



ST. PETER'S WAVE
November 2024

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

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

The month of November marks the end of the long Pentecost season which runs for more than six months beginning last May. Some years the first Sunday is Advent ("New Year's Day" for the church) falls in November. This year it is December 1.

Time seems to speed up in November. We turn back the clocks (on Nov. 3rd); we lose sunlight as the days grow shorter, we begin to think about the holiday season approaching.

In the life of the Church, we plan for the new year and we try to wrap up our 2025 Pledge Campaign. Many thanks to all who have pledged.

We begin November by celebrating All Saints - on Sunday the 3rd. We end with Christ the King Sunday (the 24th). The Vestry plans to have one 9 AM service on the 24th followed by a brunch. I hope you will join us for this time of celebration and fellowship before Thanksgiving.

Two special celebrations in our calendar that often get overlooked are St. Andrew's Day (30th) and Samuel Seabury (14th). Andrew was St. Peter's brother. He brought his brother to Jesus, and he introduced many to Jesus. By tradition he was crucified on an X shaped cross and became the Patron Saint of Scotland - thus the X shaped crosses in the Episcopal Church flag and symbol. Samuel Seabury was the first American Bishop who went to Scotland to be consecrated in 1784. He helped to lead the early Episcopal Church in the U.S. and served as the first Bishop of Connecticut.

Enjoy the month ahead and celebrate our many holy days.

Grace, Peace, Love,
Bob

Hurricane Relief

The Vestry has designated the loose plate and dedicated check offerings from Sunday, November 24 for hurricane relief to help with the recovery work in those southern states most impacted by the recent hurricanes- Helene and Milton.

We will do this through the work of the ***Episcopal Relief and Development***. This fund was established by The Episcopal Church in 1940 and until 2000 was known as the Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief.

Those who wish to donate by check can make the check out to St Peter's Church with **E.R.D.** on the memo line. The Vestry may also vote to add to the offerings on the 24th funds from the parish outreach budget.



LITURGICAL NOTES

The Great Thanksgiving

The Catechism ("Outline of the Faith") in The Book of Common Prayer p. 859 lists the names for The Holy Eucharist- Lord's Supper, the Mass, Holy Communion, the Divine Liturgy and the Great Offering. Prior to 1979 the B.C.P. used the title "Holy Communion".

The most ancient title for the service is the Greek word "Eucharistia" meaning thanksgiving. The 1979 B.C.P. reintroduced this title and also gave the liturgy two distant parts, The Word of God and The Holy Communion. Sometimes other liturgies are used within or instead of The Word of God; for example Holy Baptism, Marriage, Burial, and Ordination.

The Holy Communion begins with The Great Thanksgiving and one of several options for The Eucharistic Prayer. This begins with the Sursum Corda (" Lift up your hearts...") including the words " Let us give thanks to the Lord..." Prayer B p. 368, echoes this beginning. " We give thanks to you, O God..."

Our national holiday, and Holy Day for the church, Thanksgiving is just a few weeks away. Let us remember that Thanksgiving is not once a year, or even every Sunday at the Holy Eucharist. We give thanks every day remembering St. Paul's encouragement, "give thanks in all circumstances..." 1 Thessalonians 5:18



VISIBLE VESTRY

October 15, 2024

St. Peter's Stewardship In-gathering will be October 20, 2024

The Nomination Committee will be meeting in early November to plan the slate for 2025

The diocese has no grants for solar heating, but does have loans. Alan Kershaw is going to research

Larry Higgins will be the new Chairman of the Search Committee

The Christmas Fair is scheduled for November 23, 10-2 pm

We will have one service on Sunday, November 24th at 9:00 followed by coffee hour and Advent Wreath making

We were asked if we could have a shed at the back parking lot for used furniture, etc. The vestry said no at this time.

We will be collecting donations for the Episcopal Relief Fund – to go toward hurricane relief

Margery Buckingham will be holding a Quiet Day on December 7th.

Christmas Services will be held at 4:00 and 6:00 pm this year.
We will be removing a large pew on the gospel side of the church to install a short one to accommodate wheelchairs.
We will be checking with Cataumet and a homeless shelter to see what each needs for Christmas.
The Vestry meetings are now being held at 4:30 pm.
The next meeting is November 19, 2024.



It is time to think about your Vestry for next year –The Nomination Committee will be meeting the last Tuesday in October.

All officer positions are elected for one year. All other positions rotate on a three-year basis. This year we have two Members-at-Large leaving the vestry. We also will be looking to replace our Senior Warden and Clerk. The Nomination Committee consists of the Senior Warden, the Clerk and two outgoing members and one or two parishioners. If you would like to be on the Nomination Committee or if you would like to be considered for a position on the Vestry, please contact any member of the vestry so your name can be brought forward. If you're not sure about joining the vestry, please ask questions, talk to vestry members, we'd be happy to share information.

Thank you,
Celeste



Our opening get together was held on October 5th. We had 10 attendees and the conversation was lively, although somber, when it came to the Red Sox and Patriots!

Our next breakfast get together will be on **Saturday, November 2nd 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 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



**CHRISTMAS
FAIR**

Our Fair will be **Saturday, November 23rd from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.** inside our church hall and in the meeting room.

We are featuring Hand crafted ornaments, wonderful hand knitted goods by our faithful and busy Knitting Club, Millie's beautiful stained-glass items, our Santa's Second's table, Johns's Java station, and Amy's Amazing Baked Goods table, Lisa's Woodworking Wonders, Linda's Super Silent Auction and Tricia Martin's Cape Cod Photo Cards & beautiful bows!

A big "thank you" to those who have been donating and creating holiday and winter items to sell, providing items for the Silent Auction, and who plan to bake for the fair. Keep it all coming! Many hands make light work! Helpers will be needed for Friday starting at 10:00 a.m. to set up our fair, as well as on the fair day itself to do last minute set-up tasks as well as cleanup for Sunday's service. If most of the set-up can be done Friday, we can all sleep later on Saturday :) In anticipation of early shoppers we should be ready to sell for 9:30 so arrival for Saturday should be 8:30.

***Please check the Narthex to sign up to help out on either or both days.**

Please reach out to me with any questions or concerns.

Once again, thank you all for committing to this event! It will be so much fun!

Patti Metcalf

508-685-5582

patmijo@comcast.net



The Middlers welcome you to our **Annual Advent Wreath decorating party on Sunday, November 24 after our combined service at 9:00** and after enjoying some sweet treats, juice and coffee. Advent begins Sunday, 1st! ***Spoiler Alert!! Did you catch that?**

It bears repeating...**We will be having a combined service Sunday, November 24th at 9:00! (The day after the fair.)**

If you still have the wire wreath frame, please bring it to church that day to decorate. Hopefully you know right where it is and haven't donated it to our fair! :) We do have extra frames, and we have plenty of boxes of candles too if you weren't able to join us last year. If you have a holly tree with red berries or access to pinecones and boughs that can be donated, they can be brought in on Saturday November 23rd during the Fair. Just find Patti or any Middler will do. This was so much fun last year, and it's a great time of fellowship for parishioners of both services to come together before the business of the holiday season!

Patti Metcalf

Spiritual Surprises for the Second Half of Life: An Advent Mini Retreat

Wise leaders and our own experiences tell us that the first half of life is about building up – our homes, our families, our careers and our reputations. The second half of life is more about letting go – downsizing our houses, losing loved ones, retiring from paid work, and becoming aware of our limited time here on earth. Our spiritual priorities also change. Our focus is more on our personal relationship with God and less on sin, dogma and judgement. If you are nodding in agreement or just curious, please join us on **Saturday morning December 7th from 9:30 – 12:30** in Stephenson Hall for prayer, meditation and conversation about spirituality in the two halves of life. Our reading will be based on the book *Falling Upward* by Fr. Richard Rohr. Coffee and snacks will be provided.

This mini retreat is led by Margery Buckingham who holds a Master's Degree in Spiritual Direction from the General Theological Seminary in New York and a Master's Degree in Applied Spirituality from South East Technological University in Waterford, Ireland. She has provided spiritual accompaniment and retreat facilitation in Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and New York since 2019.



We met with Fr. Bob on October 6th. He had spoken with Rev. Kelly O'Connell, our diocesan consultant, who assured him there are many churches who are still in search for a Rector, especially those that have a part time position available. It would be helpful to assess/increase our finances so we may confidently advertise for a half-time priest.

We remain open to the concept of priest sharing should an opportunity present itself that is in line with our worshiping. One option Rev. Kelly presented was to contact area Lutheran churches. Pastors of these churches may work half-time and be willing to work with us as well. The theology is similar and there have been other Episcopal churches who have called a Lutheran pastor to their parish. After discussion with the Vestry, it was decided that more research into this decision is needed. Another recommendation is to establish contact with senior class representatives from various seminaries to let upcoming graduates know about us.

During our meeting, Matthew asked if the committee might consider appointing someone different to chair our group. Happily, and to everyone's agreement, Larry Higgins agreed to take the lead! We are so glad to have a cohesive group to continue to work together.

We will be meeting on October 29th to review our parish profile, discuss finances, and make plans to explore the options available to our church. We thank you for your continued prayers!

Yours In Christ,

Larry Higgins, Donna Beers, Matthew Bruce, Nancy Kennedy, and Patti Metcalf



addiction

NOVEMBER UPDATE

The next meeting of our group will be Monday November 18 at 2:22pm. (note date change due to holiday) All are welcome!!!

We would like to thank the parish for your continued support. We recently received a large donation of coins from a very generous parishioner. He had been saving up for over 12 years! (we are still trying to count it all)

We would love to have you join us as we discuss plans for our new year. Our group has presented educational programs and provided fundraising events for both the Bourne Substance Free Coalition and St. Peter's Parish. We began in 2017 when a group of parishioners who were concerned about the issues surrounding substance use and abuse and its effects on families gathered.

We have had to cancel several events due lack of helping hands. Our number of volunteers are aging out and getting burned out. PLEASE if you would like to see this ministry continue, WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!! Please prayerfully consider joining with us in our efforts. If you have any questions, please speak with any of our members or join us at our next meeting.

Larry Higgins, Celeste & Jim Hankey, Bob & Nancy Sherwood, Jane & Jim Lema, Donna Beers, Diane Bergeron, and Connie Morrison

Below are some information sources that are available in our area:

Massachusetts Substance Abuse Hotline 1-800-327-5050

Learn to Cope www.learn2cope.org

AA Zoom 425-436-6360 Access Number n 422932

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.*

NOVEMBER EVENTS

Tues., Nov. 6: 12:00pm – Women’s Bible Study (Leah)
Fri., Nov. 22: 10am – Set up for Christmas Fair
Sat., Nov. 23: 10am-2pm – Christmas Fair
Sun., Nov. 24: 9am – Combined service of Thanksgiving, offering for hurricane relief
10am – Advent Wreath Making in dining room w/refreshments

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 (3rd Tues in Nov.)
3rd Tuesday, 4:30pm - Vestry

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

Vestry

Celeste Hankey, Sr. Warden...617-710-5346
Alan Kershaw, Treasurer...508-224-4018
Robin Higgins, Clerk...413-329-4651
Patrick Davin...508-496-0863
Patti Metcalf...508-685-5582
Donna Tripp...508-264-1515

Mark Taylor, Jr. Warden...508-863-1259
Kathy Letzeisen, Asst. Treasurer...617-755-9357
Donna Beers...508-759-8283
Jack Kennedy...508-291-138
Melissa Scannell...508-566-1594

