

The Epistle *E-news*

GRACE CHURCH

in New York City



In This Issue

[The Bishop](#)

[Parish Picnic](#)

[This Sunday](#)

[Coming Soon](#)

Quick Links

[GIVE to Grace](#)

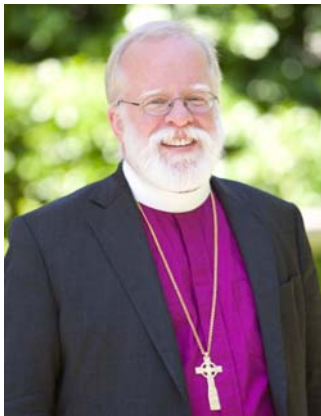
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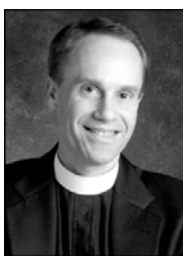
The Rt. Rev. Andrew Dietsche Joins Us



Sunday @11 am

May 31, 2015

Trinity Sunday



Dear Friends,

Many years ago I worked as a counselor on the psychiatric ward of a hospital. One of the patients whom I will always remember was named Omer, an elderly gentleman who struggled with periodic bouts of depression. During a slow evening shift, on a whim I once asked him, "Omer, who's the most famous person you ever met?" Without answering the question he extended his hand to me and said, "Shake my hand." Instinctively I reached my hand toward his. When I did he gripped firmly, looked me in the eyes and said, "You are shaking the hand of someone who shook Babe Ruth's hand." Omer invited me to be part of an historic, orderly succession - a living link that the great Babe Ruth passed on to Omer, who then passed it on to me.

I often think of Omer as we prepare for confirmation. This Sunday at the 11 am service Bishop Dietsche will be with us to preach, celebrate the Eucharist, and invite a large class of teenagers and adults to share in a great and sacred mystery. Confirmation is one of the church's sacraments, which are defined as "outward and visible signs of inward and spiritual grace, given by Christ as sure and certain means by which we receive that grace." Thus, when the candidates kneel before the Bishop, the inward and spiritual grace that they will receive is nothing short of a living link with Jesus. They will receive the Holy Spirit, the third Person of the Trinity, who will be available always for strength and comfort in the Christian journey ahead.

The outward and visible sign of the sacrament is the Bishop himself, who will lay his hands on each candidate's head

All are Welcome!



June 7th

(details below...)

Backpack Drive to Support the Go Project Kids!



Brought to you by the GO Project's Young Leadership Council, the Backpack Drive raises funds to provide a new backpack filled with school supplies for each student.

The GO Project's students are under-resourced and academically-struggling public school students, primarily from the Lower East Side and Chinatown. The

and pray for the gift of the Holy Spirit. The Bishop stands within something we call "the Historic Episcopate." Jesus chose the Apostles to carry on his work by the power of the Spirit. The Apostles then chose their successors, who chose their successors, all the way to the present day. The Historic Episcopate is the visible sign of the orderly succession of the Apostles' teaching.

When Omer shook my hand and conveyed his living link to Babe Ruth, I am sorry to report that it did nothing for my ability to hit more home runs as an amateur baseball player. The spirit of Babe Ruth was not in my swing. On the contrary, when I have truly called upon the Spirit of God for strength the follow the way of Jesus, and not my own way, I am pleased to report that I've never been disappointed. The Spirit of God has been there as a very present help.

I hope you will be here on Sunday to support this year's class of confirmation candidates. See you in church.

[The Reverend J. Donald Waring](#)

Rector

This Sunday

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sermon: The Rev. Stephen C. Holton

Music: The Parish Choir

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sermon: The Rt. Rev. Andrew Dietsche,

Bishop of New York

Music: The Choir of Men and Boys

6 p.m. Holy Eucharist, in the Chantry

Sermon: The Rev. Stephen C. Holton

Music: Hymns with Instrumentalists

THE RIGHT REVEREND ANDREW DIETSCHKE, Bishop of New York, is with us at the 11 am service to preach, confirm, and celebrate the Eucharist. If you wish to offer a gift in thanksgiving for the Bishop's visit, you may use "The Bishops' Discretionary Funds" envelopes found in your service bulletins. The envelope may be

backpacks and supplies will last them through the entire school year. Will you help?

We request donations by June 1 so that we may order school supplies by mid-June. Thank you! [Click here today!](#)

placed in the collection plate, or handed to an usher. After the 11 am service, please join us in Tuttle Hall as we welcome Bishop Dietsche and his wife Margaret at a festive reception.

PLEASE SUPPORT THE CHOIRS' ANNUAL JUNE RAFFLE to benefit the Choir Special Projects Fund! You can purchase a raffle ticket today at coffee hour after the 11 am service, or from any choir family or chorister. **The raffle includes many amazing items such as fine wines, iPads and also child friendly items!** This fund supports activities and opportunities for the choirs that are not covered by the annual budget including such projects as the upcoming tour this summer to France. Tickets are \$5 and \$10. Winners will be selected on June 7th at the parish picnic. Thank you for all your prayers and support.

Coming Soon

JUNE 2 – OPEN DOOR MINISTRY CELEBRATION & RECEPTION! Like spending time in the beautiful Grace Church sanctuary? Open to helping us provide basic information and a welcome to over 14,000 weekend visitors annually? Come join Open Door volunteers to learn more about our Ministry and have fun! June 2, at 7 pm in the Reception Room. Please contact Singleton Cox [HERE](#) for more info and to try Open Door.

JUNE 7 – THE ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC AND CHOIR RECOGNITION SUNDAY – All Grace Church parishioners and friends are welcome and encouraged to come to Huntington Close following the 11am service! Join us in celebration of the choir ministries of Grace Church and to help bring our program year to a joyous and festive close. Suggested donation at the door is \$10 per person. There are many ways to support this event so please contact [Melissa](#) to find out how you can help.



**JUNE 29-JULY 1 - VACATION
BIBLE SCHOOL: JOSEPH'S
DREAMS & MULTICOLORED
COAT!**

–Through three days of Bible stories, games, lots of music and awesome activities the children will learn to turn to God as they join Jacob's sons through sibling rivalry, dream-interpretation, and surviving a famine by sticking together! All children aged 4-12 are welcome. Class will meet from 9:30 am-1:30 pm. Suggested donation of \$30/child for all three days. *Please contact [Miss Melissa](#) by Sunday, June 14 to sign up.*



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