



## **ST. PETER'S WAVE FEBRUARY 2026**

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

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

As we move into the second half of winter, we anticipate a busy month of February at St. Peter's. We begin on the 1<sup>st</sup> celebrating The Presentation of Christ in the Temple, traditionally called "Candlemas." This ends the celebration of the Incarnation and Nativity of Jesus beginning on Christmas Eve. On the 40<sup>th</sup> day after his birth Mary and Joseph presented their baby in the Temple and he was proclaimed "a light for a revelation" to all. Thus the blessing and use of candles for this feast.

Two weeks later we will hold our Annual Meeting within one joint service at 9 AM. The Holy Eucharist will be changed to have our meeting make up most of the Service of the Word, replacing some readings, sermon and prayers. The meeting will end with The Peace, and then we will celebrate Holy Communion. We look forward to having regular 8AM and 10 AM worshippers being together at 9 AM. The meeting and service will be followed by a festive coffee hour celebrating Mardi Gras weekend.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, the 18<sup>th</sup>. We will have the Holy Eucharist with The Imposition of Ashes at 12 noon and 6:30 PM. We use the Great Litany on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent, the 22<sup>nd</sup>, at the Holy Eucharists at 8 AM and 10 AM.

For football fans Super Bowl Sunday is the 8<sup>th</sup>. As I write, we wait to see if our New England Patriots can win the AFC title to make it to the Super Bowl for the first time since 2019! Regardless, they have had a tremendous season, well beyond expectations, and we have strong hopes for the future. Enjoy the month ahead.

Grace, Peace, Love  
Bob

Addendum: The Pats are going to the Super Bowl!!



## The Future

### The 5th and last topic for reflection during a parish transition

Two of my favorite sayings are “failure to plan is planning to fail” and “if you want to hear God laugh, tell God your plans.” As we look ahead and hope for St. Peter’s future, we need both a plan and the flexibility to adapt or even change our expectations. I love to hear Jesus say, “The Holy Spirit will guide you into all truth...”

I’m going to list some issues/plan/hopes I have for St. Peter’s future. The “transition” from Rev. Sue’s retirement in 2019 will continue until our parish calls the next Rector. In December, we heard from the Bishop’s Assistant, Kelly O’Connell, that St. Peter’s should not continue a formal search process, nor expect an endless interim. I will continue as the parish Priest until a Rector is called or another Priest comes to serve.

**-Leadership:** Saint Peter’s needs steady, healthy, committed Lay and Clergy Leadership. My time as St. Peter’s Priest began in May 2021. We have recovered from the Covid shutdown. Our attendance, membership and finances are strong. There has been modest growth.

We have had excellent lay leadership from our officers and Vestry. This year we will have 5 new Vestry members, including 3 new officers. New lay leadership that rotates on a regular basis is just as important as stable clergy leadership. Recruiting, training and supporting lay leadership is a future necessity.

**-Growth:** In order to grow in membership and financial health we all need to participate. I intend to use the “Invite, Welcome, Connect” model provided by the Diocese with the Vestry and congregation in the months ahead. The demographics surrounding St. Peter’s offer us many possibilities.

**-Physical plant and location:** We are blessed to have a wonderful location, worship space, program space, and parking area. We’ve had many improvements and renovations to our facility in the last few years. Our parking lot has provided extra income from MMA students. The nursery school has relocated upstairs and we will figure out how best to repair and use the basement after last Fall’s flood.

There will be other repairs and improvements in the year ahead. Stewardship of our property is and will continue to be a priority. And our “visibility” on Main Street is vital to our evangelism and “invitations” to the community.

St. Peter’s future looks bright as we continue to focus on these 3 mission imperatives. All of this is built upon joyful and holy Sunday worship services. And we continue to offer our worship space to individuals desiring to celebrate special events- baptisms, marriages, funerals. Of course the future is most dependent upon those people who call St. Peter’s their spiritual home.

Bob+



Our Bishop, Julia Whitworth, will be visiting St. Peter's on Sunday, June 21! How exciting! Please mark this date on your calendars. More info to follow on plans for Bishop Julia's visit. Join us in welcoming our Bishop!



Vestry meeting 2026 Jan 19

We thanked the retiring officers: Celeste, Patti, and Kathy. We also thanked retiring member-at-large Jack Kennedy.

The Meridan family fund will pay for work on the front of the church and the new Advent candle wreath. We will have a blessing and install a plaque soon.

We agreed to give a bonus to our employees: Liesl, Lisa and Kim.

We reviewed the proposed budget for next year. There are only small changes. We are considering hiring a bookkeeper. We are in a good financial position. We thanked Alan for all his hard work.

We reviewed the tentative slate of the new vestry members:

Officers: Sr Warden: Amy Farris, Jr Warden: Mark Taylor, Treasurer: Alan Kershaw, Asst. Treasurer: Matthew Bruce, Clerk: Connie Morrison.

Members at large: Jim Hankey, Elaine Robinson, Aaron Willey, Barbara Johnson, Henri Masson, Melissa Scannell.

Micheal Pessia made a donation in memory of his son to purchase an AED. We will install a plaque and have a blessing soon.

We are looking for new outreach ideas.

Work continues on the basement. Mark is working to understand the cause of the flooding. We need to repair the wood around the stained-glass windows. We thanked Mark for his work.

Fr Bob suggested we review the program "Invite, welcome, connect" to grow St Peters.

Annual meeting will be on February 15 during a joint service at 9:00. The meeting will be after the reading of the gospel and is expected to last no longer than 30 minutes. After the meeting,

the service will continue with the passing of the Peace. We will have coffee hour after annual meeting. Please bring food to share.

The Wave deadline is Jan 25.



Our fourth get together was held on January 3rd. We had 8 attendees sign up, of which 8 were able to attend. As always, the conversation was lively and varied. The Patriots finished the regular season with three straight victories and now it's off to the playoffs with a victory over the LA Chargers!

Our next breakfast get-together will be on Saturday, February 7th at 8:30 AM. As usual, we will gather at Persy's Place, 3198 Cranberry Highway, E. 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 setup.

I look forward to seeing you at Persy's!

Best regards,  
Jim Hankey



Deadline for submitting reports for the 2025 Annual Report is Sunday, Feb. 1. If you chair or lead any committee or ministry, please submit your report to Kim in the parish office asap. Thank you!

## **FEBRUARY EVENTS**

**Sunday, Feb. 15**

**9:00am – Joint Service & ANNUAL MEETING**

**Wednesday, Feb. 18 ASH WEDNESDAY**

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

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

## **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

1<sup>st</sup> Saturday, 8:30am - Men's Breakfast

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday, 2:22pm - Substance Abuse Team (on hiatus)

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, 5:00pm – Vestry

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, 12n – Women's Bible Study

## **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](mailto:saintpeters@verizon.net)

Website: [www.saintpetersbb.org](http://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



**SUNDAY, FEB. 15**

**9:00 am**