

The Epistle *E-news*

GRACE CHURCH

in New York City



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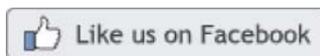
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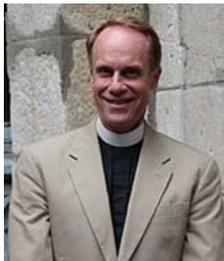
PRAYING AS A PARISH FOR LENT



**Thinking about a
Lenten spiritual
discipline?**

February 19, 2017

The Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany



Dear Friends,

If you came to the annual parish meeting two weeks ago, and were *really* paying attention, you heard mention of a columbarium at the end of the Fabric and Grounds report.

What is a columbarium? Quite simply,

it is an assembly of niches designed to house the cremated remains of the deceased. For the past year we have been looking into the viability of a columbarium at Grace Church. It is a pastoral need that would assist our members in making end-of-life plans. It would also provide a reverent, prayerful place of burial that is accessible to surviving loved ones who wish to remember, reflect, and give tangible expression to the faith that death does not divide the household of God.

Where at Grace Church would a columbarium be located, and what would it look like? As for the placement, columbaria can be either outside or inside. Given the ebb and flow of people traffic around and through Grace Church, it seems that the best place is not outside in one of the yards, but inside the church itself. The church is open to the public every day from at least noon to 5 pm. It is safe and sheltered. But where inside the church? The nave and transepts are pretty much wall-to-wall pews, and many of those walls and pews have return air vents running through them. One set of pews that seems to be free of such encumbrance is in the south transept, on either side of the little door that leads into the chantry. This is the corner under consideration.

Want to engage in a practice of daily prayer but not sure where to start? Consider taking two minutes out of every day to pray using a brief, daily devotional guide written by Grace Church parishioners for each other and delivered daily (Mon-Sat) to your e-mail inbox. *These devotions begin on Ash Wednesday, Mar 1, so sign up today by clicking [here](#).*

SEEKING MENTORS

THE LIFE SKILLS EMPOWERMENT

PROGRAM empowers veterans who are experiencing or have experienced homelessness to create a new path toward a successful future. The mentor provides support throughout the journey by meeting with the participant on seven Thursday evenings, beginning March 30th. Please contact Rachel Johnson [here](#) or parishioner Jason Slibeck [here](#).

What would it look like? First, a columbarium would occupy the same footprint as the pews that are there now. Thus, access to the chantry would be unchanged. Even the mosaic tile on the floor would remain in place. Secondly, we would want a columbarium to look like James Renwick, Jr. himself designed it. In other words, we would want it to look like it's always been there. Perhaps even the wood of the existing pews might be incorporated into it.

These are just some very preliminary thoughts in advance of any drawings. We still have a lot to learn, so don't expect to see anything in place this Lent! But it could be that something happens this summer when other work inside the church is taking place. Much more on this to come. Thanks to Anne Rieselbach and Grant Marani of the Fabric and Grounds Committee who are helping to move the project forward.

See you in church.

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

Rector

This Sunday

February 19th

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sermon: The Rev. Alissa Anderson

Music: The Parish Choir

11 a.m. Morning Prayer

Sermon: The Rev. Alissa Anderson

Music: The Adult Choir

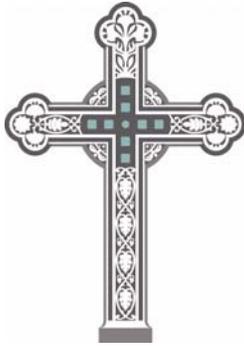
6 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Sermon: The Rev. Mary Cat Young

Music: Hymns with Instrumentalists

Coming Soon

Please pray for...



Those who suffer

Wayne Faust
 Carol Haines
 Peter Mottar
 Jennifer Nahoom
 Susan Pannone
 Josephine Ferraiuolo
 Howard Small
 Trish Lawrence

and those who have died.

Emilia
 Paredes-Goldfarb
 Kim Sanderson

FEB 23 – WINTER RECEPTION for NEWCOMERS! – 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. Guests will be treated to refreshments and a tour of Grace Church led by the Rector. *RSVP to James V. Romanik [here](#).*

FEB 25 – GRACE CHURCH/GO PROJECT VOLUNTEER DAY – Join other members of Grace Church as we volunteer together at the GO Project. We will meet Saturday, Feb. 25th, in the front hallway of Grace Church School (86 4th Ave.) at 9 am for a 30-minute orientation, and then volunteer until 12:30 pm. *RSVP to the Rev. Martha Korienek [here](#).*

FEB 26 – HOW GRACE ADDRESSES FOOD SECURITY IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD & AROUND THE WORLD – THE SUNDAY FORUM @10AM. All this month the Outreach Committee will be raising the issue of food security in various ways within the Grace Community. Today a panel of parishioners will discuss our work with Hope for Our Neighbors in Need (feeding program), NYC Rescue Mission (housing and re-establishment programs), and the youth trip to the Heifer International farm (international aid).

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](#).

MARCH – YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASSES – Classes for youth in grades 7-12 begin in early March to prepare for Confirmation on Sunday, May 21 at 11

am. *Please contact the Rev. Chase Danford [here](#) to register.*

MAR 1 – LENT BEGINS: ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES

will be held at 8 am in the Chantry, and 12:10 and 6 pm in the Church. The two earlier services are expected to last for approximately 45 minutes. All services include homily by the Rev. Martha Korienek, Eucharist, and the imposition of ashes.

MAR 1 – ADULT BAPTISM/CONFIRMATION CLASSES

– Adults interested in being baptized at the Easter Vigil (April 15th at 7pm) or confirmed when Bishop Dietsche visits Grace Church (May 21st at 11am) are encouraged to sign up for classes. Held in the Reception Room on Wed. evenings, 7–8 pm, starting Mar 1st. *To sign up, please email Martha [here](#).*

MARCH – YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASSES

– Classes for youth in grades 7–12 begin in early March to prepare for Confirmation on Sunday, May 21 at 11 am. *Please contact the Rev. Chase Danford [here](#) to register.*

MAR 2 – LENTEN BOOK STUDY

– Members of Grace are invited to read and study *The Book of Forgiving* together on Thursday evenings in Lent. Written by Archbishop Desmond Tutu and his daughter, the Rev. Mpho Tutu, the book is a journey into the meaning of forgiveness and a guide to forgiveness in our own lives. Held in the Reception Room at 7 pm on Thursdays, Mar 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, and April 6th. *The group is limited to 12, so please email Martha [here](#) reserve your place.*

MAR 4 – SIGN UP NOW! THE NEXT HABITAT/GRACE

CHURCH BUILD DAY – Upcoming dates: Saturdays, Mar 4, 18, Apr 1. Carpool to "the House that Grace Built" from in front of the church at 8 am. Return is

usually by 4 pm. *Information and registration at <http://gracechurchnyc.org/outreach/>, or contact Martha Korienek [here](#).*

MAR 5 – 20'S AND 30'S–ish SUNDAY BRUNCH

(Rescheduled from 2/12) – Young adult parishioners and guests are invited to brunch after the 11 o'clock service and coffee hour on Sunday, March 5. We'll meet in the Rectory Garden by the 802 Broadway gate and walk to a nearby restaurant. Plan to bring \$15–20 in cash. *RSVP to the Rev. Chase Danford [here](#).*

MAR 5 – A SUNDAY EVENING LENTEN SERIES March 5: "Lent 101." March 12: "Refugees and the Church." March 19, "The Spirituality of Silence." March 26: "Anti–Semitism in the Passion Narratives." April 2: "Holy Week 101." Held in the Chantry immediately following the 6 pm service (approx. 7 pm).

20'S AND 30'S–ish LENTEN SUSHI FRIDAYS at Grace and other NYC Episcopal churches. Grace will host at 7 pm on Friday, Mar 24, with a tour of the church (perfect opportunity to invite a friend!), sushi, salad, and the brief but beautiful service of Compline (Night Prayer). Contact Fr. Chase for details on Sushi Friday opportunities with the diocesan Young Adult Network in other weeks during Lent.

MAR 12 – NEWCOMERS' CLASS – Newcomers to Grace Church are warmly invited! Held on the second Sunday of each month in the Reception Room at 12:30 pm, each class will discuss how to become a member of Grace Church, as well as a variety of special topics (this month: Church History). We suggest that you attend at least three classes throughout the year, as a way to get acquainted with the clergy, meet other newcomers, and grow in your faith.

MAR 14 – OPEN DOOR MINISTRY WINTER RECEPTION (Inquirers welcome!) This team of friendly volunteers provides a welcoming presence to weekend visitors, answering questions about our beautiful building and church community. Please join us for dinner, fellowship and answers to your questions about volunteering. Tuesday, Mar. 14, 7–8:30 pm in the Reception Room. *RSVP and/or info: contact Singleton Cox [here](#).*

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

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