



ST. PETER'S WAVE March 2025

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

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 5, six and a half weeks before Easter Sunday. Traditionally this season is a time for renewal before celebrating Easter. It is marked by penitence (forgiveness) and disciplines of prayer, fasting, and scripture reading.

On Sundays, we will begin The Eucharist with the Penitential Office. We eliminate the use of "Alleluia" and make other changes to the liturgy. We will also add a midweek opportunity to observe The Stations of The Cross, remember some Saints' days, and celebrate The Eucharist at 12 noon on Thursdays. Afterwards we will gather for conversation with a bag lunch and/or whatever other refreshments you would like to bring.

We often think of giving something up during Lent. This is of course what fasting means. And this is helpful if it allows us to focus and pray. It can also help us remember our relative wealth in contrast to the poverty of so many in our world.

I also like to think of taking something on - maybe the midweek Stations and Liturgy; maybe a daily time of silence and/or scripture reading; maybe reaching out to someone who needs a word of encouragement.

The Sunday Gospel readings in Lent from St. Luke (in year C) are wonderful examples of Jesus' teaching and use of parables. I encourage you to reflect each day upon these well-known lessons. St. Luke was known as "the good physician" beloved by Paul, who worked with Paul and assisted him while Paul was captive in Rome. Luke's Gospel shows us the deep compassion Jesus had for all people. May we use Lent to deepen our own compassion.

Grace, Peace, Love,
Bob

LITURGICAL NOTES

Ashes and Ash Wednesday



In the 6th century the early church adjusted the Lenten fast and observance to 40 days before Easter, not counting Sundays. So, the first day of Lent was a Wednesday. Soon it became the custom to use ashes on this day as a sign of mortality and penitence. Thus, the name, “Ash Wednesday,” became popular.

In both the Old and New Testaments ashes are often linked with dust and sackcloth to express mourning, grief, and humiliation. Some examples include 2 Samuel 13:19, Esther 4:1, Jonah 3:6, and Matthew 11:21.

The reformers did not like this outward show of penitence and so beginning with the first Book of Common Prayer in 1549 there was no provision or service for using ashes. In the first American BCP in 1789 there were just 2 prayers for use in Morning Prayer on Ash Wednesday.

The 1979 BCP included “Proper Liturgies for Special Days”. Ash Wednesday (p. 264) is the first service in this section. The blessing and use of ashes is optional.

We are also aware of the liturgical prayer that mentions ashes at a Committal during Burial, “... earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust...” (p. 485) God reminded Adam of his own mortality and sent Adam out of the garden (see Genesis 3:19). So, on Ash Wednesday we begin Lent acknowledging our mortality and ongoing need for forgiveness.



VISIBLE **VESTRY**
FEBRUARY 18, 2025

Our finances were good for 2024.

Alan asked that we put our names on the envelopes as there are new numbers and it will make it easier for the counters.

Three new members of the Vestry were introduced: Amy Farris, Connie Morrison, and Elaine Robinson.

There was a presentation by Rockwell Amusements regarding a possible fair to be held at St. Peter's.

The date for the Vestry Retreat was set for 3/15/25.

We are considering a survey to be sent out to all parishioners asking what they are interested in.

We have some information regarding the columbarium – more information has been requested so we can move forward and increase its size.

Mark Taylor has been polishing the pews in the church, half finished.

We have two people interested in handling the website.

We are looking into getting a sign, for the corner of the property.

The Search Committee is updating the profile.

The Substance Abuse Ministry is planning a “game night” April 23rd.



The fifth men's breakfast get together was held on February 8th. We had 14 in attendance, which was a high for the last several years!

Our next breakfast get-together will be on **Saturday, March 1st 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 two days prior to the scheduled breakfast. This will provide an accurate count of attendees for the Persy's setup.

I look forward to seeing you at Persy's!

Jim Hankey



2025

The Fair Committee has agreed to another fair for next year however, the date and time is yet to be decided. The Fair Committee will meet again on Wednesday, March 12th after Women's Bible Study. (Approximately 1:30)

In the meantime, feel free to bring in whatever donations you may have for our Santa's Seconds.

Blessings,
Patti Metcalf

MARCH EVENTS

Wed., March 4 **Ash Wednesday**

12:00pm – Holy Eucharist w/Imposition of Ashes

6:30pm – Holy Eucharist w/Imposition of Ashes

Wed., March 12

12:00pm – Women's Bible Study

1:30pm – Christmas Fair meeting

Sat., March 15

Vestry Retreat

RECURRING EVENTS

Thursdays in Lent

12:00pm – Stations of the Cross w/Eucharist & Lunch

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

2nd Monday, 2:22pm - Substance Abuse Ministry (SAM)

3rd Tuesday, 4:30pm - Vestry

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

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Staff

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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

Patti Metcalf...508-685-5582

Amy Farris...978-831-2021

Connie Morrison...978-259-8068

Melissa Scannell...508-566-1594

Mark Taylor, Jr. Warden...508-863-1259

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