

February 23, 2025 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 February 23rd

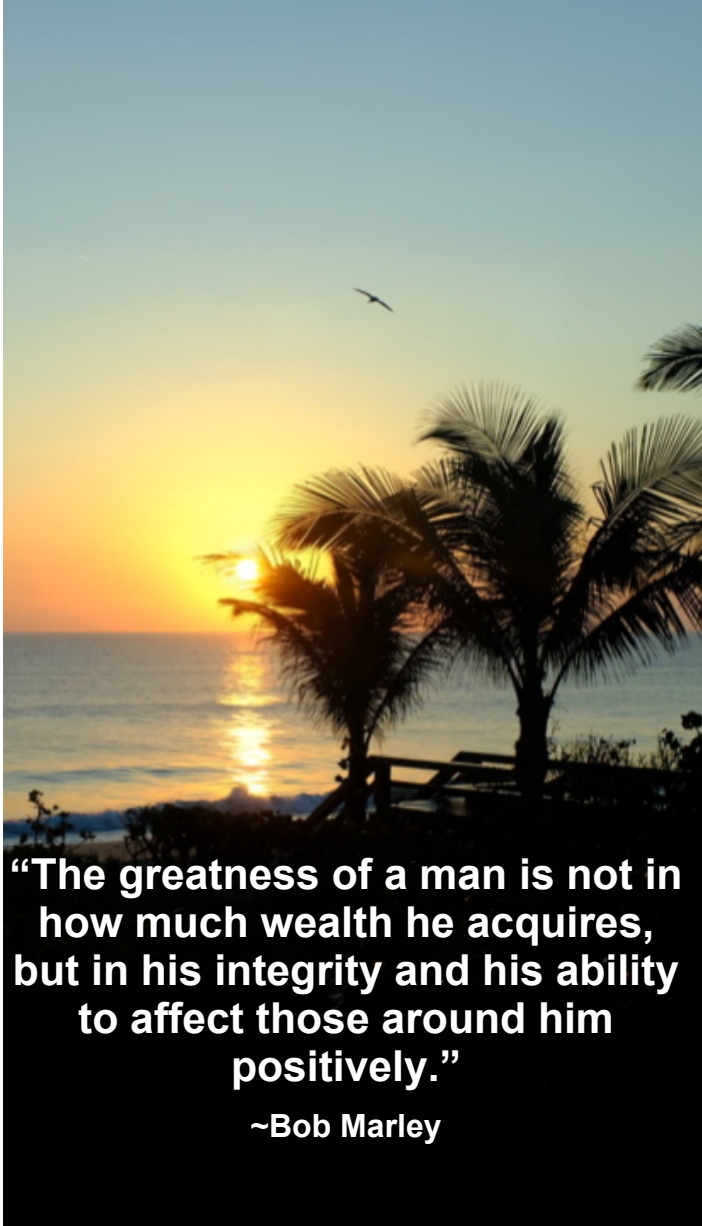
Seventh Sunday After The Epiphany (Rite II)

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

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

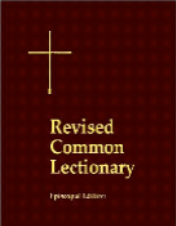
To watch Sunday Mass on Facebook live. [Click Here](#)

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



**“The greatness of a man is not in how much wealth he acquires, but in his integrity and his ability to affect those around him positively.”**

~Bob Marley



### 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/Calendar2025.html>

## Upcoming Events

Sunday February 23rd	9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person and on-line (Rite II) Birthday Sunday
Wednesday February 26th	10:00 AM Healing Mass
Sunday March 2nd	9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person and on-line (Rite I)
Tuesday March 4th	5:30 PM Shrove Tuesday Potluck
Wednesday March 5th	Ash Wednesday 10:00 AM Healing Mass with imposition of ashes 7:00 PM Mass with imposition of ashes
Friday March 7th	6:30 Stations of the Cross
Sunday March 9th	9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person and on-line (Rite II) Daylight Savings Time Begins

## The Photography Corner



Ellen Jamison took this photograph of, as she put it: these “visitors” to her bird feeders.  
Thanks Ellen!

I would like to thank all who have shared photographs with us. ~Joe



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! To purchase gift cards, please see either Eileen or Claire.

## **Mystic Poets Society**

**This week's poem was written and sent to us by Eileen Bloomer. Thanks Eileen! If you have a poem or reflection that you would consider sharing with your fellow parishioners, please send it to me. Thank you, Joe.**

<b>I think</b>	<b>when I think there is nothing to hold,</b>
<b>I lose my place on awkward feet,</b>	<b>then finding heart-shaped questions</b>
<b>this body remembering to forget</b>	<b>left in my open hands</b>
<b>the heartbeat, the forever flow,</b>	<b>as the sunrise slightly shifts in a new</b>
<b>the dance of every single cell</b>	<b>sky,</b>
<b>gathering, buzzing, being in my time.</b>	<b>a fleeting glimpse of the hem of the</b>
<b>I count, count, count</b>	<b>garment</b>
<b>time, days, numbers-</b>	<b>woven through all being, always moving:</b>
<b>things done, things left undone.</b>	<b>an invitation to come and see what is</b>
<b>Then I turn, turn, turn</b>	<b>Here, Now.</b>
<b>seeking some-thing over the horizon,</b>	<b>~Eileen</b>
<b>listening for answers in an empty place</b>	

## **Offering Prayer: Rite I**

**I don't know about you, but I always feel a sense that something is missing when the offering is brought to the altar during the Rite I service and is blessed by Father Victor. During the Rite II service , we are usually singing a hymn, but during Rite I service we stand in silence.**

**Some of you may remember that in the past we have said the following when the offering was given to the priest to be blessed.**

**"All things come of thee, O Lord,  
and of thine own have we given thee."**

**This is a reminder to us that the gifts that we are giving to God in our offerings were gifts to us from God.**

**I've discussed this with Father Victor, and would like to suggest that we resume using this prayer during the Rite 1 offering. We will include it in the prayer bulletins for Rite I to remind us to use it. ~Claire**

# SHROVE TUESDAY POTLUCK DINNER AND BURNING OF THE PALMS:

Traditionally, Grace Church has held a Shrove Tuesday dinner for our parish, followed by the burning of palms, which are used on Ash Wednesday. While this began as a pancake supper, over the past number of years, it evolved into a potluck dinner.

While we cancelled the dinner last year (I think because of a significant snow storm), we would like to hold one this year, again followed by the burning of palms.

The dinner will be held on Shrove Tuesday, Tuesday, March 4th at 5:30 pm in the parish hall. A sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board outside of Phyllis' office. If you would like to come and bring something to share, but will not be in church to sign up before the dinner, please call or email the church office and leave a message. Also, if you would like to come, but need a ride, please call or email the church office and someone will get back to you to try and arrange transportation.

This is wonderful time to come together, share a meal and prepare for the beginning of Lent. ~Claire



Lucas Spisso Jr arrived Sunday morning weighing in at 8lbs 15 oz. Mom and baby are doing great! Congratulations!





**Don't miss this solo exhibit!**



*Curated by Vaune Sherin*

*The paintings of*  
**Pam Mather-Cathy**

At Griffith Realtors: **January—March, 2025**

**226 Main Street, Goshen, New York, 10924**

*Hours: M-F, 9am-5pm and Sat. & Sun., 9am-3pm and by appointment - Reception TBD*

**Pam Mather-Cathy**, a cherished local artist and a devoted member of the **Goshen Art League**, invites you to experience her captivating solo show at **Griffith Realtors**, at 226 Main Street, Goshen.

In this exhibition, Pam showcases her remarkable talent for capturing the often-overlooked beauty of life through her stunning photography, featuring enchanting images of the Hudson Valley, family moments, and the wonders of nature. To add a delightful variety, she will also present a selection of her vibrant acrylic paintings. We warmly encourage you to come and immerse yourself in her diverse body of work, which will be on display through March. To ensure a personalized experience, feel free to call and make an appointment at (845) 294-9333 during business hours.

Your support of local artists like Pam enriches our community and enhances the cultural landscape of the mid-Hudson Valley—don't miss this wonderful opportunity to connect with art and creativity!



[goshenartleague@gmail.com](mailto:goshenartleague@gmail.com) • [www.goshenartleague.com](http://www.goshenartleague.com)



**Grace Calendar**

### **Vestry News**

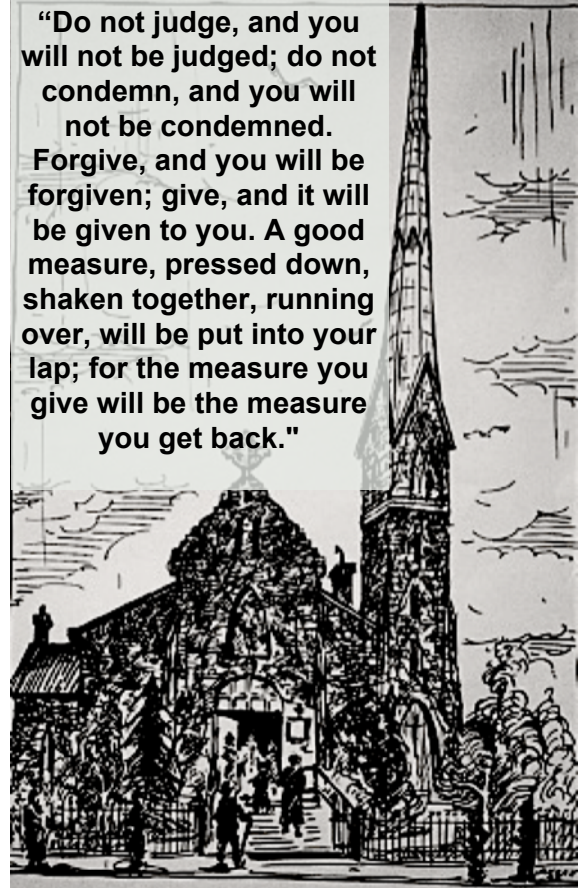
The next Vestry meeting will be held in the boardroom on Sunday March 16th starting at 11:15 AM.

All are invited to attend!

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

[Click here to read the minutes of the November 17, 2024 Vestry meeting.](#)

“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”



GRACE CHURCH 1945

## **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