

The Weekly Epistle  
The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost  
October 30, 2011  
GRACE CHURCH IN NEW YORK



Dear Friends,

Earlier this week Stacie and I were able to sneak out and see the movie *Ides of March*, a story about the cut and thrust of what goes on behind the scenes in a presidential campaign. The film is timely, as even now the machinery of the nation's political process is kicking into high gear for the election of 2012.

The election that is on my mind right now occurs not in 2012, but tomorrow. On Saturday the clergy and lay delegates from every parish in the Diocese of New York will gather at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine to elect the person who eventually will be our next bishop. I would venture to say that the tone and the tactics of a church election are of a different sort than what I saw on the silver screen this week. Nevertheless, the ambitions, the persuading, and the anxiety are all in play. I have a favor to ask of you: that at some point tomorrow morning you pause and pray that God's will be done through our voting. The Book of Common Prayer offers this prayer:

*Almighty God, the giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a bishop for this Diocese that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

See you in church.

The Rev. J. Donald Waring  
Rector

**Schedule of Services**

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 ages 3-8 at 9:00 am*

11:00 am

Holy Eucharist, Rite I and Sermon

Sermon: The Rev. Linda Bartholomew

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. Sarah Wood  
Music: Hymns with instrumentalists

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## Announcements

### SUNDAY OCTOBER 30

#### **2012 ANNUAL PLEDGE CAMPAIGN**

##### **NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD**

And let us also thank everyone so far who has made a financial pledge to the work of the Lord through Grace Church for the year 2012. We are off to a great start but are still hoping to hear from many parish households. Pledge cards and brochures have been mailed out and are also available in your pews, in the narthex, and outside the Reception Room. God has blessed us with a vibrant parish family, stunning architecture, glorious music, a tradition of reaching out to the least and the last in society, and most of all, the gift of his presence and companionship through all eternity. In thanksgiving for all the blessings of this life, and to empower the ministries of the church, we urge each household to commit to a financial gift for the coming year.

##### **COCKTAILS AT THE RECTORY**

In gratitude to those who make a 2012 pledge to Grace Church, Don and Stacie Waring will host two festive cocktail receptions at the Rectory on Thursdays, November 10 and 17 at 6:30 pm. You will receive an invitation from the Development Office upon receipt of your pledge card, and you may choose which date works best for you. Child care will be available in the church nursery for children up to age 4. Let's have the whole parish gather together in thanks to God for the Grace Church family.

##### **SUNDAY FORUM 10 AM - FINDING COMMON GROUND**

with the Rev. Sarah Wood. "... For I was hungry and you gave me food ..." Matthew 25:35. Faith-filled lives beckon us to the expansive and awesome life of our incarnate Lord. Work with Common Ground and a homeless community of Atlanta became an experience wherein I discovered the inextricable relationship of us all, to and with one another. Come and hear a reflection on the great stretch of Christ's body and a theology enfolded, practiced, making that very connected and transformative truth of our lives known. Today's presentation is part of our fall Sunday Forum series, "The Church and the City," which is looking at how the church manifests itself in the city both physically and metaphorically. Each presentation will include time for questions and answers and takes place in Tuttle Hall with coffee and refreshments. (NOTE: the Forum will move temporarily to the Reception Room today.)

##### **11AM HOLY EUCHARIST TODAY**

Normally we celebrate the Holy Eucharist at the 11 am service on the first Sunday of each month and on major festivals. Of late we have been offering an additional Eucharist on those few months of the year when there is a fifth Sunday, such as today. The timing of Sunday School during the Eucharist will also be helpful today in giving our Halloween party volunteers time to ready Tuttle Hall for the children.

##### **ANNUAL CHILDREN'S HALLOWEEN PARTY**

Children and families are invited to Tuttle Hall immediately following the 11am service today from 12:30-2 pm for spooky fun and games, including our popular photo booth, a costume parade and trick or treating. Kids attending the 11am service may wear their costumes to church. Please lend a hand by donating candy to our CARNIVAL CANDY DRIVE now through October 27th! Contact Maura Hooper for more information at [mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org).

**CENTERING PRAYER 5 PM** Christian meditation each Sunday in the 3rd Floor Conference Room.

### COMING SOON

#### **NOVEMBER 2 - WEDNESDAY NIGHT BOOK DISCUSSIONS BEGIN**

Our Rector, Don Waring and new Assistant Rector, Sarah Wood will lead a discussion on the controversial book, *Love Wins*, by the author Rob Bell. *Love Wins* purports to be a book about heaven, hell, and the fate of every human being who has ever lived. Bell's thoughts are raising eyebrows, particularly in evangelical circles. The book is an easy read, and is available at local book stores and online. Join us for what promises

to be a spirited discussion. The only requirement for participation is that you read the book. On Wednesdays, November 2, 9, and 16 at 7 pm in the Reception Room (directly after 6 pm Holy Eucharist).

#### **NOVEMBER 6 - ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY**

During the services on November 6th we remember all those connected with Grace Church who have died in the past year, and any others who may have died years ago, but still remain on the hearts and minds of their loved ones. To include a name on this year's list, please send the name and the service you plan to attend (9 am, 11 am, or 6 pm), to Jennifer Metz at [jmetz@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:jmetz@gracechurchnyc.org) or 212-254-2000, x100 by Tuesday, November 1st. To keep the list manageable, we will be reading the names only at the service you specify.

#### **NOVEMBER 6 - SUNDAY FORUM 10 AM - ECCLESIA MINISTRIES/THE COMMON CATHEDRAL**

with Mike Watson, Grace Church Parishioner and New Orleans Mission Trip Committee Member. What did Jesus and the Old Testament prophets mean when they preached that we could move closer to the heart of God by getting closer to the poor? How can we as a Christian community engage the world in which we live, and better understand the beatitudes? The Ecclesia Ministries, begun seventeen years ago in Boston, has spread--first throughout the United States, and even around the world--opening the walls of our church to those who might never have entered it.

#### **NOVEMBER 6 - CHORAL EVENSONG 4PM**

The Adult Choir will offer Choral Evensong featuring the REQUIEM of Alfred Desenclos as the primary musical meditation. The Evening Canticles will be those set by T. Tertius Noble in a minor and the Prayers those set by William Byrd.

#### **NOVEMBER 7 - OUTREACH MONDAY POTLUCK SUPPER**

We meet in Tuttle Hall at 6:30 pm for a brief prayer service followed by dinner and our meeting. Please bring a dish to share if you care to, otherwise just your concern for the poor and the homeless of the city. Contact the Rev. Linda Bartholomew [lbartholomew@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:lbartholomew@gracechurchnyc.org) for more information.

#### **NOVEMBER 8 - CHRISTMAS PAGEANT INTERVIEWS**

Time to start thinking about this year's pageant! Interviews will be held on Tuesday, November 8th from 2-6pm in the Music Room. Children 5 and older are welcome to participate. Only those interested in singing a solo, duet, or in a trio need to sign up for an interview. Contact Maura Hooper at [mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org) to schedule an appointment for your child.

#### **NOVEMBER 11, 12 - INTIMATE EVENINGS OF CHAMBER MUSIC - THE WILLOW ENSEMBLE**

under the artistic direction of Timothy Emerson, will hold concerts on November 11 & 12 at 8 pm in the Chantry, featuring works by Poulenc (Trio for Oboe, Bassoon, & Piano), Haydn ("Sunrise" Quartet) and Shostakovich (Piano Quintet). Tickets are \$15 advance/\$20 at the door. To reserve seats at \$15 each, email [emerst@gmail.com](mailto:emerst@gmail.com) or call (406) 861-8280 (specifying name, number of tickets and concert date).

#### **NOVEMBER 20 - GRACE CHURCH SCHOOL SUNDAY**

The purpose of the day is to uphold and celebrate the common history, ministry, and mission of Grace Church and Grace Church School. At the 10 am Sunday Forum George Davison, Head of GCS, and Hugo Mahibir, Head of the soon-to-open GCS High School division will speak about the new project. At 11 am the combined Choir of Men and Boys and the Girls' Choir will sing. The preacher will be Dr. Sam Wheeler, longtime Head of the Religion and Ethics department at GCS. The service will be followed by a festive reception in Tuttle Hall.

#### **PARISH NEWS**

##### **THE RESTORATION PHASE 3 - OCT 2011 UPDATE**

The project of removal and restoration of nine stained glass windows in the chancel and sanctuary area is proceeding according to schedule. The scaffolding should recede back to the communion rail giving us enough space to celebrate Christmas, and then disappear entirely well before Easter 2012 (Alleluia!). For further details and pictures of the latest work, log on to: [www.gracechurchnyc.org](http://www.gracechurchnyc.org) and click "Restoration." TO HELP place your check made out to "Saving Grace" in the collection plate or in the mail to Grace Church. You may also give online at [www.gracechurchnyc.org](http://www.gracechurchnyc.org) (click GIVE, scroll down to SAVING GRACE). We are deeply grateful for your gifts to the current and future families of Grace Church.

### **THE HARVEST HOEDOWN: BOOT-STOMPIN' SUCCESS!**

Eighty folks of all ages came out on Saturday October 15th for a boot-stomping evening of square dancing, live fiddle music, and some good country cooking. A wonderful and dedicated group of parishioners made our event possible by generously donating their time, talents, and resources to our Grace Church community. A huge thank you goes out to all of you! If you missed the fun this year, be sure to catch next year's hoedown in October 2012. We'll see you on the dance floor!



### **DID YOU MISS A SERMON?**

Click below to read or listen to a sermon

<http://gracechurchnyc.org/online-sermons/>

### **Contact Information**

[info@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:info@gracechurchnyc.org)

[www.gracechurchnyc.org](http://www.gracechurchnyc.org)