



ST. PETER'S WAVE NOVEMBER 2025

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

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

The month of November begins with All Saints Day and our Sunday celebrations with the Ingathering and Blessing of our pledges for 2026 on the 2nd. And the month ends with the First Sunday in Advent on November 30th. The weeks in between are marked also by significant special days- Election Day in many areas is the 4th, Veterans Day is the 11th, Christ the King Sunday is the 23rd, and Thanksgiving Day is the 27th.

Thanksgiving is one of my favorite holidays- maybe because I'm from Massachusetts, now live in Massachusetts and I can trace my family back to arriving from England to Salem just 9 years after the first Pilgrims. In addition to that history, my relatives were in the cranberry business for over 80 years, and I often worked on the bogs during the summer while in high school and college.

All Saints and Thanksgiving fill us with many memories of the past. They also compel us to face the challenges of the present day and our hopes for the future. As we approach the end of the liturgical year in the weeks ahead, there is a sense of time running out; much like the leaves falling off the trees. In traditional church teaching and preaching during these last weeks leading to the new year starting on Advent Sunday, there were often reflections on "The 4 Last Things"- death, judgment, heaven and hell.

That might sound depressing, as the end of the Fall and the beginning of Winter might be depressing- not to mention the advancing darkness of each day. But the liturgical year, as the changing seasons, reminds us to hold together the past, the present and the future. We are people who are called to always live with hope. The Risen Christ reminds us that new life emerges from death, light overcomes darkness, love triumphs over hate and despair.

Let us celebrate the hope November brings!

Grace, Peace, Love,
Bob+

Mission



The second theme of reflections during our Interim Ministry.

The mission of St. Peter's church is to be a community called to love, to worship, to proclaim and to serve. This is a shorter definition of mission set by the Vestry after the Covid shut down of public worship from March 2020 - April 2021. Every Vestry reworks a parish's "founding principles" and "core values." Specific ministries, budgets, staffing, property, all work toward the parish's basic mission which certainly can change through the years. Balancing many mission priorities is the Vestry's responsibility. Our mission grows out of Jesus' "Great Commission" in Matthew 28:19,20

"Go, therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them... and teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you..."

The Book of Common Prayer in the Catechism states, "the church pursues its mission as it prays and worships, proclaims the Gospel, and promotes justice, peace, and love..." (p.855)

St. Peter's welcomes all. This is a sign of love. Greeting newcomers, visiting, reaching out, pastoral care are intentional ways to love in action. We seek to be both a friendly and a loving community in all that we do. Through our parish history this has certainly been challenged by transitions in leadership, financial concerns, changing demographics, and Covid. Yet this core value remains - "to love one another" as Jesus has loved us.

Worship is our weekly celebration of this love story. God's love for us, our love for God. Of course, this is the heart of our Eucharistic worship on Sundays. We have a beautiful worship space dedicated to St. Peter. Care is given to the liturgy and music. Many assist in this mission to worship - our musicians and choir, acolytes, readers, ushers, altar guild, and clergy.

Proclamation reminds us of St. Francis' famous saying, "Preach the Gospel always. If necessary use words." The way we care for each other, the way we care for our property, our stewardship and gifts of support - financial, our time and talent - all proclaim the good news. We are currently trying to use the modern technology available - website, Facebook, etc., as well as continuing with our monthly newsletter and the signage in front of the church. Even lighting our stained-glass windows, so they can be seen at night by those passing by on Main St. is a way we proclaim.

Serving begins within the community and then moves out into the geographic area around us, including the Diocese of Massachusetts. Outreach programs come and go as need changes. St. Peter's had a wonderful ministry of service with the "friendly kitchen" program for many years. Ways to serve each other, especially in times of need and illness, and ways to serve the wider community continue to be discerned by our parish leadership. Jesus calls us to follow him into the future as God's love is made known and visible through us to the world.

VISIBLE VESTRY
October 23, 2025

Our finances going into the end of the year are in good shape.

We would like to establish an Endowment fund.

We are offering parking to cadets at MMA – so far we have 22. They will be giving a donation to St. Peter's for the parking. We will limit their parking in the blue spaces that have been marked off.

The wooden St. Peter Fisherman has been repaired and will be displayed in the church. The wooden one was used to make one out of a resin so that it will not be affected by weather – that one is also ready. As soon as the archway over the front door is complete, St. Peter will go up.

We have received an anonymous donation of \$10,000. to be used for our Outreach Program.

The Christmas Fair has been moved to November 22. If you are interested in participating, please contact Patti Metcalf.

The vestry approved the reimbursement of costs to the folks attending the convention in November.

The columbarium has been installed, needs a little tweaking. We are working on cost of niches/when available/dedication. Thank you to Mark Taylor, John McGuinness and Lisa Platanitis for all their VERY HARD WORK.

We are working hard to up our followers on Facebook so we can live stream. Please do not post negative or political posts on this site.

We are still looking for someone to update our website.

We are working on the slate for next year – if you are interested in being on the Vestry, please contact Rev. Bob or Celeste.

There will be one combined service on November 30th – we will be making Advent Wreaths after the service.

November 2nd will be our last in-gathering. There will also be a baptism that day.

Cataumet House has changed. Our outreach team is checking with them to see whether or not we will have the giving tree.

The Healing session was well liked. We will continue to have this on the third Sunday of each month.

Rev. Bob is looking into the LEM program as there are folks interested in being part of this ministry.

Mark Taylor will look into getting brighter lights to shine behind the stained-glass windows.

We are considering having a Chili Super Bowl contest around Super Bowl time.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, November 18th at 5:30.



Our opening get together was held on October 4th. We had 10 attendees sign up, of which 9 were able to attend. The conversation was lively and varied, and cautiously optimistic when it came to the Red Sox and Patriots!

Our next breakfast get together will be on Saturday, November 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 or are unable to sign up, please call or text Jim Hankey at 781-534-2604. This will provide an accurate count of attendees for the Persy's setup.

I look forward to seeing you at Persy's!
Jim Hankey

VESTRY MEMBERS NEEDED

Each year, we elect a new vestry. All officers are elected for one year but they can serve for more than one year.

Here are the available positions for the 2026-2027 year.

Senior Warden
Asst. Treasurer

Junior Warden
Clerk

Treasurer

We also have open "member at large" positions.

Please contact any vestry member if you are interested in serving on the vestry.

Thank you.
Celeste



Our fair is coming up quickly on Saturday, November 22nd from 10:00 - 2:00. Thank you to all of those who have brought in donations thus far. A big thank you also, to those who are busy pricing all donations. We continue to accept all donations of loved and gently used Christmas or Winter themed items.

I know you're asking, "How can I help?" Be on the lookout for 2 sign-up sheets for volunteer opportunities on the bulletin board in the Narthex. One is for setting up on Friday, November 21st at 10:00, which should take 3-4 hours. The other is to volunteer for the day of the fair from 9:00 until clean up by 3:30. Whatever time you are willing to give is much appreciated as we will need help selling, bagging, and greeting and directing people where to go as well as cleaning up for services the following day.

We are also looking for donations of baked goods for our Bake Table. We ask that items be brought in prepackaged and ready to sell. They can be dropped off on Friday during set-up or the morning of the fair, and the Bake Table Coordinator will price them.

I am so excited for our fair this year and hope you are too!

Blessings

Patti



NOVEMBER 30

What Is November 30th?

Well, at St. Peter's it will be lots of things and you won't want to miss any of them!

1. It will be the 5th Sunday of the month with a combined service at 9:00.
2. It is also the First Sunday of Advent where we will light the candle of HOPE!
3. Afterwards we can enjoy coffee and beverages with a breakfast snack. Bring a favorite pastry, fruit, or snack to share with others. But that's not all...
4. Afterwards we will have our Annual Advent Wreath making event! If you have done this before, bring your frame from last year to use again. We have some frames for new wreath makers and lots of candles for everyone. There will be a sign-up posted for this activity, so we have an idea of how much greenery to have. But that's still not all...
5. Lisa will have a special secret HOPE activity going on as well if someone is already making a wreath for your family, so come and find out all about it!

See you there!

PRAYER FOR A NEW RECTOR/SEARCH PROCESS

O God, you know us better than we know ourselves. Guide us in our search for a new clerical leader. empower each one of us to use our unique ministries, to share openly and honestly our thoughts, to respect the opinions of others, and to encourage humility, patience, and joy. Instill in us a vision of the Church's family; that guided by your Holy Spirit, we will be united in love and joyfully accomplish this mission of discovering the one you have called to serve with us as our rector. All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

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
2nd Monday, 2:22pm - Substance Abuse Team (on hiatus)
3rd Tuesday, 5:30pm – Vestry
1st & 3rd Wednesday, 12n – Women's Bible Study
5th Sunday – One combined service at 9:00am

ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH-ON-THE-CANAL
165 Main St., PO Box 265
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

2025 Vestry

Celeste Hankey, Sr. Warden...617-710-5346
Alan Kershaw, Treasurer...508-224-4018
Patti Metcalf, Clerk...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
Kathy Letzeisen, Asst. Treasurer...617-755-9357
Patrick Davin....508-496-0863
Jack Kennedy...508-291-138
Elaine Robinson....774-521-7959

