
The Wave - FEBRUARY 2016

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

*FROM THE RECTOR
The Reverend Sue Lederhouse*

Is it Lent already?? How can it be?? It seems like we just started this year. What happened to Epiphany?

That's the way I'm feeling right now as I sit here in the midst of the snow storm that has cancelled church for us on this 3rd Sunday in the Epiphany season.

Only two more Sundays before Ash Wednesday. Two more Sundays to savor this "short green" season and to delight in its themes of light and call and transfiguration.

Yet each season of our Church year has something to tell us. Each season has something that God wants us to focus on and to think about.

The season of Lent invites us to look deep within ourselves and see what it is that is keeping us from a full relationship with God. What is it that stands in the way? What is it that we need to examine in our lives and try to change? How can we break down the barriers that separate us from being fully in tune with what God longs for from each of us? How can we know God better? How can we feel more comfortable in our prayers?

Ash Wednesday is February 10 this year and I invite us all to begin our Lenten journey together – sharing in the ashes on our foreheads – remembering the ways that God keeps inviting us into relationship. And if you choose to "give something up" for Lent, choose wisely. If you choose to take something on for Lent, choose wisely. Maybe there's something beyond chocolate that you need to give up this year. And maybe what you need to take on is found in these themes of Epiphany that we've been hearing – maybe you're called to bring Christ's light to that difficult person you know. Maybe you're being called to a new ministry at St. Peter's or out in the community.

As we move into this Lenten season, pray on these things.

And may God help us be the people He would have us be.

Blessings in the name of Christ –

Sue Lederhouse+

THE DEACON'S CORNER

When I began thinking about writing this, the Magi were several "camel-days" journey away from Bethlehem. Since then they've arrived (Twelfth Night) and The Season of Epiphany has begun. Early on in Epiphany, Jesus is plunged into the waters of the Jordan River and baptized. Matthew and Mark say clearly that John the Baptizer baptized Jesus, but In the Gospel of Luke, Herod has imprisoned John by the time Jesus is baptized. Luke doesn't say who baptized Him (Rev. Sue pointed this out to me). Epiphany is the time when Jesus begins His ministry, gradually disclosing His identity to His Followers. Epiphany is all about "revelation".

But this article is supposed to be for the month of February, not January! Interminable, cold, snowy February when we probably all wish we could hibernate with the bears and not come out until it's time for spring vacation. So what is happening in February that we need to be concerned with?

Ash Wednesday, that's what!

Ash Wednesday, and the beginning of Lent, is early this year (February 10th). Not a whole lot of time to get ready! How did that happen? Ash Wednesday can occur as early as the 4th of February or as late as the 10th of March. The date is calculated by counting backward from Easter Sunday 46 days. Well, how is the date of Easter fixed you ask? It is a "moveable feast day", occurring on a different Sunday every year. The Council of Nicaea (325 A.D.) fixed the date of Easter as: "The Sunday following the Paschal full moon on or after the Vernal Equinox". Huh? That worked for them, but it got real complicated after that. As one of my professors used to say, "It ain't that simple." So now the Church uses an ecclesiastical approximation of the Paschal full moon to calculate Easter Sunday. It's one of the great mysteries of the Church. Aren't you sorry you asked?

I'm looking forward to taking the journey through the rest of Epiphany and Lent with you. Stay warm, and be sure to hire someone else to shovel that snow. God bless and keep you!

Peace,

Deacon Robert Sherwood

BRING IN YOUR PALMS!

Do you have palms from previous years hidden behind pictures on your walls or standing in corners around your house? We will be collecting those old palms through **February 7**. Look for the box in the Parish Hall and bring yours in!

NO PANCAKE BREAKFASTS IN FEBRUARY OR MARCH

NO pancake breakfast for February or March as we observe our Lenten fasting from pancakes. We will share together in the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on the night before Ash Wednesday (see the article below!)

SHROVE TUESDAY - FEBRUARY 9 - PANCAKE SUPPER AND GAMES

St. Peter's will observe Shrove Tuesday, **February 9** with a traditional Pancake Supper and Game Night starting at **6 p.m.** in Stephenson Hall. Please feel free to bring your friends and neighbors, and don't forget your favorite board games! We will also be "burying our Alleluias" again both in art work and in song. It will be a fun time for all. Please tell us how many will attend on the signup sheet in the Narthex.

AND A FEW WORDS ABOUT OUR LENTEN WORSHIP

As we begin each new church season, we change our service music and some of the aspects of our worship together. One of the hardest things in Lent is to remember NOT to say Alleluias (and that's why we'll bury them symbolically at our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on **February 9**).

Lent begins with our Ash Wednesday observances on **February 10**. We will have a spoken service with Imposition of Ashes and Eucharist at **12 noon**. Then there will be a service with choir and Imposition of Ashes and Eucharist at **7 p.m.** On the First Sunday of Lent, **February 17**, we will use The Great Litany for the first part of each of the services. For each Sunday after that, through **March 13**, we will use the Penitential Order for the first part of each service. As we did last year, we will have a bulletin insert for this. At the 8 a.m. service during Lent, we will use Eucharistic Prayer I (p. 333); at the 10 a.m. service, we will use Eucharistic Prayer A (p. 361). The service music will be the same as we used last year with a bulletin insert for your convenience.

LENTEN STUDY

For our Lenten Study this year, we will be studying the "I AM" statements of Jesus from the Gospel of John. We will be using the book *THE GOD WE CAN KNOW – EXPLORING THE 'I AM' SAYINGS OF JESUS* by the Rev. Rob Fuquay, a Methodist pastor from Indianapolis. One of the exciting things about this study is it includes a DVD filmed in the Holy Land showing us where Jesus stood as He made each of these declarations. **This study will run on Thursdays from February 11 through March 31 from 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.** Signup is limited to 15. The cost of the book is \$10. Please contact Rev. Sue if you have any questions.

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 have dined on soup and bread (and even desserts!) and delighted in entertainment 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. Think about how you can help out with this great event which is now becoming a tradition! Look for a sign-up sheet soon!

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY - FEBRUARY 8 & 22

On February 8, we will look at **Ruth**. On February 22, 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.

GOD'S FAITHFUL STEWARDS

Are you being called to serve? As Christians, we've heard it a million times: Love thy neighbor. And we try, we really do. We are empathetic, sympathetic, and charitable in times when we can afford to be..., but can we do more? Have you ever considered reaching out to those in our community who can use a helping hand, but you're not sure where to begin? Afraid you can't commit to starting and/or completing the task? Perhaps together we can make a difference. Maybe it really isn't so difficult. Perhaps it is our duty as children of God. If you'd like to learn more, please join John and me on **Tuesday, February 16th, at 6:30 p.m.** in the Parish Hall. We will share a pizza and salad as well as some brain-storming on how we can be good stewards for the Lord. We look forward to your joining us!

Karen McGuinness

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."

1 Peter 4:10

VISIBLE VESTRY

The Vestry had their monthly meeting on Monday, January 18, 2016.

1. A good portion of the meeting was reviewing, revising, and finally approving the 2016 budget to be presented at the Annual Meeting which will be held on January 31.
2. On January 31, there will be one church service at 9:00, followed by a pot luck brunch and the Annual Meeting will follow. We will have the pleasure of hearing Cynthia De Bellis play her French horn at the 9:00 service.
3. The Slate of Nominations for Parish Offices to be presented at the Annual Meeting, was also approved by the Vestry.
4. It was sad to say goodbye to four of our Vestry members who have served us well. Tom Johnston, Patti Metcalf, Karen McGuinness and Charlotte Daigle. A huge thank you to them for their service.
5. Our Vestry Retreat has been scheduled for **March 12 from 9:00 – 3:00**. We will be welcoming our new Vestry members and Officers, and setting our new goals for St. Peter's for 2016.

6. Waddle Books was a bit lower than usual at \$90.24 but that is not unusual for this time of the year. It is possible, however, that we will be receiving books from other sources which will boost our winter book bin donations.
7. Thank you to all who participated in the Christmas Eve service. We had an attendance of 156 which was the highest it has been since 2012. Also, the first three weeks attendance thus far in 2016 has been the highest Sunday attendance we have had in over ten years.
8. We continue to be thankful to Bruce Lederhouse for serving as our Interim Music Director/Organist and also to Lisa Platanitis for her ongoing assistance and for filling in during Bruce's Sunday absences.
9. There is a new Friendly Kitchen Team that has taken Mary Tavares' Monday nights. Marie Whitcomb and Diane Simski will prepare the meals and then there will be another group to serve and clean up. Meredith Smythe, Linda Masson and Lynne Brune will be the regular team to serve and clean up and they will be asking for volunteers to help assist them each month. If you would like to help at any time, please let one of the team know. There will be a sign up list of the weeks available, and this will be presented at the Annual Meeting for anyone interested. Pick one or more weeks that might work for you. It only requires an hour and a half of your time on a Monday evening from 4:30-6:00 p.m.
10. The Diocese enjoyed Rev. Sue's *Wave* article from January, "Show us what there yet can be". They have shared it on their website (www.diomass.org) Check it out. Good job Sue!
11. Every year there is a Diocesan Cycle of Prayers for the different parishes. They ask each parish to select a few prayer requests. They will pray for us on January 24. We have asked that they pray for our continued financial stability, that we may be creative in our outreach activities, that our parishioners continue to share their gifts by becoming more involved in our church activities and that we may attract more young families and youth to our parish.
12. Community Outreach continues to be a top priority for Vestry and we are always looking for ideas as to how we can be more involved with our community. Karen McGuinness has some ideas for doing joint community outreach and hopes to share these ideas, as well as receive ideas, from anyone interested in participating in this new mission project. She will be hosting a kick off pizza/salad meeting **on February 16 at 6:30 p.m.** She will provide more information at the Annual Meeting. Stay tuned. Nice job Karen! [See article above!]
13. Mark your calendars for our Mid Lenten (Refreshment Sunday) Soup Buffet Dinner to be held **Saturday, March 5 at 4:00 p.m.** More information to come soon. [See article above!]

Linda Masson, Senior Warden

MEN'S BREAKFAST GATHERING - FEBRUARY 20

The men of the parish will join together for breakfast and a time of food and fellowship at **8:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 20th, 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).

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 FEBRUARY – PAPER PRODUCTS.

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

Love and Blessings, Georgi Frampton

HEALING SERVICE

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 held on the third Sunday of the month, which will be **Sunday, February 21, at 9 a.m.**

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.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The Newsletter Deadline for the **February** issue is Friday, **February 19, 2016**. Send all articles to Susan Hebb at susanhebb@comcast.net

FEBRUARY 2016

4	Thursday	4:30 p.m.	Brownies
8	Monday	12:30 p.m.	Women's Bible Study
9	Tuesday	6:00 p.m.	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
10	Wednesday	12:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Ash Wednesday Service Ash Wednesday Service
11	Thursday	6:30 p.m.	Lenten Study
16	Tuesday	6:30 p.m.	Outreach Meeting
18	Thursday	6:30 p.m.	Lenten Study
19	Friday		NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
20	Saturday	8:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast Gathering
21	Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Healing Service
22	Monday	12:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study Vestry
25	Thursday	4:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Brownies Lenten Study

Upcoming Dates

March 5	Mid-Lenten Party	March 12	Vestry Retreat
March 13	Daylight Savings Time	March 20	Palm Sunday
March 24	Maundy Thursday	March 25	Good Friday
March 27	Easter	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

P. O. Box 265 / 165 Main Street
Buzzards Bay, MA 02532
Phone: 508-759-5641
Web: saintpetersbb.org
E-mail: saintpeters@verizon.net

Staff

The Rev. Sue Lederhouse, Rector
E-mail: lederhouse@msn.com
The Rev. Bob Sherwood, Deacon
E-mail: rsherwood522@gmail.com
John Platanitis, Director of Music
Kathy Letzeisen, Parish Secretary
Susan Hebb, Newsletter Editor

Vestry

Linda Masson, Senior Warden	508-743-5139	Emily Johnson.....	774-454-2446
Lynne Brune, Junior Warden.....	508-295-6146	Thomas Johnston.....	508-759-4144
Charlotte Daigle, Treasurer.....	617-669-1051	Patti Metcalf.....	508-833-0170
Dianne Cartmill, Assistant Treasurer....	774-269-4348	Merry Smythe.....	508-287-1540
Karen McGuinness, Clerk.....	508-367-9647	Paul Szwed.....	774-302-4347
Mark Taylor.....	508-863-1259		