

The Epistle



April 13, 2025 Phone 845 343-6101 FAX 845 343-8321 www.gracechurchmiddletown.org

email secretary.grace.episcopal@gmail.com

Sunday April 13th

Palm Sunday(Rite I)

Subdeacon/Chalice	Allison McLean
MC/2nd Chalice	Phyllis Guardino
Thurifer	David & Claire
Crucifer	Torry & Lucas
Acolyte	Marlene Presley
Acolyte	David White
OT Lector	Janet Cusack
NT Lector	Rick Scott
Intercessor	Patty Seekamp
Ushers	Joseph Barrett Eileen Barrett Sue Scott Volunteer

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](#)

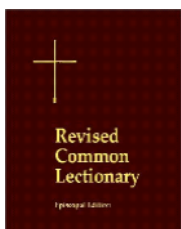
**"So let us spread before his feet,
not garments or soulless olive
branches, which delight the eye
for a few hours and then wither,
but ourselves, clothed in his
grace, or rather, clothed
completely in him."**

~Andrew of Crete

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 April 11th	6:30 PM Stations of the Cross
Sunday April 13th	Palm Sunday 9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person and on-line (Rite I)
Thursday April 17th	Maundy Thursday 7:00 PM Eucharist followed by the Vigil at the Altar of Repose
Friday April 18th	Good Friday 7:00 PM Eucharist Noon to 3:00 PM GMIC Good Friday Service @ St Paul's Methodist Church
Saturday April 19th	7:00 PM Great Vigil of Easter in-person and on-line (Rite II)
Sunday April 20th	Easter Day 9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person and on-line (Rite I) Flowering of the Cross in the churchyard (weather permitting) at 9:15

The Photography Corner



Claire took this photograph during a recent visit to Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris. Thank you Claire!

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.

TRICKY TRAY 2025:

As hard as it is to believe, Lent is almost over and Holy Week and Easter are fast approaching. While many of us have been trying to observe a holy Lent and prepare for Easter, some of us have also been working hard to make our upcoming Tricky Tray a success.

Our thanks go out 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.

To those of you who have posted road signs around the community.

To those of you who have signed up to help.

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. Please check to see if any road signs are still available. 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 21st, so that we can put things together. If this is not possible, please speak to either Sue or Claire. There is also still time to sign up to help with the event.

Once again, thank you for your ongoing support.

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

Easter Flowers

Each Easter the flowers on the altar and around the church are donated in memory of family and friends who are no longer with us. If you would like to have someone remembered in the Easter Flower Bulletin, please complete one of the Flower envelopes that are in the pews and in other locations around the church. You should include your name, the name(s) of who you are remembering, and your donation for the flowers. If you are not in church to complete a Flower envelope, please send your information via email to secretary.grace.episcopal@gmail.com or call the church office, 845-343-6101, and leave a message. In order to complete the Bulletin, we need your information by Monday, April 14. If you have any questions, please call Claire Newquist at 845-344-7885 or the Parish Office at 845-343-6101.

Mystic Poets Society

This week's poem is sent to us by 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 me. Thank you, Joe.

An elusive sun finds a way through

a locked door, a closed window

and shimmers on the opposite wall,

**reflecting the wind dancing with
branches,**

dancing with everything this morning,

a cold, cold morning after the rain

when light reappears and wind sings

with her full voice.

Then light I can see with these eyes

returns for a brilliant encore,

and I hold this song in my heart gently

**as it sighs through the edge of a new
day,**

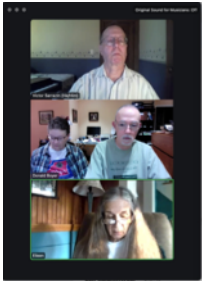
**passing through dreams dreamed in the
night,**

and carried into the day, a new voice

whispering my true name.

~Eileen

Passing clouds obscure the light briefly.



Now that our weeks of Sunday Morning Prayer have ended, I am cordially inviting (daring) you to join our Friday morning Prayer Group on Zoom. It's really not scary or boring. We've been doing it every two weeks since the Autumn of 2022! Actually, the five of us (Mark, Eileen B., Analise, Carla, Don) find it a really great way to start the day. We always feel good after our 40 minute sessions. It's not entirely prayer. We chat and joke a bit. All you need is to have the Zoom app, (which is free) on your computer and to bring up the

website www.missionstclare.com at the same time. That's where our "script" is. If you join us, we won't make you read aloud unless you want to. You can just listen and watch, like you're watching a great Netflix show. Who will dare join us? I TRIPLE-Dog dare you!! Email me and we'll make sure you receive the link to join the Zoom session: cdboyer@optonline.net. Our next session will be on Friday, April 11 at 7:00 a.m.. Thanks!
Don Boyer

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday:

Sunday, April 13 at 9:30 AM

Maundy Thursday:

Thursday, April 17 at 7 PM followed by the Vigil at the Altar of Repose

Good Friday:

Friday, April 18 at 7 PM

Noon to 3:00 PM GMIC Good Friday Service @ St Paul's Methodist Church

Great Vigil of Easter:

Saturday, April 19 at 7 PM

Easter Day:

Sunday, April 20 at 9:30 AM

Flowering of the Cross in the churchyard (weather permitting) at 9:15



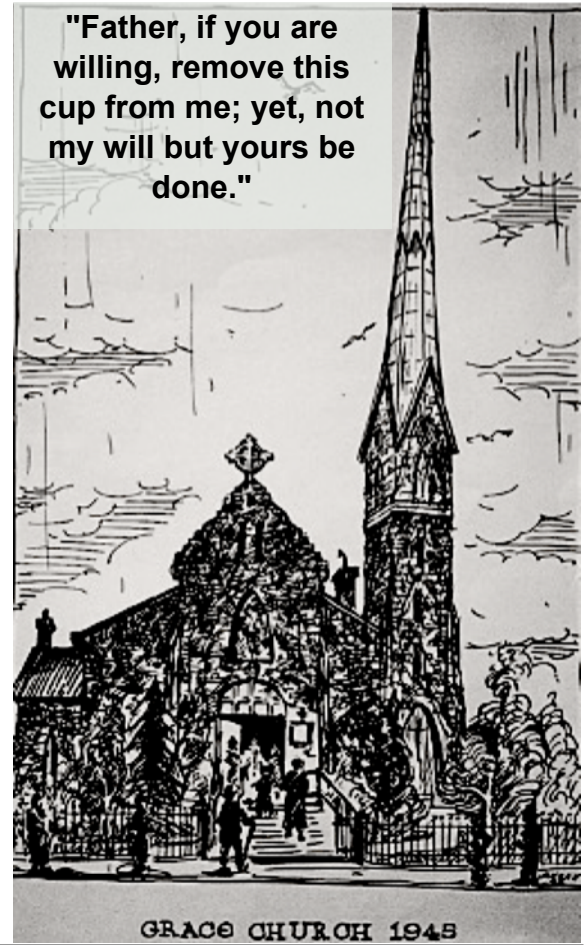
Vestry News

The next Vestry meeting will be held in the boardroom on Sunday April 27th starting at 11:00 AM.

All are invited to attend!

[Click here to read the minutes of the February 16, 2025 Vestry meeting.](#)

[Click here to read the minutes of the January 19, 2025 Vestry meeting.](#)



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