



Weekly E-News from Grace Episcopal Church

November 3, 2016

Spotlight on Grace: A Message from the Rector



This week we celebrate the feast of All Saints. All Saints' Day was officially on Tuesday - November 1st - but at Grace Church, as in many churches, we celebrate the occasion on the first Sunday in November. On this day, we remember not just those whose names are preceded by the letters "St." but all those - both in heaven and on earth - who have been followers of Jesus. This is why we baptize on All Saints' Sunday - it's a living sign of the spiritual connection between all Christians, connecting generations past with those yet to come.

This week, let us remember and give thanks for those saints who have been a blessing to us, especially those who have nurtured our faith, even those who didn't know they were doing so! Because it's probably safe to say that the saints among us don't think of themselves as saints and almost certainly aren't striving for that title. What St. Paul said in his letter to the Hebrews we could perhaps say of the saints, many of whom are alive today: Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained saints without knowing it. - Jonathan+

Shown above is the Adoration of the Trinity, by Albrecht Dürer, completed in 1511 as the altarpiece for a chapel in Nuremburg dedicated to the Holy Trinity and All the Saints.

This Week at Grace

Worship Services:

Sunday 8:00am Holy Eucharist
Sunday 10:00am Holy Eucharist with
Baptisms and Music
Wednesday Noon Holy Eucharist



A Service of Choral Evensong: Sunday,
November 6, 5:00pm. Please see details under *Music*
at *Grace* below.

Please don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour before going to bed Saturday night, as daylight savings time ends this Sunday, November 6, at 2:00am.

Thursday Noon Concerts: Our popular free concert series continues. Thank you for encouraging friends, family, co-workers and/or visitors to join you.


Parking for Worship: Parking for Sunday worship is provided in the lot diagonally across Westminster Street, on the NW corner of Westminster and Snow. A small number of spaces are available on the portion of the Grace Church lot facing Snow Street, along an inset section of the construction fence. For all other times, please [check with the parish administrator](#) for availability.

Wheelchair Access and Accessible Parking:

Please find wheelchair access from the sidewalk on Westminster Street into the church. Handicapped parking spaces have been posted for Sundays on Mathewson Street near Westminster.

Music at Grace

Please join us for
CHORAL EVENSONG
Featuring Cathedral Greats!



Mundy ♦ Howells ♦ Parry

*Sung by the choirs of Grace Church in Providence and
St. Luke's Church in East Greenwich*

Sunday, November 6 at 5 PM

Grace Church in Providence
Mathewson and Westminster Streets
www.gracechurchprovidence.org

Service of Choral Evensong, Sunday, November 6, 5:00pm at Grace Church. On All Saints' Sunday, November 6, please join us here at Grace Church for Choral Evensong with combined choirs from Grace and from St. Luke's in East Greenwich, featuring Cathedral Greats - Music of Wood, Howells and Parry.

Music Class / Training Choir for children in Kindergarten through 2nd grade, Thursdays an 4:00pm at Grace Church. There is no fee for this program, and membership at Grace Church (or any church for that matter!) is not required. The 45 minute classes will cover basics of vocal production, sight-reading skills, and music history; and will use games and movement to ensure a fun experience! This music class / training choir will serve as a training program for the Grace Church Choristers, but participation does not obligate anyone to continue in the

Chorister Program. For more information, or to register your child, email Vince Edwards or call 401-331-3225, ext 4.

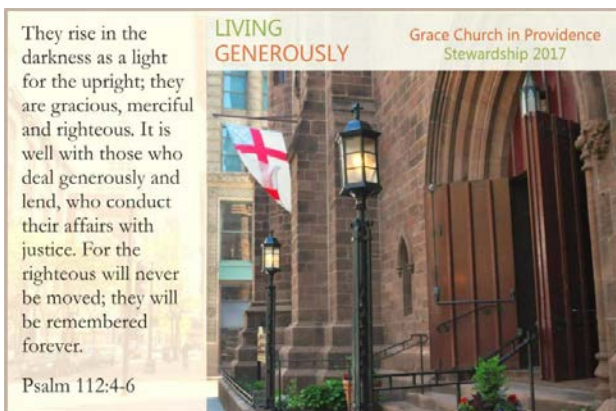
Grace Cemetery: Help Save the Trees

After 3+ years of working to secure \$100,000+ grant money to repair the fence around historic Gateway (Grace) Cemetery in south Providence that dates from 1834, we are excited that the revitalization is about to happen. Some the very old, elegant trees need attention, and a bit of additional money is needed to take proper care of them. Please consider saying "YES" to keeping green space alive by making a donation. The window of opportunity is tight, as work will be done very soon. \$6,000 is available, and contributions are sought to match that; \$1,100 has already given. If this opportunity touches you, please grab your check book right now and send a donation (marked "cemetery trees") payable to: SWAP, Inc., 439 Pine Street, Providence, RI 02907.



You will be listed on the "We Helped Save the Trees" registry in the cemetery gatekeeper's cottage. Also be sure to include your return address to receive a 501(c)3 charitable donation letter for your contribution. Securing and beautifying the cemetery grounds enhances the area for all. Be a part of this progress!

Stewardship 2017: Living Generously



The 2017 stewardship campaign for Grace Church will culminate with Commitment Sunday on November 13. Over the past several weeks, we have explored the idea of Living Generously, and [your pledge of financial commitment](#) to Grace Church will support our programs and ministries throughout the coming year. Please bring your completed pledge card with you on November 13, or mail it in the return envelopes provided. Thank you for your pledge.

Ask Those Transforming Questions

Can you question your faith? We'll do it this year in Small Groups. "Whether we are new Christians or long-time Christians, wrestling with our faith is part of the journey," say the Rev. Scott Gunn and the Rev. Melody Wilson Shobe, authors of a study series called [Transforming Questions](#).


Small Groups at Grace will use Transforming Questions this year for their study and discussion. The course consists of 10 sessions - five this fall and five more in the late winter-early spring. Please sign-up using the poster at the back of the church, or [contact The Rev. Lavonne Seifert](#) for more information.




What's a PPP?

The Rev. Jennifer West, our Priest Associate here at Grace, is "retiring" from that position this fall to become a "PPP" here at Grace - a "preaching priest parishioner". That's not a formal title, of course, but I thought it might be a good, tongue-in-cheek way to describe the role that Mother Jennifer will play at Grace. After having served as our Priest Associate the last three years, Mother Jennifer hopes to have more opportunities to sit next her husband, Ben, in church after a two-decade career in ordained ministry. She will also continue helping the parish clergy of the diocese by stepping in for them when they're away. And while she won't formally be on the staff of Grace going forward, Mother Jennifer will continue to preach here for us from time to time, for which I am very grateful (as I'm sure you are, too)! Most importantly, she and Ben will continue as active parishioners here at Grace. Thank you, Mother Jennifer!

Let's Stock the Shelves at PICA



**GRACE
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH**



Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive
for the PICA Food Pantry
Sponsored by the
Grace Church Outreach Ministry
Please bring items to Grace Church by
November 13, 2016

PICA
Hope and Support for Those in Need

Please help local families in need this holiday season by supporting the Grace Church Outreach Ministry's food drive to stock the shelves at the [PICA](#) Food Pantry in downtown Providence. Items of particular interest include: canned vegetables and fruit, stuffing mix, turkey gravy, rice, coffee, oatmeal, healthy breakfast cereals, and especially peanut butter.

Please bring your food donations to Grace Church no later than Sunday, November 13. If you have a spare cardboard box to carry them in, that is helpful, but not crucial. Let us strive to gather ample supplies for this year's drive, as the need is truly great, and by living generously in this way we can "walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us" [Ephesians 5:2].



PICA (formerly the Providence In-town Churches Association) will host a special Drink & Dabble fundraiser event Friday, November 4, 6:30pm, at B. Pinelli's, 736 N. Broadway, East Providence. Tickets are \$50, and include entertainment, art supplies, and light food buffet. Cash bar. Contact PICA at 401-454-7422 to reserve your tickets, or purchase online at drinkanddabble.com. [Click here to enlarge event flyer.](#)

The 1829 Society - Special Workshop: November 13



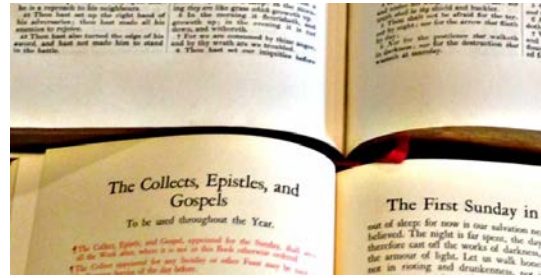
EACH ONE MUST GIVE
AS HE OR SHE
HAS DECIDED
IN THEIR HEART...
— FOR —
GOD LOVES
A CHEERFUL
GIVER
2 CORINTHIANS 9:7

The 1829 Society is sponsoring a workshop that will help you prepare a notebook of your wishes and preferences regarding issues that arise at life's end. This brief workshop -- which many Grace Church parishioners have found quite helpful -- will follow the 10:00am Sunday service on November 13th. We hope you will join us! Please call or [e-mail the church office](#) if you plan to attend.

Members of The 1829 Society have remembered Grace Church in their wills, and we hope many of you will consider supporting Grace in this way.

November 6, 2016 - All Saints' Sunday

Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those ineffable joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.



For the text of this Sunday's readings, [please click here](#):

Daniel 7:1-3,15-18 Psalm 149 Ephesians 1:11-23 Luke 6:20-31

Would you like to add someone to the prayer list? [Please click here](#) to submit a name, or call the church office at (401) 331-3225. Names are kept on the list for a month, and can be renewed at any time. Those received by Wednesday will appear in the same week's bulletin.

The Vestry at Grace

The vestry is the 12-member board that serves as the elected lay leadership of the parish. If you'd like to keep up on recent vestry decisions by receiving the minutes of its monthly meetings, you can have them emailed to you by contacting our parish administrator, Chris Barker, at cbarker@gracepvd.org.

Episcopal Church Women of Rhode Island Annual Meeting & United Thank Offering

The Episcopal Church Women of Rhode Island will hold its Annual Meeting and United Thank Offering Collection on November 10, 2016 at St. Mary's Home for



Episcopal Church Women
of Rhode Island

Children, 420 Fruit Hill Ave., North Providence, RI. The meeting will begin at 10:00am, followed by a presentation about St. Mary's Home. Noonday Eucharist with Bishop Knisely, followed by a catered luncheon. Prior to the morning meeting, coffee will be served during registration, beginning at 9:30am. This event offers a great opportunity to learn more about the work of your local ECW, and perhaps get involved! Reservations for the catered luncheon are required. The cost is \$10 per person, and the deadline for registration is November 3. Please mail your reservation, with check made payable to ECW-Diocese of RI, to: Mrs. Carol Blackinton, 20 July Terrace, West Warwick, RI 02893.



A Season of Prayer for an Election

Forward Movement is calling Episcopalians and all others to [join with us in A Season of Prayer: For an Election](#). This is a 30-day season, in which we will pray each day with a particular intention for this time in our national life. Each day includes a suggested intention and a collect.

Join us on Forward Movement's social media channels ([Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#)) in offering or sharing each day's prayer. You also can download weekly bulletin inserts or a list of all the prayers at www.forwardmovement.org/election. The resources are available in English or Spanish. Please encourage your congregation and your friends to get involved.

November 3 **Pray for our hearts to be fixed on true joy**

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

November 4 **Pray for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit**

Almighty and most merciful God, grant that by the indwelling of your Holy Spirit we may be enlightened and strengthened for your service; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

November 5 **Pray for deliverance from faithless fear and wordly anxiety**

Most loving Father, whose will it is for us to give thanks for all things, to fear nothing but the loss of you, and to cast all our care on you who care for us: Preserve us from faithless fears and wordly anxieties, that no clouds of this mortal life may hide from us the light of that love which is immortal, and which you have manifested to us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

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[This Sunday's Readings](#)

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[Go to smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)

amazonsmile

Sincerely,



Your Grace Church Clergy & Staff
401-331-3225

The Mission of Grace Church is to build, by the grace of God, a loving and joyful community which lives the gospel through worship, proclamation and service to each other, to downtown Providence, and beyond.