
The Wave - MARCH 2016

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

*FROM THE RECTOR
The Reverend Sue Lederhouse*

In the month of March, we go from one extreme to another. We go from the 4th Sunday of the Lenten Season, through Holy Week, and into Easter. We go from joy on March 6, "Refreshment Sunday," to waving our palms on Palm Sunday, March 20, to journeying with Jesus through the rest of Holy Week. We experience God's love for us in the footwashing and the Institution of the Eucharist on Maundy Thursday. And we experience the horror, the emptiness and the hopelessness of Good Friday. And then we emerge on Easter Day into resurrection light and joy and amazement as we cry out: "He is not here – He has risen!"

It's a lot to pack into one month but in some sense it mirrors our own lives. We go from joy through emptiness and hopelessness into joy once more. Sometimes that cycle happens in the course of a single day for us, sometimes it takes longer. And we repeat that cycle throughout our lives. The seasons of the year mirror that cycle as well as we go from winter into spring as we do in this month of March. As we move from Lent into Easter, I invite you to reflect as I do on the words of Hymn 149 which also speak of this cycle of life. We sang this hymn on the 1st Sunday of Lent, February 14. Take a moment to pray with these words from verses 2 and 3:

- 2 So daily dying to the way of self,
so daily living to your way of love,
we walk the road, Lord Jesus, that you trod,
knowing ourselves baptized into your death:
so we are dead and live with you in God.

- 3 If dead in you, so in you we arise,
you the first-born of all the faithful dead;
and as through stony ground the green shoots break,
glorious in springtime dress of leaf and flower,
so in the Father's glory shall we wake.

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God go with us all as we journey through this month.

Sue Lederhouse+

THE DEACON'S CORNER

We're coming up on the most significant celebration in the Christian Calendar later this month - The celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord. During this season of Lent, many of us (including Pope Francis), are seriously reflecting on what it means to call ourselves "Christians".

I think Pope Francis was genuinely shocked when he heard a candidate for the office of President of the United States speaking seriously of building a wall between our country and its neighbor, Mexico. After all, don't we parade our "Christian Values" before the whole world? Shouldn't we be held to a higher standard? Pope Francis has a point! ***Building walls is not a Christian act!***

There must be a better way to protect ourselves from "bad guys" coming across our borders. Didn't President Ronald Reagan, whom many Americans admire, and no lover of walls, stand before the Berlin Wall and say: ***"Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!"***? It seems to me that building walls on our borders clashes with everything we hold dear as followers of Jesus Christ and as Americans.

Although the Pope is a Jesuit, I think he is profoundly influenced by the teachings of Saint Francis of Assisi. Christianity, to St. Francis, was a way of "being in the world", of living in loving, caring relationship with all humanity and creation, living the way Jesus lived and taught. In his day, some Cardinals criticized St. Francis' rule for the Franciscans, saying that it was simplistic, only what Jesus taught. I imagine that Francis just smiled and said: ***"That's right!"*** He is said to have told his followers: ***"You are what you do!"***

Many in America, indeed the whole world, think that subscribing to a set of faith propositions is the whole of Christianity. It's not that simple!

"Though I have all faith, so as to move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing!" (I Corinthians 13:2).

Love is the way in which we enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

Anyway, that's what my mind has been wrestling with this Lenten Season: What does it mean to be a Christian? What's expected of me? Of each of us? I can't take credit for much original thinking here. Indeed, I have borrowed liberally from a variety of sources whose thoughts have influenced me as I was writing this.

Being a Christian is hard.....too hard for me sometimes. How about you? But then, Jesus never told us it was going to be easy. He never said it was going to be safe. He only said to us: ***"Follow Me!"*** and promised to be with us always.

Deacon Robert Sherwood

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Don't forget to SPRING FORWARD – set your clocks ahead 1 hour on **SUNDAY, MARCH 13** or you'll be late for church!

THIRD ANNUAL MID-LENTEN PARTY

The last two years we have had a great time at our Mid-Lenten Party held on the Saturday before “Refreshment Sunday” – the eve of the 4th Sunday in Lent. This is a Sunday in which the strictures of Lent – the fasting, the “giving up” are relaxed. We dine on soup and bread (and even desserts!) and this year we invite you to bring your favorite game (board game or card game) to play after our meal. Those of you who have come before know how much fun it has been and what great cooks we have in the parish! **SATURDAY, MARCH 5 at 4 pm** is this year’s date and time. Sign up in the Narthex to let us know you’re coming and also sign up to help bring some of the goodies for our feast!

BULLETIN PRAYER LIST UPDATE

A new Prayer list will begin on **March 6**. Please submit your prayer requests on the yellow forms in the Narthex. You may place them in the offering plate or bring them to the Church Office or you can email them to saintpeters@verizon.net

EASTER FLOWERS

If you would like to donate money to purchase Easter flowers in memory of (or in honor of) family or friends, please fill in the Easter flowers form (which will be found in the bulletin on March 6 and 13) and return it with your donation. Please be sure to print the names clearly. **DEADLINE IS MONDAY – MARCH 14.**

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY - MARCH 14 & 28

On March 14, we will continue our study of **Ruth**. On March 28, we will study **Jezebel**. No previous Bible knowledge is required. A Bible is helpful but if you don’t have one, we can provide one for you. **The group normally meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at 12:30 p.m.** All women of the parish are invited. Bring a bag lunch and there will be coffee/tea and goodies provided.

A FEW WORDS ABOUT FOOT WASHING

As part of the Maundy Thursday liturgy these past few years, we have offered the opportunity for worshipers to have their feet washed. A number of people have participated and this year I again invite you to be part of this traditional Maundy Thursday practice. There will be chairs set up in front of the first pew near the piano where you can sit while Deacon Bob or I wash your feet. You can help by wearing socks (no stockings!) and removing them prior to the foot washing. This practice comes from Jesus’ Mandatum (commandment) that we love one another as He has loved us. We model His example of washing the disciples’ feet.

I encourage you to pray about participating in this. As always, please talk to me if you have questions.

Sue Lederhouse+

LENORE LASS MEMORIAL SERVICE

A memorial service for Lenore Lass will be held on **Saturday, April 2, at 10 a.m. at St. Peter's**. Reception follows at Mezza Luna. Please come as we fondly remember Lenore and support Leo and the rest of the family.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER AT ST. PETER'S

Palm Sunday, March 20, 8 and 10 a.m. We continue our tradition of experiencing Palm Sunday as it would have been at the time of Jesus. We will celebrate Jesus' triumphal ride into Jerusalem with our Liturgy of the Palms. It will be a joyous celebration even as we know what lies ahead on Good Friday when we hear the reading of the Passion.

Maundy Thursday, March 24 at 7 p.m. On Maundy Thursday, we commemorate the institution of the Eucharist. We also share in the Mandatum – Jesus' gift of love that we observe in the act of foot washing. At the end of the Maundy Thursday service, the candles are extinguished, the altar is stripped of all its ornaments and we depart in silence.

Good Friday, March 25, 12 noon and 7 p.m. On Good Friday, we remember the crucifixion and death of Jesus. This is the most solemn service of the Church Year. We hear the reading of the Passion. We share in the consecrated bread and wine from the Maundy Thursday service to sustain us through the sadness of this day. At the end of each service, we leave in total silence.

Easter Day, March 27, 8 and 10 a.m. We celebrate the day of Resurrection with a festive Eucharist at both services. There will be hymns and special music from Cynthia De Bellis on the French Horn at the 8 a.m. service and hymns and choir at the 10 a.m. service.

MEN'S BREAKFAST GATHERING - MARCH 19

The men of the parish will join together for breakfast and a time of food and fellowship at **8:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 19th, at Persy's Place, 3198 Cranberry Highway in East Wareham.** The restaurant is on the same side of the highway as Lindsey's, next to Upper Cape Realty. All men of the parish are cordially invited to attend. For more information, please contact Ken Lihzis (Klihzis@gmail.com / 774-212-0453).

THE BISHOP IS COMING - THE BISHOP IS COMING - APRIL 3

On **Sunday, April 3**, we will have a visit from our Suffragan Bishop, The Right Reverend Gayle Harris. A Bishop's visitation is a time of celebration – a time to welcome our Bishop and also to let her know what's happening at St. Peter's. It is a time to make her aware of all the things that have happened in this past year – all the ways that we have worked, prayed, and given for the spread of God's kingdom here in Buzzards Bay; the new people we have welcomed; the new programs and projects we have initiated; all the ways that we have tried to be God's people here in this place. It is a time for all of the family of St. Peter's to come together – both 8 o'clockers and 10 o'clockers – young and old – those that play many roles in the life of this parish as well as those who are not able to be as involved.

We will have **one service at 9 a.m.** where worshippers from both services can be together. This will be followed by a potluck brunch and some conversation with our Bishop. Bring your favorite dish to share! Afterward, the Bishop will meet with the Vestry. All the morning's activities should conclude by 12:30/1 p.m.

This is an important time in the life of St. Peter's – please come and meet and greet our Bishop!

VILLAGE AT CATAUMET

The Village at Cataumet is a family shelter for 18 families. On any given month there are 40-50 people living at the shelter with about half of them being children. At this time of year many arrive with no warm clothing, no money or food stamps. Each family on arrival is given a clean room which has a dorm size refrigerator and microwave. They receive a twin bed with clean bedding and a NEW pillow. Breakfast is provided in the communal kitchen. The families cook their other meals. The kitchen can also be used by families who would like to cook together. Food staples are always needed for new families.

Listed below are their needs at this time:

1. NEW pillows
2. Twin sheet sets
3. Housewares – mops & brooms, cleaning supplies
4. Food staples
5. Children's jackets, hats and mittens
6. Adult warm clothes
7. Diapers, wipes, sippy-cups
8. Food store certificates, any amount

Donated clothing should only be seasonal as there is not a huge amount of storage. We can still donate our monthly items as most of those things cannot be bought with food stamps.

ITEMS FOR VILLAGE AT CATAUMET FOR MARCH – COOKING & SERVING ITEMS including pots, pans, dishes, cutlery and utensils.

All things are possible with God's Help and Our Prayers!

Love and Blessings, Georgi Frampton

HEALING SERVICE - MARCH 13 - 9 A.M.

Each month, a faithful group of parishioners gather to join in a service of prayers for healing, anointing, and laying on of hands. This service is usually held on the third Sunday of the month, but because of Palm Sunday, the date for the Healing Service in March will be **Sunday, March 13, at 9 a.m.**

NO PANCAKE BREAKFAST IN MARCH

NO pancake breakfast in March as we observe our Lenten fasting from pancakes. Pancake breakfast will return on **APRIL 10** (a week later due to the Bishop's Visitation on April 3).

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The Newsletter Deadline for the **April** issue is Friday, **March 18, 2016**. Send all articles to Susan Hebb at susanhebb@comcast.net.

FROM THE PARISH SECRETARY

Copies of the latest Parish Directory were distributed at the Annual Meeting on January 31st. Please review your information to make sure your name, address, and phone numbers are correct. You may email any changes to me at saintpeters@verizon.net or leave me a note with clearly written changes through the mail slot in the office door. If you did not get a copy of the directory and would like one, please let Reverend Sue or me know and we will make sure that you get one.

After services, please put bulletin inserts in the Narthex table basket to be re-used. Music inserts and special prayer service pages, such as the pink and blue Penitential Order pages, can be re-used week-by-week or season-by-season. Doing this will help keep down paper and printing costs. We encourage you to take home the bulletin itself to review the announcements for activities you might like to participate in or lend your special talents to, and to pray for those on our parish prayer list throughout the week.

Thank you and God Bless! Kathy Letzeisen

VISIBLE VESTRY

The Vestry held their monthly meeting on Monday, February 22, 2016.

1. Vestry Retreat is scheduled for Saturday, March 12, from 9:00-3:00. This retreat will also serve as our March Vestry monthly meeting. Welcome to our new Vestry Members Priscilla Ellis, Steve Cloutman, and Robin Higgins!!
2. Some of the goals that Vestry will be discussing at the Retreat will be our Outreach within and outside our church, and our financial status currently and for the future.
3. The Wardens and Rev. Sue will be attending a "Small Church Meeting" on Sunday, February 28 in Quincy. The Diocese has called the meeting to discuss what are the benefits available for the smaller church, in particular those with part time clergy.
4. Rev. Sue will be meeting with Bishop Gayle on March 4 to plan her visitation to our church, which will be on April 3. The Wardens will meet with Sue to discuss the agenda for that day. **[SEE ARTICLE ABOVE]**
5. We are very thankful for what appears to be a milder winter than last year, which has been great for our Sunday attendance thus far.
6. We are pleased that several new people have begun attending our Sunday worship services, particularly at the 10:00 a.m. service.
7. We will need to purchase a new fire box and find a new agency to monitor the box. The requirement of the Bourne Fire Dept. is to do this by June 30, 2016.
8. We are so pleased to welcome John Platanitis back with us. Hooray!!!!

9. Thanks to a generous donor, our pianos in both the church and the choir room have gotten a much needed tuning. Thank you! Thank you!
10. March 5 will be our 3rd soup, bread, and dessert Refreshment Sunday party. We started this annual event to take the place of what was in the past our annual church holiday party. It has been a success for the past two years. Please join us for a fun time. We will start at 4:00 this year so that those who not to drive at night can eat and leave before it is too late. Those that would like to stay a little longer can enjoy game night with us. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex for anyone wishing to bring food or donate any of the other items posted on the list. Donations are **not a requirement** and the meal is at no cost. Come for a night of fellowship and fun!!! If you plan to attend, please sign the attendance portion of the sheet so that we can better plan on how much food to prepare. **[SEE ARTICLE ABOVE]**.
11. Father Jim and Deacon Bob will start up services again in March with the Mass Maritime cadets, now that they have returned from their at sea activities and are back in school.
12. Vestry reviewed and approved the Annual Parochial Report. This report is a Diocesan/Episcopal Church requirement and is a report of our parish activities such as membership, attendance, education information and financial information. Of significance is a new question asking the number of adults engaged in religious education or spiritual formation. We had 53 different people that engaged either in Bible studies or Inquirers Class last year. That is an impressive and exciting number of our parishioners supporting, enjoying and sharing in Bible study fellowship education opportunities!!!!

Linda Masson, Senior Warden

PRAYER CHAIN

The Emergency Prayer Chain is up and running! When you have a prayer request, please contact the Rev. Sue Lederhouse at 508-240-2853, or 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.

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.

MARCH 2016

3	Thursday	4:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Brownies Lenten Study
5	Saturday	4:00 p.m.	Mid-Lenten Party
10	Thursday	6:00 p.m.	Deanery @ Holy Spirit / Orleans
12	Saturday	9 – 3	Vestry Retreat
13	Sunday	DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS 9:00 a.m.	Healing Service
14	Monday	12:30 p.m.	Women’s Bible Study
17	Thursday	4:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Brownies Lenten Study
18	Friday		NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
19	Saturday	8:00 a.m.	Men’s Breakfast Gathering
20	Sunday	8 & 10 a.m.	Palm Sunday Services
24	Thursday	10 a.m. - 4 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	OFFICE HOURS Maundy Thursday Service
25	Friday	12 noon & 7 p.m.	NO OFFICE HOURS Good Friday Services
27	Sunday	8 & 10 a.m.	Easter Day Services
28	Monday	12:30 p.m.	Women’s Bible Study
31	Thursday	4:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Brownies Lenten/Easter Study

Upcoming Dates

April 2

Lenore Lass Service

April 3

Bishop Gayle at St. Peter’s

Weekly Schedule

Sundays	8:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist, Rite I Holy Eucharist, Rite II Choir Rehearsal
Mondays	10:00 – 4:00 11:00 a.m. 5:15 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Church Office Open Bible Study Friendly Kitchen AA (Men's Closed Meeting)
Wednesdays	7:30 p.m.	AA (Co-ed Open Meeting)
Fridays	10:00 – 4:00	Church Office Open

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

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Dianne Cartmill, Treasurer.....	617-669-1051	Emily Johnson.....	774-454-2446
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