



**ST. PETER'S WAVE
SEPTEMBER, 2024**

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

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Every 4 years we elect a President to lead our country. In my lifetime I've known 13 Presidents. Living in Alexandria, Virginia, for 30 years – just 5 miles from the White House – gave me a close look at several of our more recent Presidents.

We also call our President “the Leader of the free world.” Leadership is often hard to define. I'm not sure every President or candidate satisfies our definitions of what makes a good leader. An old saying in the church is, “God does not call those who are fit. God makes fit those that are called...”

Leadership is needed in so many ways, in so many professions. Parenting requires responsible leadership. The church rests upon strong clergy and lay leadership. Every parish, including St. Peter's, needs a good team of leaders.

In my 3 ½ years at St. Peter's I have been blessed by working with a wonderful Vestry and dedicated parish officers. The teamwork between Priest and Vestry can make for a healthy, growing congregation.

Vestry members and officers, like our political leaders, need to serve and then step aside to allow others to share their gifts, talents and leadership skills. Some denominations have clergy that change every couple of years. The Episcopal church tradition is for a Rector to have “tenure” – an open ended time to serve; although there is a required retirement age of 72.

I hope you all will join me in praying for our nation during this election year. I hope all of our parishioners will be open to the call for Vestry and other ministries. Following Jesus is discipleship that requires leadership, service, sacrifice and obedience to the “way of love.”

Grace, Peace, Love,

Bob



LITURGICAL NOTES

Angels

The church's belief in and celebration of Angels grows out of both the Old Testament and the New Testament. Jesus refers to Angels in his teaching and scripture shows us how Angels were with Jesus at the most significant times – his birth, during the temptations in the wilderness, in the garden, before his arrest, as witnesses to the Resurrection.

Our word "Angel" comes from the Ancient Greek word meaning "messenger." The "Angelus" is a traditional devotion based upon the message of Gabriel to Mary, "Hail Mary, full of grace..."

In addition to Angels proclaiming God's word, we understand they come to us in two other ways – to praise God in our worship and to protect us, especially in times of trial and danger. Michael is the Archangel who defeats Satan.

The Feast of St. Michael and All Angels is fixed in our calendar on September 29th, which is a Sunday this year.



VISIBLE VESTRY

Vestry Meeting – August 19, 2024

Lynne Benting, representing the Altar Guild, asked that the Treasurer enter a line item specifying the amount of money the Altar Guild has, given that we have received several donations. Altar Guild would also like a report of money received and money spent. The Treasurer will enter a new line item in the budget.

Bob Benting addressed the issue of the boat over the front door. There are black ants living in the boat and the boat needs to be refurbished. The last time the boat was refurbished, due to finances, the boat was not fiber glassed. The boat should be refurbished and fiber glassed, and soon. Mark Taylor and Bob will be looking into getting quotes to have this done.

Alan Kershaw, our Treasurer, presented a new Financial Policy and Procedures Manual that he had created. The Vestry will review for next month.

Our finances are looking good.

We will be starting our Stewardship Campaign shortly as we will be starting the budget for next year.

We are looking into some Youth Grants from the diocese with the hopes of starting up new programs.

On Canal Day we will be offering “donation parking”. **Volunteers are always needed.**

The Christmas Fair is planned for November. Gently used items for sale are being accepted.

We have been asked to look into solar panels to help reduce the cost of electricity.

We are considering removing one pew on the gospel side of the church and putting in a half pew to accommodate wheelchairs.

We are considering moving the funds from Friendly Kitchen (which we no longer have) into an outreach account.

We had discussion of St. Peter’s financially supporting theological education. It was voted to establish a line item in the budget for Theological Education.

The lights in the church have been replaced with new LED lights.

The Search Committee hopes to meet in September.

A thank you went out to John McGuinness for the fabulous farmer’s market.

We’ll be having one wedding and 3 baptisms in the very near future.

Bourne Substance Free group had to cancel game night due to lack of sign up.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, September 17th.



It is time to think about your Vestry for next year.

All officer positions are elected for one year. All other positions rotate on a three-year basis. This year we have two Members-at-Large leaving the vestry. We also will be looking to replace our Senior Warden and Clerk. The Nomination Committee consists of the Senior Warden, the two outgoing members and one or two parishioners. If you would like to be on the Nomination Committee or if you would like to be considered for a position on the Vestry, please contact any member of the vestry so your name can be brought forward. If you’re not sure about joining the vestry, please ask questions, talk to vestry members, we’d be happy to share information.

Thank you,

Celeste

RECURRING EVENTS

Sundays: 8am - Holy Eucharist Rite I
 10am - Holy Eucharist Rite II w/music
 (unless otherwise noted)
Tuesdays: 11am - Bible Study (resumes in Sept.)
Thursdays: 8:30am - TOPS
1st Saturday, 8:30am - Men's Breakfast (resumes Oct. 5)
2nd Monday, 2:22pm - Substance Abuse Team
3rd Tuesday, 6:30pm - Vestry

ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH-ON-THE-CANAL
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Buzzards Bay, MA 02532
508-759-5641

Email: saintpeters@verizon.net
Website: www.saintpetersbb.org

Staff

The Reverend Robert Malm, Interim Rector 703-772-7667
Lisa Platanitis, Director of Music/Choir
Liesl Crehan, Pianist/Organist
Kimberly Leahy, Parish Administrator
Robin Higgins, Newsletter Editor

Vestry

Celeste Hankey, Sr. Warden...617-710-5346
Alan Kershaw, Treasurer...508-224-4018
Robin Higgins, Clerk...413-329-4651
Patrick Davin...508-496-0863
Patti Metcalf...508-685-5582
Donna Tripp...508-264-1515

Mark Taylor, Jr. Warden...508-863-1259
Kathy Letzeisen, Asst. Treasurer...617-755-9357
Donna Beers...508-759-8283
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