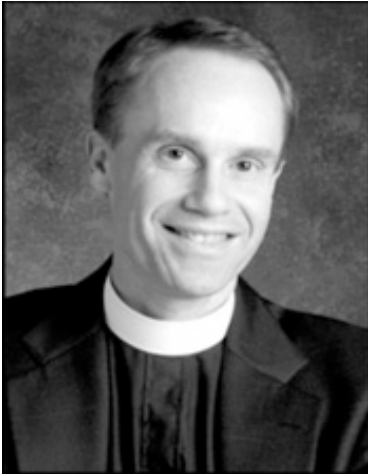


**GRACE CHURCH IN NEW YORK**  
**THE WEEKLY EPISTLE**  
All Saints Day ~ 1 November 2009



Dear Friends,

Much in the news of late has been the Vatican's announced plans to pave an easier path for conservative Anglicans who may wish to become Roman Catholics. My initial reaction was entirely negative. Here we are, fellow disciples of Jesus in a post-Christian world that is in every sort of turmoil. And the Pope has nothing better to do than engage in behind-the-back efforts of sheep stealing? It is bad form. But then I remembered that it was only last spring when a Cuban-American Roman Catholic priest in Miami named Alberto Cutie was in the headlines. Fr. Cutie is a handsome young man who found he could no longer abide by the Roman Catholic Church's requirement that her priests be celibate. After being photographed on the beach with his girlfriend, he was on the outs with Rome. But all was not lost. In the blink of an eye Fr. Cutie was in the headlines again, this time with the

Episcopal Bishop of Southeast Florida, who with no small amount of fanfare was receiving him into our Communion to serve as a priest. In truth, long before the recent Vatican announcement and long before Fr. Cutie, the path between Rome and Canterbury had already been paved, and it is well-traveled - largely in our direction. The Episcopal Church has always benefited from a steady stream of "converts" from Rome. Now it seems that the Pope has put up some road signs reminding people that the Canterbury trail goes both ways. Some will travel it, although I suspect that few in this country will. As for me, I rejoice to be an Episcopalian. But then, I prefer the Mets to the Yankees. Can we not agree that now is the time for all good New Yorkers to unite against our ancient foe, the Phillies? Let's be grown ups about this. Bishop Sisk has issued a measured and gracious response to the Vatican's initiative. If you'd like to read it, you'll find it on the home page of the Diocese of New York at [www.dioceseny.org](http://www.dioceseny.org).

See you in church. Go (gulp) Yankees!

The Rev. J. Donald Waring  
Rector

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- 9:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II**  
Sermon: The Rev. Linda Bartholomew; Music: The Parish Choir  
*Nursery care for children ages 0-3; Sunday School for children at 9:00am*
- 11:00 am Morning Prayer & Sermon**  
Sermon: The Rev. Linda Bartholomew; Music: The Adult Choir  
*Nursery care for children ages 0-3; Sunday School for children during the sermon*
- 6:00 pm The Holy Eucharist, Rite II in the Chantry**  
Sermon: The Rev. Benjamin Thomas; Music: Hymns with piano instrumentalists

**ALL SAINTS' DAY** is the magnificent feast on the Christian calendar when we celebrate the Communion of Saints, and proclaim that death does not separate us eternally from our loved ones.

**REQUIEM** - At 4 pm, in celebration of All Saints' Day, the Adult Choir will be singing Choral Evensong, combined with the Requiem Mass setting by Herbert Howells.

**NEWCOMERS** - Our current round of newcomer classes continues today in the 3rd Floor Conference Room at 10 am. If you are new to Grace Church and looking for a way to learn more about the Episcopal Church and connect with other parishioners and clergy, these conversations will be an excellent way to do so.

**MORNING ADULT EDUCATION** - On November 1st we will continue our series, *Who Do People Say God Is?* with a discussion about a recent New Yorker article entitled "God in the Quad." The article is a review of the recent book, *Reason, Faith, and Revolution: Reflections on the God Debate*, by the author Terry Eagleton. The facilitator of our discussion will be led by the Rev. Ted Pardoe. Copies of the article will be available in the Reception Room.

**20s/30s BRUNCH** - The 20s/30s monthly brunch happens again this Sunday! Join us as at Jo's at 234 Elizabeth Street at Houston at 2pm. Meet Maura in front of the church at 1:45pm or join us at the restaurant. Take the 6 train to Bleeker St and turn right on Elizabeth. Contact Maura Hooper at [mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org) or (212)254-2000, x.113 for more information.

**EVENING ADULT EDUCATION** - Tonight we continue the sessions entitled *Conversations with Scripture*. Immediately following the 6 pm Eucharist, we meet in the Reception Room for refreshments. Then from 7:30 - 8:00 p.m. the preacher of the evening will facilitate a deeper look at the Scripture lessons that we heard in worship.

**BOYS' AND GIRLS' CHOIR SEVENTH ANNUAL THANKSGIVING PIE SALE** - Information and order forms may be picked up and turned in at Coffee Hour or downloaded from the Music Area of the Church Website. For further information please talk with a choir parent. Completed Orders and Payment may be deposited in the "Pie" box below the large bulletin board opposite the Reception Room. Proceeds from the sale will aid in future trips, recording projects and other special choir projects.

**CENTERING PRAYER GROUP TODAY AT 5 P.M.** - Centering prayer is a Christian meditation practice described by Father Thomas Keating in his book *Open Mind, Open Heart*. Drawing from the Christian contemplative tradition, the group is facilitated by Joe Budenholzer and meets in the 3rd Floor Conference Room.

## **FOR YOUTH AND FAMILIES**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL MEETS** at both the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. services. At the 9 a.m. service, drop your children off at the Sunday School rooms near Tuttle Hall, and they will return to the service in time to receive Communion with you. At the 11 a.m. service, children join their parents for the first part of the worship service, and then process to their classes at the time of the sermon. For more information, contact Maura Hooper at 212 254-2000 ext. 113, or [mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org).

**HALLOWE'EN CARNIVAL** - Mark your calendars! Saturday, October 31st from 12 p.m. -2 p.m. we will transform Tuttle Hall into a fun-filled Hallowe'en Carnival! Our very own 20s/30s group will host this spooky event for Grace youth and their families. Be sure to wear your Hallowe'en costume as we play carnival games, create arts and crafts, and go trick or treating throughout the parish house! All are welcome! For more information, or if you'd like to volunteer for the event, contact Maura Hooper at [mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org) or 212-254-2000, ext.113.

**CANDY COLLECTION** - Some gracious Grace Church parents have already donated to our cause, but we're looking for a few more candy donations before Halloween Day! We are accepting bags of individually wrapped candy (no gum please!) this week as we prepare for the Halloween Carnival. Candy can be dropped off in a basket outside Maura Hooper's office during the week, or at the parish office. You can also call or email her to set up a drop-off time: [mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org) or (212) 254-2000 x.113. We thank you for your "sweet" generosity!

**PARENTING WORKSHOP SERIES** - Grace Church is hosting a series of parenting workshop led by Ruth Wyatt and Hannah Wiltshire of Everyday Parenting. Ruth and Hannah are family counselors who specialize in child development and working with parents. They are offering a 4-week class for parents of 5-10 year olds. The classes are on Tuesday mornings at 10am and start on November 10th. Topics covered in the class will range from peer relationships, to how to communicate with your child, and helping them balance school work with family life. Members of Grace Church receive a discount and priority registration through October 19th. For more information, email Maura Hooper at [mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org) or call her at (212) 254-2000 x.113. You can also register directly at [info@everydayparentingnyc.com](http://info@everydayparentingnyc.com).

**CHRISTMAS PAGEANT INTERVIEWS** - Christmas Pageant rehearsals begin soon! Hurry and book your child's appointment for an interview! Pageant Interviews for those interested in solos, duets, or trios will be held on Tuesday November 3rd between 1:30pm and 6:30pm in the Music Room. Appointments are scheduled in 5 minute blocks. Spots are filling up, so email Maura Hooper to schedule your interview today! Contact [mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org) or call (212) 254-2000 x.113. Cast information sheets can be picked up and dropped off at the Pageant Board outside the Parish Office. Parents, make sure you stop by the bulletin board for the volunteer sign up.

## **THIS WEEK**

**FIRST-MONDAY OUTREACH:** On the first Monday of each month, the Outreach Committee is seeking to build a community of people concerned about those who are homeless and hungry. This Monday, November 2, at 6:30 pm we will begin in the church for a brief prayer service, and then move to Tuttle Hall for a light supper and sharing of options for serving the poor in New York City and beyond. Please use the Parish House entrance and arrive by 6:30 pm. Bring some cans of food for our food collection if you can do so. Call Linda Bartholomew for more information (212-254-2000 ext 114) or RSVP to [outreach@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:outreach@gracechurchnyc.org).

**CHANTRY SCAFFOLDING** - The final piece of the Chantry renovations is to repair the mortar between exterior stones in order to stave off further moisture incursion. The scaffolding should be in place for 2-3 weeks, and then the job will be completely finished.

**BACH AT NOON** - The organ compositions of Johann Sebastian Bach are played between 12:20 - 12:50 p.m. every Tuesday through Friday.

**CHORAL EVENSONG** with the Junior Choristers occurs each Tuesday that GraceChurchSchool is in session, 6:00 p.m. in the church. **THE WED. MORNING BIBLE STUDY FOR WOMEN** - Come to the Reception room at 10 to settle in, say hello to friends, then at 10:15 am sharp we study, discuss and learn the scriptures for 1 hour each week. For more information, contact Linda Bartholomew at [lbartholomew@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:lbartholomew@gracechurchnyc.org).

**WEDNESDAY 6 P.M. EUCHARIST** - Our mid-week Eucharist occurs in the Chantry, and is followed by a Bible Study in the Reception Room led by the Rev. Linda Bartholomew.

## **NEXT SUNDAY**

On November 1st we will conclude our series, Who Do People Say God Is? with a discussion about the recent book by the British philosopher Antony Flew, There is a God: How the world's most notorious atheist changed his mind. The discussion will be led by the Rector.

**PHOTO IDENTIFICATION** - Over the years many photos have been taken of Grace Church events. These images are now in the archives, and depict people that we can no longer identify. We hope you can and that you will help us. The photos will be displayed in the Archives Room immediately following the coffee hour after the 11am service on November 8th. Please stop by and have a look.

## **PARISH LIFE**

### **\_\_\_\_\_2010 ANNUAL PLEDGE CAMPAIGN\_\_\_\_\_**

**PLEDGE SUNDAY WAS LAST WEEK** - Many thanks to everyone who was here to make a financial pledge in support of the Lord's work through Grace Church in the year 2010. We're off to a great start, but we still have a long way to go if we are to reach our ambitious goal of \$1,000,000 in pledges (last year was \$912,000). If you haven't yet made your pledge, you will find pledge cards on the tables in

the Parish House Hallway near the Reception Room, in the narthex, and in the Chantry. Please seal your completed pledge card in the envelope, place it in the offering plate, or hand it to one of the clergy. If you would like to receive your pledge card by mail, please contact Joe Manzella at [jmanzella@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:jmanzella@gracechurchnyc.org)

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**RELIGION AND THE PRESIDENCY** - Professor David Holmes teaches at the College of William and Mary, and is one of the leading American historians. His particular area of focus has been the role of Christianity in American life, and he is the author of *A Brief History of the Episcopal Church* and *The Faiths of The Founding Fathers*. On Sunday, November 15, he will address us on the relation between religion and the Presidency, how the personal religious beliefs of the recent Presidents, and their approach to their faith, has been manifested in their approach to the office. Professor Holmes will give two addresses at Grace Church: at 10 am he will speak about Presidents Johnson and Reagan, and at 4 pm in Tuttle Hall he will speak about the religious faith of President Kennedy and his wife, Jacqueline.

**GRACE CHURCH SCHOOL SUNDAY** is coming a bit early this year, on Sunday, November 22. The purpose of the day is to uphold and celebrate the common history, ministry, and mission of Grace Church and GraceChurchSchool. At 10 am George Davison, Head of GCS will speak on the history of GCS. At 11 am the combined Girls' Choir and Choir of Men and Boys will sing, and the preacher will be the Rev. Daniel Heischman, Executive Director of the National Association of Episcopal School, and author of the recent book, *Good Influence: Teaching the Wisdom of Adulthood*. The service will be followed by a festive reception in Tuttle Hall.

**ADVENT WREATH MAKING** - On the first Sunday of Advent, Nov. 29th after the 9 and the 11 o'clock services, everyone will have the opportunity to make an Advent wreath, and learn more about how to use it. Do you know if you or your family will be participating? Please call Maura Hooper (212-254-2000 ext 113) or email ([mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org)) so we can have plenty of supplies on hand.

**ORGAN UPDATE** - The Schlicker pipe organ is being used today at the 11 am service for the last time. Having served Grace Church since installation in 1966, it has reached the end of its useful life. Several weeks ago, we decided to turn it off permanently because we discovered yet another costly maintenance issue. Today's 11 am service has been chosen for the Schlicker's formal decommissioning, since the music selected for today is a particularly festive way of saying "good-bye" to the instrument. Rest assured that limited use today will not engage any of the faults we have identified. Our interim Allen electronic organ will serve us until the arrival of our new pipe organ from Taylor & Boody; we are in the process of engaging the Allen Organ Company to enhance this interim instrument's qualities, and hope to complete this work before Advent.

**BAPTISM** - The next date for Baptism is January 10, 2010 at the 11 am service. Please arrange your family plans around one of these times, and contact Ted Pardoe at [tpardoe@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:tpardoe@gracechurchnyc.org)

**A CALL FOR HOSPITALITY** - The baked goods and other delicious nibbles that bless our after-service fellowship times are the gift of parishioners who volunteer to bring them. For anyone who wishes to participate in this much needed ministry of hospitality, we hope you will bring treats to share. **FOOD COLLECTION** -This month we are directing our weekly food collection to Jan Hus Presbyterian Church and Neighborhood House. Please be generous with canned or non-perishable dry goods in the bins located in the church narthex.

### **ODDS AND ENDS**

**FLOWER DONATIONS** - A gift of flowers on the altar is a lovely, time-honored tradition in the church. Flowers can be given to commemorate an important anniversary, to remember a departed loved one, or to give thanks for any of God's particular blessings. Interested in sharing the cost with others? This is another good way to keep our worship beautiful. Contact Bill Nave at [bnave@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:bnave@gracechurchnyc.org)

**ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICES** are once again available for the 11 o'clock service. Ask an usher and he or she will be glad to assist you.

**PRAYER LIST** - If you would like to have a name added to the prayer list, please email Bill Nave: [bnave@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:bnave@gracechurchnyc.org) or 212-254-2000, ext 100 by Tuesday. Names will be read during the services for four weeks unless notified otherwise.