

The Wave *APRIL 2020*

St. Peter's Episcopal Church-on-the-Canal - Buzzards Bay, Massachusetts

A MESSAGE FROM REV. PATTIE HANDLOSS

My dear Friends,

It is a strange and difficult time. The crocuses are blooming and other signs of Spring are beginning to peek out of the ground even as we face the worst Pandemic of our age . While most will not get the virus, most will not be harmed, but for those who are harmed—God bless them—for the suffering is legion. It is ours to try to prevent anyone from getting the virus and thus cut the odds of becoming unwell with it. It is also important to know that we will be closed through Easter. Maybe longer. BUT we will bless and hand out Palm Branches on Palm Sunday. More about this elsewhere in this newsletter. Not meals on wheels, but Palm Branches to go...

I miss all of you. I miss placing the sacrament in your hands. I miss greeting you at the door or running into you before or after one of the Bible Studies or meetings or activities. BUT ZOOM is to the rescue.

ZOOM you say? Yes ZOOM. Today Alan Kershaw and I joined each other's ZOOM meetings. Tomorrow, we will get us up and running so that those with a smart phone, an iPad or a computer can join a Morning Prayer each week as well as the two Bible Studies. Stay tuned for more about this next week.

In the meantime there are wonderful services to be had. There are glorious services from The National Cathedral available. Susan Hebb has listed these in the newsletter. The richness and depth of the music is worth the time worshipping via whatever medium you will use.

John McGinnis is working on getting us up and running on the web.

In the meantime we must make do with what we have. Phone calls, email, and the greatness of God's world to explore via walks, books and television.

I would hope that instead of fearful, you are cautious. Instead of frightened, you are faithful and careful.

We are all in this together. Loving each other as Jesus has asked us to love. We are a family spread out right now but we are Christians and we are holding each other's hands in our mind's eyes. Always. Always.

Blessings and love, Pattie+

DID YOU KNOW?

Why do we use Purple during Lent?

In ancient times, purple garments were expensive and hard to find. The dye came from sea mollusks that had to be crushed to get their purple fluid. One ounce of purple dye needed 250,000 mollusks. Then the fabric was dyed, dried and made into clothing. This took a very long time.

Generally, only wealthy people and members of royalty could afford purple garments. So we use purple to honor Jesus, the King of Kings.

THE VISIBLE VESTRY

There will be no Visible Vestry this month as we did not have a meeting. We are all adhering to the government mandate that we all self-isolate and stay away from crowds. But there is always news to report.

We were told the steeple of the church needed to be replaced, but the good news is that only the top half has to be replaced...and that's covered by insurance. I'm not sure when this work will start but we will keep you informed.

More good news – the first week we counted the donations for the stained glass windows the total was \$6,953.19; added to the previous donations of \$5,100.00 we now have a total of \$12,053.19 to help offset the money we took from the Capital Campaign account. Thank you for your generous donations. We will not ask for donations again, but feel free to donate if you would like to.

If you need anything during this time of isolation, please call me at 617-710-5346. I will do what I can to help. If you just feel like chatting, I'm available for that too! Please check on your friends and neighbors to make sure they are doing okay. If everyone adheres to the guidelines established by Governor Baker, hopefully this will not last too long.

As of right now, St. Peter's is closed for any and all activities at the church. This means religious services, all meetings, Friendly Kitchen, Paper Pantry, TOPS, and AA. As soon as the restrictions are lifted, we will notify you.

I think while we are all self-isolating, this is the perfect time to relax, recharge, pray, meditate, reconnect with people you have not seen or talked to for some time, spend quality time with family.

Celeste Hankey, Senior Warden

PALMS AND BLESSINGS SUNDAY

McDonalds Drive - Thru Type Service

On Palm Sunday, at 10:00 a.m., we will have a Palm Sunday drive-through at St. Peter's. The palms will be blessed by Pattie. You can enter the parking lot via the driveway closest to the police station, drive towards the back of the church, cue up and drive by the side of the church. Palms will be distributed by the front door. **DO NOT GET OUT OF YOUR CAR.** I will, with gloved hands, hand you a palm. Pattie will bless each of you. Please exit the parking lot via the driveway closest to the front door. This will help keep the line moving. This is just in the early planning stages as we only got approval from the diocese yesterday. There will be more details in upcoming blasts, for those that do not get email, we will be making phone calls with information.

Celeste Hankey, Senior Warden

WEEKLY E-MAIL FROM ST. PETER'S

Each week we send out an email showcasing highlights of the coming week, the lessons for the next Sunday, those serving, and a calendar of events. We also use this community email as a means of notifying you of church service cancellations (in the event of inclement weather), of deaths in the parish family, and other emergent news. If you are not receiving this email and would like to, please send a note to Robin Higgins at ptown.robin@yahoo.com and we will add you to the mailing list. And if you have news you would like included, you can send that to Robin as well! Please note, this is not in any way a replacement for the WAVE. It is a means of reinforcing and reminding us of events and of disbursing information in a timely manner. Thanks for your support!

Robin Higgins

A NOTE FROM YOUR SEARCH COMMITTEE

Like so many things in our lives recently, our meetings have been on hold for the time being. It is mind-boggling just how much our world has changed in such a short amount of time. To put the finishing touches on our Parish Profile, committee members will attempt to communicate and fine tune things via email. Prayers to you and your loved ones for good health and happiness as we all, with God's help, find a new normal in our everyday lives.

Yours in Christ, Matthew Bruce, Larry Higgins, Nancy Kennedy, Elisabeth Kershaw, Jim Lema, and Patti Metcalf

PALM SUNDAY AND HOLY WEEK SERVICES 2020

LIVE FROM THE WASHINGTON CATHEDRAL

LOG IN ON YOUR COMPUTER TO:

<https://cathedral.org>

PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 5

- *Live webcast: 11:15 a.m.*

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 9

- *Holy Eucharist with Stripping of the Altar, Live webcast: 7 p.m.*
- *Watch with the Reserved Sacrament Live webcast: 9 p.m. - midnight*

GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 10

- *Morning Prayer in the Presence of the Reserved Sacrament,
Live webcast: 10 a.m.*
- *Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday, Live webcast: Noon*
- *Good Friday Compline, Live webcast: 7 p.m.*

EASTER EVE, APRIL 11

- *Great Vigil and First Eucharist of Easter, Live webcast: 8 p.m.*

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 12

- *The Sunday of the Resurrection: Easter Day,
Live webcast: 11:15 a.m.*

***SAINT PETER'S SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND PREVENTION SUPPORT GROUP
UPDATE***

Please keep the Bourne and Wareham Substance Free coalitions in your prayers. We did not meet in March due to the Corona Virus precautions. The next meeting of our group is tentatively scheduled for Monday, April 20th, at 3:33 p.m. All are welcome. Please join us.

We offer up this prayer from The Rev. Vienna Cobb Anderson, Retired Episcopal Priest:

Most Loving God, we ask your blessing upon all who suffer from addiction. Strengthen them to reach out for help. Enable them to take the first step to recovery. Bless them with the persistence to persevere in the fight to be free. Give courage and hope to their families, drawing them closer together in the power of Your love, which alone can transform our living. AMEN

With special thanks to God and our team, Bob and Nancy Sherwood, Jim and Jane Lema, Celeste and Jim Hankey, Donna Beers and our Treasurer, Diane Cartmill, and parish Secretary Kathy Letzeisen.

Respectfully submitted,
Larry Higgins

THE VILLAGE AT CATAUMET NEEDS YOUR HELP!

St. Peter's has for several years provided aid to the families living temporarily at the Village at Cataumet. Parishioners have supplied various needs, choosing a different category each month to help these families. **For the month of APRIL we will be collecting BABY AND TODDLER SUPPLIES.** These can be left in the Narthex in the provided baskets under the pews. Children's clothing in good condition is accepted every month. Thank you to all parishioners who participate in this wonderful outreach. These donations have been so gratefully received by families who have endured a period of homelessness.

MAINTENANCE NEEDS

If you see something that needs to be done (a light that has burned out or some other maintenance project), write it on the list on the freezer in the kitchen. Thanks for your help!

CAN WE E-MAIL YOU?

We make THE WAVE available electronically to anyone who would prefer to receive it via e-mail. This enables us to save money on both paper and postage. When you send your e-mail address, along with your name and mailing address (for clarification) to susanhebb@comcast.net, she will add your name to a list, and you will receive the next month's newsletter by that means; subsequently your name would be removed from the print mailing list.

PRAYER CHAIN

The Emergency Prayer Chain is up and running! When you have a prayer request, please contact Lynne Brune at 508-295-6146, or Priscilla Ellis at 508-563-7786.

If you would like to join the Emergency Prayer Chain and commit to praying for those in need, please contact one of the individuals listed above and specify if you would like to receive information by email or by phone.

Individuals will remain on the Prayer Chain for 2 weeks unless updated. All requests will be treated confidentially and only shared with those on the Prayer Chain. Please let us know if you would also like to add the prayer request to the Sunday bulletin.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The Newsletter Deadline for the **May 2020** issue is Friday, **April 24th, 2020**. Send all articles to Susan Hebb at susanhebb@comcast.net.

St. Peter's Episcopal Church -on-the-Canal

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