



ST. PETER'S WAVE APRIL 2025

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

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

We start Holy Week on April 13th – The Sunday of the Passion, Palm Sunday. I hope for good weather so we can begin the procession of palms outside. St. Peter's has a fantastic piece of property, right on Main St., and we will use every opportunity we have to witness to our Lord's Passion and Glory.

Public celebrations of this most important Christian week began in the 4th century in Jerusalem and in Rome and quickly spread through the countries where the Gospel and Church had been planted after Jesus' Resurrection. The 1979 Book of Common Prayer includes the special liturgies for these Holy Days (see pp. 270-295).

I encourage you to attend our celebrations at St. Peter's on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday, as well as the sacred days of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Christ's Passion and Glory give meaning to our lives – all our days – as we experience conflict, evil, pain, and death with the knowledge and experiences of Christ's peace, love, communion, and new life.

Please also consider inviting someone you know (especially if they don't have a church family) to join you at St. Peter's for one of these special days. Many visitors and newcomers will return, and even become part of our parish, if the spirit moves them, and if they are touched by God's love here.

I send you best wishes for a wonderful Holy Week and a glorious Easter season.

Grace, Peace, Love,
Bob



LITURGICAL NOTES The Kyrie

Kyrie Eleison are the Greek words meaning "Lord have mercy." This has been a part of our liturgy since the 4th century. The first Book of Common Prayer in 1549 included a nine- fold

wording. The American BCP of 1892 placed a threefold wording in the service of Holy Communion.

In the 1979 BCP there are several options for use. In Rite I the Kyrie is said or sung after the Gloria or in place of the Gloria in the seasons of Advent and Lent.

In Rite II the Kyrie is said or sung “on other occasions” rather than the Gloria or some other hymn of praise. The hymnal gives us 15 different sung options – including 4 ninefold, 2 sixfold, in the Greek and in the English, 4 for Rite I and 5 for Rite II.

Asking for God’s mercy is part of our Christian life. Mercy can be defined as compassion, forgiveness, healing, and love. In the ancient “Jesus Prayer” we say, “ Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.”


VISIBLE **VESTRY**
March 15, 2025

The March vestry meeting followed the annual vestry retreat.

Finances are good.

We will be meeting with the diocesan auditor later in March.

Our By-laws have to be revised to adhere to the diocesan standards.

We are moving forward with an increased columbarium as we now have found someone that can build one to fit our space.

We are hoping in the future to be able to light the stained glass windows from the inside to shine when people see the church at night.

Eucharistic visitor training will be available in May – we have two people interested.

There will be an annual altar guild meeting on May 10th in Quincy.

We have two people interested in helping with the Website – they will coordinate and work together.

The vestry will be sending out a survey to see what the folks of St. Peter’s would like to do moving forward.

There will be one service on Sunday, March 30 followed by a fellowship hour. We will be having 1 service on the 5th Sunday of each month – in the future it will be June, August and November.

The Bishop will be visiting in New Bedford for Confirmation/Reception on June 15th.

The next vestry meeting will be April 15th. The time has been changed to 5:00 from 4:30.

“IF ONLY...”

The following was one of the daily reflections for Lent offered by Episcopal Relief & Development. Please pray on what St. Peter’s has/needs/wants. We will be asking for your input soon.

“For many of us, one of the hardest things to see is how much God has given us. This is understandable in a culture dominated by social media influencers selling us every imaginable product alongside messages of scarcity and need. The phone, the watch, the house, the car, the vacation: they are enough until, suddenly, they aren’t.

The same is true of our common life, especially in the church. It is easy to look at larger churches, younger churches and more financially stable churches and wish we had what they have. It’s easy to get stuck in the “if only” loop: if only we had an endowment, if only we had young families, if only we had better live-streaming equipment. But “if only” isn’t really the way of Jesus, is it? Instead, his way is loaves and fishes, shared crusty bread and a common cup. The way of Jesus is local presence and community assets. The way of Jesus is cultivating an awareness of the abundance we have already been given and then looking to see who needs those gifts. Do we have empty buildings? Who is looking for shelter, a welcoming meeting place or a home base for their work with the poor? Do we have retired members? Who in our community needs tutoring, free business advice, or parenting mentorship? Do we have a lot of land? Who is looking for a place to grow food for their family or the food pantry? What flora or fauna needs a place to flourish so as not to become extinct? Who needs a green space to allow their children to play freely? All of our churches have a God-given abundance of something. The question is, are we willing to turn away from the “if only” to share “what is”? “

For Reflection

Do you or your church struggle with being distracted by the “if only” question? Try keeping a list of the gifts you already have for a month and invite the Holy Spirit to reveal where there is abundance.



BISHOP’S VISITATION

The Rt. Rev. Julia Whitworth, Bishop of Massachusetts, will be visiting Grace Church, New Bedford, to officiate at a regional confirmation service on June 15th at 4:30 PM. This will be the new Bishop’s first Southcoast visitation.

In addition to confirmations there are also opportunities for Reception and Reaffirmation (see pages 418, 419 in The Book of Common Prayer). People are received by the Bishop when they

have been confirmed in a different denomination, for example, Roman Catholic. One reaffirms the faith when s/he has been confirmed at an earlier date in the Episcopal Church.

Anyone interested in being confirmed, received or reaffirmed on June 15th should contact The Rev. Bob Malm.



We hope you are having a blessed Lenten season.

Larry has sent our letter to various seminaries, and so we wait and pray for the right candidate to find us.

We haven't received further information about sharing a rector with Christ Church in Swansea. Both our Vestry and Committee members agree that the commute between our parishes would be very long.

Thank you for your continued prayers!

Yours in Christ,

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



The sixth men's breakfast get together was held on March 1st. We had 11 in attendance, which was down slightly from February, but the conversation remained lively!

Our next breakfast get together will be on **Saturday, April 5th at 8:30am**. 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 two days prior to the scheduled breakfast. This will provide an accurate count of attendees for the Persy's setup.

I look forward to seeing you at Persy's!

Jim Hankey



S.A.M. (Substance Abuse Ministry)

We would like to thank the parish for their continuing support through our collection jar that is out on the second Sunday of every month.

We will be sponsoring another “**Game Night on Wednesday April 30**, doors open at 5:30 games start at 6:00 with a break halfway for brownie Sundays. A sign-up sheet will be posted, and we will not have the event if we don't have enough interest.

At a recent meeting we discussed a new state law that makes treatment and coverage for substance abuse issues more affordable for victims and families. The full law, H. 5143, can be found at Mass.gov. If you would like to learn more about our mission, please join us at our next meeting on **Mon., April 14, at 2:22PM** at the church.

Sincerely Submitted,

Substance Abuse Prevention and Support members; Celeste & Jim Hankey, Jane & Jim Lema, Nancy & Bob Sherwood, Donna Beers, Larry Higgins, Diane Bergeron, and Connie Morrison.



The Christmas Fair Committee met on March 12th. We decided on the date of **Saturday, December 6th from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.** We discussed some of the things that weren't popular during our first fair. We will eliminate the Knitted/Crochet table. Those items left from the fair will be donated to a women's & children's shelter on the Cape. We will also discontinue the Craft Ornament Table. We will still sell donated ornaments. We'll keep the bake sale but lower our prices. We are rethinking the Silent Auction table, and Linda Masson is exploring an "Opportunity Drawing" where there are no taxes involved. More on this later. We may also be able to have a few crafters join us for the day.

I'm so excited about organizing this event again and appreciate everyone's input and help! Keep those Christmas/Winter items coming in!

Blessings,

Patti Metcalf and the Fair Committee



PALM SUNDAY, APR. 13: 8 & 10am – Blessing of the Palms and Holy Eucharist

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APR. 17: 12noon & 6:30pm – Maundy Thursday Liturgy and Holy Eucharist (music @ 6:30pm)

GOOD FRIDAY, APR. 18: 12noon & 6:30pm – Good Friday Liturgy w/Passion Gospel and Holy Communion (music @ 6:30pm)

EASTER DAY, APR. 20: 8 & 10 am – Festival Eucharist (music @ 10am)
Easter Egg hunt following 10am service



St. Peter's will once again host our annual Easter Egg Hunt following the 10am service on Easter Day! This will be a BYOB event! (Bring Your Own Basket!) Children of all ages can meet in the Narthex after church. Little ones will get first dibs at the eggs followed by the older children. Last year we had so many kids and it was so awesome to see! It will be a hopping good time!

Hop to see you there!
Patti

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.*

APRIL EVENTS

Women's Bible Study: Apr. 2,16,30

Holy Week: Apr. 17 - Maundy Thursday 12noon & 6:30pm
Apr. 18 - Good Friday 12noon & 6:30pm

Game Night: Apr. 30, Wed., 5:30pm

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
12:00pm – Stations of the Cross (during Lent)

1st Saturday, 8:30am - Men's Breakfast

2nd Monday, 2:22pm - Substance Abuse Team

3rd Tuesday, 5:00pm - Vestry

ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH-ON-THE-CANAL
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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

2025 Vestry

Celeste Hankey, Sr. Warden...617-710-5346

Alan Kershaw, Treasurer...508-224-4018

Patti Metcalf, Clerk...508-685-5582

Amy Farris....978-831-2021

Connie Morrison...978-259-8068

Melissa Scannell...508-566-1594

Mark Taylor, Jr. Warden...508-863-1259

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