



St. Peter's Cross Keys
May 2008

From the Interim Rector

ROGATION FESTIVAL SET FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 27TH!

Long ago in Western Christendom certain days were set aside in the early summer, on which intercession is made especially for the harvest. Sunday, April 27 through Wednesday, April 30th forms this “mini-season” in the Christian Calendar this year. It was really a practical time in the Church of England for the vicar, accompanied by wardens, to check the condition of the church grounds, making sure fences and buildings were in order. Perhaps if livestock were owned by the parish church, they would be singled out for a blessing along with seeds, plants and trees to be set within church lands. The root meaning of the festival is praise for our Creator God who gives us life in such abundance and variety. And so as we talk about the “Greening of America” and the world and we consider the stewardship of the good earth God has given us, we take time on Sunday, April 27th to invoke special prayers during services that day. We invite pets (on leashes, please) to attend the Blessing of Animals ritual immediately follow the 10 o’clock service in the churchyard. Our Church School children are preparing seeds for blessing and distribution to our homes and a small tree will be planted on church grounds to signify our partnership with God in creation and sustaining life in all its forms. We will have special guests that day, including a local veterinarian who will receive an honorary award representing her profession as well as local growers who remind us of the importance of gardening and renewing the face of the earth. Please join us for this joyful and meaningful time.

We are pleased to announce that our own Janet Thornton, a Lay Eucharistic Visitor, has agreed to head up the collection and publishing of a new booklet of reflections, prayers and short meditations which will find its way into the pews of our church. We ask your cooperation in e-mailing or sending to the parish office your suggestions of short thoughts and inspirations that have been meaningful to you for inclusion in this booklet. Due to length considerations, possible duplication and subject suitability, we reserve the right to edit such material. Please help us realize this spiritual life resource for Saint Peter’s in the near future by submitting your proposals within the next three weeks. e-mail address: Jpthornton@verizon.net.

Please note other special Sunday festivals coming up soon:

YOUTH SUNDAY, MAY 4TH, The Sunday After Ascension Day. Our guests preacher at 10 a.m. is Taylor Seward, a graduating senior and acolyte/chalicer at St. Peter’s Church. Other youth representatives will join us along with the installation of new acolytes.

THE DAY OF PENTECOST (Whitsunday and Mother’s Day), SUNDAY, MAY 11TH. This is a time to celebrate Holy Baptism along with our affirmation of the power of God’s Holy Spirit to cleanse, anoint and enkindle God’s Church throughout the world. Part of the tradition and symbolism of this great feast is the invitation for everyone to wear red that day.

TRINITY SUNDAY, MAY 18. Please note that we have had to postpone our Annual Parish Meeting that day because of the mandated time to inform parishioners about new parish by-laws and the Nominating Committee presentation of officers, vestry members and other leaders to the parish for election. THE MEETING IS BEING RE-SCHEDULED FOR SUNDAY, JUNE 15th, FOLLOWING THE TEN O'CLOCK SERVICE.

SUNDAY, JUNE 8TH WILL FEATURE BISHOP BUD'S VISITATION TO SAINT PETER'S CHURCH AS PREACHER AND CELEBRANT.

To St. Peter's Parish:

The Nominating Committee for St. Peter's Church presents the following candidates for your consideration. The parish formal vote for these candidates will be held at the Annual Meeting scheduled following the the 10:00 am service on June 15, 2008. Here then are the nominees:

Senior Warden: Ronald Reed

Junior Warden: Carole A. Dwyer

Clerk: Maureen Tempesta

Treasurer: Charles Gasior

**Vestry: Christopher Bedenkop
 Adrienne Carlton
 Neil J. Forster
 Gregory Miller (filling the unexpired term of Maureen Tempesta)**

Signed,

The Nominating Committee

William Beebe, David Bernard, William Carlton, Carole Dwyer, Sally Haven, Sarah Horvath

Parish Annual Meeting, June 15, 2008 following the 10:00 am service

Vestry News

Highlights from the March 24th Vestry Meeting:

- Jim Baird, Chairman of the Rector's Search Committee reported that to date 29 candidates have applied. The committee has reviewed and discussed the applications of about half the applicants. All the candidates are sitting Rectors, the average age is 45-50 years old and about half are female. Six names have been submitted to the Diocese for approval; one was rejected and one has accepted another position. Mr. Baird stated that the final candidates must be approved by the Bishop, and the Bishop can disqualify any candidate for a variety of reasons.

- In anticipation of the Annual Parish Meeting scheduled for Sunday, May 18th, the Nominating Committee had its initial meeting on Sunday, April 6th. In addition to filling the four church officers, i.e., Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, and Secretary, there are 3-5 Vestry vacancies to be filled depending on whether the Diocese approves the parish's By Laws in time.

- Steve Lipman, a website designer retained by the Vestry presented three possible lay outs for Vestry consideration.

- William Seaward, who is in his third year of his three year annual appointment as the parish treasurer resigned his position effective with the end of the Vestry meeting. By a motion approved by the Vestry, Chuck Gasior was named interim treasurer until the May 18th Annual Meeting.

- Will Beebe has completed a thorough analysis of the church public address system, including a description and the operational procedures for each of the system components. His report has been catalogued on a CD for future reference. Also on a property note, David Bernard, Junior Warden and co-Chairman of the Building Committee, reported that the architect's report as well as Don Megathlin's report for the Building Committee has been bound and will be given to the new Rector and the future Vestry and Wardens.

- Father Anthony reported that Music Director Karen Crosby has been notified that the choir has been approved to sing at the Gloucester, England Cathedral during the week of April 13-19, 2009. Fr. Bob said that is quite an accomplishment, opportunity, and honor.

The next Vestry meeting will be held on Monday, April 28th at 6 p.m. at Fr. Anthony's home.

St. Peter's Vestry – Mary Beebe, David Bernard (Warden), William Carlton (Warden), Carole Dwyer, Chuck Gasior (Secretary), Bobbie Grimes, Sarah Horvath, Frank Lord, Jane Price, Bill Seaward (Treasurer), Maureen Tempesta, Don Treimann, Paul Soares and Lynn Voccola.

Baptism Occasions

The Book of Common Prayer establishes five occasions on which Holy Baptism is most appropriate, two of which are coming up in the next few weeks. The first is the Day of Pentecost, May 11th, and the second is when a Bishop is present, which will happen during the Episcopal Visitation to St. Peter's on Sunday June 8th. Holy Baptism may be scheduled for the 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist on either date by contacting Fr. Russ Allen at 508-432-3483 or calling the Church Office.

Adult Forum

An ADULT FORUM will be held in the Library after the 10:00 am service every Sunday. Please bring your cup of coffee and join us for a discussion on the Sunday lessons and sermon.

Stewardship Follow-Up

Each participant has now received the 2008 Stewardship Packet which was forwarded by mail to your post office box or household. Should you have any questions regarding the Packet or wish to discuss any aspect of Stewardship or matters relating to St. Peter's, please contact the parish office to schedule a convenient date and time to meet.

Members of the Vestry and the Stewardship Committee will be following up with individual parishioners during the coming months. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration and support of our Parish and its many ministries.

Food Pantry

Thank you to all who supported the food pantry with your lenten quarter and outreach donations. Our pantry visitors appreciate your generosity.

We continue to need your help in stocking the food pantry. We seem to have plenty of jelly and canned pumpkin! Other than that the pantry is in need of everything: **peanut butter; coffee, tea and non-perishable juice; soup; jars of fruit; one box meals; tuna fish and canned meats; cookies and individual snack items; and paper products (kleenex, toilet tissue, paper towels and napkins), etc.**

As always, please leave your donations by Tuesday so we can restock in time for the pantry hours on Wednesday.

Adrienne and Meredith Carlton

Parish Prayer List

We are revising our parish prayer list. If you would like to add a name or ask for continued prayers, please call Alison in the parish office. Also, it would be helpful to let us know when a name can be removed.

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers those serving in our armed forces : Jeremiah Hawley, Erik Koonce, William Winney and Clarence Leboeuf, Eugene Spillane, Mark Smith.

Why should the wedding ring be worn on the fourth finger?

There is a beautiful and convincing explanation given by the Chinese.....

Thumb represents your Parents

Second (Index) finger represents your Siblings

Middle finger represents your-Self

Fourth (Ring) finger represents your Life Partner

Last (Little) finger represents your children

Firstly, open your palms (face to face), bend the middle fingers and hold them together - back to back.....Secondly, open and hold the remaining three fingers and the thumb - tip to tip.

Now, try to separate your thumbs (representing the parents)...., they will open, because your parents are not destined to live with you lifelong, and have to leave you sooner or later.

Please join your thumbs as before and separate your Index fingers (representing siblings)...., they will also open, because your brothers and sisters will have their own families and will have to lead their own separate lives.

Now join the Index fingers and separate your Little fingers (representing your children)...., they will open too, because the children also will get married and settle down on their own some day.

Finally, join your Little fingers, and try to separate your Ring fingers (representing your spouse). You will be surprised to see that you just CANNOT....., because Husband & Wife have to remain together all their lives - through thick and thin!!

Augustine of Canterbury

Feast Day: May 26th

Augustine of Canterbury was a Benedictine monk who became the first Archbishop of Canterbury in 598. He is considered the “Apostle to the English”, [1] and a founder of the English Church.

Augustine was the prior of a monastery in Rome when Pope Gregory the Great chose him in 595 to lead a mission to Britain to convert the pagan King Æthelberht of Kent to Christianity. Kent was probably chosen because it was near the Christian kingdoms in Gaul, and because Æthelberht had married a Christian princess, Bertha, daughter of Charibert, the King of Paris, who was expected to exert some influence over her husband. Although the missionaries considered turning back before they reached Kent, Gregory urged them on, and in 597 Augustine landed on the Isle of Thanet and proceeded to Æthelberht’s main town of Canterbury.

Æthelberht allowed the missionaries to preach freely and converted to Christianity, giving the missionaries land to found a monastery outside the city walls. Augustine was consecrated bishop of the English, and converted many of the king’s subjects, including thousands during a mass baptism on Christmas Day in 597. Pope Gregory sent more missionaries in 601, along with encouraging letters and gifts for the churches, although attempts to persuade the native Celtic bishops to submit to Augustine’s authority failed. Roman Catholic bishops were established at London and Rochester in 604, and a school was founded to train Anglo-Saxon priests and missionaries. Augustine also arranged the consecration of his successor, Laurence of Canterbury.

Augustine died in 604 and was soon revered as a saint. The Church of England remained in communion with the Holy See until it declared its independence in the sixteenth century.

(taken from <http://www.wikipedia.org>)

Christian Education

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We are telling stories of the parables of Jesus as we complete our church school calendar. We encourage your continuing attendance as we gather to learn more about our faith.

CELEBRATION

Plan on being with us on the last Sunday in May to celebrate Choir Appreciation and to recognize our teachers.

CAMP

If your child is planning on attending a session at the Barbara C. Harris Camp in New Hampshire, please contact me. We have some camperships available for St. Peter's children and youth who attend to defray the cost for families. We are pleased you are choosing an Episcopal camp for your child.

YOUTH GROUP

Sunday, May 4th 4 p.m.

Meet at the PARISH HALL!

All youth group members encouraged to attend -- you will get further notification from Cara about the plans for the meeting!

St. Peter's Nursery School

At this time, we are enjoying the beautiful spring weather and preparing for the end of another year and the start of our Summer Program. Once again this year, we will be offering a Drop-Off Session during the last two weeks in June, which is the time period between the end of our school year and the beginning of our Summer Program.

Last month, the children have been busy both indoors and out. We have been visited by a naturalist from Green Briar Nature Center who arrived with a turtle and Peter the rabbit, much to the delight of the children. We have also visited the Cape Cod Children's Museum where the children were free to explore and interact to their hearts delight. We celebrated Dr. Seuss's birthday with a green eggs and ham breakfast. The Pre-K class has experienced their classroom hermit crabs molt and change shells and freed the ten caterpillars turned Painted Lady Butterflies prior to the April vacation!

Next month, we will celebrate National Dance Week with a presentation of "Angelina Ballerina". The principal dancer is 9 year old Shae Forest, a student at Dance Designs. We will also be visiting Green Briar Nature Center to extend what we learned from their visit here.

*Applications are still being accepted for our 2008-2009 school year.
For more information please contact Charlene Krig at 508-428-8857.*



Announcements

If you are doing spring cleaning or weeding out, please remember any **unwanted jewelry would be most welcome for St. Peter's Harvest Fair**. It's never too early for us to start pricing.

Items may be left in the office, marked Harvest Fair.

Many thanks, Nancy Dwarnick & Barbara Glatley

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Concerts by John Dirac & Friends

May-Children's and Family Month

Please contact John if you would like to help and /or participate in any way 508-367-1559.

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All Knitters-Come join us every third Thursday of the month in the Library to support the Seamen Institute Outreach Program. Yarn and directions are supplied. Or just come to chit-chat and knit whatever project you are working on. Good therapy among friends! Nancy Dwarnick

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Some of you may be aware that there are several St Peter's ladies who are quietly **knitting prayer shawls** for the comfort of those in need of solace and support. This silent mission continues and has proved to be of great value to the recipients. Please consider being one of the "backstage hands".

For details call: Janet Thornton at 508 420-2027.

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Please be certain to e-mail the office if you would like to receive your monthly Cross Keys via your e-mail address.

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St. Peter's website is one of the best ways to stay up to date with all the activities and events going on at the church. There is also an interactive church calendar.

If you have suggestions, or items or photographs to contribute to the site please contact Webmaster Jane Schaller at janeypie_48@yahoo.com

The deadline for the Cross Keys is the 15th of the month. Submissions may be left in the church office or emailed (most preferred by the editor!) to nancymumford@comcast.net.

Please note: I can only accept Word documents (not Word Perfect) by email as I use a Mac-based program. Thank you.

Sunday Services

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sunday School begins at 9:45 a.m.

Sunday childcare is provided downstairs
in the nursery for parents attending
the 10:00 a.m. service and any activities
following.

Church Staff

The Rev. Robert W. Anthony, Interim Rector

The Rev. Dr. Eugene Goetchius, Associate

The Rev. Paul Thompson, Associate

The Rev. Russell H. Allen, Associate

Karen Crosby, Organist-Choir Director

Linda Tetreault, Christian Ed Director

Alison Manning, Parish Administrator

Bill Carlton, Senior Warden

David Bernard, Junior Warden

Chuck Gasior, Clerk

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

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