

The Epistle *E-news*

GRACE CHURCH

in New York City



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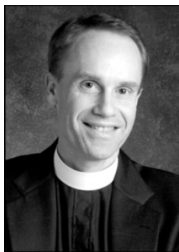
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January 26, 2014

The Third Sunday after the Epiphany



Dear Friends,

"Mr. Waring, the BBC is ready for you now." Thus spoke our Parish Administrator, Jennifer Metz, earlier this morning, and I must admit that my first thought was, "It's not every Friday I hear something like that." First of all, Jennifer does not call me "Mr. Waring." We're all on a first-name basis here; at least that's the way I prefer it. Secondly, the BBC has never before come looking for me. But the fact is they were here today and they were looking for me! The reason? The BBC is filming a documentary history of Charles S. Stratton, otherwise known as Gen. Tom Thumb. On February 10, 1863, Tom Thumb and his bride, Lavinia Warren were married at Grace Church, and attendance at the wedding turned out to be the hottest invitation in town. You see, Stratton and Warren were performers in P.T. Barnum's circus. They were "little people." Stratton stood only 35-inches tall and his bride was even three-inches shorter. P.T. Barnum, being the showman that he was, wanted to turn the occasion into - well - a circus. But the bride and groom were absolutely sincere in wanting a proper church wedding. How it all unfolded is quite a story, and it will be part of the BBC's telling of Tom Thumb's life. It was great fun to walk about with the crew and show them the sites, and when the film is ready (in about 3 months), we will have a parish party and watch it!

The British invasion at Grace Church is more than just the BBC. With us this week has been Dr. Barry Rose, the retired Organist and Choirmaster of St. Paul's Cathedral in London. Dr. Rose is a great friend of Grace Church

who has been here many times before. Over the past five days he has been working with our Jr. Choristers to prepare them for a wonderful concert in the church, this Sunday, January 26 at 4 pm. Dr. Rose will direct, and the choristers will sing like angels, so I hope you will come and support them. A reception follows the concert - a delightful way to spend a cold winter afternoon.

See you in church.

[The Reverend J. Donald Waring](#)

Rector

This Sunday, January 26th

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sermon: The Rev. Stephen Holton

Music: The Parish Choir

11 a.m. Morning Prayer

Sermon: The Rev. Stephen Holton

Music: The Girls' Choir with Adults

6 p.m. Holy Eucharist, in the Chantry

Sermon: The Rev. Stephen Holton

Music: Hymns with instrumentalists

(Service times are updated weekly on the [website](#).)

WE WELCOME DR. BARRY ROSE as guest conductor of the choir at the 9 and 11 am services. Dr. Rose is a longstanding friend of Grace Church and has been working with the Choirs all week. This afternoon at 4 pm he will conduct our Novice and Junior Boy and Girl Choristers for the Sixth Annual Concert of Music for Treble Voices.

10 AM – THE WHOLE CHRIST: ST. AUGUSTINE AND THE THEOLOGY OF PRISON MINISTRY – THE SUNDAY FORUM, Human Suffering: Compassion in Action series. Steven Y. Lee, General Theological Seminary, M.Div. 2014.

Ministering to prison inmates requires compassion, pastoral presence and programmatic dedication. But the mitigation of human suffering in the prison context does not fully explain or justify the church's involvement in such a setting. The question the church must answer is as follows: "What are the theological implications of prison ministry?" Using

ideas first developed by St. Augustine, this class will examine how prison ministry can shed light on what it means to be a member of a church community.

Steven Y. Lee, seminarian at General Theological Seminary, has taught New Testament and Contemporary Theology classes at Fishkill Correctional Facility in Beacon, N.Y. and at Sing-Sing Correctional Facility in Ossining, N.Y. Held in the Reception Room; coffee is served.

9-12 YEAR OLD SUNDAY SCHOOL - Kids ages 9-12 are invited to join us today during the 11am service for this class held in the McKittrick Room, located just off the far end of Tuttle Hall. Parents may pick their children up during coffee hour. (Generally we meet on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month.)

12:30 PM - NEW TO GRACE? COME TO THIS CLASS! Come and have a bite to eat and learn more about the history of Grace, life at Grace today, and how to connect with other parishioners and ministry opportunities. Anyone new to Grace Church in the past year is invited to join any or all of three sessions (Jan 12, 19, 26). Held in the Reception Room. For more information, contact the Rev. Stephen Holton at sholton@gracechurchnyc.org. Today's topic: *Grace Church yesterday, today, and tomorrow.*

4 PM - SIXTH ANNUAL CONCERT OF MUSIC FOR TREBLE VOICES by The Junior Choristers of the Grace Church Choirs under the direction of Dr. Barry Rose, OBE. Compositions will include those by Malcolm Archer, J.S. Bach, Copland, Hogan, and Dr. Rose himself including the World Premiere of a recently completed sacred song cycle that Dr. Rose has written for the choristers. This annual concert will also include the "Whiting" of Novices when our newest choristers receive their surplice and take their place among the junior chorister ranks.

PLEASE PICK UP YOUR 2014 OFFERING ENVELOPES TODAY - and save the church some postage \$! After the 9 and 11 am services, you may find them in Tuttle Hall. After the 6 pm service, and during the week, they may be found in the Reception Room. If you wish to have envelopes, but have not yet requested them, please contact Brian Hagan, Director of Development, at 212-254-2000 x119 or bhagan@gracechurchnyc.com.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING will be held in Tuttle Hall on Sunday, February 2nd 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 MEMBERS OF THE VESTRY are pleased to announce the following slate of persons to be voted on at our Annual Meeting.

For a second three-year term as a Vestry member:
SINGLETON COX.



Singleton Cox began attending Grace Church in 2008. She was Baptized and Confirmed at Grace in 2009. Singleton Co-Leads the Open Door ministry, which she helped re-launch in 2010, and has also served as an Altar Guild volunteer. She lives in Greenwich Village and is a Director, Corporate Development – Mergers & Acquisitions for DaVita Inc.

For a first three-year term as Vestry member:

DAVID DIDOMENICO,



I began attending Grace Church in 2009. All three of our children (Rafe, Charlie and Lucia) were baptized at Grace. Our eldest son is a member of the choir; all of our children participate in the Christmas Pageant. My wife, Olivia Douglas, is a Trustee of Grace Church School where all of our children are enrolled. In 2012 I served as chair of the Power of Grace Campaign Committee.

Service to the Church has been among my most rewarding experiences, and I am honored to be nominated for the Vestry. Professionally I serve as a general partner in a private investment partnership.

CAROLINE JONES HUBBELL,



Caroline Jones Hubbell is a life-long Episcopalian and has been attending Grace Church since 2007. She has served as an usher, on the Search Committee for the Director of Youth and Family Ministry and regularly attends the 9am service. Caroline worked for 20 years in the advertising/marketing field and looks forward to serving Grace Church as a member of the Vestry.

JENNIFER SAN CARTIER.



Jennifer San Cartier began attending Grace Church in 2009. She is currently the Treasurer of Grace Church's ECW chapter and has served on its steering committee since 2012. She is also Co-Chair of the Altar Guild, a Team Leader for the 6pm service teams and has previously served with Open Door Ministry. Jennifer is a Managing Director with Fitch Ratings and is grateful to be asked to serve on the Vestry.

For a first two-year term as a Churchwarden:
LEONA CHAMBERLIN.



I have worshipped at Grace Church for over 25 years following my marriage to Win Chamberlin. Our three children (Brandon, Felicity and Ned) were baptized at Grace Church and attended Grace Church School. Brandon and Felicity were Grace Church choristers, and Felicity was the Optima of the Girls Choir. I am a Trustee of Grace Church School and previously served as a Trustee of the School from 1993 through 2001 and as Board Chair for five of those years. I have co-chaired a Grace Church Search Committee with Martha Demartini and have participated as an

usher and in the Open Door ministry. In my professional life I have been an attorney for over 30 years and am Associate General Counsel of New York University. I am honored to be nominated and hope that I will be able to continue to serve Grace Church and our community in this capacity.

(Leona will replace Sarah Cogan, who is finishing her third two-year term as a Churchwarden, the maximum permitted by our by-laws).

Many thanks to the committee and to those who have agreed to stand for election.

COMING SOON

FEB 4 – THE OPEN DOOR MINISTRY – is a team of friendly volunteers who provide a welcome to weekend visitors, often answering questions about our beautiful building, our community and its history. Please join us for a Winter Reception on Tuesday, Feb 4, 7–8:30 pm in the Reception Room. We'll enjoy fellowship and also celebrate a productive and successful 2013. Anyone who wants to learn more about volunteering is most welcome! Commitment is just 2 hours per month, and no experience is necessary! E-mail Singleton Cox at singleton.cox@gmail.com with your RSVP, or just to find out more.

FEB 10 – ECW PARISH WIDE MEETING – All women of Grace Church (and their friends!) are welcome at our first meeting of the Episcopal Church Women (ECW) in 2014. *Hear about upcoming events. *Bring your ideas and suggestions. *Come for fun and fellowship. "No Pressure" Pot Luck! Monday, Feb 10 at 6:30 in Tuttle Hall. Questions? Contact Elana Foundos at elanafoundos@gmail.com.

FEB 20 – NEWCOMER RECEPTION/WINE-TASTING – If you are new to Grace Church in the past year, plan to attend this fun, casual, social event to help you connect. Stay tuned, more information to come.

FEB 22 – 20s30s DODGEBALL TOURNAMENT FUNDRAISER – Teams of 6+ will compete for some amazing prizes—so come help Grace raise some serious booty, and kick some too! \$5 per person at the door will be donated in the name of the Young Adult Network to a predetermined charity. Saturday,

Feb 22, 3–6 pm at Church of the Intercession. RSVP to Melissa at mspindler@gracechurchnyc.org.

FEB 26, MAR 5, 12 – "IN A BETTER WORLD" – FILM AND CONVERSATION with the Rev. Sarah Wood. Come to view and discuss this award-winning Danish film directed by Suzanne Bier, which has been described as a "powerful and captivating drama." Join us as we reflect theologically upon the complex themes presented here, and which we might find relevant just as we begin to prepare for our Lenten journey. (Wednesdays, Feb 26, Mar 5 & 12 in the Music Room directly after the 6 pm Eucharist.)

MAR 2 –SHROVE SUNDAY! Come celebrate Shrove Tuesday a few days early with a fabulous meal of pancakes, bacon and eggs, and fruit salad. \$15 per person requested donation at the door. Fun activities for all ages included. Share a meal with friends before Lent begins. Held in Tuttle Hall after the 11 am service.

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