

The Epistle *E-news*

GRACE CHURCH

in New York City



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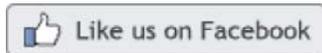
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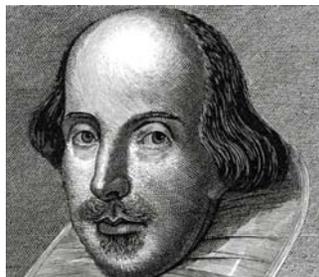
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**THIS SUNDAY
DON'T MISS!**



October 23, 2016

The Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost



Dear Friends,

The Psalm that we will recite this Sunday opens with the following verse: *How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts! My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living*

God.

This fall it seems to me that I have been making frequent use of this space to write about the various challenges presented by our buildings and grounds - the dwelling of the Lord of hosts we call Grace Church. A tree tips over. A stone crumbles. Scaffolding goes up. A roof springs a leak. These courts of the Lord are indeed dear to us because they help us rejoice in the living God. At the same time, it is a never-ending task to keep them in good repair.

At our Vestry meeting last month we voted to embark on a feasibility study to assess our parish willingness and ability to take on the next phase of interior restoration in 2017. Beginning next month every member of the parish will have an opportunity to provide feedback. In advance of the feasibility study we've published a brochure that you should have received in the mail, and can read again by clicking [here](#). We've also held gatherings and conducted tours to explain the project and entertain questions. Now this Sunday we will offer another tour that I hope you'll take advantage of if you haven't yet been on one. Immediately following the organ postlude

**Shakespeare &
Christianity @10
am.**



**Tour &
conversation with
the Rector after
the 11 am
service.**

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY



During the services on **Sunday, Nov 6th** we'll light candles and remember all those connected with Grace Church who have died but still remain on the hearts and minds of their loved ones. *To include a name on this year's list, please [send the name to Jennifer Metz](#) by Tuesday, Nov 1st.*

after the 11 am service, anyone who wishes to take the tour should gather in the front pews. It will take approximately 30 minutes.

As we anticipate another round of restoration on our own house, I rejoice that the people of Grace Church have an outward as well as an inward focus. If you've been paying attention, you've also heard a lot about "The House that Grace Built." The house is in the St. Alban's neighborhood in Queens, and in partnership with Habitat for Humanity, we have raised funds and volunteers for a gut renovation of an abandoned house. Last Saturday I was there on a workday, and I was struck by what an enormous job this house presents. We spent the day ripping up floors, preparing joists, and bracing the ceiling. Much of the house will need to go before we add anything new. The work is deeply satisfying because you can see progress - even if the "progress" so far has been largely demolition. It's also satisfying to know that within the space of a year, the house will be transformed and be the home of a family. You can read more about "The House that Grace Built" by clicking [here](#). Upcoming build days are November 5 and 19. Do consider joining in the work of God's kingdom: to raise up that which was cast down, and to make all things new.

See you in church.

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

**This Sunday
October 23rd**

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

Sermon: The Rev. Chase Danford

HURRICANE MATTHEW RESPONSE

Those wishing to provide relief to people affected by Hurricane Matthew might consider a donation to [Episcopal Relief and Development](#).

Please pray for...



Those who suffer

Donna Lee
Richard Johnson & family
Judy Abernathy
Bea Washington
The Fahy family
Josephine Ferraiuolo
Howard Small
Trish Lawrence

and those who have died.

Music: Hymns with Instrumentalists

KING LEAR AND CORIOLANUS: THE SHADOW OF THE CROSS – THE SUNDAY FORUM @10AM. We will examine some of Shakespeare's ironic intimations of the absence – impossibility – of Christian faith in the world of *Coriolanus*, the last of his plays set in pre-Christian, pagan Rome. How does this element of dramatic irony inform Shakespeare's handling of the intense political controversy at the heart of the play? With Roy Tsao, Brooklyn College. Held in the Reception Room; coffee is served. *During our fall series "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.*

STRENGTHENING OUR PRESENCE, SECURING OUR FUTURE (TOUR TODAY!) – Anyone who wishes to learn more about the next phase of restoring the interior of Grace Church is invited to **join a tour with the Rector immediately following the 11 am service** today. Meet in the front pews of the nave and we will begin when the organ postlude concludes.

2017 ANNUAL PLEDGE CAMPAIGN – Today we ask all Grace Church members and friends to begin thinking and praying about a [financial pledge](#) to the work of the Lord through Grace Church for the year 2017. God has blessed us with a vibrant parish family, stunning architecture, glorious music, a tradition of reaching out to the least and the last in society, and most of all, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. In thanksgiving for all the blessings of this life, and to empower the ministries of the church, **each October we urge everyone to commit to a financial gift for the coming year.** Watch your mail this week for pledge information, including a pledge card. Next week is Pledge Sunday, when we receive the

commitments of those who are ready to pledge, and distribute cards to those who have not received them by mail.

Coming Soon

OCT 24– YOUTH ACOLYTE TRAINING (After school!) – Have you ever wanted to carry a cross or torch in the Sunday procession or help at the altar? Acolyte service is a wonderful way to experience church! Acolytes have an important role in the worship service – lending support to clergy and other volunteers, and adding to the sacred beauty and pageantry of the procession. If you are a young person in 3rd grade or higher who would like to learn more, come to an after-school rehearsal on Monday, October 24 at 3:30 pm. We'll meet in the Parish House Reception Room and then proceed to the church together.

OCT 25 – OPEN DOOR MINISTRY FALL RECEPTION (Inquirers welcome!) Open Door is a team of friendly volunteers who provide a welcoming presence to weekend visitors, answering questions about our beautiful building and church community. Please join us on Tuesday, Oct 25th, 7–8:30 pm in the Reception Room. We'll enjoy fellowship and be happy to welcome anyone who wants to learn more about volunteering. If you would like to sit with a current volunteer to try Open Door, please [E-mail Singleton Cox HERE](#) with your *RSVP*, or just to find out more.

OCT 26 – NEW 20'S AND 30'S–ISH 'SMALL GROUP' – Young adults are invited to a new opportunity for spiritual formation and fellowship in a small group setting. Activities during this time will include reflection on the Sunday scripture readings, short presentations by the clergy, and engagement in various other spiritual practices, such as Christian

meditation, lectio divina, and Compline. Our first meeting will be on Wednesday, Oct. 26, 7:15–8:30 pm, following the 6 pm Eucharist. (The next is Wednesday, Nov. 30.) Held in the Reception Room; light refreshments will be provided. Questions? E-mail the Rev. Chase Danford [HERE](#).

OCT 30 – HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL Sunday Oct 30th in Tuttle Hall from 2:30–4 pm. All children and families are invited for an afternoon of spooky fun and games, featuring mask-making, craft projects, and cupcake decorating. Lend a hand by helping at one of the tables, making a donation, or contributing non-candy snacks. Drop off packaged snacks to the parish office now through Friday, October 28; baked goods can be brought to Tuttle Kitchen on Sunday morning, Oct. 30 or right before the party. Middle and high school students are especially encouraged to volunteer. *Please contact The Rev. Chase Danford [HERE](#) with questions.*

NOV 3 – PULLING OUT THE STOPS (FALL NEWCOMER EVENT!) – Save-the-Date for our first Newcomer Event of the fall! Anyone new to Grace Church may join us on Thursday, Nov 3rd at 6:30 pm for light refreshments and a demonstration of the five thousand pipe Bicentennial Organ led by The Rev. J. Donald Waring and Dr. Patrick Allen. *RSVP to James Romanik [HERE](#).*

NOV 5/NOV 19/DEC 3 – 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: Nov 5, 19, Dec 3. For more information, photos and to sign up, please click [HERE](#).*

NOV 5, 6 –GRACE CHRISTMAS FAIR Bring your Christmas gift lists as we have fabulous artists and craftspeople selling their wares on both days. On Saturday night is the Festive Opening Reception in Tuttle Hall with Bob Martini and Mary Connally hosting the refreshments table! On Sunday, homemade baked goods will be available for sale in addition to all the hand-crafted goods from our vendors. Sunday's modest \$2 admission fee will be donated to the food pantry at Church of the Village. Please come and be a part of the fun! Sat., Nov 5, from 5–7 pm and Sun., Nov 6 from 10 am–4 pm.

NOV 6 – ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY During the services we'll light candles and remember all those connected with Grace Church who have died but still remain on the hearts and minds of their loved ones. *To include a name on this year's list, please [e-mail the name to Jennifer Metz HERE](#) by Tuesday, Nov 1st.*

NOV 6 – A GERMAN REQUIEM BY JOHANNES BRAHMS
4PM The Adult Choir with The Parish Choir will offer Choral Evensong celebrating All Saints' Sunday.

NOV 6 – POST-HALLOWEEN CANDY COLLECTION –
On Sunday, Nov 6 we will be collecting Halloween candy for the benefit of the Seamen's Church Institute (SCI), a ministry to mariners since 1834. Your donation will be part of the SCI's Christmas at Sea project, which distributes gift bags to seafarers, toiling in maritime commerce, who are far from home at the holidays. Here is a great opportunity to share excess Halloween candy or to pick some up at the post-Halloween sales! Please drop your donations in the baskets labeled "Candy" near the door of the Church or Chantry.

NOV 8 – CHRISTMAS PAGEANT SIGN-UPS AND INTERVIEWS! All children and youth aged 5 and older are invited to participate in the annual pageant, held

on Christmas Eve at 4 pm. All participants must submit a cast information sheet by Nov 7. Those interested in singing a solo, duet, or trio must also sign up for an interview (Tues, Nov 8 from 2–6 pm IN THE MUSIC ROOM). A full pageant schedule is available on the bulletin board in the Parish House. *Please [e-mail the Rev. Chase Danford HERE](#) for a cast info sheet and a link to sign up for an interview slot.*

NOV 13 – 20's and 30's-ish SUNDAY BRUNCH –

Young adults are invited to connect over brunch on Sunday, November 13 at 12:45 pm. Location TBD, based on number of RSVPs. Consider inviting a friend who might be looking for community or curious about church. *Please [e-mail the Rev. Chase Danford](#) if you are interested in attending.*

NOV 13 – HOME COOKED MEAL FOR NYC RESCUE

MISSION – On Sunday, Nov 13th we will serve a meal of pot roasts and cupcakes to hundreds of guests at the NYC Rescue Mission. We need volunteers to prepare pot roasts and cupcakes at home and to serve the meal at the Mission. We have a super easy and delicious pot roast recipe for you! Please join us in this rewarding volunteer opportunity which is so appreciated by folks at the mission. Sign up to cook or serve by e-mailing Lillie Chance [HERE](#), or by clicking [HERE](#) for the online sign-up sheet. Financial support is also welcome! Visit the "GIVE" page of the Grace Church website [HERE](#) and be sure to type "pot roasts" in the comments box. Thank you!



Please help [the GO Project](http://goproject.eventnut.com) raise funds to directly support year-round programming for struggling NYC public school students. [Tickets HERE.](#)

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

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