The Epistle



June 1, 2025 Phone 845 343-6101 FAX 845 343-8321 <u>www.gracechurchmiddletown.org</u> email <u>secretary.grace.episcopal@gmail.com</u>

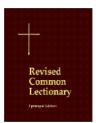
Ascension Sunday June Ist (Rite I)



"The measure of achievement is not winning awards. It's doing something that you appreciate, something you believe is worthwhile."

~Julia Child

Subdeacon/Chalice	Carla Boyer
MC/2nd Chalice	Allison McLean
Thurifer	
Crucifer	
Acolyte	Janet Cusack
Acolyte	
OT Lector	Connie Herm
NT Lector	Mark Strunsky
Intercessor	Patty Seekamp
Ushers	Mark Strunsky Joseph Barrett Eileen Barrett
Use our audio mixer to listen to the 9:30	
Sunday Mass live.	Click Here
To watch Sunday Mass on Facebook live. <u>Click Here</u>	
For the Sunday praye	r bulletin. <u>Click Here</u>



Website for Lectionary Readings

The webpage is in calendar form - just click on the date and you will see the readings for that day.

Upcoming Events

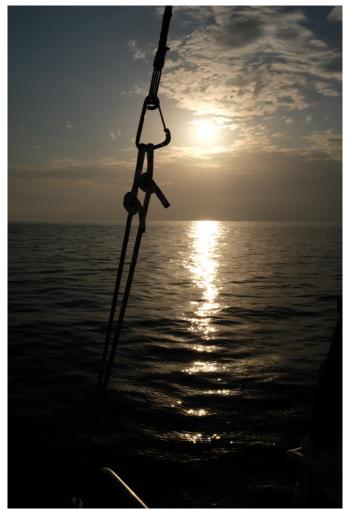
Sunday June 1st

Wednesday June 4th Sunday June 8th

Wednesday June 11th Sunday June 15th

Wednesday June 18th Sunday June 22nd 9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person and on-line (Rite I) Ascension Sunday
10:00 AM Healing Mass
9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person and on-line (Rite II) Pentecost Sunday
10:00 AM Healing Masss
9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person and on-line (Rite I)
Father's Day
10:00 AM Healing Mass
9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person and on-line (Rite II)
Father's Day
10:00 AM Healing Mass
9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person and on-line (Rite II)

The Photography Corner



Sunset in Key West 2024.

I would like to thank all who have shared photographs with us. I could use some more if you'd like to send some. ~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.

A mourning dove coos	her own wilderness of fear and pain;
through the cold rain, unseen.	I watch and struggle to find
I forget what day it is,	the bones of my feet
the day after her body was cut	on this shifting ground of being,
to fix, to fuse the crooked bones.	being mother and being child,
I see my grown child crying,	listening to the mournful song
groping her way through	of soft gray birds on a gray morning.

~Eileen

On Sunday, June 1, we will be blessing a prayer shawl in memory of Canon John Osgood, one of our former rectors. The shawl will be placed in the Wayside Chapel. This tradition was started by Mary Carpenter many years ago and is a good way to honor our deceased former rectors. Please feel free to add your prayers to the shawl and to use it during your quiet time in the Wayside Chapel.



At last Sunday's coffee hour we celebrated our May birthdays. Happy Birthday Don, Patty, Kathy & David!

Music Update

It would be wonderful if all of my fellow parishioners would make an extra effort to be in church on Pentecost, June 8, one of our highest Holy Days. More than ever, we need to acknowledge our dependence on the Spirit's presence among us if we are to do what we need to do for our parish and our community. Two prize-winning singers, both named Abby, will be guest singers with the choir that day as we sing "Ev'ry Time I Feel the Spirit". Thanks. ~Don Boyer

Additionally:

Here are a new hymn and a new psalm to sing on Pentecost, June 8! We will be introducing new music and you can prepare for it with these two videos:

Psalm 104 for Pentecost: https://youtu.be/VY3R0IQZQ_M

Hymn # 741 for Pentecost: https://youtu.be/LN8iJFdtJFU

Each of those videos has a linked pdf of the sheet music in its description. I hope to hear that some people practiced! Thanks! ~Don Boyer



1:00 - 4:00 pm

12 Depot Street, Middletown, NY 10940

Children MUST be accompanied by an adult.

No drop offs.



THE BISHOP OF NEW YORK

We are committed to creating communities of safe belonging, where care for one another shapes our common life.

As part of that commitment, we are conducting a confidential survey to better understand past experiences and strengthen our practices for preventing and responding to sexual misconduct.

This survey is a key component of the independent audit we have commissioned to examine how sexual misconduct has been handled in our diocese. We invite all individuals connected to our congregations, chaplaincies and schools— past or present— to participate.

Your voice matters as we work toward greater transparency, accountability, trust, and healing for survivors and all those affected.

Take The Survey

Please complete the survey and share the link with anyone who has been part of your community, including parishioners, employees, volunteers, or alumni.

If someone does not have internet access or needs translation services, Guidepost Solutions (the independent firm conducting the audit) can assist. They may call 212-359-2920 or email ednyhotline@guidepostsolutions.com to request help completing the survey by phone or in another language.

The survey is open from May 24 to July 3, 2025. All responses are completely confidential and managed exclusively by Guidepost Solutions, not Diocesan staff. Once the information is analyzed, findings will be included in a final report that we will make public.

Thank you for helping us move forward with care, courage, and hope.

Grace & Peace, The Rt. Rev. Matthew Heyd Bishop of New York

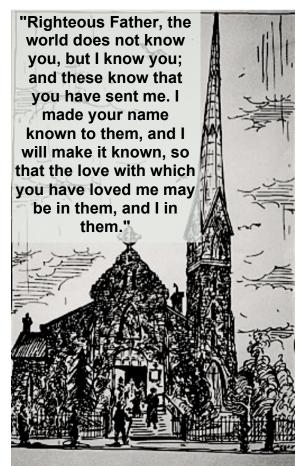


Vestry News

The next Vestry meeting will be held in the boardroom on Sunday June 22nd starting at 11:15 AM. All are invited to attend!

> Click here to read the minutes of the April 27, 2025 Vestry meeting

> Click here to read the minutes of the March 16, 2025 Vestry meeting



GRACO CHURCH 1945

Your Grace Church Vestry

Wardens:

Vestry:

John Cusack

Clerk of the Vestry:

Kathleen Hamilton

Lorraine Witkowski Barbara Chumard Analise Reed Mark Strunsky Torry Guardino

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David White (Student member of Vestry)

Claire Newquist

Treasurer:

Allison McLean

Anne Caldwell Michelle Tubbs Joseph Barrett Eileen Bloomer