

# THE WAVE DECEMBER 2020

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

## *HELLO ALL ST. PETER'S FOLKS:*

I hope you all had a wonderful, safe Thanksgiving.

Our YouTube services are continuing. We have lots of folks tuning in and not just St. Peter's folks! You can go back and watch these as often as you like.

The Stations of the Cross were recorded and will be aired on YouTube during Advent.

We are very, very fortunate that Rev. Darwin Price has agreed to tape a Holy Eucharist Service for Christmas for us. We will tape this the way we have been taping Morning Prayer. The St. Peter's musicians are going to record Christmas music for us. I think it will be wonderful to hear the Eucharist Service and hear the Christmas music we all love. A huge thank you to Rev. Price and our musicians.

If you have Comcast or Verizon and a smart television, you can see/hear the services on your television. It takes a little coaxing, but it will eventually come up. You have to be very specific – when you speak into the remote you have to say: YouTube – when that comes up you have to say all this: St. Peter's Church on-the-Canal. If you just say St. Peter's you'll get some beautiful cathedrals, but not our St. Peter's. Thank you to Alan Kershaw for giving us this information.

The Vestry is busy – we're working on a slate for next year, working on the budget and the audit.

The Search Committee continues, but this Covid has slowed everything down. Keep this group in your prayers as they are working so hard on our behalf.

So sorry I missed a birthday in November – Happy Birthday to Jane Goershel.

For December – Happy Birthday to Robin Higgins, Millie Funnell, Barbara Cain, Dianne Cartmill, Sheila Dostie and Celeste Hankey.

There are no Anniversaries in December.

Winter is coming – if you need anything, please contact any member of the vestry and we will be happy to help out.

***Love and Blessings to All. Celeste Hankey, Senior Warden***

## *THE VISIBLE VESTRY*

The Vestry met on Monday, November 16, 2020

- We have received 28 pledges totaling \$51,633.
- Ingathering Sunday is November 29<sup>th</sup>.
- We had to purchase a new pump for the Nursery school - \$1,500.00
- We are going to try to have virtual Advent and Christmas services.
- The Diocese is recommending that church not open for the foreseeable future.
- The Nomination Committee is working on a slate for next year.
- We have approved paying for Liesl Keller to take additional organ lessons.
- Lisa Platanitis will be recording the Stations of the Cross to be shown on YouTube.
- The vestry approved donations to 3 local organizations totaling \$300.00.
- Robin Higgins is going to work on the Giving Tree for the Village at Cataumet this year.
- The Budget Committee will be meeting shortly.

The next meeting will be Monday, December 21, 2020

*Celeste Hankey, Senior Warden*

## *SEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT*

Hello Everyone,

St. Peter's will continue to stay on the diocesan website. We pray that 2021 will bring us our new Rector. Thank you for your continued prayers.

### *Prayer for a New Rector*

**O God, you know us better than we know ourselves. Guide us in our search of a new clerical leader, empower each one of us to use our unique ministries, to share open and honestly our thoughts, to respect the opinion 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.**

*Blessings for a safe and Merry Christmas and a Happy Healthy New Year!*

Yours In Christ,

*Matthew Bruce, Larry Higgins, Nancy Kennedy, Elisabeth Kershaw, Jim Lema, and Patti Metcalf*

## CHRISTMAS FOR CATAUMET

For the past few years, the generous folks of St. Peter's have donated gift cards for the families living in transition at the Village at Cataumet. We hope to continue this tradition with your help! Please take a minute in your holiday shopping to purchase a gift card to any of the listed businesses, drop it in the mail to the church, and we'll take care of the rest! Sadly, we have been unable to offer our monthly donations to the Village this year, and these families really need our help. If you would like an envelope ornament for your gift card, you may contact Margery Buckingham at [morganbuckingham@msn.com](mailto:morganbuckingham@msn.com) and she will send one to you.

Cards requested are **TJ MAXX, WALMART, MARKET BASKET, and VISA**. Please mail your card to St. Peter's Church on the Canal, PO Box 265, Buzzards Bay, MA 02532. Deadline for donations is Dec. 10.

It would be helpful, though not necessary, for you to list the amount of the card on an attached note, for equal distribution.

THANK YOU, good people of St. Peter's!

*Robin Higgins, Priscilla Ellis, Margery Buckingham*

### HAVE YOU UNSUBSCRIBED?

We have noticed that a number of folks have recently "unsubscribed" from our weekly email list. If you did so intentionally, we hope we haven't done something to offend you, and we will miss you. If you unsubscribed accidentally (easy to do if you read on your phone), we need you to know that we **cannot** re-subscribe you! Our email service will not allow us to re-subscribe anyone who has opted out, as this is considered harassment. You may be able to correct this yourself by going to the last email you received from us, and at the bottom of the email click on "update your preferences". If this does not work, please contact us at the church and we will forward you the weekly and Sunday emails from our personal email. We hope to update all our email addresses in the near future and correct any errors in subscriptions and/or email addresses. Thanks for your help!

***Robin Higgins***

## *CONTINUE TO BE AWARE OF SCAMMERS*

The following information was received from the Diocese. Please always double check when asked for donations of ANY kind online!

Online "phishing" scams continue to target churches and clergy, and they require everyone's awareness and vigilance.

Scammers' tactics vary, but a common one is to send e-mails or text messages that appear to be from a known organization or church leader (such as a bishop or rector). They typically ask for urgent help or a favor, and request that the recipient buy and electronically send gift cards, make donations via money transfer or provide personal information.

Church leaders should inform their congregations about these scams and reinforce the message that bishops, clergy and church leaders will never ask for help or donations in this way. Recipients should be skeptical of unexpected e-mail or text message requests to send or spend money or provide urgent assistance. Check the sender's e-mail address for legitimacy before responding or opening any links or attachments. E-mail from the bishops and diocesan staff, for example, will come from the designated e-mail domain @diomass.org, not from gmail.com or other e-mail providers. If a request seems to be authentic, confirm with the requester using known contact information.

***Robin Higgins***

## *NOTES FROM OUR PARISH SECRETARY, KATHLEEN LETZEISEN*

### *MAIL CALL!*

A reminder to use the **POST OFFICE BOX 265** address when mailing to the church. The post office will send back mail addressed to the Main Street address because we do not have a physical mailbox at the church.

### *READERS of FORWARD DAY-BY-DAY*

Copies of Forward Day-By Day are available outside the back door of the church. Copies will be available there for pick up until we are able to resume indoor services. If you would like a copy but are unable to get here to pick one up, please let Kathy know (508-759-5641) and arrangements will be made to get one to you!

***Kathleen Letzeisen***

## ***SAINT PETER'S SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND PREVENTION SUPPORT GROUP UPDATE***

Please keep the Bourne and Wareham Substance Free coalitions in your prayers. We have not been meeting due to the Corona Virus precautions. The next meeting of our group will be in limbo until we get an all clear from the diocese. Please hold all those who suffer from addiction and in recovery in your prayers.

Did you know, that according to a recent Cape Cod Times article, " The Bourne Fire Department reports that Opioid deaths and emergencies have increased significantly during the first three quarters of 2020" The struggle for many continue and with increased unemployment and loss of benefits many are resorting to street narcotics for pain relief.

A large part of the recovery process is supported by the traditional 12-Step Group meetings These groups have been unable to meet during the crisis and it must be difficult for them at this time.

AA meetings can now be available by phone 4 times a day, seven days a week, 7:00AM, 12NOON, 2:00PM and 5:00PM by calling 425-436-6360 Access #n422932. If you have loved ones or friends who are dealing with substance abuse issues, please try to have an open ear and an open heart to be there for them.

If you are concerned for a friend, family member or yourself, you can call the Massachusetts Substance Abuse Information and education Helpline at 1-800-327-5050. As we give thanks for the blessings of our lives please keep those suffering from addiction in your prayers.

We offer up this prayer from the Book of Common Prayer, page 831:

***O blessed Lord, you ministered to all who came to you. Look with compassion upon all who, through addiction, have lost their health and freedom. Restore to them the assurance of your unfailing mercy; remove from them the fears that beset them; strengthen them in the work of recovery; and to those who care for them give patient understanding and preserving love. AMEN***

***Larry Higgins***

## ***DO YOU RECEIVE OUR WEEKLY E-MAILS?***

Every week, St. Peter's sends out a weekly email which typically includes upcoming news and events, the lessons for the upcoming Sunday, a schedule of "servers" for the week, etc. This email is also used for notifications regarding deaths in the parish family, cancellations, and other timely news.

For the past several months, the content of the weekly emails has changed somewhat, and we have added a Sunday email with the link to our YouTube Morning Prayer service.

If you are NOT receiving the emails and would like to, please contact Robin Higgins at [ptown.robin@yahoo.com](mailto:ptown.robin@yahoo.com). If you know of someone who is not receiving the email and might like to, please share this information with them! We can't just add someone to the email list – our email service requires that we have your permission to email you! We don't want anyone to miss out on events and news from the parish. Thank you!

***Robin Higgins***

## ***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](mailto: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.

## ***PRAYER CHAIN***

The Emergency Prayer Chain is up and running! When you have a prayer request, please contact 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.

## ***NEWSLETTER DEADLINE***

The Newsletter Deadline for the **January 2021** issue is Friday, **December 18, 2020**. Send all articles to Susan Hebb at [susanhebb@comcast.net](mailto:susanhebb@comcast.net).

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

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Web: [saintpetersbb.org](http://saintpetersbb.org)  
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*Staff*

Lisa Platanitis, Music Director and Choir Director  
Liesl Keller, Pianist and Organist  
Kathy Letzeisen, Parish Secretary  
Susan Hebb, Newsletter Editor

*Vestry*

Celeste Hankey, Senior Warden .....	617-710-5346	Alan Kershaw.....	508-224-4018
Len Hathon, Junior Warden.....	774-678-0169	Merry Smythe.....	774-404-0110
Dianne Cartmill, Treasurer.....	774-269-4348	Chuck Conway.....	617-877-1538
Lynne Brune, Assistant Treasurer.....	508-295-6146	Patti Metcalf.....	508-833-0170
Robin Higgins, Clerk.....	413-329-4651	Donna Beers.....	508-759-8283
Mark Taylor.....	508-863-1259		