

# SAINT PETER'S NET

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

## From the Rector

Dear Members and Friends,

Alleluia, the Lord is risen! The Lord is risen indeed, Alleluia!

With these words we greet each other on Easter. They affirm our faith in the resurrection of our Lord, and they exude a certain sense of joy and happiness. Easter gives us hope that there is life after Good Friday. I think of Easter as our liberation from all that oppresses and enslaves us, especially the power death has over us.

What is remarkable about Jesus' victory over death is the manner in which it was accomplished. Weak and vulnerable as we are, God knew we wouldn't be able to overcome death and its dealing powers of this world on our own. Out of love for us Jesus in incarnation took on our vulnerability and became one of us in solidarity and defeated evil in its own territory. Walking with us Jesus showed us how we can use weakness and vulnerability as powerful means to liberate ourselves from our own places of enslavement. Just as we live in a world of Good Fridays, we also live in a world of resurrections. We are an Easter people living in a Good Friday world.

I am happy to report to you that we now have a new diocesan bishop-elect. On March 12 at the special diocesan convention, the Rev. Canon Daniel G. P. Gutierrez was elected on the fourth ballot to be our new bishop. For Pennsylvania diocese, the oldest diocese of the Episcopal Church, this election is of historical importance; when he will be consecrated on July 12 he will be its first minority bishop. Bishop Clifton Daniel's tenure has been a period of catharsis for our diocese. As a diocese we have done good work under Bishop Dan. As he moves on in July, we can very well say that our diocese has had a resurrection experience.

Our vestry is going on a retreat at the beginning of the month when we will look into how we as individuals and as a church live our faith. Our church does many good things in our neighborhood and in the world as do many non-governmental organizations. What makes our church and us different from them is our faith. We work with the homeless, the downtrodden, and the marginalized because we are mandated by our faith. To have our service in the world hold meaning for us, we need to be deeply spiritual, otherwise we will soon find our efforts to be meaningless and we will experience burnout. We need to be fully touched by the risen Christ ourselves before we begin to help heal the wounds and brokenness of the world around us. Our retreat will be like those two disciples who walked with a stranger to Emmaus and then finally recognized the stranger as their Lord at the time of hospitality and breaking the bread.

May we all experience the risen Christ in our lives in a deeper way than ever before!

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

Very Rev. Dr. Koshy Mathews, *Rector*  
Rev. David Hyatt, *Assisting Clergy*  
Rev. Joseph Dietz, *Deacon*  
Rev. Dennis Coleman, *Deacon*  
Retta Sparano, *Liturgical Coordinator*  
Karen Greene, *Organist/Choirmaster*  
Judith M. Dougherty, *Parish Secretary*  
Maria Yanez, *Sexton*

### Vestry

2016 Vincent Giancaterino  
Judi Hans  
Julia Sharpe  
2017 Frank Rothenberger  
Retta Sparano  
Jan Wier  
2018 Raymond Forester  
Karen Martz  
Brian Prato

### How to contact St. Peter's

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## What's Happening At St. Peter's April 2016

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## Deacon's Roundtable

*"Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up ...."*

(James 5:14-15a)

Prayers for healing and anointing with oil are offered at both services the first Sunday of each month. This offering is made at the direction of St. James to the early church.

Jesus directed his disciples to be healers. We too are Jesus disciples. Healing the pain we see around us and within us is part of how we live our faith. What cries out for healing is not always physical pain. Sometimes it is emotional scaring, hurt feelings, loss, sadness, or disappointment. These too await the healing touch of Jesus that comes about through us.

Jesus has worked through us for the healing of many who have come to us for anointing and prayers. Surgeries have been successful, pains have been relieved, and folks in emotional distress have found peace. On occasion some have come to me with thanksgiving for the prayers offered. I always tell them, "Don't thank me, I am only the instrument. Thank the source of your healing—Jesus Christ." It is only through Him that we are healed and comforted.

If any of you are facing physical and emotional difficulties think about availing yourself of the healing graces of our Lord Jesus Christ through the anointing with oil and laying on of hands.

Alleluia! Christ is risen. The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia! May the risen Christ be present to each of you the Easter Season.

*Deacon Joe*

## A Word From Deacon II

Recently, a six year old boy came to me during our lunch program and said, "My dad said to ask you this: "Why can't I see God?" A profound question indeed. I answered, in the best way that I could, that we can see God in two ways. We can see him in his creation and we can see him when we are loving each other. He seemed more intrigued by the "loving" part of the answer and so we chatted about that for a while. The conversation ended with me wishing that I had done a better job . . . for both of us.

On Easter Sunday, Fr. Koshy encouraged us all to welcome Easter by saying "I have seen the Lord," as Mary did; rather than the words "He is risen". It took me back to the conversation with the young boy.

Our experience will be different than Mary's, in some ways. But in one way it will be the same. Mary went looking for her Lord, seeking him. If we don't bother to look for the Lord in our world, we are likely to pass off His presence as a coincidence. And that would be to our own great loss.

And speaking of loving each other . . . the Code Blue Ministry that occurs at Sacred Heart Church is winding down and will end sometime in April. We are currently serving about 16 people nightly, primarily from Phoenixville but also people from across Chester County. To the folks who have contributed, thank you. Stay tuned, we will be looking for help again in November . . . You might just see the Lord there!

*Deacon Dennis*

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Financial Update - February, 2016  
from Frank Rothenberger, Accounting Warden



The financial position of St. Peter's through February, 2016 is outlined below.

**Income**

- Total open plate donations and pledges were \$40,516 which is less than the budgeted amount of \$43,237 because of pledges not yet received. Open plate donations exceeded the budget by about \$800.
- Total operating income was \$44,256 which included a \$3,000 matching grant from the Phoenixville Community Health Foundation which has been deposited in the 2016 Capital Campaign account. Rental income of \$3,090 from the Clinic was also removed from operating income because as part of the 2016 budget, the rental income is being deposited directly into the building maintenance savings account.
- Total income, including pass-thru income of \$8,620, was \$55,965.

**Expense**

- Total operating expenses were \$44,771 which exceed operating income by \$515 (or \$3,515 with the PCHF grant removed).
- Operating expenses were about \$3K under budget through February.
- Total expenses, including pass through expenses of \$4,195, were \$48,854 through February.

St. Peter's reported net income of \$7,223 through February; however, it should be noted that there was an operating loss of \$3,515 with the PCHF grant removed because of a \$3,507 pledge shortfall as of 2/29/16. This is continuously monitored and should improve as the year progresses.

Additional detail on income and expenses is available upon request.

Account Balances (as of 2/29/16):

- Checking: \$10,831
- Savings: \$39,018
- Certificates of Deposit: \$12,126
- Youth Group: \$1,136
- Pantry/Outreach: \$19,215
- Mission: \$3,419
- Building Maintenance: \$20,168
- Concert Series: \$3,162
- NEW Capital Campaign: \$33,029
- Petty Cash: \$200

**Total Cash: \$142,304**

**Thank you all for your continued support of St. Peter's.  
Please try to keep your pledges current to cover ongoing operating expenses of the church.**

## Meals for St. Mary's Shelter

April 11-15



Volunteers are once again needed to prepare meals for St. Mary's Shelter. You do not have to prepare a meal "alone", make this a family event or ask a friend or relative to join you. If you are able to prepare a meal or have any questions please contact Jan Wier at [janwier@comast.net](mailto:janwier@comast.net).

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## Music @ St. Peter's Presents:

Trevor Gordon Hall, April 24- 4:00 p.m.



St. Peter's member and guitarist, Trevor Gordon Hall, sets himself apart by leaving no physical aspect of the guitar untouched and weaving together different textures into grand, yet intimate, lyrical compositions. His blend of each sound does not overcomplicate, but focuses on utilizing the instrument's fullest creative and compositional potential.

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## Children's Faith Formation



**Children's Chapel:** Children's Chapel is bursting with Babies! Volunteers are needed who will commit to a rotational schedule for this

ministry. Open to parents and all others. Please contact Genevieve Barker, at [Genevieve.hughes@ymail.com](mailto:Genevieve.hughes@ymail.com)

**Godly Play:** On May 22, Godly Play Turns Three! We are planning a Celebration and Fundraiser. Please consider pledging a meaningful bible story of your choice to our classroom. We are also trying to add a third class. We are blessed and growing. If you are interested in being part of the Godly Play team, please contact Jan Wier, [janwier@comcast.net](mailto:janwier@comcast.net)

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## El Salvador Mission News

Cindy Hammaker



The great works of St. Peter's is palpable to so many in our local communities and even outside our country's borders. Our strong connection with Cristosal and its model of empowering the poor while working alongside them in solidarity exemplifies St. Peter's focus and commitment to loving and serving all people.

There is also an exciting opportunity to participate with Cristosal's School of Global Engagement from August 10-17 this summer. The focus of study will be on liberation theology and the impact of global climate change on the poor. If interested in this enriching opportunity, please contact Cindy Hammaker or Gary Russell very soon as the group is still forming and new missionaries are especially welcome! Perhaps you are interested in simply supporting this mission but not traveling to El Salvador, you are also welcome to attend the monthly mission meetings which are listed in the church calendar every month.

The Mission Committee extends a big thank you to all who participated in the *Dollar a Day Campaign* during the Lenten season by donating a dollar every day during that time of reflecting

on those who live on so little around the world. The proceeds from your thoughtful donation will have a great impact on supporting our missioner's travel expenses and making the mission opportunity a reality this year! Thank you again for your continued support of St. Peter's integral mission of being present to love and serve others.

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### Property/Men's Group



The Property Group had a very successful Parish Clean-Up Day on Saturday, March 26. A special thanks to: Gary Russell, Frank Rothenberger, Jim Dallas, Brian Prato, Greg Perles, Dave Meadows, Leo Guen, and Mark Hammaker for attending the clean-up day. Work included the preparation and cleaning out of the flower beds in the parking lot facing Prospect Street. Additional and on-going work and maintenance is being performed both inside and outside of the Church. We are looking forward to the start of grass cutting season and teams of "lawn-mowers" are being assembled.

Reminder, the Property/Men's Group meets the **First Monday of each month at 7PM.** If you are interested in joining the Property/Men's Group, please contact: Ray Foerster at **Foerster4@comcast.net** or Mark Hammaker at **markhammaker1@gmail.com.**

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## April Celebrations



### Birthdays

- [1] Andrew Quaintance
- [4] John Burkhardt, Susan Murray, Brian Thornton
- [7] Karen Martz, Steve De Prado
- [8] Michael Logar
- [9] Katie Parker
- [14] Rev. Dr. Koshy Mathews
- [15] Tre Foerster, Rebecca Martz
- [16] Adam Schaefer, Desiree Hatton
- [17] Amy Foerster
- [18] Erica Logar, Hannah Druckenmiller
- [20] Sean Mitten, Dennis Coleman
- [21] Mary Lynn Kessler, Blake Pongras
- [23] Emma Martz, Colin Holbrook
- [27] Joyce Paster, Brian Martz

### Anniversaries



- [3] Raymond and Amy Foerster
- [7] Joseph and Karen Tosco
- [14] Ron and Georgette Druckenmiller
- [25] John and Beverly Burkhardt
- [30] Christopher and Megan Wilson

# Worship Service Participants

## For the Month of April

### Acolytes

- 3 Emma Martz  
Sean Magee, Mali Warren  
10 James Hammaker  
Katie Parker, Colin Parker  
17 Vernet Spence-Brown  
Phoebe Foerster, Michael Logar  
24 Brandon Rennie  
Sydney Alling, Libby Andrews

### Greeters ~ 8:00 am

- 3 Joan Grunwell  
10 Jack Susskind  
17 Lisa Scott  
24 Glenn Murray

### Greeters ~ 10:00 am

- 3 Anne Andrews, Judi Hans  
10 Lady Rennie, Mike Logar  
17 Michael and Rosemarie O'Rourke  
24 Anne Atlee, Vernet Spence-Brown

### Lectors ~ 8:00 am

- 3 Ron Gaugler  
Lisa Scott *chalicist*  
10 Lisa Scott  
17 Jack Susskind  
24 Henry Young

### Lectors ~ 10:00 am

- 3 Family Service: Lector's TBA  
Peter Druckenmiller *chalicist*  
Vernet Spence-Brown *chalicist*  
10 Joyce Paster, Curt Quaintance  
Leo Guen *intercessor*  
Ron Druckenmiller *chalicist*  
17 Susan Mathews,  
Georgette Druckenmiller  
Sarah Ohanesian *intercessor*  
Joyce Paster *chalicist*  
24 Carol Russell, Retta Sparano  
Vernet Spence-Brown *intercessor*  
Beverly Burkhardt *chalicist*

### Ushers

- 3 Clem Young, Sam Smith  
10 Vincent Giancaterino, Robert Parker  
17 Curt Quaintance, Carl Rennie  
24 Bruce Alling, Jim Tackett

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### Take Time

#### to Think:

*It is the source of power*

#### to Play:

*It is the secret of perpetual youth*

#### to Read:

*It is the fountain of wisdom*

#### to Pray:

*It is the greatest power on earth*

#### to Love and Be Loved:

*It is a God-given privilege*

#### to Be Friendly:

*It is the road to happiness*

Author Unknown