

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 of St. Peter's,

A San Antonio businessman after parking his brand new car went off to do some business. When he came back, he saw poor boy of about eleven in ragged clothes examining it with eyes full of wonder and envy. "Is that your car?" the boy asked. The man replied, "yes". "It is beautiful, how much did you pay for it?" "Well, to be honest," the man answered, "I don't know. It was given to me as a present from my brother." "You mean your brother just gave it to you, and it didn't cost you a penny?" the boy asked. "That's right," the man nodded. "Oh, boy, I wish that I..." The man was sure what the boy was going to say, "I wish that I had a brother like that." But it isn't what he said. What the boy said was this: "I wish that I could be a brother like that." And the man concluded: "There I was in my fancy suit, with keys to a brand new car in my hand. And there was this little boy off the street. Yet this impoverished kid had more love in his heart than I had. He was richer than me."

This story was told as part of my stewardship sermon last Sunday to illustrate generosity of heart. I sensed in the congregation a wow of surprise and admiration for the boy who expressed his desire to be a giving person. Giving is part of our nature and part of our DNA as we are made in the image of God, who is loving, giving, and forgiving. God continues to love us, give us and forgive us. And we in turn are expected to reflect these natures of God in the way we live, move, and have our being.

Our church is a giving church. It serves the people who are in need both in our neighborhood and abroad, and is supported by the members of our parish. Every year members are called to make a pledge that reflects their commitment to God's work in the world. One of our stewardship committee members said pledging is like voting. This is how we make our voice heard; pledging is how we show our support in the mission of the church, and how we prove we have a skin in the game. Through giving and pledging we join the work of God as His partners.

In the coming weeks you will hear from members of the stewardship committee asking everyone in the church to pledge and those who have been pledging before to consider increasing their pledges so that we will have a robust year fulfilling all our obligations and carrying out all our mission and ministry activities. As we make our pledges, remember that giving is part of our God given nature.

God blesses a cheerful giver.

With much love,

Fr. 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

February 2017 Judi Hans
Vincent Giancaterino
Julia Sharpe
February 2018 Frank Rothenberger
Retta Sparano
Jan Wier
February 2019 Raymond Forester
Karen Martz
Brian Prato

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October 2016

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Deacon's Roundtable

We continue our discussion on devotionals and sacramentals with a brief history of the Rosary.

Some historians believe the Rosary began around 1000 AD with Irish monks who recited the 150 Psalms of David. It was difficult for lay people to share in this devotion because it was too lengthy. So, encouraged by the monks, they instead said the Lord's Prayer 150 times in place of the Psalms. To keep count they used a rope or piece of string with knots tied in it to keep track of the prayers they had recited.

Soon after this, the angelic salutation, "Hail (Mary) full of grace, the Lord is with you" (Luke 1:28) became popular among Christians of Europe. The people began substituting the angelic salutation in place of some of the Psalms. By the thirteenth century, the practice of attaching a particular meditation to each prayer began to appear. In the 15th century, two German monks, Adolf of Essen and Dominic of Prussia, added a set of meditations reviewing Christ's acts of redemption to the angelic salutation and the phrase proclaimed by Elizabeth to Mary, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb (Jesus)." (Luke 1:42)

By the 16th century, another phrase was added, "Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and the hour of death." This intercessory petition is no different than when you ask a very good friend to pray to God for healing or other concerns. As for the term "Mother of God", this comes from the councils of the church fathers in the 4th and 5th centuries where they agreed that Mary was the *Theotokos* (Greek-Mother of God) because she gave birth to the Incarnate Christ—God the Son.

The history of the Rosary in the Episcopal or Anglican Church is much like the clergy and people. One day they were all under Rome, and then they were under the jurisdiction of Canterbury. Mass (or Eucharist), devotions, priesthood, Holy Orders, and Apostolic Succession continued as usual.

The Episcopal Church has many Marian devotion societies: The Society of Mary (of which I am a member), Society of our Lady of St. Dominic, and Associates of Our Lady of Walsingham. All pray the Rosary. There are at least three cells of the Society of Mary in this diocese.

The Rosary is a devotion that can lead one to a fuller love and communion with Jesus. It combines the repetition of prayers with meditation on Twenty Mysteries of faith. The mysteries are divided into four groups of five represent the Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful, and Glorious. These four subdivisions are representative of the life of Christ and his Mother.

I will continue the discussion of the Rosary in next month's article.

Deacon Joe

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A Word From Deacon ||

Lisa Scott [lscott@usli.com] is now heading up the effort to enlarge the ministry of bringing the Eucharist to those who cannot come to receive it. This ministry is as ancient as the earliest times of the church, and it depends on two things:

[1] Lay Eucharistic Ministers: If you are interested in knowing more, or receiving training, speak to Lisa.

[2] Identify those in need of receiving the Eucharist. Do you know someone that cannot make it to church? Someone that longs for that Holy meal but simply is unable for any reason to come and receive? If so, let Lisa know.

I believe that any LEM would tell you that this ministry is not simply about taking bread and wine to someone. It is about serving your maker by being the church in the world; it is an act of relationship and love.

Deacon Dennis

Blessing of the Animals

October 2nd



The spirit of St. Francis will once again be celebrated at St. Peter's on October 2nd at 3:00 p.m. in the garden area outside the Lady Chapel.

Let's celebrate the special animals that enrich our lives with their unconditional love. Please encourage your family and friends to join us for this special celebration with their pets! Outreach at St. Peter's is not limited just to people!



Meals for St. Mary's Shelter

October 3-7

Jan Wier



St. Peter's is home to many "good cooks" and our cooks are once again asked to prepare meals for St. Mary's Shelter. We are scheduled for Monday, October 3rd to Friday, October 7th. Please don't think you have to cook alone, ask a friend or relative to join you or even make this a family effort. Contact Jan Wier at janwier@comcast.net to participate in this outreach of St. Peter's Church.



Music @ St. Peter's



Claude Bourbon, Guitarist

Medieval & Spanish Blues: Guitar & Songs

Music @ St. Peter's begins its 2016-2017 Concert Series on Sunday, October 23rd at 4:00 p.m. with Guitarist, Claude Bourbon. For more information on Claude, please visit his website at www.CLAUDEBOURBON.ORG

The *Music @ Saint Peter's Concert Series* is holding a basket raffle fundraiser to help support the concert. Our goal is to reach 20 donated baskets. As of this week we are at 10 baskets. I am happy to send you a list of ideas for baskets should you need them. If you are willing to donate a basket, please email Karen Martz at kjcmartz@gmail.com. Basket should be delivered to church by October 23rd so they can be organized and tagged for the raffle. The baskets will be on display and tickets sold beginning October 30. The winning tickets will be drawn on November 20 so all you winners will be able to have your baskets in time for Thanksgiving. If you are not interested but know of a friend who would like to donate a basket just let me know and I will add them to the list. Thank you in advance for all of your continuing support of our concert series.



Gratitude

Gratitude is a currency that we can mint for ourselves, and spend without fear of bankruptcy.

I came across this quote and it has a particular resonance for me. It plays to the concept of infinite abundance, a wonderful concept we would all like to experience at one times in our lives. To dream of such a thing, substitute the word "time" for gratitude in this quote. I have often wondered what it would be like to be able to pause time, just for a day, or a week, or a month. Imagine having all the time we would like to have to spend on anything, or nothing. Imagine

having all the time to do the things we have left undone. It would be marvelous.

Now substitute the word "money" for gratitude in this quote. We need only to look at the popularity of the lottery to know that most people would love an infinite abundance of money. Studies have shown that even thinking about what changes a winning lottery ticket would bring causes an elevation in mood. Minting money for ourselves would be a heady experience, but I doubt the FBI would approve.

Let's get back to the word gratitude. Indeed, it is a currency we can mint for ourselves and spend without fear of bankruptcy. Over the Summer, I have been spending some time babysitting my 3 year old grandnephew. It has been wonderful to share everyday experiences through his fresh eyes. I am so grateful for his good health and his wonderful growth and development. These are gifts that, unfortunately, are not guaranteed to all children, and I appreciate every new step that he takes along the way as a gift. So, feel free to spend your gratitude every day. It truly is a currency you can mint for yourself.

Diane Hope
Stewardship Committee



St. Peter's Pantry
Walk for Hunger



It's been a long hot summer but we continued to serve about 100 families each pantry.

Juliana Flora did her second *Walk for Hunger* on a very hot day this past August, raising over \$1500! we must share something

remarkable about Juliana, the heat took its toll on her near the end and someone suggested that it would be alright to quit...she was so close to the end , 1 1/2 miles left out of 18. She said, "*I am struggling now but I will be ok tomorrow. The people I am walking for will still be struggling tomorrow*" she finished to a great round of applause! A truly amazing person.

Two of our faithful volunteers, Kay Hooper, and Trudy Geoff spent one evening cleaning every inch of the pantry. It looks so clean and spiffy - a big thanks to both of them. Trudy has been a volunteer for some years but has regrettably left us to go back to work. She will be greatly missed by all.

The pantry will soon be gearing up for the holidays, as I'm sure all of you will be, but please take time to enjoy all the beautiful fall colors...a palette only God can paint.

Thank you again for your continued support of the pantry.

Your faithful pantry



A Heartfelt Thank You



Dear fellow members of St. Peter's,

I extend my heartfelt gratitude for all your prayers, meals, and kindnesses in the weeks of my recuperation. It is hard to imagine what John and I would have done without your generosity. Thank you all,

Beverly Burkhardt



Financial Update – August, 2016

from Frank Rothenberger, Accounting Warden

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

- **Income**
 - Total open plate donations through August were \$17,875 which is about \$5K in excess of budget. This surplus was nullified by a \$5K shortfall in pledges at \$154,930 through August.
 - It is anticipated that some parishioners will catch up on pledges following the historically slower summer months. Through 9/18/16, total pledges reached \$162K and open plate donations have already reached the year-end goal of \$19K; these numbers do not include \$9K in open plate and pledge donations from the 9/18 services that are not yet deposited.
 - Total operating income was \$180,565 after removal of pass-through income and other non-operational income totaling \$13,800. Operating income is on pace with the budget of \$181K.
 - Total income, including pass-thru income of \$33K, was \$232,003.

- **Expense**
 - Total operating expenses were \$182,975 which is reasonably close to budgeted expenses of \$181,200. A shortfall in operations of \$2,410 was reported through August because operating expenses exceeded operating income.
 - Total expenses, including pass through expenses of \$34K and non-operational expenses of \$16K, were \$232,902 through August.
 - Non-operational expenses included \$12K in repairs to the Clinic that were fully covered by maintenance savings and St. Peter's will be receiving reimbursement for half of the work from the Clinic, hopefully prior to the end of September.

- St. Peter's reported a small loss of \$641 through August. The loss was sufficiently covered by St. Peter's cash reserves.

Additional detail on income and expenses is available upon request.

Account Balances (as of 8/31/16):

- Checking: \$4,895
- Savings: \$39,046
- Certificates of Deposit: \$12,126
- Youth Group: \$1,136
- Pantry/Outreach: \$14,445
- Mission: \$3,833
- Building Maintenance: \$20,333
- Concert Series: \$3,231
- NEW Capital Campaign: \$33,095
- Petty Cash: \$200
 - **Total Cash: \$132,341**

**Thank you all for your continued and generous support of St. Peter's.
Please consider bringing your pledges current.**

October Anniversaries



- 4] Brian and Kim Thornton
- 19] Gary and Carol Russell
- 25] Eric and Julia Sharpe

October Birthdays



- 1] Helen Young
- 2] Curt Quaintance
- 5] Ian Schiavone
- 6] Marjorie Hairsine, Karen Hartman
- 7] Diane Hope
- 9] Sharon Schiele, Marva Young
- 12] Sarah Williams
- 14] Phoebe Foerster
- 15] Elizabeth Fifer
- 17] Henry Young
- 18] Mark Hammaker, William Brennfleck, Isaac Nagy
- 19] Michael O'Rourke
- 21] Lisa Scott
- 22] Lindsey, Kaitie, Fiona Craig
- 23] Susan Hyatt
- 24] Bruce Alling
- 28] W. Peter Druckenmiller

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October Worship Participants

Acolytes

- 2 Ryan Sutter
Tre Foerster, Sean Magee
- 9 Brandon Rennie
Emma Martz, Mali Warren
- 16 Frank Rothenberger
Sydney Alling, Libby Andrews
- 23 James Hammaker
Tre Foerster, Phoebe Foerster
- 30 Michael Logar
Katie Parker, Colin Parker

Greeters - 8:00 am

- 2 Jack Susskind
- 9 Glenn Murray
- 16 Lisa Scott
- 23 Joan Grunwell
- 30 Jack Susskind

Greeters – 10:00 am

- 2 Anne Andrews, Anne Atlee
- 9 Michael and Rosemarie O'Rourke
- 16 Cindy Giancaterino
Vernet-Spence Brown
- 23 Kim Thornton, Judi Hans
- 30 Marva Young, Mike Logar

Lectors - 8:00 am

- 2 Lou Steffenhagen, Lisa Scott *chaliceist*
- 9 Ron Gaugler
- 16 Henry Yong
- 23 Alexis Radouane
- 30 Ron Gaugler

Lectors – 10:00 am

- 2 To Be Announced – Family Service
Ron Druckenmiller, Carol Russell *chaliceist*
- 9 Retta Sparano, Vernet Spence-Brown
Mali Warren *intercessions*
Joyce Paster *chaliceist*
- 16 Jolie Chylack, Shelly Brennfleck
Marty Bloem *intercessions*
Peter Druckenmiller *chaliceist*
- 23 Curt Quaintance, David Brennfleck
Todd Jackson *intercessions*
Lou Steffenhagen *chaliceist*
- 30 Catherine Wenger, Michael Logar
Mona Chylack *intercessions*
Carol Russell *chaliceist*

Ushers

- 2 Clem Young, Sam Smith
- 9 Vincent Giancaterino, Robert Parker
- 16 Curt Quaintance, Carl Rennie
- 23 Bruce Alling, Jim Tackett
- 30 John Andrews, Mark Hammaker

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