

# The Epistle *E-news*

## GRACE CHURCH

### in New York City



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## From Principal to Postulant

The Sunday Forum  
@10 am

Did you get  
yours?

## February 1, 2015

The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

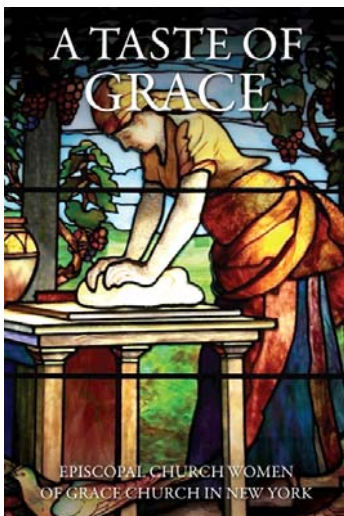


Dear Friends,

This coming Sunday is the day we will hold the Annual Meeting of the Parish. Following the 11 am service, instead of coffee hour we will enjoy lunch together in Tuttle Hall, then hear

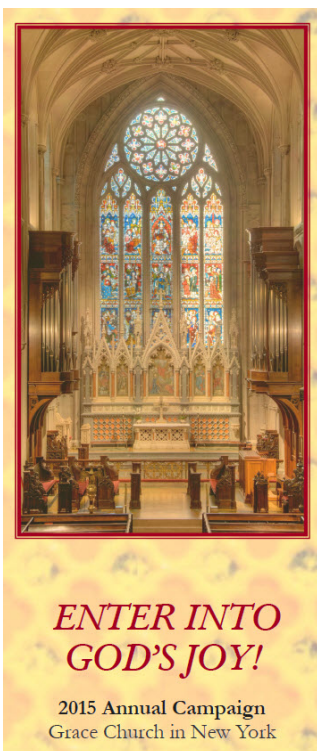
reports from various lay leaders who are overseeing many of our committees. Towards the end of the meeting I'll share my observations, generally referred to as "the state of the parish." The Annual Meeting is also the time when we pay formal attention to leadership transition. We give thanks for the good work of our off-going Vestry members - this year Jack Browning, Michael Kirchmann, and Doug Skrypeck. We also elect the incoming class of Vestry members - this year Harper Anderson, Anne Rieselbach, and Jason Slibeck. Concerning the incoming class, you can see a photo and read a short bio for each, [below](#).

As we gather on Sunday to concentrate on our own work and ministry, something to remember is that we are not an island unto ourselves, but part of a vast network of Episcopal and Anglican churches throughout the world that are striving to be the body of Christ in their own contexts. Let me mention two others with whom we share a link. Many of you will remember the Rev. Jay Weldon, who was with us at Grace Church for a year as Assistant Rector while he



Books will be on sale at the Annual Parish Meeting on Sunday, Feb 1st! Or [contact Elana Foundos](#).

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by making your  
2015 pledge  
now!**



obtained an advance degree at General Seminary. Jay moved back to the Diocese of Georgia in the summer of 2009, and became Rector of St. Patrick's Church in Albany, GA. Since then he has substantially grown St. Patrick's, to the point where they have built a new church building. They will be consecrating the new edifice this Sunday as we gather for our annual meeting. You can visit their website at [www.stpatricksalbany.org](http://www.stpatricksalbany.org) to see pictures of the new church and Jay. Congratulations to them all.

The second parish to mention is called Grosvenor Chapel in London, England. The Dioceses of London and New York have a program together that links individual parishes to be in a companion relationship with each other. The relationship can be whatever we want to make it: the sharing of mutual prayer concerns, the exchange of ideas for urban ministry, pulpit swaps and pilgrimages to each other's site, etc. In any case, we have just been linked and I have only begun exchanging emails with their Rector, the Rev. Richard Fermer. We look forward to seeing how this develops. In the meantime, you can visit the website of Grosvenor Chapel at [www.grosvenorchapel.org.uk](http://www.grosvenorchapel.org.uk).

If you happen to be traveling across the pond anytime soon - or to Albany, GA - do visit one of these partner parishes in our life together as the Body of Christ in the world.

See you in church.

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

## **This Sunday**

### **9 a.m. Holy Eucharist**

Sermon: The Rev. J. Donald Waring  
Music: The Parish Choir

### **11 a.m. Holy Eucharist**

Sermon: The Rev. J. Donald Waring

**Questions?  
No problem!**

Just contact Rhianna Murphy, Director of Finance, at 212-254-2000 x 116 (or [click here](#)) to ask any questions at all.

Music: The Combined Junior Choristers with Adults

**6 p.m. Holy Eucharist, in the Chantry**

Sermon: The Rev. Mary Cat Young

Music: Hymns with Instrumentalists

**FROM PRICIPAL TO POSTULANT: One Child of God's Spiritual Journey. THE SUNDAY FORUM 10 AM.**

Parishioner and public school Principal Richard Limato will continue the Epiphany theme of spiritual autobiography, discernment and responding to God's call. Did the Lord actually whack him in the head with a 2 x 4? Was discernment really the roller coaster ride he avoided all his life? What in the world does he plan to do now that he has said yes? Hear how one Child of God's story will make you think of your own, if you dare.

**WELCOME JUNIOR CHORISTERS!** This morning at 11 am the combined Junior Boy and Girl Choristers are taking up the treble seats in the Choir. Last Sunday during the Annual Concert of Music for Treble Voices with guest conductor Dr. Barry Rose, 29 New Juniors received their surplice in the traditional "whiting" ceremony. Congratulations! *New Junior Boy Choristers:* Kai Darrell, Oliver El Hadj, Alabama Embry, Charlie Head, Reid Farrington, Xander Farrington, Ian Godfrey, Luke Owens, Thomas Sheehan, Harry Spindler, James Spindler, William Theiss, Owen Thomas, Brewer Woods. *New Junior Girl Choristers:* Miranda Chao Hwang, Julia De Moura Braine, Emelia Dempsey, Lucia DiDomenico, Adelaide Etedgui, Beatrix Flynn, Celia Glover, Pia Glover, Catherine Gooding, Juliet Gray, Sydney Kim, Calista Lee, Milly McAskin, Ellie Richards, Charlotte Wells.

**THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** will be held in Tuttle Hall today 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.

**LAST CALL – 2015 OFFERING ENVELOPES –***TODAY is the last day to pick up your envelopes after services (Tuttle Hall after the 9 and 11 am services, the Reception Room after the 6 pm service).* If you have any questions or need to request envelopes, please contact Rhianna Murphy at [rmurphy@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:rmurphy@gracechurchnyc.org) or 212-254-2000 x116.

### *Coming Soon*

**FEB 8 – LADDER OF STORIES, LADDER OF LOVE – THE SUNDAY FORUM 10 AM.** "Love is a ladder that reaches through time: sometimes the first rung of the ladder is disguised, but that is only a test." – Alice Walker The Rev. Timothy Morehouse, a Grace Church parishioner and Chaplain of Trinity School will continue the Epiphany theme of spiritual autobiography, discernment, and responding to God's call.

**FEB 8 – EPISCOPAL YOUNG ADULTS PLAY DODGEBALL!** This will be a fun gathering for Episcopal Young Adults and their friends looking to burn some energy and get to know other 20's–30's folk from around the city on a cold winter's day! \$5 per person, includes snacks and drinks (funds raised will be donated to a local youth organization). Sunday, Feb 8, 3–5:30 pm in Tuttle Hall. [RSVP here](#) *by Friday, Feb 6 so we have an idea how many teams to prepare for!*

**FEB 12 – WINTER NEWCOMERS' EVENT** All those new to Grace Church over the last year are invited to "Carnival" on Thursday, Feb 12th from 6:30–8:30 pm in the Chantry! Come and enjoy fellowship with clergy, staff and members of the parish while enjoying a sampling of carnival traditions and cuisine

from the Caribbean, Latin America and Mardi Gras. Please [contact Singleton Cox](#) for information and to RSVP. *Let's Carnival!*

**FEB 14 – HELP REBUILD STATEN ISLAND** More than two years after Hurricane Sandy, thousands of homes remain in some form of distress. Join teams from Grace Church for our next parish work day on Saturday, Feb 14. Many jobs for multiple skill levels are available--including insulation installation, sheet rocking, and more. We'll schedule a celebration dinner and party after our work days, so click [HERE](#) to *sign up now*.

**FEB 15 –SHROVE SUNDAY!** Come celebrate Shrovetide this year with a fabulous Sunday brunch 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. Volunteer help is most appreciated! To find out how you can help, please see the bulletin board outside the Reception Room or [email Melissa](#).

**FEB 17 – OPEN DOOR MINISTRY WINTER RECEPTION**  
– Open Door is a team of friendly volunteers who seek to provide a welcome for weekend visitors to Grace, answering questions about our beautiful building, our community and its rich history. (Commitment is just 2 hours per month, no experience is necessary!) Sound interesting? The team is currently recruiting new volunteers and will hold a reception on Tuesday, Feb 17, 7–8:30 pm in the Reception Room. All current and prospective members are invited to come and enjoy fellowship and celebrate a successful 2014! RSVP to Singleton Cox [here](#).

**FEB 18 – ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES** will be held at 8 am in the Chantry, and 12:10 and 6 pm in the Church. All services include homily by the Rector, Eucharist, and the imposition of ashes. The two

earlier services are expected to last for approximately 45 minutes.

**FEB 19 – ECW PARISH WIDE MEETING** –Please come to the first meeting of the Episcopal Church Women (ECW) in 2015. All women of Grace Church are ECW members! \*Hear about upcoming events. \*Bring your ideas and suggestions. \*Come for fun and fellowship. "No Pressure Pot Luck!" Thursday, Feb 19<sup>th</sup>, 6:30–8:30 pm in the Reception Room. Questions? Contact Elana Foundos [here](#).

**CONFIRMATION CLASSES FOR YOUTH AND ADULTS** will begin in mid-April in preparation for the bishop's visit on Sunday May 31<sup>st</sup>. Classes are led by the clergy and will meet weekly. To sign up for youth classes (7<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup> grade) [e-mail Melissa Spindler](#). To sign up for adult classes, [e-mail the Rev. Stephen Holton](#).

**THE VESTRY is pleased to announce the following slate of persons to be voted on at our Annual Meeting.**

For a second two-year term as a Churchwarden:



**BRETT PERTUZ.**

Prior to his current position at Altpoint, Mr. Pertuz was a Managing Director of Bruckmann, Rosser, Sherrill & Co., a New York based private equity firm with approximately \$1.2 billion under management. From 2000 to 2009, Mr. Pertuz was actively involved in the investment in and management of several portfolio companies

including: MWI Veterinary Supply, a distributor of animal health products; Marshall Retail Group, a specialty retailer serving the gaming industry; and Heritage Crystal-Clean, an environmental services business; along with other transactions in the retail, consumer service, and healthcare industries. Previously, Mr. Pertuz worked in the Boston office of Bain & Company, a global strategy consulting firm. He currently is on the Board of Directors of AHN, Ford Models and Sanchez Resources. Mr. Pertuz

graduated from the University of Virginia with a Bachelor of Science in Commerce with Distinction and received an MBA from the Harvard Business School.

For a second three-year term as a Vestry member:



**ERIK SORENSEN.**

Erik Sorensen has been a member of Grace Church for 10 years. He was the Coordinator of the Power of Grace Capital Campaign, and serves on the Music Committee. He has also served on the Vestry since 2012 when he was appointed to fill an unexpired term that came vacant. He is married to Melinda Weir, and they have three children: Mahlon, Katherine, and Anna, all of whom have been active as choristers and acolytes of Grace Church. Erik is an attorney and has worked as a political consultant.

For a first three-year term as Vestry member:



**HARPER ANDERSON.**

Harper has been a parishioner of Grace Church since 2003. He met his wife, Teresa Conway, at Grace, and is step-father to Teresa's children, Claire and Bennett. Harper is Associate General Counsel of LISC (Local Initiatives Support Corporation), a national community development organization established by the Ford Foundation. He is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Virginia, and of the University of Virginia School of Law.



**ANNE RIESELBACH.**

Anne, husband Grant Marani and their children Julia and Matthew Marani have attended Grace Church regularly since September 2001, the year Julia joined the choir. Both children were choristers and attended Grace Church School. Anne has served on the Spire Campaign



Committee, as Tour Guide and Open Door volunteer, Sunday School teacher, Bicentennial Committee member, on the more

recent restoration committee, and the Archives Committee. She now serves on the Fabric & Grounds committee, co-chairs the Adult Education Committee, and regularly serves as a reader and chalice bearer. She has been serving on the benefit committee for the GO Project for the past decade. Anne is the Program Director at The Architectural League of New York, a non-profit cultural organization founded in 1881. She is a graduate of Lawrence University with a B.A. in Art History, has conducted graduate studies in Architectural History at Cornell University and is now studying at the General Theological Seminary towards an MA in Anglican Studies, with a focus on architectural/spatial form and liturgy.

and



### **JASON SLIBECK.**

Jason enjoys participating in the church community and serving God in many different aspects of Grace Church. These include annual events like building the stable for the Christmas play, seasonal activities like participating as a Newcomer Ambassador or Outreach builds on Staten Island, monthly activities like volunteering as a lector and usher during the 11am worship or as a host to visitors through the Open Door ministry. They also include weekly activities like mentoring homeless veterans in Grace's partnership with Interfaith Assembly on Homelessness & Housing, or being a supportive chorister parent for the past eight years. Grace Church has provided him with countless blessings and opportunities to put faith into action. Since 1995, Jason and Sara Queen have lived and raised their two children, Bennett and Emma, in Stuyvesant Town but still make frequent pilgrimages to eastern Kentucky where his extended family, reluctantly, has accepted that their original hope for a 2-year limit on the "living in NYC" experiment was not to be. Professionally, Jason is an entrepreneur who has been involved with a number of start-up companies and new ventures usually managing operations, technology, and multi-disciplinary teams. When not participating in the life and culture of the East Village, he is avidly backpacking toward completion of the 2,200 mile Appalachian Trail.



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

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