- Staff
- Apportionment
- Property Oper. & Maint.
- Administration
- Programs
- Discretionary Fund

**2010 Operating Budget Expenses**

- Staff
- Apportionment
- Property Oper. & Maint.
- Administration
- Programs
- Discretionary Fund

---

**St. Columba's Stewardship Pledging**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Total Pledge</th>
<th>Actually Received</th>
<th>No. of Pledges</th>
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<tr>
<td>@ 6/30/2011</td>
<td>$264,555</td>
<td>$145,030</td>
<td>151</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>$262,538</td>
<td>$263,391</td>
<td>163</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>$263,888</td>
<td>$258,271</td>
<td>162</td>
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*St. Columba’s ~ Celebrating 125 Years*  
*Page 22*
Our Town & Community

St. Columba’s, The Berkeley Memorial Chapel, is located in Middletown, Rhode Island, one of three communities that make up Aquidneck Island. The historic city of Newport is just a few miles south, while Portsmouth, Aquidneck Island’s first settlement, is but a short distance to the north. Connecticut and New York City are an easy train or car ride, while T.F. Green Airport in Warwick, RI (45 minutes) and Logan Airport in Boston (90 minutes) provide air access. Providence, Rhode Island’s capital city and our diocesan base, is 30 miles away, at the head of Narragansett Bay.

Aquidneck Island, the birthplace of religious freedom in America, was first settled in 1638 by Anne Hutchinson and John Clarke, religious exiles from Boston. The island is still home to seven Episcopal churches, as well as most other mainstream denominations, most historically Touro Synagogue, North America’s oldest synagogue, as well as the country’s oldest Quaker Meetinghouse.

St. Columba’s sits along the Sakonnet River on the bucolic eastern side of the island, amidst farmlands and attractive residential areas. The island itself boasts a wide variety of recreational, educational and cultural activities for all ages.

Whether it’s the bustle of the local fisherman bringing in the daily catch or the recreational boaters and sailors who are attracted to the beautiful ocean waters off Newport, Aquidneck Island has always been anchor to a vibrant seafaring community. In Colonial times, Newport was one of the busiest seaports on the east coast, rivaling New York and Philadelphia. There are miles of beautiful beaches and ocean scenery, from the windy (great for kite-flying) Brenton Point State Park on the scenic 10-mile Ocean Drive, to the 3.5-mile Cliff Walk, to the sandy beaches found in all three island communities. Water sports aren’t the only activities to keep one busy though: there is polo in Portsmouth, tennis on grass courts in Newport, golf courses both public and private up and down the island, and hiking at the Norman Bird Sanctuary or Sachuest Wildlife Refuge in Middletown, all venues that remind us of the glory of God’s handiwork.

The beauty of the area will not be lost on the architectural eye either, as so much of the history of Newport is still alive in its buildings. Historically significant houses can be found throughout Aquidneck Island, from the eighteenth century charm of one of the last “wooden cities in America” to the grandeur of the Gilded Age mansions (or “summer cottages”) of the early 20th century.

The arts too are very much alive in our community. The Bellevue Avenue mansions provide the backdrop to the Newport Music Festival each July, featuring classical musicians from around the world, while Fort Adams is host to the world-famous Newport Jazz and Folk Festivals every August. The Newport Art Museum anchors dozens of galleries throughout the city, showing the works of local and national artists and
artisans. The Redwood Library and Athenaeum in Newport, founded in 1747, is the oldest lending library in America.

The island is also home to Salve Regina University and the Newport campus of the Community College of Rhode Island. There are also public schools in all three island communities, as well as several parochial, private day and boarding schools, most notably Portsmouth Abbey and St. George's School. The latter has a shared history with St. Columba's as its founding headmaster was once Deacon-in-Charge at St. Columba's.

Aquidneck Island, and Newport in particular, has had a long association with the United States Navy, beginning during the Revolutionary War. During the Civil War, the United States Naval Academy was moved from Annapolis “out of harm's way” to Newport. Naval Station Newport, which includes the Naval Education Training Centre, the Surface Warfare Officers School, and other military entities, is still an active base. The Naval War College continues to engage officers from all branches of the U.S. and international armed services on issues pertaining to questions of war and the prevention of war, while the Naval Undersea Warfare Center, also located on the Navy base, is an applied science and engineering institution. In addition, many naval personnel who were once based here now call the island home, forming an active community of military retirees.

To learn more about the attractions of Aquidneck Island, please visit [www.gonewport.org](http://www.gonewport.org) and see [www.goprovvidence.com](http://www.goprovvidence.com) and [www.cityofboston.gov/visitors](http://www.cityofboston.gov/visitors) for more information on our neighbors.
## Leadership of St. Columba’s

### STAFF

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Interim Rector</td>
<td>The Rev. Ned Mulligan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Organist &amp; Choirmaster</td>
<td>Spencer Sacco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parish Administrator</td>
<td>Kathryn Warren</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receptionist</td>
<td>Donna Nedderman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sexton</td>
<td>Colin Brown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director of Children’s Programs</td>
<td>Lisa Reimer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retired Priests</td>
<td>The Rev. Hébert W. Bolles</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The Rev. Everett H. Greene</td>
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### 2011 VESTRY

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<tr>
<th>Role</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senior Warden</td>
<td>Harriet DiCicco</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior Warden</td>
<td>Toby Field</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clerk</td>
<td>Julie Toland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Kenneth Lindh</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stewardship</td>
<td>Bob Cooper</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary-Louise Fye</td>
<td>David Grant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>John Hughes</td>
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<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Cary Lord</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stewardship</td>
<td>Doug Poskitt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Rindy Sabatino</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>June Terry</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SELF-STUDY COMMITTEE

- Day Ketcham, Chair
- Crane Anderson
- Michelle Boyle
- Sara Chadwick
- John Hughes
- Roy Lauth
- Jack Lewis
- Sarah Lord
- Rindy Sabatino
- John Woodhouse

### SEARCH COMMITTEE

- Meg Little, Chair
- Bob Cooper
- Liz Drayton
- Kate Field
- Roy Lauth
- Scott Nicholson
- Jessica Piazza
- Greg Sabatino
- June Terry

*The Diocese appointed Leon Sibielski to serve as our Transition Consultant, and the transition committees are very grateful for his encouragement, expertise, wisdom and support.*

St. Columba’s, The Berkeley Memorial Chapel  
55 Vaucluse Avenue  
Middletown, RI 02842  
Telephone 401.847.5571  
Fax 401.847.1199  
www.stcolumbaschapel.org