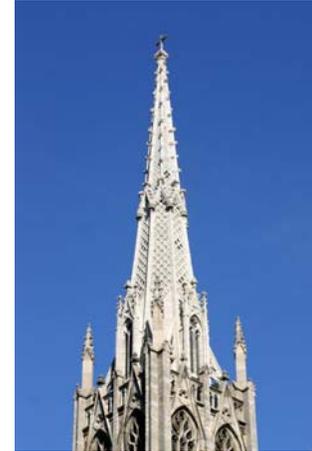


# The Epistle *E-news*

## GRACE CHURCH

### in New York City



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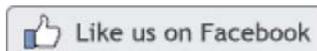
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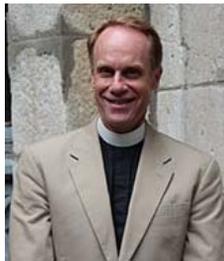


**JOIN US ON JAN  
21st! The Next  
Habitat for  
Humanity/Grace  
Church Build Day**



## January 15, 2017

The Second Sunday after the Epiphany



Dear Friends,

This weekend the nation pauses to honor the birthday of our greatest champion of civil rights, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. King's lofty rhetoric and heroic commitment to peaceful protest and resistance against injustice grow more inspiring as the years go on. His legacy continues to call us to the highest ideals of equality that should be non-negotiable realities of American society.

Sadly, much in the news this week has been a person at the opposite end of the moral spectrum: Dylann Roof. As you likely know, Roof is the young man who in June of 2015 entered Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, SC, and after reading Bible verses with others there, he opened fire on them, killing nine black people. Roof was apprehended, convicted of the crime, and as of Tuesday the jury in the sentencing phase of his trial has recommended the death penalty.

Dylann Roof is an avowed white supremacist who apparently has expressed no remorse for his crimes. When I read his words and look at his picture, I am inclined to think that his soul is either dead or completely coopted by evil. But as a Christian, I struggle with sentencing him - anyone - to death. Make no mistake, I believe that Roof is most certainly guilty, and should never again see the light of day. Nor am I arguing that anyone should forgive him. My concern is that by

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 last summer and would love to have you join them! Details [here](#).

**NEXT WEEK...**

**Don't miss our favorite pair of political commentators!**



**The Sunday Forum  
Jan 22nd @10 a.m.**

**In thanksgiving for all the blessings of this life...**

imposing the death penalty we stoop to the level of the criminal whose crimes we abhor.

I began wondering what Dr. King himself thought of the death penalty, and within seconds found ample evidence that he would not have rejoiced at the sentencing of Dylann Roof. This relevant quote comes from one of his sermons: *"Returning hate for hate multiplies hate, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars. Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that. Hate multiplies hate, violence multiplies violence, and toughness multiplies toughness in a descending spiral of destruction."* And this quote comes from a 1957 interview he had with Ebony magazine: *"I do not think that God approves the death penalty for any crime, rape and murder included. God's concern is to improve individuals and bring them to the point of conversion ... How can he improve if his life is taken? Capital punishment is against the better judgment of modern criminology, and, above all, against the highest expression of love in the nature of God."*

Let us give thanks for the life and witness of Martin Luther King, Jr., who continues to offer us much to think and pray about in these restless times. See you in church.

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

**This Sunday  
January 15th**

**9 a.m. Holy Eucharist**

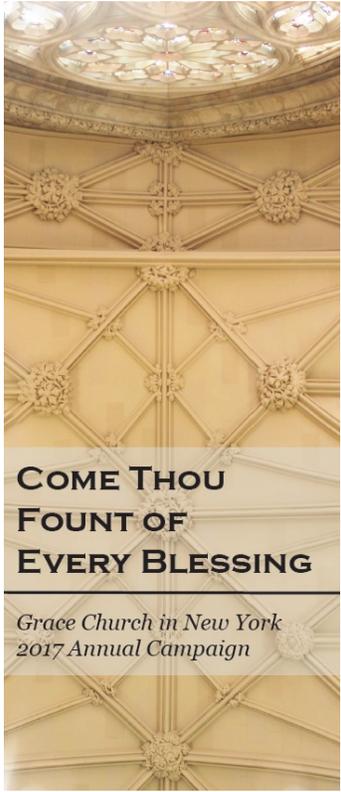
Sermon: The Rev. Martha S. Korienek  
Music: The Parish Choir

**11 a.m. Morning Prayer**

Sermon: The Rev. Martha S. Korienek  
Music: The Adult Choir

**6 p.m. Holy Eucharist, in the Chantry**

Sermon: The Rev. Martha S. Korienek  
Music: Hymns with Instrumentalists



**COME THOU  
FOUNT OF  
EVERY BLESSING**

*Grace Church in New York  
2017 Annual Campaign*

**Don't forget to [make your pledge!](#)**

**WE WELCOME DR. BARRY ROSE.** Our great friend Dr. Rose is conducting the choir at 11 am and will spend the coming week working with all the choirs. Under his direction – THE NINTH ANNUAL CONCERT OF MUSIC FOR TREBLE VOICES – will take place on Sunday, Jan 22 at 4 pm in the Church (see details under Jan 22 below).

**THE SUNDAY FORUM** is on recess for the MLK holiday weekend, and will resume on Sunday, Jan 22 at 10 am. See details below.

**PICK UP YOUR 2017 WEEKLY OFFERING ENVELOPES** at Coffee Hour after the 9 and 11 am services, and in the Reception Room after the 6 pm service. If you would like envelopes for 2017 and have not yet made a request, please contact James V. Romanik, Assistant Director of Membership & Communications, [here](#) or at 212-254-2005.

**Please pray for...**



***Those who suffer***

- Cynthia Stewart
- Barbara & Keith Archer
- Rayma Hayes
- Bill Pope
- Kim Sanderson
- Donna Lee

***Coming Soon***

**JAN 22 – WASHINGTON'S WARNING FOR TODAY – THE SUNDAY FORUM @10AM.** Fresh from the Presidential inauguration in Washington DC, political commentators, authors, and parishioners John Avlon and Margaret Hoover will lead a free-ranging conversation about the current state of public discourse in America. John will also be speaking about his new book, *Washington's Farewell: The Founding Father's Warning to Future Generations*. Join us in the Reception Room. Coffee and pastries are served.

**JAN 22 – THE NINTH ANNUAL CONCERT OF MUSIC FOR TREBLE VOICES** – The Junior Choristers of the

Josephine Ferraiuolo  
Howard Small  
Trish Lawrence

*and those who have  
died.*

Grace Church Choirs with Dr. Barry Rose and the  
Whiting of Novices. Held in the Church at 4 pm.

**JAN 29 – DEACONESSES: GRACE CHURCH & THE  
ASCENT OF FEMALE MINISTRY– THE SUNDAY FORUM  
@10AM.** The Episcopal Church instituted deaconesses  
in the late nineteenth century as a way of returning to  
the role women had in the early church and  
expanding the role that women had in the life of the  
church. Many of the early deaconesses came from  
Grace Church, and we will examine their lives and  
ministries and how they prepared the way for women  
being ordained priests.

**JAN 29 – NEWCOMERS' CLASS** – Join us in the  
reception room at 12:15 pm for the first of the  
newcomers' classes of 2017. *RSVP to the Rev. Martha  
Korienek [here](#).*

**THE VESTRY HAS ACCEPTED THE NOMINATING  
COMMITTEE'S REPORT** and is pleased to announce the  
following slate of persons to be voted on at our  
Annual Meeting. For a third two-year term as a  
Churchwarden: BRETT PERTUZ. For a second three-  
year term as a Vestry member. DAVID DIDOMENICO.  
For his own first, three-year term as Vestry member,  
DOUGLAS EVANS (Doug is currently filling the  
unexpired term of Caroline Hubbell). For a first three-  
year term as Vestry member: JOHN BERRINGER, LETHE  
BLACK. Many thanks to the committee and to those  
who have agreed to stand for election.

**FEB 5 – THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** will be held in  
Tuttle Hall on Sunday, Feb 5<sup>th</sup>, immediately following  
the 11 am service. Reports will be given by the  
Nominating Committee, the Treasurer, the Head of  
Grace Church School, the Senior Warden, and the  
Rector. Lunch will be served (\$5 per person  
suggested donation).

**FEB 18 – "DON'T WALK BY"** – For the past six years Grace Church has organized a team to participate in "Don't Walk By," an annual outreach ministry to the homeless of New York. This year we will be fielding a team to assist on Saturday, Feb. 18 from 1:30pm to 8:30pm. This ministry involves walking a designated area in lower Manhattan, engaging the homeless people on the streets, offering them a place to stay for the night, a hot meal, and medical care. If you would like to learn more about this ministry, you may go to the website ([dontwalkby.org](http://dontwalkby.org)); if you would like to sign up to volunteer, please contact our team leader, Mike Watson ([mwatson@gts.edu](mailto:mwatson@gts.edu)).

**FEB 23 – WINTER NEWCOMER RECEPTION** – Save-the-Date for our winter Newcomer Event! Anyone new to Grace Church who would like to connect with other members and church leaders is invited to join us on Thursday, Feb 23rd at 6:30 pm in the Reception Room. We will enjoy ample food and drink, and the opportunity for conversation. *RSVP to James V. Romanik [here](#).*

**FEB 26 – SHROVE SUNDAY BRUNCH!** Come celebrate Shrovetide this year with a fabulous "Mardi Gras" Sunday brunch of pancakes, bacon, eggs and fruit. Held in Tuttle Hall after the 11 am service. \$15 per person/\$25 per family requested donation at the door. Volunteer help is most appreciated! *To find out how you can help, please contact the Rev. Chase Danford [here](#).*

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

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