

The Epistle *E-news*

GRACE CHURCH

in New York City



In This Issue

[Tour & Conversation - RSVP](#)

[Parish Prayers](#)

[This Sunday](#)

[Coming Soon](#)

[Help our GO Project students to succeed!](#)

Quick Links

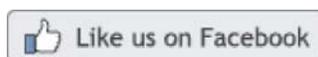
[GIVE to Grace](#)

[Make Your 2016 PLEDGE](#)

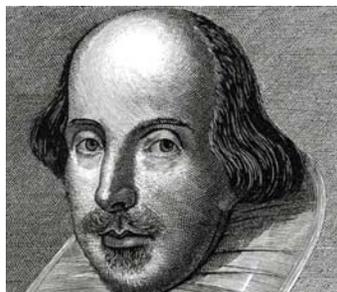
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SUNDAYS @ 10 AM



ENTER the CONVERSATION...

September 25, 2016

The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Dear Friends,

Last Saturday I was riding in a car back into Manhattan with members of our Habitat work crew, and the going was slow through heavy traffic. Rather than grumble I thought to myself it is a wonder that cars and people move at all through

New York City. Think about: you take a relatively small island, fill it with millions of people and cars, then add *more* people and cars, and we expect it all to keep moving. Most of the time it does. I have lived in Manhattan now for the past 12 years, and I continue to marvel at the city's ability to absorb vast numbers of people and keep moving.

Sadly, not all of those people are of goodwill. Some of them are far from it; they are, in fact, of evil intent. It was last Saturday evening at about 8:30 pm when a bomb exploded in Chelsea. Fortunately, no one was killed, and of the dozens who were injured, all were released from the hospital by Monday. Many residents were temporarily displaced (including some of our own parishioners), but today Chelsea seems to be back on its feet. What is more, the police have apprehended the bomber and other suspects. New York City is resilient. It bounces back. It keeps moving.

The bad news here is that the police have learned the bomber has ties to ISIS and sympathies with an extreme Islamic ideology that encourages the killing of non-Muslims. It was a terrorist attack - not like 9-11 - but more in the mode of the recent assaults on Orlando, Paris, and San Bernardino. How many others willing to commit atrocities are walking among us? Is this the new normal?



"Strengthening Our Presence,
Securing Our Future."

Join us **Sept. 29th** or **Oct. 6th** for a conversational tour as we discern the next steps in the **restoration and continued growth of Grace Church**. Read more [here](#).

[RSVP for Sept 29 or Oct 6, click HERE.](#)

Please pray for...



Those who suffer

Tim Morehouse
Katusha Davison
Michael Goldstein
Tobias
Tom Leaman
Josephine Ferraiuolo
Howard Small
Trish Lawrence

It seems to me that we have two challenges before us as individuals and as a community. The first is to stand firm against evil. I give thanks for the quick work of the police and FBI in finding the bomber, and the citizen in New Jersey who alerted them to his presence. Much debate surrounds measures that seem to intrude on privacy, but it was because of surveillance cameras on the street that police already knew the identity of the bomber. Yes, the new normal is to live in the tension between safety and privacy, but people of peace and goodwill cannot afford to allow the workers of iniquity to hide in the shadows.

The second challenge is not to lose our humanity as we stand firm against evil. Terrorists want to pull the civilized world into the quagmire of hate. How easy it is to imagine rendering evil for evil. How easy it is to hate those who want to tear down even as we try to build up people and the community. But allowing ourselves to hate is to become like those whose deeds we deplore. Instead, our hope is to grow into the full stature of Christ. You and I follow Jesus, who teaches us to love our enemies, and pray for those who persecute us.

I can think of no better place to rise to the two challenges before us than the community of faith known as Grace. See you in church.

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

This Sunday

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 Girls' Choir with Adults

6 p.m. Holy Eucharist, in the Church today

Sermon: The Rev. J. Donald Waring
Music: Hymns with Instrumentalists

SHAKESPEARE, MEMORY, AND THE SACRED – THE SUNDAY FORUM @10AM. *During our fall series*

and those who have died.

"Shakespeare and Christianity," leading scholars discuss how Shakespeare's relationship to Christianity is relevant to us now, in 2016, the 400th anniversary of his death. Today join us for a discussion about Shakespeare, memory, and how shifting religious norms during the Elizabethan era might have affected Shakespeare and his actors. And see a few scenes from the film *Remembering Shakespeare* which explores new ways of thinking about memory in our digital age, where learning things by heart is increasingly rare. Led by Cecilia Rubino, The New School. Held in the Reception Room; coffee is served.

NEXT WEEK: Charisma and Shakespearean Tragedy with Raphael Falco, University of Maryland.

NEWCOMERS' CLASSES – 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. Sundays, Sept 25, Oct 2 & Oct 16, from 12:30–1:30 pm in the Reception Room.

YOUTH GROUP TODAY @2:15 PM (NOW WEEKLY!) – Youth in grades 7–12 are invited to take a break from studies and meet for snacks and conversation on faith and life. We'll meet in the 3rd floor Conference Room from 2:15–3:30 pm. (Choristers, please note: we'll now be meeting weekly after high school choir rehearsal. On weeks when middle school choristers rehearse, they are also invited to join after rehearsal.)

NEW SOCIAL HOUR AFTER THE 6 PM SERVICE – Please join clergy and fellow parishioners for conversation and a bite or beverage after the 6 pm service at Milk and Hops (779 Broadway, visible from the chantry door!). This low-key venue works both for those who are only staying for a quick drink and those who want to stay a bit longer.

NEW FOR KIDS: *THE SUNDAY PAPER JUNIOR* – a fun, kid-friendly version of the scripture lessons for the day, with a "note for parents" on the back that offers

great background information. Grab a copy on the table as you enter the church. Copies will also be available in Sunday school.

Coming Soon

SEPT 29, OCT 6 – STRENGTHENING OUR PRESENCE, SECURING OUR FUTURE. Over the past decade, we have worked tirelessly to restore the vast interior of our beautiful space. Now, prayerfully, let us discern what work God is calling us to do. **Join us Sept. 29th or Oct. 6th for a conversational tour** as we discern the next steps in the restoration and continued growth of Grace Church. [RSVP to James Romanik here](#). *For more information about the discernment phase, please click [here](#).*

OCT/NOV/DEC – NEW DATES! SIGN UP FOR HABITAT FOR HUMANITY/GRACE CHURCH BUILD DAYS – As you have no doubt been hearing, we are partnering with Habitat for Humanity to rehabilitate a condemned house in St. Albans, Queens for a family in need. Volunteers have already been hard at work since July and would love to have you join them! *Build dates for fall and winter are available now: Oct 1, 15, Nov 5, 19, Dec 3. For more information, photos and to sign up, please click [HERE](#).*

OCT 1 –20'S and 30's–ish at HABITAT BUILD – On Saturday, Oct 1, join fellow young adults and other parishioners for a build day at The House that Grace Built. Sign-up online [HERE](#) or contact Fr. Chase [HERE](#) or at 212-254-2000 ext 113 for further information.

OCT 13 – ECW MEET AND GREET POTLUCK –ALL WOMEN who attend the 9, 11 and 6:00 services are invited to a "No Pressure" pot luck supper hosted by the Episcopal Church Women (ECW) on Thursday, Oct 13 from 6:30–8:30 pm. Let's meet for fun and fellowship! Please bring a dish, a snack or a beverage if you are able! Contact Teresa Conway

at teresaconway@ymail.com with any questions. See you there!

OCT 16 – REJOICE IN THE LAMB BY BENJAMIN BRITTEN – Choral Evensong will be offered by the Choir of Men and Boys on Sunday, Oct 16 at 4 pm, featuring Britten's moving REJOICE IN THE LAMB. More info on special musical events [HERE](#).

NOV 5, 6 – SAVE THESE DATES FOR THE GRACE CHRISTMAS FAIR! Saturday, Nov 5, from 5–7 pm (Festive Opening Reception) and Sunday, Nov 6 from 10 am – 4 pm. Details coming soon.

NOV 6 – BAPTISMS – The next date for baptism is November 6 (All Saints Sunday). Please be in touch with the Rev. Chase Danford as soon as possible if you are interested in baptism for your child or yourself.

NOV 2 – GO PROJECT FALL COCKTAIL PARTY HOSTED BY THE YOUNG LEADERSHIP COUNCIL! For the fourth year in a row, GO Project's Young Leadership Council is hosting a Fall Cocktail Party to raise funds to directly support year-round programming for struggling NYC public school students. This year's event will take place at the Bowery Hotel and will draw over 300 NYC-based young professionals. The event is 7–10 pm and features food, open bar, music, a silent auction, and raffle featuring unique prizes and experiences.

Read about the relationship between Grace Church and the Go Project [HERE](#).

Click on the image below to buy your tickets!



AND ANOTHER WAY TO HELP...

JOIN THE GO PROJECT VOLUNTEER TEAM AND HELP STRUGGLING STUDENTS SUCCEED! On most Saturday mornings, from October to April, volunteer tutors work under the supervision of professional teachers providing individualized attention which allows struggling students to thrive. Want to help? Please visit [HERE](#) for more information on volunteering, or [contact Olivia Nunez](#), Senior Director of Community Engagement, with any questions.

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

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www.gracechurchnyc.org

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