

THE KEYS



Church of St. Peter the Apostle
Anglican Catholic Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic States
www.dmas-acc.org

The Rev. Canon Peter Geromel, OHI, DMin - Rector
Sept/Oct 2026
www.anglicancatholic.org

<https://stpetersacc.org>



Meet our new tenants at Scott House!

Nash Lakin is the new Young Life leader for Christiansburg and comes from Salem. "Young Life is a Christian ministry that reaches out to middle school, high school, and college students in all 50 of the United States and in more than 100 countries around the world" (From YL Website).

He is engaged to Lily, who is from Nashville. She is working for another nonprofit which focuses on outdoor education for young people. Nash moved into Scott House on September 1 and will be helping us with some odds and ends around the church grounds and in Scott House. Lily will join him after they are married in October.

Their labradoodle is already part of their family.

If you see them around, please reach out and welcome them. They are quite delightful!

From Bishop Johnson

Before the Denominations

Why Anglican Catholic Christianity Looks So Ancient

Maybe you grew up Baptist, Evangelical, Pentecostal, or non-denominational. Maybe church meant contemporary music, a long sermon, spontaneous prayer, and Communion occasionally as a symbolic remembrance.

Then you began asking deeper questions: **What did Christianity look like before all the denominations?**

How did Christians worship when the Church was still close to the Apostles? What did they believe about Baptism, Communion, bishops, and the Church?

When we read the earliest Christian sources, we discover something remarkable:

Ancient Christianity looks much more like historic, sacramental, liturgical Christianity than much of modern American Christianity.

Go back to A.D. 100

The *Didache*, one of the earliest Christian writings outside the New Testament, describes Christians gathering on the Lord's Day, confessing their sins, reconciling with one another, breaking bread, giving thanks, fasting, baptizing, and praying the Lord's Prayer.

Around A.D. 107, St. Ignatius of Antioch writes about bishops, priests, deacons, the altar, and the Eucharist. He speaks of the Eucharist as truly the flesh of Jesus Christ.

This isn't medieval Christianity. We are barely out of the age of the Apostles.

Now go to A.D. 155

St. Justin Martyr describes Sunday worship.

Christians gather. Scripture is read. A sermon follows. Everyone prays. Bread and wine are brought forward. The celebrant offers a great prayer of thanksgiving. The people respond **Amen**. Holy Communion is distributed by deacons.

Justin says Christians do not receive ordinary bread and wine, but the flesh and blood of Christ.

Scripture. Sermon. Prayers. Bread and wine. Eucharistic prayer. Amen. Holy Communion.

An Anglican Catholic already recognizes the pattern.

By A.D. 350, the resemblance becomes even stronger:

“The Lord be with you.”

“And with thy spirit.”

“Lift up your hearts.”

“Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts...”

There is a Eucharistic prayer, the words of Christ over the Bread and Wine, remembrance of His saving work, invocation of the Holy Spirit, the Lord's Prayer, breaking of the Bread, and Holy Communion.

An Anglican Catholic transported to that ancient church would notice differences—but **he would know what was happening.**

Christianity in Britain is ancient too

Christianity existed in Britain centuries before St. Augustine arrived in A.D. 597.

Around A.D. 200, Tertullian refers to Christianity reaching Britain. In A.D. 314, British bishops from York, London, and another British see attended the Council of Arles.

Britain already possessed an organized Catholic Church nearly three centuries before Augustine.

Over time, Roman-British Christianity, the British and Irish churches, Iona and Lindisfarne, and the Roman mission of Canterbury converged into the historic English Church.

Henry VIII did not create that Church. By 1534 it already had more than a thousand years of bishops, priests, Sacraments, dioceses, parishes, Creeds, and liturgical worship.

So ask the historical question

Imagine bringing a Christian from A.D. 350 into a modern church centered on a stage, worship band, sermon, spontaneous prayer, and occasional symbolic Communion.

Then bring him to an Anglican Catholic Mass.

He encounters bishops, priests and deacons; Scripture and Psalms; ancient Creeds; an altar; bread and wine; the Eucharistic prayer; **“Lift up your hearts”**; **“Holy, Holy, Holy”**; the Lord's Prayer; the breaking of Bread; and Christians receiving the Body and Blood of Christ.

Which would require less explanation?

That's not about musical preference or nostalgia.

It's about historical continuity.

We don't claim every Anglican ceremony comes from the Apostles. Worship developed through the centuries. But its fundamental pattern—episcopal, sacramental, creedal, liturgical, and Eucharistic—is extraordinarily ancient.

We can honor the faith and love of Scripture found among our Evangelical, Baptist, Pentecostal, and non-denominational brothers and sisters while still asking what the historical evidence shows.

Anglican Catholicism isn't Christianity with an old-fashioned style added to it. It is an ancient way of being Christian still alive today.

We're not trying to go backward.

We're receiving what the Church handed down—and carrying it forward.

From Father and Mrs. Seeley

In Gratitude:

As Mrs. Seeley and I make our move to Roanoke (our house is finished and are almost moved in), I wanted to express my gratitude for the welcome St. Peter's extended to us and friendships we made over the last four years.

We did not expect to come to Christiansburg, but we are immensely glad we did.

I am smiling now as I recall the wonderful people of St. Peter's parish who made the last four years memorable.

Allen Butterfield for welcoming us and helping us move in.

Fr. Alex and Sheila Darby for their company and many pleasant afternoons and charming conversations.

Mike and Marnie Slayton for their friendship and support

Phil and Vicki Williams for welcoming us and working with me as I began ministry.

George Mauney for his friendship and working with me on many projects at St. Peter's.

George Terrell for playing Santa and Gandalf and his good humor helping with St. Peter's events.

Clemens and his lovely wife Barbara for their charm and friendship as I began ministry

Dan Drysdale for his reliable support and friendship.

Ted, Elizabeth and Worth Paisley for their friendship and support.

And of course Fr. Peter and Kari

Geromel. Fr. Peter was an incredible and indispensable guide as I began ministry. I cannot thank him enough for taking me on as his curate, and then assisting me in getting settled in Roanoke. Both he and Kari have been supportive to myself and my wife these last four years.

So thank you to St. Peter's congregation. Shannon and I are tremendously grateful for each and every member of St. Peter's and I hope we don't lose contact with each other. I thank you all, and we will miss working with you.

Regards and prayers,
Fr. Seeley

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Services:

Evening Prayer 5 pm Monday through Thursday

Tuesday as well as Thursday mass at Noon.

Wednesday mass will be adjusted to 5:30 (except on "Vestry Wednesdays" then 7 PM).

Friday service at 10 am. Morning Prayer, Litany, and Ante-Communion

September 6: Solemn Evenson & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, 6 PM.

September 19: **CANCELED** Tent at Wilderness Fest

September 20: Bilbo Baggins Birthday Party **ON HIATUS THIS YEAR.**

September 22: St. Matthew's Day transferred, Mass at 12 Noon.

September 23: Vestry at 7:30 PM, preceded by Mass at 7 PM.

September 29: Michaelmas, St. Michael & All Angels, Mass at 12 Noon.

October Vestry Meeting TBD

October 18: St. Luke's Day, observed on Sunday. Mass at 8 am and 10 am.

October 28: Ss. Simon & Jude, Mass at 5:30 PM.

SATURDAY AUGUST 1 WORKDAY



SEPTEMBER 2026						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		[1] 12 noon HC 5 pm EP	[2] 5 pm EP/5:30 HC	[3] 12 noon HC 5 pm EP	[4] 10 am MP & L, Ante-Communion	[5]
[6] 8:00 a.m. MP & HC 10:00 a.m. HE 6:00 p.m. Evensong & Benediction TRINITY XIV	[7] 5 pm EP	[8] 12 noon HC 5 pm EP	[9] 5 pm EP/5:30 HC	[10] 12 noon HC 5 pm EP	[11] 10 am MP & L, Ante-Communion	[12]
[13] 8:00 a.m. MP & HC 10:00 a.m. HE TRINITY XV	[14] 5 pm EP	[15] 12 noon HC 5 pm EP	[16] 5 pm EP/5:30 HC	[17] 12 noon HC 5 pm EP	[18] 10 am MP & L, Ante-Communion	[19]
[20] 8:00 a.m. MP & HC 10:00 a.m. HE TRINITY XVI	[21] 5 pm EP	[22] 12 noon HC 5 pm EP	[23] 5 pm EP 7:00 pm HC 7:30 pm Vestry	[24] 12 noon HC 5 pm EP	[25] 10 am MP & L, Ante-Communion	[26]
[27] 8:00 a.m. MP & HC 10:00 a.m. HE TRINITY XVII	[28] 5 pm EP	[29] 12 noon HC 5 pm EP	[30] 5 pm EP/5:30 HC	LEGEND: HC - Holy Communion; FHE – Festal Holy Eucharist; HE - Holy Eucharist; SS – Sunday School; PG - Prayer Group; EP – Evening Prayer; MP – Morning Prayer; P&HU – Prayers and Holy Unction		

IN THE LORD'S SERVICE

If you cannot fulfill your assigned duty because of an urgent reason, PLEASE SECURE A REPLACEMENT.

	September 6	September 13	September 20	September 27
Coffee Hour	B. Von Claparede	K. Geromel	V. Williams	G. Terrell
Epistoler 8 a.m.	D. Drysdale	C. Von Claparede	G. Mauney	D. Drysdale
Epistoler 10 a.m.	G. Terrell	P. Williams	P. Williams	G. Terrell

Altar servers and ushers will be assigned as available before each service.

OCTOBER 2026						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
LEGEND: HC - Holy Communion; FHE – Festal Holy Eucharist; HE - Holy Eucharist; SS – Sunday School; PG - Prayer Group; EP – Evening Prayer; MP – Morning Prayer; P&HU – Prayers and Holy Unction				[1] 12 noon HC 5 pm HC	[2] 10 am MP & L, Ante-Communion	[3]
[4] 8:00 a.m. MP & HC 10:00 a.m. HE 6:00 pm Evensong & Benediction TRINITY XVIII	[5] 5 pm EP	[6] 12 noon HC 5 pm EP	[7] 5 pm EP/5:30 pm HC	[8] 12 noon HC 5 pm EP	[9] 10 am MP & L, Ante-Communion	[10]
[11] 8:00 a.m. MP & HC 10:00 a.m. HE TRINITY XIX	[12] 5 pm EP	[13] 12 noon HC 5 pm EP	[14] 5 pm EP/5:30 pm HC	[15] 12 noon HC 5 pm EP	[16] 10 am MP & L, Ante-Communion	[17]
[18] 8:00 a.m. MP & HC 10:00 a.m. HE EPIPHANY XX	[19] 5 pm EP	[20] 12 noon HC 5 pm EP	[21] 5 pm EP/5:30 pm HC	[22] 12 noon HC 5 pm EP	[23] 10 am MP & L, Ante-Communion	[24]
[25] 8:00 a.m. MP & HC 10:00 a.m. HE EPIPHANY XXI	[26] 5 pm EP	[27] 12 noon HC 5 pm EP	[28] 5 pm EP/5:30 pm HC	[29] 12 noon HC 5 pm EP	[30] 10 am MP & L, Ante-Communion	[31]

IN THE LORD'S SERVICE

If you cannot fulfill your assigned duty because of an urgent reason, PLEASE SECURE A REPLACEMENT.

	October 4	October 11	October 18	October 25
Coffee Hour	M. Slayton	B. Von Claparede	S. Darby	E. Paisley
Epistoler 8 a.m.	D. Drysdale	C. Von Claparede	G. Mauney	D. Drysdale
Epistoler 10 a.m.	G. Terrell	T. Paisley	G. Terrell	P. Williams

Altar servers and ushers will be assigned as available before each service.

2026 Vestry (term end): Clemens Von Claparede (‘27), Dan Drysdale (‘27), George Mauney (‘28), Ted Paisley (‘28), George Terrell (‘26), Vicki Williams (‘26)