

# The Epistle *E-news*

## GRACE CHURCH

### in New York City



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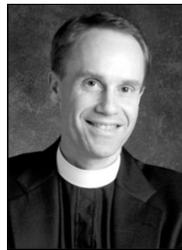
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**In Search of the  
Sacred in South  
Africa, Sunday  
@10 am...**

## October 26, 2014

The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost



Dear Friends,

Before we moved to New York City I was a fairly frequent runner. I found it to be a great way to stay in shape, clear my head, and mull over the upcoming sermon. My routine was to go out in the evenings after our boys were in bed and the suburban streets relatively clear. Well, the urban landscape proved a bit more challenging. Also the increasing demands of parenthood put a crimp in my evening runs, and eventually in my running altogether. Lately, however, I've been easing my way back into being a runner. I've found some creative times to go and safe routes to take. I've also found that after ten years, pulled muscles occur much more frequently, and take far longer to heal than they used to!

The other day I was running towards the East River Fields when I saw a crowd of people blocking the sidewalk. I could tell by their black hats and long black coats that they were Orthodox Jews. My plan was simply to go around them, or, if need be, slow down and go through them. But as I drew near one of them stepped into my path, tried to hand me



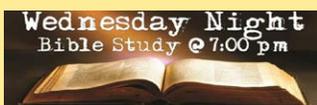
St. George's Cathedral,  
Cape Town.

...A Discussion  
with Hershey A.  
Mallette, Pastoral  
Resident of Grace  
Church

## EAT PIE



For the Choir Special  
Projects Fund! (click  
the pie)



with Grace Church  
Pastoral Resident,  
Hershey Mallette.  
Explore different ways  
to examine, engage  
and enter the  
lectionary text for the  
coming week.  
Wednesday evenings,  
directly after the 6  
pm Eucharist.

something, and said, "Excuse me, do you happen to be Jewish?" I replied, perhaps too forcefully, "No! I happen to be running!" What I mulled over for the rest of my run was not an upcoming sermon. Rather, it was two things: Should I have replied more graciously than I did? Why do I get especially annoyed by pushy religious zealots on the sidewalks?

The latter question may seem odd coming from a man of the cloth, but it's true. When I am in civilian attire and approached by someone who wants to probe into my faith merely in the attempt to convert me to another, I find it to be an offense. I do not engage with these people, and I seek not to be like them. In fact, Jesus often counseled his overly eager disciples to put a lid on their zeal. On the other hand, at other times Jesus encouraged them to go forth and proclaim the good news of the kingdom. When is the right time to share your faith? It's a fine line to walk.

At the end of my run I was walking toward the rectory, and passing the main Broadway door of the church. At the top of the steps in front of the open door is a sign that is there every day: THE CHURCH IS OPEN: ENTER, REST, PRAY. Much better, I thought. It's an open invitation to any and all, but not a violation of personal space.

Are we doing enough to share the good news of God in Christ? Probably not. We should always be on the lookout for new and creative ways to meet a hurting world at its places of deepest need, and when invited, to commend the faith that is in us. In the meantime, the doors are open.

See you in church.

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

This Sunday, October 26th

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
Sermon: The Rev. J. Donald Waring  
Music: The Parish Choir

11 a.m. Morning Prayer  
Sermon: The Rev. J. Donald Waring  
Music: The Choir of Men and Boys

6 p.m. Holy Eucharist, in the Chantry  
Sermon: The Rev. J. Donald Waring  
Music: Hymns with Instrumentalists

**THE SUNDAY FORUM 10 AM – IN SEARCH OF THE SACRED IN SOUTH AFRICA** with Hershey A. Mallette, Pastoral Resident of Grace Church, senior at General Theological Seminary. This past summer, just two days prior to her departure to South Africa for an academic program for budding theologians and activists, Hershey learned that the program had been canceled! Arriving in Cape Town with no idea where she would lay her head that night, Hershey would come to know the true nature of Christian charity through the people of Khayelitsha, Goodwood, Cape Town, and Stellenbosch. Travelling to 5 of the 9 provinces, Hershey also attended mass with Archbishop Desmond Tutu as the Presider, a moment that brought her theological journey full circle! Come to the Forum to see and hear more about Hershey's trip of grace! *This fall our theme "In Search of the Sacred" will explore locating the sacred through both traditional and nontraditional means. Join us each Sunday for coffee, lively discussion and spiritual enrichment in the Reception Room at 10 am!*

**PIE TASTING AFTER THE 11 AM SERVICE!**  
**THANKSGIVING PIES TO BENEFIT THE CHOIRS' 'Special Projects Fund'** – Come and sample the pies at coffee hour after the 11 am service! The fund supports opportunities for the choirs not covered in the operating budget such as the summer concert tours (We are planning a tour centered in Paris for the Summer of 2015). You can help by ordering delicious pies for your Thanksgiving feast! We offer DELIVERY to your home or office for orders of 10 pies or more. Here is a perfect way to say "thank you" to a hostess, teacher, nanny, tutor or loved one, while \$10 from every purchase goes directly to the Special Projects Fund! THANK YOU for all your prayers and support!

Place your order at the "pie box" in the Parish House hallway, or by clicking on the image of the pie in this newsletter! *Order deadline: Wednesday 11/19, Pickup day: Tues. 11/25.*



OCT 19, 26, NOV 2 – NEWCOMERS' CLASS ON SUNDAY *Evenings* – Members of the clergy speak, and answer questions, about Christianity, the Episcopal Church, and what it's like to be a member of Grace Church. This series of classes will be convenient for those who attend the 6 pm service, but anyone new to Grace Church in the past year is welcome to participate. 7 pm on Sundays Oct 19, 26 and Nov 2 in the Honor Room. *Additional Newcomer classes will be held in January and April and will be announced in this space.*

## COMING SOON

OCT 28 – DAVID BROOKS ON "THE AMERICAN DREAM" A benefit for Incarnation Camp. Tuesday, Oct 28th from 6–8:30 pm at the Princeton Club of New York. Conversation and refreshments with the celebrated NY Times columnist, political commentator and author (also Incarnation Camp alumnus!). Register online [HERE](#) or by calling (860) 767–0848.

OCT 29 – THE CHOIR FROM LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL, UK will sing a noontime concert at Grace Church as part of their North American tour. The concert is free, and promises to be not only inspiring, but also to have you back to work by 1 pm! Bring family,

friends and colleagues and enjoy this special midday musical feast.

**NOV 2 – THE SUNDAY FORUM 10 AM – IN SEARCH OF THE SACRED: Hopkins' "Bright Wings" and the Subjectivity of Piety** Dr. Nicholas Birns, Associate Teaching Professor, Eugene Lang College, the New School. Gerard Manley Hopkins, a middle-class-Englishman turned Catholic convert and Jesuit priest, was the most original Christian poet of the nineteenth century in English. His work is astonishingly rich and inventive in language, and its emotional range sounds the heights of exhilaration and the depths of despair. Hopkins' poetry is apt for All Saints' Day as it shows the kind of subjective life in which a truly pious person might engage.

**NOV 2 – ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY** During the services we'll light candles and remember all those connected with Grace Church who have died but still remain on the hearts and minds of their loved ones. *To include a name on this year's list, please send the name to Jennifer Metz at [jmetz@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:jmetz@gracechurchnyc.org) by Tuesday, Oct 28.*

**NOV 2 – CHORAL EVENSONG – REQUIEM BY MICHAEL HAYDN 4PM** The Adult Choir with The Parish Choir will offer Choral Evensong celebrating All Saints' Sunday. The primary musical offering will be the REQUIEM of Michael Haydn.

**NOV 4 –CHRISTMAS PAGEANT SIGN-UPS AND INTERVIEWS!** All children aged 5 and older are invited to participate in the annual Pageant, held on Christmas Eve at 4 pm. Only those interested in singing a solo, duet, or trio must sign up for an interview (taking place on Tues, Nov 4 from 2–6 pm IN THE MUSIC ROOM), but all participants must submit a cast information sheet by Nov 4 at 2 pm. Cast info sheets and a full schedule for the pageant are now available on the bulletin board in the Parish House hallway. To schedule your child for an interview, contact [Melissa](#).

**NOV 6 – FALL NEWCOMERS' WELCOME EVENT.** Please join us for fellowship and fun at our Fall Newcomers Welcome Event – A Taste of Spain! All Grace Newcomers are invited to enjoy Spanish tapas and beverages on Thursday, Nov 6, from 6:30pm–8:30 pm in the Chantry. *RSVP to Singleton Cox at [singleton.cox@gmail.com](mailto:singleton.cox@gmail.com). OLE!*

**NOV 9 – THE SUNDAY FORUM 10 AM – LISTENING FOR THE SACRED THROUGH MENTORING.** For several

years, Grace Church has worked with Interfaith Assembly on Homelessness and Housing (IAHH) to shepherd their program serving veterans who are in transitional housing due to homelessness. Fellow veterans are sought as mentors to build new relationships upon common shared experiences, and to model new ways of coping with struggles or celebrating accomplishments. The willingness to sacrifice required of all military veterans is a sacred commitment shared by both participants and mentors. The willingness to listen and connect with a stranger as a mentor is a sacred experience that we may all be called upon to share. Jason Slibeck and Gordon Matheson – both veterans, both mentors, and both fellow Grace parishioners – share their experiences with the program, and answer your questions.

#### NOV 15 – GRACE CHURCH/GO PROJECT VOLUNTEER DAY! Ever

considered volunteering with the GO Project, but not sure you can make a year-round commitment? How about signing up for a one-day event?



GO invites all Grace Church members and friends to participate on Saturday, Nov 15<sup>th</sup> from 9 am–12:30 pm. Come and see this wonderful program in action, meet the students served by the program and pitch in to help! *Sign up by e-mailing Olivia Nunez at [onunez@goprojectnyc.org](mailto:onunez@goprojectnyc.org).*

NOV 15, 16 GRACE AND THE ARTS AT CHRISTMAS FAIR On Saturday, Nov 15, 5–7 pm come to the Wine & Cheese Reception, admission \$10. Or come after church on Sunday, Nov 16, 10 am–4 pm, admission \$2. This is a fun annual event featuring the work of 25 local artists and craftspeople! Bring your Christmas list! Bagels and baked goods for sale on Sunday. *And the new Grace Church Cookbook will make its debut and will be available for purchase!*

**NOV 16 – THE SUNDAY FORUM 10 AM – IN SEARCH OF THE SACRED: A Response to Homelessness in the City.** David Beer Vice President, Real Estate Development, The Common Ground Community. Why are there so many homeless people in New York City? How should people of faith respond to the problem? David Beer will discuss his work at a New York City-based homeless services organization. He will give an

overview of homelessness in New York City over the last 50 years and describe the current dimensions of the problem. What is supportive housing and how is it effective in addressing homelessness? What are other effective solutions? What can Christians do?

NOV 19 – THE EPISCOPAL CHARITIES ANNUAL TRIBUTE DINNER is a grand celebration honoring philanthropists and important members of the community. Cocktails, formal dinner and entertainment, complimented by the majestic backdrop of the Cathedral setting. Wednesday, Nov 19th at 6:30 pm at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, NYC. Dress is black tie. Purchase tickets online [HERE](#). *Episcopal Charities provides funding and support to parish-based programs serving children and adults in need on a non-sectarian basis.*

NOV 23 – GRACE CHURCH SCHOOL SUNDAY Please join us for our annual celebration of the common history and mission shared by church and school. At 10 am, The Rev. Mark Hummell will lead a Sunday Forum entitled In Search of the Sacred in Our Students (details below). At the 11 am service, Fr. Hummell will preach, and music will be offered by Alumni of the Choirs with The Choir of Men and Boys and The Girls' Choir. After the service, please come to Tuttle Hall for a festive reception!

**NOV 23 – IN SEARCH OF THE SACRED IN OUR STUDENTS** The Rev. Mark Hummell, Chaplain for Grace Church School and Interim Chaplain for Canterbury Downtown at Grace Church. Fr. Hummell will discuss the importance of meeting our students where they are along their developmental lines, how to engage with those who seem disengaged, and building bridges between the worlds of academia & the church. He will also discuss his recent ministry at New York University Abu Dhabi, where he developed faith groups, and provided counseling for undergraduate college students, and his new ministry as the Chaplain at Grace Church School.

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