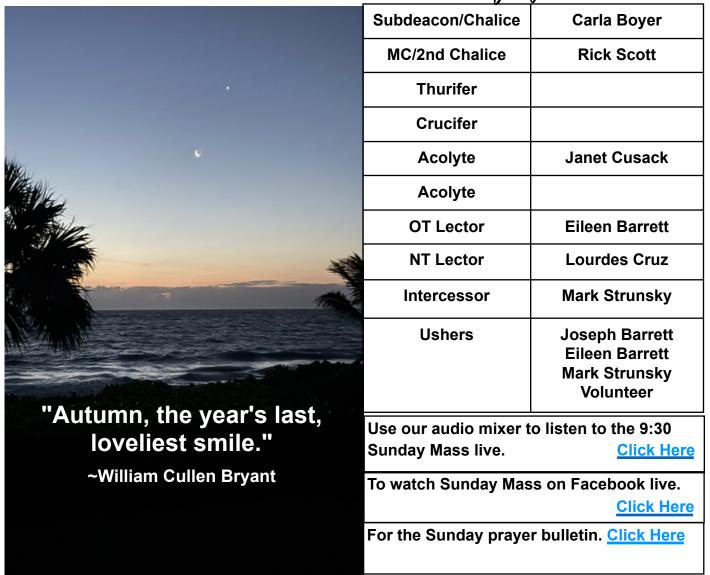
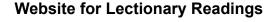
# The Epistle



October 19, 2025 Phone 845 343-6101 FAX 845 343-8321 <a href="www.gracechurchmiddletown.org">www.gracechurchmiddletown.org</a> email <a href="mailto:secretary.grace.episcopal@gmail.com">secretary.grace.episcopal@gmail.com</a>

## October 19th (Rite I) The Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost





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

Revised Common Lectionary

https://www.lectionarypage.net/CalndrsIndexes/Calendar2025.html

## **Upcoming Events**

**Sunday October 19th** 9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person & on-line (Rite I)

9:15 AM Church School begins!

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

10:00 AM Healing Mass

Wednesday October 29th

**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)

**Remembrance Sunday** 

**Tuesday November 4th Election Day** 

Wednesday November 5th 10:00 AM Healing Mass

**Sunday November 9th** 9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person & on-line (Rite II)

**Tuesday November 11th** Veteran's Day Holiday - Office closed

249th Diocesan Convention Saturday November 15th

10:00 AM to 4:00 PM Touro College Health Fair at Grace

**Sunday November 16th** 9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person & on-line (Rite I)

## The Photography Corner



This photograph, "The Wedding Party" on the Newburgh Waterfront, was sent to us by Lorraine Witkowski. Thank you Lorraine! 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.

The yellow mums bloomed in their season;
now, fading flowers in a small green pot
I had carefully placed on the long gray step
in the sun of another day, a longer day.
I heard the wind, the dark wind coming,
saw the dark night coming;
I heard what fell, but could not know whatuntil

I open the door
and step into the dark.

I see the small green pot tipped over,
falling down the gray steps.

I carefully walk my own steps

down to the fading flowers.

I gather what once bloomed
and place it out of the wind and
into a safer corner to make it through the
night,

I wake in the darker morning,
my body like the fading flowers
as I make my way down dark stairs,
carefully stepping into safer corners,
listening to fading dreams,
listening to the wind and rain here now.
I drop all questions and answers
at the open door, and wait for light.

~Fileen

## **All Saints Day**

This year we will again remember those members of our parish family and other family and friends who passed away over the past year as a part of our All Saints Day Service on Sunday, November 2, 2025. You may also wish to remember individuals who passed away at an earlier time. Parishioners are invited to bring in photographs or other small mementoes which will be placed on the side altar and blessed during the service. These will be returned after the service. Items may be brought in either before November 2nd or on the 2nd prior to the 9:30 am service.

Services were held for Daniel Bornander, Joseph Peter Mathews, Margarita Ostergaard and Jeanne Goggins since our last Remembrance Sunday. In addition, parishioners Eleonore Scott and her husband William and Walter Blampied passed onto larger life. If we have omitted members of our parish family who died since our last All Saints Day service (11/3/2024), please let either Father Victor or Claire Newquist know so that we can include them.

This is a time for us to remember and give thanks for all the saints who have been a part of our lives. ~Claire

And Mary said,
"My soul magnifies the Lord,
And my spirit rejoice in God my Savior..."
Luke 1:44-47

#### **Dear Fellow Parishioners:**

We are inspired by you. As we look around our congregation and see what is happening, we understand that God's dream is at work here. As we worship together, hear sermons about love, faithfulness and service, share ways to engage together and reach out to the community around us, we see a community that is alive and looking for ways to grow and prosper.

We feel particularly fortunate this year, with the troubles and unrest in the world around us, that we have a church full of generous, loving, creative people who find new ways to seek and serve Christ in all people. Through the work of our Guild of St Margaret Soup Kitchen and Food Pantry, participation in the Greater Middletown Interfaith Council and our open welcome to all who enter our doors, we are making a difference in the world and changing our world.

Our annual Stewardship campaign this year asks us to share two big things with our congregation. Firstly, we are asked to share our gifts. Those ideas and talents and passions that God has planted inside you are grown in your generous hearts to be shared with the world. Secondly, you are asked to share your story with us and with the world around you. That is how we grow God's kingdom and cast the net wider.

Soon you will receive a letter from Rick Scott, our Stewardship Chair, with the materials you need to consider your pledge and promise to share your time, talent, and treasure with us in the coming year. We invite you to pray, to listen and to continue sharing yourself with our parish family and our community.

Tell out my Soul! The Greatness of the Lord!

John Cusack and Claire Newquist, Wardens



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.

## 2025 Holiday Fair

Some of you may remember that our Holiday Fair used to be called the Merrie Olde English Crafte Faire. It featured British inspired decor—remember those lanterns and the the Beefeater and Prince William and Princess Catherine. It also featured a High Tea and Fish & Chips luncheon. We've left the Merrie Olde English Crafte Faire and its decor and the high tea behind, but by popular demand we continue to offer the delicious Fish & Chips luncheon.

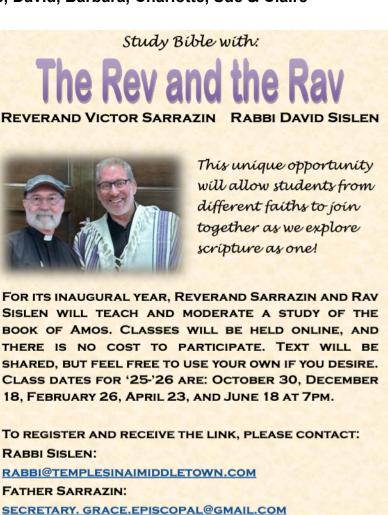
What could be more comforting on a crisp November day (or a cold and wet November day) than a plate of hot crispy fish, chips and Cole slaw followed by gingerbread with sauce? I can't think of anything. If you don't believe me, ask the many satisfied customers who come back year after year to enjoy this meal.

As you plan your day on Saturday, November 22nd, make certain that you time your visit to the Grace Church Holiday Fair to give you time to enjoy a Fish & Chips luncheon. In order to plan for the event, there will be limited seating (100 tickets), so buy your tickets early (they'll be available by November 2nd), tell your friends and spread the word. There is flyer for you to pick up in church—put it up on Facebook and post it anywhere you can.

To buy tickets see one of us or call the parish office at 845-343-6101 to reserve your seat. Hope to see you over a delicious plate of hot and crispy Fish & Chips!

The Fundraising Committee: Mark, Anne, David, Barbara, Charlotte, Sue & Claire

To view and/or print out a copy of the Holiday Fair flyer, please CLICK HERE





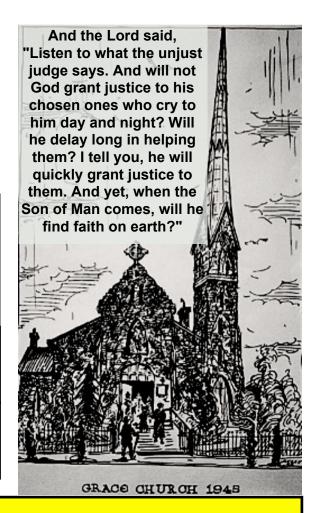
## **Vestry News**

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

Barbara Chumard

Analise Reed

Mark Strunsky

Anne Caldwell

Michelle Tubbs

Joseph Barrett

Eileen Bloomer

**David White (Student member of Vestry)** 

**Torry Guardino**