

Acolytes Parishioners Altar Guild Bible Study
Clergy Coffee Hour Parish Events Friendly Kitchen
Community Groups Baptisms Eucharist Paper Pantry

St. Peter's On-the-Canal

Parish Profile

Contemplative Prayer All Are Welcome Hospitality
Flower Memorial Stations of the Cross Holy Spirit



Pancake Breakfast Blessing
of the Animals Weddings
Contemporary Music LEMs
4th of July Craft Fair LEVs
Substance Abuse Support
Jams and Jellies Singing
Village of Cataumet Baking
Women's Groups Parish
Choir Music Director
Parish Life Eclectic Book

Club Men's Breakfast Pastoral Care Pot Luck Meals
Prayer Chain Quiet Day Amazing Grace Camp Holiday
Gift Cards Ministry Prayer Shawl Piano Welcoming
Acoustic Guitar Mandolin Pentecost Percussion
Spiritual Formation Maritime Cadets
Johannas Opus Organ Vestry Faith
Healing Evangelism Diversity Youth Participation

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A Message of Welcome

Welcome to St. Peter's Parish – a thriving, Christ-centered community set in downtown Buzzards Bay. The Search Committee, with the help of the Vestry and many other committed parishioners, has prepared this profile to introduce you to our parish family.

The information in this profile represents the hopes and dreams for the future of St. Peter's, as expressed by numerous members of our parish community.

Thank you for taking the time to read through this document. We believe that it captures the essence of St. Peter's – yesterday, today, and our hopes for the future.

Welcome!

Search Committee

From the Chairman: Our beloved parish is comprised of a diverse group of highly spiritual and dedicated individuals. The members of this committee, of which I have had the pleasure to work with over the past several months, have strived to complete a comprehensive document that would embody the history, hopes, and prayers of this church and all its' members. What began as a journey of discovery was ultimately transformed into a deeply spiritual and rewarding process for all. Therefore, we hope our message will truly convey the love we have for this great church and the aspirations we all share for our future.

Matthew Morgan Bruce, *Chairman*

(Back Row: From left to right)

Nancy Kennedy

Larry Higgins

Patti Metcalf

James Lema

Elisabeth Kershaw

Douglas Harper, *Diocesan Search Consultant*

Search Committee



Mission Statement

✦ St. Peter's Episcopal Church-on-the-Canal is called to proclaim the Gospel of Christ and the beliefs of the Christian Faith, to worship God and to inspire in all persons a love for Christ and a consciousness of our duty to God and our fellow human beings. We pledge our lives to Christ and to each other to worship, witness, and minister to the needs of our parish and our community in the Spirit of Christ.

Vision Statement

✦ We strive to be a welcoming family for spiritual growth where all will find hope, faith in God's abundance, help, healing, and a deeper relationship with Christ.

Core Values

✦ St. Peter's is a community of warm, caring, loving and friendly people. We love God and our church. True to our mission statement we have a sincere desire to support and minister to the needs of each other and our community, through a variety of valued outreach programs.

✦ We are proud of the rich history of our church and work together to be good stewards of our building, grounds, and finances. We are a community-like family, committed to supporting every effort and new initiative to assure our Church remains a visible and vital part of the Buzzards Bay community.

✦ We value spiritual guidance and growth for our congregation. We appreciate, support, and respect the leadership of our Church. We value all aspects of worship and welcome and encourage new parishioners to attend and participate in our spiritual life and fellowship.

✦ We appreciate and understand the need and importance for continued growth in our Church, recognizing the ups and downs that occur within all parish families. We value a positive and spiritually uplifting attitude that moves our Church forward.

✦ We feel the presence of God and the Holy Spirit, especially during times of worship. We feel blessed with peace and harmony.

✦ We at St. Peter's are committed to loving and serving God.

✦ We strive for improvement, growth, and community outreach.



Worship

Worship is the defining act of our life together in Christ. It is through the liturgy that we as a community become one body, and it is through worship that we as individuals most fully engage the mysteries of Creation.

Our liturgical practice is rooted in the Book of Common Prayer. We delight in its richness, variety, and flexibility, while cherishing its traditional rhythms and familiar language. In addition, worshipers are invited to use inclusive language which acknowledges our varying experiences of God and one another. Additional resources are frequently used to supplement our worship.

The Eucharist is central to our corporate worship, and St. Peter's welcomes to the Lord's Table all who wish to share Holy Communion. Typically, St. Peter's employs different Eucharistic Prayers at different times of the year, finding each uniquely sustaining. Holy Eucharist is celebrated twice each Sunday: 8am (Rite I) and 10am (Rite II with music). A Healing Service is also offered on the 3rd Sunday of each month at 9:00 am.

In ways both large and small, worship at St. Peter's is marked by a desire to make all who participate feel welcome. The reading of the Gospel in many different languages at the Feast of Pentecost is just one example of the innovative ways we proclaim the Good News.

Another hallmark of worship at St. Peter's is active, committed, and enthusiastic lay participation. Lay involvement includes the Altar and Acolyte Guilds, Lectors and Lay Eucharistic Ministers ("LEM"), Lay Eucharistic Visitors ("LEV"), donation and distribution of flowers, ushers, and greeters. Our youth are active participants in the liturgy as well, serving as acolytes, taking up and presenting the offering. Prayers of the People are offered from within the congregation at each service. LEM's do not vest. We feel this reinforces the laity's accessibility to participation in the Eucharist.

However, this simple list doesn't capture the tenor and depth of lay participation at St. Peter's. We take seriously the Catechism's instruction that lay people are ministers of the Church; lay participation at St. Peter's is not merely decorative, but central to our identity and mission.



Music

St. Peter's is blessed with expansive and powerful ministries for liturgical music. We sing to the glory of God and to enlarge our prayers and praise with musical works of enduring value. The congregation enjoys a wide range of music with a distinctive blend of both spiritual, gospel, and contemporary songs. We have a dedicated music director who not only brings extraordinary talent and musicianship, but also composes unique arrangements.



Many parts of the Sunday 10am Holy Eucharist are sung, while the 8am Eucharist is a quiet reflective service. Many of our holy day liturgies, especially Christmas, Holy Week, and Easter, incorporate inspiring choral, organ, and other instrumental music. The church is blessed to have a three-manual Johannas Opus organ, which is maintained in good condition.

Our director of music has a long history with St. Peter's and a deep devotion to heightening the worship experience by carefully selecting traditional and contemporary pieces.



✦ The **Parish Choir:** The choir's repertoire is varied and skillfully presented. Sharing the Word through a blend of traditional and contemporary hymns and songs. Choir members include beginners as well as seasoned vocalists. All levels of experience are welcome!

✦ As part of this profile process, we recently surveyed the congregation and

discovered that our music program was one of the most highly appreciated and valued aspects of our church.

- ✦ We also have a group of parishioners that regularly share their musical talents with mandolin, drums, violin, and guitar. In addition, St. Peter's recently hired a professional pianist and organist.
- ✦ Our latest Christmas Eve service not only included caroling, but guest musicians and a Scottish Highland drummer.

Outreach

The mission of the Outreach Ministry at St. Peter's is to make God known to others by opening our doors and ourselves in God's name. "The thing that struck me when I started coming was the church was so small and yet the outreach was so impressive for the size of the congregation. I thought it was amazing how much this church was doing and that was the thing that made me want to keep coming." Susan Hebb

St. Peter's recognizes the importance of community outreach programs and the commitment of the parish to serving those in need.

St. Peter's Friendly Kitchen serves meals every Monday evening to 25-45 local folks, and has been fully sustained by church volunteers for more than 30 years.

One of several ways that we strive to serve the community is through this Monday Night Friendly ministry. A very generous and caring group of volunteers serve a weekly meal open to all. Four teams augmented by outside volunteers provide a hot meal and a prayer for those in need, lonely, or just hungry. In 2019, over two-thousand meals were served and the numbers continue to climb. Saint Peters is a member of the Greater Boston Area Foodbank that provides, for a fee, food and fresh vegetables for our kitchen and items that our guests can take home to help them throughout the week.



month donated items along with items from St. Peter's are distributed to those who are eligible for Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program ("SNAP") benefits. This new ministry is popular and has served over 900 people in the Bourne/Wareham area during its first year.

St. Peter's Paper Pantry is a new ministry to provide paper products, hygiene products, and cleaning supplies that cannot be purchased with food stamps. Once a

The Village of Cataumet is a temporary home for families in need of shelter located in Cataumet, Massachusetts. Each month a church liaison helps this vital community determine particular items in need like toiletries, diapers, cleaning supplies, toys, linens, etc. These items are then listed within our parish bulletin seeking donations and support. At Christmas we also collect gift cards to provide additional help to these families.

Outreach continued...

Camp Amazing Grace is a camp for children that have at least one parent incarcerated. St. Peter's has regularly supported this extraordinary charity with annual volunteers as counselors, and arts and crafts. This camp is supported by the Diocese of Massachusetts and was inspired by similar programs in Maryland and Vermont.

The Substance Abuse Prevention and Support Group is a group that meets monthly to discuss opioid and substance abuse issues, develops ways to share information with the parish and the community at large, and directly supports the Bourne Substance Free Coalition through the use of our monthly collection jar and other fundraising endeavors. We have also had several educational gatherings, guest speakers, and Narcan training on site.

St. Peter's facilities are also made available to twelve-step programs and other non-profit groups.

We are honored and humbled to be able to serve God's people through these and other efforts. At the same time, we continue to ask the Holy Spirit to lead us to new opportunities for outreach.

Spiritual Formation

Our Spiritual Formation programs are sacred efforts – the result of dedicated, knowledgeable, and faithful people who are led and sustained by the Holy Spirit. We continue to discern through discussion and prayer how best to meet the educational needs of parishioners, particularly as the demands of the secular world place a seemingly ever-increasing burden on people's time.

St. Peter's recognizes that young people are on their own journey of faith and need a place to explore that faith, their relationship with God and with each other. In addition to involving children throughout our worship and parish life, we have programs specifically designed for their formation.



- ✦ The **Inquirers Class** is an approach to the religious formation of both children and adults. Members of our church community who wish to be confirmed or received may attend a series of classes designed to give them both a greater understanding of the tenants of the Episcopal Church and to help them on their spiritual journey. These participants are divided into two groups, youth and adult, which enables our youth to more freely enter into discussions.



✦ **Acolytes** are the service participants who carry the crosses, candles, and other items including the gospel book, in procession, and who help in a number of important ways throughout the service. Any person age eight or older who would like to become an acolyte can be trained by our current adult acolytes, as well as our rector and/or deacon. Acolytes are present at all services. They assist the rector in preparing the sacraments for the Eucharist.

✦ We invite **spiritual growth** for our adults as well as our children. Our Traditional and Women's Bible studies are included among a variety of programs for adults as a doorway to many opportunities for learning and reflection. At St. Peter's we realize that the journey of faith is not about finding the answers, but living the questions.

Our **Traditional Bible Study** is where members of our church family meet once a week to explore the scriptures for the upcoming Sunday which is often led by the rector or the deacon. Discussion is encouraged and all opinions are valued.

- ✦ Our **Women's Bible Study** is a group of women from St. Peter's who meet twice a month for fellowship, lively discussion, and study of the Bible. For the last several years, they utilized a study guide to learn about the women of the Bible. Currently they are exploring women of the Bible through art. Group excursions are encouraged. A trip to the Isabella Stuart Gardner Museum in Boston, Massachusetts has been organized for spring of this year.
- ✦ Our **Lenten Series** is where our Rector designs a series of meetings during Lent that, after listening to members of the church family, she/he feels would be beneficial for spiritual growth and understanding. Last year the series was called "The Bible for Dummies". The topic was greatly appreciated by a large group of parishioners.

Parish Life

The Parish Life Ministry focuses on fellowship – welcoming one another in the name of Christ.

The Women's Luncheon is held at a local restaurant twice a year and all women of the church are invited. Given that St. Peter's has an eight o'clock and a ten o'clock service, this is a good opportunity for the women from both services to get to know one another. It is a wonderful time of fellowship. Usually, between 25 and 30 women attend.

Also, all women of the church are invited to participate in an **Eclectic Book Club**, which meets once a month. It is held during the day in the members' homes. The group usually determines the format for choosing the books to read and the discussion that follows. It is another important way the women of our church are able to get to know each other.

The first Sunday of every month is designated as our **Birthday and Anniversary** Sunday. Everyone in the congregation who has a birthday or anniversary that month is invited to come to the front of the church. A prayer is said to bless them in the coming year.

The **Communications Team** works to keep our parish and the community informed about activities and services at St. Peters. A weekly “eBlast” was launched to keep us informed and can be used for special notifications like weather cancellations, emergency needs, death notifications and other time sensitive events. Our website is regularly updated and reviewed to keep parishioners and visitors up to date. Our monthly newsletter “The Wave” is also distributed to parishioners by email, print, and is available on the website. The team shares events with the Local Newspapers, Cape Cod Times, Bourne Enterprise and Bourne Courier, the Bourne Residents Facebook page, and on our sidewalk sign. Parish flyers and posters are distributed to area businesses and public buildings.

The men of the parish meet once a month on the third Saturday for fellowship and to solve the problems of the world at our **Men’s Breakfast Gathering**. There is no formal program, just quiet conversation and a chance to catch up with each other and share our stories.

Our **Pancake Breakfast** is served on the first Sunday of most months (with some flexibility due to holidays) at 9:00am between the two Sunday services. Pancakes, sausages, eggs and more are offered as well as juice and coffee. Bringing members from both services together at one common time has proven to be another great fellowship opportunity.

The parish hall always smells amazing when a dedicated group of volunteers gather in the kitchen to prepare **Jams and Jellies** that are sold throughout the year at various events. Many of us have our favorites and you have to be fast to reserve the ones you want.

Our location on the Main Street (July 4th) parade route has proven to be the perfect opportunity to hold our **Annual Craft Fair**. Spaces are rented to vendors/crafters. In addition to our famous jams and jellies, hotdogs and hamburgers are also offered for sale. Parade attendees look forward to this event and it keeps St. Peter’s visible to the community.

Stewardship

“God Loves a Cheerful Giver” – 2 Corinthians 2:7

Stewardship is an important part of St. Peter’s. We have a dedicated Stewardship Committee comprised of our treasurer, assistant treasurer, and a number of members from the congregation. Stewardship means more than simply a monetary pledge, but equally includes the benefit of time and talent.

In our newsletter, we maintain a section entitled the “Visible Vestry” whereby parishioners are regularly informed of the financial matters, administrative changes, and important news items discussed during our monthly vestry meeting. In doing so, we endeavor to keep all members well-informed and stewardship then becomes a common goal for everyone.

In addition, our Stewardship Committee meets every fall to first review the budget; then determine the goals for our annual campaign designed to elicit not only pledge amounts, but to encourage others to share their time and talents with the church.

Parishioners are then able to share with the congregation their feelings about what St. Peter's means to them, sharing personal and often moving experiences for all to hear.

Evangelism

The American Heritage Dictionary defines evangelize as (i) to preach the Gospel to; and (ii) to convert to Christianity. St. Peter's attempts to evangelize in a number of ways, most of which are mentioned in other areas of this profile. Most of the time, our evangelism is of the back door variety. We open our doors to many different community groups. We invite and encourage friends and family members to attend special events. We offer many educational opportunities for people of all ages. All of these offerings are publicized in the media, through parish publications, and most importantly, by word of mouth. In an effort to be more intentional in this regard, we are determined to add evangelism to a **Worship Committee**. We are hoping that our new Rector will help us to build in this area of our lives together.



Pastoral Care

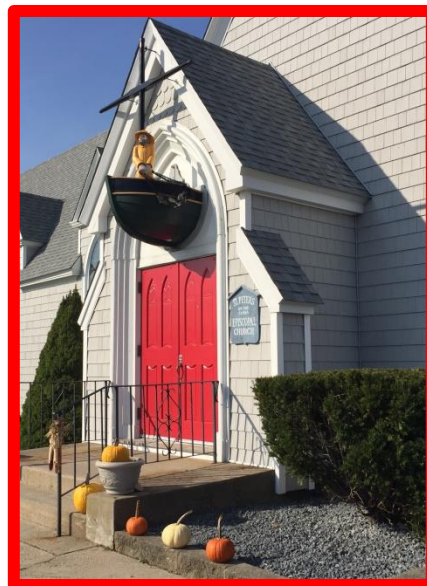
A mission of **Pastoral Care** at St. Peter's is to see that members of the church that are unable to attend Sunday service may receive the Holy Eucharist in their homes, hospital, or wherever they reside. We are blessed to have a number of lay Eucharist ministers that are willing to visit these members of our church family. LEMs and LEVs work closely with the rector who helps to determine the needs of these members.

LEM/LEVs go through a one-day training session provided by the Diocese.

Pastoral care also includes one-on-one conversations with the Rector. We have discovered over time, this practice has helped many parishioners manage life's challenges. Friendly visits to those in need are also part of this ministry.

Buildings & Property

St. Peter's is located next to the Cape Cod Canal in the heart of Buzzards Bay. The church was originally transported from Hull, Massachusetts in 1947 on a barge by way of the canal. Over the years, it was determined there was a need for a larger church building so additional structures from the nearby Camp Edwards U.S. Military Training Installation were added. These buildings have since been used for gatherings, meetings, our Friendly Kitchen, Paper Pantry, and other various 12-Step programs. When these buildings were added, they left an outdoor open space in the center making a "courtyard like" garden, today known as Sallie's Garden. This quiet and reflective space now acts as a memorial to a beloved parishioner, Sallie Farrell.



The beauty of St. Peter's has been consistently recognized by the community and was specifically showcased during a historic tour of Buzzards Bay in 2014 during the Cape Cod Canal anniversary celebration. In the 1950's, a handmade replica of Saint Peter in the boat was installed over the front door of the church. This life-like carving has become a familiar and symbolic artifact in the community. Strikingly beautiful stained glass windows depicting the life of Saint Peter were presented to our church as memorials in the 1960's. These windows have recently been restored and continue to inspire and illuminate.

Throughout the interior of St. Peter's can be found individually, hand-sculpted "Stations of the Cross" created by our beloved artist and parishioner, Mark Fuller. Mark is a long-time member of the parish, as were his parents. He presented each "Station" in memory of his parents, and the last of the fourteen Stations was dedicated in 2019. Outside the sacristy is the church columbarium where members may choose to have their ashes interred.

In 2019, St. Peter's experienced many renovations and updates. We installed new carpeting in both the church and sacristy. We also restored our beautiful stained glass windows. There were upgrades made to both our computer and phone systems as well as installed WiFi. Improvements and landscaping were performed across the grounds of our church.



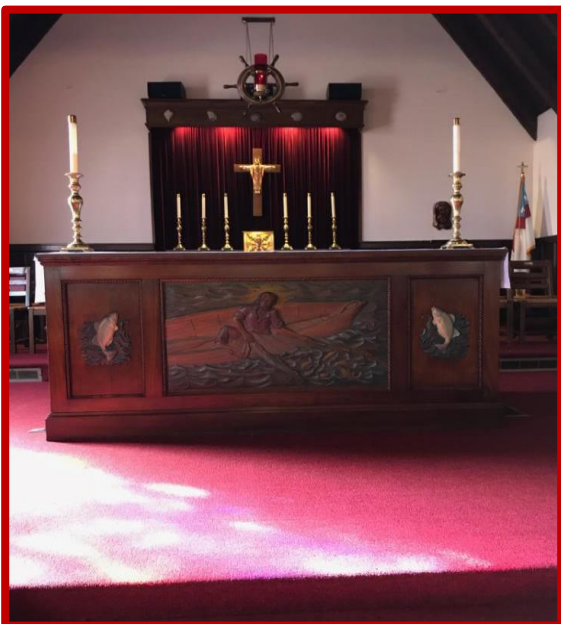
The Altar

Here on Cape Cod, we live in the ever-present influence of the sea. The Cape Cod Canal has had its influence on the Buzzards Bay area also. In fact, when the name for the church was chosen, it was only natural that the name of the “Big Fisherman” be modified with the addition of the words, “On-the Canal”.



The entire theme of the church has always been one connected with the sea, as it was brought to its present site across the waters of Cape Cod Bay and the Canal. It is fitting that this theme be carried even further in the Altar.

The Altar is a plain liturgical altar with a beautifully decorated front panel. The center panel depicts, in hand carved wood, St. Peter drawing his nets from a small boat. The side panels show two fish breaking water. Since the early days of the Christian church, the fish has been a symbol for Jesus Christ and Christianity. The altar was moved forward from the back of the church, but before it was moved above the altar there was a canopy made of wood. On the face of the canopy are five hand-carved and painted shells that are native to this area. The center shell is that of the bay scallop; for many years the Christian symbol for baptism. Beneath this wood panel hangs a dossil, or the curtain that is hung behind the altar. The dossil is red denoting that St. Peter was a Christian martyr who shed his blood for the church. In the center of the dossil hangs a Christus Rex. This is Latin for “Christ the King”. The Christus Rex shows a triumphant, risen Christ; the King of Heaven. The Christus Rex is clothed in Eucharistic Vestments which is the symbolic clothing worn by the priest at Communion. The word “Eucharist” is the Greek name



for liturgy and means Thanksgiving, for it is at the Eucharist that we give thanks to God for the salvation of mankind through the most precious death and sacrifice of Jesus upon the cross of the Calvary. The signs of the crucifixion remain in the hands and feet of the corpus because it was with these signs still upon His body that the disciples last saw the Son of God before His ascension into heaven. From a cross beam above the altar hangs the sanctuary lamp. This lamp is a ship's wheel and symbolizes that the church is the ship which carries us upon the “sea of life” to our ultimate destination, the Kingdom of Heaven. It is kept burning at all times when the sacrament is upon the altar as a reminder to all people of Christ's presence there.

Community

History & Overview

St. Peter's Church-On-The-Canal traces its origins back to 1938 when Archdeacon Howard Bartow held the first Episcopal service on this side of the canal at Red Men's Hall in Buzzards Bay. The pews were folding chairs and the altar was unpainted plywood. This small church began to grow and the need for a bigger church building soon became clear. The people of St. Peter's began raising money to make this possible. In 1947, the Reverend J. Samuel Stephenson heard of an unused church building in Allerton, Massachusetts, a section of the town of Hull, some sixty miles away. It was too expensive to transport the building over 60 miles by land, so it was decided to float the church on a barge from Hull, through Cape Cod Bay and the Cape Cod Canal! On May 27, 1947 parishioners and town folk joined hands to haul the building from the canal to its present site on Main Street in Buzzards Bay.

Through the diligent work of many parishioners, the old building was turned into a beautiful church. Over the years, two barracks were obtained from Camp Edwards and added to the church providing much needed space for the many activities of the growing congregation. The shells that rest above the sanctuary, the carving of a fisherman and his net on the altar, the ship's wheel that bears the sanctuary candle and the nautical symbols on the end of each pew all reflect our namesake, St. Peter the Fisherman, and our life near the sea. The courtyard was



dedicated as Sallie Garden in memory of Sallie Farrell, the granddaughter of the founding Rector.

Business & Economy

Business & Economy

Saint Peter's is located on Main Street in the Village of Buzzard's Bay which is part of the town of Bourne. The immediate area surrounding the church became rundown after being the main gateway to Cape Cod for many years, only to be bypassed by several highway projects. The area has recently experienced a renaissance with many new shops, new parks and playgrounds surrounding the Cape Cod Canal. A new police station and elementary school have recently been built in the town and our neighborhood includes the Massachusetts Maritime Academy and the Center for Marine Life Rehabilitation, the Army Corps of Engineers and a National Guard Armory, Bourne High School and the Upper Cape Regional Technical High School, and three elementary schools; Saint Margaret's, James F. Peebles, and Bournedale.



Education

Massachusetts Maritime Academy is a public college in Buzzards Bay offering undergraduate degrees in maritime-related fields, as well as graduate degrees and professional studies. Established in 1891, Mass Maritime is the second oldest state maritime academy in the United States.

Originally established to graduate deck and engineering officers for the U.S. Merchant Marine, the academy has since expanded its curriculum. Though not required, some graduates go on to serve in active and reserve components

of the U.S. Armed Forces. The academy operates a training ship, the USTS *Kennedy*.

Cultural Attractions

The Buzzards Bay, Bourne, and Plymouth area boast's an outstanding array of cultural attractions, including:

- ✦ Cape Cod Canal and Railway Museum
- ✦ Plimoth Plantation
- ✦ Mashpee Wampanoag Indian Reservation
- ✦ Aptucxet Trading Post
- ✦ Plimoth Rock and Waterfront Park

Recreation/Outdoors

Cape Cod is rich with recreation, from the artistic to the adventurous. Cape Cod has been named as one of the top ten spots in the world for whale watching, paddle boarding, kayaking and windsurfing, and the region is also ranked among the ten most popular destinations for beaches and golf. We have world-class bike trails, and some of the best shopping around. Cape Cod has many different facets. Each town on the Cape has something unique to offer in the way of natural beauty, history, in arts and in entertainment.

Barnstable County is about 70 miles in length with more than 500 miles of coastline and is subdivided into four to regions: Upper-Cape, Mid-Cape, Lower-Cape and Outer-Cape.

The Upper-Cape – Includes **Falmouth**, **Mashpee**, **Sandwich** and **Bourne** areas of Cape Cod.

In this region the two bridges accessing Cape Cod (Over the Cape Cod Canal) are located. It is close to the historical settlement of Plymouth and about 55 miles from downtown Boston.



The Mid-Cape – This region includes **Dennis**, **Yarmouth**, **Barnstable** and its seven villages; Hyannis, Osterville, Centerville, Cotuit, West Barnstable, Barnstable Village and Marston's Mills. Hyannis is considered the "hub" of the Cape with nearly 70% of the population in this area. The downtown area of Hyannis is busy





most of the year and is the home of the JFK Museum and the Ocean Street Docks with ferries and tour boats to the Islands of Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard.

The Lower-Cape – Known as the Cape's elbow and home of Nickerson State Park, this region includes the towns of **Brewster, Chatham, Harwich** and **Orleans**. The Lower-Cape boasts family-oriented summer

communities and serves as the gateway to the Outer Cape, where all roads merge.

The Outer-Cape – Home of the **Cape Cod National Seashore**, this region includes the towns of **Eastham, Wellfleet, Truro** and **Provincetown**. The Outer-Cape is a bit more secluded and well suited for summer tourists because of the miles of fine beaches in the **Cape Cod National Seashore**.



The Islands – The region includes **Martha's Vineyard** and **Nantucket**. Each island has a distinctly different flavor. Nantucket, only three by nine miles, is about as quaint a New England seaside town as you will find. The downtown area includes fine shops, galleries and the famous Nantucket Whaling Museum. The cobblestone streets are busy with tourist in almost every season. The Christmas Stroll is a favorite winter attraction. Martha's Vineyard, a favorite vacation spot of celebrities, is well known for great beaches, ocean vistas and the seaside villages of Oaks Bluff, Chilmark, Edgartown and Tisbury.

Nearby cities – Buzzards Bay is located between two different worlds, the city life of **Boston** Massachusetts and **Providence** Rhode Island, and the beautiful sandy beaches of Cape Cod just over the canal bridges. **Boston** is a little over an hour's drive, giving you access to great educational institutions and cultural opportunities. It can be reached by public transportation and has an international airport. **Providence**, a somewhat smaller city is also just over an hour's drive and has a smaller domestic airport. It too has many cultural activities and renown colleges.

People

Clergy and Staff

In the distant past St. Peter's has benefited from full-time clergy. We are currently a small parish undergoing a time of discernment. Accordingly, we are seeking a half-time Rector. Our enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers are

complimented by a part-time Director of Music. Our indispensable part-time parish administrator is extremely capable and knowledgeable about the parish. Accounting and reporting is outsourced to a local firm in Middleboro, MA.



Vestry

The Vestry consists of a Senior Warden, Junior Warden, a Treasurer, an Assistant Treasurer, a Clerk, and six parish representatives. Officers are elected annually. Vestry members serve staggered three-year terms.

The new Vestry is presented at the Annual Meeting. Shortly after the annual meeting, the Vestry has its yearly retreat to organize its plans for the coming year. Goals are set, committees are established, and activities for the coming year are determined.

The Vestry is the management board that helps the Rector with all business matters related to the management of the church and its' congregation.



Each identified ministry has a Vestry liaison who maintains regular contact with that ministry's committees and groups. Monthly, ministry liaisons formally report to the Vestry, providing updates on the activities, challenges, and new initiatives within their assigned ministries. These liaisons also serve as resources for their ministries, facilitating cross-ministry communication and problem-solving.

St. Peter's Parish Statistics: 2019

✦ Total Membership	130
✦ Average Attendance (Sunday services)	64
✦ Marriages	1
✦ Burials	9
✦ Baptisms	3
✦ Confirmations	11

Our shared hopes

We understand the unique challenges which face clergy – particularly becoming a Rector of a new parish. In response to these challenges, St.Peter's has taken several steps to ensure that our Rector can focus on her/his true calling. First, we would expect our new rector to be a warm, compassionate, caring, person who will serve as a shepherd for our church family. We also expect our Rector will be involved in the ongoing daily functioning of the church without micromanaging. Our vestry and others involved in the regular management of the Church understand their unique duties and do an outstanding job of overseeing them. We would welcome a Rector who is in their midst walking and working with them. Our church is located in an area where many retirees have chosen to live and as you look over our congregation, you can see they are the backbone. With one voice they have told us, they would like to welcome more young families and have a vital ministry for our youth. We would like a rector who is comfortable with all age groups and would have innovative ideas how to help us attract these young families and welcome them to our community. We are looking for a Rector, who is comfortable in her/his spiritual life and well versed in Episcopalian theology. In this light, she/he would encourage us each Sunday with a thought provoking sermon meaningful to our everyday life. She/he would welcome the opportunity to lead our Bible Studies and other opportunities for spiritual growth. As with any family, we have parishioners in the hospital, nursing homes, and extended care facilities. It is very important that these people continue to feel loved, cared about and connected to the Church. We would like our Rector to help us keep these folks close and help to meet their spiritual needs. We also need a rector who can offer a listening ear and counsel for anyone in our church family who would like to avail themselves of these services. The Rector can share the parishioners' joys, sorrows, and help sort out the challenges.

We at St. Peter's have amazing musical offerings, which are very diverse in nature. As we surveyed the congregation, we heard repeatedly how much they appreciated the music. We are looking for a Rector who will also appreciate our music and encourage our musicians to be a vital part of the Church life.

The strength of St. Peter's is the outreach programs in our community. We would like support from our Rector as we carry out these efforts and someone who can reach out to other churches to partner with them.

In summary, we understand that we are a small (though thriving) parish and can only afford a half-time Rector. With that in mind, we have a lot of support within this parish. We currently have a very dedicated and active vestry. Our Director of Music, organist, choir, and supporting musicians provides a regular and inspiring musical addition. We also have an active laity that supports parish operations, including a building manager and office administrator. This means that our Rector can concentrate on spiritual and pastoral care without daily worries.

Appendix I: *A Summary of Our Financial's*

<i>St. Peter's Parish</i>	2019 Budget	2019 Actual	Difference ^(+/-)	2020 Budget
Income				
Pledges	\$ 104,915.00	\$ 101,540.00	\$ (3,375.00)	\$ 92,152.00
Plate Offerings	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 3,329.00	\$ (671.00)	\$ 4,000.00
Donations	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 4,140.00	\$ (10,860.00)	\$ 4,500.00
Other Income	\$ 38,050.00	\$ 53,071.00	\$ 15,021.00	\$ 68,916.00
Total Income	\$ 161,965.00	\$ 162,080.00	\$ 115.00	\$ 169,568.00
Expenses				
Total Clergy	\$ 70,882.00	\$ 52,478.00	\$ 18,404.00	\$ 62,872.00
Total Lay-Employees	\$ 43,773.00	\$ 45,991.00	\$ (2,218.00)	\$ 45,402.00
Property	\$ 19,860.00	\$ 19,560.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 20,252.00
Administraton	\$ 20,370.00	\$ 20,007.00	\$ 363.00	\$ 20,070.00
Other Expenses	\$ 22,372.00	\$ 19,247.00	\$ 3,125.00	\$ 20,972.00
Total Expenses	\$ 177,257.00	\$ 157,283.00	\$ 19,974.00	\$ 169,568.00

Our Financial Goals:

✦ To begin, we have been blessed with a dedicated and diligent Vestry that has helped ensure that our Parish remain solvent and financially sound. Our Parish financial statements were far less positive (or “in the black”) several years ago. However, through an ongoing commitment to income by way of offerings, donations, outreach, and fundraisers – as well as a regular examination of our expenses, our hope is that St. Peter’s will be able to continue the Gospel of Christ and serve the needs of our community for many years to come.

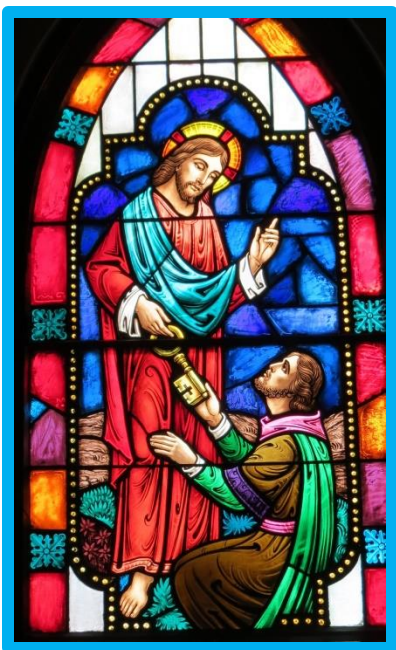
✦ Our Annual Report confirmed that no additional funds were needed from the Diocesan Investment Trust (“DIT”) in 2019 to help support operations. Accordingly, we were able to manage various capital improvements, including parking lot lighting, new flooring, repairs to outbuildings, and stained glass windows through the efforts of a “Capital Campaign”. This was partially done so by specific donations from our generous parishioners. Unrestricted donations were also able to help support several outreach programs including Amazing Grace Camp, The Samaritans, the Cape Cod Times Needy Fund, the Bourne Substance Free Coalition, and more.

✦ In 2020 and beyond, we recognize the need to be even more cautious and prepared for the many financial and economic challenges that face this Parish, our community, and the world at large. Therefore, prudent financial management continues to be one of our ongoing and primary goals.

Appendix II: *The Vestry*

The Vestry 2020

Ministry Administration	Liaison Len Hathon Mark Taylor Alan Kershaw Dianne Cartmill	Reports due Monthly	Committees & Organizations Property /Facilities Building Use & Calendar Personnel Committee	Contact person Len Hathon
Finance	Dianne Cartmill	Monthly	Finance	Dianne Cartmill
Parish Life	Merry Smythe Celeste Hankey Dianne Cartmill	Monthly	Communications Hospitality	Celeste Hankey
Pastoral Care	Dianne Cartmill Lynne Brune Celeste Hankey	Monthly	Eucharistic Visitors Ministry to Older Parishioners Prayer Chain Altar Flower distribution Parish Nursing program	Lynne Brune
Buildings & Grounds	Len Hathon Henri Masson	Monthly	Adult Education /ACE Bible Study Groups Library	Len Hathon
Outreach	Donna Beers Mark Taylor Lynne Brune	Monthly	Outside Groups Friendly Kitchen Paper Pantry Cataumet Village Outreach Groups	Lynne Brune
Communications	Robin Higgins Patti Metcalf	Weekly	Altar Guild Acolytes Choirs Ushers Lem/Lector Schedules Vestry Altar Flowers	Robin Higgins
By-Law Committee	Celeste Hankey Alan Kershaw Donna Beers	Monthly	By-Law Committee	Celeste Hankey
Stewardship	Len Hathon Dianne Cartmill	Annually	Stewardship Committee	Dianne Cartmill



Thank you for considering our Parish



Appendix III: *Web Links*

Listed below are several links to web pages of places mentioned in this profile as well as of interest for relocation:

St. Peter's Parish	www.saintpetersbb.org
The Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts	www.diomass.org
Village of Buzzards Bay (Bourne)	www.townofbourne.com
The Bourne Courier	www.bourne.wickedlocal.com
Cape Landing Real Estate	www.capelandingre.com
Kinlin Grover Real Estate	www.kinlingrover.com
Upper Cape Realty	www.ucrealty.com
Cape Cod Canal Region Chamber of Commerce	www.capecodcanalchamber.org
Cape Cod Visitors Bureau	www.visitcapecod.com
Cape Cod Visitors Directory	www.capecodvisitorsdirectory.com
Bourne Public Schools	www.bourneps.org
Upper Cape Regional Technical High School	www.uppercapetech.com
Massachusetts Maritime Academy	www.maritime.edu
Cape Cod Community College	www.capecod.edu
University of Massachusetts Dartmouth	www.umassd.edu
Enterprise Rent-A-Car (Buzzards Bay)	www.enterprise.com
Mezza Luna Italian Restaurant	www.mezzalunarestaurant.com
Krua Thai Restaurant	www.kruathairestaurants.com
Cape Cod (Wikipedia)	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cape_Cod
The Enterprise	www.capenews.net
The Hampton Inn (Cape Cod Canal)	www.hilton.com

Appendix IV: *How To Apply*

To apply for the position of **Priest at St. Peter's Episcopal Church-on-the-Canal**, or for any additional information, please contact **Patti Metcalf** at **508.685.5582**, or email us at: search4stpeters@gmail.com

Interested candidates are requested to send either by email or regular mail the following: (1) a resume, (2) an Office of Transitional Ministry Profile, (3) and, an example of a sermon or a link to sermon video.

***Applications will be accepted until Saturday, July 4th, 2020.**

For regular mail, please send all correspondence to:

**Attn: Patti Metcalf
Search Committee
St. Peter's Episcopal Church-on-the-Canal
P.O. Box 265
Buzzards Bay, MA 02532**