

The Epistle *E-news*

GRACE CHURCH

in New York City



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**Fill the Sanctuary
with Beauty and
Honor Your Loved
Ones**



April 6, 2014

The Fifth Sunday in Lent



Dear Friends,

Recently someone wrote a "Yelp" review of Grace Church, confessing, "I make a habit of parking myself in a pew during any given non-Sunday, usually for no more than thirty minutes at a time. When I leave, I feel refreshed." Apparently, writing reviews of churches on Yelp is something that people often do. I note that we have 14 reviews and 29 photos, while St. Bartholomew's has 22 reviews but only 10 photos (it is a competition, after all!).

If you scan a few of the reviews that people write of churches, you may detect a similar theme: people want to enjoy the space, but NOT on a Sunday, or more specifically, NOT during a service. Indeed, one reviewer of St. Bart's writes how she and her boyfriend timed their visit for after the service so that they could help themselves to free coffee and cookies. But then she was miffed that parishioners actually greeted her and attempted to involve her in "chit-chat."

It's easy to be cynical about these folks who want to enjoy the space on their own terms, but reject the worship and fellowship the church has to offer. I see them every Sunday outside the Broadway door, impatiently waiting for the service to be over so that they can come in and commence their touring or private communing with the vibrations of the

Make your offering for Easter flowers [online](#) by clicking the image above (select "flowers," put your dedications in the "comments" box) or pick up a Flower Offering envelope (Found around the church and Parish House) to give cash or check.

We recommend donation amounts beginning at \$50, but are grateful for any amount. Thank you!

For your donation "in honor of" or "in memory of" to be listed in the Easter service bulletin, it [must be received by Palm Sunday, 4/13.](#)

Outreach & Parish Life

ALL WOMEN OF GRACE CHURCH are members of the ECW (Episcopal Church Women)!

If you would like to be included on the contact list, you will receive updates and reminders of all ECW events and meetings. Send your email address to [Elana Foundos](#).

The ECW is a nationally based organization whose mission seeks to promote women's efforts to do Christ's ministry in their communities and in

universe. Imagine parking yourself at a table in a fine neighborhood restaurant. When the waiter comes by with a menu you are miffed and declare that you just want to enjoy the atmosphere. "How dare you oppress me with food!"

On the other hand, the better angel of my nature knows that the sacred space we offer is a gift, and if the atmosphere is the only way that God is able to reach certain wounded or searching souls, then so be it. I have frequently said that the first and most important thing we can do as the people of God at Grace Church is to keep the doors of our magnificent church open as much as possible. If people come inside and find spiritual refreshment and inspiration, then we should rejoice. We have participated in God's desire to reach everyone.

One day about 15 years ago a lawyer named Kurt Dunkle was walking down Broadway on his way to trial. He noted that the doors of Grace Church were open, so he came inside. By the time he left, he had missed lunch and accepted God's call to become a priest. He is now the new Dean of General Theological Seminary, and he will be our speaker at this week's Sunday Forum at 10 am, and preacher at the 11 am service. Come hear his story.

See you in church.

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

This Sunday, April 6, 2014

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist
Sermon: The Rev. Stephen Holton
Music: The Parish Choir

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist
Sermon: The Very Rev. Kurt Dunkle,
*Dean and President of
General Theological Seminary*
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](#).)

THE VERY REV. KURT DUNKLE, [Dean and President](#)

the world. We welcome you! Come and join us for fun and fellowship. Meet women across all services!

THE GO PROJECT SUMMER INTERNSHIPS

Attention 9th-12th graders! Help Shape Academic Futures! Become a GO Getters Intern! Are you passionate about educational equity? Are you committed to having in depth, change-making conversations with your peers? Do you want to spend a summer giving back to your community? If you replied yes, apply NOW for the GO Getters Summer Internship [HERE!](#) (Deadline MAY 19th.) Questions? Contact [Olivia Nunez](#).

JOIN THE COMMUNITY. MAKE A PLEDGE FOR 2014.

(Remember, you have the whole year to make payments on your pledge.)

Just click [HERE!](#)

of The General Theological Seminary, will join us to preach at the 11 am service and speak at the Sunday Forum at 10 am (see description below).

CLOSING THE GAP: WHY I AM A PRIEST – THE SUNDAY FORUM AT 10 AM – Guest speaker the Very Rev. Kurt H. Dunkle, Dean and President, The General Theological Seminary. What happens when a lawyer walking down Broadway on his way to try a case in lower Manhattan stops in Grace Church before lunch? Well, he misses lunch and becomes a priest – and then the Dean of GTS! Come hear the story of Kurt Dunkle, and how Grace Church played a role in his spiritual transformation. *The Sunday Forum Lenten series concludes today. Held in the Reception Room; pick up some refreshment at coffee hour and join the discussion.*

12:45 PM – CONFIRMATION CLASSES FOR YOUTH AND ADULTS begin today after the 11am service. Classes are led by the clergy and will meet weekly in preparation for the bishop's visit on Sunday June 15. If you have not already signed up but would like to join, please come to the Reception Room at 12:45.

WE PREACH CHRIST CRUCIFIED – SUNDAY EVENINGS AT 7 PM. Walk the way of the cross this Lent with a series of brief readings, reflection, and discussion centered on Kenneth Leech's masterful devotional book, *We Preach Christ Crucified*. Through April 13, following the 6 pm service in the Chantry. Light refreshment served.

COMING SOON

APR 13 – PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION – *No Sunday School*. All children who wish to participate in a grand procession at the beginning of the 11 am service should report to Tuttle Hall at 10:45 am. 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.

(Please see the box below for full schedule of Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter Day.)

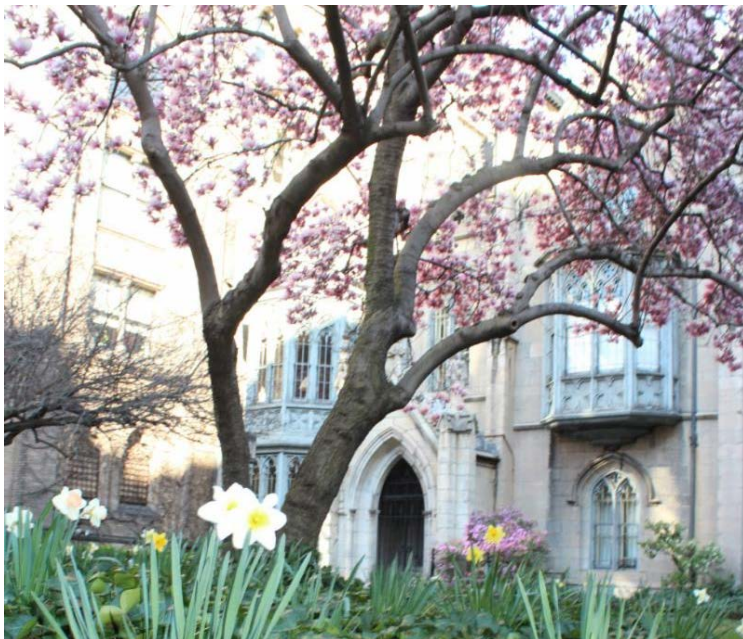
APR 25 – THE ANNUAL SPRING CONCERT of the Choirs of Grace Church will take place at 7 p.m. on Friday, April 25 in the Church. The Choir of Men and Boys, The Girls' Choir, Adult and Parish Choir will join forces to offer some of our favorite anthems by Beethoven, Haydn, Mozart, Bairstow and Stanford. Barry Rose will join us with his family as guest conductor while we help him celebrate his 80th Birthday! Following the concert is a special reception to benefit the Choir Special Projects Fund as the Choirs prepare for their next Summer Tour to Europe in 2015.

APR 29 – GO PROJECT/ANNUAL SPRING BENEFIT 46 years ago, members of Grace Church and parents of Grace Church School created the GO Project as an educational outreach program for underperforming public school children. The Spring Benefit raises funds to directly benefit the 550 students and families served. This year's event – held on Tuesday, April 29 at the Bowery Hotel – features cocktails, tasting tables and both silent and live auctions. Information and tickets click [HERE](#).

MAY 9, 10 – THE CHORAL SOCIETY & ORCHESTRA SPRING CONCERT Deeply felt works for unaccompanied choir, choir with organ, and choir with orchestra and soloists, including the magnificent Mozart Requiem. Randall Thompson: The Last Invocation, Arvo Pärt: The Beatitudes, Charles Ives: Psalm 90, W. A. Mozart: Requiem (KV 626). Under the musical direction of John Maclay. Friday, May 9 at 8 pm and Saturday, May 10 at 3 pm. Tickets are on sale now [HERE](#) (click "concerts").

MAY 15 – SPRINGTIME COCKTAILS ON THE LAWN! On Thursday, May 15th please join us for a festive cocktail party for adult parishioners outside the Rectory. We'll enjoy fellowship, drinks and light hors d'oeuvres from 6 – 8 pm. *Admission is free, but you must [RSVP to Jennifer](#) to be added to the guest list.*

*Please Join Us for
Holy Week and Easter*



Some early daffodils and tiny pink magnolia blossoms have recently been spotted in the Rector's garden!

PALM SUNDAY, April 13

All Services in the Church

9 a.m., 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.

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.-Choral Evensong

with excerpts from Part II of Handel's MESSIAH.

The Adult Choir

HOLY WEDNESDAY, April 16

6 p.m. in the Chantry-1st Century Agape Meal

Preacher: The Rev. Sarah Anne Wood

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. \$10 sugg donation per adult.

MAUNDY THURSDAY, April 17

**7 p.m. in the Church-Holy Eucharist,
Foot Washing, Stripping of the Altar**

Preacher: The Rev. J. Donald Waring

Music by Duruflé, Farrant, Tallis, & others.

The Adult Choir.

GOOD FRIDAY, April 18

12 - 3 p.m. The Three Hours' Devotion:

The Seven Last Words of Christ

Preachers: The Rev. Stephen Holton, The Rev. Dr. Robert Owens, The Rev. J. Donald Waring, The Rev. Mary Cat Young, The Rev. Sarah Wood, The Rev. Dan Heischman, The Rev. Timothy Morehouse.

7 p.m. in the Church-Choral Vespers
THE CRUCIFIXION by John Stainer (1840-1901)
A moving account of the Passion set to music and sung by the Adult Choir with tenor and bass soloists.

HOLY SATURDAY, April 19
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. Sugg donation \$10 per child.

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, April 20
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
Music by Batten, Byrd, Noyon/Hancock, Parker & others. The Combined Grace Church Choirs with 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.

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Sunday, April 6th - Guest speaker: "Why I Am a Priest"

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