



---

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

---

**Holy Eucharist**  
**The Third Sunday After the Epiphany**  
**January 26, 2025 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**

Ms. Janene Gorham and Ms. Lenita Richard, *Eucharistic Ministers*

Mr. Steven Koskinen, *Crucifer*

Mr. David Savage, *Vergers*

Ms. Anne Whitman, *Lector*

Mr. Thomas Ainsworth, *Usher*

Mr. David Savage, *Altar Guild*

The Keniston Family, *Coffee Hour Hosts*

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

---

Dear Friends,

I sometimes like to think that I can ignore some of the larger issues of politics, and I confess that it is all too easy to do so when I do not believe a particular decision will have a detrimental effect on me. What may not touch me however, may significantly harm another person, and then I am reminded of the words of Jane Addams: “the good we secure for ourselves is precarious and uncertain until it is secured for us all and incorporated into our common life.”

Those of us who were at our annual meeting heard Jake Mahon describe the process that his friend Mark has made in seeking to be reunited with his family, all of whom live in a refugee camp in an African country. As you may recall, Mark had enrolled in a program of our US State Department called the Welcome Corps, the purpose of which is to help reunite families. We helped raise funds to sponsor him, and we heard on Sunday that he was being scheduled for an interview, drawing much closer to making his dream of bringing his wife and five children here a reality.

On Tuesday, Mark learned that among President Trump's first executive orders is one that has suspended the program. We know nothing yet of whether there will be any resumption. For now at least, his application, and that of many others, will not move forward.

If you had a chance to hear the sermon preached at the inaugural prayer service at the National Cathedral by the Bishop of Washington, the Rt. Rev. Mariann Budde, then you know that Mark is one of the many kinds of persons she described: a law abiding, conscientious, and committed person

who wants nothing more than to have his family with him, and to know mercy.

I encourage you to listen to her sermon, along with reading statements by our own bishop, the Rt. Rev. Thomas Brown, and a joint statement by our Presiding Bishop, the Most Rev. Sean Rowe and the President of the House of Deputies, Ms. Julia Ayala Harris. You can find Bishop Brown's statement, with links to the sermon and the other statement [here](#).

I will have more information for us on Sunday as to whether there are other specific actions we can take to assist Mark. For now, I hope you will keep him and his family in your prayers, and that you will hear God's call to welcome the stranger, to show mercy, and to bear witness to Christ's love for all of us.

Faithfully,  
Fr. Tom

---



*Some of the 44 people who attended the annual meeting*

## **Annual Meeting Highlights**

We had a bountiful and beautiful annual meeting on January 19<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to Rich Price and Paul Loven for preparing

such a festive coffee hour spread – a true brunch – and for all who helped with setup and cleanup. There were 44 of us who gathered for the meeting, both in person and a few of us on Zoom. We rejoiced and welcomed fifteen new members into the life of the parish as they signed the parish register:

Louise Clark

Chris and Emily Hickey

Mac and Kaitlin McCabe

Jake Mahon

Richard Price and Paul Loven

Daniel and Meredith Tipton

Rebecca Wallace

Daniel Warren

Galen Weibley

Anne Whitman

Talbot Goodyear (Toby has been an active member, but discovered he had not signed the book when he first joined us.)

If you were not able to be with us Sunday and still wish to join, there will be an opportunity to do so this Sunday.

We reviewed the many accomplishments of the past year, heard an overview of our income and expenses for 2024 and were presented with the vestry approved budget for 2025. Officers and other vestry members were elected:

Anita Chandler, Sr. Warden

Wayne Franklin, Jr. Warden

Bob Simmons, Treasurer

Kathleen McCormick, Clerk

and other vestry members

Patty Lamb

Steve Koskinen

Chris Hickey

Anne Whitman

Anita Chandler and Lenita Richard were reelected as diocesan convention delegates. We also had a chance to thank departing vestry members: Jessie Vega, Judy Howes, Toby Goodyear, and David Savage.

Thank you to all who made 2024 such a fruitful and faithful year at St. Peter's. We look forward to what God is doing in our midst during 2025!

The Annual Report booklet can be found in two parts - ministry reports [here](#) and budget information [here](#). Hard copies can be found at the church.

*Some of our new members after signing the parish register*



## **Supporting Our Neighbors Together**

*John Hennessy, a member of the St. Luke's Cathedral parish community, extends an invitation to all of us in area parishes for those of us who feel called to find ways to support members of marginalized communities who may face threats in the year to come:*

Hello,

On behalf of the St. Luke's Responsiveness Committee, led by Linda Carleton and Ruth Roemer, I invite you and/or anyone in your congregation who has expressed interest in working together as people of faith to respond to the impending

challenges of our neighbors in Greater Portland to a meeting on **Saturday, January 25th at 10 AM at Loring House**. We will have beverages and morning snacks.

With the vestry's approval, a group from St. Luke's has worked to establish and maintain contact with community partners who already work closely with the affected people. We know that conversations about the future of immigrants, asylum seekers, and the LGBTQ+ community, particularly our transgender brothers, sisters, and siblings, are happening in all of our churches. The group realizes that we are truly stronger when we work together.

With that as context, the group would like to expand the conversation with you and determine how combining forces will benefit our neighbors. Our combined mission will be to walk together in prayer, relationship-building, advocacy, and education. We will discuss best practices for expanding this conversation to the diocese in the weeks ahead.

John Hennessy

Fr. Tom will be attending this meeting. Please let him know if you plan to attend.

---



**Have Your Say: Teen / Tween Forum and Retreat  
Feb. 7 - 9  
Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center,  
Greenfield, NH**

Registration is open for *Have Your Say* 2025, a forum-style retreat open to middle and high school students from Maine and New Hampshire. This year attendees will explore the theme "Who Do You Say That I Am?" through art, conversation,

and connection. It will be lots of fun! This event is "pay as you're able," which means households will choose if and how much they can contribute to making the event possible. Carpooling is available.

Need more information? Please speak to Emily Keniston.

Register [here](#).

---

## Vestry Meets on Tuesday January 28th

Our monthly vestry meeting will be this coming Tuesday, January 28th at 6:30 PM on Zoom. Any and all are welcome to attend. The Zoom link is [here](#).

---

## Another Chance...

The in-person performance of "The Malaga Ship: A Story of Maine and the Middle Passage," by Antonio Rocha may be presented again on Friday February 28th in South Portland. We will let you know more details when we have them.

---

## Word of the Week

*A weekly note about the words Episcopalians use.*

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

Let's start at the very beginning... When you enter our church through the main doors, you first find yourself in the narthex. We may think of it and use it as the entryway or vestibule. In early Christian churches, it was designed as a place set apart for baptismal candidates or penitents. They would not be permitted into the main church until baptism or reconciliation, but could hear the sermon by standing in the narthex. The term is originally a Greek word signifying an empty tube such as that on a fennel plant, since the shape of early narthexes often resembled that.

---

Vestry, Tuesday January 28th at 6:30 PM on Zoom  
Compline, Wednesday January 29th at 7:00 PM ON Zoom

---

## Compline Link for January 29th

Compline will meet on Zoom on Wednesday, January 22nd at its usual time at 7:00 PM. The Zoom link is [here](#). This link is good through February 19th.

---

---

## 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**  
**Alan Biagiotti**  
**Jane Noone**  
**Mark Lombe and family**

**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 *Tom Mousin*  
**Peter Munro**, brother of *Emily Hickey*  
**Sandy**, friend of *Judy Howes*  
**Todd Cheney**, father of *Matt Cheney*  
**Jay Sprout**, friend of *Tom Mousin*  
**Brenda Macomber**, friend of *Jane Noone*

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*

---

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

A lifelong resident of Austria, Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809) spent much of his career as a court musician for the wealthy Esterházy family on their remote estate. Isolated from other composers and trends in music until the later part of his long life, he was, as he put it, "forced to become original". By the time of his death, he was one of the most celebrated composers in Europe.

Charles Wesley, brother of John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, wrote over 6,000 hymns, a number of which are still sung today. Indeed, many church historians believe that

Charles' hymns were as instrumental in the growth of the Methodist movement as was John's evangelistic preaching. "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing" is commonly sung to the tune "Azmon," composed by America's first champion of music education, Lowell Mason.

John Oxenham, the supposed author of "In Christ There Is No East Nor West," is actually one of the pen names for businessman William J. Dunkerly (1852-1941). He trained for his career in business at Victoria University, Manchester, and traveled extensively to Europe, the United States and South America, living in France several years.

Oxenham made his home in the U.S. for a time before returning to England, where he died at the age of 89. According to hymnologist Albert Bailey, Oxenham began writing "to relieve the tedium of long journeys . . . and soon discovered that he liked writing better than business."

For many years, the standard tune for this text has been ST. PETER, composed in 1836 by early American composer Alexander Reinagle. More recently, many hymnals have used a tune adapted from a spiritual by the famous African-American composer and songwriter, Harry T. Burleigh (1866-1949).

Hymnologist Carlton Young notes that the tune McKEE was arranged from the chorus of "Done changed my name for the coming day" found in "Jubilee Songs" in *The Story of the Jubilee Singers* (1897). The tune was named for the rector of St. George's Episcopal Church in New York City, Elmer M. McKee, where Burleigh was the baritone soloist for over 50 years. (He had a glorious voice which proved almost ageless.)

Born in 1882 in Richmond, Virginia, Walter Russell Bowie studied at Harvard, where he co-edited the *Harvard Crimson* with Franklin Roosevelt, and at Virginia Theological Seminary. He was ordained in the Episcopal Church in 1909 and went on to become a renowned preacher, hymn writer, and professor at Union Theological Seminary in New York City. A proponent of the social gospel, Bowie joined in the 1920's the American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born, which opposed the xenophobic legislation of the post-World War I period. Dr. Bowie died in 1969. His papers are housed in the

## Franklin Roosevelt Presidential Library.

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706) is historically significant in several ways. A fine composer in his own right, he taught Johann Christian Bach, Johann Sebastian's older brother, who in turn served as his younger brother's primary teacher. Thus, it is fair to say that JSB practically grew up in Pachelbel's shadow. While many of Pachelbel's works are smooth and polished; his organ toccatas often exhibit high spirited virtuosity. ~HT

[Visit our Website](#)

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

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!