



November 2, 2025 Phone 845 343-6101 FAX 845 343-8321 www.gracechurchmiddletown.org

email secretary.grace.episcopal@gmail.com

November 2nd (Rite I) The Twenty-First Sunday After Pentecost



"Honoring the sacrifices many have made for our country in the name of freedom and democracy is the very foundation of Veterans Day."

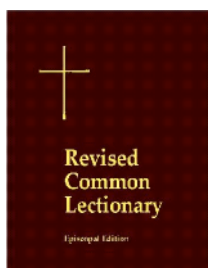
~Charles B. Rangel

Subdeacon/Chalice	Allison McLean
MC/2nd Chalice	David Brokaw
Thurifer	
Crucifer	
Acolyte	Carla Boyer
Acolyte	
OT Lector	Phyllis Guardino
NT Lector	Torry Guardino
Intercessor	Mark Strunsky
Ushers	Mark Strunsky Joseph Barrett Eileen Barrett 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>

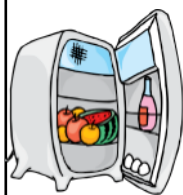
Upcoming Events

Sunday November 2nd	9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person & on-line (Rite I) Remembrance Sunday First Day of Sunday School Daylight Savings Time ends! Set clocks back 1 hour. Election Day
Tuesday November 4th	10:00 AM Healing Mass
Wednesday November 5th	9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person & on-line (Rite II)
Sunday November 9th	Veteran's Day Holiday - Office closed
Tuesday November 11th	249th Diocesan Convention
Saturday November 15th	9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person & on-line (Rite I)
Sunday November 16th	11:15 Monthly Vestry Meeting
Wednesday November 19th	10:00 AM Healing Mass
Saturday November 22nd	9:00 AM to 3:00 PM Grace Holiday Fair, Bake Sale and Fish&Chips Luncheon

The Photography Corner

This week's photograph was taken by Janet Cusack when she was in Maine earlier this year for Mother's Day. Thank you Janet!

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

This body is falling apart;
this body has stories to tell.
Today is my mother's birthday.
Happy birthday! She died
forty years ago. She was born
one hundred and one years ago.
I don't remember her face
on the last day I saw her.
You speak in my heart and say,
"Seek my face."
Are You in the forgotten face
of my mother?
Or in the face of the beautiful
dark eyed deer just outside
my back door yesterday,
the one I did not seek but found?
Or in the face of the smiling man
with his sad doe eyes,
standing in the grocery checkout line,

holding out one green avocado
and one yellow block of cheese
as he tells me, "This is all I have
for the next two days-
I eat like a bird!"
Are You in the beautiful face
of my grandson, leaning back
from across the room to softly say,
"I love you?"
Seek my face.
Today I am a seeker.
You are, You are always
the pearl, the lost coin, lost sheep,
the faint crescent moon rising
in a day blue sky.
Keep looking up.
Never stop looking up.
I am- We are- always here.
~Eileen

Remember that we
set our clocks back
1 hour this
weekend.



Who Made Our Beautiful Kneelers?

Probably close to 40 years ago, a young woman whose name I've forgotten began attending services at Grace. She stood out in that she had a profound faith that her disabled little boy would become well. She was slight, but she carried him with strong arms up to the Altar to be blessed each week, a very touching sight.

She was also a gifted artist and soon she was involved with a group of Grace parishioners who did needlework. It was she who personally designed our beautiful kneelers, placing the designs on the canvas for the people who would do the needlepoint, indicating what colors were to be used and helping with the work.

The group set to work. I am positive of some of the names, but unsure of others, but these were probably the folks who took part in the needlework: Mary Carpenter, John Cook, Nell Cook, Joyce Graziano Weissert, Edith Marquez, Pat Marquez, Norma Osgood, Lyn Pierce and Kaye Thacker. I think Mary Caskey was involved as well.

The group worked both together and separately, slowly making their way through all of the intricate designs and the never-ending blue background. Eventually, they finished and the kneelers were sewn and finished professionally. It was a happy day when they were installed and blessed, replacing the old, faded and worn (I believe they were red) kneelers, and today they still look as good as new.

The group went on to begin the creation of smaller kneelers for the Acolytes. Some sort of rift occurred then, also the artist left Grace, and the work ended unfinished. I always wondered what happened to the unfinished pieces.

Recently, Carolanne Cusack, Director of the Guild of St. Margaret, found two pieces of partly finished needlepoint as she was cleaning out the office. I was able to help with identifying what they were, but questions still remain: Does anyone remember the name of the young woman who designed and worked on the kneelers? Does anyone know if there are any more unfinished pieces? Have I left anyone out of the list of those who worked on the kneelers? And, finally, is there anyone who would like to finish the found pieces?

If you have any information, please see Claire Newquist. ~Kathryn Parker

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

2025 Holiday Fair

Do you own a business or work for one? Do you know someone with a business or do you patronize a business that you feel should be better known? If the answer to any of these questions is yes, then we have an opportunity for you or the business owner. This year we will once again sell advertising spaces on the placemats that we use for the Holiday Fair Fish & Chips lunch. We debuted this idea last year, and it was a rousing success. Here is what to do:

Provide us with a copy of the company's business card. (If a business card is not available, we'll need the business' name, address, phone number, website address.)

Pay the very reasonable fee of \$30.00/advertisement. The check should be made out to Grace Episcopal Church with placemat ad in the memo line.

You can mail the business card and check to Grace Episcopal Church, 12 Depot Street, Middletown, NY 10940 or drop it by the church office, Monday-Friday, 9 am to 3 pm.

If you have any questions, contact Rick or Sue Scott at 845-343-7060.

All business cards and checks need to be received by November 6, 2025 in order to get to the printer on time.

Everyone who purchases an ad space will receive a copy of the placemat.

The Fundraising Committee

To view and/or print out a copy of the Holiday Fair flyer, please [CLICK HERE](#)

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

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

Thanksgiving Dinner needs

I know that we are just entering November, but it is not too early to start thinking about Thanksgiving, and that is what Cyndi Franchio has been doing for the past several weeks. Many of you know that Cyndi has been coordinating our Thanksgiving and Christmas meals for close to 20 years.

For many of these years, a local church donated the turkeys that Cyndi's volunteers cooked and served. This year that church is unable to donate the turkeys. In addition, Cyndi is also in need of pies for desert for the Thanksgiving meal.

Cyndi has asked that we ask our parishioners to consider donating a turkey and/or a pie. If you are donating a turkey—frozen please—please bring it to church by Sunday, November 16th. If you are donating a pie—store bought only—Cyndi needs them by Sunday, November 23rd.

If you would prefer to make a monetary donation, that would also be much appreciated. \$25 should pay for a turkey and \$10-12 for a pie. Cash donations should be in an envelope with your name and "GSM Thanksgiving Meal" on it. Checks may be made out to the Guild of St Margaret, with Thanksgiving Meal in the memo line. These donations can be given to Carolanne Cusack at the GSM office, Monday-Friday from 9 am to 3 pm or to John Cusack or Claire Newquist at church. We appreciate any monetary donations by Sunday November 16th so that Cyndi can plan appropriately for the Thanksgiving meal.

As always, thank you for your continued support of the Guild of St Margaret. ~Claire

Cathedral to Host Funeral Service for Dr. Jane Goodall, DBE

WASHINGTON – Washington National Cathedral will host the funeral service for world-renowned ethologist and conservationist Dr. Jane Goodall, DBE, on November 12, 2025, at 11:00 am. Dr. Goodall's life and work made an indelible mark on our understanding of humankind and the environments we all share.

Initially recognized for her groundbreaking work with chimpanzees, Dr. Goodall's observation of tool-use in non-human animals is known as the moment that "redefined humankind." This finding was followed by many others during her research of wild chimpanzees, including the existence of strong mother-infant bonds, meat-eating and hunting, primitive warfare, altruism, and compassion. Dr. Goodall's findings influenced fields of human health, evolution, and ecology.

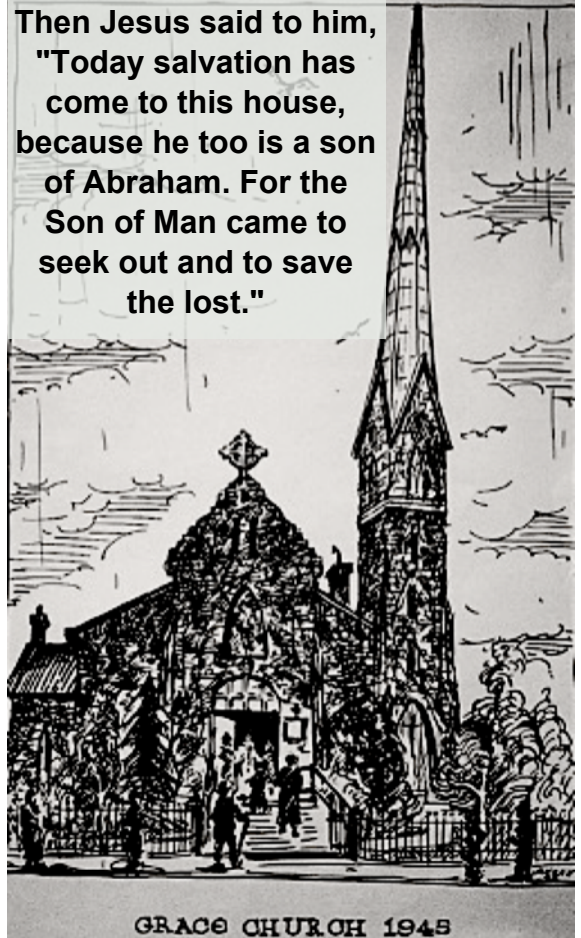
Officiants: The Rt. Rev. Mariann Edgar Budde, Bishop, Episcopal Diocese of Washington, and The Very Rev. Randolph Marshall Hollerith, Dean, Washington National Cathedral

Preacher: The Rt. Rev. Mariann Edgar Budde, Bishop, Episcopal Diocese of Washington

The public is invited to watch the service online. [To watch the Funeral Service click here.](#)



Then Jesus said to him,
"Today salvation has
come to this house,
because he too is a son
of Abraham. For the
Son of Man came to
seek out and to save
the lost."



Vestry News

The next Vestry meeting will be held in the
boardroom on Sunday November 16th
starting at 11:15 AM.
All are invited to attend!

[Click here to read the minutes of the
September 21, 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)