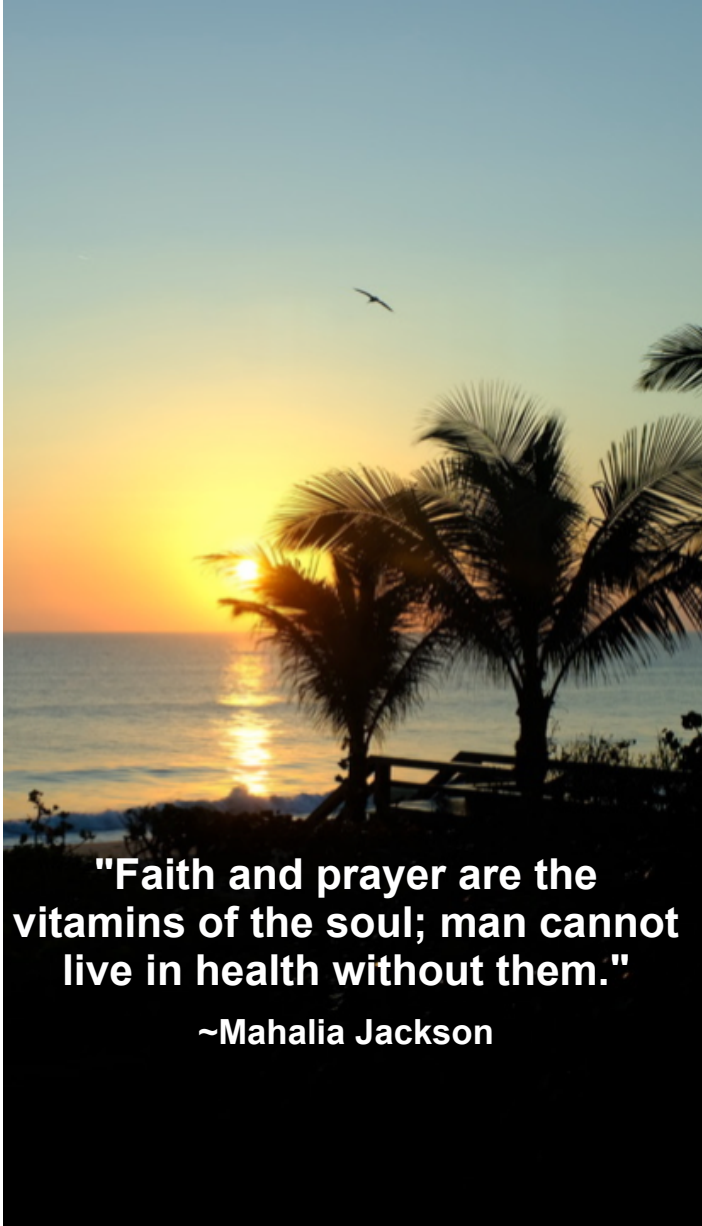


March 16, 2025 Phone 845 343-6101 FAX 845 343-8321 [www.gracechurchmiddletown.org](http://www.gracechurchmiddletown.org)  
email [secretary.grace.episcopal@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.grace.episcopal@gmail.com)



**"Faith and prayer are the vitamins of the soul; man cannot live in health without them."  
~Mahalia Jackson**

*Sunday March 16th*

Second Sunday in Lent (Rite I)

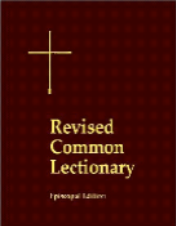
**Morning Prayer**

**There will be no Holy Eucharist this Sunday and next as Father Victor continues to recover from surgery.**

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/Calendar2025.html>

## Upcoming Events

Friday March 14th	6:30 PM Stations of the Cross
Sunday March 16th	9:30 AM Sunday Morning Prayer (Rite I) 11:15 AM Monthly Vestry Meeting
Monday March 17th	St. Patrick's Day
Wednesday March 19th	No Healing Mass while Fr. Victor heals!
Friday March 21st	6:30 PM Stations of the Cross
Sunday March 23rd	9:30 AM Sunday Morning Prayer (Rite II)



## The Photography Corner



This week's photograph is of a local farm which Janet Cusack often walks past. This picture was taken on the first chilly morning last Fall. Thank you Janet!

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

## Cafe Meeting

On March 30th after Mass, a cafe meeting will take place at Grace Church. Here participants will rotate through topic tables for brief and focused discussions on various aspects of the life of the church. Please join us for this very important opportunity to both learn and give feedback on the future of Grace Church. For more details, please feel free to contact me. ~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! 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.

Trust the moment- a passing whisper,  
the weighted words placed in my open  
hands  
as I sit in darkness, one small candle  
flame  
lighting the way. I have seen  
the green life growing by the gray road  
through the ice and white snow,

close to ground, trusting  
the darker season, the cold silence,  
when I sometimes forget the sun and  
light.  
Then I remember the words, the prayer,  
the song,  
the unseen weight in my open hands  
in the moment I breathe and I trust.

~Eileen

## TRICKY TRAY 2025:

Now that we have you all thinking about baskets you can make or gift cards you can solicit or other items that you might want to contribute as "prizes" for our Tricky Tray, its time to remind you of other ways that you can help with this important event.

First and perhaps most important, we need you to help us advertise the Tricky Tray. Just to remind you, it will take place on Saturday, April 26th. Our doors will open at 1:00 pm with calling beginning at 3 pm. Admission will be \$10, with children under 12 free. Each admission comes with one ticket sheet which includes a door prize ticket. Additional ticket sheets will be available at \$5/sheet or 5 for \$20. There will be separate tickets for our special prizes (\$5/ticket) and tickets for a 50/50 drawing (\$2/ticket and 6 for \$10) available for purchase.

In a few weeks, we will have road signs for you to take and put up in high traffic locations. In the meantime, there are fliers available for you to take and post around town or give to your friends and family. We also encourage you to talk to people about the Tricky Tray and let them know what a fun event it is.

As always, thank you for your ongoing support. If you have any questions, need fliers or want to give us some suggestions, please see a member of the Fundraising Committee: Mark Strunsky, Anne Caldwell, Barbara Chumard, David White, Sue Scott and Claire Newquist.

## Stations of the Cross

Grace Church has had a long tradition of praying the Stations of the Cross during Lent. A group of us gather together at 6:30 pm each Friday during Lent to follow the path that Jesus walked from his Condemnation by Pontus Pilate to the cross on Calvary to the Tomb. It is a simple service of prayers, readings and music which allows us to walk with Jesus during his final hours. The leader and torches move around the church stopping at each of the reliefs which hang on the walls of the nave. These depict the 14 "stations" or stops on Jesus' journey.

Please consider joining us at 6:30 pm for this very simple but moving service on one or more of the Fridays during Lent: 3/7, 3/14, 3/21, 3/28, 4/4 and 4/11. If you have any questions, speak to Father Victor or Claire Newquist. ~Claire



**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 January 19, 2025 Vestry meeting.](#)

“The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?”



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