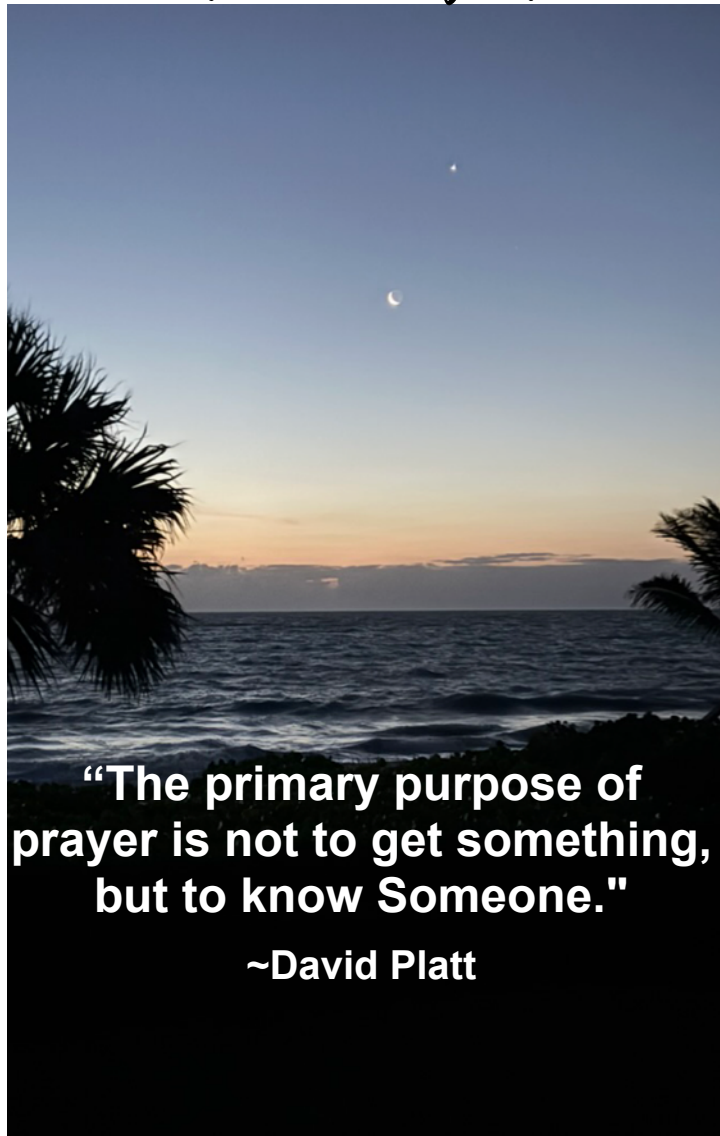




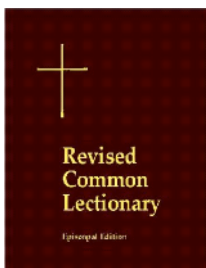
August 31, 2025 Phone 845 343-6101 FAX 845 343-8321 [www.gracechurchmiddletown.org](http://www.gracechurchmiddletown.org)

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

## Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost August 31st (Rite II)



Subdeacon/Chalice	Rick Scott
MC/2nd Chalice	Phyllis Guardino
Thurifer	
Crucifer	Torry Guardino
Acolyte	Marlene Presley
Acolyte	Claire Newquist
OT Lector	David Brokaw
NT Lector	Eileen Barrett
Intercessor	Joseph Barrett
Ushers	Mark Strunsky Joseph Barrett Eileen 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

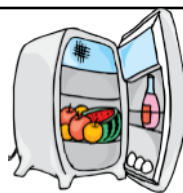
Sunday August 31st	9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person & on-line (Rite II)
Monday September 1st	Labor Day Holiday - Office closed
Wednesday September 3rd	10:00 AM Healing Mass
Sunday September 7th	9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person & on-line (Rite I)
Wednesday September 10th	10:00 AM Healing Mass
Sunday September 14th	9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person & on-line (Rite II) Blessing of the Rose Chasuble Founders Day - Remembrance of Elisha Wheeler
Wednesday September 17th	10:00 AM Healing Mass

## The Photography Corner



I took this photograph of a Peace Wall in Belfast, Northern Ireland. Built to separate Protestant Unionist and Catholic Republican neighborhoods during the times of sectarian violence, called the “Troubles”.

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.

## **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.**

<b>Now is the season of the morning star:</b>	<b>in my two hands,</b>
<b>darker mornings, longer nights.</b>	<b>trying to balance in the middle,</b>
<b>I look east and watch this one star</b>	<b>in all the words that dance</b>
<b>fade and flow into the coming light,</b>	<b>before my closed eyes,</b>
<b>grateful to have this one glimpse of heaven.</b>	<b>moving at the speed of light...</b>
<b>Do I find the star?</b>	<b>Until</b>
<b>Or does the star find me</b>	<b>I come to a blank page, an empty silence.</b>
<b>in the middle of this breakable life,</b>	<b>I open my eyes and see</b>
<b>in the middle of dreams and tears</b>	<b>late August yellow dandelions blooming</b>
<b>and words and wonder where I hold</b>	<b>with the summer blue cornflowers.</b>
<b>good or bad,</b>	<b>I am learning to tune my heart</b>
<b>right or wrong,</b>	<b>to the call of one mourning dove</b>
<b>joy or sorrow</b>	<b>and one morning star at dawn.</b>
	<b>~Eileen</b>

## **From The Rector's Desk**



**My dear Family in Christ,**

**As I write this my granddaughter Jana is beginning her first day of 4th grade. Although she has lamented the shortness of the summer break, I am confident it will be a good year for her.**

**Our school term in Middletown will begin shortly following the Labor Day holiday and it is time for us to once again bless backpacks, briefcases, etc. The last Sunday of this month, August 31st, seems the most appropriate time for us to share this blessing with those who are heading back to school. It is also the date of our monthly birthday celebration, giving us much to celebrate.**

**Please bring school supplies for the coming term on Sunday August 31 so we can send our scholars to begin another year in prayer and blessing.**

**~Fr. Vic**



*Study Bible with:*

# The Rev and the Rav

**REVERAND VICTOR SARRAZIN   RABBI DAVID SISLEN**



*This unique opportunity  
will allow students from  
different faiths to join  
together as we explore  
scripture as one!*

**FOR ITS INAUGURAL YEAR, REVERAND SARRAZIN AND RABBI SISLEN WILL TEACH AND MODERATE A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF AMOS. CLASSES WILL BE HELD ONLINE, AND THERE IS NO COST TO PARTICIPATE. TEXT WILL BE SHARED, BUT FEEL FREE TO USE YOUR OWN IF YOU DESIRE. CLASS DATES FOR '25-'26 ARE: OCTOBER 30, DECEMBER 18, FEBRUARY 26, APRIL 23, AND JUNE 18 AT 7PM.**

**TO REGISTER AND RECEIVE THE LINK, PLEASE CONTACT:**

**RABBI SISLEN:**

**[RABBI@TEMPLESINAIMIDDLETOWN.COM](mailto:RABBI@TEMPLESINAIMIDDLETOWN.COM)**

**FATHER SARRAZIN:**

**[SECRETARY.GRACE.EPISCOPAL@GMAIL.COM](mailto:SECRETARY.GRACE.EPISCOPAL@GMAIL.COM)**



Partners for Sacred Places is holding a national photo contest to shine a light on historic churches, synagogues, meetinghouses, temples, and mosques as civic spaces in their neighborhoods! The theme is “Third Place: Sacred Places Serving Their Neighborhoods.” Amateurs and professionals alike can enter their original photos, starting August 15. The categories are:

The Arts

Education and Service

Open Space

Community Events

Learn more about prizes (up to \$500!) and how to submit on the contest website. The contest closes October 15. We cannot wait to see your work!

For more information email [photocontest@sacredplaces.org](mailto:photocontest@sacredplaces.org).

**[Enter Here!](#)**



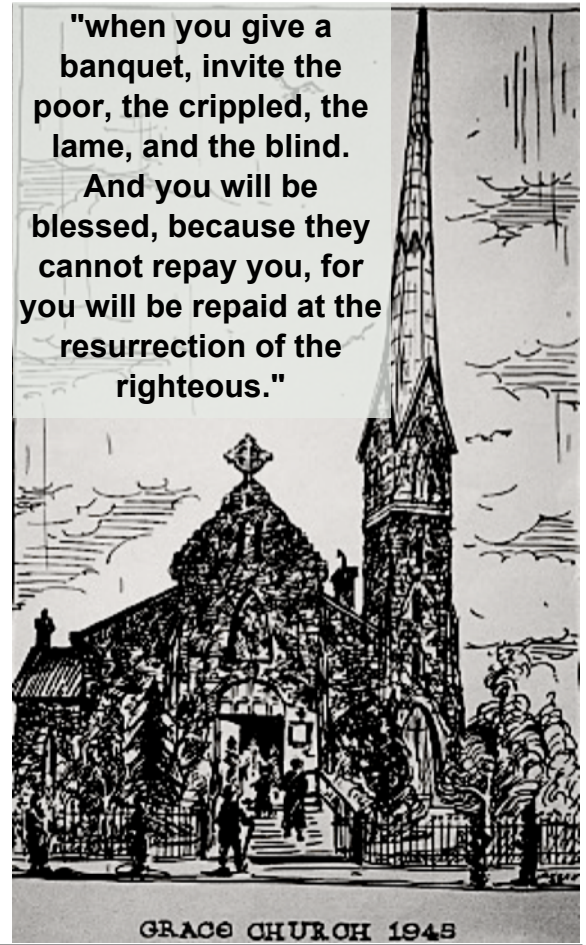
AT THE INTERSECTION OF  
HERITAGE, FAITH, & COMMUNITY

**[www.sacredplaces.org](http://www.sacredplaces.org) | (215) 567-3234 | [partners@sacredplaces.org](mailto:partners@sacredplaces.org)**

## **BBQ Wrap-up**

Many thanks to all who participated in our summer barbecue on Sunday, August 24th. It was wonderful to be able to gather in our beautiful churchyard and share a meal. Amazingly, the weather held; there was no rain, but it was cloudy enough to keep us from getting too hot sitting outside. Thanks to the Vestry for contributing the hot dogs, hamburgers and buns, and to Michelle Tubbs for shopping for them. Thanks to the Guardinos for lending us their grill; and to Torry and John Cusack for doing the grilling. The food was wonderful, as always at Grace Church events.

Fellowship events are wonderful, but they do require some planning and coordination. If we would like to have special events, we need someone to volunteer to be our Fellowship Coordinator. We have another opportunity coming up on September 14th, when we celebrate our Founder's Day and bless the refurbished Rose Chasuble. We will also be thanking Luz Pascal, from Grace Church, Port Jervis, who did the work on the chasuble. This would be the perfect opportunity for a celebratory coffee hour. Is anyone interested in taking this job on? If you are, please speak to Father Victor, John Cusack or Claire Newquist.



### **Vestry News**

The next Vestry meeting will be held in the boardroom on Sunday September 21st 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 May 18, 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

Analise Reed

Joseph Barrett

Mark Strunsky

Eileen Bloomer

Torry Guardino

David White (Student member of Vestry)