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*Opening wide our doors and hearts  
in the name of Jesus Christ Our Lord and Savior*

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**Holy Eucharist**  
**The Second Sunday of Advent**  
**December 8, 2024 9:00 AM**

Join us in person for our service.

Or join us by going to our livestream on the St. Peter's Facebook page [here](#).

The worship leaflet can be found [here](#).

There will be a coffee hour after the mass.

**This Sunday's Ministers**  
**December 8**

Ms. Anne Whitman and Ms. Emily Keniston, *Eucharistic Ministers*

Mr. Garrett Keniston, *Crucifer*

Mr. David Savage, *Vergers*

Mr. Wayne Franklin, *Lector*

Mr. Bob Simmons, *Usher*

Ms. Janene Gorham, *Altar Guild*

Ms. Judy Howes and Ms. Geri Rose, *Coffee Hour Hosts*

Music Notes for this Sunday's service can be found at the end of Key Notes.

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Dear Friends,

As we continue to grow in faith and numbers at St. Peter's, I want to ensure that those of you who are relatively new to our parish life can learn more about our mission and ministries, and how we can support you in your faith.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the parish, or a member of the Episcopal Church, please join me this Sunday in the undercroft. There will be some time to visit others during our regular coffee hour, and then I will invite interested persons to gather in a corner of the undercroft or upstairs to share more about St. Peter's and to answer your questions.

I should add this is not only for newcomers! Everyone, whether a member for five years or fifty or more, is welcome to be part of the conversation.

Each of us has a vital role to play in building up that part of the Body of Christ we know as St. Peter's.

Faithfully,

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St. Peter's Episcopal Church

# The Advent Grace of Starting Over

A Quiet Evening of Advent Preparation  
with Fr Martin Smith

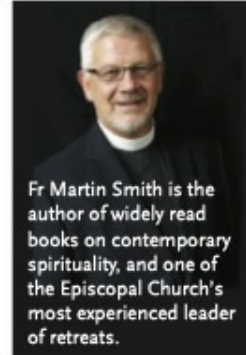


The freshness of God's patience is most real to us when we accept the call once again to open a new chapter, make a fresh beginning, making ourselves available to God's desire to be in us and with us. In this quiet evening Fr Martin Smith will give three brief reflections, each followed by a time for personal prayer and pondering. We will conclude with the service of Compline.

**7:00 pm to 8:30 pm**  
**Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>**  
**St. Peter's Episcopal Church**

678 Washington Ave. Portland, ME  
stpetersoffice10@gmail.com ■ 207-775-1179

The evening will also be livestreamed on the parish's Facebook page: [facebook.com/stpetersport](https://facebook.com/stpetersport)



Fr Martin Smith is the author of widely read books on contemporary spirituality, and one of the Episcopal Church's most experienced leaders of retreats.

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## Looking Toward Leadership in 2025

At our annual meeting in January of 2025, we will elect church officers and vestry members, and delegates to our diocesan convention. We currently have three open positions for the vestry, the governing board of the parish. The vestry meets once a month, and terms are for three years. We are also interested in cultivating future leadership for our officer positions: Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, and Clerk. The Nominations Committee is made up of Lorna Blackmer,

Lenita Richard, Anita Chandler, and the rector. Speak to one of them to learn more.

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## Stewardship Update: Our Numbers Keep Growing



**We are happy to report that 35 families or individuals have pledged \$65,914 so far.**

This represents a 29% increase over the total amount of \$46,520 pledged for 2024.

Thank you, generous and faithful givers!

However much you plan to give in the coming year, please fill out a pledge form if you have not yet done so and return to church or mail to the church address. Pledge forms can be found at church or [here](#).

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## St. Peter's Hosts the Youth Service Corps on December 15

The next Youth Service Corps gathering will be at our church on Sunday, December 15. Folks will gather for lunch and community building, and organizing warming kits for Maine Needs. See more information below.

## YOUTH SERVICE CORPS EVENT

SUNDAY DEC 15 • 12-2:30 PM  
ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
678 WASHINGTON AVE, PORTLAND  
PICK UP AT MAINE NEEDS AT 2:30  
AT 332 FOREST AVENUE, PORTLAND

COME JOIN US FOR PIZZA, HOT  
COCOA AND COOKIES! YOU'RE  
INVITED TO DRESS UP LIKE AN ELF  
TO BRING THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT  
WHILE WE MAKE WARMING KITS TO  
DROP OFF AT MAINE NEEDS.

PLEASE RSVP BY THU DEC 12  
TO AMBER BURKS,  
YOUTH SERVICE CORPS  
COORDINATOR, AT  
[AMBER@STALBANSMAINE.ORG](mailto:AMBER@STALBANSMAINE.ORG)



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### St. Elizabeth's Winter Coats and Boots Drive Continues

St. Elizabeth's Essentials Pantry will be accepting winter coats, boots, and gloves, mittens, and hats through the end of December. New or good quality used goods may be left in the basket in the undercroft for delivery to St. Elizabeth's. Thank you for helping our neighbors in need.

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### Word of the Week

*A weekly note about the words Episcopalians use.*

The word of the week is **Collect**.

We read the word every week in our worship leaflet, and it is pronounced **col**-lect, with the accent on the first syllable.

It is the name given to certain liturgical prayers in The Book of Common Prayer. The prayer book contains collects for every Sunday of the year, as well as for feast days and other occasions. Collects have a consistent form, including an invocation to God, a petition, and a conclusion. Often, they "collect" and draw together themes appropriate to the day. Collects can be found in the Prayer Book in both the more traditional language used in Rite I services (pp. 158-210) and those used in Rite II services (pp. 211-261).

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## **Advent and Christmas Plans at St. Peter's**

Sun. Dec. 8: The Second Sunday of Advent

Mass at 9:00 AM, with Conversation About Membership at Coffee Hour

Sun. Dec. 15: The Third Sunday of Advent: Gaudete "Rose" Sunday

Mass at 9:00 AM, with music including resident soloist, Mary Sullivan

Sun. Dec. 22: The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Mass at 9:00 AM

Tue., Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Solemn Mass at 7:00 PM with music including guest soloist, Michele Kennedy

Sat. Dec. 28: Christmas Concert at 4:00 PM

A Ceremony of Carols and Other Seasonal Tunes, featuring Mary Sullivan and the Amethyst Chamber Ensemble (see more info below).

Sun. Dec. 29: A Service of Lessons and Carols at the 9:00 AM Service

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**The Amethyst Chamber Ensemble Will Present**

# **BENJAMIN BRITTEN'S *CEREMONY OF CAROLS***

WITH SEAN FLEMING, PIANO/ORGAN AND VIRGINIA FLANAGAN, HARP

PROGRAM WILL ALSO FEATURE CAROLS AND SEASONAL SONGS FOR MIXED VOICES

SOLOISTS WILL INCLUDE MARY SULLIVAN, SOPRANO; JOELLE MORRIS, MEZZO-SOPRANO; AND JOSH WITHAM, TENOR/SAXOPHONE

OPEN TO ALL WITHOUT CHARGE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28TH AT 4 PM AT ST. PETER'S

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**Advent Offerings at Other Episcopal Parishes**

# St. Alban's Episcopal Church

885 Shore Road, Cape Elizabeth

presents

## Advent Organ Recital Series

Tuesdays during Advent

**6:00 - 6:30 p.m.**

Free-will offerings to support Music Ministries

November 26

**Harold Stover**



December 3

**Jennifer McPherson Mulhern**



December 10

**Marnus Greyling**



December 17

**Hentus van Rooyen**



**Saint Alban's**

A PLACE TO GROW TOGETHER



# Holden Evening Prayer

Wednesdays in Advent  
5:30 PM

December 4, 11, & 18

JOIN US FOR A SERVICE OF  
MUSIC, PRAYER, AND  
CANDLELIGHT

ST. BART'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
396 GILMAN RD, YARMOUTH, ME

'Behold! I bring you good news of great  
joy that will be for all the people!"  
(Luke 2:10).

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## St. Peter's Calendar

### Looking Ahead

*St. Elizabeth's Volunteer Morning*, Tue. Dec. 10th at 8:30 AM,  
St. Luke's Cathedral

*Advent Quiet Evening with Fr Martin Smith*, Wed. Dec. 11th, 7:00  
PM -8:30 PM

*Merry Hearts Lunch*, Thu. Dec. 19th at noon

*Christmas Eve Service*, Wed. Dec. 24th at 7:00 PM

*Amethyst Chamber Ensemble Concert, Sat. Dec. 28th, at 4:00 PM*

*Annual Meeting, Sunday January 19th after the 9:00 AM Mass*

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## **Compline Change for Wed. Dec. 11th**

Our Compline service will not be on Zoom on December 11th. Instead, the service of Compline will conclude our Quiet Evening with Fr. Smith. The evening's presentation will be live streamed on our Facebook page, starting at 7:00 PM, and Compline will begin at around 8:15 PM.

[Here](#) is the service for Compline.

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## **Sunday Minister Rota for December**

### **December 8**

Ms. Anne Whitman and Ms. Emily Keniston, *Eucharistic Ministers*

Mr. Garrett Keniston, *Crucifer*

Mr. David Savage, *Vergers*

Mr. Wayne Franklin, *Lector*

Mr. Bob Simmons, *Usher*

Ms. Janene Gorham, *Altar Guild*

Ms. Judy Howes and Ms. Geri Rose, *Coffee Hour Hosts*

### **December 15**

Mr. Thomas Ainsworth and Ms. Janene Gorham, *Eucharistic Ministers*

Mr. Steve Koskinen, *Crucifer*

Mr. David Savage, *Vergers*

Mr. Steve Koskinen, *Lector*

Ms. Anita Chandler, *Usher*

Ms. Judy Howes, *Altar Guild*

TBD, *Coffee Hour Host*

### **December 22**

Ms. Lenita Richard and TBD, *Eucharistic Ministers*

Mr. Fred Fowler, *Crucifer*

Mr. David Savage, *Verger*  
Ms. Cindy Sherwood, *Usher*  
Ms. Anne Whitman, *Altar Guild*  
TBD, *Coffee Hour Host*

Christmas Eve Rota and December 29 (Lessons and Carols) are still being planned.

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## **Weekly Prayer List**

### **Prayers For Parishioners, Families, and Friends**

**Ann Marie Cady**  
**Allison Schroth**  
**Francisco Andreu**  
**Diane Dalton**  
**Dino Rice**  
**Robert Stillings**  
**Fred Fowler**  
**Mary Ann Hoy**  
**Barbara Vessey**  
**Cindy Sherwood**  
**Galen Weibley**  
**Fred Madore**

**Peter Haskell**, *friend of Allison Schroth*  
**Martha Gagliardi**, *friend of Fr. Tom*  
**Tommy Valente**, *friend of Don and Ann Marie Cady*  
**Jane Reiha**, *friend of Judy Howes*  
**Stephen and Rebecca Seraniche**, *friends of Dino Rice*  
**Marge Devine**, *family member of Allison Schroth*  
**Jimmy Devine**, *family member of Allison Schroth*  
**Fuji Sprott**, *friend of Dino Rice*  
**David Turner**, *cousin of Craig Mousin*  
**Tammy**, *friend of Craig Mousin*  
**Beth**, *friend of Lee Walters*  
**Pam**, *friend of Anita Chandler*  
**The Kutasi Family**, *friends of Allison Schroth*  
**Glenn**, *spouse of Caroline Loupe*  
**Janet Blessing**, *neighbor of Jane Noone*  
**Kelly Marie Bell**, *friend of Allison Schroth*  
**Earle**, *friend of Cindy Sherwood*  
**Grace**, *family member of Jessie Vega*  
**Kay Gross**, *friend of Jane Noone*  
**Lisa Gorham**, *daughter of John & Janene Gorham*  
**Gerald and Anita Talbot**, *friends of Anita Chandler*  
**Janine W.**, *friend of Anita Chandler*

**John Manchester**, *friend of Fr. Tom*

**James Ford**, *former parisioner, friend of Lenita Richard*

If you wish to add or return persons to the prayer list, please contact our Prayer Ministry Coordinators:

Allison Schroth, at: 207-807-1315

[ASchroth@maine.rr.com](mailto:ASchroth@maine.rr.com)

or

Emma Bond at: 207-619-3662

[emma.e.bond@gmail.com](mailto:emma.e.bond@gmail.com)

### **A Prayer for Those We Love**

Almighty God, we entrust all who are dear to us to your never-failing care and love, for this life and the life to come, knowing that you are doing for them better things than we can desire or pray for, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

From *The Book of Common Prayer*

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## **NOTES ON THIS WEEK'S MUSIC**

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897) composed a set of 11 chorale preludes for organ which, despite their relative smallness of scale, are among the most important works in the organ repertoire. The setting of *Lo, How A Rose 'E'er Blooming* places the simple chorale tune in a lush harmonic tapestry which perfectly captures the poignant mood of the text.

When the English priest John Chandler--one of the most successful translators of hymns from Latin--translated "On Jordan's Bank The Baptist's Cry," he thought that it was a medieval work. Not so: it was by Charles Coffin, a distinguished French scholar of the 16th century who served as the director of the University of Paris. No matter: both the original and the translation memorably recall John the Baptist's announcement of Christ's advent and his own call to the people of Israel to repent and prepare for his coming.

The hymn "Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming" was a favorite of Martin Luther, and paints a picture of Christ as the rose dispelling darkness and death. The tune, with its lovely melody and subtleties of rhythm, is usually sung to the famous harmonization by the great Renaissance composer Michael Praetorius.

*Picardy*--the tune to which *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* is commonly sung--originated in 17th century France as a carol. It was harmonized and included in The English Hymnal of 1906 by Ralph Vaughan Williams. The text is part of one of the oldest liturgies in the Christian Church, and is commonly attributed to St. James, the brother of Jesus.

Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878) is well known for her English translations of German hymns. Educated initially by her mother, she lived with relatives in Dresden, Germany in 1845, where she acquired her knowledge of German and interest in German hymnody. After residing near Manchester until 1862, she moved to Clifton, near Bristol. A pioneer in promoting women's rights, Winkworth put much of her energy into the encouragement of higher education for women. She translated a large number of German hymn texts from hymnals owned by a friend, Baron Bunsen. Though often altered, these translations continue to be used in many modern hymnals. Our closing hymn is well known in the Anglican tradition, both in the UK and in the US.

David N. Johnson (1922-87) was both a virtuoso organist and a much honored teacher. A graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, he served as head of the music department at St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN before becoming a professor at the University of Arizona. Concurrently, he was organist at Trinity Cathedral, Phoenix, where he composed a large number of organ and choral works, many of which are still performed widely. ~HT

We look forward to welcoming our resident soloist Mary Sullivan for the Rose Sunday service, next Sunday, December 15th.

[Visit our Website](#)

St. Peter's Episcopal Church Portland ME | 10 Alton Street | Portland, ME 04101 US

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