

The Epistle *E-news*

GRACE CHURCH

in New York City



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What might we learn from the "Caroline Divines?" What *is* a "Caroline Divine?"

**Come and hear!
the Rt. Rev.
Andrew St. John
The Sunday Forum
@10 am on May 8**

May 8, 2016

Easter VII: The Sunday after Ascension Day



Dear Friends,

No doubt you have all seen news coverage of the devastating fire at the Serbian Orthodox Cathedral of St.

Sava, on W. 25th Street near Madison Square. On Sunday, May 1st it was Easter Day for Orthodox Christians

around the world. St. Sava's was filled in the morning for Easter services. That afternoon, once everyone had left, a smoldering fire that had gone undetected began to grow. Although still under investigation, apparently some improperly stowed candles that had been used in worship are the leading culprit of the blaze. It wasn't until 7 pm that passersby outside noticed the smoke and fire and sounded the alarm. The fire department arrived promptly, but it was already too late to save the building's interior. Just a stone shell now remains.

I only learned about the fire on Monday morning, but two questions immediately rose in my mind, and I imagine they might be your questions as well. The first is, what can we do to help? The good news is that the Diocese of New York and the Serbian Orthodox Church of New York have long enjoyed a happy relationship. In fact, St. Sava's was originally built as an Episcopal Church, and served as such for 90 years until being sold to the Serbian Christians in 1943. At a dinner this week I heard Bishop Dietsche explain how he had been in touch with his Serbian counterpart to assist in helping them find a house of worship for the interim. This Sunday the congregation of St. Sava's will worship with the people of Calvary-St. George's on Park Avenue. It could be that they will make more permanent

(Details at right, below)

Please pray for...



Those who suffer

Pearl Bennett
 Joshua Glenn
 Davida Judelson
 Janet Charles
 Alexa Koike
 Roger Smith and his
 mother
 Jerry Stripling
 Fred and Linda Mann
 Anne Mason
 Jack McDaniel
 Julia Harvey
 Bill Nave
 Greg Gillies
 Josephine Ferraiuolo
 Howard Small
 Trish Lawrence
 Paul Tillotson

and those who have died

June Mann Averyt
 Margaret Sheffield

use of St. George's during the interim, but it is too early to tell. In any case, know that the Diocese of New York - and especially the people of Calvary-St. George's - are reaching out to the Serbian Christians of New York in their time of need. Whether or not St. Sava's can be rebuilt is an open question. Stay tuned for more details on how we all may be of assistance as the way forward becomes clear.

The second question that came to mind is one that I ask in fear and trembling and with great humility. If a similar fire were ever to break out at Grace Church, would we see a better outcome? Of course, no building is completely fireproof, and unexpected catastrophes will occur. But I am assured by our facilities manager, Pete Hogden, that yes, we are indeed better protected. Sadly, no alarms went off inside St. Sava's. At Grace Church we have three types of alarm that will sound in the event of any fire: beam detectors, duct detectors, and smoke detectors. All of these alarms are wired directly to Ladder Companies 3 and 9, so they will not just make a big noise here, but also bring "New York's Bravest" to our doors within four minutes. Believe me, it's happened, and they've been here. The system is state-of-the-art. We installed it, and maintain it with the school at great expense, but it is well worth the price.

Please keep the people of St. Sava's in your prayers. Also, you don't want to miss Bishop Andrew St. John, our forum leader and guest preacher at 11 am.

See you in church.

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

This Sunday

EASTER VII: The Sunday after Ascension Day

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sermon: The Rev. J. Donald Waring

Music: The Parish Choir

11 a.m. Morning Prayer

Sermon: The Rt. Rev. Andrew St. John

Music: The Choir of Men and Boys with
 The Girls' Choir

John Schultz
Paul Reilly
George Lampkin

6 p.m. Holy Eucharist, in the Chantry

Sermon: The Rev. J. Donald Waring

Music: Hymns with Instrumentalists

May 21



Next build day!

**Details under
"Coming Soon."**

(Or click image to sign up)

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY to all mothers in our midst, in our minds, and in our hearts today. We give thanks for the countless ways that God has shined his love upon the world through you.

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 below.

BRAVO! 19 NEW SENIOR CHORISTERS ELEVATED at the 11 am service today. Congratulations to our newest Senior Choristers who have been leading with strength and joy in the Junior Chorister services, rehearsals and concert this year! *BOYS: Bryan Cepeda, Rafael Bruder, James Cave, George Cheung, Oliver El Hadj, Alabama Embry, Reid Farrington, Xander Farrington, Ian Godfrey, Charlie Head, James Spindler. GIRLS: Taber Cannon, Julia Geniesse, Kiera Hackett, Lila Hussein, Eleanor Livings, Natasha Rensky, Esme Towles, Sarah Weber.*

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, 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. Held in the Reception Room; coffee is served.

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, visit [HERE](#).

Coming Soon

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 date is May 21**. To register and sign up, click [HERE](#). Questions? Contact the Rev. Stephen Holton [HERE](#).

MAY 21–22 – NY LANDMARKS CONSERVANCY'S SACRED SITES OPEN HOUSE WEEKEND – Each spring congregations throughout the State participate so neighbors can experience first-hand the wonderful architecture and history embodied in New York's Sacred Sites – while also learning about the religious and social programming provided within. Grace Church will again participate with guided tours provided by our Open Door volunteers on Sat and Sunday, May 21–22. For more information, please visit: www.nylandmarks.org.

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.

JUNE 7 – COME JOIN THE OPEN DOOR VOLUNTEERS for their spring reception! Open Door volunteers are **friendly folks who give 2 hours per month on a weekend afternoon to provide a welcome** and answer basic questions for weekend visitors to Grace Church. They also participate in special events such as "Sacred Sites Open House" listed above! Interested? Come and meet current volunteers and learn more! Or sign up to sit with an experienced volunteer during the month of May and give it a try. Tues, June 7th in the Reception Room 7–9 pm. Dinner will be served. *Please contact Singleton Cox [here](#) for more info or to RSVP for the reception.*

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

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