

Saint Peter's Bald Head

Bring You Seasons Greetings

From Bishop Longest



Re-acquaintance

As I was pondering what I might write for this issue of “St. Peter’s Bald Head”, Barbara asked me to set up our DVD/VCR recorder to record a show for our grandchildren. It had been awhile since I last recorded anything on this machine, so I needed to reacquaint myself with it. Later, it struck me how each year we need to “reacquaint” ourselves with the full story of The Holy Nativity. We need to remind ourselves of the real meaning of this holiday... this Holy Day...this Feast Day we call Christmas. Advent 2006 began on Sunday, December 3rd and is the Season when we are called upon to “reacquaint” ourselves with Christmas, that day that reminds us God’s Gift to us in the Babe born in Bethlehem.

Barbara and I wish you a good Advent, one that will help to make this Christmas Day a day that reminds you of the Love of God, renews your love of God, and strengthens your love of those close to you.

From Father Lally



A String of Pearls

One of my mother’s favorite Christmas carols was “Silver Bells”. For her, the joy and wonder of the season lay in the hustle and bustle of fast-arriving Christmas - families re-gathered, bountiful tables that must be planned and pre-pared, friends taking the measure of golden friendship, and a constant stream of ebullient visitors. For clergy these weeks are also a season of busyness – preparations for liturgies and pageants and special sermons, but also for fiscal-year-end responsibilities that come with serving non-profit organizations.

These weeks fly by and then, when we grow a little older, whole Advent and Christmas seasons fly, as I recall that ten Decembers have now arrived without Mother’s familiar smile and graciousness. It is a funny thing about this life we live – how brief are the

things that matter most. I suppose each of us has a pocket full of pearls – the memories that make up what we account to have been our lives. They're a string really, sequence of the things that really counted. A string of pearls. We don't remember everything, and as the years pass we remember a lot less than everything. But we have this string, and God seems to have fashioned us, so that those pearls continue to shine brilliantly however many years attempt to dim them.

It is so for our faith, too: a string of pearls. And I call to mind the scenes that are still so alive to me, having just returned from the Holy Land: the place where He turned water into wine; the place where He promised that the pure of heart will see God; the place where he fed the multitude; the place where men and women threw down palms and even their cloaks, that his donkey might not touch soil and earth; the places where God was with us. He was with us (as is so often the case with beauty) for all too brief a span. And then He left us asking that we prepare ourselves to see Him again.

He knows that we're busy, but I must remind myself in this busy season "to prepare Him room" inside myself. I must make sure that He will feel at home with my thoughts and my habits and my priorities. And I have a feeling the He will expect of me what He found so well-lodged in my mother's heart: her genuine love of the ones whom He loves so fully and completely- you and me and the many others we will receive in His name, in the name of Christmas.

Grace and Terri and I send to you our love, which is His, this Adventide and Christmastide. May the One Whom we worship together at our beloved St. Peter's by-the-Sea keep you and bless you and lodge at ease within you, enduing that deep warmth which we still call Christmas.

From the Board of Trustees

Dear Friends of St. Peter's



Having left Maine in mid-September, I often wish I could catch a glimpse of St Peter's atop of Christian Hill when the flood lights are on reminding us of its continuing presence and invitation to people of all faiths to enter the red doors during the summer season for worship. It is truly an inspirational scene.

In 2006, a number of new names have been added to our mailing list. Some will attend on a regular basis and others at various times when their vacations bring them to the area. A big welcome to all of you, sadly a few of our longtime friends have passed away and there is a small number who can no longer make the trip for health reasons. We will greatly miss these friends we've known over decades of worshipping together.

Since last September we have had the Rev. Dr. Steve Lally under contract with St. Peter's as our Priest. He will serve under Bishop Charles Longest as a member of our clergy.

Since he lives close by on Kittery Point, he will also represent St. Peter's for full time residents on an as needs basis. Thank you, Fr. Steven, for all your prayers and presence in this short time period for those of us who have had surgery or illnesses or grief. Steven is also an experienced maintenance worker. He has fixed a problem at the top of the rectory roof, which for years has caused serious leaking inside. Also, he closed up the Marmion House, when my husband Bob had to leave before the Church closed. Thanks go to Terri and Grace as well who join him as a team and will give support to Barbara Longest at the Hospitality Hour after Sunday services.

Please be aware that our Long Term Planning Committee under the direction of Royce Morgan has met many times for numerous hours. They will be presenting the Trustees with recommendations for starting the anticipated Memorial area.

Thanks also go to Dr. Edmund Lowrie for all his work and contributions for Church Maintenance. The rebuilding of the stone wall is in progress and the result is beautiful. The new plantings around the sign and the left side of the Church are lovely additions.

As always, we need contributions to keep up with expected and unexpected expenses which drain our trust funds. Please consider us as one of your year-end gifts. Envelopes should be address to:

Norman Storrs
P O Box 1692
Ogunquit, ME 03907

I thank you in advance.

On behalf of the St. Peter's by-the-Sea Board of Trustees, I wish you all a CHRISTMAS FULL OF JOY and a NEW YEAR FULL OF THE PRESPECTS FOR PEACE.

Faithfully your,
Jane Greene, President

From the editor



Glad Tidings of Great Peace

It is a humbling experience to wear several hats for St Peter's again this year; all of them so very rewarding. But none feels as good as the one that allows me and those who make contributions to "Bald Head" to interrupt your day with a bit of news from "Home" on Christian Hill. The positive feed-back is greatly appreciated and if you have news, comments or criticisms, please send them to me at: P O Box 1569, Ogunquit, Me 03907 or carm@maine.rr.com and include "Bald Head" in the subject.

The Book Club has decided to read the paperback book of fiction that is #1 on the New York Times for January 1st 2007, (so that is actually Sunday, December 31st, 2006). I hope we all like it!

Room does not allow me to include the poem, but I invite you to read "The Bells" by Edgar Allan Poe during this Advent/Christmas time. It reminds us of how bells are

actually a part of our daily lives: as children (innocence), wedding (joy & love), fire (trouble & alarm), tolling (grief and hope). So when you hear a bell in the next weeks, remember the deeper meaning.

Jane Says...

by Jane Greene

First, I'd like to thank all of you for your concern and prayers for recovery from a knee replacement. My knee was quickly and painlessly back to normal. However, I think that someone drilled a couple of holes in the back of my skull during the procedure. Either that or I was given too strong medications. I sometimes think my brain is on hold. Whatever, I am glad to have had the replacement and would recommend it to anyone considering it.

Norm and Jeanine Storrs are back in Tucson and are getting their house ready to put on the market in January when the housing market heats up. Hopefully, it will sell quickly so they can pack up the furniture and bring it back to their new home in Cape Neddick.

Louesa Gillespie tells me that she and Don had a wonderful vacation staying in an apartment new daughter Lisa's home in Miami and walking the beach. They also go down to Boston often.

Fr. Steven Lally had an opportunity to go to the Holy Land and is recently back from 10 inspirational days in the area. Hopefully he will give us all a full report when we are back at St. Peter's for the season.

Peg Richardson has donated a new leather bound and inscribed "Book of Remembrance" to St. Peter's. It has been delivered and she has sent a few pictures of it. Thank you, Peg. It is beautiful! Marcia Brazer has agreed to do the calligraphy for it and we thank her as well. It will be on view in the Marmion House when completed.

Steve Lally reports he just called John and Catherine Goodwin. John is much, much better after suffering from a fall and as a result a large hematoma under the skin on his leg. We have been worried, John.



Walter G. Perry, Jr.

Walter Gleason Perry, Jr., 91 died on Saturday, Nov. 11, 2006 in Yarmouth, Mass. He was the husband of Dorothy Adams Perry for the past 65 Years. He was born in Medford, Mass. He graduated from Medford High School and Holderness School in Plymouth, N H. As a child, he sang in the choir at St. Paul's Cathedral in Boston. He was a member of Theta Delta Chi Fraternity at Tufts College. His family owned a cottage in Brewster Park and he spent summers on Cape Cod for many years.

During World War II, he served as a lieutenant in Naval Intelligence in Washington, DC. In 1948, he moved to Westfield, NJ, where he and his family lived for 31 years. In Westfield, he served as president of the Manor Park Association and as a member of the Town Council for nine years. He also served as a member of the Board of Adjustment and was Fire Commissioner for many years. He also served as president of the Westfield Historical Society.

Mr. Perry worked for the Fireman's Fund Insurance Co. in New York City for over 35 years and for much of his career was regional secretary of Ocean Marine Insurance. In this position, he was instrumental in getting Michelangelo's "Pieta" to New York for the World's Fair and then back to Rome. He served as president of the America Marine Insurance Forum and the Maritime Law Association.

In 1979, he retired and he and his wife moved to North Berwick, Maine. There, he served as President of the Board of Camp Brett Endeavor and was a Trustee of St. Peter's by-the-Sea. He also lived winters in Myrtle Beach, SC and was a volunteer there at Associated Charities and at the Grand Strand Hospital. In 1998, he moved to Yarmouthport and, in 2005 to Thirwood Place in Yarmouth.

A memorial service was held at the Church of the Holy Spirit in Orleans, Mass with a graveside service at Mt. Pleasant Cemetery in North Berwick, Maine.

Mr. Perry is survived by his wife Dorothy; two daughters, Priscilla and Deborah and a sister, Elizabeth Perry Houghton.

The family wishes that donations be made in Walter's honor to the charity of one's choice.