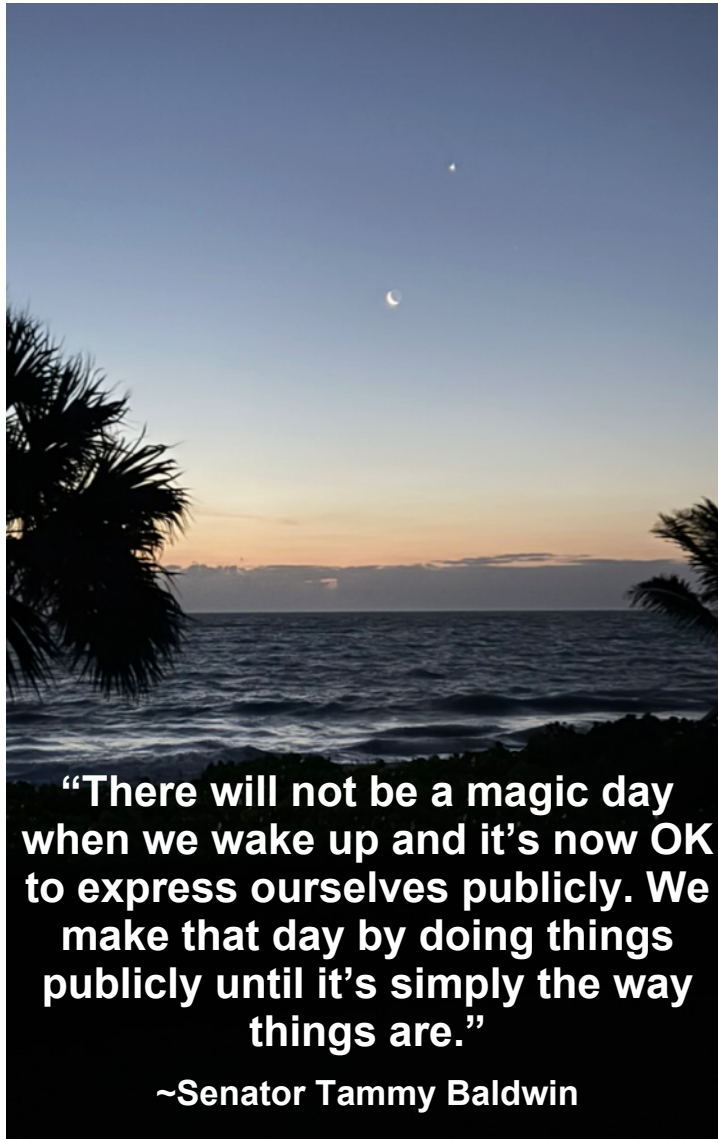




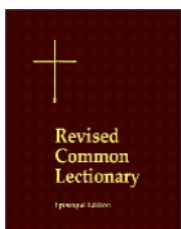
June 29, 2025 Phone 845 343-6101 FAX 845 343-8321 [www.gracechurchmiddletown.org](http://www.gracechurchmiddletown.org)

email [secretary.grace.episcopal@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.grace.episcopal@gmail.com)

## *Third Sunday After Pentecost June 29th (Rite I)*



Subdeacon/Chalice	Allison McLean
MC/2nd Chalice	Marlene Presley
Thurifer	
Crucifer	
Acolyte	Carla Boyer
Acolyte	
OT Lector	David Brokaw
NT Lector	Connie Herm
Intercessor	Patty Seekamp
Ushers	Mark Strunsky Sue Scott Eileen Barrett Joseph Barrett
Use our audio mixer to listen to the 9:30 Sunday Mass live. <a href="#">Click Here</a>	
To watch Sunday Mass on Facebook live. <a href="#">Click Here</a>	
For the Sunday prayer bulletin. <a href="#">Click Here</a>	



### 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 June 29th**

**9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person and on-line (Rite I)**

**Wednesday July 2nd**

**10:00 AM Healing Mass**

**Friday July 4th**

**Happy Independence Day!**



**Office Closed**

**Sunday July 6th**

**9:30 AM Morning Prayer (Rite II) while Father Vic & Rhonda are away.**

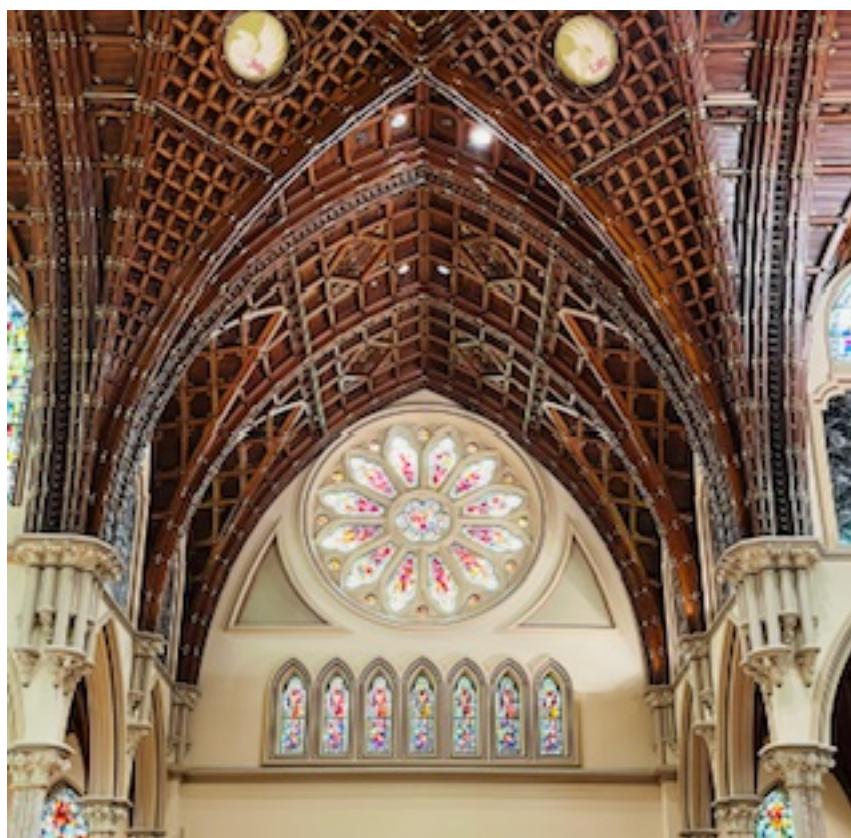
**Wednesday July 9th**

**No Healing Mass while Fr. Victor is away.**

**Sunday July 13th**

**9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person and on-line (Rite I)**

## The Photography Corner



**This week's photograph of the Holy Name Cathedral in Chicago was sent to us by Father Victor. Thank you Fr. Vic!**

**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.**

## **A Job Well Done**



**As she gets ready for her last day of work on Monday, June 30th, we want to take a moment to recognize Phyllis Guardino for her 20 years of dedicated service to Grace Church and the Guild of St Margaret. Phyllis accepted the position of Parish Secretary in 2005 and immediately set out to organize the day-to-day operation of the Parish Office and set up a comprehensive accounting system. Over the years, Phyllis' responsibilities increased as she became Parish Administrator. In 2012, Phyllis also became the Director of the Guild of St Margaret, helping to keep the program operating at a time when we had lost one of our major grants. Since becoming full time Director of the Guild, Phyllis has expanded both its programs and our funding sources and helped to increase our visibility both in the community and throughout the Diocese. Her creativity and ability to "think outside the box" (or in this case the building), helped us to keep the Soup Kitchen open and serving our guests during the COVID-19 pandemic. She was even able to expand services, adding a food pantry program.**

**In the years since the end of the pandemic, she has worked to solidify the Soup Kitchen program's staffing and services, opened a Food Pantry program that allows recipients to choose their own groceries, expanded our grants and donations and become a valued member of the Episcopal Charities Board. As she does all this, she still finds time to help us keep the Parish Office running. She is always willing to put her own work aside to answer questions, help us figure out how to make Church Windows work, or to find some document or address some immediate need. This often means that she then stays late to get her own work done or takes work home to do on her own time.**

**Phyllis, we will miss your smiling face in the office each day but know that you will always be a phone call away if we need your help—as long as we don't interfere with your time with your new granddaughter.**

**Thank you for all you have done for Grace Church and the Guild of St Margaret!**

**~Father Victor, John Cusack and Claire Newquist**

## **Coffee Hour Thank you:**

**Many thanks to Morgan and Lucas Spisso for our coffee hour treats on Sunday, June 22nd. Morgan made a special trip to church on Sunday morning to leave the goodies for coffee hour, even though the family had a prior commitment and was not able to be at church! That is a true example of fellowship and caring for our parish family.**

## **Mystic Poets Society**

**This week's poem was 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.**

**Mystery stands still and asks: What do you  
want me to do for you?**

**I could open my mouth to speak,**

**but I am stuck in the middle**

**of a half-paved, half-milled road,**

**orange signs, traffic cones, flags,**

**loud machines, dirt and dust, bumps,**

**the words, "Rough Road Ahead" mark the  
way.**

**I have so many words I could say,**

**the hot and cold of living**

**in these extreme days.**

**I could speak of the roses,**

**the roses that bloomed brilliantly**

**for such a short time this year,**

**now brown ghosts dropping petals**

**to the ground, the ground**

**that welcomes all that falls.**

**Perhaps I could draw a map through my  
days,**

**a map without a destination,**

**but full of crossroads and questions**

**to mark the Ground where the only answer  
is**

**Welcome.**

**~Eileen**



# **#OneSingleAct**

**On July 1st, the Episcopal Diocese of New York will launch #OneSingleAct, an online campaign co-presented with The Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine, Episcopal Charities, Episcopal Divinity School, and the Interfaith Center of New York.**

**The #OneSingleAct campaign invites every person to do a single act of care, courage, or connection - big or small - share it online - and invite one other person to do the same.**

**If you're in New York City, join us on the Cathedral steps at 11:00 am for the kickoff event, music, and community. But wherever you are in the world, watch this space to learn how you and your communities can be a part of this campaign.**

**One act. One post. One ripple. Together, we're building a culture of generosity and hope.**

**[Click here](#) to register**



## Summer Fellowship & Fun:

Summer is here! What does that mean for us at Grace Church? First, our Choir is taking a much-deserved rest, although those of us who can't carry a tune hope that they will still come to church to sing with the congregation. Second, we are putting the use of incense during the Rite 2 mass on hiatus until September. Third, it's time to think about Fellowship!

On July 12th from 1pm to 4pm, we will be hosting the third annual Children's Funday in our churchyard. This is one way to make Grace Church more visible to our community and to welcome families and children. Please invite your family, friends and neighbors with kids to attend, and think about volunteering. There are sign-up sheets on the bulletin board in the Vesting area.

On Saturday, July 19th from 11 am to 2 pm, the City of Middletown's Thrall Park will once again be the site of the "Love Our City Event." This is an opportunity to celebrate Middletown and showcase our services, as other organizations and agencies are showcasing theirs. There will also be food, music and activities. Plan to attend, and if you are interested, sign up for an opportunity to man Grace Church's information table.

Saturday, August 16th, will be the 19th annual Run for Downtown. This year we are hoping to be able to open the church for visitors, as we did in 2023, to show off our beautiful space and share information about what we do. There will be opportunities for you to sign up to help.

On Sunday, August 24th, the Vestry will be hosting a barbecue for our parish family in our churchyard. More about this to come!

Are there other events happening that we should know about and publicize? Are there other opportunities for fun and fellowship that you would like to see happen at Grace? If the answer to one, or both, of these is yes, please speak to Father Victor, one of our wardens or a vestry person. ~Claire

## Choir News



We are refurbishing our choir robe hanging area and are in need of a sturdy rack for hanging the blue, children's robes. We hope that some of them will be used in the coming months. We are asking for the donation of either a sturdy rack or the funds (\$150.00) for purchasing one. If you can help, please contact me. Thanks. ~Don Boyer

[cdboyer@optonline.net](mailto:cdboyer@optonline.net)



### **Vestry News**

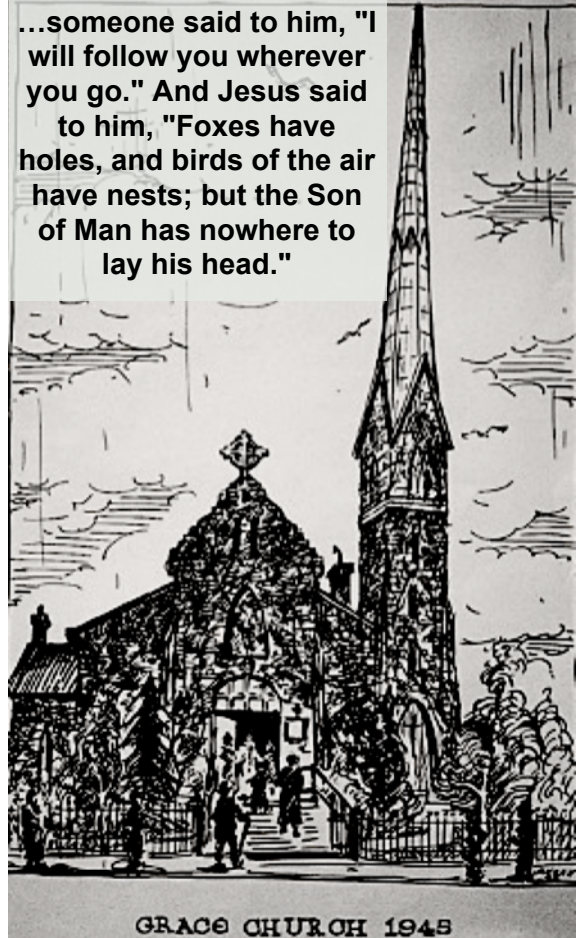
The next Vestry meeting will be held in the boardroom on Sunday August 17th starting at 11:15 AM.

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.](#)

...someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head."



### **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

Analise Reed

Joseph Barrett

Mark Strunsky

Eileen Bloomer

Torry Guardino

David White (Student member of Vestry)