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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 Fifth Sunday  
of Easter  
Sunday, May 3rd, 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:**

**May 3, 2026**

Mr. Galen Weibley, *Crucifer*

Mr. Tom Ainsworth & Ms. Anne Whitman, *Eucharistic Ministers*

Mr. Wayne Franklin, *Lector*

Ms. Cindy Sherwood, *Usher*,

Ms. Anne Whitman, *Altar Guild*

Mr. Clayton Hickey, *Videographer*

Mr. Jonathan McCormick & Mr. Rich Price, *Counters*

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

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## From the Priest in Charge

Dear Friends,

When I was a child growing up in rural North Belgrade, Maine, we celebrated May Day (May 1) by making paper baskets and filling them with early wildflowers, or even candy. We then hung the baskets on neighbors' doorknobs, rang the bell, or knocked on the door, and ran away. People laughed and smiled as they discovered this gift of love and joy!

The tradition of May Day baskets, which has its roots in pagan practice, was promoted as a wholesome activity for children in many Christian communities in the 20<sup>th</sup> century; perhaps some among you remember doing this! The fact that it has faded away speaks to many things, but perhaps most of all to first, how self-involved our society has become, and second, how much fear there may be about even approaching a neighbor's house unless you know them very well.

Part of the challenge of living in a time of disruption and change, when cynicism is ascendant and innocence is under siege, is continuing to live in a fully human and open way. An unexpected kindness can heal our friends and neighbors in ways we might not even know. I have seen such gestures here at St. Peter's: noticing when a fellow parishioner is in need and reaching out in love and care; giving joyfully of our time and treasure to neighbors in need. And we have the opportunity to stretch ourselves further in our walk with Jesus, as for example when people come to our very doors and ask for help. We can open our hearts and listen to their stories, which is sometimes just as important as any material assistance we can give them.

Jesus tells us, "Be not afraid." It is my hope that we will all have a "May Day basket" moment this month, when we can gladden the hearts of those with whom we intersect in both expected and unexpected ways.

In faith and love,  
Myrna+

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## Reception for Transitional Diaconal Ordination

St. Peter's will co-host the reception following the ordination of Emily Keniston and Maribeth Payne on May 9. **We will need people to help set up and clean up, to bring papaer products, and to make sweet and savory dishes for the reception.** Lenita and Rodney Richard have graciously agreed to coordinate our efforts--- thank you! A sign-up sheet is in the undercroft. If you have questions, please email Lenita at [lenitarichard@gmail.com](mailto:lenitarichard@gmail.com)

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## Creation Care in Action!

Our Creation Care team was busy this week replanting the flowers that graced our chancel and nave during Easter. Thank you all for your hard work!

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EPISCOPAL  
MAINE



EST<sup>d</sup> 1820

By the Grace of God  
and with the consent of the people

**The Rt. Rev. Thomas J. Brown**  
*Tenth Bishop of Maine*

will ordain

**Emily Ainsworth Keniston**  
**and**

**Maribeth Anderson Payne**

Deacons

(Transitional)

in Christ's one holy catholic and apostolic Church

Your prayers and presence are requested

Saturday, the ninth day of May, two thousand and twenty-six  
at ten o'clock in the morning

The Cathedral Church of St. Luke  
143 State Street, Portland, Maine

Reception immediately following the service

Clergy are asked to wear red stoles

The service will also be livestreamed on St. Luke's [YouTube channel](#).

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## **Opportunity for the Sacrament of Baptism**

The Day of Pentecost (May 24th this year) is one of four occasions listed in the Book of Common Prayer as particularly appropriate for administering the sacrament. During baptism, we are anointed by the Holy Spirit as well as sprinkled with water,

and so Pentecost Sunday, when we commemorate the coming of the Holy Spirit, is a natural time to receive the sacrament. If you have never been baptized, or if you have family members whom you may wish to baptize, please be in touch with Rev. Myrna, so that preparations can be made.

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## Building Project in the Dominican Republic

Parishioners Steve Koskinen and Colette Desjardins are involved in the Morgan Stanley Bridges to Community Project in the Dominican Republic. Employees travel to the country to build homes and support community infrastructure. Steve and Colette will be heading down there in June! Please visit Steve's site to learn how you can help support this project.

<https://bridgestocommunity.org/campaign/morgan-stanley-3/fundraiser/56/>

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## YOUTH SERVICE CORPS LOCK-IN



**SATURDAY  
MAY 16TH  
5:00 PM**

### Flexible Options for Pick Up

Sat. night @ 10:30 pm

Sun. morning before 9:30 am

Sun. morning @ 11:30 am



**First Congregational Church UCC  
301 Cottage Road, South Portland**



**\$10 - \$30 Suggested Donation to YSC  
Includes dinner, ice cream and breakfast**

**Come together in  
faith, friendship,  
and prayer!**

- **PLAY ICE BREAKER GAMES**
- **MAKE A MEAL TOGETHER**
- **WALK TO RED'S DAIRY FREEZE**
- **COMPLETE A SERVICE PROJECT**

**RSVP to Amber Burks at [amber@stalbansmaine.org](mailto:amber@stalbansmaine.org)**



**RSVP BY SUNDAY, MAY 3**

## Compline

Compline will meet on Wednesday, May 6th, at its usual time, 7:00 PM.

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

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## Vestry Update

The Vestry, St. Peter's governing board, met this Tuesday. Gratitude was shared for the smooth transition and for the many hands that helped make Fr. Tom's leave-taking sacred and meaningful. The work of many throughout Holy Week, from altar guild to worship ministers to coffee hour hosts to those creating and folding bulletins, was noted with appreciation. The Vestry gives special thanks to Galen Weibley for his leading of Evening Prayer during Lent.

Building and grounds are in good shape, with the recent masonry work completed in time for Holy Week. Demolition work will commence on the women's bathroom in late May. The Creation Care team is working on a plan for a meditation garden, which will involve reusing a baptismal font.

The Capital Campaign Committee will be reconvening soon to discuss next steps in projects named by parishioners and the Vestry as of importance.

The tenants at Bethany House will be signing a lease for another year. They have been model tenants.

We will have a potluck dinner following the Celebration of New Ministry on June 7. More details will be forthcoming.

Discussion was held about a possible yard sale in September. We will have further information on this soon.

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## Marketing Volunteer Needed

Are you a person who enjoys design work and creating website and social media content? If so, we would love to have your skills as we seek to improve our publicity around upcoming events, and our

outreach to our immediate neighborhood and the community. Please see Rev. Myrna if you are interested.

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## Our Fence Post Keeps Tilting!

Last fall, our junior warden Wayne Franklin worked hard to anchor this sign but it still is leaning after the winter. If you are willing and able to help fix this and make the post more secure, please speak with Rev. Myrna or Wayne. Thanks!



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## Updates to Parish Directory

We are updating our Parish Directory, and hope to complete this soon! Copies of the directory can be found on the table in the undercroft. Please notify Bob Simmons at: [treasurerstpetersport@gmail.com](mailto:treasurerstpetersport@gmail.com) if you have a change of address or phone number, or to provide him with this information if you are a newcomer. You can also speak to him at church if you prefer.

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### **This Week at St. Peter's**

*Compline, Wed. May 6, 7:00 PM on Zoom*

### **Coming up at St. Peter's**

*Emily Keniston's Ordination to the Transitional Diaconate,*

*Sat. May 9, 10 am, St. Luke's Cathedral*

*St. Elizabeth's Essentials Pantry, Tues. May 12, 8:30-11 am, St. Luke's Youth Service Corps "Lock In" Overnight Event, Sat. May 16-Sun. May 17, First Congregational Church UCC, South Portland*

*Holy Baptism, Day of Pentecost, Sun. May 24, 9 am, Church*

*Celebration of New Ministry, Sun. June 7, 4 pm, Church*

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## Sunday Minister Rota for May

**May 10, 2026**

Mr. Steve Koskinen, *Crucifer*

Ms. Emily Hickey & Ms. Lenita Richard, *Eucharistic Ministers*

Mr. Tom Ainsworth, *Usher*

Mr. Bob Simmons, *Videographer*

Ms. Janene Gorham, *Altar Guild*

Ms. Meredith Tipton & Ms. Lenita Richard, *Counters*

**May 17, 2026**

Mr. Tom Ainsworth, *Crucifer*

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

Mr. Will Estrella, *Usher*

Ms. Lenita Richard, *Videographer*

Ms. Lenita Richard, *Altar Guild*

Mr. Wayne Franklin and Ms. Anita Chandler *Counters*

**May 24, 2026**

Mr. Jake Mahon, *Crucifer*

Mr. Galen Weibley & Mr. Steve Booth, *Eucharistic Ministers*

Mr. Bob Simmons, *Usher*

Mr. Will Estrella, *Videographer*

Ms. Judy Howes, *Altar Guild*

Mr. Jonathan McCormick & Mr. Wayne Franklin, *Counters*

**May 31, 2026**

Mr. Fred Fowler, *Crucifer*

Ms. Janene Gorham & Ms. Anne Whitman, *Eucharistic Ministers*

Ms. Anita Chandler, *Usher*

Mr. Bob Simmons, *Videographer*

Ms. Anne Whitman, *Altar Guild*

Ms. Meredith Tipton & Ms. Lenita Richard, *Counters*

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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

Born in India to missionary parents, Philadelphian Robert Elmore (1913-1985) was both a superb organist and a prolific composer. For the first International Congress of Organists, held in London in 1957, David McK. Williams, the distinguished organist of St. Bartholomew's Church in NYC, commissioned Dr. Elmore to compose the tuneful setting of the old Scottish hymn *There Is a Land of Pure Delight*, featured as this morning's prelude.

"In Christ there is no east or west,  
in him no south or north;  
but one great fellowship of love  
throughout the whole wide earth."

John Oxenham is one of the pen names for the English businessman William J. Dunkerly (1852-1941). 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." English literary scholar and hymnologist J.R. Watson notes that the hymn takes its opening idea from Rudyard Kipling's famous lines, "Oh, East is East, and West is West, and never the twain shall meet" from "The Ballad of East and West," published in 1892. However, the theme of Oxenham's hymn is the antithesis of Kipling's verse.

The authorship of Bach's *Eight Short Preludes and Fugues*, standard fare for every serious organ student, is a source of ongoing controversy. Attributed to Bach in the mid-19th century by the editors of the first complete edition of his organ works, the so-called "Eight Short" have more recently been thought to be by his student Johann Krebs, since in so many places they seem unlike anything else Bach is known to have written for organ. The only problem with that hypothesis is that they're unlike anything Krebs ever wrote, as well! Did some other composer--one of Bach's talented sons, for example--produce them, perhaps with some help from the master himself in places? Within the past few years, the brilliant but controversial

German musicologist/organist Harald Vogel has offered a new theory: the "Eight Short" were composed by Bach all right, but for the pedal clavichord, not the organ, which he feels would account for the departures from Bach's usual style of organ composition. Whatever the case, they're fine pieces and can serve effectively at various points in a church service, as the example heard this morning attests.~ HT

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