

Grace Notes

One New Episcopal Church From Two Historic Parishes

Volume 5 Number 7

July/August 2025

HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY, EVERYONE!

We had a very successful program year!. Congratulate yourself! We capped it off last weekend with our most successful Art & Action event yet in the three years we've experimented with it with our friends at Bethany Arts Community (BAC) and ENU Builds. Over last weekend, we had more than 300 visitors come to Grace's Trinity campus to experience the different visual and vocal artists, including the wonderful Ossining Sings! concert raising money for Neighbors Link.

And that's not the end of the recent good news for Grace!



Along with local clergy, I met with Bishop Matt on June 25th in Tarrytown and learned that, according to the new diocesan assessment formula, Grace's diocesan assessment will go DOWN for 2025 and following. Wonderful! Also, last Monday, June 30th, I met with Bishop Matt, Canon Alissa Newton, and other priests at Trinity Wall Street to discuss the success we are having in our parishes and what indicators we are using to measure the success. Bishop Matt and his staff are serious about creating new indicators to measure parish health, wellness, and success, and it was a privilege to be invited to that enlivening conversation.

Speaking of success, I have two more great things to share with you.

First, the vestry has chosen a company to compile all our deferred maintenance, repair, and facility assessment data at both campuses so we can eventually do an assessment of St. Paul's and Trinity. The firm is Parish Property Management (also known as PPM) from Pelham, NY (<https://parishmgt.com>). They are the firm our diocese uses for all its property issues. PPM is going to perform a Level 2 Facility Conditions Assessment of both the St. Paul's and Trinity campuses, and that includes the following:

- Inspect the various building systems and provide ratings of each system.
- Identify and photograph major deficiencies which require repair/replacement.
- Forecast and schedule (triage) of capital repairs and their respective costs over the next 5-10 years.
- Hyperlinks to photographs depicting the systems and their respective deficiencies.
- Provide an Executive Summary describing the various systems and their relative condition. The Executive Summary also includes a Facility Conditions Index¹ (FCI) rating of the entire building.

We expect PPM to finish the Level 2 Facility Conditions Assessment reports by the fall.

Second, the vestry, after months of discussion and investigation, has chosen the Open Door New Futures (ODNF) program from the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island to follow for Grace's discernment of its future. It is. You can learn about it here: <https://www.dioceseli.org/open-doors-new-futures>. While our diocese's use of the College of Congregational Development (CCD) model is highly compatible with ODNF — indeed, I'm going to the CCD training this month from July 13-18 in Astoria — it will be years before CCD is fully implemented in our diocese and time is of the essence for Grace.

Additionally, we have hired the Rev. Canon Claire Woodley -- who has lived in Ossining for decades and oversaw ODNF for the Diocese of Long Island for years before her recent retirement — as a consultant to help Grace implement ODNF successfully. While retired, Rev. Claire still consults for ODNF because she is passionate about its successful outcomes.

The question Rev. Claire will lead Grace to answer is: What is God now calling Grace to do? A campus is but a tool, and all tools serve a purpose: What is God calling Grace to be and do from this time forward? Once we can answer together that question, then we can answer together the campus question.

We are going to be doing a lot of discernment together as a community starting in the fall. To learn more about the art and skill of spiritual discernment, buy a copy of *Grounded in God: Listening Hearts Discernment for Group Deliberations* (Revised Edition) by Suzanne G. Farnham, Stephanie A. Hull, and R. Taylor McLean). It's available from Amazon, Church Publishing, and Barnes and Noble. [Click here](#) for more information. Grace is also buying some copies for people to borrow and share. Contact Tina (tina@graceossining.org) to borrow a copy from the office.

Finally, keep praying the discernment prayer for Grace that we created months ago and have been praying at Sunday services weekly:

Almighty and everliving God, source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with us as we take counsel for the renewal and mission of Grace Church. Teach us in all things to listen to the Holy Spirit and seek first your honor and glory. Guide us to perceive what is right, and grant us both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Rest this summer, Beloved. We have important work to do together in the fall.

Remembering you with love and prayers,

Fr. Hal+

DEACON'S MESSAGE

It's a very busy season!



The Episcopal Diocese of New York marched for Heritage of Pride on Sunday, June 29. My wife, Ann Post, designed the banner for the Trans Task Force, which was one of many churches and groups represented. All of our bishops and many clergy walked alongside our many community members and supporters.

And coming soon...

A Choral Evensong will be held on Sunday, July 13, at 4:00 PM, offered in partnership with the Diocesan LGBTQ Concerns Committee. The Cathedral is honored to welcome the Most Reverend Sean W. Rowe, Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church, as preacher at this special service. Following Evensong, Bishop Rowe will also preside at a brief celebration of Holy Eucharist.

I have been asked to write the prayers of intercession. I am both honored and intimidated! I greatly appreciate the diocese's commitment and loving welcome to all.



This event will take place in person and via livestream. The video will be available on the Cathedral's YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/@EpiscoNY>

Your Deacon,

Jean Marie

A Place at the Table

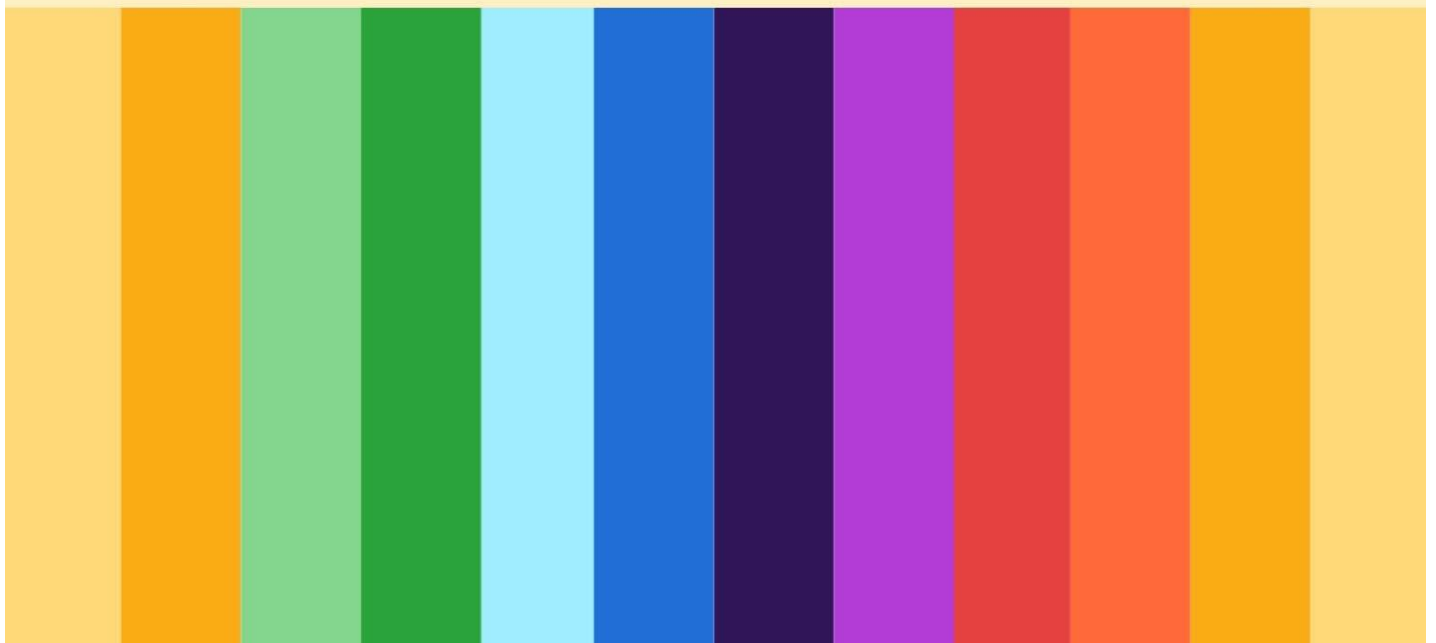
Celebrating the Witness
of LGBTQIA+ Christians



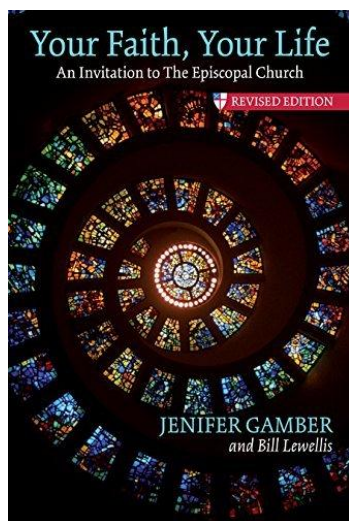
Sunday July 13
4:00 pm Choral Evensong,
Eucharist at the High Altar to follow
The Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine
1047 Amsterdam Avenue



Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe,
Preacher and Celebrant



INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT OUR FAITH?



All are welcome to join a new study group that will meet on select Sundays after service during the summer months, using *Your Faith, Your Life* as our discussion guide.

This book and study guide has important material for those inquiring about faith, but is also meant for adult formation groups and lifelong Episcopalians who desire to know more about their church. The language of worship, theology, church structure, sacraments, and discipleship offers a framework to explore the meaning and practice of being an Episcopalian and follower of Jesus.

This updated and revised version of the popular original 2009 book incorporates new initiatives and changes in the Episcopal Church, including marriage, inclusion of LGBTQ persons, former Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's call to join the Jesus Movement, and taking our faith out into the world, following our baptismal promises. Each chapter includes discussion questions.

It is available from Church Publishing ([click here](#) to be linked to their distributor), and Amazon ([click here](#)). Let me know if you are interested.

Deacon Jean Marie

jeanmarieangelo@gmail.com

(914) 318-0056

HELP FOR THE OSSINING FOOD PANTRY

The Food Pantry is still facing tremendous demand. If you would like to donate to help this cause, the items pictured below are the most expensive to source from our suppliers in the smaller sizes we need for distribution to our client families: Rice, instant coffee, peanut butter, vegetable oil, and jelly. If you have questions, please contact Sue at m1roz@msn.com





OUR UPCOMING SERVICES

July 6	10:30 AM	Holy Baptism and Eucharist (Trinity Campus)	Proper 9
July 13	10:30 AM	Morning Prayer (St. Paul's Campus)	Proper 10
July 20	10:30 AM	Morning Prayer (Trinity Campus)	Proper 11
July 27	10:30 AM	Morning Prayer (St. Paul's Campus)	Proper 12
August 3	10:30 AM	Holy Eucharist (Trinity Campus)	Proper 13
August 10	10:30 AM	Holy Eucharist (St. Paul's Campus)	Proper 14
August 17	10:30 AM	Holy Eucharist (Trinity Campus)	St. Mary the Virgin
August 24	10:30 AM	Holy Eucharist (St. Paul's Campus)	Proper 16
August 31	10:30 AM	Morning Prayer (St. Paul's Campus)	Proper 17

All Sunday services are live streamed to our YouTube channel. You can find our recorded services 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/>

WARDENS' REPORT

"We need God's Grace. We need each other.
And together we can witness together to God's love
that's been given to us and to the whole world."

—Bishop Matthew Heyd

While we have mourned the multiple losses of beloved members of our church family this year, it has been reassuring to see how our church has always stepped up to take care of all the logistical details ranging from liturgy, music, and burials to food, flowers, and confections. The celebration of life events always unfolds in a loving and personal level, the loved ones are seen, heard, embraced, and reminded that they will always have their friends & family from Grace. Seeing our former priests Philip Kunhardt, Stephen Holton, Cooper Conway, Charles Mayer, and Carole Johannsen, and our former deacon, Dorothee Caulfield, all celebrating at Jim Bowen's memorial service with Fr. Hal was a very moving and beautiful farewell to our friend Jim.



We have updated our Grace Episcopal Church Welcomes You brochure in time for the June 29th festivities at our Trinity Campus. It is a quick introduction to our Food Missions, Grief Group, Emergency Shelter Program, REPAIR, and other programs. It has links to our website and our YouTube channel and invites folks to read our Grace Notes monthly newsletter. So, feel free to check it out and definitely make it a point to share a copy with anyone new who may be joining us for a service or event. Thanks!

The Art & Action Weekend at our downtown Sanctuary on Saturday and the Ossining Sings! event on Sunday (which raised money for Neighbors Link) all helped create such a colorful, and inviting experience to all about the importance of advocacy, artistic expression and inclusion on Pride Weekend, and was a very well-attended Fifth Sunday event. It served as a powerful reminder of our talented community and the fact that we are all stronger and more effective together. It was a most welcoming and hopeful event for a better future! As our Bishop recently said, "We need God's Grace. We need each other."

Truly, it takes a village to keep things running at Grace!!! AMEN!

Wardens:	Graham Gulian (2026) ggulian@gmail.com Cecilia Quintero (2027) cquintero1506@gmail.com
Vestry Members:	Ann Barringer Spaeth (2027) abspaeth55@gmail.com Alison Ford (2028) alisonford@msn.com Milton Kerr (2027) mkdj46@yahoo.com Jo Ann McGrath (2026) mcgrathinator@gmail.com Maribeth Osgood (2028) mbosgood@outlook.com

GRACE GRIEF GROUP

THE GRIEF GROUP welcomes anyone in the community who may be seeking support because of the loss of a loved one, or any other life changing event.

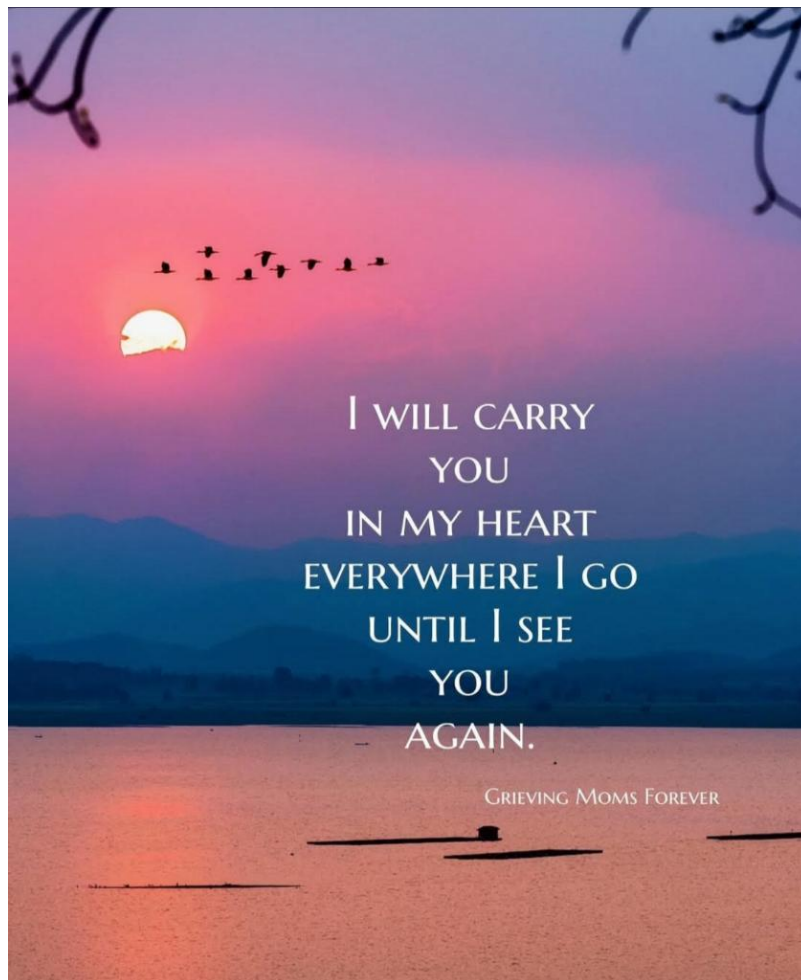
There is no need to register.

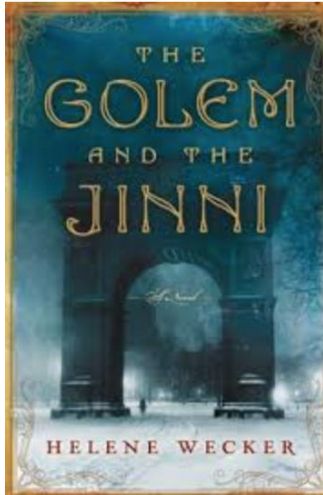
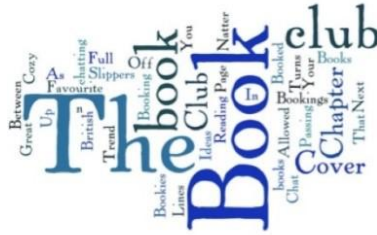
We meet in the Family Room on our St. Paul's Campus (40 Ganung Drive)
at 10:00 AM on Saturdays. Our summer dates are:

July 12th and July 26th

August 9th and August 23rd

ALL ARE WELCOME!





We are scheduling this book discussion on July 13th @ our St. Paul's campus!

This amazing page-turner will be fun to discuss!!! If you are interested in learning more about the author and this book, here is an interview with Helene Wecker and a member of the Scarsdale Library. (FYI, the running time is 50 minutes and contains spoilers.) Enjoy!

Helene Wecker discusses *The Golem and the Jinni* with the Library Libations Book Club:

[Click here](#) and page down to their video section. The one you want is on the third page to the right.



We were happy to be with the Bowen family as they said farewell to Jim.

CHURCH PICNIC CELEBRATING THE END OF OUR 2024-2025 PROGRAM YEAR



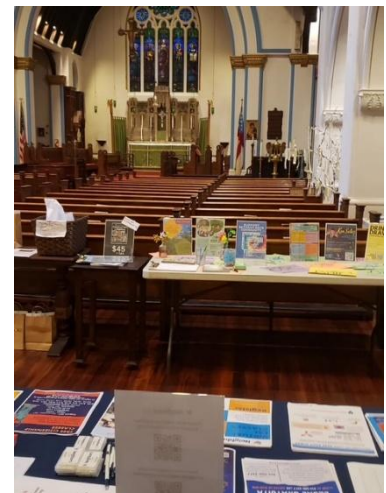
Our Grillers



Lunch is Served!



ART AND ACTION WEEKEND



We welcomed local artists and held the wonderful *Ossining Sings!* concert in support of Neighbors Link. Lisa Rosenbloom did the heavy lifting of organizing the concert (thank you, Lisa!), which featured our Grace choir, the Old Mill Singers, the Westchester Women's Chorus, and the a cappella group, Sing We Enchanted. 176 people attended and we took in over \$1,300 that day, with hopes of more coming in via the QR code in the program.

REPAIR

Rivertowns Episcopal Parishes Action on Inclusion and Race

VIGIL FOR IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES, June 18, 2025

"This ministry of sanctuary is central to who we are.
Our congregations and our service programs welcome everybody.
This is what our faith calls us to do."

--Bishop Matthew Heyd

Our Vigil for Immigrants and Refugees, part of a national effort spearheaded by the Jewish refugee service agency HIAS and a range of faith organizations, including Episcopal Migration Ministries, was very successful. Close to 60 community members gathered on the front lawn of the church of St. Barnabas In Irvington, including Westchester County Legislator David Imamura.

We participated in a ritual that included lighting eight candles, each representing a different group of vulnerable people whom we remember and stand with at this time of danger and uncertainty. And we shared a list of "advocacy asks," naming policy changes we support that will help the united states return to its traditional role as a beacon of freedom to the world.



To download our list of "Advocacy Asks" for fair and humane immigration policy, [click here](#).

For information on how to identify and communicate with your elected officials, [click here](#) and [here](#).



The
Episcopal Diocese
of New York

Year of Purpose

PRAYER, RENEWAL, AND
THE PASTORAL FABRIC

On July 1, the Episcopal Diocese of New York launched #OneSingleAct, an online campaign co-presented with The Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine, Episcopal Charities, Episcopal Divinity School, and the Interfaith Center of New York. The campaign invites everyone to perform one act of care, courage, or connection, no matter how small, and share it on social media using the #OneSingleAct hashtag.

By posting your act and encouraging others to do the same, we can create a chain of compassion that extends far beyond our individual actions. Whether it's offering a listening ear, standing in solidarity, or lending a hand, each small act contributes to a collective effort to foster a culture of empathy, generosity, and hope.

We are called to be change-makers in a world that needs it, and together, we can celebrate our shared humanity and foster a reality where care, courage, and connection are the norms, not the exceptions. One act, one post, one ripple. Each of us has the power to make a difference. Share your #OneSingleAct today, and let's create a world that reflects the love and hope we all share.

For 100 days, starting on July 1, the #OneSingleAct campaign invites every person to do a single act of care, courage, or connection – big or small – share it online – and invite one other person to do the same. Here's how:

Post 1 act of care, courage, or connection from yourself (or your organization) with the #OneSingleAct hashtag.

Share 1 act someone else (or another organization) posted on the #OneSingleAct hashtag on your stories to amplify their impact.

Tag 1 person (or organization) inviting them to carry the chain forward.

[Click here](#) to submit your story to be featured on the Diocese's Instagram page, or learn how you can be a part of this campaign by downloading the social media toolkit [here](#).



The Episcopal Diocese of New York

There's one more Wednesday, it's not too late to join!



Episcopal Diocese of New York 

Faith in the Public Square

Wednesday, May 7th
Wednesday, June 18th
Wednesday, July 16th
7 pm - 8:30 pm EST

webinar

THE SANCTUARY CHURCH: HISTORY, THEOLOGY AND MISSION

with Dr. Linda Rabben, *Associate Research Professor of Anthropology, University of Maryland*;
Dr. Leo Guardado, *Assistant Professor of Theology, Fordham University*;
The Rt. Rev. Michael Hunn, *Bishop, Diocese of Rio Grande*

Register here: https://dioceseny.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_-7tEOJG7QZiWsj8ZxEU-MA

Volunteers Needed For Fantastic Finds

An upscale resale shop to benefit Support Connection

**400 King St.
Chappaqua, NY**



If you like to shop, raise money for a good cause or need community service, this is an ideal opportunity for you.

Store open Monday-Saturday
3 hour commitment or more
most weeks requested.

Training provided.

To inquire or to arrange an
interview, call 914-962-6402
or e-mail

fantastic.finds@supportconnection.org

SUPPORT CONNECTION, INC.
is a not-for-profit organization
that provides emotional, social
and educational support to
women, their families and friends
affected by breast and ovarian
cancer.

supportconnection.org



Photo by Francesca Domonique Photography



JULY EVENTS

- 12 Grief Group meets (10:00 AM, St. Paul's Campus Family Room)
- 13 The Book Club (*The Golem and the Jinni*) (Noon, St. Paul's Campus)
- 26 Grief Group meets (10:00 AM, St. Paul's Campus Family Room)

AUGUST EVENTS

- 9 Grief Group meets (10:00 AM, St. Paul's Campus Family Room)
- 13 The Book Club (*The Golem and the Jinni*) (Noon, St. Paul's Campus)
- 16 Hospitality Steering Committee (11:00 AM, Trinity Campus)
- 23 Grief Group meets (10:00 AM, St. Paul's Campus Family Room)
- 27 Vestry Meeting (7:00 PM, St. Paul's Campus)
- 31 Fifth Sunday

JULY BIRTHDAYS

John Crawford	1	John Farrell, Sr.	20
William R. Losee	1	Edward Aryee	21
Donna Chadeayne Harvey	2	Peter Flihan	21
John Deuel	4	Kathryn Howard	21
Brian William Plank	4	Catherine Kamp	21
Bill Cruse	10	Peter Madison	22
Joan DiLoreto	11	Karen Kamp	23
John Houghtaling	12	The Rev. Dr. Charles D. Mayer	23
Robert Belcher	13	Alexa Shaw	24
Joe Scappaticci	16	Dennis Parker	26
Roland Rose	17	Stephanie Kip	30

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

The Rev. Hal Roark and Lori Kennedy	1	Dhalya and Adam Wagner	17
Sam and Barbara Bethea	2	Jan and Tom Greene	20
Jean Marie Angelo and Ann Post	13	Ian and Janet Robertson	23

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Emma Flihan	1	Barbara Olivier	13
Laura Vookles	1	Marian Schneckner	13
Lisa Gibson	2	Gene Micklas	14
John Muth	3	Luis Barceló	15
Juliet Blair	3	Barbara Hunt	17
Rebecca Ray Barceló	6	Julia DeOliveira-Scappaticci	18
Richard Chesnut	6	Alexander Frederick Kip	20
Sara DeOliveira-Scappaticci	7	Trevor Pasioka	20
Christopher Noye	7	Lori Kennedy	22
Alison Mahlau	10	Barbara Mahlau	23
Jack Kouloheris	11	Victoria Pollack	25
Jim Blair	12	Kari Ann DiLoreto	28
Sally Evans	13	Maribeth Barnes Osgood	29
Tina Farrell	13	Barbara Bethea	30
Susan Monroe	13	James Michael Liberti	30
Timothy Noye	13	John William Liberti	30

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Kara (Pauline) and Neil Prahue	4	Beth and Grant Pollack	22
Karen and Robert Pauline	14	Jack Kouloheris and Ken Shepard	23



CLERGY

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

VESTRY

Graham Gulian, Warden Cecilia Quintero, Warden
Jo Ann McGrath, Clerk

Ann Barringer Spaeth Maribeth Osgood
Alison Ford 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.