

SAINT PETER'S NET

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

From the Interim Rector

Dear Friends and Members of St. Peter's,

As an Interim Rector I take on the responsibility of loving a congregation but for a short time. However, I am aware that the time spent getting to know a congregation is limited and will be a time that God has blessed me with as a time of transition. St. Peter's has been unusual because Fr. Koshy blessed the congregation with a wisdom and a leadership that prepared you for the discernment and calling of a new Rector. This shortened the process of interim and has been a grace for the congregation but a sadness for me.

As I write this, I am very much aware that you have given a call to Fr. Sam and I am celebrating with you as this has been the result of many difficult months and many long meetings. Our Lord has answered your prayers and has opened the door to a new and promising future. May his name be praised, and his continuing love surround you as the promise of this future is realized.

My time with you has been a time of joy and a time of blessing that I will cherish as my future unfolds. Your work and expression of welcome was truly a comfort as I reflect upon our time together. As you know, I am rehabilitating after a June 13 bilateral knee surgery and St. Peter's was brought into my life by our Lord as a perfect part of my rehabilitation (I enjoyed traversing your steps)!

The work of Deacon Joe as my support and a fellow co-worker in the Lord's work here at St. Peter's is a testimony to the love God has for you and your new rector. The legacy of Koshy's time here is a solid testimony that is evident in so many ways. God's work, through him and his leadership, is evident in so many wonderful ways and I am confident that more is to come as you reach out to embrace the many cultures and ministry opportunities needed to be addressed here in Phoenixville and the world that surrounds us every day.

So, I guess that I only have but a few more opportunities to share the love of God with you as your Interim Rector but the love you have shared with me in my short stay will be a continuing blessing that I will cherish as I follow the Lord's path before me. I will look to the news coming out of St. Peter's with expectation and joy and I will celebrate with you even if it is from a distance.

I will always with joy and expectation lift you up before the throne of God for I have known his love through you and your work on his behalf.

I am your servant in Christ,

The Rev William Rex +

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. William Rex, Interim Priest
Rev. David Hyatt, *Assisting Clergy*
Rev. Joseph Dietz, *Deacon*
Retta Sparano, *Liturgical Coordinator*
Derek Maninfior, *Music Director*
Judith M. Dougherty, *Parish Secretary*

Vestry

2020 Judi Hans
Vincent Giancaterino
Leo Guen
2021 Shelly Brennfleck
Frank Rothenberger
Jan Wier
2022 Lynn Boukalik
Vernon Feather
MaryJo Wells

How to contact St. Peter's

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November 2019

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Deacon's Roundtable

As we wrap up our stewardship program I felt the following scripture lesson was very appropriate. [Please read Luke 12:13-21]

Jesus was not about to get pulled into this family dispute. Jesus redirected him by telling a parable that encouraged him to make himself rich not in possessions but in "what matters to God."

The parable relates that the landowner is called a fool, not because he is wealthy, but because he stockpiled his wealth. He was concerned only for his own comfort and security. He ignored the needs of the people around him. His attitude stands in stark contrast to God's compassion for the poor and suffering.

Things for this man could have been different if he had followed the ancient Jewish tradition to leave gleanings at the edges of his fields for his poorer neighbors instead of reaping every single grain.

We might be tempted to chuckle about this man until we realize that we too have been blessed with a bountiful harvest. Regardless of the amount of material resources we possess, each of us has God-given gifts. Each of us has been given the gift of faith; we have unique talents and loving relationships. These are the gifts we can share with the people around us, instead of keeping them to ourselves.

As we approach Advent this year the "Giving Tree" will again be set up in the sanctuary as has been our tradition for many years. See an article further on in this newsletter from Retta concerning this tradition.

Let us share those good things that God has given us. Let's use them generously to lift people up. That is the best way to become rich in what matters to God. Let us pray for the Lord to help us to be rich in compassion and mercy.

Blessings,

Deacon Joe

Daylight Savings Time Ends



Turn all clocks **BACK** 1 hour before retiring on Saturday, November 2nd.

Day by Day



The November-December-January issue of **Day by Day [Forward]** is available in the Narthex Tract Rack

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2019 Advent Giving Tree

December 1 – December 1, 2019

This year marks the 11th anniversary of this project.

Our recipient this year is Orion, a local organization providing support to families in need. The tags on the tree are from their wish list. Please take a tag or two from the tree, replace it with a star, and bring your items to church and place them by the tree.

Items donated will be given to Orion the week of 12/16 in time for them to share with the families. Any gift cards, please give to Retta Sparano to hold. Thank you for your generosity to this annual giving.

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St. Peter's Food Pantry Request



We are gearing up for our Thanksgiving Pantry next month. We are asking for donations of canned turkey gravy, Cranberry Sauce, stuffing, olives and pickles. To compliment the holiday meal, cans of coffee and boxes of tea are items especially looked for. Please keep your donations of personal care products and household cleaning products and yes, the ever popular Raisin Bran Cereal, coming. Your continued generous support of the pantry is greatly appreciated!

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Capital Campaign Update Fellowship Room Lift/Bathroom Project



Over the next couple of months, you will be seeing signs that the construction of the new hydraulic lift and ADA bathroom in the Fellowship Room are well underway. Collie Construction ("Collie"), located nearby on Bridge Street, is the primary contractor that was selected for completing the project which will include a new floor for the Fellowship Room as well as continuing to address the ongoing water issues that periodically affect the Fellowship Room. The lift has been ordered from the lift manufacturer, Garaventa, and is anticipated to be delivered to the church the last week of November. In preparation for installing the lift, Collie has completed installing a 4 ft. x 4 ft. x 16" thick concrete footer in the Fellowship Room during the week of October 14. Collie will next be working on framing out the area for both the lift and the new ADA bathroom. This portion of the work will also include opening up the entire length of the lower wall along one side of the Fellowship Room. Thank you for

your patience as work on the project continues. Look for periodic updates as work continues on the project. If you have any questions, please contact Mark Hammaker.

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Music @ St. Peter's Presents

Under the Oak

Sunday, November 24

4:00 p.m.



With a sound that draws from the Folk, Americana, and Indie-Rock worlds, Under the Oak's music is honest, approachable, and has been described as ". . .The Head and the Heart with less martial force and more mellow musing." - Odd Nugget

Under the Oak's Adam Monaco, Maggie Pope, Chris Peace, and Peter Oswald perform their soul-grabbing tunes with heart, crafting a sound that has attracted a loyal and enthusiastic local following.

Their debut album, *Big Sky* [April 2018], shares tunes that stay true to their live-performance style – rich in vocal harmonies and intimate lyrics – songs that play like life put to music.

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November Celebrations

Birthdays



- [2] Ryan Sutter, Logan Henry
- [4] Corey Young, Coleman Nagy
- [5] Leo Guen
- [6] Cynthia Giancaterino
- [9] James Hammaker, Jan Eddowes
- [10] Margaret Green
- [14] Courtney Logar
- [20] Jeremy Wenger
- [24] Kristen Craig, Gretchen Streuli
- [27] Greg Schiele
- [28] Joseph Dietz
- [29] Retta Sparano, Randall Hobbs
- [30] Megan Magee, Hillary Krummrich

Anniversaries



- [2] Patrick and Jan Wier
- [3] Steve De Prado and Natalie Famous
- [12] Peter and Elizabeth Fifer
- [24] Don and Judi Hans

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November Worship Participants

Greeters - 8:00 am

- 3 James Dallas
- 10 Lisa Scott
- 17 Sue Patrick
- 24 Glenn Murray

Lectors - 8:00 am

- 3 Lisa Scott; Lisa Scott *chalicist*
- 10 Sue Patrick
- 17 Lisa Scott
- 24 Ron Gaugler

Greeters – 10:00 am

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

Acolytes

- 3 Vernet Spence-Brown
Christian Wenger, Leo Wenger
- 10 Victor Jackson
Colin Parker, Sean Magee
- 17 Frank Rothenberger
Emma Martz, Rebecca Martz
- 24 Vernet Spence-Brown
Isaac Nagy, Coleman Nagy

Lectors – 10:00 am

- 3 Shelly Brennfleck, Jolie Chylack
Mona Chylack *intercessions*
Jeremy Wenger *chalicist*
Ron Druckenmiller *chalicist*
- 10 Chris Goulian, Leo Guen
Beverly Burkhardt *intercessions*
Jolie Chylack *chalicist*
- 17 Georgette Druckenmiller, Todd Jackson
John Magee *intercessions*
Ron Druckenmiller *chalicist*
- 24 Amy Atlee, Lynn Boukalik
Mona Chylack *intercessions*
Richard Greene *chalicist*

Ushers

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

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A Prayer For The Harvest

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Most gracious God, by whose knowledge the depths are broken up and the clouds drop down the dew: We yield thee hearty thanks and praise for the return of seedtime and harvest, for the increase of the ground and the gathering in of its fruits, and for all the other blessings of thy merciful providence bestowed upon this nation and people. And, we beseech thee, give us a just sense of these great mercies, such as may appear in our lives by a humble, holy, and obedient walking before thee all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost be all glory and honor, world without end. Amen.