

# Grace Notes

*Reporting from the Campuses of St. Paul's on the Hill and Trinity*

Volume 3 Number 5

May 2023

Hi Everyone,

As you can see from the articles in this newsletter, Grace is growing and hitting the ground running. On Sunday, for example, we celebrated our first Spring Blessing Sunday service at our St. Paul's campus. People brought friends to church who have been a blessing to them, and we blessed them (and gave them a bouquet of flowers, gathered from our grounds by Karen Pauline and Jo Ann McGrath and pictured at the right!)



...along with all the others in attendance (40+ people) and including two dogs, a kayak, a ladder, a new car, a camper van, and more. Jackie Shaw, the Executive Director of the IFCA Housing Network, spoke about housing needs in Ossining and helped us learn more about how we can use our gifts and talents to support this important local non-profit. The next Fifth Sunday is July 30<sup>th</sup> at Trinity, and the vestry approved this week using that date and site to promote local artists and to tie that promotion into downtown Main Street activities. More on those details as we get closer to July. There are indeed a lot of exciting and expansive activities going on at Grace, including weekly worship. Enjoy the opportunities and be a part of it!

Also, I've started my "coffee chats" with parishioners after services during coffee, and I invite you to join me and to tell me about what you love about Grace and how we can do more of what you love. My next coffee chats will be on Sunday May 14<sup>th</sup> and Sunday May 21<sup>st</sup>. Which one would you like to be a part of? Contact Tina at [churchoffice@graceossining.org](mailto:churchoffice@graceossining.org) to join the list. You can contact me directly at [hal@graceossining.org](mailto:hal@graceossining.org) and you are welcome to call me (504-650-3278) any time for any need. I look forward to meeting with each of you and to building our relationship together.

Let's continue to celebrate the Easter season by giving thanks to God for the resurrection of Jesus and for our continuous opportunities to use our gifts and talents to make a difference in the lives of others, both inside and outside the parish. Thanks be to God!

Faithfully,

Fr. Hal+

## DEACON BEACON



Last Saturday, Lainie Murrell was ordained a deacon in God's one holy and apostolic church at the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine in NYC. You may remember she was our mentee in 2021 and 2022. She's a gifted preacher, worship leader, and an outstanding advocate for LGBTQ+ rights among many other gifts. (And there's a full article about her ordination on the next page.)

What is a deacon? I get asked this question by all sorts of people. Even people who really should know! For example, priests! But the good people of Grace have had a deacon off and on for over 17 years! So, most of you understand the diaconate. I served with you when I was first ordained in May of 2006 for 3 years and then had the distinct pleasure to be called back in 2018 by Mother Cooper!

So, what's next for Lainie? Who knows, she's in God's hands. Her work now is to discern where God is calling her to serve and use the gifts that God has given her. We have been blessed to be a part of her formation and I personally have grown in my diaconal call as a result of her. For that I will be eternally grateful.

Join me in keeping Lainie in our prayers as she discerns her continuing call. Remember that we are all called by our baptismal promises, and if you are feeling a call to ministry, please speak to myself or Fr. Hal to discuss it further and allow us to pray with you about what call looks like for you.

And now I ask for your prayers for myself. As you may already be aware, my husband and I started work on our '5-year plan' towards the next stage of our journey together. We started that journey when we moved into the rectory at the St. Paul's campus. Then Rick moved upstate to begin work on our retirement home in Dolgeville NY, 3 hours north and west of Ossining. He and I have lived apart now for almost 15 months! In October, after 22 years serving as a parish administrator, I will retire from Christ Church San Marcos in Tarrytown and move to live with Rick! Imagine! Of course, this means that I will no longer be able to serve as your deacon. The blessing that Grace has been in my life cannot be expressed in mere words, fortunately we have 5 months left of our ministry together to spend reflecting on our time together and the opportunity to continue the good work you all do! And so as a preacher, my sermons are always about servanthood—yours, mine, and ours! As I've said to Grace many times, I'm a cheerleader! I champion the work that you want to do. And you do it so well.



With all my love in faith,

Deacon Dorothee



## OUR LAINIE IS ORDAINED!

On Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, in a wonderful service, Lainie was ordained a Deacon in Christ's One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church. Grace was represented by Fr. Hal, Deacon Dorothee, our verger Kate Pendzuk, and vestry member Ed Shultz. And the stole she is wearing is Grace Ossining's gift to her on this occasion, beautifully created by Sue Monroe. If you would like to see the service, it's available [here](#). (There is a 30-minute "introduction," so fast forward to get to the service itself!)



The call of a deacon is stated very clearly in the words in the BCP that the bishop said at the ordination:

"My sister and brother, every Christian is called to follow Jesus Christ, serving God the Father, through the power of the Holy Spirit. God now calls you to a special ministry of servanthood directly under your bishop. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are to serve all people, particularly the poor, the weak, the sick, and the lonely. As a deacon in the Church, you are to study the Holy Scriptures, to seek nourishment from them, and to model your life upon them. You are to make Christ and his

redemptive love known, by your word and example, to those ministration of God's among whom you live, and work, and worship. You are to interpret to the Church the needs, concerns, and hopes of the world. You are to assist the bishop and priests in public worship and in the Word and Sacraments, and you are to carry out other duties assigned to you from time to time. At all times, your life and teaching are to show Christ's people that in serving the helpless they are serving Christ himself."





### OUR UPCOMING SERVICES IN MAY

May 7	10:30 AM	Morning Prayer (St. Paul's Campus)	Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 14	10:30 AM	Holy Eucharist (Trinity Campus)	Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 21	10:30 AM	Holy Eucharist (St. Paul's Campus)	Seventh Sunday of Easter
May 28	10:30 AM	Holy Eucharist (Trinity Campus)	Day of Pentecost

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

Grace's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/graceossining/>  
YouTube Channel: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCP1qGAuJlIxWU8Z\\_ucCKEGA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCP1qGAuJlIxWU8Z_ucCKEGA)

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### SERVICE SCHEDULE UPDATE

Beginning in June, we will be trying a new service schedule: worshipping at our historic Trinity campus on the first and third Sundays of the month and at our historic St. Paul's campus on the second and fourth Sundays. It might be easier to remember to think of the Trinity as 3 persons in 1 God.

When a month has five Sundays, we will decide which campus or what location will be our setting! The next Fifth Sunday will be July 30<sup>th</sup> and we will be at our Trinity campus. And we will always alternate our Easter service between the two campuses. This year, we are downtown; next year, we will be at St. Paul's.

Btw, the location will always be on the home page of our website ([www.graceossining.org](http://www.graceossining.org)) and listed in the Thursday message.





## VESTRY REPORT

Welcome May! Check out the blessings blooming at Grace:

- Holy Week & Maundy Thursday Potluck were a blessing!
- Your vestry and Father Hal are getting to know each other, gathering over supper before our last 2 monthly meetings.
- The vestry is planning a retreat August 19<sup>th</sup> with a focus on financial sustainability.
- Blessings for Lainie Murrell and her ordination as a deacon.
- Grace in Grief Group is growing and helping people navigate their new challenges and we look to open this to the greater Ossining community in the future.
- We invite you—yes, YOU—to think of new ministries or traditions which will help Grace serve our community and each other.
- Mark your calendar, Saturday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, to support Grace and volunteer to help out at the Ossining Village Fair.
- Save the dates! Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup> is Trinity Sunday and we will worship at the Trinity campus. On June 25<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate St. Paul's feast day and will hold our annual picnic at our historic St. Paul's campus before we enter our summer cycle.

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

Vestry Members:  
Kellie Ishmael (2024) [kellieishmael@gmail.com](mailto:kellieishmael@gmail.com)  
Milton Kerr (2024) [mkdj46@yahoo.com](mailto:mkdj46@yahoo.com)  
Maribeth Osgood (2025) [mosgood@optonline.net](mailto:mosgood@optonline.net)  
Ed Shultz (2025) [eshultz5@gmail.com](mailto:eshultz5@gmail.com)  
Jo Ann McGrath (2026), [mcgrathinator@gmail.com](mailto:mcgrathinator@gmail.com)  
Kate Pendzuk (2026) [treasurergraceossining@gmail.com](mailto:treasurergraceossining@gmail.com)

## EASTER 2023





## NEW MUSIC DIRECTOR SOON?

The search committee for our new Music Director has been busy, developing a detailed job description, networking with various contacts, and listing the position at a number of outlets. We've now completed an initial round of interviews with several qualified candidates and are preparing for auditions and more intensive second-round interviews with some of them. Our emphasis is not just on musical skills, but equally on collaboration, people skills, and organization. The committee members are Carolyn Black Hightower, Kellie Ismael, Dennis Parker, Fr. Hal, and Mark Monroe.

If you know of anyone who might be interested in this position, you can email us at [churchoffice@graceossining.org](mailto:churchoffice@graceossining.org). The position description is also on our website.



### IFCA Housing Network

138 Spring Street, PO Box 790, Ossining, NY 10562  
914.941.5252 Fax: 914.941.7392 [www.ifcany.org](http://www.ifcany.org)

*Since 1968, sustaining community, diversity & opportunity  
through affordable/workforce housing & vital social services*

May 1, 2023

To Grace Church:

Wow!! Just Wow!! I have been a member of Grace Church for over 25 years, and I was still overwhelmed by the kindness and generosity of my church family. Thank you again for inviting me to speak about IFCA and thank you all for the many envelopes that we received. I am just so touched. What a way to start the week. I even texted Amy Alpert, The Thrift Shop manager, to give her a heads up about the avalanche of donations. She will be calling in extra help for tomorrow to try to sort through it all. The formal dresses are perfect as we are offering prom dresses at low cost and there were only a few left when I was at the shop on Friday.

Special thanks to Father Hal, Tina, and Tam (and I am sure many others) for all the work you did in the background to make Blessings Sunday so special. And the flowers were an extra special touch, much appreciated.

With gratitude,

Jackie Shaw, Executive Director

## LISA ANNE BLATZ



Lisa Anne Blatz of Glen Cove, NY peacefully passed away on April 18, 2023 at Calvary Hospital. She was 57 years old. Lisa was the treasured daughter of Reverend Nils Blatz and Leslie Blatz, formerly of Glen Head, NY. Lisa is also survived by her brothers, Andrew Blatz and Daniel Blatz, and her sister, Amy (Blatz) Warden, as well as her sister-in-law, Jessica King and her brother-in-law, Douglas Warden. She was a beloved aunt to Chris, Henry, Tilley, Audrey and Payntar.

Lisa was born in Manhattan and grew up in Glen Head, NY. She was a wonderful, loving, spirited person and a gift to her entire family. Always the one to make a birthday call, send an Easter card, demand a birthday bash, Lisa was the glue that kept the family together. She continually taught us profound lessons about how deep, varied, and miraculous each life is on this earth. Forevermore, hearing a Whitney Houston song or tasting a juicy Whopper from Burger King will remind us of her joy, her love for family, and her deep appreciation for food, dancing and music. We are sure she is up in heaven chatting and laughing and looking for a microphone so that she can share her stories with all who want to join in on the fun!

A memorial service will be held on May 20, 2023 at 12:00PM at:

Trinity Church  
1579 Northern Boulevard  
Roslyn, NY 11576

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made in Lisa's name to:

Community Mainstreaming Associates (CMA)  
1025 Old Country Road, #325  
Westbury, NY 11590  
<https://communitymainstreaming.org/imolb/>



CMA created a warm, loving, vibrant community and home for Lisa for over 35 years! Her family will forever be grateful to them for giving her a life of independence and respect. A private burial will be held at Greenfield Cemetery.



## LOAVES AND FISH



Grace's Loaves and Fish Team served a hearty meal of chicken, rice, veggies, and gravy, with brownies for dessert on Saturday April 1. It had been a stormy morning and afternoon but by the time the guests arrived the sky was blue and the sun was bright!

In addition to the meal, we distributed breads, pies, bagels, and cookies all donated by Shoprite in Croton. Thank you, Ed Shultz, for the super delivery. Guests were happy to get the extra food to take as they left Potter Hall at our Trinity Campus.

Though our numbers that night might have been a bit down because of the inclement weather, many of our regular clients were, person meals and 40 takeaways. We did have a special guest that night! Rev. Hal arrived promptly at 5:00 and enjoyed a meal as he visited with all of the guests and workers – adding one more event to his steep learning curve as he navigates all that Grace is and does.

The current members of the Grace team (Jean Bonito, Alison Ford, Jo McGrath, Mark and Sue Monroe, Darryl and Cha Moy, Elfreda Okyne, Joe Orfino, Melanie Rowe, Bev Vaillancourt, and Ed Shultz) will be on deck to serve a meal again on Saturday, June 24. For sure it will have a "Welcome Summer" theme! Ideas and suggestions appreciated!

As always, we welcome anyone willing to cook/serve/clean up/donate. Just contact Jo McGrath via email ([mcgrathinator@gmail.com](mailto:mcgrathinator@gmail.com)) or text/call 914-409-8544. This sort of community service is very rewarding and so vitally necessary.

Please join us in building relationships within our congregation and in our community while doing God's work.



### *Grace in Grief*

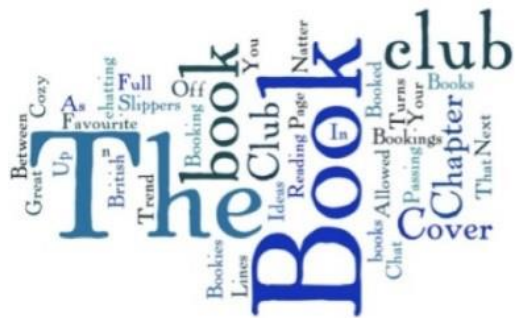
We will meet again on May 13<sup>th</sup> and May 27<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM in the Family Room at our Saint Paul's campus. Our group continues to grow, exchange helpful tips, and share our experiences and wisdom with each other in a safe space. One theme has proven true time and again—the world is small! The last two meetings have shown how we are all connected to each other, when our members suddenly learned that their loved one was either well known by someone at our table or had a brief personal exchange with a stranger who was related to one of us! Priceless reminders of how important it is to be open, caring, and present for one another!

Recently, we were discussing spring cleaning projects and which local not-for-profits gladly accept clothing like IFCA. Business suits and men's shoes are always welcome at Padres Hispanos de Ossining, Hudson Link and Save A Suit for men seeking employment.

Finally, Peacock Network is now streaming (April 27th) an informational series narrated by Amy Poehler called *The Gentle Art of Swedish Death Cleaning*, which is about cleaning out the clutter in your residence and simplifying your mental and spiritual life while also sparing your loved ones this unpleasant task later. [Click here](#) to see the trailer. I will definitely be watching this one and taking notes!

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](mailto:hal@graceossining.org) or Cecilia Quintero [cquintero1506@gmail.com](mailto:cquintero1506@gmail.com) for more information.

**TIME TO CELEBRATE OUR 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY WITH  
OUR CHAMPAGNE TOASTS & OUR NEXT TRIVIA EVENT**



We have lots to be grateful for this season! Thanks for all of the fun, great books, food, discussions, and wonderful memories since we first gathered together in 2003!

Please keep Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup> open and join us at our St. Paul's campus at 5:00 PM for an overdue reunion! Bring your ideas and trivia game face to enjoy a fun competitive night of merry mischief. This event is open to all! Bring a hungry nerdy friend and come prepared to eat from our tasty pot-luck buffet! Let me know what you can bring and I will keep track of our menu items.

Looking forward to seeing you all on Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup> @ 5:00 PM!

Who will take the grand prize? Will it be you???





The  
Episcopal Diocese  
of New York

## Anti-Racism Workshops

May 6 and 13

9:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m. (each day)

**An in-person workshop on two consecutive Saturdays**

Grace Church/La Gracia  
33 Church Street, White Plains

[Click here to register for the two-part in-person workshop in May in White Plains](#)

September 16 and 23

9:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m. (each day)

**An in-person workshop on two consecutive Saturdays**

St. Andrew's Church, Harlem  
2067 Fifth Avenue, Manhattan

[Click here to register for the two-part in-person workshop in September in Manhattan](#)

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The purpose of the diocesan Anti-Racism Workshop is to help us become aware of how the sin of racism impacts all of our lives, and how we all unconsciously and consciously participate in racist systems. **It is required for diocesan clergy, laypeople holding diocesan offices, and is highly recommended for lay leadership.**

Dialogue is the foundation of the workshop. We use group exercises and examine scientific and historical evidence concerning the origins of the concept of race and its legacy. Of the hundreds of workshop participants, more than 85% have found the workshop to be “very useful” or “extremely useful” in their work and daily lives.

Cost: Free for members of the Diocese of New York





The  
Episcopal Diocese  
of New York

## Orthodox Christmas in Bethlehem

### A Pilgrimage to the Holy Land with Bishop Dietsche

In his final year as Bishop of New York, Bishop Dietsche will lead a pilgrimage to the Holy Land that will take you to many places of Jesus' life and ministry, including Jerusalem, Nazareth, the Sea of Galilee and the Mount of Beatitudes, Jericho, Emmaus, and on January 6, 2024, the Orthodox Christmas Day, Bethlehem. The journey will be run by Qumri Pilgrimages, led by Canon Iyad Qumri and his family, who are well-respected Palestinian Anglican Christians in the Holy Land and experienced guides.

**Departure: December 26, 2023**

**Return to NYC: January 7, 2024**

The land cost of the 10-day pilgrimage is \$2,850 for a shared double room. This cost includes accommodations, including at the lovely guesthouse of St. George's Cathedral in East Jerusalem; meals; entrance fees at sacred sites and honoraria for guest speakers; and tips for restaurant and hotel staff. A very limited number of singles are available for a \$560 supplement. The price does not yet include the costs for air travel and insurance. We are waiting to see if air fares come down a bit before booking travel. In addition, you will wish to incorporate into your budget personal costs, such as for phone calls, special beverages, and gifts you will wish to purchase.

Registration will open in early summer, and a \$500 non-refundable deposit will be due September 5, 2023. Final payment for joining the pilgrimage will be due November 1, 2023. Yet we wish to begin now learning of you might wish to participate in this special opportunity. Assisting the Bishop with the pilgrimage will be Canon K. Jeanne Person, who has traveled before to the Holy Land with him. She is now creating a list of interested pilgrims and can begin to answer your practical questions. To express a desire to join the pilgrimage or to learn more, click the red button below to email her.

[Click here to indicate an initial interest in joining the pilgrimage.](#)

**Or call** Canon K. Jeanne Person 646-709-2462 (cell)



## MAY EVENTS

- 6 Hospitality Committee (11:00 AM, Trinity Campus)
  - 13 Grace in Grief (10:00 AM, St. Paul's Campus)
  - 14 Mother's Day
  - 20 Consecration of the Rev. Matthew Heyd+ (Cathedral of St. John the Divine)
  - 26 Vestry Meeting (7:00 PM, location TBD)
  - 27 Grace in Grief (10:00 AM, St. Paul's Campus)
  - 28 Pentecost
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## MAY BIRTHDAYS

Raymond Farrell	1	Christine Holsten Schuler	12
Jessica Kamp	2	Oliver Gulian	14
Nicola Kenny	3	Michael Roman	15
Melanie Rowe	5	Charles Korr	18
Carolyn Black	6	Jayson Aryee	19
Ken Shepard	6	Fernanda Landim	19
Alexis Cullen	11	Steven DiLoreto	23
Cecilia Quintero	12	Rick Caulfield	28

## MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Patricia and Carl Gonsalves	2
Dorothee and Rick Caulfield	5
George and Joan Holsten	9
John and Ann Farrell	18
Joe Scappaticci and Jean-Charles DeOliveira	21
Michael and Karen Pasieka	23
Jim and Marti Bowen	23
Luis and Susan Madera	29



### **CLERGY**

The Rev. Hal Roark, Priest-in-Charge  
The Rev. Dorothee R. Caulfield, Deacon

### **VESTRY**

Darryl Moy, Warden	Cecilia Quintero, Warden
Jo Ann McGrath, Clerk	
Kate Pendzuk, Treasurer	
Kellie Ishmael	Maribeth Osgood
Milton Kerr	Ed Shultz

### **STAFF**

Tina Farrell and Tamsen Hernández, Parish Administrators  
Carolyn R. Black, Music Director Emeritus  
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.