



ST. PETER'S WAVE SEPTEMBER, 2026

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

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Summer now ends well before Labor Day weekend in early September. Maybe the weather still feels like summer, but school, sports, work, and other activities now start in August if not even in July. I hope everyone has had a wonderful and renewing summer.

Our Vestry and Lay Leaders have been very busy this summer. Amy Farris, our Senior Warden, has worked hard on understanding our physical plant and financial needs. At the same time she is encouraging newcomers and new activities as we look ahead to Fall. Please keep in mind Canal Day on the 19th and Welcome Home Sunday on October 4th.

Mark Taylor, Jr. Warden, has led the Vestry into several renovations, improvements for the physical plant. These include improving the basement as a storage area, contracting for the 2 Sacristy Hall bathrooms to be handicap accessible, working on a craftsman to replace the stained-glass window outdoor frames, and considering solar panels for the south facing roofs over The Fellowship Hall and work room/daycare wing.

Alan Kershaw, our Treasurer, continues to administer and report on our financials. As we look forward to Alan retiring after many years as Treasurer, we have hired a part-time bookkeeper with experience working with Episcopal parishes.

This is just a small sample of the ongoing work we do together for St Peter's. We look forward to the program year ahead, to Lisa Platanitis' final year of Seminary, to hiring a new organist and to continuing to grow our membership and welcome newcomers.

Finally, GO PATS!

Grace, Peace, Love,
Bob



LITURGICAL NOTES

September Feasts

The season of all the Saints actually begins in September and builds through October until we get to All Saints Day, Nov. 1st, which is a Sunday this year.

Holy Cross Day on the 14th is an ancient observance of the Emperor Constantine building a church on the site where Jesus was crucified. This dates from 335. The shrine was dedicated on September 14th and included what was thought to be a relic of the true cross.

Saint Matthew's Day is on the 21st and commemorates the disciple who was a tax collector before deciding to follow Jesus. By tradition he kept the "saying of Jesus" which were later incorporated into the Gospel which bears Matthew's name.

On the 29th we observe St. Michael and All Angels. Michael is the Archangel who defeats Satan according to the Book of Revelation. This feast reminds us of the 3-fold ministry of Angels: 1. To proclaim God's messages 2. To praise God in heaven and on earth and 3. To protect and assist God's people.



As summer begins to give way to a new season, I find myself preparing to enter my final year of seminary. Looking back, I am filled with gratitude for the many ways God has been at work through this parish and through your prayers, encouragement, and steadfast support. You have been companions with me on this journey of discernment and formation, and I am deeply thankful.

This fall, I will also begin Clinical Pastoral Education at Cape Cod Hospital. I look forward to this sacred opportunity to accompany people in moments of vulnerability, hope, grief, and healing. I trust that this ministry will continue to shape me into a more compassionate priest, attentive to Christ's presence in those I am called to serve.

One of the lessons this journey continues to teach me is that we rarely know where God will lead us next. As the prophet Jeremiah encouraged the exiles, we are called to seek the welfare of the place where God has planted us (Jeremiah 29:7), trusting that even in unexpected places, God is at work bringing hope and a future. Wherever God leads us, may we bloom where we are planted, offering Christ's love faithfully to those around us.

As I enter this new season of formation, I ask for your continued prayers—that I may remain open to the Holy Spirit's guidance and grow in wisdom, humility, and compassion. Please know that you remain in my prayers as well. Thank you for being such a faithful part of my journey. I am grateful beyond words for this parish family and look forward to seeing how God continues to lead all of us in the work of God's kingdom.

Peace and Joy Always,
Lisa ✪
Resident Seminarian



Treasurer's report:

Financial state of the parish is healthy. We agree to pay for Lisa's clinical pastoral education. We gave a monetary leaving gift to Liesl. Alan is ready to finalize the Endowment Fund. Alan would like a small group of people to decide how the money will be invested. A few names were suggested. Hopefully that group will be formed in the next month. We also need to form a group to encourage parishioners to give to this important fund. Barbara volunteered to help. We will continue the discussion next month. Alan is working with the new bookkeeper, Amanda James. She is working out very well.

Jr Warden Report:

Mark has found a contractor and plumber to update the bathrooms near the sacristy. The vestry approved moving forward. Money will come from the insurance money for the basement flood. Expected cost will be approximately \$15,000 (we have \$28,000 left from the insurance). Work may start in the next couple of weeks and will hopefully be done in a month or so. Unfortunately, the highly skilled craftsmen needed to work on the trim around the stained-glass windows are proving to be more elusive. Mark will continue to pursue them. Mark has designated 30 parking spaces for Mass Maritime students; he expects to have all of them rented out.

Sr Warden Report:

Our new bookkeeper, Amanda, also does Web design and has agreed to take over maintenance of our web site.

We will have several activities for Canal Day (September 19) again this year. The day is a great opportunity to not only make some money through parking donations, but to also raise awareness of our wonderful church. If anyone would like to help, please reach out to Patti Metcalf.

On October 4 we'll have a special welcoming service and on October 25 we will have a special Stewardship service (see accompanying article for more information about both). I have ordered a new "The Episcopal Church Welcomes you sign".

Priest's report

The plaques for the recent donations have arrived. We will have the installation and blessing for AED in honor of Mike Pessia's son on August 30. Last week was our first Sunday without Leisl. During the week, Lisa arranged for an organist to play our hymns which she recorded and then played through her speakers during the service. It worked well, however, this involved a good deal of Lisa's time and effort. Father Bob suggested that we reimburse her financially for her time and the vestry agreed. Fr Bob is away Aug 23 Father Tom will be leading the service.

Other business

Barbara mentioned that many pews do not have pew cards, and that those that do have cards, they are often hard to see. This has long been a concern of mine. I have looked into buying pew card holders, but all of them would need to attach to the pews and I don't want to harm the beautiful wood. My current thought is to ask a friend with a 3D printer to print plastic holders that will fit in where the hymnals are. If anyone has a better idea, or a 3D printer, please reach out.

Aaron brought up the fact that we still need to determine the cost of spots in the new columbarium. I have done some research. The average cost in Massachusetts is \$500 to \$3000. I called local churches, the only church with one is Sandwich, and they charge \$1000. We decided that \$1000 seemed reasonable. Henri felt that the two remaining spots in our old columbarium should remain at the old price of \$200. Father Bob said that we need to figure out and write down an official policy. It was suggested that we should limit the use of our columbarium to only church members and their families. Alan suggested that we review the diocesan policy about columbariums.



My goal as Senior Warden is to increase the membership of St Peter's. Towards this goal, we are having a special Welcoming service on Oct 4. There are two objectives for the service. One is to encourage new folks to come that day. I will advertise as much as I can, and Father Bob has suggested proposing that folks bring a friend to church. The second objective is to have the service be as welcoming and spirit-filled as possible. I am in the beginning stages of planning this service with Father Bob. If you have any suggestions, or want to help, please reach out. Another excellent outreach activity is Canal Day (see accompanying article), please consider being part of the celebration.

As mentioned in Visible Vestry, Father Bob and I discussed having a special Stewardship service on Sunday Oct 25, in preparation for ingathering on Nov 1, All Saints Day. Stay tuned for more details.

Amy Farris, Sr. Warden



Cape Cod Canal Day 2026 at St. Peter's Church!

Bourne will celebrate **Cape Cod Canal Day 2026 on Saturday, September 19th** right down the street from St. Peter's in Buzzards Bay Park! Our beloved church has an amazing story to tell of how it was found empty and available in Hull, MA. In need of a church in Buzzards Bay, it was rolled onto a barge, towed by tugboat through Cape Cod Bay and the Canal. It was then pulled and rolled by the town folk to its current resting place on Main Street! If you don't know this

story, check out the framed pictures hanging in the Narthex and read some of the articles on the bulletin board in Stephenson's Hall.

This event draws thousands of people to our town to celebrate! As in past years, we will offer parking for donation. This year we will again be offering free popcorn to "people passersby", and doggie treats for the "good pups" who accompany their people! Long time parishioner Aaron Wiley will offer delicious treats from his food truck business "Trolley Bites"! We will also be offering tours of the church, showcasing our unique connection to the Cape Cod Canal.

We would love to have fellow parishioners join us for the day to meet and greet visitors. You can sign up on the Canal Day Volunteer Sign-Up sheet in the Narthex starting August 30th. This is also a great opportunity to meet other parishioners from the 8:00 or 10:00 services. You might even learn a new skill, like working a popcorn machine or learning more about our beautiful church!

Please feel free to contact Patti Metcalf at patmijo@comcast.net to offer your support or if you have any questions! See you on Canal Day!



NOTES FROM OUR MUSIC DIRECTOR

Dear St. Peter's Folk,

Our choir—small but mighty—is returning, and we couldn't be more excited! We invite anyone who loves to sing and praise the Lord to join us as we lift our voices together in worship. Whether you have sung for years or simply have a heart for praising God, there is a place for you in our music ministry.

Over the past few weeks, we've become familiar with our virtual organist, and we are thankful for this resource that allows us to continue leading worship with excellence. For the time being, we will continue using a blend of live and virtual accompaniment until God calls another musician to join our ministry. We trust that, in God's perfect timing, God will provide the right person to serve.

Music has always been a vital part of worship. It lifts our hearts, unites us as the body of Christ, and proclaims the goodness and faithfulness of God. As **Psalm 150:6** reminds us, *"Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord!"* Likewise, **Colossians 3:16** encourages us to *"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly... singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord."*

No matter how our music is accompanied, our purpose remains the same: to glorify God, encourage His people, and lead our congregation in joyful worship. The instruments may change, but our song of praise never will. Together, we will continue to make a joyful noise, offering our gifts for His honor and glory.

Thank you for your prayers, encouragement, and faithful support of our music ministry. I look forward to worshipping with you as we continue to lift our voices in praise, trusting that God is doing great things among us.

"Sing unto the Lord with thanksgiving; sing praise upon the harp unto our God." — Psalm 147:7

Peace and Joy,
Lisa 🎹

Ode to the Altar Guild...

Oh, who sets the fair linen all snowy and neat?
Who makes sure the lavabo bowl's properly sweet?
Who fills up the cruets with water and wine,
And checks that the brass candlesticks shimmer and shine?
Who changes the frontal from purple to green,
To red on Pentecost — what a marvelous scene!
Who knows when it's Lent and when Easter breaks through,
And where Father's alb and his cincture got to?
The Altar Guild! Yes! Those remarkable few
Who quietly manage what most never view.
While others are chatting and sipping their tea,
They're counting the purificators carefully.
They straighten the hymnals! They ready the nave!
They rescue blown candles the acolytes gave.
They steam all the vestments and press every fold
Till the silk and brocade gleam glorious gold.
They prepare all the wafers, both gluten-free too,
Because Episcopalians thoughtfully do.
They set out the chalice, the paten, the plate,
And somehow arrive at the church extra early — not late!
At Christmas there's greenery draped everywhere!
At Easter — white lilies perfume all the air!
At Holy Week services solemn and long,
They quietly labor while singing along.

They know all the seasons: Epiphany bright,
Then Ash Wednesday's ashes and candles alight.
From Palm Sunday branches to Paschal flame fire,
They move through the Church Year with grace never tired.
And after the Eucharist — when all have gone home —
When choir robes are hanging and children don't roam,
Who rinses the silver and folds every cloth
With patience and care and no grumbling at all?
The Altar Guild folks! Saints of coffee and lace!
Of flowers and candles and holy calm grace!
Not seeking attention or praise or applause,
Just serving Christ's Church for the very best cause.
So today at this luncheon we gladly proclaim:
Though sermons get noticed and choirs earn fame,
The beauty of worship would simply not build
Without the dear hands of the Altar Guild.
So bless all your dust cloths! Your flowers!
Your starch!
Your Saturdays bustling all over the church!
And may God richly bless every task that you do!
Dear keepers of beauty, we offer thanks to you!

Composed for Deanery Altar Guild luncheon on Feast of the Ascension, May 14, 2026.
Lisa Platanitis Director of Music & Seminarian
St. Peter's Church on the Canal, with use of AI



Our opening men's breakfast for the 2026-2027 season will be on Saturday, September 5th at 8:30 am. As usual, we will gather at Persy's Place, 3198 Cranberry Highway, East 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.

Look forward to seeing you at Persy's !!

Best Regards,
Jim Hankey



Happy September to all! I hope it's been a wonderful summer for you full of family, friends, and good times! Hopefully our weather will cool a bit and the humidity will subside soon now that Fall is on our doorstep.

While you are enjoying your favorite pumpkin spice beverage, I'm thinking all things peppermint and hot cocoa! It's time to start planning **St. Peter's Annual Christmas Fair! This year's fair will take place on Saturday, November 21st from 9am – 2pm.** We are currently accepting donations of loved and gently used Christmas or Winter themed items. Last year, we had an amazing collection of donated items, and crafters with a great turnout of customers! Items can be brought to the church during office hours or on Sundays before or after services. So, please check your nooks and crannies and tell your friends too! St. Peter's Christmas Elves are ready to price!

Blessings!
Patti Metcalf
patmijo@comcast.net
508-685-5582

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

ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH-ON-THE-CANAL

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2026 Vestry

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