

ST. PETER'S WAVE
NOVEMBER, 2026

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

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

One of my favorite passages in the Bible is 1 Thessalonians 5:18, "… give thanks in all circumstances…" This follows St. Paul writing, "Rejoice always, pray constantly…" I often think our prayers of thanksgiving are the foundation of our life in Christ.

I'm glad Thanksgiving Day is a Holy Day in the Episcopal Church, even though we don't have a service at St. Peter's. We are reminded of Paul's words every Sunday when we celebrate the Eucharist (Greek for thanksgiving) and share in the "Great Thanksgiving" for Holy Communion.

On Sunday, Nov. 1, we give thanks for the example of all the Saints and for our own stewardship as we offer our pledges for 2027. On Nov. 26, we celebrate Thanksgiving Day and give thanks for all God's many gifts. And on Nov. 29, we give thanks for the First Sunday in Advent and the start of the new liturgical year. So, give thanks always!

Grace, Peace, Love,
Bob



LITURGICAL NOTES
Thanksgiving Day and Thanksgivings

Since the first American Book of Common Prayer was published in 1789, The Episcopal Church has observed our national Holiday, Thanksgiving Day, as a Holy Day. There is a special set of Propers (collect and scripture readings) for this day. The current collect, BCP p. 194, was reworked in 1979 from the earlier editions.

In addition to praying for "the fruits of the Earth… And those who harvest them…", we pray to be "faithful Stewards of thy great bounty, for the provision of our necessities, and the relief of all who are in need…"
In addition to the Propers for Thanksgiving Day, the BCP includes other Thanksgivings. One of the most profound prayers found in Morning and Evening Prayer is "The General Thanksgiving" based on a private prayer of Queen Elizabeth I from 1596.

There are 11 different Thanksgiving prayers listed in the BCP starting on page 836. Nine of those were written for this most recent edition. A General Thanksgiving and A Litany of Thanksgiving are especially appropriate to use on Thanksgiving Day.



November takes its name from the Latin *novem*, meaning "nine," a reminder that in the ancient Roman calendar it was once the ninth month of the year. Later on with the addition of January and February, November moved to the eleventh position, (well… ***Elevember*** would have been kind of fun to say!) yet, its name remained—a small reminder that even as the seasons and circumstances of life change, some things endure.

As autumn transitions toward winter, nature itself seems to invite us to slow down and maybe even become "leaf peepers" while the array of colors last. We are also given an opportunity to pause and reflect on the people, moments, and blessings that have shaped our lives. As a third year seminarian, I have been experiencing my own season of transition - learning, listening, serving, and discovering the many ways God meets us in the midst of change.

This semester I will be focusing on my CPE (Clinical Pastoral Education) requirements. Yes, that's a mouthful, however, what it basically means is that I will be serving as a chaplain for 6 months at Cape Cod Hospital. I find myself especially grateful for the people and places that have become part of this journey and for the opportunity to serve in the hospital, where I am continually reminded of the sacredness of ordinary moments: a conversation, a prayer, a hand

held, a quiet presence beside someone who is hurting. In those spaces, I have seen how gratitude and hope can take hold even when circumstances seem uncertain.

"*Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." I Thessalonians 5:16-18*

As Thanksgiving approaches, a special service will be held in the chapel at Cape Cod Hospital in celebration of hospital employees and all caregivers. It will be a time to pause, give thanks, and honor those who spend so much of themselves caring for others. Our hope is that this service will be a small expression of gratitude for their compassion, dedication, and faithful presence. As we gather this Thanksgiving in our parishes, and with our families and friends, let us give special thanks for those who have lovingly and selflessly served in all roles of caregiving.

May this November find us in ceaseless prayer, rejoicing always, thankful in all circumstances, grateful for what has been, open to what is becoming, and confident that wherever the road leads, God is already there.

Peace and Joy Always,
Lisa

VISIBLE VESTRY

2026October20

Treasurer's Report
Our new bookkeeper, Amanda, produced the report this month. We are still financially healthy, but it has been a leaner month. Alan has done the paperwork to sign us up for Family Medical Leave as required by the diocese.

Jr Warden Report (Mark was out, so Alan gave his report)
The bubble in the paint on the front doors has been addressed. The crack in St. Peter will be fixed soon. The work on the bathroom renovations has begun. Someone is planning to look at the trim around the stained-glass windows.

Senior Warden
We discussed website. We will make a couple of small changes. We thank John McGuinness for his autumnal decoration in front of the church. One of the new metal signs is up. The second one should be up soon. We discussed the possibility of hosting over-flow venders from Canal Day 2027 on our lawn. Someone mentioned that we would need a permit.

In lieu of a Priest's report (Father Bob was away), as requested by Fr. Bob, Barbara talked about her experience at St. James in Woodstock, VT. The community at St. James was able to grow their parish substantially over the course of 7 years. This took the time and effort of many people. Barabara spoke about a few programs they started. She spoke about how they trained folks to be Lay Eucharist ministers who then visited the local nursing homes. They created a Pastoral care team providing services (meals, rides). Barabara will talk more at the next Vestry meeting.

Other Business:
Melissa has questions about the proposed new nativity for the front lawn. Since Mark was out, they could not be answered.



Our Vestry has established an Outreach Committee, who in turn has established a relationship with the Bourne Food Pantry. The mission will be to collect a different food item each month, which the Outreach team will deliver to the food pantry. The Outreach Committee would like to thank all our parishioners who donated to October's cereal drive. The outpouring of support was tremendous!

For November's food donation we'll be accepting **non-perishable Thanksgiving food staples**. We thank you for your continued generosity!



Our second get-together was held on Oct. 3. We had 8 people signed up, all of whom attended. As usual the conversation was lively and varied! So far, the Patriots and Red Sox have been a disappointment.

Our next breakfast get-together will be on **Sat., Nov. 7 at 8:30am**. As usual, we will gather at Persy's Place, 3198 Cranberry Hwy., E. 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 helps provide an accurate count for Persy's to set up.

I look forward to seeing you at Persy's!

Best Regards,
Jim Hankey



Advent Wreaths with a Gathering of the Greens

The First Sunday of Advent is Nov. 29th, when we will light the first purple candle of HOPE. Here at St. Peter's, we celebrate this special time together with a gathering of greenery and making Advent Wreaths together! This will take place after the 10:00 service. If you attend the 8:00 service, please come back and join us for coffee, a treat and to make a wreath. If you have done this before, please bring your frame from last year to use again. If you haven't done this before, just bring yourself. We have extra 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. (If you would like to donate some greenery, or help new wreath makers with assembly, please speak with Patti Metcalf)
Hope to see you there! I'll be the one with the sticky fingers!
Patti



I hope you've been enjoying a wonderful Fall season so far with these amazing days of sunshine, crisp air and beautiful colors on the trees!

Our fair is coming up quickly on **Sat., Nov. 21st from 10am – 2pm.** Thank you to those who have brought in donations thus far. Keep 'em comin'! We'll continue to accept donations of loved, gently used Christmas or Winter themed items all through November, before or after church or during office hours.

A big thank you also to those who are busy unpacking, pricing, organizing, and repacking donations to be sold. It's a big job and I don't know what I'd do without my faithful angels.

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 in the coming weeks. One is for setting up on **Friday, November 20th at 10:00**, which should take 4-5 hours. The other is to volunteer for **Fair Day Saturday, November 21st from 9:00 until clean up by(hopefully) 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. Many hands make an amazing fair!

This year our **Bake Table** coordinator is St. Peter's own Martha Stewart, a.k.a. Celeste Hankey! She will happily accept your *pre-packaged* and *ready-to-sell donations*. There is no need to price items as our "Hostess with the Mostess" will take care of that. Bake Table items can be dropped off on Friday during set-up 10-3 or the morning of the fair. If you would like to assist Celeste, please speak with her or indicate so on the volunteer sign-up.

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

Many Thanks and continued Fall Blessings!
Patti Metcalf

**Check the weekly email blast for updated information on how you can help!*
**If you have more than a few boxes or bags to donate, please call Patti @ 508-685-5582, or email (patmijo@comcast.net) to arrange a time to bring your donations to the church.*
**Our Parish Secretary will be out of the office from November 15th thru the 22nd.*
The church office will be closed, so please plan any drop-offs accordingly.

NOVEMBER EVENTS

Nov. 1 – both services: Pledge Ingathering
Nov. 21 – 10am-2pm: Christmas Fair

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
3rd Tuesday, 5:00pm – Vestry
1st & 3rd Wednesday, 12n – Women's Bible Study

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2026 Vestry

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