

The Epistle *E-news*

GRACE CHURCH

in New York City



In This Issue

[Easter Flowers - LAST DAY!](#)

[Join the Community](#)

[Palm Sunday](#)

[Holy Week and Easter Day - Join Us!](#)

[Coming Soon](#)

Quick Links


[GIVE to Grace](#)

[Visit our Website](#)

[More About Us](#)

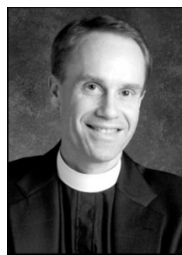
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April 13, 2014

The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday



Dear Friends,

A figure from my past, now immortalized in the folklore of my family, was an older boy named Billy who lived across the street from us in East Orange, NJ. Anytime we kids were having fun, we could always count on Billy's being there. If one of us had a birthday party, Billy would be there. When we installed a new basketball hoop on the garage and came out to use it for the first time, Billy was there. On hot summer days when my parents allowed us to turn on the sprinkler and squirt each other with the hose, Billy was there. Billy was there just so long as we were delivering the biggest fun that could be had on the block.

The problem with Billy was that he was a fair-weather friend. If someone or something came along that promised him more fun than he was having with us, Billy would be gone without so much as a "good-bye." In fact, Billy left us flat so many times we eventually came to call him "Faithful Bill" - a nickname my father coined, probably from binding up our egos one-too many times after Billy had bruised them. I remember one Saturday, for example, waiting in vain the entire day for Faithful Bill to show up as he promised he would. I can still see my older brother waiting by the door, looking out the window, declaring that Billy wouldn't forget. But Billy did forget, because a better offer must have

Palm Sunday is the last day for your donation "in honor of" or "in memory of" to be listed in the Easter service bulletins!



Make your offering for Easter flowers [online](#) NOW by clicking the image above (select "flowers," put your dedications in the "comments" box).

To give cash or check, pick up a flower offering envelope on Sunday (Found around the church and Parish House) and place it in the collection plate or the box in the Parish House hallway!

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

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

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

Just click [HERE!](#)

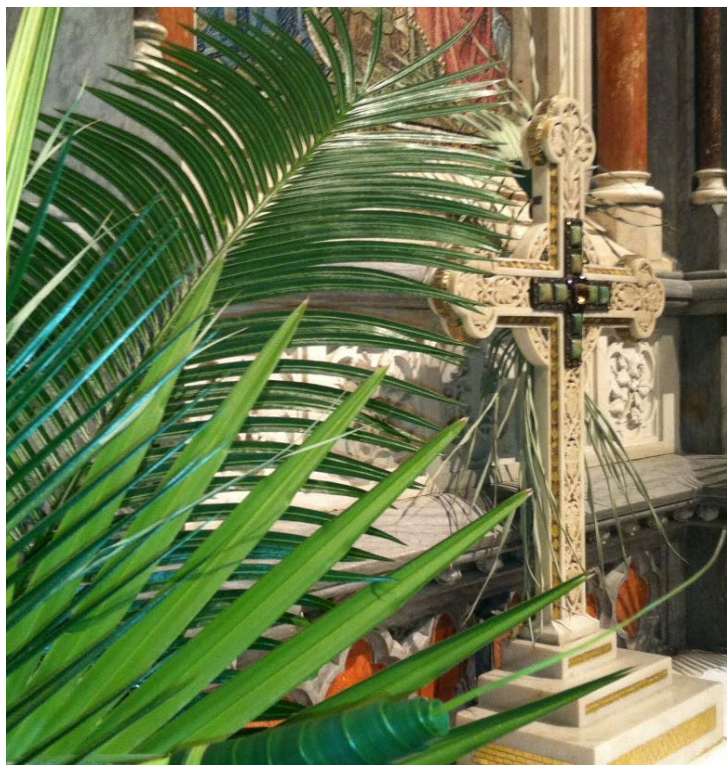
come his way. The worst part of it all was that Faithful Bill wouldn't just leave us, he would also turn on us. Once when my brothers and I ran afoul of some neighborhood ruffians, Faithful Bill - own familiar friend - was among them vaunting himself against us. Faithful Bill was there.

Eventually we moved away and I never learned whatever became of Faithful Bill. Nevertheless, I often think of him as Palm Sunday draws near. Palm Sunday is a day that challenges our faithfulness to Jesus. The service will begin - especially at 11 am - with great fanfare, symbolizing all of our good intentions to follow Jesus. The service will end on a dramatically different note: in somber silence. In between we will hear about Peter's denial and Judas' betrayal of Jesus. If we allow ourselves to enter the drama, we should come to realize that it's not only Peter and Judas who are afflicted with the Faithful Bill syndrome. "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way," is how the prophet Isaiah said. What is more, as we encounter our faithlessness, we may even glimpse the faithfulness of Jesus on his way to the cross.

Palm Sunday should make us uncomfortable. That's the point! See you in church.

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

This Sunday, April 13, 2014



The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

All services in the Church.

(No Sunday school; children's activity bags
will be available at 9 & 11 am.)

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, & Guilment

The Choir of Men and Boys with the Adult Choir

4 p.m. Choral Evensong

with excerpts from

Part II of *Handel's MESSIAH*

The Adult Choir

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

THE SUNDAY FORUM 10 AM – is on recess for Palm Sunday and Easter Day, and will resume on April 27. Upcoming forums include Diana Benet on the Prayer Journals of Flannery O'Connor, Australian Poet Lachlan Brown on "Writing Grace," and Roy Tsao on Augustine and the cross-currents of philosophy and faith! Watch this space for details in the coming weeks.

PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION – No Sunday School today, but all children and their families who wish to participate in a 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.

EXCERPTS FROM HANDEL'S MESSIAH 4 PM Today in the Church, the Adult Choir will offer Choral Evensong featuring excerpts from part II, the Easter Portion, of Handel's MESSIAH.

*Please Join Us for
Holy Week and Easter*

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 \$15 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

(No Sunday school; children's activity bags will be 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.
The Adult Choir.

COMING SOON

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 – 20s/30s 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 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 – 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 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.*

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