The Epistle



November 30, 2025 Phone 845 343-6101 FAX 845 343-8321 www.gracechurchmiddletown.org email secretary.grace.episcopal@gmail.com

November 30th (Rite I) The First Sunday of Advent



This Sunday Is Morning Prayer Rite I

"What we do for ourselves dies with us. What we do for others and the world remains and is immortal."

~Albert Pine

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.

Revised Common Lectionary

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

Upcoming Events

Thursday November 27th Happy Thanksgiving! Office Closed. Sunday November 30th 9:30 AM Morning Prayer (Rite I)

Wednesday December 3rd 10:00 AM Healing Mass

Sunday December 7th 9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person & on-line (Rite II)

84th Anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor

11:15 AM Special Vestry Budget Meeting

Wednesday December 10th 10:00 AM Healing Mass

Sunday December 14th 9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person & on-line (Rite I)

Wednesday December 17th 10:00 AM Healing Mass

Sunday December 21st 9:30 AM Sunday Eucharist in-person & on-line (Rite II)

11:15 AM Monthly Vestry Meeting

The Photography Corner

This week's
photograph was sent
to us by Pam MatherCathy, in time for
Thanksgiving. Thank
you Pam!
Thank you to all who
have sent us
photographs to share.
I could use some
more pictures if you'd
like to send some.
~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.

Keep walking and see, Come and See. a November red rosebud waiting for some sun, growing alone over pieces of a broken flower wind spinner. Find and be found by the shy yellow faces of dandelions, the spring flowers still growing, barely blooming at the cold edge

of a gray road filled with the fading colors of dying, windswept leaves. Welcome the blue, the bluest sky. Discover the brown deer paused just outside the back door, listening to life in the moment. Live in the surprising moments, all good gifts given to see. Sent from my iPad ~Eileen

Mold Remediation Update

The following update was sent to Father Victor from Patrick Stachelrodt, Mitigation Team **Leader for Paul Davis Restoration:**

"Over the past several days, our team has completed multiple mitigation tasks at the property. We began by moving contents from the active work areas to protect them and

> wall materials were removed, and quide lines were marked in all affected rooms in preparation for demolition.

allow safe access. Doors, plug covers, and affected loose

We proceeded to remove affected drywall, including making

2-foot cuts along the hallway walls and in the room located under the staircase. All affected drywall, debris, and garbage were collected, bagged, and either removed from the site or contained for later pickup. The work areas were consistently cleaned and swept following each phase of work.

Air scrubbers were turned on to assist with stabilization, and all areas were left in an organized condition upon departure each day." ~Joe



Bags of debris from Parish House basement being staged for disposal.



Basement hallways with 2 foot "flood cut"

2025 Holiday Fair Wrap-Up

It's time for each of you to take a bow. Thanks to all the hard work from our Fundraising Committee and every one of you, another successful Holiday Fair is behind us. We would like to thank each and every one of you for all that you did to make year's Fair a success. The tasks that you undertook, from spreading the word, to selling your raffle tickets, to baking for the Fair to helping to set up or clean up or work the Fair, etcetera, etcetera, helped make the Fair a success. We could not have done this without your hard work and support. As we have said before, while it takes a village to raise a child, it takes an entire congregation, and then some, to pull off a successful and profitable fundraiser. When the need arises, we all pull together and, once again, the results were outstanding.

We will have more specifics about how much we earned on Saturday, November 22nd in a future Epistle, but for the present, know that we did very well. And, if you would like to help increase our profit, don't forget there are a few baskets for sale in the Board Room. They will be available through December 7th.

Once again, many thanks to all of you.

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









More Holiday Fair pictures on the next page.



This past Sunday, Grace
Church celebrated the baptism
of Scarlet and we welcomed
her into the body of Christ.



Help Needed

Many of you have already heard that our fellow parishioner, Edna Brooks, is from Jamaica. She has a home there, or at least she did, and a large family living there. Edna's home and those of many of her family members and friends have been destroyed or seriously damaged by hurricane Melissa. With the damage to the roads and the infastructure, some places are unreachable. As part of her parish family, we would like to offer Edna and her family and friends some assistance. If you would be interested in making a contribution to help, please let Father Victor, Joe Barrett or Claire Newquist know. Please make checks out to Grace Church with either Edna Brooks or Jamaica in the memo line. We also ask that you remember Edna, her family and all those in Jamaica in your prayers. Thank you. Joe & Claire

Craft Fair Pictures continued:









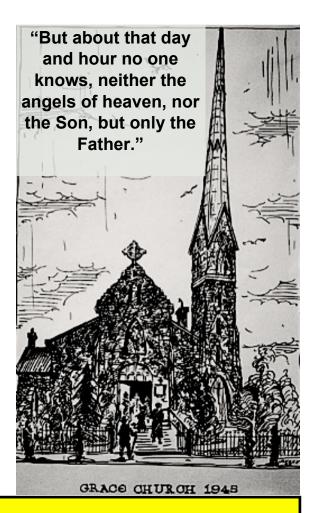
Vestry News

The next Vestry meeting will be held in the boardroom on Sunday December 21st 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 October 19, 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

David White (Student member of Vestry)

Torry Guardino