

# The Epistle *E-news*

## GRACE CHURCH

### in New York City



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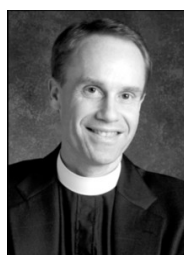
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**ATTN:  
NEWCOMERS!  
THIS CLASS  
IS FOR YOU...**

MAY 4, 18, JUNE 1:  
The next three-part  
session meets on  
three Sundays with  
the Rector from

## Holy Week & Easter 2014



Dear Friends,

One of the hazards of navigating the sidewalks of New York City (and many other places, I suspect) is people who are paying far more attention to their smart phones than they are to where they are going. Have you ever noticed that when people are walking toward you at full pace, texting or emailing as they approach, it is you who are paying attention who are supposed to get out of their way? "One of these days," I think to myself, "I'm going to hold my ground, not move out of the way, and see what happens."

Make no mistake, I am not being a curmudgeon here, and I have no quarrel with smart phones. I have one myself and use it all the time. Texting and emailing are simply the ways we communicate these days. But the argument can be made that we live in a time when our attention has shifted away from where it used to be. Virtual reality trumps and is often preferred to the real thing. What is on screen takes precedence to who may be next to you or approaching on the sidewalk. The worry is: What might we be forgetting or overlooking?

My guess is that most of us know that this coming Sunday is Easter Day - the highest feast day of the Christian year. Here it comes! But what about these three important days of preparation leading up to Easter -- Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday? Yes, I am aware that you are reading these words on a screen. But starting tonight at 7 pm, do your best to "look up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." (Luke 21:28). Easter will have all the more meaning if we have walked intentionally the road to Jesus' tomb, and with eyes wide open, greet the rising Son.

12:45 – 1:45 pm.  
Come to learn more about Christianity, the Episcopal Church, and Grace Church. A light lunch is served. To reserve your space please [email Jennifer Metz](mailto:jennifermetz@episcopalchurch.org).

**JOIN THE COMMUNITY.  
MAKE A PLEDGE FOR 2014.**

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

Just click [HERE!](#)

**The Epistle E-news goes on recess next week...**

Please see the worship schedule for Sunday, April 27th below. The next E-news will arrive in time for Sunday, May 4.

See you in church.

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

**Holy Week continues, please join us...**

**TONIGHT**

**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 \$15 per child includes pizza lunch.

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**

*(No Sunday school today; children's activity bags*

available at 9 & 11 am.)



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*

## COMING SOON...

APR 21 – THE CHURCH AND PARISH OFFICE will be closed on Easter Monday.

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 26 – 20s30s TRIVIA NIGHT – 6th Annual City Wide All Episcopal 20s/30s Trivia Night Fundraiser! Saturday, 6–9:30 pm, at St. James' Church, 865 Madison Ave at 71st St. \$30 includes dinner, games & prizes. BYOB. All contributions will go to the Episcopalians in Haiti. [RSVP to Melissa ASAP!](#)

APR 27 – THE SUNDAY FORUM @10AM – FLANNERY O'CONNOR'S *A PRAYER JOURNAL*. Dr. Diana Benet, University of North Texas, will speak on Flannery O'Connor's *A Prayer Journal*. Written between 1946 and 1947, the writings give insight into O'Connor's spiritual inner musings and yearnings, articulated directly and often poignantly: "Dear God please help me to be an artist, please let it lead to You."

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: <http://www.goprojectnyc.org>.

MAY 4 – THE SUNDAY FORUM @10AM – WRITING GRACE. Australian Poet Lachlan Brown, Lecturer in English at Charles Sturt University, Australia, and author of the poetry volume *Limited Cities* (Giramondo Press) reads poetry and explores what 'writing grace' could mean within a poet's creative process. Topics include the nature of Christian faith, the presence of

grace in the Australian suburbs, and the writing of poetry in difficult or tragic circumstances. Introduction by our friend Nicholas Birns, who teaches at the New School and is editor of *Antipodes: A Global Journal of Australian/NZ Literature* and co-editor of *Options for Teaching Australian Literature for the Modern Language Association*.

MAY 4, 18, JUNE 1 – NEWCOMER CLASS. Details in the box at left.

MAY 4 – EXCERPTS FROM HANDEL'S MESSIAH PART III. The Adult Choir with the Parish Choir will offer Choral Evensong featuring excerpts from Part III of Handel's MESSIAH.

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: [www.thechoralsociety.org](http://www.thechoralsociety.org) 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 by Friday, May 9th to Jennifer](#) to be added to the guest list.*

MAY 20 – OPEN DOOR MINISTRY: SEEKING VOLUNTEERS! *Thirteen thousand* visitors crossed our Church threshold on Saturday and Sunday afternoons in 2013! The Open Door ministry seeks to provide a welcoming presence for them all. Please consider volunteering just 2 hours a month to support this worthy mission – and for fellowship and fun as well! To find out more, come join the Open Door volunteers at our next meeting and celebration on Tuesday, May 20 @ 7pm. *RSVP to Singleton Cox at [singleton.cox@gmail.com](mailto:singleton.cox@gmail.com).*

*Next Sunday...*

April 27, 2013  
The Second Sunday of Easter



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](#).

*The Epistle E-news is on recess next week, but will  
return to your inbox in time for Sunday, May 4th.  
Happy Easter!*

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