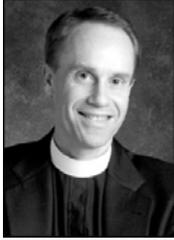


The Weekly Epistle
The Second Sunday after the Epiphany
January 15, 2012
GRACE CHURCH IN NEW YORK



Dear Friends,

On Wednesday of this past week a strange-looking flatbed truck with a derrick attached to it pulled up in front of Grace Church. Aboard the truck was the first load of the newly carved limestone blocks that will form the tracery of the Te Deum window.

If you recall, "Te Deum is Latin for "We praise thee, O God," and the window that rises above the altar of Grace Church is our largest and oldest. It is 35-feet tall, 17-feet wide, and contains somewhere between six and ten-thousand pieces of glass. The glass was designed by the renowned English firm, Clayton & Bell, and installed in 1878. It was then moved about twenty years later when the church was extended. But the tracery, or the stone supports of the window, was original to the church, dating from 1846. Because the tracery was carved out of marble, it had deteriorated so badly that it could no longer properly hold the window. As you know, the whole thing had to come out for a complete restoration, with an eye-popping price tag of \$1 million.

The good news is that now it is all coming back to us. The glass has been cleaned and re-leaded by Gil Studios in Brooklyn. The tracery has been carved to exacting specifications by a Canadian firm, and they have used limestone. Oh, if only our predecessors had used limestone instead of marble back in 1846!

When we look at the stained glass windows in place, especially the larger ones, the stone tracery appears delicate, even lacey. The reality on the ground, however, is a different story. The individual pieces are massive - some weighing 2,000-pounds. To get them off the truck, into the building, up the stairs, and high into position requires complicated derricks, rigging, and yes - more scaffolding. As you will see on Sunday, after our brief return to the chancel for Christmas, the choir will have to move back to the south transept, and we will set up an altar again in the temporary crossing of the nave. The scaffolding will not be as obtrusive as it was this fall, and the enormous, intricate limestone blocks - to say nothing of the system for getting them in place - are really something to see. Do come have a look.

See you in church.

The Rev. J. Donald Waring
Rector

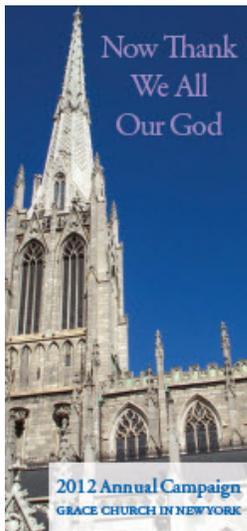
Schedule of Services

9:00 am
Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Sermon: The Rev. Sarah Wood
Music: The Parish Choir

11:00 am
Morning Prayer, Rite I and Sermon
Sermon: The Rev. Sarah Wood
Music: The Adult Choir

6:00 pm
Holy Eucharist, Rite II in the Chantry
Sermon: The Rev. Sarah Wood
Music: Hymns with instrumentalists

2012 Annual Campaign



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. In thanksgiving for all the blessings of this life, and to empower the ministries of the church for our own and future generations, please make your commitment to a financial gift for the coming year.

UPDATE: As of last week, 196 households have pledged for a total of \$899,081. This compares favorably to last year at this time, when 162 had pledged for \$770,915. The news is encouraging, but we still have a ways to go in order to reach our goal of \$1 million. If you have not made your pledge, please don't delay.

To read the 2012 Annual Campaign brochure and/or make your pledge now, click the image of the brochure at left.

If you have any questions about pledging, please contact Brian Hagan, Director of Development, at 212-254-2000 x119 or bhagan@gracechurchnyc.org.

Announcements

SUNDAY JANUARY 15

THE SUNDAY FORUM is on recess today, but the program will resume next week. Upcoming offerings this winter will include a lecture series on The Lord's Prayer led by The Rev. Dr. Robert J. Owens, Professor of Old Testament at the General Theological Seminary. More information is coming soon!

THE ANNUAL PARISH RETREAT at Holy Cross Monastery is taking place this weekend. Please keep our 24 participating parishioners in your prayers.

INCARNATION CAMP - Representatives of Incarnation Camp, the Diocese of New York's camp and conference center in Ivoryton, CT, will be at the coffee hour following the 11am service with information on the summer 2012 sessions for children and youth.

COMING SOON

JAN 18, 25 - SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY CONTINUES On Wednesdays at 7 pm (directly after 6 pm Holy Eucharist) in the Reception Room, we will read and discuss the Epistle of James.

JAN 22 - 10 AM SUNDAY FORUM resumes.

JAN 22 - 4TH SUNDAY 9-12 YEAR OLD SUNDAY SCHOOL - Kids ages 9-12 are invited to join us on Sunday January 22nd during the 11am service for this class held in the McKittrick Room, located just off Tuttle Hall. Parents may pick their children up in Tuttle Hall during coffee hour. For more information, please contact Maura Hooper at mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org.

JAN 22 - 20s30s 4TH SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP DINNER - Parishioners in their 20s and 30s are invited to participate in a casual dinner following the 6pm service every 4th Sunday. Join us on Sunday January 22nd for dinner at Jackson Diner, University Place and 11th St at 7:15 pm. *RSVP to Maura Hooper at mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org by Friday January 20th.*

JAN 29 - FAMILY COMMUNION CLASS - Another Family Communion Class is around the corner! Children and their parents are invited to attend a class led by The Rev. Linda Bartholomew on Sunday January 29th at 10:15 am in the Chantry. The class is an opportunity for kids to discuss and ask questions about the sacrament of Communion. All families are welcome! *RSVP to Maura Hooper at mhooper@gracechurchnyc.org by Saturday January 28th.*

FEB 5 - THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING will be held in Tuttle Hall on Sunday, Feb. 5 immediately following the 11 am service. Reports will be given by the Nominating Committee, the Treasurer, the Head of Grace Church School, the Senior Warden, and the Rector. A delicious lunch (\$5 per person suggested donation) will be served.

THE VESTRY NOMINATING COMMITTEE is pleased to announce the following slate of persons to be voted on at our Annual Meeting. For a third of three two-year terms as Junior Warden: SARAH COGAN. For a second three-year term: JACK BROWNING, DOUG SKRYPEK. For a first three-year term: BRETT PERTUZ, JAMES FAWCETT (both Brett and James were appointed to fill unexpired terms, and now are eligible for election to their own terms). Many thanks to the Committee and to those who have agreed to stand for election.

PARISH LIFE

ARTISTS AND CRAFTERS OF GRACE CHURCH - On Sunday, Feb. 12th, after the 11 am service the ECW invites you to celebrate and display your work at our Grace and the Arts coffee hour (wine and cheese reception Saturday, Feb. 11, 6-8 pm). *To participate, stop by the ECW table at coffee hour after the 11 am service, or contact (fine artists) Krystyna Sanderson at krystynaphotography@att.net or (crafters) Stacie Waring at stacieswaring@gmail.com by Friday, Feb. 3rd.* (Fee is \$50 for a 30" X 70" table.) Note: ECW is now on facebook! Go to "Grace Church in New York ECW" and "like" us!

DID YOU MISS A SERMON?

Click below to read or listen to a sermon

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