

Grace Notes

One New Episcopal Church From Two Historic Parishes

Volume 3 Number 9

November 2023

Hi everyone,

When the wardens, vestry, and I started to plan for this year's stewardship drive months ago, we eventually, after much discussion and consideration, settled on a theme: Growing Together with Grace. That's the goal. We want to grow—numerically, spiritually, joyfully, individually, and together. We do it with God's grace and we choose to do it together in Grace Church.



Being a part of a faith community is personal. We share with one another generally—and deeply with our special friends in a church—our personal lives: our loves and losses; our prayers for ourselves and for those we love; prayers and charitable actions for those we don't know but still care about. Church is personal. Church is personal also because God is personal, and following Jesus is personal: "Love one another as I have loved you," Jesus said (John 13:34); "Love your neighbor as yourself" (Matt. 22:39).

You've received two personal letters so far this stewardship season: one from Cecilia, one of our wardens, and one from me. Both were deeply personal: why we are here, our histories with Grace, what we hope for Grace, what we are going to do to help Grace grow and move forward, etc. As a community, we also discussed last Sunday after services how the vestry specifically sees us Growing Together with Grace: by increasing revenues, decreasing expenses, growing ministries, etc. If you missed the presentation, you can watch it on our Grace Episcopal Church Ossining YouTube channel here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d-ep3CNSYJk&t=53s>.

Know that one last letter is coming this week, and it, too, is personal.

Please mark your personal calendars for our new Grace Pledge & Anniversary celebration on Sunday, November 12th at our St. Paul's campus after services. Going forward on the second Sunday of November, we shall now conclude our annual stewardship drive and celebrate Grace together with a festive meal. This year we celebrate Grace's second anniversary. We also celebrate and thank those who have pledged to Grow Together in Grace for 2024.

As we near the end of our 2024 Stewardship drive, kindly consider how you can best support and grow in Grace. Consider how you can participate in worship in-person and online. How you can prayerfully support our parish, its people, and the world. Consider your loving service in Grace ministries. Your financial support of Christ's mission at Grace. All this is needed, and all is deeply appreciated. We all have something important to contribute.

I close with what you now know is one of my favorite prayers, because it reflects, as I shared in my letter, my personal experience:

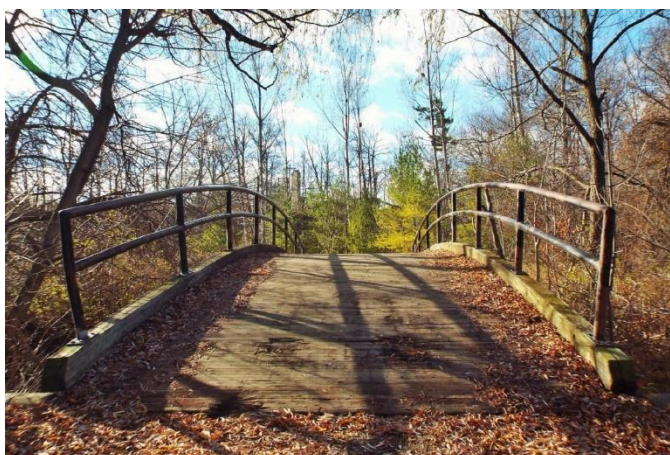
“Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen.” (Ephesians 3:20-21)

BCP, p.60

2024 is going to be a powerful and important year for Grace as it takes a big step forward. I expect it to be transformative for all involved. Get involved as makes best sense for you. I truly believe it's going to be bigger and better than we can ask or imagine. Thanks be to God!

With gratitude, love, and prayers,

Fr. Hal+



THOMAS MERTON, from *THOUGHTS IN SOLITUDE*
used at October's Commission on Ministry Retreat
by COM chair Susan Hill and quoted by Bp. Matthew Heyd.

God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think that I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so.

But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road though I may know nothing about it. Therefore will I trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.”



DEACON'S MESSAGE

If you are like me, you have a medicine cabinet that houses more than a few old prescription bottles. I also have empty over-the-counter aspirin and vitamin bottles hanging around. Recycling all that plastic is a no brainer, but what if I told you that we can do something with even more impact?

This past winter I visited Zion Episcopal Church in Dobbs Ferry and was blown away by the number of ministries Mother Mary Grambsch is overseeing. One of her efforts is to collect empty pill bottles, remove the labels, and send them to Matthew 25: Ministries. In turn, these bottles help medical dispensaries in the United States and around the world.

These past months many of us have been dropping off our pill bottles to Mother Mary. I am happy to start a ministry at Grace and work with her and others. I will soon have signage and donation boxes in both of our church locations. If you can, please take the labels off your pill bottles. Otherwise, you can black out any information with a marker. Before bottles are sent out, I will be taking all labels off.

Matthew 25: Ministries is an international humanitarian aid and disaster relief organization helping the poorest of the poor and disaster victims locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally, regardless of race, creed, or political persuasion. Its mission is to fulfill Matthew 25:34-40 by providing nutritional food to the hungry, clean water to the thirsty, clothing to the naked, affordable shelter to the homeless, medical care to the ill, and humanitarian supplies to those in need.

Additionally, Matthew 25: Ministries is committed to fulfilling Matthew 25:40 by educating the public on the conditions and needs of the "least of these" and by providing resources for action. By rescuing and reusing products from major corporations and manufacturers, Matthew 25: Ministries provides basic necessities, nutritional supplements, educational materials, micro-enterprise supplies and disaster relief across the United States and worldwide.

Learn more at <https://m25m.org>

Blessings,

Jean Marie



VESTRY REPORT

October's ghosts and goblins are behind us and Yes...Grace enjoyed another busy month.

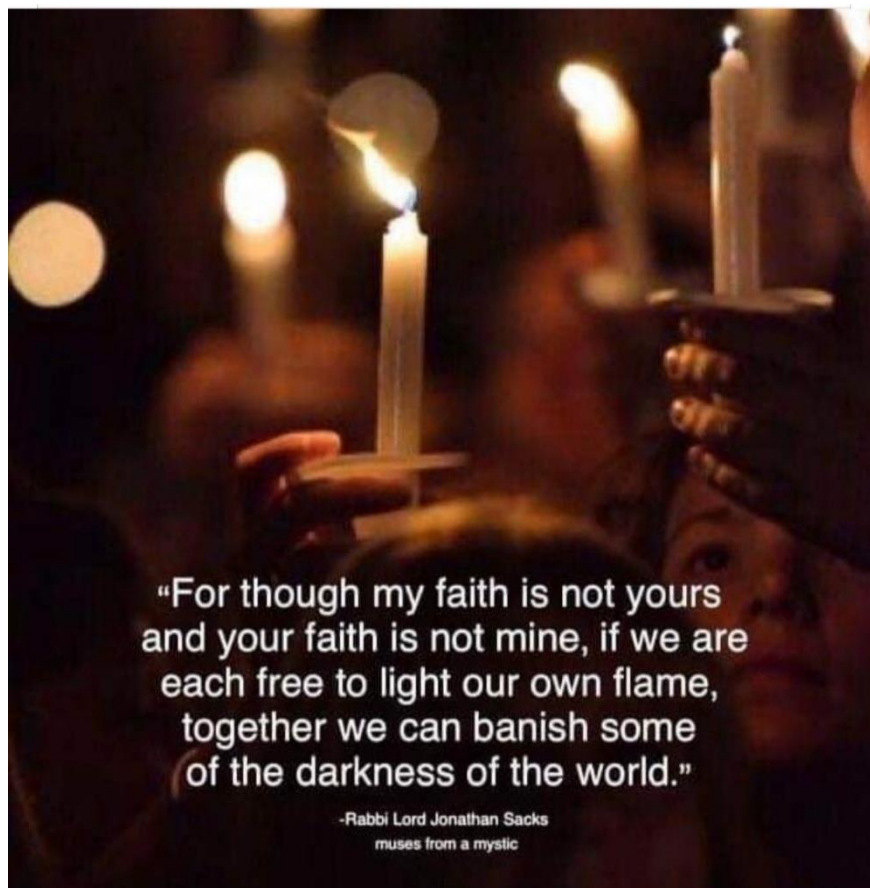
- Bishop Shin visited on October 8th and sat with the vestry before Sunday service, thanking us for undertaking the long journey through COVID and our merger. Grace demonstrated that we face our challenges head-on, completing the merger with part-time priests and with a strong lay leadership. Grace needs to continue its work and be prepared to move forward to our next phase. The diocese has many resources to offer and looks forward to our continued success.
- Bishop Shin also joined Grace in toasting Deacon Dorothee and wishing her a well-deserved next chapter with her husband, Rick. We miss you, Dorothee!
- Prayers for Israel and Palestine: An Adaptive Shiva was held at Grace, an interfaith gathering for all those grieving the violence, led by Rabbi Shoshana Leis from Pleasantville Community Synagogue with the assistance of Fr. Hal. [Click here](#) if you would like to view the video.
- Stewardship Sunday was October 15th. You should have received personal letters from Cecilia Quintero and Father Hal, with more to come. Did you send in your pledge? Join us on Sunday, November 12th, Pledging Sunday when all will be blessed and thanked for our support.
- Mark your calendar, Grace's Thanksgiving Dinner at our historic St. Paul's campus, Saturday, November 18th. Look for more information and think about serving your favorite side dish. Gobble! Gobble!
- Have you met Deacon Jean Marie? We are so lucky to have her share in our Grace community. Her first article in Grace Notes is on page 4.

- On October 29th we convened after the service and presented the vestry's report, Moving Forward with Grace. Did you attend? (If you missed it, [click here](#) to view the video.) Have questions? Please share your thoughts on Grace's future, our mission, ministries, and resources, and help ensure Grace's future will be Successful, Sustainable, and Mission-Driven (Holy Currencies anybody?)

Blessings,

Wardens: Darryl Moy (2024) darryl.moy@gmail.com
Cecilia Quintero (2025) cquintero1506@gmail.com

Vestry Members:
Sarah Davis (2025) songbird0606@outlook.com
Kellie Ishmael (2024) kellieishmael@gmail.com
Milton Kerr (2024) mkdj46@yahoo.com
Maribeth Osgood (2025) mosgood@optonline.net
Jo Ann McGrath (2026), mcgrathinator@gmail.com
Kate Pendzuk (2026) treasurergraceossining@gmail.com



WE BID FAREWELL TO OUR DEAR DEACON DOROTHÉE



Her Last Service with Grace



Grace Sets the Table



Fellowship



The
Episcopal Diocese
of New York

Realizing Beloved Community: An Online Panel Discussion

Monday, November 6 at 7:00 p.m.

Via Zoom

- How do we practice following Jesus?
- What does our Church say?

61 congregational reading groups across our diocese
are finding answers by reading:

Realizing Beloved Community:

Report from the House of Bishops Theology Committee

Edited by Allen K. Shin and Larry R. Benfield

Foreword by Michael B. Curry

Ask your questions to those who contributed to and compiled the report.



With Bp. Matt Heyd, moderator and panelists
Bp. Thomas Breidenthal, The Rev. Dr. Altagracia Perez-Bullard, and Bp. Allen Shin

[Click here to register / Haga clic aquí para registrarse](#)

Copies of Realizing Beloved Community may be purchased from Church Publishing.



TIME TO GATHER TOGETHER AND COUNT OUR BLESSINGS:
FOR REV. HAL & LORI,
OUR VESTRY, STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS,
SUJI JUNG, OUR MUSIC DIRECTOR, & OUR CHOIR, AND
OUR FELLOWSHIP & OUR 2ND YEAR AS GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH!
FEEL FREE TO REFLECT AND ADD TO THIS LIST

DATE: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH AT 5:00 PM
PLACE: PARISH HALL AT OUR ST. PAUL'S CAMPUS
FEEL FREE TO BRING A SIDE DISH AND/OR A GUEST!!!
RSVP BY SUNDAY, 11/12 TO: cquintero1506@gmail.com

**(CAN YOU HELP OUT IN THE FOOD PREP? LET US KNOW VIA THE
EMAIL.)**
THANKS!

Grace in Grief



This is a confidential, safe, and welcoming grief support program that 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 November dates are:

November 11

November 25

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 for more information.

A THOUGHT FOR ALL SOULS DAY

Every minute someone leaves this world behind. We are all in “the line” without knowing it. We never know how many people are before us. We cannot move to the back of the line. We cannot step out of the line. We cannot avoid the line.

So while we wait in line...

Make moments count.
Make priorities.
Make the time.
Make your gifts known.
Make a nobody feel like a somebody.
Make your voice heard.
Make the small things big.
Make someone smile.
Make the change.
Love.
Make up.
Make peace.
Make sure to tell your people they are loved.
Make sure to have no regrets.
Make sure you are ready.

A True Photopoem, By Olaf Bathke Photography



Words by A.J. Picard



Cassatt

STRING QUARTET
with Haim Avitsur, Trombone



Sat. November 11, 2023 5-6PM
Bethany Arts Community
40 Somerstown Road, Ossining NY

Tickets: \$20 at www.bethanyarts.org
or scan the QR code:





A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

followed by a holiday reception

Featuring the choirs of the Episcopal parishes of
All Saints' Briarcliff and Grace Ossining

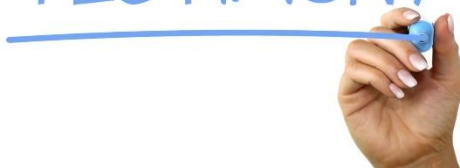
Sunday, December 17, 4:00 PM

Grace Episcopal Church, Trinity Campus

7 South Highland Avenue, Ossining

(914) 941-6627 churchoffice@graceossining.org

TESTIMONY



TESTIMONIALS REQUESTED!

As we mentioned at the new annual 5th Sunday meeting this weekend, we are looking for testimonials for our next version of our Grace Ministry booklet. Feel free to send Tina (tina@graceossining.org) a quote that speaks to:

Why you like Grace and why you are a member;
Your favorite ministry, and why;
Tips for potential new members; or
A favorite story that typifies your experience at Grace;

Thanks!

Fr. Hal+



LOAVES AND FISH

DINNER SERVED BY GRACE WITH GRACE!

Grace Ossining's Loaves and Fish Team is scheduled to serve dinner to our neighbors in Potter Hall on Saturday, December 9th, at 5:00 PM. Grace provides this meal to anyone arriving at the door as a member team in the Loaves and Fish ministry. As the days grow shorter and the temperatures drop it's even more important that we provide a warm and friendly atmosphere to eat and socialize.

We are currently in planning mode, since we don't want to repeat our menus. In the past, we've served roasted loin of pork with rice and beans; hamburgers and hot dogs along with traditional sides of pasta and potato salads; and roasted chicken with rice and gravy. Veggies, dessert (usually including brownies!), and kind hospitality are also on the menu!

Many thanks to all our team members (Linnet Baker, Jean Bonito, Alison Ford, Jo McGrath, Mark and Sue Monroe, Cha and Darryl Moy, Elfreda Okyne, Joe Orfino, Ed Shultz, and Bev Vaillancourt) for their hard work and commitment to this worthy ministry.

If you are interested in joining or contributing or in giving a donation to support this ministry, please email me at alisonford@msn.com



old Mill Singers
present

Holiday Beats with Treats

Directed by Nell Macdonald

The Julie Harris Theater

Clearview School

480 Albany Post Road

Briarcliff Manor, NY

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 7PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 3PM

2023

Adults \$20 / Seniors \$15

Kids 12 & Under - \$5

www.oldmillsingers.org



The
Episcopal Diocese
of New York

Lay Eucharistic Visitor Online Training

Monday, November 13, 6:30–8:30 p.m.

Via Zoom

The Eucharistic Visitor is a bishop–licensed lay ministry in the Episcopal Church. At the conclusion of Sunday worship, those who have been authorized to serve as Eucharistic Visitors take communion to fellow parishioners who are homebound or hospitalized. Has your priest, deacon or warden identified you as a member of the congregation who is called to serve as a Eucharistic Visitor? This two–hour online training will teach you about:

1. Spiritually preparing to make a visit;
2. The materials that you will need for a visit;
3. What to do once you arrive;
4. The worship/liturgical content of a visit;
5. Writing up a visit for clergy or warden; and
6. What to “do” or not do after a visit.

The cost to attend is \$15.00.

(We're sorry, but there is no in–person training option at this time.)

[**Please click here to register for the Nov. 13 online training**](#)

**Instructions for joining the November 13 training via Zoom
will be sent well ahead of the day.**

Questions?

Arlene Bullard

abullard@dioceseny.org

212–932–7363



HE HOLDS YOU

by Roy Lessin

From: *From God's Heart to Yours: In His Hands*

God never leaves you alone...

He never forgets about you...

He looks out for you and takes care of you.

You are more important than the birds.

He feeds and provides for.

Trusting Him means to rest in Him
as your shield, your covering, your provider,
your defender and your friend.

It means freedom from worry, anxiety, and fear.
It means peace to your mind and joy to your soul.

Come to Him; He is waiting...

Lean on Him; He is strong...

Talk to Him; He is listening...

Depend on Him; He will never let you down.

He holds you within the hollow of His hands
to keep you close...to keep you safe...
to deliver you from all your fears.

Submitted by Carolyn Black



NOVEMBER EVENTS

- 2 Evening Grace (7:00 PM, St. Paul's Campus)
- 4 Hospitality Committee (11:00 AM, Trinity Campus)
- 5 All Saints Day (All Saints Briarcliff)
- 11 Grace in Grief (10:00 AM, St. Paul's Campus)
- 12 Pledge Sunday
- 16 Evening Grace (7:00 PM, St. Paul's Campus)
- 18 Thanksgiving Dinner/Potluck
- 22 Vestry Meeting (7:00 PM, location TBD)
- 25 Grace in Grief (10:00 AM, St. Paul's Campus)

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Craig Peter Rowe	1	Stephen Monroe	20
Donna Boswell	2	Dan Platt	21
Mark DiLoreto	5	Albert Cucurullo	22
Kirsten Bowen	8	Judy Travis	23
Gail Boswell Nixon	10	Dawn Mahlau	25
Kevin Noye	10	Francesca Houghtaling	26
Daniel Visconti	10	O'Neka Cole	27
Jim Bowen	19	Patricia Gonsalves	30
Stephen Belcher	20		

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Graham and Ann Gulian	1
John and Francesca Houghtaling	3
Beverly and Warren Dyckman	23
Roger and Melanie Rowe	28



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	
Kate Pendzuk, Treasurer	
Sarah Davis	Milton Kerr
Kellie Ishmael	Maribeth Osgood

STAFF

Tina Farrell and Tamsen Hernández, Parish Administrators
Suji Jung, Music Director
Katherine Pendzuk, Verger
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.