



ST. PETER'S WAVE **January 2025**

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

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

The first 5 days of January are the last five days of the Christmas season. I've always found it sad to see Christmas trees discarded by the side of the road before we even get to January 1st. Many are worn out early in January because there has been so much celebrating up through December 25th. Valentine's chocolates and cards are the next commercial products appearing in our stores.

The Church keeps the celebrations going - at least until Lent begins. This year we have 8 Sundays in Epiphany. At St. Peter's we will celebrate Epiphany Sunday on January 5th. The next 4 Sundays will be special Feasts - the Baptism of Christ (12th); the Confession of St. Peter (19th); the Conversion of Saint Paul (26th) and Candlemas (2/2).

St. Paul writes about joy - a gift of the Holy Spirit (see Galatians 5:22). We often hear and sing his words to the Philippians: " Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say rejoice..." (4:4). Could we make this our "New Year's resolution"? To find joy every day in the new year? To rejoice in God's love? To live and share the good news of Christ?

Grace, Peace, Love,
Bob



LITURGICAL NOTES **The Opening Acclamation**

The 1979 Book of Common Prayer introduced 3 openings not included in earlier BCP's. The most often used is the general acclamation celebrating the Holy Trinity. "Blessed be God, Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit...". There is one for use during Lent, "Bless the Lord who forgives...". And one for the Easter season, "Alleluia, Christ is risen...".

There are other traditional opening acclamations for Advent, Christmas, and Saints Days. For a Baptism, we add some additional scriptural verses, "There is one Body and one Spirit... ". Marriages and Funerals have their own unique opening sentences.

The way we start the liturgy sets the tone for all that follows. In the early church the Priest said private prayers. Now this often happens with an acolyte and/or the choir. The opening acclamations affirm the liturgy beginning for all - clergy and congregation.


VISIBLE VESTRY
December 17, 2024

Our finances are looking good. We will end the year positively.

We have received 51 pledges for 2025 totaling \$103, 409.00. There is still time to pledge.

The vestry approved the housing contract for Rev. Malm for 2025.

The vestry approved the Financial Policy and Procedures Manual.

Pledge envelopes will be available 12/22/24.

The vestry slate for 2025 was presented to the vestry.

The Annual Meeting will be February 9,2025. There will be one service that day.

We donated approximately \$1,100.00 in gift cards to Village at Cataumet.

The Christmas Fair was successful raising approximately \$1,715 for St. Peter's. The committee would like to do this again next year.

We will be creating an inventory of church property for insurance purposes.

Christmas Eve services will be 4:00 and 6:30 pm.

The repair of the boat over the front door is on-going.

We will be working on updating the church membership list.

We are looking for deanery delegates for next year.

Rev. Bob will be out of town 12/29 and 1/5. Lisa will be celebrating Morning Prayer both Sundays.

The Search Committee is updating the profile.

Melissa is reaching out to the pre-school to see if they would like us to volunteer/read to students.

The choir will be caroling at Keystone Sunday, 12/22.

The next meeting of the vestry will be Tuesday, January 21, 2025 at 4:30 pm.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



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MEN'S BREAKFAST

The third men's breakfast get together was held on December 7th. Once again we had 10 attendees. Despite the constant number of attendees each get together had a slightly different composition of men. Nevertheless, the conversation was once again lively and touched on a variety of subjects, new and old.

Our next breakfast get together will be on Saturday, January 4th 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 Persy's setup.

I look forward to seeing you at Persy's!

Jim Hankey



S.A.M.

(Substance Abuse Ministry)

(the group formerly known as Substance Abuse Prevention and support group)

We have a new name created by the vestry to help avoid some confusion. Same group and same mission - please join us to learn more!!!

The next meeting of St. Peter's Substance Free Support group will be Mon., Jan. 13 at 2:22pm.

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.*

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 Ministry (SAM)

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
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