

The Epistle *E-news*

GRACE CHURCH

in New York City



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RECONCILIATION

The Sunday Forum
with the Rev. Canon
Titus Presler

@10 am on May 1

(Details at right, below)

Please pray for...

May 1, 2016

The Sixth Sunday of Easter



Dear Friends,

This time of year between Easter and the end of school always seems to be especially filled with parties, performances, and opportunities to be out in the evening. At the risk of suggesting you crowd even more onto your calendar, I want to highlight two

events that you can read more about, below.

The first is tonight. The Annual Spring Choir Concert begins in the church at 7 pm, and I urge you to come out and support our singers. Last night I was leaving a reception in Tuttle Hall, and on my way back to the rectory I stopped into the church to listen in on the final rehearsal before the concert. It was magnificent - and grueling! Dr. Allen was really putting them through their paces, and I could tell that the choristers were digging deep within themselves to respond. (I also know that many of them still had hours of homework to do once they returned home.) The point is, these young musicians are making a great sacrifice to sing the praises of God, and I hope that you will honor their hard work tonight by enjoying the concert and reception to follow.

The second event is on Sunday. Our guest speaker at the Sunday Forum is the Rev. Canon Titus Presler, who will share his perspective on the persecuted church in Pakistan. Titus has been with us many times before, and his close associations with Middle Eastern Christians, and harrowing experiences of living in that land always serve to lift us out of our own comfort zone. Titus reminds us



those who suffer

- Janet Charles
- Roger Smith and his mother
- Jerry Stripling
- 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.

- Raul Trevino
- Br. Ronald Haynes

May 21



that for many people the world over, choosing to follow Jesus is hardly a cultural convenience, but rather a decision that puts their life at risk. Come learn more, 10 am Sunday in the Reception Room.

See you in church - hopefully tonight!

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

**TONIGHT! Friday, April 29th at 7 pm
THE ANNUAL SPRING CHOIR CONCERT**



with the Combined Choirs of Grace Church
(Details [here.](#))

This Sunday

THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sermon: The Rev. Stephen C. Holton

Music: The Parish Choir

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sermon: The Rev. Stephen C. Holton

Music: The Choir of Men and Boys

Next build day!
Details under
"Coming Soon."

(Or click image to sign up)

6 p.m. Holy Eucharist, in the Chantry
Sermon: The Rev. Mary Cat Young
Music: Hymns with Instrumentalists

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. Held in the Reception Room; coffee is served.



NEW ALTAR CANDLESTICKS – Today at the 11 am service we will dedicate a magnificent pair of matching candlesticks that will grace either side of the high altar for generations to come. This pair replaces the iron candlesticks that were on long-term loan to us from the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The new candlesticks are actually antiques, and are a gift to Grace Church by Jack Browning in honor of his mother, Armande C. Browning.

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.

Coming Soon

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 17th 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.

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](#).

MAY 22 – TODAY WE WELCOME THE RT. REV. MARY D. GLASSPOOL, the newly arrived Assistant Bishop in the Diocese of New York. Bishop Glasspool will preside over Confirmations, preach the sermon, and celebrate the Eucharist at the 11 am service. A festive reception will follow in Tuttle Hall.

MAY 29 – FAREWELL TO THE REV. GRETCHEN RATTEREE, our Pastoral Resident for the past year. Join us at coffee hour after the 11 am service to wish her well.

JUNE 5 – FAREWELL TO THE REV. STEPHEN HOLTON Join us for a festive coffee hour after the 11 am service to say farewell to the Rev. Stephen Holton, Associate Rector since 2012.

*To find service information,
you may visit www.gracechurchnyc.org, updated weekly.*

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