

November 3, 2024 Phone 845 343-6101 FAX 845 343-8321 www.gracechurchmiddletown.org
 email secretary.grace.episcopal@gmail.com



“The most valuable possession you can own is an open heart. The most powerful weapon you can be is an instrument of peace.”
 ~Carlos Santana

Sunday November 3rd

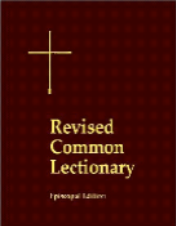
Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost (Rite II)

Subdeacon/Chalice	Torry Guardino
MC/2nd Chalice	Phyllis Guardino
Thurifer	David Brokaw
Crucifer	David White
Acolyte	Marlene Presley
Acolyte	Claire Newquist
OT Lector	Lorraine Witkowski
NT Lector	Lourdes Cruz
Intercessor	Mark Strunsky
Ushers	Mark Strunsky Sue Scott Volunteers

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 November 3rd	9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person and on-line (Rite II) A link to the prayer bulletin can be found on the first page of this newsletter.
	Remembrance Sunday
	Daylight Saving Time Ends - Set clocks back 1 hour
Tuesday November 5th	Election Day (Church open from 1 PM to 6 PM)
Wednesday November 6th	10:00 AM Healing Mass (Church open from 10 AM to 2 PM)
Sunday November 10th	9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person and on-line (Rite I)
	249th Marine Corps Birthday
Monday November 11th	Veterans Day - Office closed
Wednesday November 13th	10:00 AM Healing Mass
Sunday November 17th	9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person and on-line (Rite II)

The Photography Corner



Our photographs this week were sent to us by Eileen Barrett (top photo) and Lorraine Witkowski (bottom photo). They took these photographs of the sunrise over the Carmelite National Shrine in Middletown Wednesday October 30th. Thank you Eileen and thank you Lorraine for two different perspectives of one beautiful sunrise!

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



To read Margarita's obituary, please click the following link.
<https://m.applebee-mcphillips.com/obituaries/events?obituaryId=33563669>

The Mystic Poets Society

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

My mother's 100th birthday-
if she lived so long.
So long she lived in a body
betrayed by time and place, seeking
six decades of living-
I knew her for less than three.
I thought- I think
I knew- I know her,

but so many circles around the sun
tear pages out of my worn book,
so now I look to what lives
under words and memories
at the edge of a river flowing
out of time, welcomed by our souls.

~Eileen Bloomer

Remembrance Sunday

This year we will again remember those members of our Parish Family and other family and friends who passed away over the past year as a part of our All Saints Day Service on Sunday, November 3, 2024. You may also wish to remember individuals who passed away at an earlier time. Parishioners are invited to bring in photographs or other small mementoes which will be placed on the side altar and blessed during the service. These will be returned after the service.

Services were held at Grace for two individuals, Richard Mather and Ruthanne Guidice, since our last Remembrance Sunday. In addition, Margarita Ostergaard and Dennis Ward moved on to eternal life this year.

This is a time for us to remember and give thanks to all the saints who have been a part of our lives. ~Claire

New Committee Forming

As a way to enhance our community outreach and communication within the congregation, Grace Church is forming a committee to determine the costs and merits to purchasing an electric sign. This committee will research, discuss, and develop a plan (if necessary) for the possible purchase of the sign. It will then present its recommendations to the vestry. If you have any questions or interest in joining please contact me. Thank you. ~John Cusack



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!



From the Rector's Desk

Diocesan Convention 2024 is just around the corner, November 8 and 9. Janet Cusack and I will be representing Grace at convention this year and we would like to have input on your concerns to take with us, so we can represent you well.

The Calendar of Business for this year's convention can be downloaded [here](#). This contains all the resolutions that will be voted on at convention this year, including the 2025 Diocesan Budget.

You can reach out to us via email:

Janet Cusack AssistantTreasurer@GraceChurchMiddletown.onmicrosoft.com

Fr. Vic FrVic.GraceMiddletown@gmail.com

Also...

As our little Sunday school committee has been pushing forward to get a new program off the ground folks have been approaching us with their willingness to donate towards curriculum purchases. At our last vestry meeting the motion was made and passed to create a designated fund for Sunday school so that making these donations is simple.

If you would like to assist us in purchasing curriculum materials, or other items, please make your check to Grace Episcopal Church and mark the memo line with "Sunday school."

Peace

Fr. Vic

TIME FOR PRAYER AND CONTEMPLATION

The Rector, Wardens and Vestry of Grace Episcopal Church, 58 North Street, Middletown, NY, have decided to open the church on Election Day, Tuesday, November 5, 2024 from 1 pm to 6 pm and on Wednesday, November 6, 2024 from 10 am to 2 pm for quiet prayer and contemplation. Regardless of political beliefs or affiliations, we believe that this may be a very stressful time for many of us as we are bombarded by the TV, radio and print medias and postings from social media and other sources. Also, friends and family who may hold different opinions from us can likewise rob us of peace. We are offering a quiet, safe space for people to get away from these or other stressors. Nothing will be asked of those coming in, other than to be quiet and respectful.

Please join us for as much or little time as you need. Please let your friends, neighbors or co-workers know that our doors will be open during these hours. ~Claire

Don demonstrates a new musical "Holy, Holy, Holy"



On October 3 we will begin to use the Richard Proulx musical setting of "Holy, Holy, Holy". You can watch and listen to Don's video demonstration of it here:

https://youtu.be/GnHO5J_jmqA



Photo above: Joe, Janice, Colt and Connor, the October birthdays. Photo right: Eileen and I celebrated our wedding anniversary.



Holiday Fair 2024

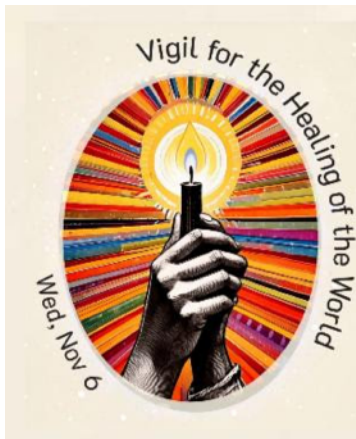
The countdown to the 2024 Grace Church Holiday Fair and the Holiday Fair Trail continues. Hopefully most of you have received, and already sold, the raffle tickets which we handed out last Sunday. We will be giving them out again this Sunday, 11/3; if you are not in church to receive them, we will mail them to you. Please try and sell (or purchase yourself) the two packets of tickets that we give you. The tickets are \$10 for a book of 6 or \$2 per ticket. Please return the stubs for the tickets you sell, and any unsold tickets, to the church as soon as possible but no later than 9 am on November 23.

In the next week or so you will be getting a phone call asking if you can help by baking something for our bake sale. We appreciate all baked goods as this is a popular feature of our Holiday Fair. Also, tickets will be available soon for our famous Fish & Chips luncheon. If you would like to reserve a ticket, please call the church office and leave your name and the number of tickets you would like. Seating is from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm.

This year we will again participate with three other churches, St James Episcopal Church and the First Presbyterian Church in Goshen and the United Church of Middletown, in the Holiday Fair Trail. Those people who attend all four fairs and get their "passports" stamped are eligible to win one of three gift card trees with gift cards worth \$100. This has encouraged people to come to our fair who might not otherwise venture into Middletown! We do need donations of gift cards for the tree; \$10 ones are always good.

Mark will be posting sign up sheets soon for you to volunteer for one of the many jobs that go into making the fair a success. Please consider signing up if you are able. In any event, please come to the fair on Saturday, November 23 to participate in the fun and invite your family, friends, neighbors and co-workers to come also! If you need a reminder or flier to share with them, they will be available in church on Sunday or we can email one to you.

Thank you from Mark, Anne, David, Barbara, Sue and Claire



Post-Election Interfaith Vigil for the Healing of the World

**Wednesday, November 6 at 7 p.m.
at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine
and Online**

The following will gather at 6:30 p.m. on the Cathedral steps:

The Rt. Rev. Matthew F. Heyd, Bishop, Episcopal Diocese of New York

The Rt. Rev. Lawrence Provenzano, Bishop, Episcopal Diocese of Long Island

The Rev. Dr. Chloe Breyer, Executive Director, Interfaith Center of New York

The Very Rev. Lydia Kelsey Bucklin, President and Dean, Episcopal Divinity School

Rabbi Hilly Haber, Director of Social Justice Organizing and Education, Central Synagogue

The Very Rev. Patrick Malloy, Dean, Cathedral Church of Saint John the Divine

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik, Executive Vice President, The New York Board of Rabbis

The Rev. Al Sharpton, Founder and President, The National Action Network

And other prominent faith leaders and justice advocates

**Please join us for a time of reflection and prayer.
The service will be livestreamed on the diocesan website
and the Cathedral's YouTube channel.**

The Cathedral will be open for prayer 9:30 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

COACH HOUSE PLAYERS
presents

SUNSET BLVD

DIRECTED BY
TOM TIERNEY

LYRICS AND BOOK BY
DON BLACK AND
CHRISTOPHER HAMPTON

MUSIC BY
ANDREW LLOYD
WEBBER

Nov 8, 9, 15 & 16 @ 7:30pm
Nov 10 & 17 @ 2pm

12 Augusta St, Kingston NY

www.coachhouseplayers.org

Sunset Blvd features our own Joe Gayton. Tickets can be purchased at coachhouseplayers.org The tickets are \$20 general, and \$18 seniors. It's a small venue, so if interested, you should get tickets asap. Joe plays, Max, the butler to Norma Desmond, a star of silent pictures, based on the famous film.



[Grace Calendar](#)

Vestry News

The next Vestry meeting will be held in the boardroom on Sunday November 16th starting at 11:15 AM.
All are invited to attend!

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

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

Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel ... you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."



GRACE CHURCH 1948

Your Grace Church Vestry.

Wardens:

John Cusack

Claire Newquist

Clerk of the Vestry:

Treasurer:

Kathleen Hamilton

Allison McLean

Vestry:

Lorraine Witkowski

Anne Caldwell

Barbara Chumard

Michelle Tubbs

William Gunn

Lenora Vaughan

Mark Strunsky

Eileen Bloomer

Torry Guardino