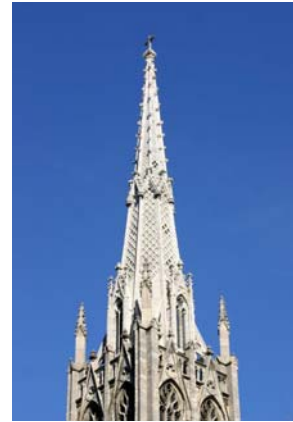


The Epistle *E-news*

GRACE CHURCH

in New York City



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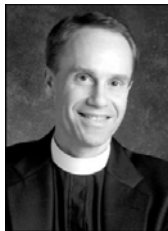
PALM SUNDAY is the last day for your Easter flower donation "in honor of" or "in memory of" to be listed in the Easter bulletin...



Donate clicking now on by the

Sunday, March 24, 2013

The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday



Dear Friends,

Palm Sunday begins Holy Week - the most important week of the Christian Year. What we do is commemorate the day Jesus strategically entered Jerusalem to confront the ruling political and religious powers with his presence. At first the crowds welcomed him with a joyful parade. They had been waiting and praying for the Messiah to arrive, and now he was right in front of their eyes.

The odd twist of Palm Sunday and Holy Week reveals the human tendency to sabotage the very things we say we want, and even pray for, especially when they come close within our grasp. What things am I talking about? Nothing short of love, justice, peace, freedom, and unity. We love the trenches we dig ourselves into because we've made them comfortable, even though we recognize that at the end of the day they are - well - trenches. Woe to any messenger from God who comes along to speak the truth and offer another way. Jesus knew what was in store for him. When he drew near to Jerusalem and saw the city he wept over it, saying, *"Would that even today you knew the things that make for peace! But now they are hid from your eyes."*

envelope **image**
above (then click
 DONATE, next to
 "Contribution," select
 "flowers").

***With many thanks to
 all who have given so
 far...***

YOUTH & FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS



PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION

(No Sunday School)

All Sunday School children who wish to participate in a grand procession at the beginning of the 11am service should **come to Tuttle Hall at 10:45 am** on March 24th. Parents are welcome to march with their children. Parents who are not marching: please be sure your children know where to find you in the church after the procession ends.

MAR 30 EASTER EVE WALK

Join us on Holy Saturday, March 30th, from 10:30 am-1:30 pm, as we experience the Passion and Resurrection of our Lord through interactive storytelling. There will also be crafts, treats, and an Easter egg hunt!

I have many memories of Palm Sundays past. When I was a child we used the palms to conduct sword fights during coffee hour. My first year out of seminary I was to arrange the procession at the beginning of the main service. Everyone went astray and we all collided in a tangle of people in the back of the church while the crucifer walked alone. I certainly didn't plan it that way, but it was perfect. In 1999 I missed Palm Sunday altogether because my son James was born the night before. Last year we freed the high altar and sanctuary from scaffolding and saw for the first time the restored Te Deum window. This year we will hear even more ranks, stops, and mixtures on the new organ, ever so painstakingly being installed. Also I hope to preach about a new way to understand the relevance of Palm Sunday to today's Christian. Do come and enter the story. The Great Week begins!

See you in church.

[The Rev. J. Donald Waring](#)
 Rector

Please join us for Holy Week
MARCH 24-31, 2013

PALM SUNDAY, March 24

9 a.m., 11 a.m. & 6 p.m. in the Church
Palm Sunday Liturgy & Holy Eucharist

Preacher: The Rev. J. Donald Waring

Music at 11 a.m. by *Buxtehude, Gibbons, & Guilman*
 The Adult Choir

4 p.m. in the Church

CHORAL EVENSONG WITH EXCERPTS FROM
 Part II of *Handel's MESSIAH*
 The Adult Choir



Activities are designed for kids ages 4 and up, but the whole family is welcome. Suggestion donation is \$10.

To attend, RSVP to [Melissa](#), to help, see below!

MAR 31 EASTER DAY

(No Sunday School)
Activity bags will be available at the door to help kids sit through church!

HELP TO PROVIDE A HOME COOKED MEAL

for guests at the [New York City Rescue Mission](#) on **April 13**. Volunteers are needed to prepare a dish at home, OR prepare cupcakes (to drop off at Grace), OR prep the meal on Saturday April 13 (10am-4pm) OR serve the meal (4pm-7pm). Lots of opportunities--how will YOU help? Click [HERE](#) to sign up.

**Your guide to
music, adult
education and
worship for the
season...**

HOLY WEDNESDAY, March 27

6 P.M. IN THE CHANTRY

1ST CENTURY AGAPE MEAL

In place of our usual 6 p.m. Eucharist, we will experience in food and format what the earliest Christians would have known in their gatherings together. A \$10 suggested donation per adult will help offset costs.

MAUNDY THURSDAY, March 28

7 p.m. in the Church

**Holy Eucharist, Foot Washing,
Stripping of the Altar**

Preacher: The Rev. Sarah Wood
Music by *Duruflé, Farrant, Tallis, & others*
The Adult Choir

GOOD FRIDAY, March 29

12 - 3 p.m. **The Three Hours' Devotion:
The Seven Last Words of Christ**

Preachers: The Rev. J. Donald Waring,
The Rev. Stephen Holton, The Rev. Sarah Wood, The Rev. Rebecca Myers,

The Rev. Mary Cat Young, The Rev. Timothy Morehouse.

7 p.m. in the Church

**Choral Vespers
OLIVET TO CALVARY**

by John Henry Maunder
The Adult Choir

A moving account of the Passion set to music and sung by the choir with tenor and bass soloists.

HOLY SATURDAY, March 30

10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. - **Easter Eve Walk**

Children ages 4-12 and their families are invited to experience the Passion and Resurrection through interactive storytelling, crafts, treats, and an Easter egg hunt. Suggestion donation \$10.

7 p.m. - **The Great Vigil of Easter
Holy Baptism & Eucharist**

Preacher: The Rev. Stephen Holton
Music by *Byrd & Fauré*
The Adult Choir

EASTER DAY, MARCH 31

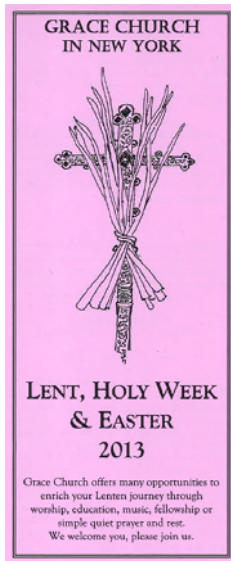
All Services in the Church

9 a.m. **Festive Choral Eucharist**

Preacher: The Rev. J. Donald Waring
Music: The Combined Grace Church Choirs.

11 a.m. **Festive Choral eucharist**

Preacher: The Rev. J. Donald Waring



Find copies around the Church and Parish House or **click on the image** above. (Highlights under **COMING SOON** below.)

Music by *Batten, Byrd, Noyon/Hancock, Parker, & others*
The Combined Grace Church Choirs,
Brass & Tympani

4 P.M. ORGAN MUSIC FOR EASTER DAY
Music by Bach, Handel, Pachelbel & Widor

6 p.m. Festive Choral Eucharist
Preacher: The Reverend J. Donald Waring.
Music by Batten, Byrd, Noyon/Hancock, & others
The Adult Choir

COMING SOON

THE SUNDAY FORUM 10 AM - will resume in Eastertide. Upcoming forums include [the Most Rev. Dr. Peter Carnley](#) speaking on the Resurrection (Apr 14) and the Rev. Rebecca Myers recounting in words and images her journey to the site of one of the early [resurrection appearances of Jesus - Road to Emmaus](#) (Apr 21)! Watch this space for details in the coming weeks.

APR 7 - SELECTIONS FROM HANDEL'S MESSIAH Part III - At 4 pm in the Church, The Adult Choir with The Parish Choir will offer Choral Evensong featuring selections from Handel's Messiah.

APRIL 14 - CONFIRMATION CLASSES FOR YOUTH AND ADULTS will take place on Sundays from 12:45-1:45 pm, beginning April 14th. Classes will meet weekly and be led by the clergy in preparation for the bishop's visit on Sunday June 16th.

To sign up for youth classes (7th-12th grade) contact Melissa Spindler at mspindler@gracechurchnyc.org.

To sign up for adult classes, contact the Rev. Stephen Holton at sholton@gracechurchnyc.org.

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