



Photograph by R. Williams

St. Michael's Newsletter

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April Calendar

Happy April Birthdays to

Isabella Renney
William Thor Hundahl
Hannah Atkinson
Rose H. Clark
Timothy Clay

From the Rector

Arise my love, my fair one, and come away; for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land.” *Song of Solomon: 2:11-17*

On March 24, Palm Sunday, I happened to be in the church early in the morning. Outside the sky was clear and the air crisp. The sun had crested the buildings nearby and its rays brightly illuminated the stained glass windows on the east wall. Inside the colors were dazzling. I took particular note of the “Ascension Window,” given in memory of William Haskell and his wife, Sally Bird. Transfiguration, Easter and Ascension themes glowed in the image of Jesus. The white dove at the top of the window was vibrant – the blue back drop rich, the small olive branch offering fresh hope of spring. I paused a moment taking in the light and wishing I could stay longer. Like Peter, John and James witnessing Jesus’ transfiguration on the mountain, like the Mary who heard Jesus’ voice and held his feet on the day of his resurrection, like the disciples filled with the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost, I, too, needed to move forward into the day.

The dove in the Ascension Window was chosen to be our logo for the 300th Anniversary and Capital Campaign. The *Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church* notes that as a Christian symbol the dove has many meanings. From Gene-

sis, it is the dove that carries the olive branch “announcing” the rains have stopped – a symbol of peace and reconciliation. From the gospel of Mark, the dove symbolizes the Holy Spirit that alights on Jesus at his baptism. From the Song of Solomon, noted above, it heralds a joyous time.



One parishioner elaborated further on our stained glass choice. The blue pieces of stained glass can be thought of as the earth and our beautiful yet sometimes fractured world. The dove – God’s Spirit – flies above, touch all, holding all, reconciling all.

Here is the harmony, understanding and faith that is offered, sought and bestowed upon us through our ministries at St. Michael’s. When the original builders of St. Michael’s oriented the church in 1714, I imagine they were conscious of the position of the rising and setting of the sun. Since many of them were ship captains and merchant seamen, in their transatlantic crossings I imagine they knew well the dove from Noah’s ark. The designers and benefactors of the stained glass windows in the 19th century were tuned into sun’s light as well. Across generations their thoughtfulness has inspired many since, including this particular rector. As we are sent forth into this Easter season, may we be open to the power of the resurrection and the hope of peace and reconciliation. May the spirit of God – a heavenly dove - lead us in joyous times.

- Fr. Andrew

From the Music Director

A Happy Easter Season to All!

The month of April brings us three musical events I hope you can attend:

Sunday April 7 at 5 pm - Choral Evensong - music by Wesley and my own setting of the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis. The Alleluias are back, and an hour of beautiful music and worship is an excellent way to spend a late afternoon. A reception follows, as always.



Sunday April 21 at 5 pm - our Recital Series continues with featured artist Brink Bush, Organist at St. John's Church, Beverly Farms, MA. His program will include Sonatas by Scarlatti, and music by C.P.E. Bach and J. S. Bach.

Sunday April 28 at 4 pm at Christ Church, Andover - I will be playing a recital on the new Fisk organ as part of their inaugural series. I have had several practice sessions on this instrument, and it is truly one of the Fisk company's finest organs. I'll be playing the F Major Toccata of Bach, the Chorale #3 of Franck, and some other fun repertoire. It would be great to have a contingent of St. Michael's folks to come and visit one of our sister churches in our area. I would love to see you there.

Finally, we have made a start at re-establishing the Children's Choir but were unable to achieve a quorum in terms of rehearsal time. Many of you parents have expressed interest - by next year some of the 2nd and 3rd graders will be a little bit older, and I hope will be able to join us. In June, as we approach the end of the school year, we'll try again to get interested young singers to commit to a time of the week, and we'll begin rehearsals in September.

- Douglas Major, Music Director



Mark Your Calendar!

On Sunday, May 5 we will be celebrating Doug Major's 10 years at St. Michael's—at coffee hour after the 10 am service and at the 5 pm Evensong reception. Contact Frances Nilsson if you would like to contribute or assist.

April Notices

April Celebrants

The Rev. Jess Petty will be preaching and celebrating on Sundays in April, assisted by the Rev. Bob Landreth, with one break when Aileen Ryder will preach on Sunday, April 14. The Rev. Fred Alling will be celebrating Holy Eucharist and leading Bible Study on Wednesdays throughout April and on May 1.

The Rev. Andrew Stoessel will be on vacation April 1—30. If you have a pastoral concern while he is away, please contact one of the Wardens, Frances Nilsson or Steve Clay, or leave a message with the Church Office.

Lorraine Allison At St. Catherine's

The St. Catherine's Guild will meet Thursday, April 4th at 6:30 PM. Lorraine Allison will be telling us some of her stories on the History of Marblehead. The dinner crew is serving ham, salad and more with fruit cobbler for dessert. Contact dinner crew members, Lesley Tracy or Jacqui Williams if you would like to join.

St. Catherine's is a group of women at St. Michael's who meet the first Thursday of the month for fellowship and service for the rector and St. Michael's ministries.

**Parish Aid Society meets
Tuesday, April 16
at noon
Bring a sandwich and
join this convivial group.**

**Visit
Esperanza Academy
on April 24th.
Supplies donations
are needed.
See page 6 for
details.**

**Mark your calendar for Sunday,
April 28 when a forum will be
held to discuss the proposed
capital campaign projects at
St. Michael's.
See page 5 for details.**

Church School - Aileen Ryder

Church School

Church School meets Sunday mornings at 9:30 am. Students in pre-K-2nd grade use Godly Play. Weaving God's Promises is the class for students in grades 2-5.

Bible Club

Following Church Services, older children meet to explore the day's lesson

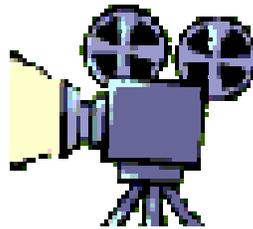
The Supper Club

A gathering of Middle School Youth on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month at 6pm. Meetings follow the Reform curriculum.

April Highlights

Children's Chapel Sunday April 7 at 9:30am. Meet Aileen in the old nursery room. Everyone is welcome to join in this worship service. Students will begin Church School following Chapel.

Youth Movie Night The Supper Club will have special Friday Movie Night. Youth will gather in the parish hall to watch *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader* on April 5, 6pm-8:15pm.



April Vacation

We will not have Church School on the first Sunday of April vacation, April 14. We will have a special One-Room Church School on the last Sunday of the vacation, April 21.



Parables

Students of Godly Play will begin their study of the Parables this month. In Godly Play, the parables are presented as mysterious gifts that are filled with deep meanings. And yet, sometimes those meanings are difficult to see. One of the great things about the Parable of the Sower is that we learn the parables are confusing even to Jesus' closest followers. When we are stumped by the parables, we have very good company! Jesus explains this parable to his disciples yet we are still left with a wealth of meaning to mine from the story.

Jesus had a true gift for explaining life in God through stories that were connected to the everyday lives of his audience. Sometimes we need a little imagination or background to understand what he was saying. Godly Play provides this background and invites students to open these "gifts" and make meaning of these lessons in their own lives.

Church School & Youth Schedule

Date	Special Event	Youth	Godly Play	Weaving God's Promises
Friday, April 5	Youth Movie Night—The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader			
Sunday, April 7			Parable of The Sower	"Why do you look for the living among the Dead?"
Tuesday, April 9		Can someone lose their salvation?		
Sunday, April 14	April Vacation		No Church School	
Sunday, April 21	One-Room Church School		Two Ways to Live: Stories about Choices	
Tuesday, April 23		How should I pray?		
Sunday, April 28			Parable of the Good Samaritan	Jew and Gentile: Peter Meets Cornelius

James Bower, Rector 1802—1811

On March 14, 1802 the Rev. William Bentley of Salem notes in his diary "James Bowers who has officiated in the Episcopal Church in Bath Maine is now at the Episcopal Church in Marblehead. In both places the numbers are small & the wealthy are few upon whom the support of public worship must fall." On his regular circuit through Maine, Judge Samuel Sewall had heard Bowers preach at St. Ann's in Pittston, Maine. With William Harris' departure from St. Michael's, Sewall immediately invited Bowers to preach in Marblehead. The Vestry offered Bowers a position, provided he was ordained.

James Bowers was born in Billerica. He graduated from Harvard College in 1794, at age 25 or possibly 29. Shortly after graduation, Bowers became master of the Faire Grammer School in Cambridge and then in 1796 was a teacher at the Free or Latin School of Roxbury. In 1794 Bowers also married Elizabeth Richardson of Cambridge and they had five children.

In June 1796 Bowers traveled to New York and was ordained deacon by Episcopal Bishop Provoost. On July 20 Bowers became rector at St. Ann's (now Christ Church in Gardiner, Maine). One 19th century historian complained that Holy Communion was never celebrated when Bowers was rector, but as deacon he would not have been authorized. Bowers also preached at St. Paul's in Portland. Being called to St. Michael's, James Bowers was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Bass on May 25, 1802 at the Diocesan Convention at Trinity Church, Boston.

On Dec. 25, 1804 Bentley notes in his diary:

This day I went to Marblehead & spent Christmas. Mr. Bowers gave us a consistent discourse upon the mission of Jesus & assured me that the Communion was free. After service I partook by invitation of an elegant dinner at Mr. Isaac Story's, formerly minister at 2d Cong. Church, now in the Episcopal Communion, and spent the afternoon agreeably at Mr. Bower's Manse.

And so began a friendship between Bentley and Bowers with regular visits between them. On July 3rd, 1805: "Rev. Mr. Bowers of St. Michael's Church with his Lady dined with me. His amiable manners & good taste form a rich recommendation." In January 1806 Bentley wrote: "Mr. Bowers favored me with several copies of his three discourses against religious deception. The swarms of itinerants are such as were never before seen in our country & they are very troublesome from their ignorance & intolerance. We have no cure for them but the pen...." The pamphlet was entitled "Deceivers Made Manifest." Bowers published four publications over his lifetime.

On Christmas Day 1807 Bentley preached at St. Michael's where two Methodist ministers also attended services.

But by May 1811 Bentley notes:

I am sorry to find that Mr. Bowers at Marblehead has very slender support. He has only 500 D. & that raised by subscription from a few hearers, some subscribing 60, 50 &c. dollars. They have no music & despair of holding out much longer. In Marblehead the English Church was never able to maintain itself. Since the revolution, Mr. Oliver & Mr. Harris were obliged to leave them. Mr. Bowers has lately published a Sermon at Scituate on religious melancholy which proves his talents.

The Rev. W.R. Woodbridge states in his *Parish Notes of St. Michael's...* that "In 1811 several people were dissatisfied and left the church, of which Mr. Bowers was informed by letter." On December 11, 1811 St. Michael's Vestry voted to pay Bowers salary through Easter 1812 "without exacting or requiring of him any further services in the Church only when it may be agreeable and convenient to him. ...that Mr. Bowers have the Church Glebe for the residence of himself and family during any reasonable time he may wish to retain it."

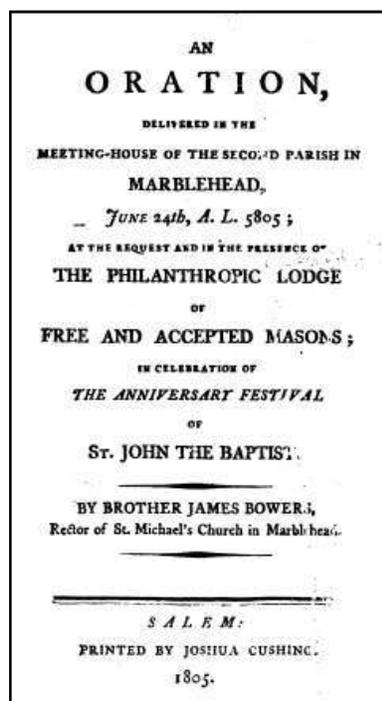
In the midst of this in October 1811 Bentley recorded this event: "This evening I had the company of the R.I. Bishop A. V. Griswold, Bishop of the four New England States. ...he is now upon the visitation of his Clergy. As he observed to me he was in fear of losing his churches at Salem & Marblehead."

Bentley's diary indicates that Bowers stayed in Marblehead until November 1812 when he went to Dedham to fill in while the Rector was traveling. By March 1813 he was living at St. Paul's Glebe in South Kingston, RI while still helping in Dedham. Bowers stayed in the Glebe for two

years and by 1817 was in Saratoga, NY. In 1825 Bowers returned to Massachusetts residing in Framingham. In 1830 he moved to Indianapolis to be near his children. It is possible that this move was enabled by a land grant that was issued to a James Bowers who had served in the Revolutionary War.

The Rev. Bowers died in 1833/34 in Cincinnati, Ohio where he was staying with his daughter.

- from Frances Nilsson,
Historic Church



Capital Campaign Proposed Projects

In 2009 St. Michael's proclaimed our mission to "Seek transformation in God's grace by worshipping God in prayer, song, and study; loving and serving our neighbor in and outside our parish Community; and being good stewards of God's creation." Since then parish groups and conversations have discussed and planned what we need to work successfully toward our mission. And many accomplishments have been made. Groups and conversations also noted capital improvements that are needed to grow our programs, improve accessibility, maximize the use of our facilities, and to use resources more efficiently.



On Palm Sunday 7 panels were posted displaying our hopes and dreams that we would like to fund. The panels propose improvements for accessibility, Parish Hall & Historic Church renovations & repairs, and energy-efficient & environmental improvements to the Parish Hall, Sanctuary & Rectory:

Accessibility: Provide universal access into the Parish Hall from the Summer Street driveway via a new ramp, upgraded entry, and a lift to the basement and first floor.

Parish Life: Renovate the Parish Hall to be more welcoming and responsive to parish needs with improved meeting, office and classroom space, upgraded lobby, walls, floors, ceilings, lighting and windows, new Parish Hall flat roofs, and extended fire sprinkler system throughout Parish Hall.

Historic Church: Repair bell tower and erect new steeple to address water leaks and to improve visibility in the Marblehead community; repair and paint the Sanctuary ceiling, and restore six remaining Sanctuary windows.

St. Michael's Episcopal Church Marblehead, Massachusetts

Our Mission is to seek transformation in God's grace by worshipping God in prayer, song, and study; loving and serving our neighbor in and outside our parish Community; and being good stewards of God's creation.

Our Vision is to be a Mission-driven Episcopal congregation that by 2014 will be widely recognized as a vibrant, open, and inviting community, known for liturgically-centered worship and music, for lifelong learning, for pastoral presence and service to communities near and far, for good stewardship of our resources, and for celebration of our legacy as an historic church.

Environmental Stewardship: Replace the Sanctuary Furnace and Parish Hall Boiler with new high-efficiency gas-fired units. Install solar panels on roof of Parish Hall. Rehabilitate Rectory, addressing leakage, mold, air infiltration, failing interior finishes, heating plant, and appliances. Because of a rusty oil tank, the Vestry approved last fall and the Property Committee oversaw the installation of the furnace and boiler this past winter.

Serving Others: There are also two other elements to the campaign: The Outreach Committee proposes that a percentage of our proceeds be set aside to seed an endowed fund for Outreach. And in 2012 the Vestry voted to join the Diocese of Massachusetts' Together Now comprehensive campaign by pledging to the diocese 10% of our own capital campaign. The diocesan campaign seeks to raise money "to employ and enable mission opportunities, expand current strategic ministries across the geographic reach of the diocese and transform our Cathedral Church of St. Paul."

Please look over these proposed improvements to St. Michael's campus and submit your questions and suggestions for making the projects even better! On Sunday, April 28 we will have a forum to explain why we are proposing these projects and address your questions and comments. In May we will be sending out a questionnaire to all parishioners to help us prioritize these projects for our capital campaign next Fall.

- Frances Nilsson & Steve Clay, Wardens

Fourth Century Fund to Be Added to Endowment

In 1989 a St. Michael's launched a "Fourth Century Campaign, An Investment in St. Michael's Future." The campaign, led by Robert Howie, Sr., created "a pool of capital that would be invested for growth until St. Michael's 300th anniversary." The following year the Vestry voted "That the Fourth Century Fund ... be segregated from other endowment funds ... and that all interest and appreciation be allowed to accumulate with the Fund until the year 2014, St. Michael's 300th birthday. At that time, the income from this Fund would be available to be used at the discretion of the Vestry in the same manner as income from other investment funds."

In January 2013 St. Michael's Vestry voted to "transfer the vast majority of ... the Fourth Century Fund ... to the Endowment Fund for unrestricted use. A small percent of the balance will be used to support the 300th celebrations, said percent to be approved by the Vestry in 2013." The value of the fund as on 9/30/2012 was \$368,000.

Donations Needed for Esperanza Academy Visit April 24th

We are planning a trip to Esperanza on April 24th to drop off donations from St. Michael's Church. We would like donations of gift cards (Target, Staples, Walmart), school supplies (only new ones and things such as: white boards, new pens, pencils, scissors, paper, notebooks, etc.), and cash donations. Please look for the box in the parish hall to leave school supplies and give gift cards. Please leave cash donations (checks can be made out to Esperanza Academy) with Jane in the church office. To the right is some information about Esperanza Academy that will motivate you to help these wonderful girls obtain the education they need for a viable future.

If you are interested in going to Esperanza, please sign up (sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall). The date is April 24th and a car pool will be leaving from the church at 1:30 and returning by 5:00.

Thank you so much for your support of Esperanza Academy.
- Lesley Tracy



What is Esperanza Academy?

It's an Episcopal school and member of the Nativity Miguel network, currently serving seventy-one 5th through 8th grade girls living in the city of Lawrence. Esperanza admits all students through a lottery system. It is committed to providing a tuition-free, extended day and year, comprehensive, quality education for the girls of Lawrence. The school involves the girls' parents and families, who volunteer two hours per week at the school, in the educational journey of their daughters.

The academic program includes instruction in English, mathematics, science, history, health, and the arts. The school day begins with breakfast at 7:30 a.m., and runs through the academic day, study hall, activities, athletics, and dinner, closing at 6:30 p.m. Students attend school from September through June. They also attend a three week summer term in July. After 5 years, 49 graduates to date are thriving in their 17 different high school programs.

Stewards of the Month: Denise Shea

About ten years ago, Denise was a Parish Administrator at St. Andrews and attending St. Peter's in Salem. The Diocesan Coordinator asked her if she would take over as mentor for the EFM group, Education for Ministry, for the Rev. Kent Johnson at St. Michael's. She agreed. To familiarize herself with the church, she slipped into a service one Sunday. Her reaction to the music was, "Oh my gosh, it is fantastic!" So, she joined the choir and has been at St. Michael's ever since.



was on the radio program, The Portuguese Hour, in Salem. Her maternal uncle played the banjo and her younger brother plays the clarinet and sax. One niece plays the clarinet as well as the flute while another has a beautiful alto voice.

Denise lives in Peabody, in a house her grandfather built next to the one his brother built. Now one brother lives next door with his family and her other brother lives downstairs from Denise. "It was so nice when my nieces and nephew were small. I could help out my sister-in-law," she says. Her youngest niece is now a high school junior.

In addition to the choir and being an EFM mentor, Denise is St. Michael's representative to both the Deanery and the Convention. She is the Worship and Music chairperson and she has served on the Education Committee.

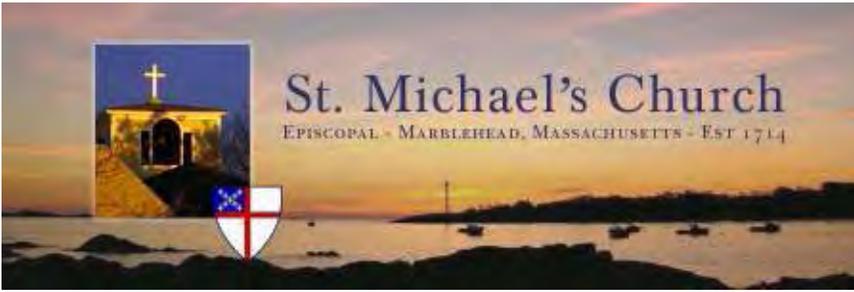
St. Michael's music and its fellowship are her favorite aspects of the church. "I love the coffee hours and receptions where no one wants to leave. We all have so many things in common," she says. Of the choir she says, "Small as we are, we have fun and enjoy working together."

Denise also sings in the Newburyport Choral Society. She plays the piano and takes lessons from Doug Major to improve her organ playing skills. In fact, music abounds in Denise's family. Her maternal aunt sang professionally and

Presently Denise is a senior analyst in finance for National Grid in Waltham. "I was in retail for a long time, but you always had to work on Sundays," she says. In addition she is certified in Reiki, Level 2.

In her free time, Denise likes to knit, crochet, and do counted cross-stitch. She made cross-stitch samplers for her nieces' and nephew's first communions. And, she has a four-legged friend, Penny, who is 14 years old. "I don't enjoy going out in bad weather so a kitty is perfect," she says.

- Marilyn Day.



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A sign of spring in the atrium.

**Sunday, April 7
5:00 PM**

**Evensong & Benediction
with
The Rev. Jess Petty, Celebrant
and
Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis
by Douglas Major**

**Sunday, April 21
5:00 pm**

**Organ Recital
with
Brink Bush
of St. John's Beverly Farms
playing Scarlatti & the Bachs**

St. Michael's Church

Officers: Frances Nilsson, Sr. Warden; Stephen Clay, Jr. Warden; Sue Cool, Clerk; James Dearborn, Treasurer; Karl Renney, Asst. Treasurer.

Vestry: Melissa Amberik, Jenny Armini, Sarah Bates, Lynn Bragdon, Brian Carlson, Xavier Chickering, Rory Gaunt, Robert L. Howie, Jr., Karin McCarthy.

Delegates for Convention: Jan Barnett, Denise Shea. **Deanery Delegates:** Jan Barnett, Frances Nilsson, Denise Shea

Staff: The Rev. Andrew J. Stoessel, Rector; Dr. Douglas Major, Music Director; Aileen Ryder, Church School Director, Jane Maihos, Parish Administrator; Jennifer Hill, Sexton.

Saint Michael's Church

April 2013

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

The Rev. Jess Petty will be preaching and celebrating Sundays in April except as noted. On Wednesdays, The Rev. Fred Alling will celebrate and lead Bible Study.

3/31 EASTER THE DAY OF RESURRECTION	1) MONDAY IN EASTER WEEK	2) TUESDAY IN EASTER WEEK	3) WEDNESDAY IN EASTER WEEK	4) THURSDAY IN EASTER WEEK	5) FRIDAY IN EASTER WEEK	6) SATURDAY IN EASTER WEEK
8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I No Church School 10:00 am Festal Eucharist, Rite II	11:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry	5:00 pm St. Michael's Team, My Brother's Table, Lynn 7:30 pm Property	9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Deanery meets at Trinity Church, Topsfield 8:00 pm AA Meeting	6:30 pm St. Catherine's Guild Dinner Meeting 7:30 pm Adult Choir	5:30 – 8:15 pm Youth Movie Night	
7) 2 ND SUNDAY OF EASTER 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:00 am 300 th Steering Committee 9:30 am Children's Chapel, downstairs 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II 5:00 pm Choral Evensong & Benediction	8) 8:00 am Communications	9) 6:00 pm Middle School Supper Club 7:30 pm Wardens' Meeting	10) 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 5:30 pm Confirmation Class 8:00 pm AA Meeting	11) 7:30 pm Adult Choir	12)	13) 10:00 am – 1:30 pm St. Michael's Team at Lifebridge, Salem, led by Ed & Michelle Baille
14) 3 RD SUNDAY OF EASTER 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I Aileen Ryder, preaching 9:00 am Historic Church Meeting 9:30 am Church School 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II, Aileen Ryder, preaching	15) Patriots Day <i>Office Closed</i>	16) 12:00 pm Parish Aid	17) 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 8:00 pm AA Meeting	18) 7:30 pm Adult Choir	19)	20) 10:00 am – 3:00 pm Parish Historians Society 2013 Annual Meeting at C. B. Fisk & St. John's in Gloucester
21) 4 TH SUNDAY OF EASTER 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:00 am Historic Church 9:30 am Church School 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II 5:00 pm Organ Recital, Brink Bush Performing	22) 11:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry	23) 6:00 pm Middle School Supper Club 7:30 pm Vestry Meeting (Downstairs)	24) 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 1:30 pm – 5:00 pm Esperanza Academy Trip 5:30 pm Confirmation Class 8:00 pm AA Meeting	25) 7:30 pm Adult Choir	26)	27)
28) 5 TH SUNDAY OF EASTER 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am Church School 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II 11:30 am Capital Projects Q&A 4:00 pm Doug Major, Organ Recital at Christ Church, Andover	29)	30)	Office Hours Mon.-Fri. 8:30 am–12:30 pm		Thrift Shop Hours Tues. – Sat. 1:00 – 4:00 pm	