



Weekly E-News from Grace Episcopal Church

February 9, 2018

Spotlight on Grace: The Season of Lent

Your Journey of Lent at Grace Church in Providence



"What are you giving up for Lent?" This is a question many of us have asked others, or ourselves, over the years. We often think of Lent as a penitential season, and, it certainly is that. As the Prayer Book says, the Church invites us, "to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial..." And so we often deny ourselves

something we enjoy during Lent, hopefully not as an end in itself, or even because by giving up sweets we may improve our health for 40 days, but because the experience of denying ourselves something we crave can help us re-orient our focus onto Christ and our relationship with him.

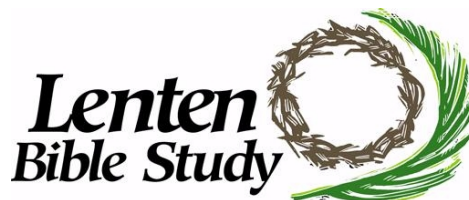
And we would do well to follow this season that leads to Easter by heeding those other instructions, too, by examining our lives, seeking forgiveness of God and those we have harmed, and by more regular prayer, whatever form that may take. A final instruction the Prayer Book gives us for how we should observe a "Holy Lent" is not penitential at all, and that is "by reading and meditating on God's holy Word." There are, of course, countless ways to read the Bible, and during Lent here at Grace, we'll be offering opportunities to read the Gospel of Mark (which is the gospel we'll read most in church this year), in small groups (described below). Even if you're not able to join in a group that's reading Mark together, feel free to read the Gospel on your own, either in the Bible itself, or in the guided study called the *50 Day Bible Challenge: A Journey with Mark*.

Just this fall, we celebrated the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation, and one of the main markers of the Reformation movement was the reading of the Bible by all Christians - not just the clergy - in their own language. I hope Lent will be a time that many here at Grace are moved to be a part of that tradition, which is now half a millennium old, by taking on the practice of daily Bible reading - of Mark's Gospel or wherever you choose to open the Good Book!

Lenten Blessings,
Jonathan+

Lenten Bible Study

Lenten Bible study: The Gospel of Mark. Join with others in the parish in reading and studying the Gospel of Mark together, which we'll be reading in church in 2018. This shortest and earliest (scholars believe) of the gospels moves quickly through the life, ministry, and Passion of Jesus. In our study, we'll be using *The 50 Day Bible Challenge*, reading through Mark over the 40 days of Lent and into Easter. We'll have copies of the study book available, and it's also available as an eBook.



There are three times/groups that will read Mark together, so feel free to join the one that works best for your schedule!

Fridays at 10 a.m. on the East Side:

Contact discussion leader Ryan Weimer at ryanbweimer@gmail.com

2nd and 4th Saturdays at 9:30 a.m. in the Pavilion at Grace:

Contact discussion leader Anne McCarthy at annina.mccarthy21@gmail.com

Sundays at 9 a.m. in the Pavilion at Grace beginning of February 18:

Just join us! Discussion leader: the Rector

Adult Baptism at Grace

It was the practice in the early Church that adults would be baptized at the Easter Vigil and spend the season of Lent preparing for the sacrament through prayer and study. If you are a teenager or adult and have never been baptized and feel God's call to take that step in your life of faith, please call the rector at the church at 331-3225 or email him at jhuyck@gracepvd.org.



Join the Sandwich Brigade



Each year during lent, volunteers with the Outreach Ministry at Grace Church descend upon the kitchen at Crossroads Rhode Island for a number of Saturday mornings to make sandwiches for members of our downtown community. This rewarding and enjoyable ministry offers a great opportunity to get active in outreach at Grace Church and get to know your fellow parishioners in the process.

This year's sandwich brigade will take place on four Saturdays at 10:00am: February 17 and 24, and also March 17 and 24. Please look for a sign-up sheet in the back of the church beginning this Sunday, and thank you for signing up in advance for any number of those four Saturdays that you'd like to take part in. With question, please contact Nick Halar at outreach@gracepvd.org.

COLLEGIUM ANCORA

THE SONG THREE WAYS:

Madrigal, Spiritual, Folk



Join us for a concert that explores three rich choral traditions: "Madrigals" - the equivalent of pop music in Renaissance Europe; "Spirituals" - a musical and cultural tradition born of insistent dignity & relentless hope in the midst of great suffering; and "Folk Songs," diverse traditional songs created, sustained, and reimagined by everyday people.

FEB 10
5 pm

St. Luke's
Episcopal Church
99 Peirce St.
East Greenwich, RI

FEB 11
5 pm

Grace Episcopal
300 Westminster St.
Providence, RI

FEB 18
4 pm

St. Columba's
Chapel
55 Vaucluse Ave.
Middletown, RI

\$20 General Admission | \$10 Students

tickets available at the door or online: www.collegiumancora.org



Ash Wednesday is February 14

Our Ash Wednesday services, which include Holy Eucharist, will be held this coming Wednesday, February 14, at 12 Noon and 7:00pm.

This Week at Grace

Weekly Worship Schedule:

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

Ash Wednesday Services: February 14 at
12:00 Noon and 7:00pm

Thursday Concerts at Noon: Our Thursday Noon
concerts have resumed! Please join us.

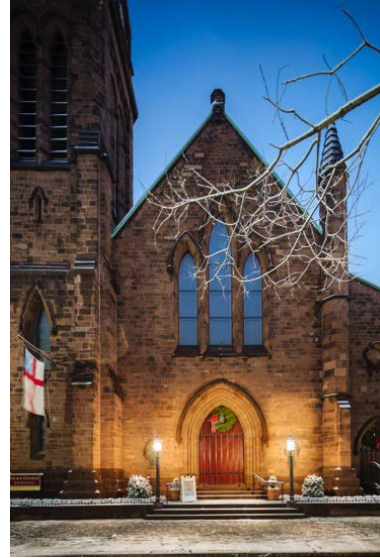
Open Doors: Your friendly docents are here to greet you
every weekday from 11:00am to 2:00pm. Please encourage
your friends or guests to come and visit Grace Church and
see the new Pavilion at Grace.

Prayer Group: The prayer group meets the 2nd and 4th
Saturday of each month at 9:30am, presently in The
Pavilion at Grace.

Wheelchair Access and Accessible Parking: Please find convenient accessible in the Grace
Church parking lot with access from Snow Street. The new wheelchair ramp connects directly
from the lot, and you will enter through the new reception entrance of The Pavilion and into
the church at ground level.

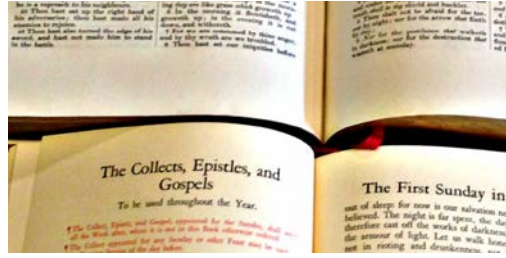
Parking for Worship: Free parking for Sunday worship is provided:

- 1.) in the lot diagonally across Westminster Street, on the NW corner of Westminster and Snow;
- 2.) On the **top level only** of the PPAC parking garage, for which the entrance is on Weybosset Street. A stairway from the top level leads right to Chapel Street across from the church; and
- 3.) In the Grace Church parking lot accessed via Snow Street. We ask your kind cooperation in reserving this lot, to the extent possible, for seniors and those with limited mobility.



February 11, 2018
Last Sunday After the Epiphany

O God, who before the passion of your only-begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**



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

This week from the Episcopal Church: [World Mission Sunday](#). [Click here](#) for the latest from the Episcopal News Service. And for current news from the Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island, [please click here](#).

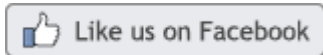
Would you like to add someone to the prayer list? [Please click here](#) to submit a name, or call the church office at (401) 331-3225. Names are kept on the list for a month, and can be renewed at any time. Those received by Wednesday will appear in the same week's bulletin.

Connect with Grace

[Grace Church Website](#)

[This Sunday's Readings](#)

[Listen to Recent Sermons](#)



GRACE
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH

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info@gracepvd.org
www.gracechurchprovidence.org

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.