

SAINT PETER'S NET

JESUS SAID TO PETER, "FOLLOW ME, AND I WILL MAKE YOU FISH FOR PEOPLE."
MATTHEW 4:19

A Note From The Rector

Dear Friends,

Attending our glorious Easter service, one wished that Easter were every Sunday, and we could prolong the same joy and experience every day. What we desire is exactly what Easter is; more of being than doing, and experiencing a new way of seeing and living. It's kind of living a eureka moment all the time, and seeing our Good Friday world in the light of Easter with the eyes of faith and hope.

Sunday, the first of the week, became the new Sabbath and focal point of worship for followers of Jesus after his resurrection. We're a people of resurrection faith, and every Sunday, when we gather to worship, we reenact the events leading up to Easter, keeping the saving act of God ever so fresh in our minds. Easter calls us to turn around just as Mary Magdalene did on that first Easter morning. When she faced the tomb, all she could see was darkness, emptiness and absence of Jesus, her dear friend and Lord. Scripture says that it was when she turned around she saw Jesus.

Last Sunday, a parishioner who had come in early for the 10 am service met me in the back of the church, and I noticed his voice was quivering. Attempting to hold back his tears, this young man shared with me how empty and dark he was feeling that morning as he was experiencing a crisis of faith. I shared with him what I had just preached at the 8 am service on Mary seeing Jesus standing next to her when she turned around. Facing me, with his back to one of the Stations of the Cross on the wall of the church, I asked him to turn around and see whom he was facing; the Station of Jesus being stripped of his clothes. I told him to try and experience the presence of God in his own sense of desolation. Easter gives us the hope and assurance of God's abiding presence in our lives as we go through different stages and stations of our lives.

Scriptures tell us of a Jesus who was on the move and making appearances to his followers, calling on them to be actively engaged. He encouraged them to move out of their locked in place of fear, despair, and guilt to be out and about bringing the good news of their risen Lord to the world. They had been given a mission to tell the world about the reign of God and its power over earthly powers and its deathly ways. Today we are the inheritors of this mission in the world, and this is not the time to be internally focused like the disciples in that locked room. Jesus is now calling us out of our own tombs of fear, despair and guilt. Are we willing to let go our self-imposed misery and internalized oppression and get on the path with Jesus to a future God is creating for us? Let us ask ourselves, do we hear that call?

Blessings of Eastertide,

Koshy

Mission Statement: *We are an inclusive, forward-looking Episcopal parish that seeks to grow in Christ through worship, education and fellowship, serves Christ by ministering to local and global communities and shares Christ in following His command to "Love one another as I have loved you."*

Vision Statement: *Our vision at St. Peter's is to be an inclusive, vibrant Christian community honoring our Episcopal heritage by achieving excellence in worship, mission, education and fellowship.*

Staff

Rev. Dr. Koshy Mathews, *Rector*
Rev. David Hyatt, *Assisting Clergy*
Rev. Joseph Dietz, *Deacon*
Retta Sparano, *Liturgical Coordinator*
Nicholas Lodico, *Organist/Choir Master*
Alex Smith, *Asst. Organist/Choir Master*
Judith M. Dougherty, *Parish Secretary*
Maria Yanez, *Sexton*

Vestry

2015 Susan Madden-Cox
John Magee
Retta Sparano
2016 Barbara Endrey
Raymond Foerster
Cindy Hammaker
2017 Vincent Giancaterino
Judi Hans
Julia Sharpe

What's Happening At St. Peter's

May 2014

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Deacon's Roundtable

Hallelujah! Christ is risen!

This is the acclamation we hear on Easter. The tomb is empty. Jesus is alive.

If we look more closely at the readings for the Easter season we will find they are stories of encounter. Father Koshy spoke about the encounter of Mary Magdalene with Jesus at the empty tomb early on the day of resurrection. We will also read the encounter of the disciples as they made their way to Emmaus on Easter Day. Jesus also encountered Thomas in the upper room.

Clearly these stories are important. Mainly in the fact that they confirm that Jesus truly did rise from the dead. They also tell about the different ways that people have experienced the Lord.

Let us think of ways we can also get a sense of how we can meet Jesus in our own lives. As we look at the stories mentioned above we are reminded of the psalmist's words: *"The Lord is close to the broken-hearted and saves those whose spirit is crushed"* (Psalm34:19).

Mary was one of Jesus' most devoted disciples but now she was faced with the empty tomb. Her grief was compounded and too strong to be with anyone else. The two disciples on the road to Emmaus were also broken-hearted. These two headed out on their own thinking it is over; the mission has failed why hang out with the rest. And Thomas was so grief stricken he could not accept the thought of Jesus being alive unless he actually touched the wounds of the crucifixion.

What the outcome of these encounters teaches us is that we should linger by the "tombs" in our lives—the memories or thoughts that make us feel sad or isolated. They would tell us not to drown ourselves in sorrow but to let Jesus meet us in our sadness. Jesus asks us to give voice to our worries, our wounds, and most important our hunger for Him. We should not be afraid to

pour out our hearts to Him or ask Him challenging questions. Jesus wants to heal our sadness. He wants to find us in that place where we are most vulnerable and most open to His presence. That is when we are able to experience our own resurrection with Him. Jesus comes to us when we need him. So don't be afraid to encounter Jesus and ask him to come and save you from your sorrow and grief.

Christ is risen indeed! Hallelujah!

In Christ's Love,

Deacon Joe

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Heart Saver CPR & AED Course



There will be a CPR class at St. Peter's On Monday, May 12th from 7 to 8:30PM. This class will be given through The American Heart Association. You will earn a certificate of completion of this Heart Saver CPR & AED course which would satisfy any CPR training job requirement for most laypeople. The course will cover basic CPR and AED use for adult and children as well as handling choking for adult and children - invaluable knowledge to have! The cost is \$34 per person. If you are interested in participating in this class, please contact Cindy Hammaker by phone or email at **610-933-3806** or **chammaker1@gmail.com**. There are many openings available and we are looking for a good response for this wonderful learning opportunity!

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Washington National Cathedral Trip and Tour

Saturday, May 17

Guided 30 Minute tours starting at 10:00 a.m. includes the exhibit *Though The Earth Moved*, 2011 Earthquake Damage. Art and Gothic Architecture Tours Included with Admission.

Admission Fees:

Adult	\$10.00
Children 5 – 12	\$ 6.00
Senior, Student, Military	\$ 6.00

We will be carpooling from the church parking lot at 8:00 a.m. and returning approximately 6:00 p.m. There is underground parking available on Cathedral grounds.

Please sign up on the sheet provided outside the kitchen.

See Carol Russell for more information or to place a reservation or by email: ccruss@yahoo.com

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Celebrate our New Members



On Sunday, May 18 at the 10:00 service, the New Member /Growth Committee will be hosting a celebration to recognize our newest members. We will have a special coffee hour and our newcomers will receive a blessing. If you have joined Saint Peter's within the past year and would like to be recognized, please

contact Judi Hans at 610-327-4653 or JudithHans@comcast.net.

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Ascension Day – May 29th

40 days after the Festival of Easter the Church celebrates Ascension Day. As Christ ascended into heaven, we are left with the promised gift of the Holy Spirit. 10 days following Ascension Day we celebrate Pentecost, the day the Church received the gift of the Holy Spirit. Ascension Day, much like Ash Wednesday is a feast that falls on a weekday and has lost the importance that it deserves.



The Ascension is an important part in the life and ministry of Jesus, a day that we should celebrate and remember with great joy. On Thursday, May 29th, at 7:30 we will celebrate the Feast of the Ascension at St. Peter's. We will include guests and friends in the choir from neighboring parishes to present special music. We hope you will join us for this festive occasion, and to celebrate our great commission.

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'Tis the Season for Graduations



If you have a child that is graduating this spring from High School or College, take a moment and send us a brief "bio" of the graduate. Please include any group, sport or committee [in school and/or church] that they participate in as well as their plans following graduation. The deadline for these articles is Sunday, May 25th and they will be included in the June issue of the *NET*.

El Salvador Mission News

Cindy Hamaker 610-933-3806; chammaker@verizon.net



The missions committee continues to meet monthly with focus on preparations for the El Salvador mission with Cristosal's School for Global Engagement which is slated for July 12-19th. There are presently 9 missionaries participating this year with 7 of those going for the first time and 3 youth. There are still openings, so if interested or have any questions, please contact Cindy Hamaker or Gary Russell.

The itinerary for this years' mission looks to be very interesting and filled with wonderful opportunities to connect with the people and especially gain an understanding of the plight of women in the country since that will be our area of focus.

Much thanks goes out to all who have shown their support for Cristosal and the missionaries by contributing to the Dollar A Day Campaign during the Lent season. If you'd still like to contribute but haven't handed in your envelope, you can still put it in the offering plate marked for the mission. Thank you again for your support!

Also, there will be a flower sale in May - just in time to plant flowers in flats or enjoy hanging basket flowers for Spring! Orders will be taken May 4 through May 11 with delivery and payment on May 18th. Please visit the table downstairs after service to place an order. You can also contact Cindy Hamaker at chammaker1@gmail.com with questions or to place an order. Proceeds from the sale will help to defray mission costs. Thank you for your consideration of this way of supporting the missionaries and at the same time buying something to enjoy this Spring/Summer season!

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St. Peter's Food Pantry Update

Doreen Penczer

I hope everyone had a Happy Easter! The weather was perfect and the daffodils and other colorful spring flowers in full bloom – well worth the wait for our long winter to be over.

We had a very successful Easter pantry thanks to the kind generosity of the parish. Among the many items the clients could choose, the choice of delicious fresh green beans was a favorite.



Those beans just convinced everyone spring is here! Our faithful Girl Scouts decorated the breakfast tables adding to the promise that spring is here.

Although the number of clients we serve has increased, we consider ourselves blessed that we are able to help those in need. The breakfast ministry continues to offer a delicious breakfast prepared by a great team of volunteers.

Our thanks go to the parish and to all our faithful volunteers who help make the pantry a pleasant, welcoming place for the clients.

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To Be of Use - Marge Piercy

The people I love the best jump into work head first without dallying in the shallows and swim off with sure strokes almost out of sight. They seem to become natives of that element, the black sleek heads of seals bouncing like half-submerged balls.

I love people who harness themselves, as an ox to a heavy cart, who pull like water buffalo,

with massive patience, who strain in the mud and the muck to move things forward, who do what has to be done, again and again.

I want to be with people who submerge in the task, who go into the fields to harvest and work in a row and pass the bags along, who are not parlor generals and field deserters but move in a common rhythm when the food must come in or the fire be put out.

The work of the world is common as mud. Botched, it smears the hands, crumbles to dust. But the thing worth doing well done has a shape that satisfies, clean and evident. Greek amphora's for wine or oil, Hopi vases that held corn, are put in museums but you know they were made to be used. The pitcher cries for water to carry and a person for work that is real.

Stewardship is...

The stewardship committee “adopted” this poem (displayed in the coffee hour area) a few years ago as a part of our ongoing message and focus. It speaks eloquently to our desire to turn Stewardship on its head, allowing our work as good stewards to evolve beyond meeting the dollars & cents needs of a pledge drive. It’s true that our church needs our money to offer the worship experience and programs we love St. Peter’s for. But we are coming to realize that being a good steward goes way beyond our financial contributions. Our committee is hoping to encourage an environment where we are all taking personal stock...exploring our priorities, raising awareness, discerning purpose and becoming fully conscious about what we are doing, on a daily basis, year round, with our time, our talent, and our treasures. If each of us could really “wake up”, the motto “all that we do, with all that we have, all the time” would become second nature and our FIRST choices would always be to give ourselves to God...our dollars, our energy and our work would be for Him first. This “waking up” doesn’t happen overnight! I believe it can take a lifetime I hope we can all begin to “move in a common rhythm” together to “do what has to be done”; here at St. Peter’s and in the world.

Also there are 2 quotes that have been inspiring me lately:

“I’ve always thought that anyone can make money. Making a life worth living, that’s the real test.”

“Gratitude turns what we have into enough.”

Submitted by Susan Madden-Cox

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Christian Formation Notice

John Magee



The fundraiser for Godly Play, which was approved at this month's vestry meeting, is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, June 1st. The theme for fundraiser will be "growing in God" and will take place during coffee hour.

Announcements will be made in church in the coming Sundays.

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May Birthdays



- [1] Lenora Thornton, Sean Magee, Clara Boone
- [10] Pat Howse, Carol Russell
- [13] Grace Druckenmiller
- [14] Ryan Rowinski
- [16] Amy Brodar
- [19] Clem Young, Eric Phillips
- [21] Lisa Schiavone
- [22] Joseph Tosco
- [23] Tara Young
- [24] Jacob Schaefer
- [26] Terri Coleman

- [28] Susan Mathews
- [29] Vernet Spence-Brown
- [30] Thomas Hammaker, Matthew Hope

May Anniversaries



- [7] Henry Young and Andrea Archer
- [13] Michael and Erica Logar
- [14] Michael and Rosemarie O'Rourke
- [22] Bill and Cathy Sullens
- [28] Christopher and Diane Hope
Koshy and Susan Mathews
- [29] Vivek and Minita Hivale

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May Worship Service Participants

Acolytes

- 4 Brandon Rennie
Sydney Alling, Brittany Alling
- 11 Jacob Schaefer
Libby Andrews, Megan Magee
- 18 Brandon Rennie
Colin Parker, Katie Parker
- 25 Thomas Hammaker
James Hammer, Michael Logar
- 29 7:30 Vernet Spence-Brown
Phoebe Foerster, Trey Foerster

Greeters ~ 8:00 am

- 4 Lisa Reid-Scott
- 11 Glenn Murray
- 18 Joan Grunwell
- 25 Jack Susskind

Greeters ~ 10:00 am

- 4 Kim Thornton, Vernet Spence-Brown
- 11 Carol Smith, Mike Logar
- 18 Cindy Giancaterino, Anne Andrews
- 25 Michael and Rosemarie O'Rourke
- 29 7:30 Judi Hans

Lectors ~ 8:00 am

- 4 Todd Jackson
Lisa Reid-Scott *chalicist*
- 11 Henry Young
- 18 Todd Jackson
- 25 Ron Gaugler

Lectors ~ 10:00 am

- 4 Courtney Logar, Carol Russell
Susan Mathews *intercessor*
Joanne Arnold, Joyce Paster *chalicists*
- 11 Family Service – Lectors TBA
Peter Druckenmiller *chalicist*
- 18 June Blauser, Joyce Paster
Georgette Druckenmiller *intercessor*
Ron Druckenmiller *chalicist*
- 25 James Jackson, Phoebe Foerster
Retta Sparano *intercessor*
Phil Howse *chalicist*
- 29 7:30 Carol Russell, Vernet Spence-Brown
Joanne Arnold *intercessor*
Ron Gaugler *chalicist*

Ushers

- 4 Bruce Alling, Marie Hailey
- 11 Bruce Alling, Marie Hailey
- 18 Bruce Alling, Marie Hailey
- 25 Bruce Alling, Marie Hailey

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Envelopes ??



Do YOU have a box of 2014 Giving Envelopes? EVERYONE is encouraged to use giving envelopes whether you have pledged or not, the envelopes help us with accurate accounting practices. **PLEASE** contact the parish office either by phone or email and a box will be prepared for you.

Dollars and Sense



News from your Accounting Warden
Retta Sparano

Year-to-date Operating Income and Expense through March 31, 2014

INCOME

Pledge	\$ 59,198
Open Plate	4,408
Clinic Rent	4,500
Easter/Christmas	
Use of Building	430
Flowers/Candles	82
Miscellaneous	
Total Operating Income	\$ 68,618
Pass-through income*	17,240
TOTAL Income	\$ 85,858

EXPENSE

Diocesan Giving	\$ 5,208
Personnel	41,545
Worship (Altar supplies/Music)	2,259
Administration	2,963
Mission	2,500
Outreach Recipients	300
Ministries	
Insurance	2,176
Boiler Loan	2,032
Property (utilities/supplies)	14,225
Total operating expense	\$ 73,208
Pass-through expense	3,702
TOTAL Expense	\$ 76,910

The above income and expense reflects budgeted items. Detail of the "pass-through" accounts such as mission, pantry, rector's discretionary fund and specially designated funds are available on request. Most of these pass-through funds reside in separate designated accounts.

Balances as of March 31, 2014

Checking: \$4,699	Savings: \$36,967	Certificates of Deposit: \$12,055
Youth Group: \$1,532	Mission: \$1,735	Pantry/Outreach: \$26,953
Concert Series: \$2,238	Building Maintenance: \$4,002	

Thank you for your financial support of our parish