

The Epistle *E-news*

GRACE CHURCH

in New York City



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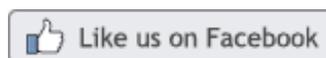
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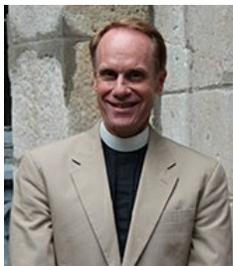
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November 26, 2017

The Last Sunday after Pentecost (Christ the King)



Dear Friends,

What I am about to write may strike you as the work of a curmudgeon, so let the reader beware. Years ago my two sons and I began a Thanksgiving night tradition of taking a big walk. When we first moved to New York City, James and Luke were very little - only 5 and 2 - so the walks actually started out small. We might make it to Union or Washington Square Park, but that was about it. My goal was to get the boys out from underfoot and tire them out before the bedtime festivities began. Meanwhile, Stacie and her mother would have extra time to bond in the kitchen while doing the dishes. It was pure, selfless gift on my part. So I reasoned.

As the years grew, so did the boys and so did the walks. One year we made it all the way to the public library, where they climbed atop the lions. The next year we reached Central Park. When we would return to the rectory, I began noticing a curious, annual occurrence. People leave their Thanksgiving leftovers on the church steps. I suppose the thinking goes that a homeless person or family will find the food and be able to enjoy it before it goes to waste. At first I applauded the idea as a spontaneous gesture of offering up one's bounty to the lost and least of Christ's family. The problem is, the food would never make it to the homeless. Every year, the day after Thanksgiving when the church is always closed, the leftovers would remain on the steps, swarming with ants, pigeons, and all manner of NYC wildlife. It would all wind up in one of the corner garbage cans on the street.

In recent years (and here's where I turn into a curmudgeon)

ALL THINGS
BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL



Grace Church in New York
2018 Annual Campaign

Annual giving achieves two goals that are important to the spiritual health of every Christian: saying "thank you" to God for life's many blessings with a tangible expression of gratitude, and empowering the ministries of God's church.

You may read more about pledging by clicking the image above. You may make your pledge [here](#). Questions about pledging? Contact James V. Romanik at 212-254-2005 or [here](#).

*Please pray
for...*

I've resorted to gathering up the offerings and disposing of them immediately upon returning from our Thanksgiving night walk. Yes, it's a waste, but knowing neither the giver of the gift, nor what might be in it, nor how long it had remained unrefrigerated, the food cannot be passed along to one of the shelters.

I want to commend the generous impulse of whoever it is that leaves the food, but also suggest a better way of getting it to a place where hungry people will be able to enjoy it. You can take Thanksgiving leftovers to the [New York City Rescue Mission](#) at 90 Lafayette Street. Please don't just leave it outside; someone will be at the door until 6 pm, and then again on Friday morning. You can call them at 212 226-6214 if you'd like to plan in advance.

These weeks between Thanksgiving and Christmas inspire many of us to reach out to those in want. This year, let's take the extra steps to make sure that our good deeds actually wind up doing good work.

A blessed and happy Thanksgiving to you and yours. See you in church.

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

WEDNESDAY, November 22

Thanksgiving Eve

6 p.m. Holy Eucharist, in the Chantry

Sermon: The Rev. Chase Danford

THURSDAY, November 23

Thanksgiving Day

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist, in the Chantry

Sermon: The Rev. Chase Danford

This Sunday

November 26th

The Last Sunday after Pentecost (Christ the King)



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

Sermon: The Rev. Martha S. Korienek

Music: Hymns with Instrumentalists

those who suffer

Adelaide

Peggy

Anne Richards

Louise Zonis

Debbie McAdams

Isabella

Alejandro Mota

Ernest Hansen

Anna Ring

Josephine Ferraiuolo

The Sunday Forum is on recess until December 10th.
(see description below).

Coming Soon

and those who have died.

DEC 1, 2 – THE CHORAL SOCIETY ANNUAL HOLIDAY
CONCERTS Tickets available [here](#). Please email
choralsociety@mac.com with questions. We hope to see you at
the concert!

THE CHORAL SOCIETY
of Grace Church in New York

Holiday Concerts

*Bach's Christmas Oratorio (excerpt) with works by Eriks Esēnvalds,
Karl Jenkins, Britten, Mendelssohn, and audience carol sing*

John Maclay, conductor

Friday, December 1, 2017, at 8:00 PM
Saturday, December 2, 2017, at 3:00 PM
Tickets: \$30, general admission
Grace Church in New York
802 Broadway at East Tenth Street

WWW.THECHORALSOCIETY.ORG

f TheChoralSociety @ChoralSocietyGC @thechoralsociety

DEC 2 – GRACE CHURCH/GO PROJECT VOLUNTEER DAY
Have you ever considered volunteering with the GO Project, but not sure you can make a year-round commitment? How about signing up for a one-day event? GO invites all Grace Church members and friends to participate on Saturday, Dec. 2nd, from 9 am–12:30 pm. Come and see this wonderful program in action, meet the students served by the program and pitch in to help! *Sign up by e-mailing Olivia Nunez [here](#).*

DEC 3 – 20'S & 30'S ST. NICHOLAS DAY PARTY – The Revs. Mary Cat Young and Chase Danford invite college students and 20's and 30's-ish parishioners and guests to celebrate the generosity of St. Nicholas with a gathering of young adults from churches around the city! Saturday, Dec 9, 6:30–8:00 pm, at St. James' Church, 865 Madison Avenue. *[RSVP to Fr. Chase](#) or at the [Facebook page](#).*

DEC 3 – ADVENT BEGINS – COME AND MAKE A WREATH!
Celebrating with an Advent wreath during the weeks prior to Christmas is a great way to keep our thoughts focused on the coming of Christ, and to help teach our children the real meaning of Christmas. On the first Sunday of Advent, Dec 3rd, after the 9 am, 11 am or 6 pm services we'll have all the materials ready for you. All are welcome! Experienced wreath-makers are encouraged to help others! Sign up as a volunteer by contacting Fr. Chase [here](#). (Sugg. donation per wreath: \$ 15–25.)

DEC 3, 10, 17 – THE ANNUAL ADVENT COLLECTIONS for local charities begin on Dec 3rd.

<p>GRACE CHURCH IN NEW YORK ADVENT DRIVES 2017</p>	
<p>Every Advent, we take up collections for organizations in need of supplies for the winter. Please place your purchases in the baskets found in the rear of the church.</p> <p>Sunday, December 3 - Advent I Travel size toiletries for the Seamen's Church Institute's <i>Christmas At Sea</i> Project</p> <p>Sunday, December 10 - Advent II Hats and gloves for the Church of the Ascension Food Pantry</p> <p>Sunday, December 17 - Advent III Men's underwear (L, XL, XXL) and socks for the New York City Rescue Mission</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Thank you for your generosity.</i> www.gracechurchnyc.org/outreach</p>	

DEC 3 – ADVENT PROCESSION OF LESSONS AND CAROLS
Readings of scripture foretelling the coming of Christ are interspersed with beautiful music of the season from the four

corners of the church. Sung by The Adult Choir at 4 pm in the Church.

DEC 6 – THE COMMUNITY CAROL SING All are welcome to come and sing with The Combined Boys' and Girls' Choirs in this festive annual event! 12:15 – 12:45 pm in the Church.

DEC 9 – EPISCOPAL ASIAN SUPPER TABLE (EAST) Guest speaker Fr. Gideon Jebamani, an Episcopal priest who has fought for the rights of the Dalit people (the so-called "Untouchable" caste of India), will speak on "Religious Cultural Diversity and the Challenge of Creating an Inclusive Faith Community." EAST celebrates the dignity of Asian and Asian-American spirituality. Our monthly events are a welcoming space to share stories, seek God, and bridge diverse cultures. We are a growing ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of New York. Saturday, Dec 9, at 5:30 pm in Tuttle Hall. *RSVP: EAST@dioceseny.org.*

DEC 10 – THE HOUSE THAT GRACE BUILT IS NOW A HOME! THE SUNDAY FORUM @10 AM – Grace Church parishioners have answered the Biblical call to be good neighbors here in New York City and around the globe. In partnership with Habitat for Humanity, we spent many hours each month raising funds, digging dirt, drilling, hammering, sweating, laughing, and working together to raise the roof on 'The House That Grace Built' in Queens and at other sites in our community. Today, we celebrate these accomplishments and answer your questions about how everyone can help keep building! Held in the Reception Room; coffee is served.

DEC 10 – GINGERBREAD HOUSE DECORATING – Decorate a holiday gingerbread house with your children or grandkids after the 9 and 11 am services. \$20 minimum suggested donation per house, which will help support "The House that Grace Built" Habitat for Humanity project. [RSVP to Chase](#) is required by *Tuesday, Dec. 5th to make sure we have enough supplies.*

DEC 10 – NEWCOMERS CLASS – New people to Grace are warmly invited. Each session will discuss how to become a member of Grace, as well as this session we will be talking about *Advent and Christmas Traditions*. We recommend that you attend at least three classes throughout the year, as a way to get acquainted with the clergy, with other new members, and to grow in your faith. Held in the Reception Room at 12:30. Lunch will be provided, so please [RSVP to Martha here](#).

DEC 10 – A CEREMONY OF CAROLS BY BENJAMIN BRITTEN will be offered by The Girls' Choir with Alumni of the Choir and members of The Adult and Parish Choirs at 4 pm in the Church.

DEC 16 – HABITAT BUILD DAY – Grace Church is working with Habitat for Humanity to preserve and maintain affordable housing within Manhattan. We will be doing home maintenance repair for a co-op on the Lower East Side. To sign up, please visit the website [here](#) or e-mail Martha Korienek [here](#).

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

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