

The Epistle *E-news*

GRACE CHURCH

in New York City



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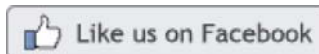
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LIFT UP THINE EYES



After our marvelous kick-off celebration on Sunday, April 30th, the public phase of the *Lift Up Thine Eyes* campaign is in full swing. We have received \$2.3 million in pledges towards our

May 14, 2017

The Fifth Sunday of Easter



Dear Friends,

Are you *useful*? As an amateur student of church history, I note with interest that *useful* was a favorite adjective that our 19th and early 20th century predecessors used for themselves. The church and its ministries should strive to be nothing more, but certainly nothing less than *useful*. It's been ninety-three years since the publication of *Grace Church and Old New York*, an exhaustive history of the parish up to 1924. Chapter XXV is entitled, *Five Useful Members of Grace Church*. Among the five, the one woman is Catherine Lorillard Wolfe.

In connection with *Lift up thine Eyes*, our capital campaign to restore the ceiling of the nave and north transept, we've been highlighting some signature moments in the history of Grace Church. Last month we sent around a feature article about Catherine Lorillard Wolfe, so I don't want to repeat what has already been written well. Suffice it to say, Miss Wolfe was a woman of great wealth who took delight in giving her treasures away. In her own words, she regarded her wealth as a sacred trust "to be administered in the fear of God and for the benefit of humanity." Here at Grace Church she gave, among many other gifts: the high altar, reredos, Te Deum window, chantry, parish house, and one-third the cost of replacing the old wooden spire with one made of stone. These were enormous gifts in her time that have stood the test of time and are still in used today. *Useful* seems to be an overly modest word, but that is the adjective our forebears seemed to like.

stretch goal of \$3 million.

In the coming weeks, **we will be hosting additional gatherings** where you will have the opportunity to hear about the campaign and make your pledge. In the meantime, we encourage you to watch the campaign's [video](#) to learn more about this important initiative.

**ANGELS,
SERVANTS &
DISRUPTORS!**

The Sunday Forum
at 10 a.m.

*Please pray
for...*



those who suffer

Mitties de Champlain
Geno Sparrow
The people of
Venezuela

The reason I am writing about Catherine Lorillard Wolfe again is not only because her legacy of generosity can inspire us in a capital campaign. I write also because we have received a timely gift. A Connecticut portrait artist named Susan Durkee recently took on a project of studying the life of Miss Wolfe, connecting with her life and legacy of giving, and creating an image that captures her image in a real setting. The result is a strikingly beautiful portrait. Ms. Durkee contacted me in hopes that we would accept the painting as a gift and hang it somewhere in the halls that Miss Wolfe built and loved. I readily accepted!

Here's a preview of the painting. Look for it somewhere in the parish house in the next week or so. Let this *useful* member of Grace Church from ages past inspire us all to be *useful* to God in building up the kingdom among this people and in this place.



See you in church.

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

James F. Hurley III
Tracey
Kristin Whitehurst
David Morgan
Linda & Tom Hall
Josephine Ferraiuolo
Howard Small
Trish Lawrence

Rector

This Sunday

May 14th

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sermon: The Rev. J. Donald Waring

Music: The Parish Choir

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sermon: The Rev. J. Donald Waring

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

6 p.m. Holy Eucharist, in the Chantry

Sermon: The Rev. J. Donald Waring

Music: Hymns with Instrumentalists

*and those who have
died.*

BRAVO! 9 NEW SENIOR CHORISTERS TO BE ELEVATED

at the 11 am service. Congratulations to our newest Senior Choristers who have been leading with strength and joy in the Junior Chorister services, rehearsals and concert this year! Lucia DiDomenico, Addie Etedgui, Beatrix Flynn, Catherine Gooding, Juliet Gray, Sydney Kim, Milly McAskin, Brigitt Molina, and Charlotte Wells.

EPISCOPAL CHARITIES SUNDAY – 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. Today, 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 <http://episcopalcharities-newyork.org/>.

ANGELS, SERVANTS & DISRUPTORS: THE MODERN DAY DEACON – THE SUNDAY FORUM @10 AM. Come find out about the oldest ordained ministry, learn how the concept of being a deacon belongs to all baptized members of the Church, and explore how we can all be a bridge between the church and our world. Richard Paul Limato, member of Grace Church and newly ordained Episcopal Deacon, will share his experience preparing for ordination and the servant ministry that makes this sacred order a unique and important one for the modern day Church.

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: **Spiritual Practices**). 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.

YOUTH GROUP – The Grace youth group for 7th–12th graders will break today and resume on May 21 *at the new meeting time of 4 pm*. See announcement below about signing up for the Heifer Farm trip in July. Email Father Chase [here](#) for more information.

Coming Soon

MAY 20–21 – 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 20–21.

For more information, please visit:

www.nylandmarks.org.

MAY 21 – A CONVERSATION WITH THE BISHOP – THE SUNDAY FORUM @10 AM – Join the 2017 adult and youth Confirmation classes in a discussion with the Rt. Rev. Andrew Dietsche, Bishop of New York. This will be an opportunity for Confirmation candidates to ask the bishop questions, but everyone is invited to listen in on the conversation.

JUNE 3 – HABITAT FOR HUMANITY/GRACE CHURCH BUILD DAY – Sign up now for these build dates: June 3rd, June 17th, and July 8th! We are partnering with Habitat to rehabilitate a condemned house in St. Albans, Queens for a family in need. Volunteers have been hard at work since last summer and would love to have you join them! *Information and registration* [here](#), or contact Martha Korienek [here](#).

JUNE 4 – FAREWELL TO THE REV. ALISSA ANDERSON, our Pastoral Resident for the past year. Join us at coffee hour after the 11 am service to wish her well.

JULY 7–9 YOUTH TRIP TO HEIFER FARM – Youth completing grades 6–12 are invited to join a trip to Heifer International's educational farm in Rutland, MA. The 270-acre farm is filled with gardens and livestock, including goats, pigs, yaks and more. Through interactive programs and activities, participants come to understand the complications surrounding hunger and poverty and to see their connection in creating change. We will conclude with an outdoor Eucharist on the beautiful farm grounds. Friday morning, July 7 to Sunday afternoon, July 9. *RSVP by Sunday, June 4 to Fr. Chase* [here](#) or 212-254-2000 ext 113.

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

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