

The Epistle *E-news*

GRACE CHURCH

in New York City



In This Issue

[2018 Pledge?](#)

[Parish Prayers](#)

[This Sunday](#)

[Welcome, Dr. Rose](#)

[Coming Soon](#)

Quick Links

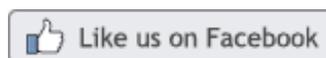
[GIVE to Grace](#)

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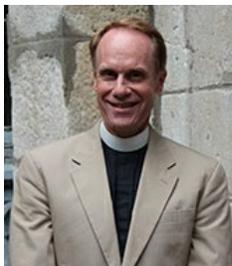
[Did You Miss a Sermon?](#)



2018 is Here!
Please let us
hear from you...

January 14, 2018

The Second Sunday after the Epiphany



Dear Friends,

I have been a parish priest for nearly thirty years now, and thus I have been privy to many remarkable moments when a particular phrase from the Lord's Prayer comes true:

"on earth as it is in heaven." Over and over again we pray that God's kingdom will come, and that God's will shall be done on earth as it is in heaven. What does it mean?

I caught a glimpse of it last Saturday afternoon in the St. Alban's neighborhood of Queens when we blessed **"the House that Grace Built."** As you likely know, we have been in partnership with Habitat for Humanity since 2016, rehabilitating an incredibly dilapidated house so that a first-time homeowner (carefully chosen by Habitat) can call it her own. We began on a Saturday in July of 2016, what must have been the hottest day of the year. The house was in such bad shape that we weren't even allowed inside. We could only clear overgrown brush and build the construction fence. Last Saturday everything was different. Not only was it the coldest day in a long time (with a high temperature outside of 10 degrees) but the house is wonderfully restored. It is not finished yet, but it was toasty warm inside, and it won't be long now before it is occupied.

At 3 pm those of us on the work crew laid down our paint rollers, screw drivers, and levels for the house blessing. We were joined by an additional contingent of Grace Church members who came out for the event.

ALL THINGS
BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL



Grace Church in New York
2018 Annual Campaign

Many thanks to those who have responded to our call to make a pledge for 2018. If you have yet to pledge or make a gift, it is now 2018, so please let us hear from you. You will find campaign brochures around the Church and Parish House – or you may read about pledging by clicking the image above. **Want to make your pledge now?** You may do so [here](#). Questions about pledging? Contact **James V. Romanik** at 212-254-2005 or [here](#).

*Please pray
for...*

Also there was the new homeowner and her family. Tricia, her teenaged son Anthony, her mother, and other extended family members toured the house with tears of joy and gratitude. When Anthony spoke to the gathered assembly, he explained how he works hard "to push past the enigmas and the stigmas" of life, and the house will surely help. I complimented him on his turn of phrase, and promised to give him credit if I borrow it sometime for a sermon.

Also there, working side by side with us all day were members of the Muslim service organization, "**Who is Hussein?**" who will be our partners in the next Habitat build (See [Feb 10](#), below). I spent a good part of the day painting the 2nd floor with their leader, and he explained to me how profoundly moved and grateful they are that a church would reach out to them in friendship during these divisive times in our nation. In the year to come we look forward to starting on a new house in Queens, not far from the one that is just about finished. We will show the world that people of diverse backgrounds and faiths can come together and accomplish much good in the community.

You, the people of Grace Church, are making it all happen. Numerous parishioners have devoted countless volunteer hours to bring us to what we experienced last Saturday. We caught a glimpse of heaven and earth overlapping and mingling together. I understand that for many in our parish it has not been possible to devote time and labor out in Queens. Nevertheless, your prayers and giving and support have been every bit as essential. Thank you.



Onward and upward! See you in church.

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



Rector

This Sunday

January 14th

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sermon: The Rev. Chase Danford

Music: The Parish Choir

11 a.m. Morning Prayer

Sermon: The Rev. Chase Danford

Music: The Adult Choir

6 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Sermon: The Rev. J. Donald Waring

Music: Hymns with Instrumentalists

those who suffer

Anthony Nan Qiu
Christopher Mooney
Isabella
Krista Kostenko
Josephine

and those who have died

Dorothy Wargoeki
The Rev. Anne
Richards

WE WELCOME [DR. BARRY ROSE](#). Our great friend Dr. Rose is conducting the choir this morning at 11 am and will spend the coming week working with all the choirs. Under his direction – THE TENTH ANNUAL CONCERT OF MUSIC FOR TREBLE VOICES – will take place on Sunday, Jan 21 at 4 pm in the Church (see details under Jan 21 below).

THE SUNDAY FORUM is on recess and will resume on January 21 at 10 am (see description below).

2018 WEEKLY OFFERING ENVELOPES are now available at Coffee Hour after the 9 and 11 am services. If you would like envelopes for 2018 and have not yet made a request, please contact James V. Romanik, Assistant Director of Membership & Communications, [here](#) or at 212-254-2005.

Coming Soon

JAN 16 – EVENING BIBLE STUDY FOR THE SEASON OF EPIPHANY – Join Chase and Martha for an Epiphany Season Bible

study. We will meet in the Reception Room from 6:30 – 7:30 pm on Tuesdays: Jan. 16, Jan. 23, Jan. 30, and Feb. 6; come to one session, or come to all! The Reception Room will be available beginning at 6:15 pm for those who wish to come and chat with friends—or make new ones—before the Bible study begins.

JAN 21 – I'VE BEEN TO THE MOUNTAINTOP – THE SUNDAY FORUM @10AM. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s last speech, "I've Been To The Mountaintop," delivered in Memphis on April 3, 1968 just before his murder, is an astonishing orchestral blending of central Biblical themes, especially the Exodus, the prophets, and the life and mission of Jesus Christ. Join us as we discuss how indispensable a Biblical sense of justice was to Dr. King's ultimate proclamation of good news. Held in the Reception Room; coffee is served. *Led by Parishioner Nicholas Birns, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Literature at NYU School of Professional Studies.*

JAN 21 – THE TENTH ANNUAL CONCERT OF MUSIC FOR TREBLE VOICES – The Junior Choristers of the Grace Church Choirs with Dr. Barry Rose and the Whiting of Novices. Held in the Church at 4 pm.

JAN 28 – THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN WWI – THE SUNDAY FORUM @10AM – In 1913, on the eve of the Great War, the opening sermon for the General Convention of the Episcopal Church declared, "Wherever the flag goes, there goes the responsibility of this Church." Those words would shortly be put to the test when the U.S. entered a war unlike any other. How did the 'unofficial national church' interact with this crisis? Led by seminarian Brandon King.

JAN 28 – NEWCOMERS CLASS – New people to Grace are warmly invited to our Newcomers Class on Sunday, Jan 28th in the reception room at 12:30 pm. Each session will discuss how to become a member of Grace, as well as this session we will be talking about *Spiritual Practices*, a conversation led by Fr. Chase. 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. *Lunch will be provided, so [RSVP to Martha.](#)*

JAN 28 – NEWCOMERS CLASS FOR KIDS – Children ages 5+ who are new to Grace Church are invited to their own special class on Sunday, Jan 28th. We will meet in the reception room at 12:30 pm and have lunch with the adults (including their parents) and then go into the church and ask any questions we have about Grace Church. [RSVP to Martha.](#)

FEB 3 – DON'T WALK BY – An outreach effort to the homeless in lower Manhattan, "Don't Walk By" is an afternoon/early evening of meeting the people who live on the street and listening for ways to connect them with resources in our community; the day begins with training. Parishioners Mike Watson and Ashleigh Madureira are co-leaders of our team. *For more information or to register, speak with Mike or Ashleigh, or email Martha [here](#).*

FEB 4 – THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING will be held in Tuttle Hall on Sunday, Feb 4th, 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).

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 (Feb 4th, see details above.) For a third two-year term as a Churchwarden: LEONA CHAMBERLIN. For a second three-year term as a Vestry member. HARPER ANDERSON, ANNE RIESELBACH, JASON SLIBECK, ERIK SORENSEN. Many thanks to the committee and to those who have agreed to stand for election.

FEB 10 – HABITAT BUILD DAY – We will be partnering with the Islamic community service organization "Who Is Hussain?" to work on a Habitat home in Queens. *For more information or to register, contact Martha [here](#).*

FEB 11 – 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. \$10 per person/\$20 per family suggested donation at the door.

FEB 11 – HOME COOKED MEAL FOR NYC RESCUE MISSION – On Sunday, Feb 11th we will serve a meal of pot roasts and cupcakes to hundreds of guests at the NYC Rescue Mission. Volunteers are needed to prepare pot roasts and/or cupcakes at home and to serve the meal at the Mission. We have a super easy and delicious pot roast recipe for you! Please join us in this rewarding volunteer opportunity which is so appreciated by folks at the mission. To sign up, e-mail Lillie Chance [here](#) or click [here](#).

FEB 21 – ADULT BAPTISM CLASSES BEGIN – Wednesdays in Lent, there will be a class for adults who are interested in being baptized at the Easter Vigil (March 31st at 7pm), 7–8 pm in the

Reception Room on 2/21, 2/28, 3/7, 3/14, 3/21, 3/28. To sign up, please email Martha [here](#).

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

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www.gracechurchnyc.org