

April 14, 2024 Phone 845 343-6101 FAX 845 343-8321 [www.gracechurchmiddletown.org](http://www.gracechurchmiddletown.org)  
 email [secretary.grace.episcopal@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.grace.episcopal@gmail.com)

## Sunday April 14th

Third Sunday of Easter (Rite I)



"No winter lasts forever; no spring skips its turn. April is a promise that May is bound to keep, and we know it."

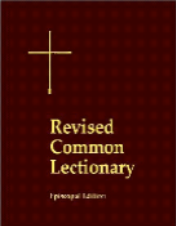
~Hal Borland

SubDeacon/Chalice	Carla Boyer
MC/2d Chalice	Janet Cusack
Thurifer	
Crucifer	
Acolyte	Allison McLean
Acolyte	
OT Lector	Connie Herm
NT Lector	Lorraine Witkowski
Intercessor	Patty Seekamp
Ushers	Joseph Barrett Eileen Barrett Mark Strunsky

Use our audio mixer to listen to the 9:30 Sunday Mass live. [Click Here](#)

To watch Sunday Mass on Facebook live. [Click Here](#)

For the Sunday prayer bulletin. [Click Here](#)



### 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/Calendar2024.html>

## Upcoming Events

Sunday April 14th	9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person and on-line (Rite I). A link to the prayer bulletin can be found on the first page of this newsletter.
Wednesday April 17th	10:00 AM Healing Mass
Thursday April 18th	6:30 PM Monthly Vestry Meeting - all are invited to attend.
Sunday April 21st	9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person and on-line (Rite II) Bishop Mary visits Grace
Wednesday April 24th	10:00 AM Healing Mass
Saturday April 27th	1:00 PM Annual Tricky Tray Fundraiser
Sunday April 28th	9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person and on-line (Rite I)

## The Photography Corner



Here is another recent photograph from Key West: "Dawn on Duval Street."

I would like to thank everybody who has sent in photographs so far. I could use a few more if you'd like to send some. ~Joe

## Vestry Update

As the 2024 Annual Meeting fast approaches, Grace Church needs to fill a couple of upcoming Vestry openings. As I have reached the completion of my time as Senior Warden, we need to find somebody willing to serve as our Senior Warden. There will also be at least one opening on the Vestry as John Cusack completes his second and final term. If you are called to serve Grace Church in either of these openings, please contact either myself at [jbar1021@gmail.com](mailto:jbar1021@gmail.com) or John at [j.cusack82@gmail.com](mailto:j.cusack82@gmail.com). Thank you. ~Joe

# The Mystic Poets Society

This week's submission is from Eileen Bloomer. Thank you Eileen!

If you have a poem or reflection that you would consider sharing with your fellow parishioners, please send it to either Margarita or Joe.

## Easter

On this morning

I stretch out my hand in the dark,  
in the morning when the newest blooms  
slowly open to greet the coming light.  
So often I've run blind; I sought shelter  
behind closed doors in dark rooms,  
grasping thoughts and plans,  
fear and worry- seeds I have planted  
in the corners of my beating heart for years,  
a perennial imprint of life  
living just under the surface,  
unsure of when or where to sprout.

my open hand touches the open air,  
the space and place where a tomb is empty  
and a gardener waits patiently to find  
the darkest corners of all hearts,  
to let the rising sun shine  
over all that will grow in the space of a  
lifetime,  
blossoms given freely into open hands  
to be freely given away.  
~Eileen



ShopRite Grocery Gift Cards are available for sale EVERY Sunday after each service. Grace Church receives 5% on the sale of the cards from ShopRite, while you purchase the cards at face value! ShopRite gift cards can make shopping for the family easy. Our ongoing fundraiser of ShopRite gift cards helps you prepare your holiday meals while helping Grace Church. Please keep us in mind when preparing your shopping lists!

We are happy and pleased to announce that we can accept credit card purchases for the ShopRite gift cards. So, if you use a rewards credit card you can now accumulate points while supporting Grace Church!

# Tricky Tray

With Holy Week and Easter behind us, we are looking forward to Bishop Mary Glasspool's Episcopal Visitation on April 21. After that, with barely time to take a breath, it time for our annual Tricky Tray which will take place on Saturday, April 27th. Lots of work has been going on behind the scenes over the past several months.

Our thanks go out to for all the help we have received to date:

To those of you who have brought in items for baskets or have contributed money for us to purchase items for baskets.

To those of you who have agreed to put together your own baskets.

To those of you who are soliciting gift cards or other donations from local businesses or are planning to donate gift cards.

To those of you who have been spreading the word about the event.

If you have not yet had an opportunity to do one or more of the above, please consider doing so. It is particularly important that we advertise this event as widely as possible. You can pick up flyers in the church for posting around town or where you work or shop.

Road signs should be available soon. Please let Anne Caldwell know if you are able to place one or more signs. Advertising will help us achieve our goal of a big turnout of enthusiastic Tricky-Trayers!!

There is still time to make a basket or to sponsor one or to donate a gift card or ask for a donation from a local vendor. We will need to have all items for the Tricky Tray brought to church by Monday, April 22, so that we can put things together. If this is not possible, please speak to either Sue or Claire.

Once again, thank you for your ongoing support.

The Fundraising Committee: Mark Strunsky, Anne Caldwell, David White, Sue Scott and Claire Newquist

## Easter Eve Agape Dinner

Agape meals originated in the early Church and were a time of fellowship for believers. That tradition continues to this day. Following the Easter Vigil this year, we held our Agape Dinner after a COVID hiatus. It was a wonderful time of fellowship.

Here is a photograph of a delicious Easter Bunny charcuterie board at the Agape Dinner. It did not leave the same way it arrived! Thank you to everybody who contributed to this tasty event. ~Joe





**GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
**ANNUAL TRICKY TRAY!**

**Saturday, April 27, 2024**

**Doors open at 1:00 PM**

**Calling at 3:00 PM**

***Wonderful Baskets,  
Household Items,  
Gift Cards, and More!***

***5 Fabulous Special Prizes!***

***\$10 Admission includes one sheet of 25 tickets***

**Grace Episcopal Church  
12 Depot Street  
Middletown, NY 10940**

**845-343-6101**

**[gracechurchmiddletown.org](http://gracechurchmiddletown.org)**

***Parking Information Available on our Website***



[Grace Calendar](#)

### Vestry News

The next Vestry meeting will be held in the boardroom on April 18th starting at 6:30 pm.

All are invited to attend!

[Click here to read the minutes of the January 18, 2024 Vestry meeting.](#)

[Click here to read the minutes of the February 15, 2024 Vestry meeting.](#)

“See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are.”



GRACE CHURCH 1945

### Your Grace Church Vestry.

#### Wardens:

Joseph Barrett

Claire Newquist

*Clerk of the Vestry:*

*Treasurer:*

Bill Gunn

Allison McLean

#### Vestry:

Lorraine Witkowski

Anne Caldwell

Barbara Chumard

Michelle Tubbs

John Cusack

Lenora Vaughan

Mark Strunsky

Eileen Bloomer

Torry Guardino