



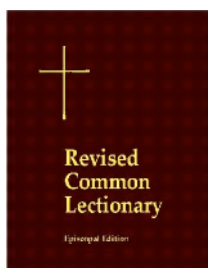
October 5, 2025 Phone 845 343-6101 FAX 845 343-8321 www.gracechurchmiddletown.org

email secretary.grace.episcopal@gmail.com

October 5th (Rite I) The Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost



Subdeacon/Chalice	Janet Cusack
MC/2nd Chalice	Claire Newquist
Thurifer	
Crucifer	
Acolyte	Allison McLean
Acolyte	
OT Lector	Carla Boyer
NT Lector	Connie Herm
Intercessor	Joseph Barrett
Ushers	Joseph Barrett Eileen Barrett Mark Strunsky 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	



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 October 5th	9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person & on-line (Rite I)
Wednesday October 8th	10:00 AM Healing Mass
Sunday October 12th	9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person & on-line (Rite II)
Monday October 13th	Columbus Day Holiday - Office closed
Wednesday October 15th	10:00 AM Healing Mass
Sunday October 19th	9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person & on-line (Rite I)
	11:15 AM Monthly Vestry Meeting in the Boardroom
Wednesday October 22nd	10:00 AM Healing Mass
Sunday October 26th	9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person & on-line (Rite II)
	Stewardship Sunday
Wednesday October 29th	10:00 AM Healing Mass
Thursday October 30th	7:00 PM The Rev & Rav Bible Study
Sunday November 2nd	9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person & on-line (Rite I)

The Photography Corner



This photograph was taken in Belfast, Northern Ireland. The city had beautiful handpainted murals on many of their walls. I enjoyed the mix of the painted mural, the real flowers and the green bicycle.

Thank you to all who have sent us photographs to share. ~Joe

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.

But what can I possibly know?

I'm simply gathering leaves,
pressing their changing colors
between pages, the well-read pages,
new bookmarks for this next season,
the green season saying goodbye,
an ending beginning in this time.
I write words on yesterday's page
with a dull pencil, soft letters
to say I found the three stars
in the still dark sky, but still I wonder
where to go from here.

Questions knocking at the door:

Who am I?

The light is coming, the stars are fading,
and I say I am one who will walk down a
path

filled with fallen leaves, leaves to gather,
changing leaves letting go, falling,
ready to end and perhaps begin again.

I will gather what I find- leaves and words-

and wonder what is mine to let go.

Now, questions at the edges, then silence.

Now one new bird speaks,
calling to the coming light,
a distant, insistent, mournful voice,
perhaps saying something...?

Now the sky is golden.


And what can I possibly know?

~Eileen

Study Bible with:

The Rev and the Rav

REVEREND 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, REVEREND 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
FATHER SARRAZIN:
SECRETARY.GRACE.EPISCOPAL@GMAIL.COM

**And Mary said,
“My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior...”
Luke 1:46-47, NRSV**

My Dear Friends,

As Christians we are story tellers. We have an ancient narrative, one that describes the beginning of time and the relationship between God and Ourselves and all of God’s Creation. We see this story grow through the prophetic tradition until our story recounts the life and gifts of the Son of God. But the story doesn’t end with the Resurrection just as it did not end with the Cross, it continues on, empowered by the presence of the Holy Spirit, in each of us today as we encounter and are transformed by the Good News.

Luke’s Gospel is bookended by the animated story-telling of two women named Mary. Early in the Gospel, Mary the mother of Jesus, tells us of her encounter with the Divine who informs her that she will bear a child who will change the world. She proclaims her joy: “Tell out my soul! The Greatness of the Lord!” At the end of the Gospel, another Mary, Mary Magdalene, visits the tomb to discover it empty and receives instructions from the Risen Christ to go tell the others. She carries this Good News with jubilation to the Disciples.

What is your Good News; the idea, dream, challenge placed in your heart by God, that needs to be shared? What is the ministry to which you are called which will change the world, sharing your talents, gifts, and love with your neighbors?

Our Stewardship Campaign this year focuses on these stories – the ones inside you, the ones you are still writing, the ones we tell about those who have gone before us. We are all a part of this ongoing narrative – the ongoing Creation. As you pray about how you will share your gifts with us this year, think about how God is calling you to tell out your soul, to spread the Good News far and wide. Hear the stories that we share weekly throughout the campaign that relate the creative spark in us with the ways in which we are called to serve God and love our neighbor.

Tell out my soul! The Greatness of the Lord!

Fr. Vic



Church School

We are excited to announce that Church School will begin on Sunday, October 19th. Please bring children who will be attending, to the board room at 9:15 am . ~Allison

November Is Fast Approaching!

Count the days! It's 49; that's right, only 49 days to Grace Church's Annual Holiday Fair. Now, that may seem like a long time, but remember all that we have to do before we open our doors to the public, on Saturday morning, November 22nd at 9 am.

We need to find vendors for our vendor tables; to date we have 5 or 6, but ideally we would like to have at least 15-20, or more! If you know someone who might be interested in being a vendor, please let Mark Strunsky know as soon as possible.

Sue and Claire need to get started on making our gift baskets. As of this writing, the date for starting the baskets is a bit uncertain as we await the remediation of the mold issues in our basement. There is also some question as to whether all the items stored in the basement will be safe to be used. We'll keep you updated on that, but regardless, new materials for the gift baskets are always appreciated. They are looking for holiday/winter decorations (trees, Santas, snowmen, sleds, ornaments, signs, etc.), mugs (holiday and plain colors), napkins, garden items, coffee/tea related items, and anything else that strikes your fancy. Any items donated not used for the holiday fair will be used for the tricky tray baskets.

We need to purchase gift cards for some of our raffle prizes and our holiday trail gift card tree. This year's raffle prizes will include gift cards from local grocery stores for the purchase of a holiday meal. Donations towards the purchase of the gift cards or donations of the gift cards are always appreciated. Other raffle prizes will be announced in a future article.

It's also not too soon to think about advertising the Fair and our outstanding fish & chips luncheon. While Barbara Chumard has already begun working on an advertising campaign, you can help by sharing this information with your friends, families, neighbors, co-workers and anyone else you encounter. Flyers will be available soon for posting.

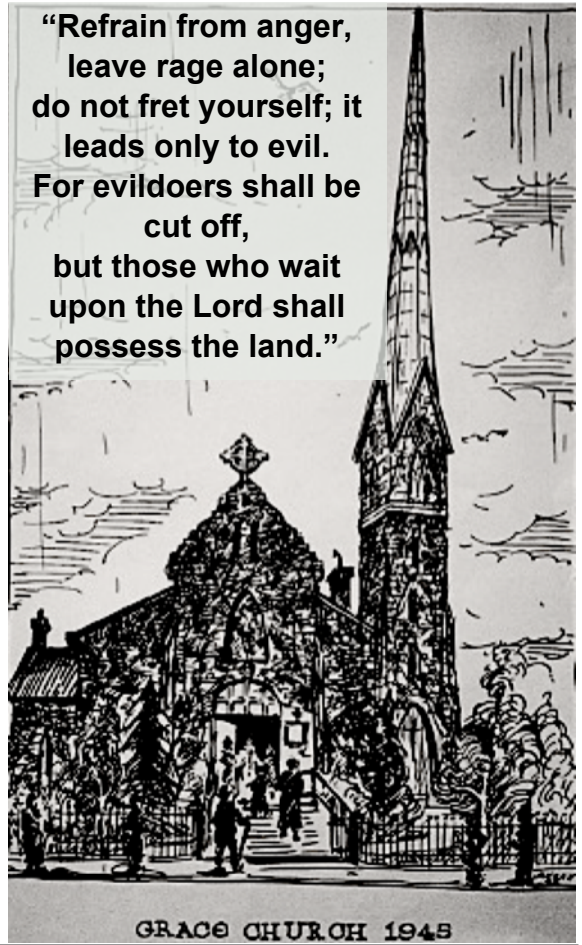
In the weeks to come you will be hearing more about this important event. Raffle tickets will be distributed in early November for each of you to sell/purchase. Sign up sheets to help set-up, clean-up and work the Fair will go up in November. For right now, put the Holiday Fair and Trail on your calendar: Saturday, November 22 from 9-3 and spread the word.

The fundraising committee: Mark, Anne, David, Barbara, Charlotte, Sue & Claire



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.



Vestry News

The next Vestry meeting will be held in the boardroom on Sunday October 19th starting at 11:15 AM.
All are invited to attend!

[Click here to read the minutes of the June 22, 2025 Vestry meeting.](#)

[Click here to read the minutes of the August 17, 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)