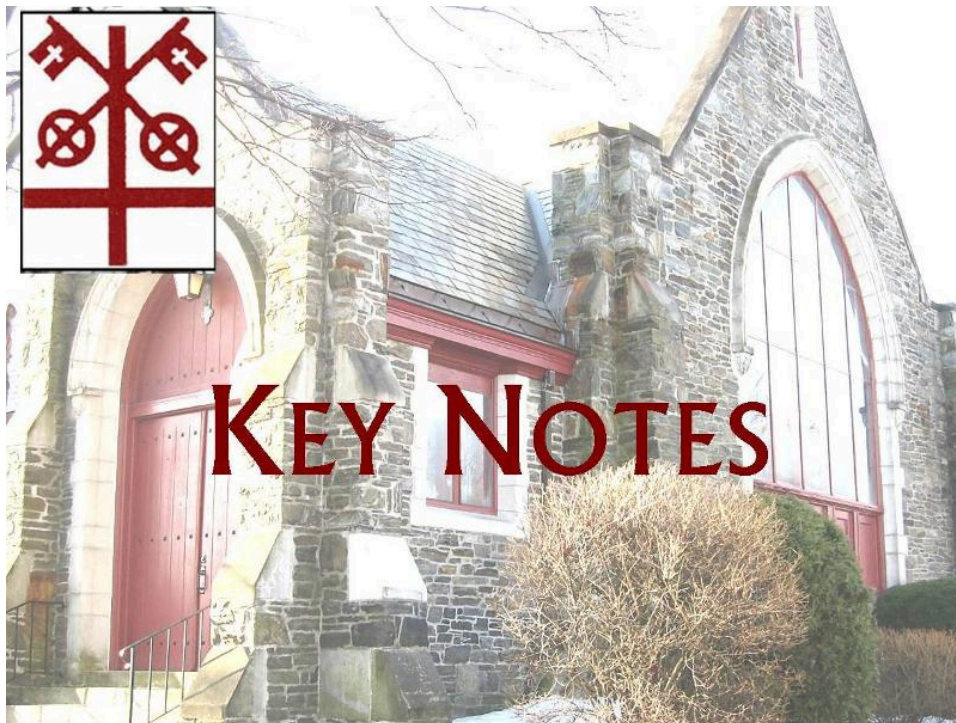




*Opening wide our doors and hearts
in the name of Jesus Christ Our Lord and Savior*

**The Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost
in the Season of Creation
The Feast of St. Francis
Saturday, October 3, 2026
4:00 pm**

Please note:

No church on Sunday, October 4!

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](#).

This Sunday's Ministers:

Saturday, October 3, 2026

Mr. Fred Fowler, *Crucifer*

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

Mr. Terry Foster, *Lector*

Mr. Bob Simmons, *Usher*

Ms. Lenita Richard, *Videographer*
Ms. Janene Gorham, *Altar Guild*
Mr. Jonathan McCormick & Ms. Anita Chandler, *Counters*
The Hickey Family and Others, *Dinner Hosts*

From the Priest in Charge

Dear Friends,

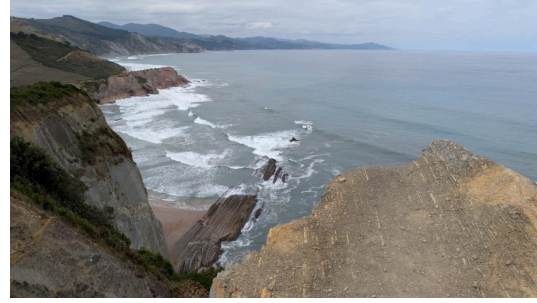
One of the gifts of travel is being able to see with new eyes. We all take the environments we inhabit somewhat for granted, the sharp edges of awe and wonder blunted by continued familiarity. While I do regularly remind myself, when I drive 295 to St. Peter's, to really drink in the ocean's beauty in all its moods and forms, I just as often am so involved in my thoughts and plans that I forget to give the landscape my undivided attention.

As we made our way across the north of Spain, we visited several locations on the Bay of Biscay, part of our shared Atlantic Ocean. I thought of how the waves were simultaneously breaking on the shore where I was travelling and the shore where I lived. The swells are enormous, and it's a popular area for surfers, but perhaps even more of an attraction for me were the Flysch Rocks along the Basque Coast, which have been shaped for millions of years (over 60 million!) by wave erosion and tectonic plate shifts so that they look like flaking pastry or pages of a book. They are composed of alternating soft and hard rock layers, a tempting metaphor for us as humans!

Seeing these cliffs filled me with an awe for God's Creation, and for the unfolding eras, times of peace and times of turbulence, through which these rocks have stood, and, yes, changed. For comparison, the oldest early human skeleton that has been found is 4.4 million years old. The rocks predate our species, and they will endure beyond our lifetimes. When we touch them, we touch millions of years of history and prehistory.

As we come to the end of the Season of Creation, marked for us by our St. Francis Mass this Saturday afternoon, I invite you to consider what in our natural world inspires awe and wonder in you, and how you might respond with love and care to the animals, plants and inanimate beings that Francis so aptly called Sister and Brother.

Faithfully yours,



NO Service on Sunday, October 4
Special Service: 4 PM Mass Saturday, October 3 with
Blessing of the Gardens and the Animals

Followed by Spaghetti Supper for Marathon Runners and
Parishioners at 5:30 PM

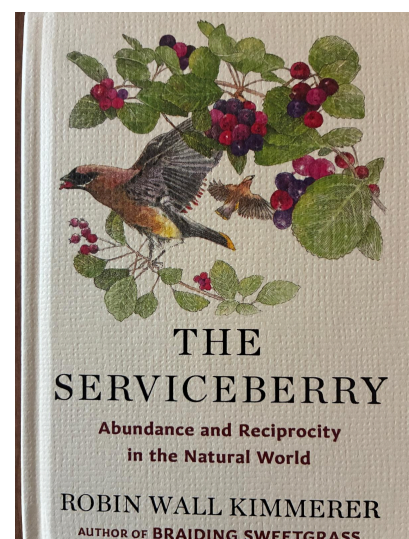
Due to the Maine Marathon (whose route goes by the church) being held on October 4, we cannot access the church to hold our usual Sunday service. We will instead have a **Feast of St. Francis Mass on Saturday, October 3, at 4 pm.** At the conclusion of the service, we will go out on our grounds to bless the meditation garden and the animals who are dear to parishioners---you may bring your live pet or a photo for this blessing!

The Hickey Family has generously offered to host a pasta supper at 5:30 which will be free for all marathon runners and parishioners---we hope to help some of them carb load for this strenuous race. Please spread the word!



Creation Care Book Group October 11-November 15, 11 am Bethany House

As part of the Season of Creation, we will be offering a book group focused on *The Serviceberry* by Robin Wall Kimmerer. Each section of the book will be paired with Scripture passages for contemplation and discussion. The group will meet for six Sundays at 11 am at Bethany House, and will be led in rotation by various parishioners, including some members of Earthkeepers. If mobility is an issue for some participants, we will move the group to the sanctuary. We will order a number of copies of *The Serviceberry*, or



you may bring your own. **Please let Rev. Myrna know if you would like to participate.**

Meet Terry Foster, St. Peter's New Organist

Terry is a native of Kentucky and started lessons in piano and organ playing at a young age. He received an MDiv from Lexington Theological Seminary and his Ed. D in Higher Education Administration from Indiana University. While pursuing a career in higher education, Terry served numerous churches in four states as organist, pianist and choir/music director, including St. Nicholas Episcopal Church in Scarborough, and most recently, First Parish UCC in South Portland. He currently teaches music courses in the Osher Lifelong Learning Center, which he co-founded. Terry plays piano twice a week at Maine Medical Center, occasionally plays with the State Street Traditional Jazz Band, and accompanies a local jazz singer. He lives in Portland with his spouse and a pet rabbit.



A Service Alternative for Sunday, October 4th

If you are looking for a Sunday service, out of the path of the marathoners, St. Nicholas in Scarborough has a 9:30 a guitar accompanied music morning. Anyone interested may contact Fred Fowler mainebeachpf@myfairpoint.net.

Compline

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

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

Eucharistic Visitor Training

Plans are underway for a training for those who wish to serve as Eucharistic Visitors: lay people who have been trained to bring the consecrated Sacrament in a timely fashion to those who are unable to

attend church services due to infirmity, illness or other circumstances. In the Diocese of Maine, Eucharistic Visitors are trained in local congregations and licensed by the diocese. Safe Church certification is required. We hope to have this training later in the fall. Please speak with Rev. Myrna if you are interested in becoming a Eucharistic Visitor.

This Week at St. Peter's

Compline, Wed. Oct. 7, 7 pm, Zoom

Creation Care Book Club (The Serviceberry), **Sun. Oct. 11, 11 am** Bethany House

Coming up at St. Peter's

St. Elizabeth's Essentials Pantry, Tue. Oct. 13, 8:30-11 am, St. Luke'ss

Harvest Home Dinner, Sat. Oct. 17th, at 6 pm

Harvest Home Festive Eucharist, Sun. Oct. 18th, at 9 am

Sunday Minister Rota for October

Saturday, October 3

Mr. Fred Fowler, *Crucifer*

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

Mr. Terry Foster, *Lector*

Mr. Bob Simmons, *Usher*

Ms. Lenita Richard, *Videographer*

Ms. Janene Gorham, *Altar Guild*

Mr. Jonathan McCormick & Ms. Anita Chandler, *Counters*

The Hickey Family and Others, *Dinner Hosts*

Sunday, October 11, 2026

Mr. Tom Ainsworth, *Crucifer*

Ms. Anne Whitman & Ms. Lenita Richard, *Eucharistic Ministers*

TBD, *Lector*

Ms. Anita Chandler, *Usher*

Mr. Wayne Franklin, *Videographer*

Ms. Lenita Richard, *Altar Guild*

Mr. Wayne Franklin & Mr. Tom Sumner, *Counters*

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

Sunday, October 18, 2026 Harvest Home

Mr. Steve Koskinen, *Crucifer*

Ms. Emily Hicky & Mr. Tom Ainsworth, *Eucharistic Ministers*
TBD, *Lector*
Mr. Bob Simmons, *Usher*
Mr. Wayne Franklin, *Videographer*
Ms. Anne Whitman, *Altar Guild*
Ms. Lenita Richard & Ms. Tom Sumner, *Counters*
The Congregation, *Coffee Hour Hosts*

Sunday, October 25, 2026

Ms. Lenita Richard, *Crucifer*
Ms. Janene Gorham & Ms. Pam Mack, *Eucharistic Ministers*
TBD, *Lector*
Mr. Will Estrella, *Usher*
Mr. Clayton Hickey, *Videographer*
Ms. Judy Howes, *Altar Guild*
Mr. Jonathan McCormick & Ms. Meredith Tipton, *Counters*
TBD, *Coffee Hour Hosts*

Weekly Prayer List

Prayers For Parishioners, Families, and Friends

Ann Marie Cady
Allison Schroth
Francisco Andreu
Diane Dalton
Dino Rice
Robert Stillings
Pat and Fred Fowler
Mary Ann Hoy
Fred Madore
Alan Biagiotti
Jane Noone
Marc Lombe and family
Linda Foster
Garrett Keniston
Anita Chandler
Melodie Gage
Herb Taylor
Cindy Sherwood

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
Anita Talbot, friend 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 and Sue King, friends of Anita Chandler
Joe Kennedy, friend 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
Janice Grant, friend of Jane Noone
Dory, friend of Judy Howes
John Lazarczyk, father of friend of Fred and Priscilla Madore
Paul Loven, former parishioner
Patrick Monahan, brother of Kathryn Ainsworth

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.

NOTES ON THIS AFTERNOON'S MUSIC

The prelude and postlude were written when Bach was just around 20 years old and had started his new job at the New Church in Arnstadt, Germany. Like many Bach preludes, the prelude starts with a pedal solo. The fugue that is our postlude stands out from other fugues in that it mixes improvisation along with the fugue form. Its severe nature may be related to the turbulent nature of Bach's relationship with the church management. Some accounts describe brawls that happened!

~SG

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

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