

# The Epistle *E-news*

## GRACE CHURCH

### in New York City



#### In This Issue

[Pancakes!](#)

[Ash Wednesday Service Times](#)

[Join the Community!](#)

[This Sunday](#)

[Coming Soon](#)

#### Quick Links

[GIVE to Grace](#)

[Visit our Website](#)

[More About Us](#)

[Did You Miss a Sermon?](#)

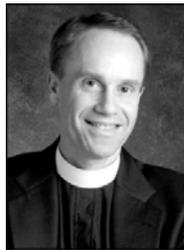
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## February 15, 2015

The Last Sunday after the Epiphany



Dear Friends,

Earlier this week it was my pleasure to speak to the middle school students of Grace Church School at their chapel service in the church.

One of the big stories making headlines at the time was the sudden downfall of the NBC news anchor, Brian Williams. Thus, I reflected with the students about the importance of truth telling, and how easy it is to get caught up in telling stories about ourselves that are false.

In the case of Williams, his claim was that while covering the war in Iraq, the military helicopter he was on took enemy fire. In fact, it was the helicopter well ahead of him that was hit, not his. I have no doubt that being in a helicopter even near enemy fire would be a harrowing experience, and upon landing it might be easy to imagine that since a nearby craft was hit, perhaps mine was too. The problem is, once you tell the story, it becomes easy to tell it again and again until it grows. It's no wonder why they say that truth is the first casualty of war. Now Williams is suspended for six months, and whether or not he can recover his reputation and career is an open question.

Lent will soon be upon us, beginning next Wednesday, February 18. Lent is a time in the



church that confronts us with the truth about ourselves. We begin with ashes and the stark reminder of our mortality. We dispense with the embellishments of our accomplishments, and the excuses for our sins and try to grapple with the notion that we are utterly dependent on the grace of God for our existence. Read below for some of the ways we'll be keeping Lent at Grace Church this year. I encourage you to give it your all. But first, PANCAKES!

See you in church.

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

**Don't miss *Shrove Sunday Brunch* after the 11 am service!**

### **This Sunday**

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

Sermon: Ms. Hershey Mallette

Music: The Parish Choir

#### **11 a.m. Morning Prayer**

Sermon: Ms. Hershey Mallette

Music: The Adult Choir



#### **February 18th**

#### **Service Times:**

**8 am**, in the Chantry

**12:10 pm** and **6 pm**,

in the Church.

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

Sermon: Ms. Hershey Mallette

Music: Hymns with Instrumentalists

All services include homily by the Rector, Eucharist, and the imposition of ashes.

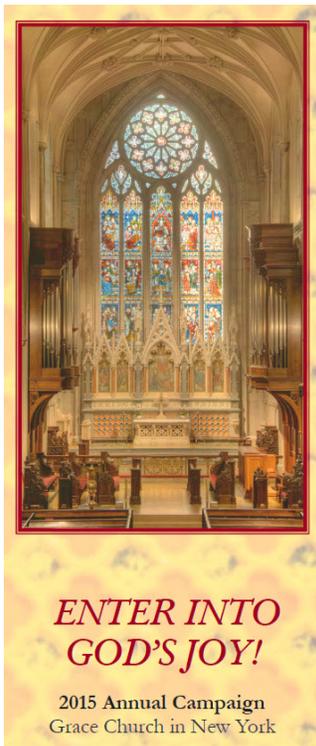
**THE SUNDAY FORUM 10 AM** is on recess today due to the holiday weekend.

**Join the Community...**

**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

by making your  
2015 pledge [now!](#)

appreciated! To find out how you can help,  
[email Melissa today.](#)



If you have any questions about your pledge, please contact Rhianna Murphy, Director of Finance, at 212-254-2000 x 116 (or [click here](#)).

### *Coming Soon*

#### **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. The 6 p.m. service includes music by the Adult Choir.

#### **FEB 18 – PRAYING AS A PARISH FOR LENT –**

Thinking about a Lenten spiritual discipline? Want to engage in a practice of daily prayer but not sure where to start? Consider taking two minutes out of every day to pray using a brief devotional guide written by Grace Church parishioners for one another. This devotional guide is delivered via email each day during Lent and contains an optional series of daily readings, a scripture verse for the day, and a brief reflection. These daily devotions begin on Ash Wednesday, Feb 18, so sign up today by clicking <http://goo.gl/OFsVVq>. Questions? [Email Stephen Holton](#).

**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](#).

**FEB 22, MAR 1, 8, 15, 22 – THE SUNDAY FORUM** continues throughout the season of Lent, beginning on Feb 22<sup>nd</sup> with Professor Diana Benet, PhD, leading a 2–part discussion of **lesser known *Seventeenth–Century Poems and Psalms***, and how they reveal to us an age and culture that was centered on religion to a degree unimaginable to us now. Later speakers include the Rev. Stephen Holton, on ***Atonement and Salvation***, and others. Details will be announced. *Held in the Reception Room at 10 am; pick up some refreshment at coffee hour and join the discussion.*

**FEB 22 – JOURNEY THROUGH LENT TO HOLY WEEK – SUNDAY EVENINGS @7PM.** Interested in learning more about how we pray and what we do as a community during Holy Week? Interested in a deeper look at Christian teaching as expressed in the rites of the Church? Join a Lenten study series on Sunday evenings after the six o'clock service (7pm) in the Honor Room. *Feb 22: Scripture & Palm Sunday; March 1: Prayer, Hymnody & Tenebrae; March 8: Eucharist & Maundy Thursday; March 15: Reconciliation & Good Friday; March 22: Baptism & the Easter Vigil.*

**FEB 22, MAR 7 & 8 – HOME COOKED MEAL FOR NYC RESCUE MISSION** We will once again prepare and serve a home cooked meal to hundreds of guests at the NYC Rescue Mission on Sunday, Mar 8. On **Sunday, Feb 22**, join Parishioner Lillie Chance at coffee hour after the 11 am service where she will demonstrate a super–easy and delicious pot roast

recipe for those who would like to cook at home. On **Sat, March 7** Lillie will lead a group cooking effort in the kitchen (off Tuttle Hall) at 8 am – followed by attending the Lenten Quiet Day at 9 am. How can you help? By preparing your own pot roasts, assisting with the cooking at Grace on Saturday, donating funds to purchase ingredients, baking cupcakes at home, and/or volunteering to serve on **Sunday, March 8** at the Mission. Come and join in this fun and rewarding service opportunity. Look for the sign up table at coffee hour or [e-mail Lillie here](#).

**FEB 27 – 20s30s LENTEN SUSHI FRIDAYS** – Enjoy a meal, prayer and fellowship during Lent with others in their 20s and 30s from churches around the city. 6:30 pm on Friday Feb 27 at St. Ignatius of Antioch, and Fri March 27 at Grace Church. \$10 per person for dinner and BYOB. *RSVP by 5 pm each THURSDAY prior, to the Young Adult Network at [ednyyanetwork@gmail.com](mailto:ednyyanetwork@gmail.com). For more info visit [www.youngadults.diocesenyc.org](http://www.youngadults.diocesenyc.org).*

**MAR 7 – LENTEN QUIET DAY** – The women of ECW invite everyone (men too) to a Lenten quiet day led by our Pastoral Resident, Hershey Mallette. Come for a time of prayer, reflection and meditation on Saturday, March 7 from 10 am – 1pm. We will meet in the Reception Room at 10 am for a light breakfast and conclude our time together with lunch. Homemade soup and beverages will be provided; please bring a sandwich. For more information [contact Hershey](#).

**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](#).

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