

# The Epistle *E-news*

## GRACE CHURCH

### in New York City



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**HOW WE GOT  
HERE...**



**The Sunday Forum  
@10 am on Apr 24**

*(Details at right, below)*

**Thank You,  
Elana!**

## April 24, 2016

The Fifth Sunday of Easter



Dear Friends,

When I graduated from seminary and began serving as the curate in my first parish, a wise, old, semi-retired priest who was on the staff noted that I had a new car. His advice to me was that as a priest of the church I should never tarnish the bumper of my car with partisan political stickers. "You will never change anyone's mind on that front, and only alienate parishioners who happen to disagree with you," is essentially what he said. At the time my new bumper was entirely clear of stickers, and I had no plans to festoon it with a single one. Nevertheless, I've always tried to abide by the spirit of the old priest's advice. People of faith can be found on all points of the political spectrum, and we already have enough people - too many, in fact - who suspect that God's politics and their own are one and the same.

Regardless of your political leanings, my guess is you would agree that the 2016 presidential campaign thus far has not been an altogether pleasant experience. As a nation we seem to be in a time of widening polarization. People are angry, disillusioned, and disappointed. Voices on the left and right fringes of the political spectrum have sustained a hearing that would be unthinkable in previous election cycles. Perhaps I am looking at history through rose colored glasses. Perhaps not. The November election will be the tenth time I have voted for a president, and this time feels different from all the rest.



All are invited to join the celebration, this Sunday!

*(Details at right, below.)*

**Please pray for...**



***those who suffer***

- Raul Trevino
- Fred and Linda Mann
- Anne Mason
- Jack McDaniel
- Julia Harvey
- June Mann Averyt
- William Susman
- Bill Nave
- Greg Gillies
- Josephine Ferraiuolo
- Howard Small
- Trish Lawrence
- Paul Tillotson

***and those who have died.***

**April 23 & May 21**

What accounts for the current state of our political process? We are blessed to have as members of Grace Church two people who can provide a helpful perspective: **John Avlon and Margaret Hoover**. John is the Editor-in-Chief of The Daily Beast and a CNN political analyst. Margaret, his wife, is a political strategist, media commentator, advocate for gay rights, and great-granddaughter of former U.S. President Herbert Hoover. Margaret and John will speak at the Sunday Forum this week. Join us at 10 am in the Reception Room for coffee and conversation.

See you in church.

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

**This Sunday**

**THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**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. Stephen C. Holton  
Music: Hymns with Instrumentalists

**HOW WE GOT HERE: ANGER AND OPPORTUNITY IN THE 2016 CAMPAIGN – THE SUNDAY FORUM @10AM.**

Grace Church parishioners and political commentators Margaret Hoover and John Avlon will lead a spirited discussion on the bruising 2016 presidential campaign. Held in the Reception Room; coffee is served.



Join us for a  
build day!  
Details under  
"Coming Soon."

(Click image)

**PLEASE JOIN THE ECW AT COFFEE HOUR** after the 11 am service for cake and kind words in honor of Elana Foundos and her five devoted years of service as President of the Episcopal Church Women (ECW) of Grace Church!

**NEWCOMERS' CLASS @12:45** – 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. You may join at any time. A light lunch will be served. Sundays, April 10, 17, 24, from 12:45 – 1:45 pm in the Reception Room.

### **CANTERURY DOWNTOWN – MUSICAL SHOWCASE**

Join us tonight after the 6 pm service to hear the voices of Canterbury Downtown's own choral scholars as their talents are showcased in Tuttle Hall. Along with our usual dinner, we will enjoy a selection of individual and group performances! Visit [www.canterburynyc.org](http://www.canterburynyc.org) for more information. [RSVP HERE](#).

### *Coming Soon*

**APR 29 – THE ANNUAL SPRING CHOIR CONCERT** with the Combined Choirs of Grace Church – Men and Boys, Girls, Adult and Parish Choirs – takes place on Friday, April 29th at 7 pm. Music by E.C. Bairstow, Beethoven, Malcolm Boyle, Ireland, Stainer Louis Vierne and others. Please join us following the concert for a special reception to celebrate our choirs and raise money for the choir special projects fund. Tickets may be purchased online [HERE](#) or at the door. The suggested donation is \$25 per adult, \$10 per child, but all donations are gratefully accepted.

**APR 30 – 20's and 30's-ish FIELD DAY** – Join young adult Episcopalians from around the city in Central Park for a picnic (bring your own lunch), outdoor

Eucharist, and some good old fashioned field games.  
Saturday, April 30, 11:30 am to 3 pm at Norman's  
Landscape. [RSVP to the Rev. Chase Danford](#).

**MAY 1 – RECONCILIATION: PAKISTANI CHRISTIANS' RADICAL RESPONSE TO PERSECUTION – THE SUNDAY FORUM @10AM.** *The Rev. Canon Titus Presler, Th.D., D.D. Principal-in-exile, Edwardes College, Peshawar, Pakistan, and Former Academic Dean, General Seminary.* The Easter Sunday 2016 suicide bomb blast by the Taliban in Lahore, Pakistan, that killed over 75 people was aimed at Christians celebrating in a park after their Easter services. Two weeks before the bombing the Church of Pakistan had organized a conference in Lahore on Christian-Muslim reconciliation, and after the bombing Moderator Bishop Sammy Azariah of the Church of Pakistan said, "We have been energized to move forward in our journey of reconciliation." Titus Presler, who has spoken at Grace before about Pakistan church issues, will explore the missional imperative of reconciliation in today's world and how a persecuted church struggles to fulfill it. He will also relate the theme to the recent Zambia meeting of the Anglican Consultative Council.

**MAY 1 – YOUTH GROUP** – Fr. Chase invites teens in grades 7-12 for snacks and conversation on Sunday, May 1 from 4:30-5:45 pm in the Third Floor Conference Room. We'll also discuss plans for giving back to the community this summer.

**MAY 8 – EPISCOPAL CHARITIES SUNDAY** – This Mother's Day, celebrate Episcopal Charities Sunday, and help reduce the impact of hunger on your neighbors in the Episcopal Diocese of New York. Hundreds of thousands of people will directly benefit, many of them children and the elderly. On Sunday, May 8, you'll find an envelope inside your service bulletin, which we hope you will consider using to make a

donation to this worthy cause. For more information, click [HERE](#).

**MAY 8 – NICHOLAS FERRAR AND THE CAROLINE DIVINES – 17th century inspiration for the 21st century– THE SUNDAY FORUM @10AM.** *Led by the Rt. Rev. Andrew St. John, Episcopal bishop and retired rector of the Church of the Transfiguration in New York City.* English scholar and Anglican deacon, Nicholas Ferrar, was an important member of the Caroline Divines, the influential theologians and writers in the 17<sup>th</sup> c Anglican Church. His community at the tiny English village of Little Gidding, with its rule of life and daily round of prayer, served as an inspiration to many, including Charles I and T. S. Eliot, and an important model for the 19th c flowering of religious life in the Tractarian Anglo-Catholic movement. Come and hear what this 17th c community might have to say to us today.

**MAY 8 – THE RT. REV. ANDREW ST. JOHN**, former Assistant Bishop of Melbourne, Australia and recently retired Rector of the Church of the Transfiguration in New York City will be our guest preacher at the 11 am service. Bishop St. John will also lead the Sunday Forum. See above.

**MAY 13, 14 – THE CHORAL SOCIETY & ORCHESTRA SPRING CONCERTS** at Grace Church – Friday, May 13 at 8 pm and Saturday, May 14 at 3 pm. Felix Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, one of the greatest oratorios of all time! Tickets on sale at [www.thechoralsociety.org](http://www.thechoralsociety.org).

**MAY 15 – WALKING THE WAY: CHARLES GORE, LIBERAL ANGLO-CATHOLICISM, AND SOCIAL JUSTICE – THE SUNDAY FORUM @10AM.** *Led by the Rev. John Wirenius, lawyer, constitutional scholar, Deacon, novelist.* One of the founders of the Second Oxford Movement, Bishop Charles Gore was a passionate defender of free scientific inquiry, individual

conscience, and social justice. These views often brought him into conflict with the ecclesiastical authorities of his age but stemmed from his belief that doctrine was secondary to a commitment to a Christian life--what he called walking "the Way," as the Early Church called the Jesus Movement. We explore how Gore's belief in a very traditional Christian life and liturgy led to a lifetime of commitment to social justice.

**MAY 21 – COME AND BUILD WITH US!** Grace Church is overjoyed to be partnering with Habitat for Humanity to rehabilitate a condemned house in Laurelton, Queens for a family in need. Our next build dates are April 23 and May 21. To register and sign up, click [HERE](#). Questions? Contact the Rev. Stephen Holton [HERE](#).

*To find service information,  
you may visit [www.gracechurchnyc.org](http://www.gracechurchnyc.org), updated weekly.*

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