



ST. PETER'S WAVE OCTOBER, 2026

St. Peter's is a community called to Love, Worship, Proclaim, and Serve.

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Every October we celebrate two themes that are so important to us and that build upon each other - Saints and Stewardship. October has 3 major feast days- Luke (19th), James of Jerusalem (23rd), and Simon and Jude (28th). We also commemorate many others this month, including the beloved saint Francis (4th), Teresa (15th) and Thomas Cranmer with the Oxford Martyrs (16th). These all lead us to All Hallows Eve on the 31st followed by All Saints Day on Sunday, November 1.

The Saints are wonderful examples of stewardship - how we use our time, talent and treasure. We will celebrate Stewardship Sunday at a combined 9 AM service on October 25th. On this day we will also give thanks for the financial gifts the Meridan family gave to St Peter's, helping us to renovate the fisherman and boat over the front doors and to purchase a beautiful new Paschal Candle Stand.

Our stewardship theme for 2027 is "This is the house of God, this is the gate of heaven." In the spring of 2027 we will celebrate the 80th anniversary of our church building coming down the bay from Hull, through the canal, and rolled up to our location on Main St.

Our financial gifts and pledges for 2027 will help St Peter's to continue our mission to "love, worship, serve, and proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ." I look forward to our celebrations and to the continuing generosity of our people.

Grace, Peace, Love,
Bob

p.s. Join us on "Welcome Sunday" October 4th. Read about it in the articles that follow.





LITURGICAL NOTES

Most of us are familiar with the rubrics for the Offertory in the Book of Common Prayer on pages 333 and 361. “Representatives of the congregation bring the people’s offerings... money or other gifts... to the celebrant... to be placed on the Altar...”

Many do not realize there’s also a B.C.P. rubric (p.445) in Thanksgiving for a Child that encourages us “to make wills” and “to leave bequests for religious and charitable uses.”

Our pledges each year are symbolized by the weekly “passing of the plate” by our ushers at the Sunday Eucharists. We look forward in 2027 to a presentation on planned giving and support for the St Peter’s Endowment.

Stewardship

is heart work



Stewardship 2027

“This is the house of God, this is the gate of heaven”

To celebrate the 80th anniversary of St Peter’s Church being situated on Main St. in 1947 we will have 2 components to our stewardship:

1. The Annual Fund Pledge Drive.
2. The Endowment Fund planned giving campaign.

Our vestry approved the beginning of the parish’s first Endowment Fund recently. We plan on a campaign and presentation early in 2027. The schedule for this year’s pledge drive:

- October Wave
- Letter from Father Bob with pledge card
- Stewardship Sunday, October 25 (9 am)
- Ingathering of pledge cards, November 1 at 8 & 10

VISIBLE VESTRY
2026 September 15

Treasurer's report:

The new endowment fund will be managed by Alan, Aaron, Mathew and Chris White. We will launch the fund in the new year after the pledge campaign in the fall. We voted to pay for Lisa's room and board for her Clinical Pastoral Education.

Junior Wardens report

Donna Beers would like to take part in the town of Buzzards Bay holiday decorations. She would like to purchase town made cut-outs to create a manger scene on the sidewalk in front of St Peter's. The vestry would like more details about what they would look like.

The bathroom renovation is scheduled to start the 3rd week of Sept.

Melissa found craftsmen who might be able to help with stained glass windows and will give Mark their contact information.

Mark took our items out of the closets in the day care room. He moved our things either to the kitchen or downstairs. Mark would eventually like to get a group together to decide what needs to be kept and what can be disposed of.

The folks who repaired our front door will address the bubble in the paint and the crack in St Peter.

Senior Wardens report:

I spoke about the Welcome service on Oct 4; see accompanying article for more details. I spoke about how I am advertising it. Father Bob will call folks who haven't been to church in a while.

He encouraged all of us to call a member of St Peter's who hasn't been to church lately.

Celeste has finished rewriting the name tags! They are hanging in the narthex in alphabetical order. Thank you, Celeste!!! Several people have said that they think name tags will help St Peter's be more welcoming. I agree, I am slow to learn names, and name tags are very helpful!

If you feel comfortable wearing a name tag, please wear yours, especially on Oct 4.

John McGuinness is buying us two new official metal "The Episcopal Church Welcomes you" signs. The first has arrived and will hopefully be installed by the time you are reading this.

Father Bob and I met with Amanda to review the new website that she has created. It is wonderful! It looks great, is easy to use and represents us well. As we continue to try to grow our congregation, I think this is an important piece to have in place since many people will encounter our church first through our website. To make the website fully functional, we need to increase our subscription to the company who hosts our website from \$18/month, to \$29. The motion passed.

The service on October 25 will be a combined 9:00 service.

Priest's report:

Father Bob was contacted by Cannon Kelly to see if we are interested in a collaboration with Lutheran Church in Falmouth (Lutherans and Episcopalians can share clergy). This church does not have a priest, and we would look for a priest to share together (either a Lutheran or Episcopal priest). Because Father Bob is technically retired, he costs us less than a half time priest, so we would have to pay about \$28K more than we do now. This would probably involve using our savings. Father Bob said that we might not be able to have a priest every Sunday. Father Bob asked vestry members how they felt about this proposal. There was strong resistance to the idea. People like things as they are, they like having two services every Sunday. Barbara said that when she was Senior warden at a church in Vermont, they faced a

similar decision and they decided to not to enter into a collaboration. Instead, they decided to work hard at growing their church. They were eventually successful. She encouraged us to do this. Father Bob asked her to write down what her church did so that we can learn from their experience. The consensus of the vestry was to not enter into this collaboration. I then said that we cannot simply vote against collaboration, we must commit to doing the work to make collaboration unnecessary. We must grow our parish.

Other Business

Melissa would like the rug in the day care room to be cleaned. Mark will do it after the bathroom remodel. Mark will improve the appearance of the parking lot near the back of the church.

There is an underground pipe that will eventually need a better repair so we shouldn't repave that section until that repair is completed.

Outreach: Melisa and Connie are organizing a food drive to benefit the Friends of Bourne food pantry. They will soon make an announcement about how we can all help.



Senior Warden Notes 2026 09

In our effort to grow our parish, we are having a special welcoming service on October 4 at 10:00 AM. I am asking for your help in two ways:

First, please help spread the word about the service. Please think about people in your life who might enjoy St. Peter's and invite them to come that Sunday. Please consider if there is someone you haven't seen in a while at church and call them. I am sure they will be touched that you remembered them and missed them.

Secondly, please come to church on October 4 and be the warm, friendly spirit-filled people that I know you to be. One of my favorite songs contains the refrain "They will know we are Christians by our love". This is taken from John 13:35 and is in one of my favorite services, the Maundy Thursday service: "By this shall the world know that you are my disciples: That you have love for one another". I hope that everyone who comes to St Peter's on October 4 will feel God's spirit and will recognize that we are filled with that spirit by our love for one another and for them. I hope that they will realize that this sense of love has been missing from their life and that they will come back because they want to feel this love again.

When the Bishop was with us, she said the number one reason people come back to a church is because someone in the pews talked to them. So please, help everyone to feel welcome on October 4.

Amy



Our first get-together was held on September 5th. We had 10 attendees sign up, of which 10 were able to attend. As always, the conversation was lively and varied!

Our next breakfast get-together will be on Sat., Oct. 3 at 8:30am. As usual, we will gather at Persy's Place, 3198 Cranberry Hwy., E. Wareham. If you would like to attend, please add your name to the sign-up sheet posted in the narthex. If you forget to sign up, please call or text Jim Hankey at 781-534-2604. This will provide an accurate count of attendees for Persy's set up. I look forward to seeing you at Persy's!

Best Regards,
Jim Hankey



As we enter the beauty of autumn, with its changing colors and gentle reminder that life is always moving through seasons, I find myself drawn to the words of our hymn for October 4, **“O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High.”**

This hymn gives voice to something we can never fully put into words: the immeasurable love of God revealed to us in Christ. There are seasons when we feel that love so clearly, and there are other times when we may need to be reminded that it is still there—steady and faithful, even when our own hearts are weary or uncertain.

Paul's words in Ephesians offer companionship to this hymn:

“I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so you may be filled with all the fullness of God.”

— Ephesians 3:18–19

What a gift it is that we do not have to understand or measure God's love in order to receive it. We simply come, as we are and experience God's ineffable love.

When we gather on October 4, I hope we will allow this hymn to become more than words on a page. May its melody and message give us space to breathe, to remember, and to rest in the assurance that we are held by a love deeper than our deepest need, wider than our community, and higher than our hopes.

May our singing become a prayer of gratitude for the love that has carried us, the love that meets us here, and the love that will carry us into whatever season may come.

Peace and Joy Always,

Lisa 🎵



CANAL DAY AT SAINT PETER'S!

On September 19th several of our parishioners participated in Cape Cod Canal Day at the church offering parking, free popcorn, and tours. We were able to raise over \$1,150 in parking donations! There were lots of pups who stopped by with their people for fresh water and doggy treats. The popcorn machine ran non-stop, popping every kernel we had. Some visitors even stopped in for another serving of hot buttery goodness after visiting the event saying our popcorn was the best! We had so many people come in and explore and learn about our church. All were fascinated by our story or how our church came to rest in its spot, as well as learning about our stained-glass windows. Thank you so much to all of those who donated their time to share their love for our church with our visitors.

The Canal Day Crew



Happy Fall Y'all!

We've had an amazing response to our request for donated items, and the elves are getting their price tags and Sharpie Markers ready! This year's fair will take place on **Saturday, November 21st from 10:00am – 2:00pm**. We continue to accept donations of loved and gently used Christmas or Winter themed items. Last year, we had an amazing collection of donated items, crafters, and a great turn out of customers! Items can be brought to the church during church office hours or on Sundays before or after services. Don't forget to check those nooks and crannies and tell your friends too!

Please note the following:

**Check the weekly email blast for updated information on how you can help!*

**If you have more than a few boxes or bags to donate, please call (508-685-5582) or email Patti (patmijo@comcast.net) to arrange a time to bring your donations to the church.*

**Our Parish Secretary will be out of the office from 9-22 through 9-29. The church office will be closed, so please plan any drop-offs accordingly.*

Thank you and Fall Blessings!
Patti Metcalf



WELCOME SUNDAY

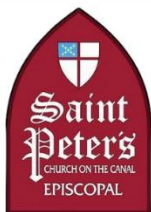
A special invitation to experience St. Peter's

Our regular Sunday service on October 4 will offer a special welcome to new and returning friends. Whether you've been away from church for a while, have never been before, or are simply seeking a little more meaning and connection in your life, you are warmly invited to join us.

Sunday, October 4
10:00 AM



Learn more



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

AN EPISCOPAL PARISH • 165 MAIN STREET • BUZZARDS BAY

A community called to love, worship, proclaim, and serve

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

October 4 – WELCOMING SUNDAY both services
October 25 – STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY: ONE SERVICE at 9am
November 1 – INGATHERING of PLEDGES both services

RECURRING EVENTS

Sundays: 8am - Holy Eucharist Rite I
 10am - Holy Eucharist Rite II w/music
 (unless otherwise noted)
Tuesdays: 11am - Bible Study
Thursdays: 8:30am – TOPS
1st Saturday, 8:30am - Men's Breakfast
3rd Tuesday, 5:00pm – Vestry
1st & 3rd Wednesday, 12n – Women's Bible Study

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