

THE WEEKLY EPISTLE

Easter II † MAY 1, 2011

Dear Friends,

What a glorious Holy Week and Easter it was at Grace Church. If you missed the Easter Day 11 am service, or would like to experience it again, you can do so on the home page of our website at www.gracechurchnyc.org. This is thanks to our friends at the Episcopal Church Center who were in the west gallery live-streaming the liturgy, and to David Verchere, who embedded the recording on our website. Also, if you go to the Episcopal Church's website, www.episcopalchurch.org, you can see a video of the Good Friday service from Grace Church.

At many churches the week after Easter is a down time, but an apt phrase for us might be "No rest for the weary." This coming Friday evening (April 29), is **The Annual Spring Choir Concert**, 7 pm in the church. The Choir of Men and Boys, combined with the Girls' Choir, whose voices soared on Easter Day, will sing works by Brahms, Friedell, Gibbons, Hancock, Handel, Mathias, and Tallis. They have been working extremely hard for months on these pieces, and I am hoping that a nicely filled church will be present to hear them. The concert is free, so make plans to attend.

See below for all the other opportunities for connecting with God and each other through our parish family.

The Rev. J. Donald Waring
Rector

9:00 am

Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Sermon: The Rev. Ted Pardoe

Music: The Parish Choir

Nursery care for children ages 0-3

Sunday School for children ages 3-8 at 9:00 am

11:00 am

Holy Eucharist, Rite I and Sermon

Sermon: The Rev. Ted Pardoe

Music: The Girls' Choir with Adults

Nursery care for children ages 0-3

Sunday School for children ages 3-8 during the sermon

6:00 pm

Holy Eucharist, Rite II in the Chantry

Sermon: The Rev. Ted Pardoe

Music: Hymns with instrumentalists

SUNDAY, MAY 1

THANKS TO ALL WHO CONTRIBUTED their time, talent, and treasure to the observance of a meaningful Holy Week and the celebration of a glorious Easter. Musicians, ushers, altar guild members, acolytes, Palm Sunday cast members, Agape Supper helpers, Maundy Thursday foot washing participants (just no way to make that sound routine), Easter Eve Walk assistants, Easter Day breakfast volunteers, flower arrangers, and everyone who contributed to the flower fund – THANK YOU!

RESTORATION UPDATE: We have been celebrating the completion of Phase 2 of the interior restoration of Grace Church. Some detail work remains in the north and south chancel aisles (on either side of the choir), but the plaster, stained glass, and stone have otherwise been restored to their original condition. Thanks to all who pledged to the Bicentennial Capital Campaign to make this work possible. Phase 3 will now commence, and include the same type of work in the choir and sanctuary (altar area). The great window rising above the altar (also known as the Te Deum window) is not only the largest and the oldest window in the church; it has also been moved twice when the church was lengthened in the late 19th century. For this window to be saved, it must be completely rebuilt at considerably greater expense than originally anticipated.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE IN OUR ONGOING RESTORATION EFFORTS, please place your check made out to “Saving Grace” in the collection plate or in the mail to Grace Church, 802 Broadway, New York, NY 10003. You may also give online at www.gracechurchnyc.org (click GIVE, scroll down to SAVING GRACE). Please be as generous as you can and help us to get a good start on Phase 3!

THE SUNDAY FORUM RESUMES TODAY at 10 am in the Reception Room with a new series for the Easter season: “The Resurrection Narratives of the Gospels.” Each week we will consider a different Easter passage from Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John, considering classic interpretations, the latest scholarship, and how these texts have inspired faith. We begin this week, Sunday, May 1 with the Rev. Ted Pardoe and the story of Doubting Thomas in John 20:19-29. Coffee and crumb cake is served!

PLEASE JOIN US IN TUTTLE HALL AFTER CHURCH! Stop by for coffee and fellowship after the 9 and 11 am services before you go on your way. **LIKE TO HELP?** Our small group of 11 am Hospitality volunteers would love to welcome new helpers! To donate bite-sized (savory or sweet) treats or to assist with serving, please sign up on the bulletin board (near the ladies room) or e-mail (Dana) danafoote1@me.com or (Charlotte) charbarnard@yahoo.com.

SUNDAY SCHOOL for children ages 3-8 takes place at both the 9 and 11 am services. At 9 am, parents may drop children off at the classrooms near Tuttle Hall. Children then rejoin their parents in time to receive Communion. At 11 am, parents and children begin together in the church, and children follow the crucifer to their classes during the sermon. On 11 am Holy Eucharist Sundays, children in 11am Sunday school return to church for Communion. On all other Sundays, children may be picked up from their classrooms after the service. For more information, contact Maura Hooper at (212) 254-2000 x113 or mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org. **NURSERY CARE** is available for children ages 0-3 during both the 9 and 11 am services. Take the Parish House elevator to the basement level.

ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICES are available for the 11am service from any usher.

CENTERING PRAYER 5 pm – This Christian meditation practice described by Father Thomas Keating in his book *Open Mind, Open Heart* is facilitated by Joe Budenholzer in the 3rd Floor Conference Room.

MUSICAL EVENING IN THE CHANTRY On Sunday, May 1st from 7-9 pm (After the 6pm service) the Episcopal Campus Ministry, Downtown, invites the Grace Church community to celebrate Spring with a Musical Evening and light supper. Members of their Choir will perform selections from their upcoming recitals, and all present will sing together from the hymnal and conclude with the Hallelujah Chorus! If you wish to attend, RSVP to The Rev. Stephen Harding at hierophant10011@gmail.com.

THE WEEK BEGINNING MONDAY, MAY 2

THE DAILY OFFICE OF MORNING PRAYER is celebrated each Tuesday from 7:15 – 8 am in the 3rd floor conference room. Newcomers are always welcome.

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY is held on Wednesdays from 10-11:30. Newcomers are always welcome. Contact Linda Bartholomew at lbartholomew@gracechurchnyc.org for more information.

HOLY EUCHARIST WEDNESDAYS at 6 pm – Celebrate in the Chantry with hymns and homily. This Wednesday’s preacher is The Rev. Ted Pardoe.

THE CHORAL SOCIETY & ORCHESTRA OF GRACE CHURCH under the direction of John Maclay, will present Ralph Vaughan Williams' "Sea Symphony" on Friday, May 6th at 8 pm sharp. Due to ongoing renovation work at Grace, the concert will take place at Saint Thomas Church, 5th Avenue at 53rd Street. Tickets cost \$25 and are only available for purchase at www.thechoralsociety.org, or directly from a Choral Society member.

NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 8

THE SUNDAY FORUM 10 am "The Resurrection Narratives of the Gospels" continues. The Rector will be leading a discussion on the well known Easter story of the Road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35).

2040 CLUB MAY BRUNCH – Join the 2040 Club on Sunday, May 8th at Jack, 80 University Place @11th Street. We'll meet at the restaurant at 1 pm. If you plan on attending, RSVP to mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org. See you there!

COMING SOON

OUTREACH MONDAY POTLUCK SUPPER will take place this month on Monday, May 9th. We meet in the church for a brief prayer service (come through the 802 door) at 6:30 and then move to Tuttle Hall for dinner. Please bring a dish to share if you care to, otherwise just your concern for the poor and the homeless of the city. Contact Linda Bartholomew lbartholomew@gracechurchnyc.org for more information.

SPRINGTIME COCKTAILS ON THE LAWN Please join us for a festive cocktail party for adult parishioners on Thursday May 12th on Huntington Close. We'll enjoy fellowship, drinks and light hors d'oeuvres from 6 pm until sundown. Admission is free, but you must RSVP to gracechurchsvp@gmail.com to be added to the guest list.

BISHOP DONOVAN TO VISIT – The Rt. Rev. Herbert Donovan, Assisting Bishop of New York, will be with us at Grace Church for Confirmation at the 11 am service on Sunday, May 15. Bishop Donovan will also be the speaker at the Sunday Forum at 10 am in the Reception Room.

EXCERPTS FROM HANDEL'S MESSIAH PART III will be sung by the Adult Choir with the Parish Choir as part of Choral Evensong on Sunday May 15th at 4 pm.

MUSIC

Please check ahead; programs are subject to the celebration of special liturgies and other observances (call 212-254-2000/6).

CHORAL EVENSONG with the Junior Choristers is held each Tuesday at 6 pm.

BACH AT NOON – The organ compositions of Johann Sebastian Bach are played between 12:20 and 12:50 p.m. every Tuesday through Friday in the Church.

AFTERNOON ORGAN MEDITATION SERIES - Held each Saturday & Sunday at 4 pm in the Church through May 2011.

THE PARISH CHOIR WANTS YOU to come sing with them! Rehearse with the Parish Choir at 8:15 a.m. on Sunday mornings and sing at the 9 a.m. Rite II Eucharist. If you have ever thought about joining a choir, this choir is for you! Families are most welcome. Contact Dr. Patrick Allen at pallen@gracechurchnyc.org to sign up.

OUTREACH

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS the 30 volunteers from Grace Church who are spending next week in New Orleans working hard on various projects (including the rebuilding of a house). Consider joining us next year, the 7th year of our 10 year commitment.

FOOD DONATIONS may be placed in the baskets in the narthex. Please be as generous as you can!

ARE YOU READY FOR THE GO Project TUTOR experience?! The GO Project provides critical year-round educational and family support to public elementary school children who are performing below grade level. We are seeking dedicated volunteers interested in contributing their time and talents to our weekday (Wednesday 3-5 pm) or Saturday (9:30 am to 12:30 pm) tutoring program to provide students with individualized instruction. Help make a positive impact in a child's life! For more information, please contact Olivia Nunez, at goprojecttutor@gmail.com.

PARISH LIFE

IF YOU HAVE NOT YET MADE A 2011 PLEDGE, we are counting on you to do so! Please mail your pledge card today, or make your pledge online by visiting www.gracechurchnyc.org (click GIVE). If you have any

questions about pledging, please feel free to contact Stacie Styles at 212-254-2000 x119 or [sstyles@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:ssyles@gracechurchnyc.org).

SUMMER CAMP FOR YOUR CHILD? Incarnation Camp offers an abundance of spiritually rich and fun activities for children and teenagers. Located only 2 hours outside Manhattan, it is a camp adventure close to home. Incarnation is a values oriented camp, which makes chapel and grace at mealtimes an integral part of the fun. For more information, you can visit their website at www.incarnationcamp.org, or email Maura Hooper at mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org.

FOLLOW GRACE CHURCH on Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/gracechurchnyc>) and Twitter (@GraceChurchNYC) thanks to our terrific volunteer tech team: David Verchere, Amanda Cochran and Andrea Nielsen!

TAKE A GUIDED WALKING TOUR of Grace Church on the first and third Sundays of the month at 1pm. The tours last about 15 minutes and highlight Grace's history and architecture. Self-guided cell phone tours are also available anytime the Church is open to visitors.

TO ADD A NAME TO THE PRAYER LIST please contact Jennifer Metz at jmetz@gracechurchnyc.org or 212-254-2000 x100 by Wednesday at 5 pm. Names will be read during the services for four weeks unless otherwise specified.