

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

The Second Sunday in Lent
Sunday, March 1, 2026
9:00 a.m.

Join us in person for our service. Or join us by going to our livestream on the St. Peter's YouTube page [here](#).

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

Coffee hour will be held after the mass.

This Sunday's Ministers:

Mr. Steven Koskinen, *Verger*

Mr. Galen Weibley, *Crucifer*

Ms. Gwyneth Stansfield and Mr. Matthew Cheney, *Torch Bearers*

Ms. Emily Keniston & Ms. Janene Gorham, *Eucharistic Ministers*

Ms. Anne Whitman, *Lector*

Mr. Thomas Ainsworth, *Usher*

Ms. Lenita Richard, *Videographer*

Ms. Judy Howes, *Altar Guild*

Ms. Lenita Richard & Mr. Jonathan McCormick, *Counters*
Ms. Anita Chandler, Ms. Patty Lamb, Mr. Bob Simmons, *Monthly
Breakfast Hosts*

From the Rector

Dear Friends,

If you did not happen to see an email earlier this week from the parish, then I hope you have heard by now the wonderful news that the Rev. Myrna Koonce has been called to be the Priest In Charge at St. Peter's. She will serve jointly with me until I retire on April 19th, and then continue as your new leader. The announcement of this call from Anita Chandler, our Senior Warden, along with an accompanying letter by me can be found [here](#).

Please read the greeting from the Rev. Koonce below, and extend a warm welcome to her when she joins us this Sunday, March 1. Thanks be to God!

Faithfully,
Fr. Tom



Dear People of St. Peter's,

It is with great joy that I look forward to walking with you as your next Priest in Charge! I am so grateful to the Search Committee and Vestry for their thoughtful discernment and patience with me as we engaged in mutual discernment and worked through the letter of agreement. As I said to them, I can see how strongly the Spirit has been moving at St. Peter's and my hope is

that together we will continue to "open wide our doors and hearts" to all who seek the love and truth which Jesus invites us into, and which is found in such abundance in this community.

I also want to extend my deep gratitude in advance to Father Tom for his willingness to engage in this new coadjutor model, and to give generously of his experience and wisdom over the next weeks as I learn the ropes. I know that all of you, as the Body of Christ, will also be there to help me, and I am eager to find out more about what you are doing, both within the church and beyond its walls, and what your particular passions and hopes may be.

A final note: change is always challenging, and I am aware that saying goodbye to Father Tom, who has served you so lovingly and well, will be hard. I am right there with you! And I believe that being open about our emotions and desires as we move through this transition will be the greatest gift we can give one another.

Ecclesiastes tells us, "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven." We are embarking together on a new season; may God bless us, and grant that the good work already underway at St. Peter's will flourish and blossom in this time of change.

In love and peace,
Myrna

What's In A Name? A Few Words About Titles

As we welcome our new priest in charge, we also prepare to bid farewell to our rector. What do these titles mean, and why are they different?

A priest in charge is the name given when a priest is called by a parish for a contracted period of time. The Rev. Koonce has signed a Letter of Agreement for a three year contract. That contract can be renewed as desired by the priest and the parish.

Fr. Tom initially had a three year contract as our priest in charge, which was renewed twice for one year contracts. For the entire time with us, he has been our priest in charge

We have used the term "rector" in recent years simply as a matter of convenience, a term more familiar to many in the Episcopal Church

as the leader of a parish. Officially, a priest in charge becomes a rector when a parish and priest agree to make a commitment unspecified by a time limited contract. In some ways, it is similar to an educator having the status of tenure.

Not to make things more confusing, but here is one more term - "consulting priest." Fr. Tom will be using that term for the next two months, as his retirement takes effect on March 1. While he will no longer be called our priest in charge or our rector, he will continue to be compensated and work alongside the Rev. Koonce to ensure a smooth transition.

Once Again, Be Wary of Scams

Please know that the rector, or any other church leader, will never send you an email or text asking for gift cards or emergency donations of any kind. Persons impersonating the rector are sending emails or texts trying to secure funds. Do not respond in any way.

Around the Parish

Congratulations to Linda Foster, who has become a great grandmother with the birth of Theodore Alexander Foster on February 20th. Teddy is the son of Cameron and Catie Foster.

Our Lenten Quiet Day with Fr Martin Smith: This Saturday, February 28th from 9 am to 1 pm

We will gather for a morning of Lenten reflections with Fr. Smith. There will be coffee and refreshments in the undercroft from 9 to 9:30. Fr. Smith will then give three separate reflections, interspersed with quiet time for prayer and meditation. We will end the day with a half hour for conversation with each other starting at 12:30 and concluding at 1 pm. There is no charge; donations will be welcome. See details on the theme of the day below.

Time for some 'Holy Cancellation'

A Lenten Quiet Morning

Led by Fr Martin Smith



The two New Testament words that we translate as forgive, actually mean 'to cancel' and 'to let go.' Lent is specially a time when we celebrate God's constantly renewed cancellation of everything that puts us in the wrong. And it is the season when we seek the Spirit's help to do our own timely work of holy cancellation. Forgiving others, and letting go of resentment. Canceling our 'subscriptions' to ideas and authorities that the gospel shows to be false. Canceling those inner voices that distract us from the love of God. Join us for a quiet morning of reflection and prayer in which we will receive guidance for the holy 'cancel culture' we foster as disciples of Christ.

9 am to 1 pm
Saturday February 28th
St. Peter's Episcopal
Church
678 Washington Ave.
Portland, Maine

stpetersoffice10@gmail.com
207-775-1179



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

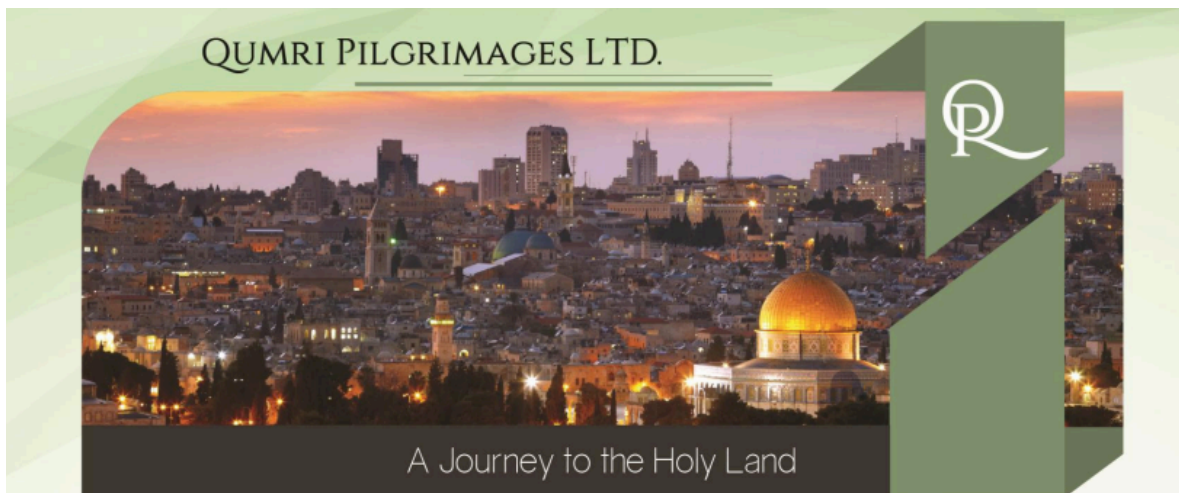
St. Elizabeth's Essentials Pantry Continues to Appreciate Our Donated Goods

Please keep in mind that the Essentials Pantry is always in need of the following items. They can be placed by the St. Elizabeth's poster in the undercroft or brought directly to St. Elizabeth's, at St. Luke's Cathedral, on Tuesday mornings:

- Kitchen & cookware

- Pots/pans, crockpots, plates, bowls, cups, cutlery, small appliances (toasters, microwaves)
- Bed & bath linens
 - Sheets, pillow cases, blankets, quilts, bath, hand & beach towels
- Personal care items
 - Diapers, feminine & incontinent products, toothbrushes & paste, deodorant, shampoo
- Adult winter coats & boots – clean and in good condition

Other than winter coats, remember that clothing donations cannot be accepted.



Visit the Holy Land with Bishop Brown and Deirdre Good, Th.D Thursday, Jan. 28 - Monday, Feb. 8, 2027

For more than 30 years, family-owned Qumri Pilgrimages has guided Christians on experiences to deepen their relationships with Jesus in the Holy Land. This pilgrimage is a unique opportunity to walk through the land where Jesus was born, lived, died and was resurrected. Together with Bishop Brown and Deirdre Good your journey will take you to such holy sites as the Western Wall, Capernaum, Church of the Nativity, and the Garden of Gethsemane; you will not just "visit," these sacred places, you will "live" them.

Download an itinerary [here](#). Please complete [this form](#) to express your interest in joining the pilgrimage and for more details.

Worship Opportunities During Lent

Stations of the Cross at Noon: Please Note Change in Dates: Tuesdays, March 3rd and March 24th

The Stations of the Cross service will meet as it has on Zoom, and this year, but at a new time: rather than meeting every week, we will meet for two times at noon - Tuesday March 3, early in Lent, and then on Tuesday March 24th. The Zoom link for both services is [here](#).

Evening Prayer Offered on Fridays in Lent

An Evening Prayer service will be offered each Friday during Lent at the church at 5:30 pm. Galen Weibley will lead these services, starting on Friday, February 20th. Evening Prayer is one of the services that is part of the Daily Office in the Book of Common Prayer. Here is another opportunity to engage in a prayer discipline for the season of Lent. Galen will welcome your attendance and you can let him know of your interest when you see him in church.



Save the Dates

Retirement Party

We will celebrate Fr. Tom's Retirement on April 12th, at 4 pm in the Undercroft. Please contact Anita Chandler, achandler@maine.rr.com, if you would like to help in the planning.

Open House

Fr Tom and Bishop Brown invite you to an Open House at their home on Sunday, March 15 from 3-5 pm. We are invited to gather on this Rose Sunday for some Lenten refreshment.

The address is 45 Belmont St in Portland, and parking is available on the street and next door in the parking lot of the Center for Grieving Children.

Compline

Compline will meet on Wednesday, March 4th, at its usual time, 7:00 PM.

Connect with our gathering then by clicking the Zoom link [here](#).

This Week at St. Peter's

Parish Breakfast, Sun. Mar. 1, after the Sunday Liturgy

Stations of the Cross, Tue. Mar. 3, Noon, Zoom

Compline, Wed. Mar. 4, 7pm, Zoom

Evening Prayer, Fri. Mar. 6, 5:30 pm, at church

In the Coming Weeks

St. Elizabeth's Essentials Pantry, Tue. Mar. 10, 8:30-11

Open House at Fr. Tom and Bishop Brown's Home,
Sunday March 15th from 3-5 pm, 45 Belmont Street

Stations of the Cross, Tue. Mar. 23, 12 noon, Zoom

Vestry, Tue. Mar. 24, 6:30 pm, Zoom

Fr. Mousin Retirement Party, Sun. April 12, 4pm, Undercroft

Sunday Minister Rota for March

March 8, 2026

Mr. David Savage, *Verger*

Mr. Galen Weibley, *Crucifer*

Ms. Judy Howes and Ms. Lenita Richard, *Torch Bearers*

Ms. Emily Keniston & Ms. Janene Gorham, *Eucharistic Ministers*

Ms. Anne Whitman, *Lector*

Mr. Tom Ainsworth, *Usher*

Ms. Lenita Richard, *Videographer*

Ms. Judy Howes, *Altar Guild*

Ms. Lenita Richard & Mr. Jonathan McCormick, *Counters*

Ms. Anita Chandler, Ms. Patty Lamb, Mr. Bob Simmons, *Monthly Breakfast Hosts*

March 15, 2026

Mr. David Savage, *Verger*

Mr. Steve Koskinen, *Crucifer*

Ms. Anne Whitman and Ms. Janene Gorham, *Torch Bearers*

Ms. Emily Hickey & Mr. Jake Mahon, *Eucharistic Ministers*

TBD, *Lector*

Mr. Will Estrella, *Usher*

Mr. Clayton Hickey, *Videographer*

Ms. Lenita Richard, *Altar Guild*

Ms. Meredith Tipton & Mr. Rich Price, *Counters*

March 22, 2026

Mr. Steven Koskinen, *Verger*

Mr. Steve Booth, *Crucifer*

Ms. Gwyneth Stansfield and Mr. Matthew Cheney, *Torch Bearers*

Ms. Lenita Richard & Mr. Steve Booth, *Eucharistic Ministers*

TBD, *Lector*

Mr. Bob Simmons, *Usher*

Mr. Will Estrella, *Videographer*

Ms. Janene Gorham, *Altar Guild*

Mr. Garrett Keniston & Mr. Jonathan McCormick, *Counters*

TBD, *Coffee Hour Hosts*

March 29, 2026

Mr. Galen Weibley, *Crucifer*

Mr. Steven Koskinen, *Thurifer*

Ms. Anica Hickey and Ms. Marya Hickey, *Torch Bearers*

Ms. Emily Keniston & Ms. Janene Gorham, *Eucharistic Ministers*

TBD, *Lector*

Ms. Anita Chandler, *Usher*

Mr. Wayne Franklin, *Videographer*

Ms. Judy Howes, *Altar Guild*

Mr. Wayne Franklin & Mr. Rich Price, *Counters*

TBD, *Coffee Hour Hosts*

Prayers For Parishioners, Families, and Friends

Ann Marie Cady
Allison Schroth
Francisco Andreu
Diane Dalton
Dino Rice
Robert Stillings
Pat Fowler
Mary Ann Hoy
Barbara Vessey
Fred Madore
Alan Biagiotti
Jane Noone
Marc Lombe and family
Linda Foster
Garrett Keniston
Kevin Curty
Paul Loven
Anita Chandler

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*
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*
Peter Munro, *brother of Emily Hickey*
Todd Cheney, *father of Matt Cheney*
Jay Sprout, *friend of Tom Mousin*
Sandy Woolley, *friend of Judy Howes*
Amanda and Chris Conant, *friends of Jane Noone*
Pam, *friend of Cindy Sherwood*
Michael King, *friend of Anita Chandler*
Amy Carter, *friend of Fred and Priscila Madore*

Norma and Joe Kennedy, friends of Jane Noone
Mary Jo Floyd, relative of Fr. Tom Mousin
Frank Beal, friend of Lenita and Rodney Richard
Mary Lou Toye, aunt of the McCormicks
Cathryn Buckley, sister of Judy Howes
John Richard, brother of Rodney Richard
Jim Halstead, friend of Craig Mousin

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

Allison Schroth: 207-807-1315, Aschroth207@gmail.com

or

Emma Bond: 207-619-3662, 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 SUNDAY'S MUSIC

Sir George Dyson (1883-1964) was director of the Royal College of Music in London and composed music heard at the coronation of Queen Elizabeth in 1953. His broadcasts designed to introduce great music to the general public were popular features of BBC programming.

Our sequence hymn, "*O love, how deep, how broad, how high...that God, the Son of God, should take our mortal form for mortals' sake*" ... provides the opportunity to sing the story of salvation from the birth through the ascension of Christ—a rare scope for a hymn. The incipit (the opening line of a poem) appears to be drawn from Ephesians: "How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ." The original anonymous Latin poem consists of 23 stanzas! The Latin was found in a fifteenth-century Karlsruhe (Germany) manuscript and printed in a German volume in 1853. The English translation comes to us through the efforts of Benjamin Webb (1819-1885), a much-admired Anglican clergyman. Webb was the editor of two journals, *The Ecclesiologist* (1842-1868) and the *Church Quarterly Review* (1881-1885). His connections with the Oxford Movement's John Mason Neale (1818-1866) led to several scholarly collaborations and influenced his contributions to two important English hymnals, *The Hymnal Noted* (1854) and *The*

Hymnary (1872). (Since I've referred to it several times in the past few months, perhaps I should provide a note on the "Oxford Movement." Or...even better...you might just ask Fr. Tom!).

“In the cross of Christ I glory” (1825) was composed while the author, Sir George Bowring, was in his early thirties. Appearing in *Hymns by John Bowring* (1825), the theme and language suggest a much more mature poet. Late 19th-century hymnologist John Julian suggests that Galatians 6:14 provides the basis for this hymn: “Far be it for me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ” (KJV).

Of Francesco Manfredini (1684-1762), comparatively little is known. He was a prolific and highly admired composer during his lifetime, but only about 40 of his compositions have survived. The music-loving prince of Monaco, Antoine I, served as godfather to Manfredini's first son, which suggests that the composer's many years in the prince's service were well-rewarded. ~HT

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