

The Epistle *E-news*

GRACE CHURCH

in New York City



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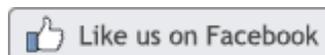
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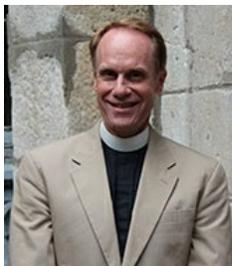


Grace Church Daily E- Devotional!

Take 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

February 11, 2018

The Last Sunday after the Epiphany



Dear Friends,

The year 2018 is moving right along, and in our parish life we are now past the annual meeting. Those of you who were unable to attend can pick up a copy of the annual report on the table outside the reception room, or read it online by

clicking [here](#).

Next up is Shrove Sunday, when we will enjoy a delicious brunch of pancakes, eggs, and bacon in Tuttle Hall after both the 9 am and 11 am services. "Wait," you say. "Shrove Sunday? I thought it was supposed to be Shrove Tuesday pancakes?" Actually, Shrovetide traditionally consists of the three days before Ash Wednesday, so Shrove Sunday is just as good as Shrove Tuesday. In former times when it was much more common than today to embark on strict Lenten fasts, the goal was to use up all the flour and butter in the house so it would not spoil and go to waste while people were abstaining from these delights. Pancake feasts became the custom, so bring your appetites on Sunday and enjoy some delicious food and fine fellowship.

Then comes Ash Wednesday, which lands like a thud right on Valentine's Day this year. Ash Wednesday begins the church season of Lent - the forty days (not counting Sundays) that precede Easter. Lent is often a time when we strive to be more disciplined than we normally are. Our disciplines often take the form of denying ourselves some creature comforts, as Jesus denied himself in the wilderness after his baptism. If it's not pancakes, bacon, or butter that we give up, then it's desserts, or chocolate, or alcohol. Over the years I've tried it all. In the evenings I enjoy a glass of red wine before going to bed, so a few Lents ago I gave it up in

devotions begin on Ash Wednesday, Feb 14, so sign up [here](#) today.

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

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. 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...

the name of Jesus. Did I succeed? Yes. Did it bring me closer to Jesus? I can't say that it did.

What will it be this year? In last Sunday's Gospel reading (Mark 1:29-39) we heard how Jesus removed himself from the busy throng who needed him in order to go off by himself and pray. As I read the words it struck me that here is a model of what Lent can be. My goal is going to involve carving out time every day to be apart and connect with God through prayer. Prayer can be difficult; our minds wander. Perhaps I will use one of the forms beginning on page 136 of the Book of Common Prayer. Jesus arose early in the morning to pray. The truth is, I am not a great morning person, so I'll try the afternoons or evenings or even the close of day (happily, the BCP contains a form for each). If all goes well, it will be a discipline that I carry into the Easter season and beyond.

It's time to start thinking about how to observe a holy Lent. First, let's enjoy Shrove Sunday!

See you in church.

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

This Sunday

February 11th

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 Girls' Choir, High School Singers
with Adults

6 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Sermon: The Rev. Mary Cat Young

Music: Hymns with Instrumentalists

HOW MUCH FORGIVENESS? – THE SUNDAY FORUM @ 10 AM – In the past 18 months New Yorkers have witnessed three acts of violence that



those who suffer

Gordon Matheson
Jason Russell and
family
Peter Schmidt
The Lester Family
The Peck Family
Bela Fletcher
Ysanne Spevack
Josephine

***and those who
have died.***

severely test the Christian call to forgiveness: a bombing in Times Square, a terrorist rampage on the Hudson River bike path, and a shooting near Grace Church School. In each instance the perpetrator of the violence survived, leaving us to wonder how Christians are to regard these individuals. The Rector will lead a panel discussion including parishioners Andrew Blane and Sally Hines. Held in the Reception Room; coffee is served.

SHROVE SUNDAY BRUNCH AFTER BOTH MORNING SERVICES -- Come celebrate Shrovetide this year with a fabulous "Mardi Gras" Sunday brunch of pancakes, bacon, eggs and fruit. Held in Tuttle Hall after both the 9 am and 11 am services. \$10 per person/\$20 per family suggested donation at the door.

PARISH WIDE LENTEN PRACTICE: UNITY HOUSE FUNDRAISER - "Unity House" is the next house rebuilding project that Grace Church is doing through Habitat for Humanity, this time partnering with the Muslim community *Who Is Hussain*. We need to raise \$50,000 for Unity House, so this Lent you are invited to help raise these funds through your Lenten spiritual practice. Each day this Lent, you are invited to read the daily Bible reading to help you reflect upon your blessings, and then give thanks for your blessings by contributing financially to Unity House. And together, as a community, we will make Unity House a success. To help you with this Lenten practice, there is a daily email and a paper calendar to help you do this. *To receive the emails or get a copy of the calendar, or with any questions, please [email Martha](#).*

"SOUPER BOWL OF CARING" - THANK YOU! Since 1990, through the "[Souper Bowl of Caring](#)" project, young people have been inspiring others to collect dollars and food for local charities in the weeks leading up to the Big Game. We are pleased to announce that our parish has generously donated

\$789 during our Annual Meeting lunch this year. 100% of these funds will support the work of our friends at the year-round food program, [Hope for Our Neighbors In Need](#). Thank you to everyone who donated!

Coming Soon

FEB 14 – 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. J. Donald Waring, Eucharist, and the imposition of ashes.

FEB 18 – THE SUNDAY FORUM is on recess for the holiday weekend.

FEB 20–MAR 20 – WHAT OUR FAITH SAYS ABOUT RACE, JUSTICE & PERSONHOOD: A LENTEN READING GROUP – Join the Rev. Chase Danford and the Rev. Martha Korienek as we explore the writings of prominent African-American thinkers from the 19th through the 21st centuries. Tuesdays Feb. 20–Mar 20 from 7–8 pm.

FEB 21 – ADULT BAPTISM CLASSES – 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](#).*

FEB 24 – SERVING TOGETHER AT "HOPE FOR OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED" – Join with other volunteers from Grace Church as we serve together at Hope for Our Neighbors in Need, the soup kitchen of Church of the Village (201 W. 13th St.). We will be serving a hot meal to those who need it from 11:30am to 3pm on Saturday, Feb 24th. *To sign up, please [email Martha](#).*

FEB 25 – JUST WHAT WAS THE FAITH OF OUR FATHERS? THE SUNDAY FORUM @ 10 AM – For two centuries, many Americans have claimed that the United States was founded on Christian principles. Others—including some of the key Founding Fathers themselves—have disagreed. Brooke Allen, author of *Moral Minority: Our Skeptical Founding Fathers*, will examine the Enlightenment origins of our Constitution and Bill of Rights, and will look specifically at the religious beliefs—or lack thereof—of six of the founders: Franklin, Washington, Adams, Jefferson, Madison, and Hamilton. Brooke Allen teaches Literature at Bennington

College.

FEB 25 – NEWCOMERS CLASS – New people to Grace are warmly invited to our Newcomers Class on Sunday, Feb 25th in the reception room at 12:30pm. Each session will discuss how to become a member of Grace, as well as this session we will be talking about *The History of Grace Church*. 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; [RSVP to Martha](#).*

FEB 26–MAR 26 – LENTEN BIBLE STUDY ON THE GOSPEL OF LUKE – We will read and discuss portions of the Gospel According to St. Luke on Monday evenings during Lent, from 6:30–7:30 pm in the Reception Room: Feb. 26, March 5, 12, 19, 26. Whether you have never read the Bible before or you are a New Testament scholar, you are welcome to join in as we explore the story of Jesus and learn about different ways to approach scripture. *On Feb. 26, the Rev. Chase Danford will present an overview of Luke. You are encouraged to read chapters 1–3 of Luke before class, if you can.*

MAR 4 – HOWARD THURMAN: MYSTIC, THEOLOGIAN, AND CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER – THE SUNDAY FORUM @ 10 AM – Remembered by many primarily as a mentor to Martin Luther King Jr., Howard Thurman was a prominent leader in his own right as a scholar, author, and church planter. It was his articulation of a theology of non-violence that inspired Dr. King and other civil rights leaders. He also served as the first dean of chapel at Howard University and later dean of chapel at Boston University (where he met Dr. King and where he became the first African-American dean of chapel at a predominately white university). In today's session, the Rev. Chase Danford will lead a presentation and discussion of some highlights of Dr. Thurman's thought and spirituality.

MAR 4 – ECW "THANK YOU TEA" in the Reception Room immediately following the 11 am service. The ECW would like to thank ALL the Grace Christmas Fair volunteers, cooks and bakers – MEN ALSO! Join us for tea, sandwiches and sweets!
elanafundos@gmail.com.

MAR 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. *Unity House* will be a symbol of interfaith dialogue and action and importance of building community grounded in diversity and inclusiveness. *For more information or to register, visit our [Outreach page](#) or [contact Martha](#).*

MAR 17 – GRACE CHURCH/GO PROJECT VOLUNTEER DAY!

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, March 17th, 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](mailto:Olivia.Nunez@gracechurchnyc.org).*

HELP THE GO PROJECT CELEBRATE 50 YEARS!

2018 marks the 50th anniversary of the GO Project. Two dates are coming up for everyone's attention: Sunday, April 15th will be GO Project Sunday at the 11 am service with a festive reception following in Tuttle Hall; Thursday, May 3 will be a gala dinner and auction at the Ziegfeld Ballroom. To order tickets for the dinner, click [here](#). Also, if you have been a GO Project volunteer over the years and have stories to tell or photos to share, please send them to the parish office.

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

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www.gracechurchnyc.org