

Grace Notes

One New Episcopal Church From Two Historic Parishes

Volume 4 Number 4

April 2024

CHRIST IS RISEN!



THE LORD IS RISEN INDEED!

FR. HAL'S MONTHLY MESSAGE

Wow! What a fabulous Lent and Holy Week we just concluded! We had terrific Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil, and Easter Day services. Many thanks to all those who were involved in the planning, set up, reading, singing, staging, cooking, take down -- and all the other activities (like Easter egg hiding!) -- that make these services vibrant and joyful. All the services were well attended, and it was a great week for all who participated. And that's within the context of sharing our Trinity campus with the Ossining Homeless Shelter during Holy Week so over a dozen Ossining residents could have food and shelter during the last week of the homeless program. Great job, everyone! Indeed, I believe Jesus would say to us, "Well done, you good and faithful servant!" (Matthew 25:21).



Now we begin the pivot toward summer. In April, for example, we celebrate our second Spring Blessing Sunday. As you recall, last year we implemented a Spring Blessing service to balance out the spring Fifth Sunday activities, focusing on a non-profit that we wanted to learn more about and to support. Last year's non-profit was the IFCA Housing Network and the speaker was our own Jackie Shaw, the Executive Director. This year, the vestry choose to promote and support AFEDJ: The American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem. See their website – <http://www.afedj.org> – to learn about all the wonderful humanitarian work they are doing. The Episcopal Church owns and supports many hospitals and schools in Gaza, the West Bank, and other places in Israel, providing care to all free of charge. They are overwhelmed these days as a result of the war. One of their local speakers, Ms. Amanda Slattery, an Episcopalian, will speak to us on Sunday, April 14 at our 10:30 AM service at St. Paul's to help us learn more about this important, international Episcopal resource and how we can help support it.

As you will note in the Vestry Report, we are implementing many of the campus improvement goals for 2024. These involve addressing deferred maintenance issues on both campuses and readying the St. Paul's campus for more rentals and tenants. As you may recall, in my priest's report at our February 2024 annual meeting, I shared the vestry's list of Grace Goals for 2024. Starting this month, we will be providing you with a monthly update on the progress we are making toward these 2024 goals. (You can find this month's report on page 5.) When we convene again as a parish community to evaluate our progress on the Fall Fifth Sunday (September 29th), we will review our progress in detail and see how well we are doing. As you can see from the summary, so far so good! Let's keep it up!

As usual in our monthly newsletters, we have lots of GO! (Grace Outing) events, especially with the Bethany Art Community (BAC) this month. Check out BAC's great April programming here: <https://bethanyarts.org/calendar/>. There is also a chance to view the solar eclipse locally at Mariandale at their "Brother Sun, Sister Moon Eclipse Watch Party" on Monday, April 8th. See page 16 for more information. As always, invite friends and GO!

Finally, let's give thanks to God for the Resurrection of his Son, Jesus, our Lord, from the dead. Let us also give thanks to God and Christ for the resurrection of St. Paul's and Trinity as Grace Church Ossining. Without the merger, it would have been a dark end in the Saturday tomb for both churches. Because of the merger and our combined communities, resources, faithfulness, and compassionate activity, we are a Resurrection parish, looking confidently toward the future. You can see it all over this month's (and every month's) newsletter. And -- we are just getting started. Thanks be to God!

Many thanks also to you for your faithfulness, caring, support, prayerfulness, and participation. You -- and all of us together! -- are making a huge difference. Thanks be to God!

With Resurrection gratitude, power, and positivity for our future,

I remain faithfully yours,

Hal+





DEACON'S CORNER

On the Tuesday of Holy Week, clergy serving in the Diocese of New York are invited to the Cathedral of St. John the Divine to renew our vows. Father Hal and I were there, along with so many others from churches all throughout New York City, Westchester, Rockland, and counties to the north.

My diaconal avocation is all still new to me. It is only my second year attending this service. I am well aware that I have so much to learn. I am completely certain, though, about my call; my reason for doing this work.

In our *Book of Common Prayer*, a deacon answers a call “to a special ministry of servanthood” directly under the bishop. “In the name of Jesus Christ, you are to serve all people, particularly the poor, the weak, the sick, and the lonely.”

Which ones of us cannot relate to these realities in life? We have all had to deal with financial setbacks, an illness, a state of powerlessness over a loved one, or another life circumstance. We have all experienced loneliness. Perhaps you, like me, have had times in life when you experienced all four at the same time.

What can we do? For me, the first step is to make connection and build community. I know, this is easier said than done when we are struggling. Still, it is important to open to God and others. There is no point in going it alone. Aside from urging everyone to attend Sunday morning services and to participate in the fellowship that follows, I want to offer two other resources.

One is the Diocese’s service of Morning Prayer, which happens on Zoom, Monday through Friday, at 8:00 AM. Bishop Matt Heyd started this last fall and I think it was a brilliant move. Proof is in the response. Every morning, 150 to 185 people log on to listen to the readings and reflections, and to offer their personal prayers. The Zoom link is sent out every week in Grace’s e-newsletter.

My other suggestion is to attend New York Deacons in Prayer, which is streamed on Facebook Live every evening at 8:30. We all take turns reading Compline and asking for your prayers. Just search for our Facebook page to find us.

Deacon Jean Marie



OUR 2024 GRACE CHURCH OSSINING GOALS THE APRIL UPDATE

As you will recall, at our Grace February 2024 annual meeting, Fr. Hal articulated goals for Grace to achieve in 2024. We will report our progress toward these goals at our Fall Fifth Sunday meeting, on Sunday, September 29, 2024 at our St. Paul's campus. This is a new section of the monthly newsletter, which will provide a monthly update on our progress towards these 2024 Grace goals.

Teaching (Listening/Mutual Instruction)

- 1) Launch a weekly Zoom Evening Bible Study so people inside and outside Grace can participate from home. **(Accomplished, started on February 27, 2024)**
- 2) Share our campus space with groups seeking to do public talks to promote the common good and to increase public exposure to Grace. **(Accomplished, starting with Living Resources' use of the St. Paul's kitchen each Friday from 10:00 – noon; more groups potentially to follow.)**
- 3) **Additional developments:** Children's Bible study and craft projects begun for the few children who have been visiting intermittently, led by Deacon Jean Marie.

Preaching (Worship)

- 1) Change signage at both locations to promote Grace, not St. Paul's or Trinity.
- 2) Experiment with Jewish, Christian, and Muslim interfaith prayer services that bring people together to affirm God's love for all and God's dream of peace and justice for all. **(Started, and will lead to public prayer opportunities in 2024 once the group decides on a format, venue, etc.)**
- 3) Include an interfaith worship component in this year's Art & Action Fifth Sunday service on June 30, 2024 at Trinity. **(Currently in the planning stages; more information to follow when finalized.)**

- 4) Start an annual parish retreat to Holy Cross Monastery sometime in 2024. **(Scheduled for January 2025! More information to follow as the date draws near.)**
- 5) Schedule Grace's Lay Worship leaders to lead Morning Prayer and to preach at least once a year to support their ministry and to keep their skills sharp. **(In progress; we are beginning to schedule people for July and August 2024.)**
- 6) **Additional Developments:** Expanded 2024 Easter Vigil with All Saints' to include other local Episcopal Churches, including St. John's Pleasantville, Christ Church San Marcos Tarrytown, and St. Peter's Peekskill. This included Bishop Matt's attendance!

Pastoral Care (Ministries Of Support for Those Inside and Outside the Parish)

- 1) Launch the Grace Care Team for those who wish to provide pastoral care to parishioners.
- 2) Recruit people for the Grace Ride Support program; determine its need and viability. **(Started recruiting lists of drivers; accomplished for Holy Week 2024 services).**
- 3) Recruit people for the Grace Temporary Food Support program; determine its need and viability.
- 4) Identify a leader for Grace's Social Justice ministry.
- 5) Schedule more GO! events in 2024, with some during the daytime. **(Done! Read our monthly newsletter to learn about GO! events each month. GO!)**

Administrative Functioning to Support All The Above

- 1) Restructure the investment and financial accounting systems to incorporate a bookkeeper with greater "checks and balances" recording and greater support of regular bookkeeping tasks. **(Started March 2024; progressing well as the new systems for bookkeeper and treasurer positions are being designed and implemented.)**
- 2) Clean, prepare, market, and rent all identified space at St. Paul's and Trinity to substantially increase Grace's rental income. Market our spaces with a realtor in relevant online databases for greatest exposure and success. **(Approved at the March 2024 vestry meeting. Contractors recommended by the parish are being sought; paint, improvement, and repair scope of work projects are being identified at St. Paul's so work can commence ideally in May 2024.)**

- 3) Support the Buildings & Grounds committee in assessing, appraising, and prioritizing all buildings and grounds needs. **(Started with suggested changes to B&G policies approved at the March vestry meeting; B&G work projects, especially at Trinity, continue to progress monthly.)**
- 4) Create updated job descriptions for all paid staff with regular performance reviews so staff can operate at maximum efficiency and effectiveness. **(Research started with implementation with priest expected in April 2024 and other roles to follow later in 2024.)**
- 5) **Additional developments:** Grace Welcome Bags, which include a welcome letter from the priest and the *Grace Ministries* booklet, are being distributed to all visitors at both campuses.



OUR UPCOMING SERVICES

April 4	7:00 PM	Evening Grace Meditative Service (Trinity Campus)	
April 7	10:30 AM	Holy Eucharist (Trinity Campus)	The Second Sunday of Easter
April 14	10:30 AM	Holy Eucharist (St. Paul's Campus)	The Third Sunday of Easter
April 18	7:00 PM	Evening Grace Meditative Service (Trinity Campus)	
April 21	10:30 AM	Holy Eucharist (Trinity Campus)	The Third Sunday of Easter
April 28	10:30 AM	Holy Eucharist (St. Paul's Campus)	The Fourth Sunday of Easter

All Sunday services are live streamed to our YouTube channel. And you can also find them there and on our Facebook page after the service is over. The links are:

YouTube Channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCP1qGAuJlIxWU8Z_ucCKEGA
 Grace's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/graceossining/>

HOLY WEEK AT GRACE



THE MAUNDY



ALTAR OF REPOSE



RECEPTION TABLE



CHRIS BOSWELL CELEBRATES 90 YEARS!



WARDEN'S REPORT

GRACE marched into spring full of goodwill and gratitude...**Happy Easter!**

- Once again, Grace answered the call and is sheltering the homeless for one more week from March 25th to April 1st at the Trinity campus.
- The Vestry approved Grace's Parochial Report for 2023.
- Grace welcomes Megan Whalen, our new bookkeeper, who officially started on March 12th. Join the vestry in thanking Kate Pendzuk for her invaluable assistance during this transition in updating our Treasurer/Bookkeeping business plan with Megan and our newly appointed treasurer, Beth Pollack. *"Many hands make light work."*
- The Vestry has approved needed improvements to our historic St. Paul's campus, focusing on our potential rental opportunities of the former Attic Treasures Room, Lantern Shop, and Parish Hall. This expense will be offset by the money received from the Joan Hamshire estate. If you have a contractor (construction, paint, electrical) or any related recommendations, please forward them to Tina. Thanks to those who have already responded.
- March was Developmental Disability Awareness Month and Grace approved a space agreement with Living Resources, a non-profit dedicated to supporting and empowering disabled adults. They will be using St. Paul's kitchen on Fridays from 10:00–12:30 to teach cooking. [Click here](#) for more information.
- Buildings & Grounds approved several projects, repairing loose bricks on the shed wall on the St. Paul's campus and damaged/ unsteady slate steps at both campuses.

- **Joseph's Garden:** some of the new stones will be reconfigured to create a less crowded, better spaced and more calming and balanced look.
- **Important Update on the Trinity Kitchen:** the recently ordered commercial dishwasher and a new double sink (required by the county Health Department for Loaves & Fish) will be installed soon. Look for an announcement in April to help reorganize and stock the cabinets and drawers.
- **Save the Date: Sunday, April 14th, Blessing Sunday,** with Amanda Slattery representing the American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem (AFEDJ). [Click here](#) for more information on this organization.
- **Attention All Book Lovers!** Please consider supporting the Open Door Medical Center by contributing English and/or Spanish books for children aged 0-14 to their Book Drive. Details on how to do this and also on how to run your own Book Drive in support are on the next page. Thanks in advance! (Jane Levy, Senior Manager of Volunteer Services, is in charge of this program and Open Door is one of our St. Paul's campus tenants. You can drop off donations at Grace provided the books meet the conditions spelled out on the Open Door poster.)

Grace needs you! Please share your thoughts with Hal and the vestry, let us know how we are doing and how you might help.

Wardens: Darryl Moy (2026) darryl.moy@gmail.com
 Cecilia Quintero (2025) cquintero1506@gmail.com

Vestry Members:
 Sarah Davis (2025) songbird0606@outlook.com
 Kellie Ishmael (2027) kellieishmael@gmail.com
 Milton Kerr (2027) mkdj46@yahoo.com
 Maribeth Osgood (2025) mosgood@optonline.net
 Jo Ann McGrath (2026) mcgrathinator@gmail.com
 Kate Pendzuk (2026) katependzuk@gmail.com



OPEN DOOR
FAMILY MEDICAL CENTER
AND FOUNDATION

DONATE NEW AND GENTLY USED BOOKS

Many of the families we serve don't have books at home to read together.
You can help change that!

Before you begin your drive, please confirm that we are accepting books at this time by contacting Jane Levy, Senior Manager of Volunteer Services at jlevy@odfmc.org or 914-606-1858.

EASY STEPS TO HOST A BOOK DRIVE

- Complete our form: <https://rebrand.ly/bookdriveflierform>
- Length: We recommend two weeks, including two weekends, for your book drive.
- Consider including an Open Door Crowdfunding option to your Book Drive. Funds allow us to purchase new books at discounted prices. Contact Jane Levy for additional information jlevy@odfmc.org.
- Create a flier or use our editable Book Drive flier by [downloading here](#).
- Spread the word on your social media sites. We also will share the news of your book drive.
- Start collecting!

Collect gently used and new books for ages 0 - 14 including Spanish language, and nonfiction books. Please note: we cannot accept religious, textbooks, activity, encyclopedias, broken, torn, or outdated books.

WHEN YOUR DRIVE ENDS

Help us by sorting, organizing, and counting your donations.

- We ask that books must be counted and sorted before delivery. Download our Box Labels to help sort and label your donations. Remember to include your name or name of organization on boxes.
- Sort books by general age level, type, or category - such as series and/or topic.

For example, you can sort by: picture books, board books, early chapter books, chapter books, preschool, elementary books, young adult, high school, etc.

BOOKS WE ACCEPT

We are only accepting new & very gently used books for children ages 0 - 14

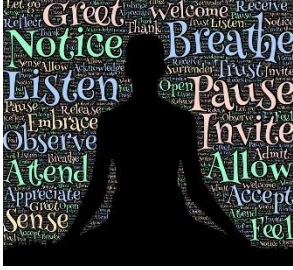
WE CANNOT ACCEPT BOOKS THAT ARE

- Dirty, dusty, wet, chewed, ripped, bent, folded, highlighted, doodled, written in or moldy books
- Books missing covers or pages
- Vintage and obsolete books
- Magazines
- Partially used activity books
- Nonfiction over twelve years old
- Textbooks and curriculum materials
- Encyclopedias
- Audio cassettes, VHS tapes, DVDs
- Adult books
- Religious books

To schedule your book donation delivery:

Contact Jane Levy at jlevy@odfmc.org or 914-606-1858 to schedule a delivery date and time at Open Door Family Medical Center, 165 Main Street, Ossining, NY 10562

EVENING GRACE



Evening Grace is a bi-weekly lay-led spiritual service based on quiet meditation and alternate forms of worship including movement, chanting, walking meditation, etc. We meet the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month at our Trinity campus.

We hope you can join us! Questions? Contact us at eveninggrace@graceossining.org.

Interested in leading Morning Prayer and Preaching one Sunday in July and August?

Contact tina@graceossining.org to schedule a Sunday. Thanks!



THE BOOK CLUB'S CLOSING PRAYER ON MARCH 10

Read by Fr. Hal, as modified by Homiletics Professor Roger Painter

May the Lord Bless you and keep you.

May the Lord make his face to shine upon you and
be gracious unto you.

May God give you grace not to sell yourself short,
Grace to risk something big for something good,
Grace to remember that the world is now too dangerous
for anything but truth, and too small for anything but love.

May God take your minds and think through them.

May God take your lips and speak through them.

May God take your hands and work through them.

May God take your hearts and set them on fire.



Weekly Bible Study is a new Zoom ministry on Tuesdays from 7:00-8:00 PM. The Gospel to be discussed will be listed in the Friday and Tuesday email messages, as will the Zoom link. You can learn what that is weekly by visiting www.lectionarypage.net. Bookmark it!

Led by Fr. Hal, we will ask questions such as:

- What do you like about the lesson?
- What makes sense to you?
- What do you dislike?
- What doesn't make sense?
- If you had to preach on this scripture, what would the theme be? Why?

Some great features of this Bible Study are that one is never behind. If you miss a week, it's a different lesson next week and it's never cumulative. No knowledge of the Bible needed; just curiosity and a desire to learn more. No special translation needed, either.

Btw, the link will also be sent in Tuesday's message. Come check it out!



A new Building Safety and Access Task Force has been formed to review the safety of and access of all Grace's buildings. If you have any interest or suggestions, please contact Amy Kitahata-Sporn at: Amykitspo@gmail.com.

Grace in Grief



This confidential, safe, and welcoming grief support program meets bi-monthly from 10:00-11:30 AM on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month in St. Paul's Campus Family Room. Open to people of all faiths, seeking support for the loss of a loved one. Our April dates are:

April 13

April 27

This is open to all who may be grieving in our Ossining/Briarcliff community! If you, or someone you know, may be seeking a group to help you process, live, and learn from a supportive community please, have them contact Fr. Hal hal@graceossining.org or Cecilia Quintero cquintero1506@gmail.com

THE OSSINING FOOD PANTRY NEEDS HELP!



Currently, the Ossining Food Pantry is looking for someone to respond to inquiries about volunteering with the OFP. Phone and email messages are directed to the appropriate team leader after initial screening. This Volunteer Coordinator job can be done from home but does require computer access. Please consider donating your time to assist this vital community organization.

The Pantry also needs volunteers to help out with food distribution, particularly from 6:00-8:00 PM on Wednesdays. An ability to speak Spanish would be a real plus!!

If you're interested, please contact Tam Hernández or Sue Monroe for more information. You can also email OssFoodPan@gmail.com or call 914-762-5510 to leave a message.

GEORGE KLAUS HOLSTEN
1938-2024



O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of your servant George and grant him an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of your saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Look with pity upon the sorrows of your servants for whom we pray. Remember them, Lord, in your mercy; nourish them with patience; comfort them with a sense of your goodness; lift up your countenance upon them; and give them peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. You consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; draw near to us who mourn for George and dry the tears of those who weep.

Amen.



BROTHER SUN, SISTER MOON An Eclipse Watch Party at Mariandale

On the afternoon of Monday, April 8, North Americans will experience a rare total solar eclipse. In the path of totality, skies will darken for a full 4 minutes and 28 seconds.

In Ossining, we'll experience a partial (91% eclipse)– still a stunning sight – beginning at 2:11 PM with the maximum coverage occurring at 3:26 PM! The eclipse ends at 4:36 PM

The Center at Mariandale will host a free, interfaith Eclipse Watch Party, beginning at 2:30 PM on the grounds near the labyrinth. Guests are invited to walk the labyrinth if they choose to. Representatives of local houses of worship will offer interfaith prayers and short reflections.

Eclipses are sometimes associated with new beginnings, personal renewal, and societal transformation. They're a time to pause and wonder and contemplate our place in the universe. Mariandale Center Executive Director Carl Procario-Foley, Ph.D. observed, "Our many and diverse faith traditions are calling for an ecological consciousness as we address the environmental crisis. Such consciousness begins with wonder and awe, two gifts this solar eclipse offers so magnificently to us all."

This special Watch Party party begins at 2:30 PM and wraps up at 4:30. Eclipse glasses and snacks will be available.

The event is free of charge and there's no registration required. All ages are welcome!

The Center at Mariandale is located at 299 North Highland Avenue.

For more information, please contact Jane Hanley at jhanley@mariandale.org



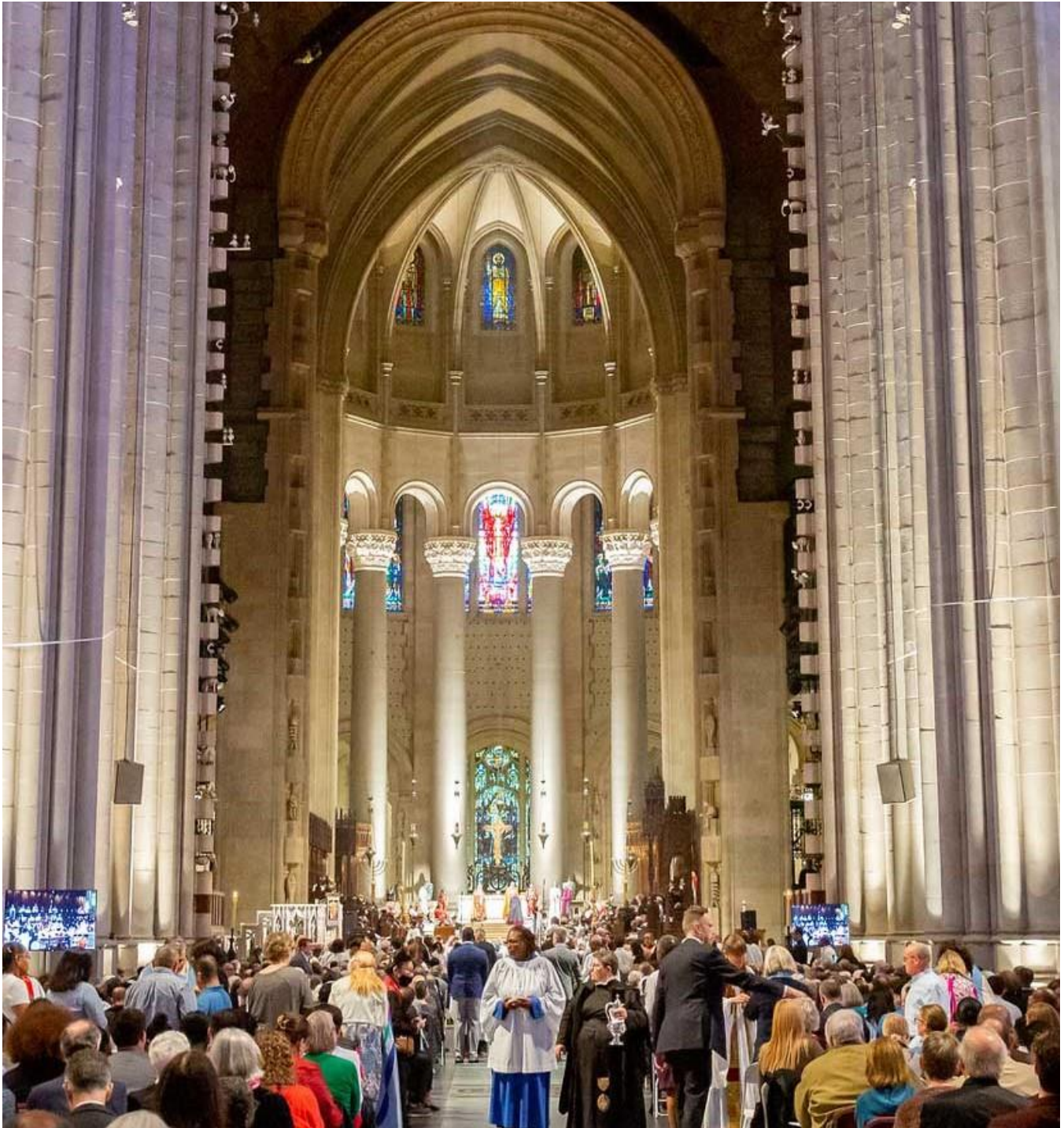
Applications for the Bethany Arts Community's 2024 Fall Multidisciplinary Residency are now open. The deadline to apply is **April 10, 2024 at 11:59 PM EDT**.

BAC's annual Fall Multidisciplinary Residency welcomes artists working across any discipline and medium, including visual artists, sculptors, writers, playwrights, choreographers, musicians, composers, performance artists, filmmakers, and more. **Any and all artistic mediums are encouraged to apply.** Enjoy an environment where artists from different disciplines and walks of life can work in community and near each other, creating opportunities for generative collaboration and cross-pollination.

This year's Residency runs for two sessions, **September 23 to October 7** and **October 18 to November 4**, each with its own cohort. Artists are provided room and board, a private studio conducive to artists' medium and/or project, 3 basic meals a day*, and a \$225 stipend per week upon completion of the residency. Artist team applications will be considered for groups of up to 3 members.

More information & link to apply: <https://bethanyarts.submittable.com/submit>

THE INSTALLATION OF BISHOP MATTHEW F. HEYD
17TH BISHOP OF NEW YORK



Recognize anyone?

SAVE THE DATE

Honor & Celebrate AAPI Heritage & Ministry

Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month

The 10th Anniversary

The consecration of

The Rt Rev Allen K. Shin

Bishop Suffragan of the Diocese of New York

Friday, May 17th 2024

6 - 8 pm

The Cathedral Church of
St John the Divine
New York City





The
Episcopal Diocese
of New York

The Episcopal/Jewish Dialogue Committee of the Ecumenical and Interreligious Commission of the Diocese of New York presents a series of Educational Forums on

Facing Christian Anti-Judaism: Recognizing and Understanding Interreligious Implications in the Revised Common Lectionary and Hymnody in the Church

On five Thursday evenings in 2024 7:00-8:30 PM Via Zoom



Session 5

Thursday, April 18

A Peace Proposal for Jews and Christians

[Click here for more information and to register for the Zoom webinars](#)



APRIL EVENTS

- 6 Hospitality Steering Committee (11:00 AM, Trinity Campus)
- 13 Grace in Grief (10:00 AM, St. Paul's Campus)
- 14 Spring Blessing Sunday (10:30 AM, St. Paul's Campus)
- 24 Vestry Meeting (7:00 PM, location TBD)
- 27 Grace in Grief (10:00 AM, St. Paul's Campus)

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Michael Bomwell	2	Marti Bowen	18
Katrina DiLoreto	3	Warren Dyckman	18
Ellie Houghtaling	3	Kara Pauline	19
Michael Pasieka	3	Arlene Lazaro	20
Leslie Blatz	4	Lisa Rosenbloom	20
Graham Gulian	7	Domenic Valentine Triano	22
Robert Pauline	7	Charlie Gulian	23
Dorothee Caulfield	8	Hannah Ok Beaudreault	24
Randall Moeller	8	Scott Hunt	24
Karen Otten	8	Maureen Washburn	25
Sheryl Muth	9	Elma Dixon	26
April Lynn Dias	11	Synara Okyne-Aryee	26
Kayla Skylar Nixon	13	Frances King	26
Ann Visconti	13	Bill Plank	29
Liam Houghtaling	16		

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

Donna and Neville Harvey	12
Kate and Steve Pendzuk	24



CLERGY

The Rev. Hal Roark, Priest-in-Charge
The Rev. Jean Marie Angelo, Deacon

VESTRY

Darryl Moy, Warden Cecilia Quintero, Warden
Jo Ann McGrath, Clerk

Sarah Davis Maribeth Osgood
Kellie Ishmael Kate Pendzuk
Milton Kerr

STAFF

Beth Pollack, Treasurer
Tina Farrell and Tamsen Hernández, Parish Administrators
Suji Jung, Music Director
Katherine Pendzuk, Verger
Megan Whalen, Bookkeeper
Anthony Sena, Sexton, St. Paul's Campus
Pablo Montoya, Sexton, Trinity Campus

MISSION STATEMENT

To love God is a call to action. Strengthened by prayer, worship, and study, Grace Church embraces and serves all people, the earth, and every living thing.