

The Epistle

May 2011

St. Peter's Church, Milford, CT

email: stpetersmilford@sbcglobal.net web: www.stpetersmilford.org
the Rev. Andrew G. Osmun, Rector



Sunday Services

8 am Holy Eucharist *no music*
10 am Holy Eucharist *with music*

10 am Christian Formation
Coffee & Fellowship follows
✠ ✠ ✠ ✠

Wednesday — Noon Eucharist
Thursday — Morning Prayer
8 am
Both held in the Chapel

✠ ✠ ✠ ✠

June Epistle

Please email submissions you have for the next Epistle by May 20, 2011 to:
Stpetersmilford@sbcglobal.net

St. Peter's Purpose

Share the Gospel of Jesus Christ
Prepare Disciples
Care for the Community

St. Peter's Leadership

Ministers: The Congregation
Bishop: the Rt. Rev. Dr. Ian Douglas
Rector: the Rev. Andrew Osmun
Assisting Priest: the Rev. Angela Rowley
Executive Assistant: Susan Persett
Musician/Choir Director: Nathan Bontrager
Christian Formation Director: Karen Vital
Senior Warden: Mary Beth Saltzman
Junior Warden: Diane Gendreau
Treasurer: Sharon MacKenzie
Clerk: Candace Franz
Yale Divinity School Intern: Matthew Schneider

The View from the Rector's Desk for May 2011



Resurrection. That is the season we are in for all of May - Pentecost being later on in June this year.

Life from death is the constant challenge for the community of faith - and it begins with me. I have to resurrect my faith each morning when I wake up - for during the night the process of amnesia has set in. Indeed, all during the day it is so, and then there are the traumas, the assaults, that take our faith away into the land of memory. Is it an embarrassment or grace that places the Gospel narrative of Doubting Thomas on the first Sunday to follow Easter.

Were I to reflect on what makes for the most Resurrection in my life, it would include the following - not in order of importance: reading and meditating on the Scriptures; maintaining a prayer life - even when I don't feel anything and God seems to have put a plexiglass panel between us; sustaining connection with a community of believers - resisting the temptation to pull away, to isolate; going on mission trips; reading books on the spiritual life - which takes time; and, finally, what has been most valuable in the past decade when grief and despair threaten to overwhelm - monthly Spiritual Direction.

Resurrection. It is happening, it must happen. In what way has it happened for you? In what way will you take part in it happening for this whole community?

- Andrew Osmun

Report from the Treasurer, March 31, 2011



May Birthdays

05/01 Tobey Ritz
 05/01 Carrie Watkins
 05/02 Wade Dixon
 05/02 Katherine Eighmy
 05/03 Kathy Schock
 05/05 Richele Watkins
 05/06 Maggie Faustini
 05/06 Shirley Lang
 05/07 Lorraine Davies
 05/08 Wesley Christensen
 05/08 John Fike Jr.
 05/11 Charles Bristol
 05/11 Zane Franz
 05/12 Barbara Duchon
 05/14 Rebecca Fraleigh
 05/16 Richard Durazzo Sr.
 05/17 James Garnett
 05/17 Edna Kaimer
 05/19 Whitney Bibens
 05/19 Kathryn Bucciarelli
 05/24 Madelyn Garnett
 05/24 Carol Hoponick
 05/24 Kimberly Hughes
 05/24 Kathleen Paglinco
 05/25 Kathie Hebert
 05/28 Alan Jepson
 05/29 Michael Bibens Jr.
 05/29 Paul Mangels
 05/30 Angela Rowley
 05/30 Allison Smith

May Anniversaries

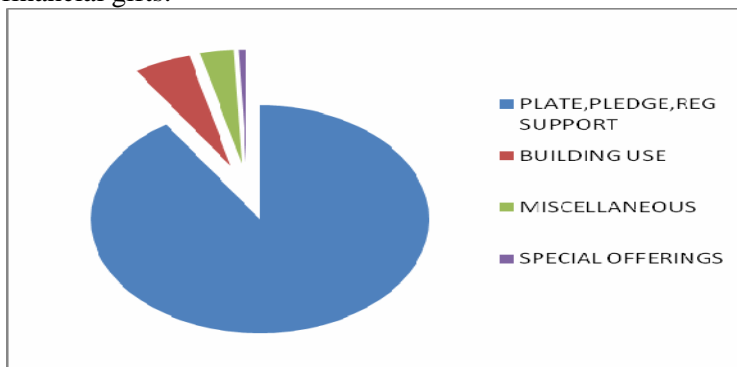
05/02 Michele & Tobey Ritz
 05/05 Carol & Jeff Harker
 05/12 Lesley & Paul Erlacher
 05/14 Bernadette & David
 Derubeis
 05/21 Beverly & Gary Johnson
 05/27 Aileen & John O'Connell
 5/29 Stacy & Brian Maslar

Condolences

To Deirdre Taylor on the loss of her husband, Dan Pramuka.

Income	\$63,141.40
Expenses	<u>(70,183.53)</u>
Net Change	\$(7,042.43)

Income thus far this year has been as anticipated based upon our Budget. The chart below shows that our primary source of income to fund our expenses comes from our financial gifts.



We have paid \$6,800 this winter for snow removal. A much larger expense than we have experienced in the past.

The Vestry reviews more detailed financial reports at their meetings. Copies of those reports are available upon request.

Sharon MacKenzie, Treasurer
stpetetreas@sbcglobal.net

Food Bank Donations

St. Peter's continues its weekly collection for the Milford Food Bank at the Milford Senior Center. There is always a need for staples such as cereals, pasta, and peanut butter and jelly. Those items would be especially welcomed. *Please place all food donations in the basket located in the Narthex of the church.*

Altar Flowers

Flowers may be given as memorials, in thanksgiving, or to commemorate other celebrations such as birthdays or anniversaries. The 3rd and the 5th weeks are available. We ask for a donation of \$25 to cover the cost of the flowers.

If you are interested, please contact the Church Office.

Coffee Hour

Caring for your Community - Coffee hour is a ministry by and for those who attend worship on Sunday morning, after the 10:00 service. Coffee hour is only possible through volunteers and donations. St. Peter's supplies the coffee. You may choose to host on your own, or as a group. It is a great way to meet new parishioners and share in fellowship. Ask someone who has not hosted before to join you! There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall.

May 1 –Choir

May 8 –Esther and Jordan Wilson

May 15 – *Available*

May 22 –Youth Group Breakfast

May 29 –Iris Love & *Friends*

Palm Sunday Processional April 17, 2011



Christian Formation Parents Night Out

We made our own pizzas, made butterfly crafts as a symbol of our new life with Jesus, played Easter BINGO, and watched an Easter movie! Fun was had by all!



There will be **no classes on May 29th**, Memorial Day weekend. Our last day of classes will be on June 5th, and our family picnic will be on June 12th. Save the dates!

Youth Group

From June 25-July 1, the Youth Group, lead by Karen Vital and Andrew Osmun, will be traveling

to Logan, West Virginia on a mission trip. During the week, the kids may be doing house repairs or running a small "Kids Club," working with the children of Logan and teaching them about God through Bible lessons and activities. At this time, we would like to ask that you keep the Youth Group in your prayers, as we begin to discern God's purpose for us there. We also ask that you pray for the community of Logan, West Virginia, and the people that we will be serving during that week.

Praise Concert, Saturday, May 14th at 7 p.m.

Members of the Youth Group will be joining the Praise Band to bring you an evening of great music. There is no charge for the concert, but a free will offering accepted.

Funds raised will be used toward the cost of the Youth group Mission Trip to Logan, West Virginia from June 25- July 1st.

Please come out and support the group and bring your family and friends.

Breakfast Sunday, May 22nd

The Youth group will be hosting a breakfast after both the 8:00 and the 10:00 services on this date. Funds raised will be used to offset expenses for our mission trip to Logan, WV in June.

Graduations & Congratulations!

May and June are the months for graduations. In the July Epistle, we are planning to celebrate all of our St. Peter's graduates – and recognize other academic achievements. If you would like to include yourself or a loved one, please submit your information – name, graduating from, will be attending, etc. photos welcome!

Note of Thanks

I would like to thank the following people who helped prepare the Church for Easter on Saturday morning: Cindy Bucciarelli, Iris Love, Terry Osmun, Diane Gendreau, Amy Bowman, Bonnie Neilson, Deb Smith, Rosemary Allsop and Susan Peck. The church looked lovely and I hope you all enjoyed having a part in the preparation for Easter.

Sharon Mackenzie, Altar Guild Directress

Celebration



Andrew celebrated the 35th anniversary of his Ordination to the priesthood on April 3rd during coffee hour hosted by Donna and Jay Pinsince. Congratulations Andrew! Thanks be to God for your ministry here at St. Peter's. Thank you Donna and Jay for the beautiful cake.

New Members

On Easter Sunday during the Peace, new members were formally inducted and welcomed to St. Peter's. Jennifer Chiodo - who had become a member a year ago without the 'formalities' was joined by LeeAnn and Tino Dangelo and daughters Gianna and Gabriella who transferred from Trinity, New Haven; David and Bernadette DeRubeis; Gary Gianotti and Julieanne Hopkins-Gianotti; Trudy Hilton and son Miles Kitt; Chandler Riker; Karen and Michael Thomas; and Conrad Green who could be made official after his 'conditional' Baptism the day before. Mike and Justyna Poserina completed the new member process but were away for Easter so could not stand with the others. It is a delight to have you join this community and we give thanks to God for your presence here!

Mission News

From the Beth-El breakfast- We donated more than \$300 to Beth-El. The breakfast crew once more did a great job.

HomeFront Project

As May 7th comes closer the final plans for the work on the Lafayette Street project are being finalized. About 35 members of St. Peter's will be spending one day helping a family do some much needed repairs. We will be replacing a sagging old porch, fixing a leaking patio roof, and doing

numerous smaller interior repairs. Thanks to the generous spirit of St. Peter's, we have many hands to complete the work. Thanks to the generosity of our community, we were able to raise the \$ 2,250.00 required to fund the project and have a substantial reserve for next year. These funds will be matched through other donations to bring the average project budget to \$ 6,000.00. If you are one of the team members, you will be receiving a new tee shirt on Saturday the 7th. This will identify you as a member of the HomeFront project team. If you find yourself on the town green for Meet the Artists, please wander down Lafayette Street and say hello. Your smiling faces will help add to the energy of the day. Many thanks go out to Brenda Thomason for spearheading this great local outreach project. We also have to thank Brenda for getting Subway to donate lunch. Thank you God for the work you are giving us to do.

Fellowship

The Fellowship group's next meeting will be held on May 2 at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall library. We will be discussing what we can do to help with the parish picnic. Anyone interested in helping out with this event or finding out more about our group is welcome to join. For more information, contact Dee Green at deegreen@optonline.net or 203-874-0418.

St. Peter's Purpose Statement

Our next Purpose Statement meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 3, at 7:00 p.m. Please come and connect with the group you feel most passionate about. Presently we are defining each statement. It is exciting to bring our statement to life by reading and locating information in the Bible and the Book of Common Prayer that relates to each statement. This is making our Purpose statement one to live by. Words that Jesus Christ has given us to mature as a Christian, and as a member of St. Peter's. We will also be reviewing activities and events that we do, and identifying them with our statement.

Share the Gospel of Jesus Christ

Prepare Disciples

Care for the Community

From Jesse Osmun's blog – Serving in the Peace Corp in South Africa

Jesse's address:
 Jesse Osmun, PCV
 C/O Umvoti Aids Centre
 P.O. Box 716
 Greytown, South Africa 33250

Write "Par Avion" and "Air Mail" on envelopes and boxes.
 Check out Jesse's blog:
<http://jessesa.wordpress.com>



The Power Of Redemption

(Before you think this is going to be a sermon, let me explain that I believe Redemption takes many forms, and is not limited to a spiritual or religious interpretation. Redemption can be physical, mental, emotional, societal, etc.) This past weekend I witnessed an act of redemption, or to be more to the point, a wedding. As Zulu weddings go, it's usually a very straightforward affair: There is lots of preaching, the bride and groom enter, family members are invited to speak and later honored with wedding cake by the new son and daughter in law. Everyone sings, prays, and dances. Typically, the wedding is long and a mix of church service and traditional wedding. This would be another typical, pleasant wedding if it were not for some interesting facts about the marriage itself and the groom, who is my co-worker.

My co-worker had gone through ups and downs in his marriage and had, by his own admission, not been as faithful or committed as he should have been. In his younger years, he had many girlfriends and said he did not really care to protect himself. At a later stage, he reluctantly got tested for HIV and (miraculously if I might add) tested negative. He could have easily been another Zulu male, dead at 25 of AIDS related complications. "Joe" finally married and had a beautiful little daughter who is deaf and mute. Joe enjoyed his wife and adored his daughter. Still, that was not enough and he found himself straying and making lots of bad choices that hurt his marriage and made him conflicted and depressed. His wife forgave him, and yet that was not enough to keep him on the straight and narrow.

Flash forward to the present-Joe has recommitted himself in this marriage and made a clean break from the past with the help of friends and his pastor. He claims that recommitting himself to being a good husband was the best thing he ever did and that his wife "saved my life" and now he is truly a changed man. The marriage was really a re-commitment ceremony in a culture that values macho men who take what they want and meet their own needs first, not commit and take as many lovers as possible. It took a lot of courage for Joe to admit that he made mistakes, to be emotional and honest with a hall full of people and tell his wife's family how much they mean to him and how honored he is to have their blessing to marry their daughter. You could see his palms start to sweat and a nervous look creep across his face. He wanted to get this right, to commit, to be a good husband again, to be a good father, to be respected again as a good man. He nervously listened as the pastor talked to him and the bride about the importance of sticking together through rough patches and forgiveness as vitally important to a healthy marriage. In the few seconds after his speech, there was a stayed silence in the room, and murmuring. I wondered if they believed him, if their murmuring was an indication that they did not think he was honest. Then, all of a sudden, people cheered Joe. The mood changed, and Joe smiled with a look that you could probably find on the face of a Nelson Mandela after he had finally been freed from years of imprisonment. I thought he was going to cry, but he did not he just seemed. relieved. It was one of the most beautiful moments I've ever witnessed. When a man makes so many mistakes in his marriage and it seems like the wounds are so deep, you wonder when that moment of change comes.

Redemption is a process that starts with forgiveness and ends with the answers to key questions: When is enough really enough? Am I ready to finally walk away from the past and make a clean break? Can I? All of us saw Joe fall. We saw him making mistakes after we advised him against it. We grew disappointed with him We saw the role others were playing, their loneliness, how they fed off each others desires and secrets. We knew he needed to change and we knew it was not our role to force him to change. Joe had to want to save his own marriage himself. In the end, Joe had finally found the one thing that others and I thought he might never find again-Redemption.



LEAD LIKE JESUS
INSPIRED *Devotional*

Jesus' call to lay down our lives to serve others is very clear. He gave His life for us and gave His life to us so that we can live our lives serving others like He did. How has Jesus worked in your life? Where have you experienced life in the place of death, forgiveness instead of judgment, power where once there was weakness? How can you help others experience newfound confidence and capability in their lives and work? What would it look like to lay down your life for others today?

This is my commandment: Love each other in the same way I have loved you. There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends. John 15:12-13

Prayer

Jesus, thank You for giving Your life for us and for giving us life through Your Spirit. As You lived to serve, I want to live my life to serve. In your name, let me bring life, forgiveness and power to others today. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

MAY 2011 WORSHIP SCHEDULE

DATE	SERVICE		ACOLYTE	LAY MINISTER	LECTOR	READINGS	USHER	GREETER	CHILD CARE
	TIME								
May 1, 2011	8:00 AM		L. Gustafson	G. Bristol	S. Callahan	Acts 2:14a, 22-32 1 Peter 1:3-9	C. Bristol D. Emmons	C. Emmons	
Second Sunday of Easter	10:00 AM		M. Gendreau J. Chiodo	J. Pinsince B. Lewis	L. Wonneberger B. Eldridge	Acts 2:14a, 22-32 1 Peter 1:3-9	F. Hopkins P. Smith	M. Ritz D. Smith	E. Durazzo P. Bell
May 8, 2011	8:00 AM		C. Cunningham	F. Callahan	G. Bristol	Acts 2:14a, 36-41 1 Peter 1:17-23	A. Fredericks B. Kuhar	B. Neilson	
Third Sunday of Easter	10:00 AM		M. Bibens K. Carriero	D. Green D. Smith	R. Fohrenbach P. Watson	Acts 2:14a, 36-41 1 Peter 1:17-23	R. Fohrenbach B. Eldridge	L. Wonneberger S. Peck	W. Bibens A. Smith
May 15, 2011	8:00 AM		H. Kropitis	S. Callahan	K. Gammage	Acts 2:42-47 1 Peter 2:19-25	E. Pasanelli G. Bristol	J. Piscitelli	
Fourth Sunday of Easter	10:00AM		D. Bibens P. Bell	D. Pinsince P. Smith	B. Vanbrederode D. Bryson	Acts 2:42-47 1 Peter 2:19-25	M. Ritz D. Bryson	M. Bucciarelli J. Bryson	C. Ritz M. Gendreau
May 22, 2011	8:00 AM		D. Gendreau	D. Warren	B. Neilson	Acts 7:55-60 1 Peter 2:2-10	B. Broughton P. Austin	A. Swanepoel	
Fifth Sunday Of Easter	10:00 AM		R. Fraleigh W. Bibens	S. Winters B. Lewis	B. Watkins C. Franz	Acts 7:55-60 1 Peter 2:2-10	P. Smith K. Pegnataro	D. Pinsince C. Hoponick	P. Bell E. Durazzo
May 29, 2011	8:00 AM		L. Gustafson	G. Bristol	S. MacKenzie	Acts 17:22-31 1 Peter 3:13-22	D. Emmons A. Fredericks	S. Giambra	
Sixth Sunday of Easter	10:00 AM		E. Durazzo J. Chiodo	J. Pinsince D. Green	D. Smith B. Eldridge	Acts 17:22-31 1 Peter 3:13-22	J. Carter B. McDonald	M. Saltzman D. Smith	S. Kringstad W. Bibens

JUNE 2011 WORSHIP SCHEDULE

DATE	SERVICE TIME	ACOLYTE	LAY MINISTER	LECTOR	READINGS	USHER	GREETER	CHILD CARE
June 5, 2011	8:00 AM	L. Gustafson	F. Callahan	G. Bristol	Acts 1: 6-14 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11	C. Bristol E. Pasenelli	A. Fredericks	
Seventh Sunday of Easter	10:00 AM	D. Bibens W. Bibens	D. Smith D. Pinsince	C. Franz L. Wonneberger	Acts 1: 6-14 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11	R. Fohrenbach B. Eldridge	G. Burrows L. Wonneberger	P. Bell C. Ritz
June 12, 2011	8:00 AM	C. Cunningham	S. Callahan	S. Mackenzie	Acts 2:1-21 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13	P. Austin G. Bristol	E. Luysterborghs	
Day of Pentecost Whitsunday	10:00 AM	M. Bibens E. Durazzo	S. Winters J. Pinsince	D. Smith B. Eldridge	Acts 2:1-21 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13	M. Ritz K. Pegnataro	S. Peck M. Bucciarelli	A. Smith M. Gendreau
June 19, 2011	8:00 AM	H. Kropitis	D. Warren	K. Gammage	Genesis 1:1-2-2:4a 2 Corinthians 13:11-13	C. Bristol D. Emmons	G. Bristol	
First Sunday after Pentecost Trinity Sunday	10:00AM	K. Carriero	B. Lewis D. Green	L. Roti P. Mangels	Genesis 1:1-2-2:4a 2 Corinthians 13:11-13	J. Carter F. Hopkins	D. Pinsince C. Hoponick	E. Durazzo W. Bibens
June 26, 2011	8:00 AM	D. Gendreau	G. Bristol	B. Neilson	Genesis 22:1-14 Romans 6:12-23	B. Kuhar A. Fredericks	B. Neilson	
Second Sunday after Pentecost	10:00 AM	J. Chiodo	D. Smith D. Pinsince	T. Osmun D. Bryson	Genesis 22:1-14 Romans 6:12-23	B. McDonald D. Bryson	J. Bryson M. Saltzman	S. Kringstad A. Smith



St. Peter's Episcopal Church

71 River Street, Milford, CT 06460 203-874-8562

e-mail: stpetersmilford@sbcglobal.net

May 2011



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

						1
1 2nd Sunday of Easter Holy Eucharist 8 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10 a.m. Christian Form 10 a.m.	2 Fellowship Group 7 p.m.	3 Bible Study 7 a.m. Rector's Office Youth Group 6 p.m.—8 p.m. Purpose Statement Meeting 7:00 p.m.	4 Holy Eucharist Noon Bible Study 7-8:30 p.m.	5 Morning Prayer 8 a.m. Choir Practice 7 p.m.—8:30 p.m.	6	7 Homefront Project 7:30 a.m. Lafayette St., Milford
8 3rd Sunday of Easter Holy Eucharist 8 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10 a.m. Christian Form 10 a.m.	9	10 Bible Study 7 a.m. Rector's Office	11 Holy Eucharist Noon Bible Study 7-8:30 p.m.	12 Morning Prayer 8 a.m. Choir Practice 7 p.m.—8:30 p.m. Outreach Dinner 5-7 p.m.	13	14 Praise Concert 7:00 p.m.
15 4th Sunday of Easter Holy Eucharist 8 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10 a.m. Christian Form 10 a.m. Confirmation Meeting 4—6 p.m.	16	17 Bible Study 7 a.m. Rector's Office Youth Group 6 p.m.—8 p.m. Lectio/Vestry Meeting 7:00 p.m.	18 Holy Eucharist Noon Bible Study 7-8:30 p.m.	19 Morning Prayer 8 a.m. Choir Practice 7 p.m.—8:30 p.m.	20 	21
22 5th Sunday of Easter Holy Eucharist 8 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10 a.m. Christian Form 10 a.m. Youth Group Breakfast after both services	23	24 Bible Study 7 a.m. Rector's Office	25 Holy Eucharist Noon Bible Study 7-8:30 p.m.	26 Morning Prayer 8 a.m. Choir Practice 7 p.m.—8:30 p.m.	27	28
29 6th Sunday of Easter Holy Eucharist 8 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10 a.m. NO Christian Form	30 Memorial Day Office Closed	31 Bible Study 7 a.m. Rector's Office Prayer Shawl Ministry 7:00 p.m. Church Library				