

FOR ALL THE SAINTS



GRACE CHURCH IN NEW YORK

2024 Annual Campaign

FROM THE RECTOR



Dear Friends,

Among the glories of Grace Church are the many stained glass windows that shine upon us. Particularly vibrant is the great Te Deum Laudamus window rising 35 feet above the high altar. Te Deum is Latin for “we praise thee, O God,” and the window depicts Christ in majesty upon his throne, surrounded by angels, archangels, and all the company of heaven.

In other windows we see saints and Biblical figures, and even some early Christian heroes and heroines. One of my favorites, in the south transept, portrays a woman of Carthage named Perpetua, who was slain by a fierce wild beast in the amphitheater because she refused to deny Jesus. Next to her is Martin of Tours, a soldier who divided his cloak with a beggar on a freezing winter night. Later on Martin dreamed of Christ in majesty seated upon his throne, not arrayed in royal robes but wearing half of a soldier’s cloak.

Once upon a time a child and her parents were touring a vast cathedral. The girl listened attentively as the guide named the saints that the windows illustrated: St. Mary, St. Peter, St. James, St. Luke, and so on. When the guide was finally finished the girl triumphantly declared, “Now I know what a saint is; a saint is someone who lets the light shine through.”

You and I know that life in Christ involves much more than admiring the sainthood of those in ages past. It is about struggling to be saints ourselves. It is the challenge to be people whom the light of Christ shines through today.

This brochure tells the story of how the people of Grace Church aspire to become saints by reaching up, reaching in, and reaching out. Please read on, and then give prayerful thought to a generous financial gift to support the ministries of Grace Church in the year 2024.

The Rev. J. Donald Waring
Rector

WE BECOME SAINTS BY REACHING UP

*By reaching up to God we realize that
God has already reached down to us.*



† Worship services large and small throughout the week invite hundreds into the presence of God.

† A variety of Choirs involving many parishioners sing the praises of God with devotion and skill.

† The unparalleled art and architecture inspires our souls.

† The Bicentennial Organ can be heard throughout the week.

† Sermons and Children's Chapels open the Scriptures to us.

† Flowers and greens help us to rejoice in the beauty of God's creation.

WE BECOME SAINTS BY REACHING OUT

By reaching out to those beyond our walls we discover the presence of God in all sorts and conditions of people, many of whom are in great need.



- † Our magnificent building, open to the public seven days a week, is significant outreach, in and of itself. Hundreds of people enter, rest, and pray during open door hours.
- † We support the Diocese of New York so that struggling churches in under-resourced communities can stay open and vital.
- † We help to fund the GO Project, our historic outreach partnership with Grace Church School that tutors at-risk public school students.
- † Teams of volunteers work at the Red Door Place to prepare meals for the hungry.
- † Every month we collect hundreds of canned goods and non-perishable items to stock local food pantries and soup kitchens.
- † The Livestream broadcast of the 11 am Sunday service continues to dozens of homes every week.
- † Newcomer classes and events offer a point of connection for seekers and explorers.
- † The Weekly Epistle reaches out to hundreds of households.
- † Our Social media are active and engaged with a wide range of people.
- † Our Website is visited hundreds of times per day.

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WE BECOME SAINTS BY GIVING OF OURSELVES

As we strive together to shine the light of Christ into the world, Grace Church relies on three major sources of revenue: 1.) Annual Giving from parishioners, 2.) Rental Income from real estate holdings, and 3.) A responsible draw on our invested funds.

As we look ahead to 2024, we give thanks for the ongoing recovery of New York City and the economy. Our financial reality is improving:

† Thanks to a one-time generous gift, we were able to eliminate the endowment draw in 2023.

† The church-owned building at 80 4th Avenue is once again fully occupied, including the former retail space on the ground floor.

† Annual giving from parishioners held strong, and even grew, allowing our light to shine.

This year, as every year, Annual giving is vitally important. We simply could not do what we do, and maintain the presence we have without the generous giving of all the saints at Grace Church.



Volunteers from GCW (Grace Church Women) serve ice cream at one of our summer cookouts

HOW TO GIVE

† Count Your Blessings

Pledging is a way to say “thank you” to God for all the blessings of this life: friends, family, forgiveness, employment, a lesson learned, the beauty of creation, and the awareness of God’s presence through troubled times. Part of the enclosed pledge envelope asks you to list a few of the blessings you have known in 2023. Thus, your 2024 pledge is a tangible expression of gratitude. It is the blessings we name on our pledge cards that we hear in the Prayers of the People each Sunday.

† Be Prayerful and Generous

The Bible commends the tithe (10% of one’s income) as a standard of giving. If the tithe seems too high a mark to reach this year, choose a percentage that feels faithful, grateful, and generous. If you gave 2% last year, strive to give 3% or 4% in 2024. Multiply the percentage you choose by your annual income, and make the resulting number your pledge. Make a pledge that stretches you spiritually and financially – one that you cannot fulfill by writing one check today.

† Fulfill Your Pledge

Once you have completed both portions of the pledge card, either mail it to the parish office, or place it in the offering plate the next Sunday you are in church. You can begin to make pledge payments in 2024, and take the entire year to fulfill your pledge. Parishioners can choose offering envelopes to make weekly payments, or set up automatic payments by giving online at gracechurchnyc.org.

**Questions? Contact Travis Brock Kennedy
at tkennedy@gracechurchnyc.org.**

BUDGET DIGEST

	2022 Actual	2023 Estimated	2024 Budget (est.)
REVENUE			
Pledge Payments	\$1,364,033	\$1,152,000	\$1,300,000
Plate/Ministries/ Programs	96,680	89,800	109,000
General Support/Space Rental	170,258	195,727	191,000
Federal Cares Act/ Other	326,062	1,016,839	100,000
REAL ESTATE REVENUE			
Rental Income - 100 & 102 4th Ave.	172,850	173,612	183,000
Owner Distribution - 80 4th Ave.	-	150,000	200,000
DRAW ON INVESTMENTS			
	450,000	-	781,000
TOTAL REVENUE	\$2,579,883	\$2,777,978	\$2,864,000
EXPENSES			
Parish Ministry	\$468,038	\$557,309	\$574,000
Outreach/GO Project	166,488	175,000	180,000
Music	292,409	308,474	317,000
Diocesan Support	250,060	228,385	240,000
Fabric and Grounds	563,558	719,903	741,000
Administration	623,777	671,907	692,000
Capital Improvements	52,668	117,000	120,000
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2,416,998	\$2,777,978	\$2,864,000
NET SURPLUS/ DEFICIT	\$162,885	\$0	\$0



GRACE
CHURCH
IN NEW YORK

Gifts to Grace Church
(EIN: 13-5562327)
are tax-deductible to the
fullest extent of the law.

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