

The Epistle *E-news*

GRACE CHURCH

in New York City



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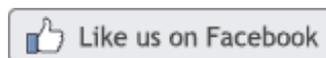
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**FACE TIME
WITH THE
BISHOP**

**The Sunday
Forum
at 10 a.m.**

**REACH OUT
with GRACE...**



May 21, 2017

The Sixth Sunday of Easter



Dear Friends,

The graduation ceremonies have begun, and in the next few weeks they will continue as schools across the land award degrees and diplomas to their respective Class of 2017. Last

Wednesday it was my joy to participate

in the 195th Commencement of the General Theological Seminary here in New York City. Coincidentally, it was 28 years to the day since I myself graduated from that venerable institution. But my reason for being there was neither a personal anniversary, nor that my wife, Stacie, is now the registrar of GTS, thus largely responsible for making sure the right degrees arrived in the right hands. Rather, it was because I am an adjunct faculty member in homiletics. Also, it was to see our Pastoral Resident for the past year, Alissa Anderson, graduate *cum laude* and with other awards too numerous to name. Congratulations to Alissa, who will finish her year with us on June 4th. Alissa will soon be able to announce where she will be serving next, so stay tuned.

At the reception following the ceremony I fell into conversation with the Bishop of New Jersey, the Rt. Rev. William "Chip" Stokes, who graduated a year behind me. Bishop Stokes told me a story about Grace Church worth repeating. It seems that in the early 1980s the future bishop was in the restaurant business, and ran a pizza parlor on the corner of Broadway and 10th, diagonally across the street from us. He explained that it was always a comfort to look up from his work and see Grace Church. During breaks he would frequently come inside to sit in a pew, reflect, and pray. Grace Church's power of place and presence proved crucial in helping him discern what God wanted him to do with the rest of his life.

JUNE 28 – ORGANIZE SCHOOL SUPPLIES WITH THE GO PROJECT! On Wednesday, June 28th from 9–11 am, The GO Project is filling hundreds of tote bags with brand new school supplies at Grace Church School, and we need your help. Assemble bags with us and make sure each GO student can start their first day of GO Summer (July 5th) set up for success. If interested, please email Ravali [here](#). Thank you!

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY/GRACE CHURCH BUILD DAY – Next build dates:

June 3rd, June 17th, and July 8th! Details under "Coming Soon," above, or click [here](#).

NEARLY one out of every five New York City children relies on soup kitchens and food pantries for emergency food.*
–You can help by

Over the years I have heard many similar stories about Grace Church. The ministry of place and presence that we offer has worked in partnership with the Spirit of God to change peoples' lives. Pedestrians come inside because we are here and because the door is open. The beauty, the history, and the palpable sense of God's presence then goes to work on faithful souls who genuinely seek to know God's will. To be sure, not every lay person becomes a priest (that's good, because the church needs more lay people than priests). But sometimes tourists become pilgrims, determined to follow in the footsteps of Jesus with renewed intention.

These transformations are why I am excited about [Lift Up Thine Eyes](#), our capital campaign to restore the beauty and structural integrity of the nave ceiling. The campaign is going well; we are within striking distance of our stretch goal of \$3 million. At upcoming gatherings it is our goal to invite everyone who hasn't already participated in the campaign to do so.

Finally, speaking of bishops, we will have our own with us at the 11 am service this Sunday. Bishop Andrew Dietsche is the inspired (and inspiring) leader of the Diocese of New York. He is also a tremendous preacher, so I hope you will make a point of coming out not only to hear him, but also to support this year's Confirmation class.

See you in church.

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

This Sunday

May 21st

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sermon: The Rev. Alissa Anderson

Music: The Parish Choir

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist & Confirmation

Sermon: The Rt. Rev. Andrew M. L. Dietsche,

Bishop of New York

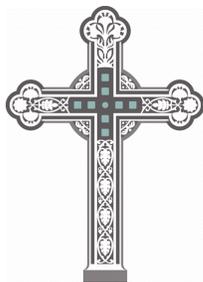
Music: The Combined Junior Choristers with
Adults

6 p.m. Holy Eucharist, in the Chantry

picking up a few extra items during your weekly shopping and dropping them in the collection baskets found in the narthex (back of the church). Most needed are healthy canned items: proteins (peanut butter, tuna, chicken, salmon, sardines, beans), soup, vegetables and fruit. Donations are delivered to the emergency food ministry at Church of the Village. You may also donate [here](#).

[*Food Bank for NYC.](#)

Please pray for...



those who suffer

Elsie Lewis
Paige Mercer
Mitties de Champlain
Geno Sparrow
The people of
Venezuela
James F. Hurley III
Tracey

Sermon: The Rev. Alissa Anderson
Music: Hymns with Instrumentalists

THE RT. REV. ANDREW M.L. DIETSCH, Bishop of New York, will preside over Confirmations, preach the sermon, and celebrate the Eucharist at the 11 am service. If you wish to offer a gift to the Bishop's discretionary fund you may do so with the envelope found in your 11 am service bulletin. The envelope may be placed in the collection plate.

COFFEE HOUR after the 11 am service today will take place on the lawn of Huntington Close (weather permitting) or in the GCS dining room in case of rain. Tuttle Hall is unavailable this weekend due to set up for a school play.

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.

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 Sunday, May 21. For more information, please visit: www.nylandmarks.org.

YOUTH GROUP (@NEW MEETING TIME 4PM) – The Grace youth group for 7th–12th graders will meet today at 4 pm. Also see announcement below about the Heifer Farm trip in July and RSVP asap! Email [Father Chase](#) for more information.

Kristin Whitehurst
David Morgan
Linda & Tom Hall
Josephine
Ferraiuolo
Howard Small
Trish Lawrence

*and those who
have died.*

Coming Soon

MAY 28 – The Sunday Forum is now on recess for the summer. If you have ideas of Christian concern that you think would be a good topic for a future session, please see Anne Rieselbach or Emma Presler, co-chairs of the Adult Education Committee.

JUNE 3 (NEXT DATE!) HABITAT FOR HUMANITY/GRACE CHURCH BUILD – *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 at [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.

JUNE 11 – NEWCOMERS' CLASS @10 AM – Newcomers to Grace Church are warmly invited! Held on the second Sunday of each month, each class will discuss how to become a member of Grace Church, as well as a variety of special topics (this month: **The Bible**). 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. Held in the Reception Room, this month at 10 am. *(Also, don't miss the **Newcomer Cookout on June 20th!** See below.)*

JUNE 11 – THE ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC AND CHOIR RECOGNITION SUNDAY – Grace Church parishioners and friends are welcome and encouraged to come to Huntington Close following the 11 am service! Join us in celebration of the choir ministries of Grace Church and to help bring our program year

to a joyous and festive close. Suggested donation at the door is \$10 per person. There are many ways to support this event, from food and drink donations to volunteering, so *please contact the Rev. Chase Danford to find out how you can help at cdanford@gracechurchnyc.org.*

JUNE 18 – ALL SUNDAY SERVICES MOVE TO THE CHANTRY – The restoration of the church ceiling and protection of the organ will begin in earnest starting June 15, requiring the 9 and 11 am services to relocate until September 10. The chantry can seat up to 100 people, so if you normally attend the 11 am service, you might consider trying the 9 am or the 6 pm. Life is an adventure; it will be fun!

JUNE 20 – NEWCOMER COOKOUT – Calling all Grace Church newcomers! On Tuesday, June 20 from 6:30 – 8:30 pm, we will host a festive celebration to welcome you. The evening will be held in Seymour Close (the courtyard off Tuttle Hall), and will be full of delicious grilled fare and fellowship. *We hope to see you there! RSVP to James V. Romanik [here](#).*

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.*

802 Broadway New York NY 10003 (212) 254-2000
www.gracechurchnyc.org

