

# The Epistle



April 27, 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 April 27th*

Second Sunday of Easter (Rite II)

Subdeacon/Chalice	Marlene Presley
MC/2nd Chalice	Torry Guardino
Thurifer	David Brokaw
Crucifer	Savannah Spisso
Acolyte	Phyllis Guardino
Acolyte	Lucas Spisso
OT Lector	Bill Gunn
NT Lector	Joe Gayton
Intercessor	Mark Strunsky
Ushers	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](#)



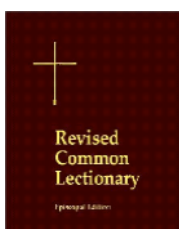
**"A little bit of mercy makes the world less cold and more just."**

**~Pope Francis**

### 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

<b>Saturday April 26th</b>	<b>Annual Tricky Tray</b> <b>1:00 PM Doors open; 3:00 PM Calling</b>
<b>Sunday April 27th</b>	<b>9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person and on-line (Rite II)</b> <b>11:00 AM Monthly Vestry Meeting</b>
<b>Wednesday April 30th</b>	<b>No Healing Mass While Fr. Victor Heals!</b>
<b>Sunday May 4th</b>	<b>9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person and on-line (Rite I)</b> <b>180th Grace Episcopal Church Annual Meeting</b>
<b>Wednesday May 7th</b>	<b>No Healing Mass While Fr. Victor Heals!</b>

## TRICKY TRAY 2025:

**This it! The time has come—our Tricky Tray is this Saturday, April 26th!! Doors open at 1 pm, with calling at 3 pm. Don't worry, there is still time to be part of this important event.**

**We still need help. Set up is Friday, 4/25, beginning at 3:00 pm. There is also much to do the on Saturday, 4/26, from helping during the Tricky Tray and cleaning up after. Don't worry if you didn't sign up to help; just come and see one of us. We'll find something for you to do.**

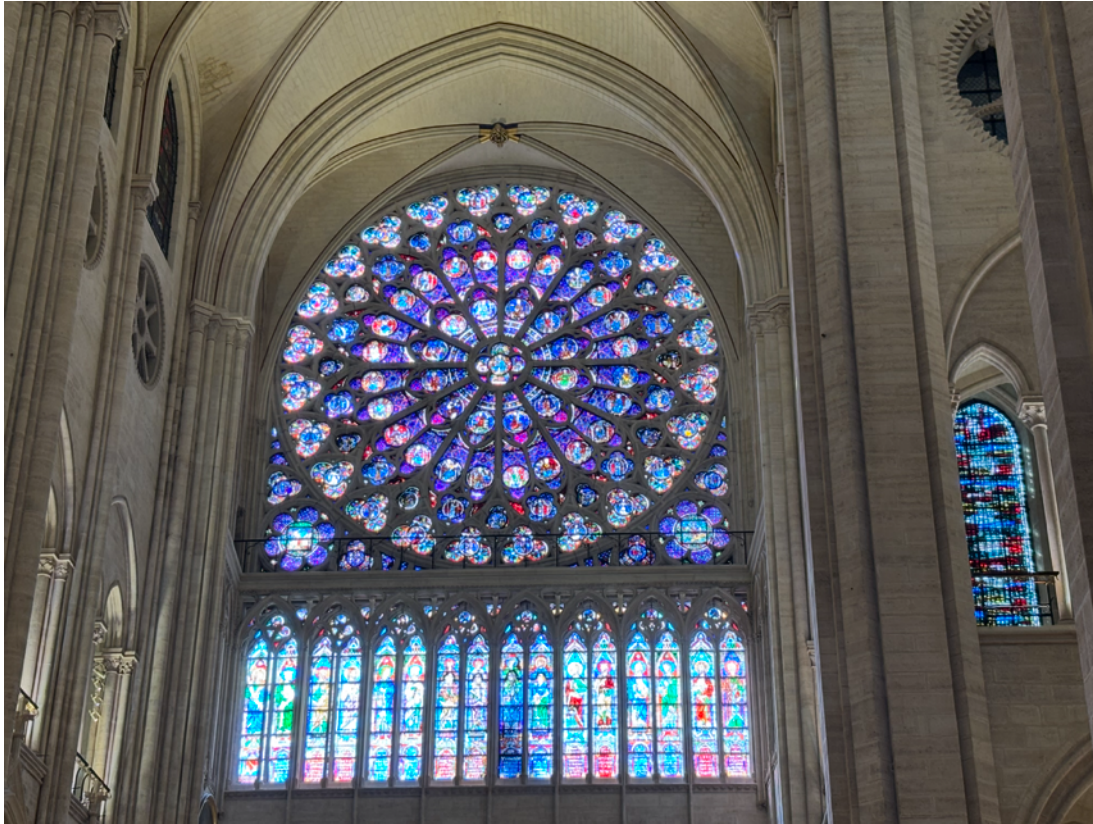
**It's not too late to invite your family, friends or neighbors to come. There are wonderful "baskets" to be won, fantastic special prizes, a chance to win the 50/50 and an opportunity for fun and fellowship. Most importantly, come yourself. Join us in making this a truly memorable Tricky Tray.**

**The Fundraising Committee: Mark, Anne, David, Barbara, Sue and Claire**



**The stripping of the altar on Maundy Thursday.**

## The Photography Corner



This photo of the North Rose Window at Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris was taken by Claire Newquist. Thank you Claire!

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

## 2025 Annual Meeting

Next Sunday, May 4th, is the 180th Grace Church Annual Meeting following Mass. If you are called to serve on the Vestry, please see Fr. Vic, John or Claire. If you would like to read the 180th Annual Reports, please [click here](#) for the GSM report and [click here](#) for the remaining reports. ~ Joe

## Help Needed!



Our lawn maintenance contractor has spread mulch and planted flowers this past weekend. I could use a few more volunteers to help water the flowers each week. If you could spare some time, Don and I could use some help. You can email me at [jbar1021@gmail.com](mailto:jbar1021@gmail.com) or speak with me at Grace after Mass. Thank you. 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 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.

Once upon a time in my lifetime  
I dreamed a dream  
on a Friday morning called Good,  
and the dream was good, was very good.  
In the dream, I meet my friend,  
a gentle smiling man,  
who held the pain of the world in his secret heart  
until it was broken by life here,  
broken by his own hands  
unfolding the secret of his earthbound pain,  
revealed at his shocking, sad death,  
his dying alone, hanging in a room of locked doors.

But in that Good Friday dream,  
my friend walked through open doors,  
smiling his gentle smile, saying,  
Here I am.  
Love is all.  
The power is inside.  
Now, on this Good morning,  
this Friday so many years later,  
Love asks the gentle, heart-breaking question  
at the always open door:  
What do you want me to do for you?  
~Eileen

## Flowering of the Cross on Easter



# **Eucharistic Minister Training**

**Saturday, April 26, 9:30 am**

**St. John's Church, New City**

**367 Strawtown Road, New City, NY 10956**

**You're invited to register for the Lay Eucharistic Minister Training on Saturday, April 26, 2025. In preparation for licensing by Bishop Heyd, participants will learn about the Holy Eucharist, how to serve in the liturgy as Eucharistic Ministers, and have hands-on experience administering the chalice.**

**Check-in will open at 9:00 am, and training will be from 9:30 am - 12:00 pm. Cost per person: \$15 (breakfast snacks). Please note that space is limited – attendance will be capped at 35. If you have any questions, please get in touch with Arlene Bullard at [abullard@dioceseny.org](mailto:abullard@dioceseny.org) or call 212.316.7413. Click below to register.**

**Diocesan Celebration of Ministry  
Honoring Bishop Glasspool:  
A Journey of Faith & Service**



**Diocesan Celebration of Ministry Honoring Bishop Glasspool**

**A Journey of Faith and Service**

**Saturday, May 31, 10:30 am**

**The Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine**

**1047 Amsterdam Avenue, New York NY**

**Join us as we give thanks for the faithful and inspiring ministry of The Right Reverend Mary Glasspool, Bishop Assistant of the Diocese of New York, as she prepares for her retirement on June 30, 2025. We will honor her 45 years of service in ordained ministry, her unwavering commitment to God's people, and the love and wisdom she has shared throughout our diocese.**

**Eucharist service will be followed by a reception. Please RSVP below.**



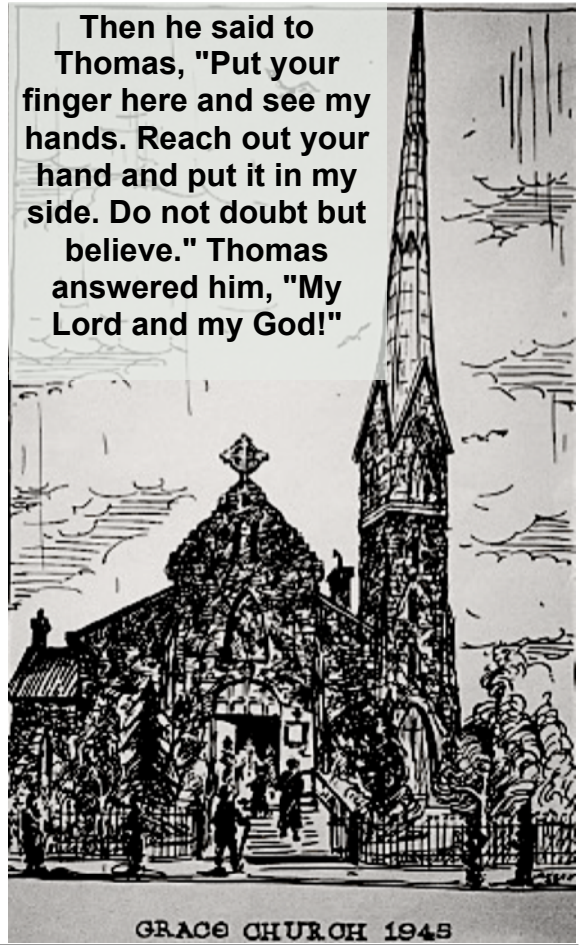
### **Vestry News**

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.](#)



Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"

### **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