

Keynotes

The monthly newsletter of St. Peter's Episcopal Church

4 Ocean Street • Beverly, MA 01915 • 978.922.3438 • stpetersbeverly.org

March 2015



A Note from the Rector

March 2015 Services and Events

Sunday Services

8 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite One

10 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite Two

Healing Services

Sunday, March 8

Wednesday Services.

Lunch Time Iona Holy Eucharist

12:10 p.m.

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Vestry Meeting:

March 10 at 7 p.m.

Retreat at Adelynrood

Weekly Bible Study

Every Friday at 7 a.m.

Demack Room

Holy Week Services

Sunday, March 29

Palm Sunday Services-

8 a.m. & 10 a.m.

Wednesday, April 1

Tenebrae- 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 2

Maundy Thursday Liturgy- 7:30 pm

Friday, April 3

Way of the Cross- 12 Noon

Good Friday Liturgy- 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 4

The Great Vigil of Easter- 8 p.m.

Sunday, April 5

Easter Services -8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Easter Breakfast- 9:15 a.m.



As I write this month Lent has just begun. We gathered for the Ash Wednesday liturgy last night. Today, Lent Madness, the 32-saint quest for the Golden Halo, has begun with a faceoff between Gregory the Illuminator and Brendan the Navigator. Our Lenten devotionals are printed and many people have copies. The season is upon us. Perhaps by focusing on God we might better weather the endless and ever-higher piles of snow that are everywhere.

This is a season of preparation. It is a season of making an effort to get closer to God as we get ready for the Pascal feast of Easter. There are many ways to ready ourselves. A Lenten discipline needn't burden us with one more thing to do. I often recommend dropping something and making your schedule a little lighter. Or taking 10 minutes that you are probably squandering during the day and doing the daily readings and the reflection on them that appears in the Lenten devotional.

I love taking time each day to read about the two saints facing off in Lent Madness and selecting the one for whom I will vote. There are some forums coming up this season too. Godfrey Perrott has a two-part series on non-violence about Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr. Will Talbot's Youth Leadership Academy project is a series for older kids that is part learning and part games in the gym.

But again, the idea is to keep things simple. Examine your life and see what you can drop. How can you make your life less hectic? What mindless activity can you give up? Is there one less TV show to watch? One less game to play on your computer? God is waiting in the quiet spaces. Let's redouble our efforts to meet God there.

Peace,

Manny

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A NOTE FROM OUR MUSIC DIRECTOR

As I write this article today, we did not celebrate the Last Sunday after the Epiphany. Ash Wednesday is three days away. We have two liturgies that day, one at 12:10 p.m. (our usual time for the Wednesday Eucharist) and at 7:30 p.m. (with choir and hymns). This means that Easter is earlier this year, on April 5.

Manny and I have planned music through Easter Sunday, and will meet again in the upcoming weeks to plan for the season after Easter. We will return to singing the *New Plainsong* setting of service music for the season. We are also discussing enhancing our noontime Stations of the Cross on Good Friday with organ interludes and hymn singing. Stay tuned for details!

The adult choir has begun preparing for Lent and Easter. Please join us on Thursday evenings, from 7-8 p.m. in the parish hall. We meet at 9:15 on Sunday mornings to warm up and rehearse. Please consider singing, even for the Lenten season, through Easter Sunday. Of course, we would love to have you join us for longer than just Lent and Easter!

I love the changing music of each season, the hymns, service music, and choir anthems. I know that many people find the season of Lent to be depressing or gloomy. I consider it a wonderful time for reflection, using our Lenten Devotionals and also material that I receive from the Society of St. John the Evangelist.

I hope you will join us to celebrate both the Lenten and Easter seasons at St. Peter's.

Kirsten

Easter Flower Offering Envelopes...

...are enclosed in the mailed copies of this issue of Keynotes and can also be found in the pews and at the back of the church on the Usher's table.

Please list each name that you would like to be included in the Easter bulletin and note if it is given in memory or thanksgiving of that person.

You may also e-mail your list to dena@stpetersbeverly.org and submit your donation in the offering plate or by mail.



***The deadline to submit names is Friday, March 27.
Please call the church office if you need more information.***

Blue Jean Sunday
March 29 • 11:30 a.m.



**Please come and lend a hand as the
Property Committee spruces up
St. Peter's before the Festival of Easter!
We will start after the 10 a.m. service.
For more information please see Tim Conlon.**



St. Peter's Lenten Devotionals...

The booklets are available on the Usher's Table and on our website at www.stpetersbeverly.org

***Thank you to Godfrey Perrott for editing this
annual publication that helps us through the forty
days of Lent together and to the contributors who
shared their reflections on the day's readings.***

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Easter Preparation Day



Saturday • April 4 • 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Join us as we get ready for the wonderful celebration of Easter!
There are many things to do... The Easter flowers in the church and
setting up and decorating Huiginn Hall for our Easter Breakfast.

Please see Dena Lisle if you have a question or just stop on by!

☛ All children are invited to dye Easter eggs for our table decorations...just bring a dozen hard boiled eggs! Coffee and donuts will be served.

Many hands make light work!

Easter Day Pot Luck Breakfast



Sunday • April 5 • 9:15 a.m.

Join us between the 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
services for our annual Easter breakfast.
Everyone is welcome and encouraged to bring
an item for our breakfast buffet.
Sign-up sheets for various items will be posted
in the Parish Hall.
Please contact Dena in the parish office if you
have any questions.



A Lesson in French Cooking with The Garthwaite Girls!

Saturday • March 28 • 4 p.m.

Join the Garthwaite girls at their home at 9 Pine St.
in Hamilton for a class in techniques and recipes of
French modern cooking. This is a hands-on class
followed by a dinner of what is prepared.
Only 6 spots are available. All ages are welcome
but must possess knife skills.

A minimum donation of \$25 is requested
to benefit St. Peter's.

Please call (978) 922-3438 or e-mail Dena
(dena@stpetersbeverly.org) to sign up.

March Prayers and Thanksgivings

Lord Hear Our Prayers...

Parish Prayers: For Katharine, our Presiding Bishop; Alan and Gayle, our Bishops; Manny, our Rector.

For those serving in the armed forces: Monique Farrar, Ken Christian, James Daley, Zachary Jermyn, Justin Anaya, Scott Schuster, Kyle O'Connor, Michael Scottina, Christopher Massero, John Schweizer and all those serving in harm's way.

Continuing Prayers have been requested for: Ernie Gabriel; Thelma; Alberta; Marilyn Perin; Fran Staples; Patrick Lyons and family; Luke and family; Betty Cote; Carol Lacy; Peter Frates; Norma; Mary; John; Gail; Christopher; Beth; Miriam Jacobs; Amy Jobes; John Driscoll; Maureen Walker; Martha; the Brown family and Kshusha; Chris; Ruth; Claudia; Maria and Miguel; Joseph; Alexa, Mark and Beth; the Cabot family; Bill Walburn; Neil Overberg; the Creesy family; the Wood-Bell family; Edward Battle; Elgar Dykes; Althea Flamer.



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**For the Month of March we have been asked to give thanksgiving
for the lives of the following people.**

March 1- Adelaide L. Cormier, Cynthia D. Perruse, Rosano T. Perruse.

March 8- Isabel M. and John G. Yeaton.

March 15- Lawrence and Jean Burns, Norma Yeaton.

March 22- Caroline J. and John C. Sanidas, Helen D. Arsenault, Helen D. and James L. Crandall, Donald MacComisky .

March 29- Ada and James Lester, Lydia and James Peachey, Constance and Frank Lester, Robert R. Nelson, Adam D. Nevells, Walter Helgeland, J. Clifford Cantley, Sr. and M. Gertrude Cantley, Penelope F. Cantley, J. Clifford Cantley, Jr., Louise S. Crowell.

*If you would like to have a loved one remembered on a special date
with flowers on the altar and their name published in the bulletin,
please contact Dena Lisle in the Parish office.*

A season for the broken heart: A Lenten message from Bishop Gates...



For years I resisted admitting that my eyesight was slipping. Always I told myself that the light was bad, or I was just tired. I was unwilling to recognize this gradual function of nature because, honestly, I had spent a lifetime being quite proud of my eyesight: 20/20 in one eye, 20/15 in the other, the doctor had once told me. I felt quite superior! I could read the bottom line on the eye chart, the highway sign in the distance, the fine print on the product label.

Can you imagine anything more foolish than being proud of something over which one has no control whatsoever? It's not like one's eyesight represents an accomplishment! Still, pride describes exactly how I felt about my vision. Consequently, I refused to acknowledge a growing imperfection, and struggled for years. Eventually the solution proved simple. (Glasses!) But that is not always the case, for as long as we deny our need we cannot be healed. The denial of need prevents the possibility of healing.

This is the covenant that I will make with the people: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. [Jeremiah 31:31-34]

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Bishop Gates Lenten Message Continued...

I once heard the gifted writer Madeleine L'Engle recount how a rabbi had been approached by his people and asked, "Rabbi, why is it that the prophet says that the law of the Lord will be written *on* our hearts? Should it not be *in* our hearts?" And the rabbi replied, "Perhaps it is because until our hearts have been broken, nothing is able truly to get in."

Here is a deep truth. The most grace-filled people I know are apt to be people who, along the way, have had their hearts broken. Some have endured life-crippling illness. Some saw things in war that they never wanted to see, or left a piece of themselves at the beach in Anzio. Some have been abandoned in relationships, and some know that they themselves bear the guilt of abandonment. Some have known the death of a child, leaving a hole in the fabric of their lives that never fully mends. In so many of these stories, the broken heart of the one who grieves has opened up to become a bigger heart, a more grateful heart, a more compassionate and generous heart.

Our brokenness, of course, can come not only from exterior circumstance and tragedy. Sometimes that brokenness comes from our own interior frailty. My failure for so long to correct blurry vision is paralleled by other sorts of failure. Bad eyesight is scarcely the only thing we resist admitting. We may fail to see and acknowledge when our relationships are out of focus, or when our priorities have gone askew, or when some dimension of our life has gotten out of control. We may fail to see and acknowledge when—as individuals, as groups, or even as a nation—we have headed in a wrong direction.

And what is the consequence of this failure? It is, of course, that we cannot find healing. Until our hearts are broken, God's grace cannot enter. Until we recognize that brokenness, the path to new life is obscured. Twelve Step programs which have been a channel of grace for so many begin with Step One—an acknowledgment of brokenness, of something which we, of our own power, cannot fix.

And early on is Step Four, a "searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves." These principles apply not only to addictions, but to all the physical and spiritual ways in which we find ourselves in need of God's strength.

"Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit." [John 12:24]

Jesus' message encompasses the truth of the rabbi who said that the heart must break for God to enter fully. It encompasses also my own self-evident learning, that my foolish pride of eyesight had to die so that I could find the means to see clearly again. In ways both small and large, mundane and profound, Jesus' utterance touches our lives.

There is something in every one of us that needs to be broken and die in order to open the way for healing and rebirth. Or perhaps it already has died, but needs yet to be acknowledged. If you and I haven't figured out what that something is by Good Friday, then Easter will fail to be all that it can be. Let me say that again, framing it in the positive: There is something in every one of us that needs to die, or perhaps it already has. If I can come to a fuller acknowledgment of what that is during this season of Lent, then I can bring that brokenness to the cross in Holy Week, and embrace even more fully the glory of Easter.

Where is pride keeping your vision blurry? Where is your heart broken, or needing to break? I invite you to ponder these things in Lent, that after these forty days the cross and empty tomb might have their fullest way with you.

Faithfully and fondly,

+Alan The Rt. Rev. Alan M. Gates

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Vestry Meeting Minutes

Meeting: January 12, 2015

Present: Rev. Manny Faria, Patrick Kennedy, Dave Stephenson, Carrie Monahan, Cheryl Robinson, John Cabot, Andrea Schultz and Cameron Wicker **Absent:** John Young and Thelma Ryan

Dave opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. with prayer.

Holy Women Holy Men

Hilary, Bishop of Poitiers in mid-fourth century Gaul, was a key player in the controversy between Orthodox and Arian doctrine. “With remarkable courage, in the midst of a hostile gathering, Hilary defended the Council of Nicaea and the Trinity, giving no aid to the ‘semi-Arians.’” No matter how involved in the conflict, however, Hilary “was always a loving and compassionate pastor to his diocese.” “Oh Lord our God,...Keep us steadfast in that true faith which we professed at our baptism, that we may rejoice in having you for our Father...”

Christmas Report

Christmas service attendance was “not bad at all,” Manny reported, noting that 268 people, total, attended both Christmas Eve services. Manny was also pleased that 24 attended the service he conducted at Essex Park that afternoon. Attendance was a little down from the 301 who attended in 2013 but, even so, additional chairs were set up and filled in the back of the church. As a Christmas gift, Manny noted, St. Peter’s received an anonymous donation of \$2,000 to be used for any purpose. “The Choir sounded great,” he concluded, “All went well!”

Vestry Retreat

Dave reminded Vestry members to save the date, March 10, 2015, for the upcoming annual Vestry retreat, at Adelynrood.

Nomination Committee

The committee is working on a short list of parishioners to ask to fill the spots of outgoing Vestry members, Patrick Kennedy and John Cabot.

Treasurer’s Report

Cheryl reported that year-end 2014 pledges are on budget while rents are down for the year. 2014 snow removal and utility costs exceeded their budget amounts. Even so, Cheryl explained, the parish expenses are “pretty close” to the amount budgeted due to significant amounts budgeted but not spent during the year. “Without snow and utility [overruns] we would have had a good year,” she noted. Finding additional tenants and rental income will help the budget. Manny explained that he discourages rentals of the gym for school sports activities because “tenants who pay more don’t want to hear balls dribbling overhead.” Several rooms in the undercroft still need to be cleaned out so they can be potential sources of rental income. As of the meeting date, Cheryl projected a 2014 actual deficit of about \$11,000 rather than the \$9,800 deficit reflected in the 2014 budget. Vestry members voted to accept the Treasurer’s Report.

2015 Budget/Stewardship

The draft 2015 Budget shows a shortfall of about \$19,700, Cheryl reported. She summarized items to consider in order to reach final figures: rentals charges have not been revised in years, unused worship, program and youth group budget projections serve as a “cushion,” the Diocesan assessment is lower, and various Outreach budget items remain unspent.

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Vestry Meeting Minutes Continued...

Other budget factors to consider: Memorial Flower income should be explored so that parishioners pay closer to the actual cost of the flowers, the recycling dumpster is no longer cost efficient and should be removed, and electricity costs are supposed to rise by 32 percent. Cheryl hopes to have her final 2015 budget ready for a Vestry vote on January 25, 2015, in time for the Feb. 1 Annual Meeting.

New Beverly Shelter

Manny reported that he and other local faith representatives recently met with the Mayor to discuss a proposal to provide shelter for those in need at the old waterfront McDonalds. A shelter has been operating at the Beverly Airport recently from 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. but the building is owned by the city and is slated for demolition. Any shelter needs to be open earlier than 11 p.m., Manny noted; those out in the cold need to find a warm place to be by 7 p.m. Volunteers would provide a late night snack and coffee. Volunteers might also be able to determine whether guests need additional help. Currently the plan is to open any temporary shelter only if the temperature is below 20 degrees. "The Clergy are not so happy with the way things have turned out," Manny said, noting that he will have more to report on the matter in coming days.

Leadership Development Initiative (LDI)

LDI is a Diocesan project to raise up and support lay leaders, Manny explained, noting that he will be attending a meeting on the subject at St. Stephens in Lynn. If St. Peter's decides to participate, it might provide additional impetus for the parish to support a Hub project to provide young mothers in the community with diapers and other baby supplies and support services.

Vestry To Do List

Priority number one is to increase rental income. A major obstacle to that is the amount of materials still left in the former Atrium rooms. The remaining items need to be boxed and stored. Carrie hopes to generate some interest in cleaning out the rooms and suggested that the materials could be loaned out or sold to other churches with CGS programs. "It's definitely worth doing something mindful with," John Cabot added.

Minutes

The December meeting minutes were accepted.

Carrie closed the meeting with prayer at 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cameron McLean Wicker
Clerk of the Vestry

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About Us...

Our Staff:

The Rev. Manuel P. Faria III, Rector
Dr. Kirsten J. Helgeland, Director of Music
Ms. Dena Lisle, Secretary
Mr. Bill Davy, Sexton
Ms. Nora Monahan, Nursery Care Giver

Our Office:

Hours- Monday-Thursday 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Telephone- 978-922-3438
Email-info@stpetersbeverly.org

Find us online at www.stpetersbeverly.org or on



Our Vestry:

Dave Stephenson, *Senior Warden*
Carrie Kimball Monahan, *Junior Warden-Outreach*
Cheryl Robinson, *Treasurer*
Cameron Wicker, *Clerk*
Ann Weeks, *Stewardship*
Andrea Schultz, *Worship*
Tim Conlon, *Property*
Bruce Walker, *Evangelism*
John Young, *Worship*

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Thelma Ryan, *Warden Emerita*
Thad Outerbridge, *Parish Historian*

† TRAVEL THROUGH THE SEASON OF LENT WITH OUR 2015 LENTEN DEVOTIONALS †
FIND THEM @ WWW.STPETERSBEVERLY.ORG

ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

4 OCEAN STREET
BEVERLY, MA 01915



~Saint Peter's feeds God's people ... all are welcome at our table. ~