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

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**The Fourth Sunday in Lent  
Laetare Sunday  
Sunday, March 15, 2026  
9:00 a.m.**

**Our main entrance is open again!**

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. Steve Koskinen, *Crucifer*

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

Ms. Emily Hickey & Mr. Galen Weibley, *Eucharistic Ministers*

Mr. Wayne Franklin, *Lector*

Mr. Will Estrella, *Usher*

Mr. Clayton Hickey, *Videographer*

Ms. Lenita Richard, *Altar Guild*

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

Mr. Wayne & Ms. Mary Franklin, *Coffee Hour Hosts*

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## **From the Priest in Charge**

Dear Friends,

Over the past week we have been blessed with several days of warmth and sun which, along with our time change, have heralded a welcome shift, the promise of spring after darkness and cold, snow and ice. I hope you have all had the chance to soak in that warmth!

This Sunday is known in the church calendar as Laetare Sunday, or Rose Sunday (you will notice the rose colored clergy vestments!). As our Episcopal Church Dictionary tells us, Laetare Sunday marks the joyful anticipation of Easter, and thus “provides lightening from the penitential emphasis of Lent.” We feel the shift, temporary as it might be, from somberness to joy, from repentance and a keen awareness of our sinfulness to the healing we know will come with the risen Jesus. And then we will resume our Lenten journey, traveling through the increasing darkness of Holy Week before emerging into the light of Christ’s victory over death at Easter.

Joy and sorrow are always braided together. Our country and our world are in the midst of a widespread upheaval that is inflicting suffering on so many people. Yet we see and experience many acts of kindness and love, many moments of rebirth and transformation that bring us joy and remind us of our Savior’s desire to draw all to God and to bring God’s kingdom here on earth.

As we move through these last weeks of Lent, and as we lament “the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf,” let us be alert to those moments of light and love that leaven and sustain us.

Faithfully yours,

## Baptisms in the Easter Season

Eastertide is an appropriate season for baptisms. We have two dates when baptisms can take place, Sunday April 12, the Second Sunday of Easter, and at the culmination of the Easter season on the Day of Pentecost, Sunday May 24th. Please be in touch with Pastor Myrna if you are interested in baptism for yourself or for family members.

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Fr Tom and Bishop Brown invite you to an Open House at their home this Sunday, March 15 from 3-5:30 pm. We are invited to gather on this Rose Sunday for some Lenten refreshment.

The address is 45 Belmont St in Portland. Belmont St. is just around the corner from The Center for Grieving Children, between Forest Ave. and the Back Cove (access is only from Forest Ave.) Parking is available on the street and next door to the house in the parking lot of the Center for Grieving Children.

You will see the parking lot as you drive onto Belmont St, and 45 Belmont is the green house on the left just beyond the parking lot.

There are some steps up into the house, but we will have folks ready to assist those for whom stairs are a challenge.

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## News from St. Elizabeth's Essentials Pantry

Jonathan McCormick has been elected to serve a three year term as a member of the St. Elizabeth's Board of Directors. Jonathan joins Anita Chandler as a St. Peter's representative on the board. Congratulations, Jonathan, and thank you to both Anita and you for serving our neighbors.

## The 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.

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## Building Updates

Stonework repairs on the exterior of the church have been completed. Hascall and Hall, the stonemasons doing the work, have removed the scaffolding and our main entrance is open again!



Fire extinguishers throughout the building were inspected this week and will be returned to strategic spots. Thank you to Wayne Franklin, our junior warden, who has overseen these and so many other building projects.



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## **Around the Parish**

Dan Warren is a painter, and currently has an exhibit of his works entitled, "Beholding in Silence" at the Merrymeeting Arts Center in Bowdownham ( the center is at 9 Main St.) The gallery is open on Saturday March 14 and Sat. March 21 from 9 am to 2 pm.



**"When I was hungry you gave me something to eat..."**

### **Food For All Needs Our Help**

**Food For All Services** is a Portland based immigrant led non profit that packs and delivers food to hundreds of households in Cumberland County and beyond. They are still in need of greater community support.

The Rev. Katie Holicky, who currently serves at St. Paul's in Brunswick, brings their needs to our attention:

The reality for our neighbors is that folks are still being abducted, some folks are still sheltering in place, and others find themselves in hard financial situations since they were not able to work for a few weeks.

Our neighbors still need our support as folks who are marginalized always will. Jesus is clear about welcoming and supporting our immigrant neighbors. Let us live into this beautiful opportunity to embody our faith by way of helping to feed the vulnerable.

Peace, Rev. Katie Holicky

**[Learn more about them here.](#)**

**[Sign up to volunteer to pack food or deliver food.](#)** (The need for drivers to deliver food is dire!)

Donate **[here.](#)**

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**Save the Date:**

**Chili Chowder Supper on Sat. April 11th**

We will once again be serving up delicious chowder and chili. This year's event will be on Saturday, April 11th, with the doors opening at 4 pm. Cost will be \$15 with a variety of chowders and chilis offered. Watch Key Notes and the worship leaflet for more details in the weeks to come as to how you can help.

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**Fr. Tom's 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](mailto:achandler@maine.rr.com)**, if you would like to help in the planning.

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## Evening Prayer Continues During Lent on Fridays at 5:30 pm

Do join us for this lovely service at the end of the day and the end of the week. Galen Weibley leads us, as we gather in the chancel to pray and offer praise to God.

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## Stations of the Cross: Tuesday March 24th at 4 pm

We will have a Zoom Stations of the Cross service on Tuesday March 24th, and it will be held at 4 pm. the Zoom link is [here](#).

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## Compline

Compline will meet on Wednesday, March 18th, at its usual time, 7:00 PM.

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

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**This Week at St. Peter's**  
*Open House at Fr. Tom and Bishop Brown's Home,*  
Sunday March 15th from 3-5 pm, 45 Belmont Street  
*Compline, Wed. Mar. 18, 7pm, Zoom*  
*Evening Prayer, Fri. Mar. 20, 5:30 pm, at church*

**In the Coming Weeks**

Stations of the Cross on Zoom, *Tue. Mar. 24, 4:00 pm*  
Vestry, *Tue. Mar. 24, 6:30 pm, Zoom*  
*Chili and Chowder Fundraising Supper, Sat. April 11, 4:00 pm*  
*Fr. Mousin Retirement Party, Sun. April 12, 4pm, Undercroft*

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## **Sunday Minister Rota for March**

### **March 15, 2026**

Mr. David Savage, *Verger*  
Mr. Steve Koskinen, *Crucifer*  
Ms. Anne Whitman and Ms. Janene Gorham, *Torch Bearers*  
Ms. Emily Hickey & Mr. Galen Weibley, *Eucharistic Ministers*  
Mr. Wayne Franklin, *Lector*  
Mr. Will Estrella, *Usher*  
Mr. Clayton Hickey, *Videographer*  
Ms. Lenita Richard, *Altar Guild*  
Ms. Meredith Tipton & Mr. Rich Price, *Counters*  
Mr. Wayne & Ms. Mary Franklin, *Coffee Hour Hosts*

### **March 22, 2026**

Mr. Steve Koskinen, *Verger*  
Mr. Fred Fowler, *Crucifer*  
Ms. Gwyneth Stansfield and Mr. Matthew Cheney, *Torch Bearers*  
Ms. Lenita Richard & Mr. Steve Booth, *Eucharistic Ministers*  
Mr. Galen Weibley, *Lector*  
Mr. Bob Simmons, *Usher*  
Mr. Will Estrella, *Videographer*  
Ms. Janene Gorham, *Altar Guild*  
Mr. Garrett Keniston & Mr. Jonathan McCormick, *Counters*  
Priscilla and Fred Madore and Anita Chandler, *Coffee Hour Hosts*

### **March 29, 2026**

TBD, *Verger*  
Mr. Steve Koskinen, *Thurifer*  
Mr. Jake Mahon, *Crucifer*  
Ms. Anica Hickey and Ms. Marya Hickey, *Torch Bearers*  
Ms. Emily Keniston & Ms. Janene Gorham, *Eucharistic Ministers*  
Ms. Jan Tracy, *Lector*  
Ms. Anita Chandler, *Usher*  
Mr. Wayne Franklin, *Videographer*  
Ms. Judy Howes, *Altar Guild*  
Mr. Wayne Franklin & Mr. Rich Price, *Counters*  
Dan Warren, *Coffee Hour Hosts*

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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**

**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](mailto:Aschroth207@gmail.com)

or

Emma Bond: 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 SUNDAY'S MUSIC**

Who isn't familiar with Pachelbel's Canon in D? After its use in the film score of *Ordinary People* (1980), it became a mainstay at weddings. And, perhaps unfortunately, whenever an atmosphere of quiet elegance was required, it made the perfect backdrop—mood music guaranteed not to intrude on the main action. So it might be tempting to think of Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706) as a one-hit wonder. In fact, he was a prolific composer and one of the most celebrated organists of his time. A toccata (from the Italian "to touch") is a virtuosic work that usually requires fast finger work. Pachelbel wrote a number of toccatas that tend to feature long sustained notes in the pedal with two voices on the manuals (keyboards on the organ) playing fast passages. So it is with this morning's "Toccatina in E minor."

Written in 1747, "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" is not only one of Charles Wesley's most famous hymns, but also one of his most popular. It

is a Christianization of John Dryden's secular song, "Fairest Isle," sung by Venus in Act 5 of Dryden and Henry Purcell's semi-opera *King Arthur*. However, in Dryden's song, the goddess of love chooses the Isle of Britain over her native Cyprus; in Wesley's hymn, divine love itself is asked to choose the human heart as its residence over its native heaven.

The son of a British admiral, Sir Henry Williams Baker (1821-77) was the editor of *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, whose publication in 1861 laid the groundwork for the great Anglican tradition of congregational singing which has continued to the present day. Sir Henry contributed twenty-five hymns to the volume, the best known of which is "The King Of Love My Shepherd Is," paired with the lovely Irish tune *St. Columba*.

--What a fellowship, what a joy divine,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms;  
What a blessedness, what a peace is mine,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms.

"Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" is the result of an epiphany based on the text of Deuteronomy 33:27, "The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms" (KJV). The author, Anthony Showalter, studied music in England, France, and Germany and served as an elder of the First Presbyterian Church in Dalton, Georgia. Showalter was inspired by this Scripture after hearing the news that the wives of two of his former pupils had died and were buried the same day. In a letter of sympathy, he created the text of the refrain out of a verse from Deuteronomy and asked his friend Elisha Hoffman ((1839-1929) to write the stanzas.

Jason Payne's "Jubilee" is a newcomer to the organ literature; published just five years ago, the work combines an English trumpet tune with some upbeat American jazz rhythms. In Afro-American musical parlance, a "Jubilee" is a setting of a joyous folk tune...certainly the case with this short piece. ~HT

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