

In the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, we welcome you to St. Peter's Episcopal Church

St. Peter's Episcopal Church  
42 Sweden Road  
Bridgton, Maine 04009



# Fish Tales



*Episcopal Parish serving the Greater Bridgton Lakes Region since 1962*

April 2009

## *HOLY WEEK at ST. Peter's Episcopal Church*

Palm Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, marks the beginning of Holy Week, which concludes with Easter. One meaning of the word “holy” is special! Holy Week is the special week during which we focus on the Passion of our Lord, his offering of suffering and death as God's mighty act of love whereby Jesus was “lifted high upon the Cross that by this mighty act of love he might draw the whole world to himself.” The whole week is rather like a tapestry in which the threads of Palm Sunday, the story of Jesus' arrest, trial, crucifixion and Resurrection are so entwined that to leave out any of those threads is to undo the tapestry.

We invite you to observe this week with special devotion through your participation in the daily Liturgy as an important way to enrich the Easter experience on Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup>.



<b>Monday, April 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10 a.m. Holy Eucharist</b>
<b>Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10 a.m. Holy Eucharist</b>
<b>Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist</b>
<b>Maundy Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Liturgy</b>
<b>Agape Meal with reading of the Passion, symbolic “Foot Washing” and Holy Eucharist</b>	
<b>Good Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>3:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross at St. Joseph's Church in Bridgton</b>
<b>Easter, Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist</b>



If I allow Christ to use my heart in order to love  
My brothers and sisters with it  
I will soon find that Christ, loving in me and through me,  
Has brought to light Christ in my brothers and sisters.  
Loving me in return  
Has drawn forth the image and the reality of Christ  
In my own soul.  
~Thomas Merton



## Reflections from the Senior Warden

As I reported at our most recent Vestry meeting, here's an update in the "odyssey" of our parking lot expansion. The permit from the Maine D.E.P. included the requirement that we prepare and record a restriction to our deed within sixty days. The restriction states that we must maintain two wooded or forested buffer areas located between the parking lot addition and Route 93. Other than a proposed walking or meditation trail, which would be allowed, we currently have no other plans for these areas.

I mistakenly assumed we could quickly and easily take care of this. The permit also stated that "the location of forested buffers must be permanently marked on the ground." Our lawyer and I thought we could file the deed restriction, subject to permanently marking the areas after the snow melts. We were told that this was not acceptable, and therefore earlier last month you may have seen workmen on snowshoes doing something in our woods. They were surveying and placing markers at all the corners of the buffer areas. The restriction has now been filed and it was done within the required time frame.

I've used the term "odyssey," when I refer to or report on our parking lot expansion. One of the definitions of the word is, "an extended adventurous wandering." It sure has been an adventure, as we wander through the bureaucratic maze to get the approval to expand our parking area.

A few other things to report regarding our church property. We've had some problems with rusty-looking water and are now installing water filters, which should take care of the problem.

The original building plans included an interior fire-door from one classroom into the boiler room. We were told, I believe by the state fire marshal, that this was not permitted, and therefore was not provided when the church was built. Since then, we have learned that if we put a sprinkler in the boiler room, we can have access from the classroom. A sprinkler is now in place and the fire door access has also been installed.

You may have noticed that the church and Narthex floors are showing a bit of wear after the winter. As a result, with the Vestry's approval, we are having the floor refinished for Easter Sunday. Interestingly, we contacted nine or ten firms and solicited bids to do the work. We were advised that four local firms don't strip or seal floors and several others didn't return our calls. I guess I was surprised at the limited response. In any event, the floors will be reconditioned in time for our Easter celebration.

Thinking of Easter, my joke-of-the-month comes from A Child's Book Report on the Bible:

Jesus died for our sins, then came back to life again. He went up to Heaven, but will be back at the end of the Aluminum. His return is foretold in the book of Revolution.

God Bless,

*Bob Vivian, Sr. Warden*

## Parish Wish List

We welcome any special gifts from friends and parishioners of St. Peter's, who might provide any of these items as memorial gifts or as thanksgivings for special events or special people in our lives. If you would like to contribute any of these items, please speak with the Sr. Warden or Rector.

**Name-Tab Case** in Narthex for the name tags worn by everyone on Sundays: **\$700**

**Special Gifts Book and Memorial Garden Book display case:** **\$700**

**Arch Book Bible Stories** for Children's library and Sunday School: **\$125**

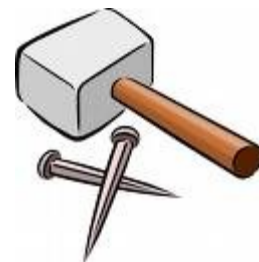
**Memorial/Prayer Garden plants, shrubs and trees** to be planted in the late spring or early summer: **Many gifts of \$50**

## Food for Thought

A steak dinner for a family of four is the rough equivalent of driving around in an SUV for three hours while leaving all the lights on at home!

~Reader's Digest

*The First Easter--  
Jesus' Last Week*



In the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, we welcome you to St. Peter's Episcopal Church



## **Easter and Eastertide at St. Peter's Episcopal Church**

**Easter:** We will celebrate Easter at 9:00 a.m. with a Festival Eucharist, Lighting of the Paschal Candle, Flowering of the Cross and an Easter Egg hunt for the children. Bring your friends to this celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord. And bring a spring flower to place in the Flowering Cross during the processional hymn. As John Ortberg has written in our Lenten Study book, If You Want to Walk on Water, You've Got to Get Out of the Boat, "Ever since that third day, whatever bad news may enter your life has not power to separate you from God!" Come celebrate with us this incredible gift from Jesus Christ on Easter.

**Eastertide Baptism:** The Sacrament of Holy Baptism will be celebrated on Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup> during the 9:00 a.m. Liturgy. Anyone interested in Baptism at this time, should speak with the Rector to make arrangements to prepare for this Holy Sacrament. Please contact the Rector by Palm Sunday if you are interested.

**Easter Brunch:** Continuing a St. Peter's Easter tradition, we are all invited to enjoy Easter Brunch at the Olde Mill Tavern in Harrison at 11:30 a.m. on April 12<sup>th</sup>. The menu includes a choice of Prime Rib, Stuffed Chicken or Baked Haddock, with all the trimmings and beverage for \$20/person, including gratuities. Please join us. You may sign up at the ushers' station in the rear of the Sanctuary or call Janet at the church office. Be sure to indicate your choice of the main course. This has always been a wonderful Easter celebration and fellowship. We hope you will bring your family.

### **Special Easter Notices:**

- There will be no Sunday School on Easter Sunday. Infant Care, however, will be available.
- The parish office will be closed on Easter Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Donations for Easter flowers in memory of loved ones, or in thanksgiving for loved ones, should be given to Janet, Parish Coordinator, along with the names of those in whose memory or thanksgiving you are giving the flowers. Please do this no later than Palm Sunday.

*A Week with Jesus*



### The Baptismal Font

The gorgeous pottery Baptismal Bowl located just inside the front door, in the Narthex, always contains blessed water. An ancient tradition of the Church, which many continue to use to this day, is to dip a finger in the blessed water and then make the sign of the cross on your forehead as a prayer and blessing either upon entering and/or leaving the church. This sacramental action remind us of God's presence with us in worship and as we go out into the world. Please feel free to make use of this sacrament.

Give me a sense of humor, Lord,  
Give me the grace to see a joke,  
To get some humor out of life,  
And pass it on to other folk.

### In-Reach Movement

On Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, Reverend John Widdows met with the In-Reach Committee to provide continued training. Father John started the St. Peter's In-Reach movement two years ago when he served as our interim minister. At the March 1 meeting, he provided handouts and presented ideas for the committee members to consider. Discussion also revolved around the various programs offered by the committee including Ride Share, Birthday Reflections over coffee, plus Birthday and Anniversary cards. In-Reach meetings are held the first Sunday of the month following coffee hour. Currently twelve members participate. For more information, contact Tom Stone, In-Reach Committee Chair.



### Resignation Received

It is with regret and also deep appreciation for her many years of ministry in Christian Education that the Rector has accepted the Resignation of Janet Jones as Parish Christian Education Coordinator effective May 17<sup>th</sup>. Janet has brought her training and 35 years of experienced in Christian Education to St. Peter's. She helped to start an effective youth program (SPYS) and a Children's Education program. In her letter of resignation to the Rector, Janet indicated that after 35 years she was beginning to feel "burned out" and that it is time to step down and allow others to pick up this important ministry. We are grateful to her for the many contributions she has made in this regard. It is with respect for her gifts and her present discernment of God's leading in her life at this time that Bishop John has accepted her decision. Thank you, Janet.

### Food for Thought

"We make a living by what we get; but we make a life by what we give!" ~Winston Churchill

"Earn all you can, save all you can and give away all you can!" ~John Wesley

Earn (Colossians 3:23) Save (Proverbs) Give (James 1:17)

### Prayers of the People

*Please pray for the following:*

*Elizabeth, Larry L, Frederica, Larry D, Greg,  
Peggy, Bob, Norman, Marcia and Jocelyn*

### Church Activity Calendar

The office maintains a calendar listing all activities held at the church. During the week, church committees and other outside organizations use the building. Some groups emphasize personal privacy and confidentiality. Please contact the office before planning an after office hours meeting or program.

### Special Nomination

The Parish extends congratulations to Janet Jones, who is one of several persons nominated for "The Community Volunteer of the Year Award" presented by the Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce. The award will be presented to one of the nominees at the Chamber's Annual Dinner. It is a special achievement to be nominated for consideration of this Chamber award and we congratulate Janet.

### Parish Librarian

It is with great appreciation that the Rector announces that Barbara Mortenson has accepted the ministry of Parish Librarian for the newly formed parish adult library. She will organize the library so that members of the parish may borrow books for their own reading and spiritual journey. Books about Christian spirituality, the Bible, the mission of the Church and others connected directly with the Episcopal Church may be donated. All donations will be screened for their appropriateness by a small committee working with the Rector. A special thank you to Barbara!



### Continued Generosity

Barbara Marshall has once again donated her wonderful artistic skills and gifts by creating a new, purple "Burse & Veil" for the Altar that matches the one she made for the Lectern/Pulpit. Thank you to Barbara for her continued generosity in adding to the beauty and Anglican order for our worship.



*Easter—the oldest and greatest day of celebration in the Christian Church*

*St. Peter's Episcopal Church began as a summer mission in 1962. On September 8, 1974, St. Peter's-by-the-Lake held its first service of extended ministry. Since then, though it did not have a home of its own, the church has provided an Episcopal presence to summer and year-round residents of the Lakes Region by meeting in various locations including people's homes, Bridgton Academy and local churches of different denominations. The first service in St. Peter's Episcopal Church on Sweden Road in Bridgton, was held on May 25, 2008. The building and contents were dedicated and consecrated on June 1, 2008.*



### Fish Tales

is a monthly publication of  
**St. Peter's Episcopal Church**

Deadline for each issue is the  
25<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month.

Editor:

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### Children's Summer Program

Children's Sunday summer programs will begin May 24<sup>th</sup>. Adults are needed to volunteer for one or two Sundays during the summer months. This is a great time to plan a Bible story activity for the creative children of our parish. A sign-up sheet is located at the ushers' station in the rear of the Sanctuary. Adult participation is greatly appreciated.



Growing in Faith

### Calling All Recipes

Do you like to eat?

Do you like to cook or bake?

Do you like to read?

Do you like to purchase locally?

*If you answer yes to at least one of the above,  
then we need your recipes.*

Folks at St. Peter's Episcopal Church are renown for the food we prepare at pot luck meals, St. Peter's Café and coffee hour. Let's put those recipes together in a bound cookbook. Be thinking of your favorite recipes and jot down any memories, or hints associated with them. **Recipes are needed by July 1<sup>st</sup>.**



### Holy Week

#### Youth Education Schedule



#### Palm Sunday

**Godly Play:** We will participate in the Palm Procession. Please bring your child to class following the Procession. Our lesson will reference the meaning of Palm Sunday.

**Teen Discussion:** We will meet at the regular time. Our topic continues to be "fellowship."



#### Easter Sunday

Please note that no Sunday School classes are scheduled. We will provide child care for those who would like to join us in the Noah's Ark Room.

**An Easter Egg hunt will follow the service.**

#### Golfer's Hymn . . . There's a Green Hill Far Away



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**Rector**

The Rt. Rev. John H. Smith  
 Winter phone: 207.729.6023  
 e-mail: [JHSme@aol.com](mailto:JHSme@aol.com)

**Holy Eucharist and Child Care  
 Sunday—8:45 a.m.**

**Parish Coordinator**

Janet Jones

**Director of Music**

Evan Miller

**Christian Education Coordinator**

Janet Jones

**Fish Tales Editor**

Leigh Macmillen Hayes

**Vestry**

**Senior Warden:** Bob Vivian  
**Junior Warden:** Eric Wissmann  
**Vestry Clerk:** Leigh Hayes  
**Vestry Treasurer:** Jack Bash

**Members:**

Jonathan Jones, Lin Frank, Karen  
 Mentus, Deb Ripley, Kirk Engstrom,  
 Liz Tusing

**St. Peter's Episcopal Church**

**Office Hours**

**Monday-Friday  
 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.**

**The Mission of St. Peter's Episcopal  
 Church**

St. Peter's Episcopal Church is a congregation that meets to worship God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. It is a place where everyone is welcome. We find our strength in the Eucharist. We pray that we may use our time, talent and resources for the benefit of our community. We gather to seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit, to uphold and support each other and to reach out in service to others.

**April Calendar of Events**

- Apr 1 12 noon Soup Luncheon at St. Joseph's Church
- Apr 5 9 a.m. Palm Sunday  
 Children's Education/Child Care  
 10:30 a.m. SPYs Communion Bread at Leigh's  
 11 a.m. In-Reach Team Meeting
- Apr 6 10 a.m. Worship Service  
 6 p.m. EfM Class
- Apr 7 10 a.m. Worship Service  
 5 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
- Apr 8 6 p.m. Eucharist Service
- Apr 9 6 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service with Agape Meal
- Apr 10 3 p.m. Stations of the Cross Ecumenical Service at  
 St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Bridgton
- Apr 12 9 a.m. Easter Eucharist Service  
 Child Care provided  
 10 a.m. Children's Easter Egg Hunt  
 11 a.m. Easter Brunch at Olde Mill Tavern, Harrison
- Apr 13 6 p.m. EfM Class
- Apr 14 10 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry at Ann's  
 5 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
- Apr 16 6 p.m. NA Meeting—Women Only
- Apr 19 9 a.m. Eucharist Service  
 Children's Education/Child Care  
 10:45 a.m. Vestry
- Apr 20 11 a.m. St. Peter's Café  
 5 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
- Apr 23 6 p.m. NA Meeting—Women Only
- Apr 26 9 a.m. Eucharist Service  
 Children's Education/ Child Care
- Apr 27 6 p.m. EfM class
- Apr 28 10 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry at Ba's  
 5 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
- Apr 30 6 p.m. NA Meeting—Women Only



**Basket of the Month**

The "Basket of the Month," a source of outreach for St. Peter's, continues to support St. Elizabeth's Essential Pantry in Portland with the following items:

**April: Think spring!! Sunscreen lotion, Band-Aids, NEOSPORIN®, bug repellent, small packages of tissues, etc.**