

June 14, 2020 Phone 845 343 6101 FAX 845 343 8321 www.gracechurchmiddletown.org
email secretary.grace.episcopal@gmail.com

Sunday, June 14th

Second Sunday After Pentecost

In accordance with Bishop Dietsche's suspension of all public worship services throughout the diocese, Grace Church will only be live streaming our 10:30 worship service until the current national emergency is lifted. This is a difficult time for all of us, and our church and parish family helps us to cope with the uncertainties of the world around us. While we cannot worship together physically, please join us in virtual worship on Sunday.

Silence speaks when words can't.

Author unknown



Use our audio mixer to listen to the 10:30 Sunday Mass live.

[Just Click Here!](#)

To watch on Facebook **[Click Here!](#)**



To follow the Mass you can **[Click Here](#)** for the Sunday Prayer Bulletin with readings.



Revised
Common
Lectionary

Episcopal Edition

NEW WEBSITE FOR LECTIONARY READINGS

THE WEBPAGE IS IN CALENDAR FORM—JUST CLICK ON THE DATE AND YOU WILL SEE THE READINGS FOR THAT DAY.

<https://www.lectionarypage.net/CalndrsIndexes/Calendar2020.html>

Upcoming Events

Sunday June 14th

10:30 AM Mass Online

(a link for this week's prayer bulletin with readings can be found on the first page of this Epistle)

Thursday June 18th

7:30 PM Monthly Vestry Meeting via Zoom. The meeting is open to all parishioners. If you would like a Zoom link to "attend" please contact Fr. Vic, Claire or Joe.



Grace
Church
Calen-
dar

Grace Church Bulletin Board

**Meditation for the Second
Wednesday after Pentecost by
the Rt. Rev. Andrew ML Dietsche**

[Click Here To Watch](#)

As the COVID-19 emergency continues, the Guild of St. Margaret finds itself in need of volunteers to help serve the take out lunches during the week. If you are unable to work but would like to help feed those in need, please email Phyllis at soupkitchen-grace@msn.com or call her at 845-344-0569. Thank-you.

If, during this current emergency, you have any issues or concerns or know of another parishioner with issues or concerns please contact: [\(click on a name to email that person\)](#)

[Fr. Victor](#) 845-343-7986

[Claire](#) 845-344-7885

[Joe](#) 845-386-2555

If you would like to add somebody to the Prayers For The People, please email Claire at cnewquist@frontiernet.net

From The Rector's "Other" Desk



My dear Friends in Christ,

As our region moves through phase 2 of the reopening process, I want to share some details with you all in anticipation of our reopening Grace Church for public worship. Many of us have health challenges that may make it unsafe for us to attend public worship when it is first reopened. We will do everything in our power to maintain the present webcast for those who choose to stay at home.

First, our Bishop, Andrew Dietsche has instructed that none of our churches are to be opened before July 1st. It is especially important that we proceed in a cautious manner so that we do not risk the lives of anyone who visits our church. Governor Cuomo has instructed that churches may begin opening but are restricted to 25% of their normal safe occupancy. The more important safety restriction is that we must section off the church so that it is easy and obvious for people to maintain the necessary safe distance of 6 feet. Because the pews in our church are set close together this could mean a safe capacity of less than 25%.

Everyone in attendance will be required to wear, the now commonplace, facemasks and make repeated use of hand sanitizer (which we will continue to make available on each windowsill in the church) and of course safe distancing. We will also need to find a way to disinfect the worship space between Masses. This last part could be a significant undertaking. We will also remove the prayer books and hymnals from the pews, items that are handled by successive individuals can become a source of infection.

We cannot embrace, shake hands, or bump elbows for the sign of peace. Looking each other in the eye and waving will have to suffice until the infection risk is gone. For the Eucharistic prayer and distribution of Communion we will take several precautions.

- I will wear a mask and will sanitize my hands immediately before reading the Eucharistic Prayer and praying over the bread and wine.
- There will be communion by host only, I will consecrate only enough wine to drink a tiny sip myself and maintain the validity of our sacramental celebration. No one else will receive wine. These are Bishop Dietsche's instructions, although it will be awkward and uncomfortable at first, I agree with him.
- Communion of the Bread (host) will be distributed only by myself. I will begin by sanitizing my hands (a second time) before touching the bread.
- You will have to use hand sanitizer before you come forward for communion. As you come forward in the communion line it will be necessary to maintain a 6-foot distancing. We will find a way to mark the carpet, so this is obvious.

This leaves us with several unanswered questions that must be pondered over as more information becomes available. Will disinfecting the church between Masses be complicated enough that we cannot have two Masses in the same morning? Can we safely hand out a worship bulletin without infection risk? As disinfecting protocols and procedures are published by the Department of Health some of these questions will get answered.

For your convenience, here are the links to our 10:30 Sunday morning webcast:

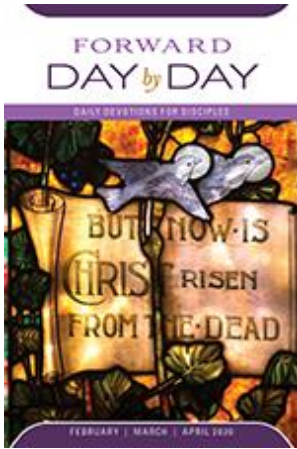
live video <https://www.facebook.com/gracechurchmiddletownny/>

audio only <https://mixlr.com/gracechurcaudio/>

May you be blessed with peace and wellness

Fr. Victor

Forward Day by Day



I have copies of the Forward Day by Day daily meditation booklets for May, June and July. If you would like a copy mailed to you, please email me by clicking

[HERE](#). ~Joe

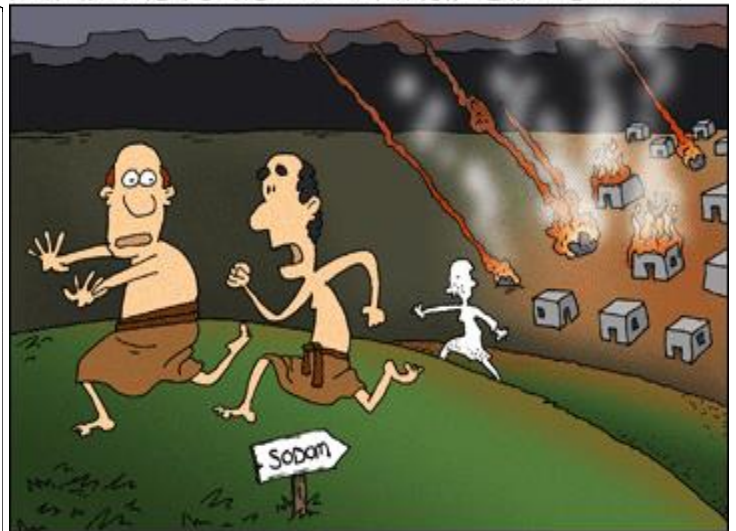
Vestry News

The next Vestry meeting will be held via Zoom on June 18th starting at 7:30 pm. All are invited to attend! If you'd like a Zoom link to "attend" the meeting, please contact Fr. Vic, Claire or Joe.

[To read the highlights of the February 20, 2020 Vestry meeting, click here.](#)

[To read the highlights of the April 16, 2020 Vestry meeting, click here.](#)

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Thanks to Dad Hengeveld (See Genesis 19:1-29) 04-03-2009

I CAN'T GO BACK FOR HER ... MY DOCTOR TOLD ME TO AVOID SALT AT ALL COSTS

Your Grace Church Vestry

Wardens

Joseph Barrett

Clerk of the Vestry

Bill Gunn

Claire Newquist

Treasurer

Allison McLean

Vestry

Lourdes Cruz

Joseph Gayton

John Cusack

Allison McLean

Anne Caldwell

Connie Herm

Sue Scott

Pepe Gutierrez