

Rector's Note

5.14.26

Sunday's Mother's Day coffee hour by the columbarium was glorious. The weather cooperated, and the gardens and columbarium plantings were in their full beauty. Several people remarked to me that they had never looked closely at the columbarium before, even though it is right by the church. Thanks to Debra and Cathy for all their work on these sacred grounds, and for making the reception happen.

This past weekend's Retreat at [Daylesford Abbey](#) was intimate and lovely. We talked about how to pray, shared our stories, practiced different ways to pray, and joined the Norbertine community for their daily worship services. It was just an overnight, but the silence, the grounds, and the learning we had together made for a real sense of getting away for a while with God and each other. If you've never been on a retreat before, consider joining us next time!

During the week, several St Martin's members were a part of [Need in Deed's](#) Shout Out event at Arch St Meetinghouse. For these 3rd through 8th graders in public schools around Philly, this is their version of a science fair. Each class had a poster representing their yearlong project, and some of us got to present awards to the classes. Need in Deed is a service-based learning program that was founded by St Martin's members. 40 years later, it is still a partner organization for St Martin's.

Next Wednesday May 20, another partner, [St James School](#), will honor St Martin's at their annual benefit dinner. If you'd like to attend and to ride the shuttle to the event from church, you can still sign up [here](#). Note that our usual Wednesday programming that evening will not be happening because of the St James event.

Just another couple weeks of St Martin's praying in all ways, with words and silence and actions.

Mary+