

*More Grace News!*

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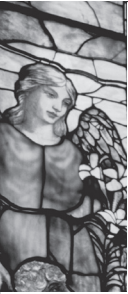
*Newsletter Deadline*

The deadline date for April's newsletter  
is Friday, March 15. Send submissions  
to Andy Shapiro–Zysk at [azysk@cox.net](mailto:azysk@cox.net).



GRACE *In The City*

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN PROVIDENCE



*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.*

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GRACE CHURCH IN PROVIDENCE

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*From The Rector*

February 10th saw something very rare take place at Grace Church. At 4 o'clock that afternoon, the Rev. Becky Gettel was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Knisely. It was, of course, her first (and only) ordination to the priesthood, and it was also Bp. Knisely's first ordination of anyone to anything. It was also the first ordination in recent memory to take place here at Grace. There were a couple Grace Church parishioners in attendance, but most of the congregation of 100 or so was made up of Becky's friends and family and parishioners from Trinity Church in Concord, Massachusetts, where she currently serves as the assistant rector. So we hosted the event for scores of people we've never met and will likely never see again.

Welcoming the stranger is, of course, central to what it means to be a Christian. Jesus tells his followers in Chapter 25 of the Gospel of Matthew, "I was a stranger and you welcomed me." From this verse flows the Christian tradition that anyone welcoming a stranger is welcoming Christ himself. There's a story that the writer Kathleen Harris tells about an older monk in Russia who shares with a younger monk what he's learned about people. He tells him: "I have finally learned to accept people as they are. Whatever they are in the world, a prostitute, a prime minister, it is all the same to me. But sometimes I see a stranger coming up the road, and I say, 'Oh, Jesus Christ, is it you again?'" And St. Paul speaks of why we are to welcome strangers in his Letter to the Hebrews, "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it."

Welcoming the stranger is not always the easiest thing to do. It comes much more naturally to us to greet those we already know and like. Grace is not a neighborhood church by any stretch of the imagination. So when we see our friends at church, it's likely the only time during the week that we'll see them. Naturally, we want to embrace them and spend time with them, rather than looking around to find someone who seems new to Grace and in need of a welcome.

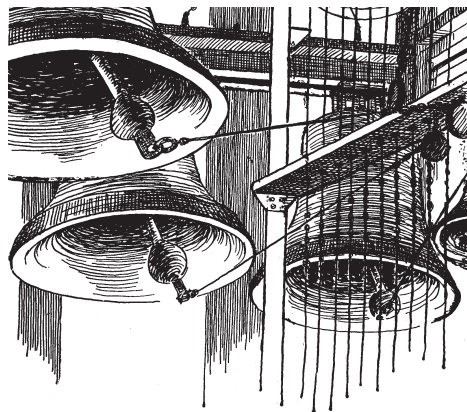
As a Lenten practice, I encourage you welcome the stranger, especially here at Grace Church. Not a Sunday goes by that we don't have someone worshipping with us who has never been here before. On February 10th, even though we



ourselves didn't worship at Grace that Sabbath morning due to the blizzard, as a community we welcomed many strangers into our church home that afternoon, and several of them told me afterwards how much they appreciated our hospitality, the beauty of our

church, music, and liturgy. It was a great day for Rev. Gettel, for Bp. Knisely, and for Grace Church as a community, which offered everyone there a gracious welcome. Let us continue that gracious welcome every Sunday morning, and, indeed, every day of the week.

March Music Notes



After a busy Christmas and Epiphany season, the Choir expected February to be a little less strenuous month. Such was not the case though. In addition to our Sunday morning services, we sang our annually-scheduled "Candlemas Readings & Music" on Sunday, February 3rd, the Ash Wednesday liturgy on February 13th, and Choral Evensong on February 24th.

We also were surprised, but delighted by the opportunity, to sing at the ordination to the priesthood of Becky Gettel on February 10th (the day after the blizzard). We were honored but saddened to sing at the memorial service

for John Wall on President's Day, February 18th. Mr. Wall was a pillar of Grace Church, and the Choir will miss seeing him in the front pew on the lectern side of the nave.

Our choristers will continue to be busy in March. In addition to Sunday morning liturgies, the men of the Choir will sing Compline at 8 p.m. on Sunday, March 3rd, and a group of singers will sing the Annual Passiontide Meditation on Sunday, March 17th, at 5 p.m., as part of the "Sundays at 5" liturgies. This latter service consists of three sections: Gethsemane, The Trial, and The Crucifixion and will include music by Vulpus, Handl, Tchaikowsky, The Southern Harmony, Stainer, as well as hymns and plainsong.

At the end of the month, the Choir will, as is our custom, sing at the principal Holy Week liturgies. We all look forward to our annual commemoration and celebration of our Lord's death and resurrection:

- **Palm Sunday**, March 24 at 10 a.m. ~ Music of Gesius, Handel, and Gibbons.
- **Maundy Thursday**, March 28 at 7 p.m. ~ Music of Duruflé and Taverner.

In doing so, we might be welcoming an angel or Christ himself without knowing it.

Peace,  
Jonathan+

- **Good Friday**, March 29 from Noon to 3 p.m. ~ The choir will provide music between the sermons on the Seven Last Words of Christ. Composers represented include Byrd, Tallis, Victoria, Monteverdi, John IV of Portugal, Lassus, Morley, and Schutz.

- **The Great Vigil of Easter**, March 30 at 7 p.m. ~ Music of Tallis, Palestrina, Handel, and Lassus.

- **Easter Day**, March 31 at 10 a.m. ~ Music of Handel, Taverner, Tallis, and Wood.

We are always eager to add new members to our Grace Church Singers. The time commitment is at 9 a.m. on the Sundays that they sing at the 10 a.m. Eucharist. We are also looking for new members for our Choir. Information about these opportunities or any other aspect of the Grace Church Music Program is available from Mark Johnson at 401-330-6787 or [mjohnson@gracechurch-providence.org](mailto:mjohnson@gracechurch-providence.org).



Grace Church "Open Doors" Ministry

Your church is open! Thanks to our docents who volunteer their time each week, the front doors of Grace Church are open every weekday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. for people to

visit, pray, or just get warm. Grace is the only church in downtown Providence whose front doors are open during the week. If you're interested in volunteering your time for this

important ministry, please contact the church office.

*Palm Sunday*  
*Sunday, March 24*  
*8 a.m. & 10 a.m. (sung)*

*Good Friday*  
*Friday, March 29*  
*12 Noon to 3 p.m.*

*Maundy Thursday*  
*Thursday, March 28*  
*7 p.m.*

*Easter Vigil*  
*Saturday, March 30*  
*7 p.m.*

*Easter Day*  
*Sunday, March 31*  
*8 a.m. & 10 a.m.*  
*(sung)*



# GRACE CHURCH CALENDAR

**Sundays in March**  
8:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist  
9:00 a.m. – Sunday Forum: Chafee  
9:45 a.m. – Sunday School  
10:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist

**Wednesdays in March**  
Noon – Holy Eucharist  
12:30 – Intercessory Prayer Group

**2nd and 4th Saturdays in March**  
10:00 a.m. – Women’s Prayer and Bible Study

**Sunday, March 3**  
10:00 a.m. – Healing Prayer: Messiah Chapel  
8:00 p.m. – Compline

**Friday, March 8**  
Deadline for submissions for the  
March 15 e-news

**Friday, March 15**  
Deadline for submissions for the  
April Newsletter

**Sunday, March 17**  
5:00 p.m. – Passiontide Meditation  
(Sundays at 5)

**Friday, March 22**  
Deadline for submissions for the  
March 31 e-news

**Tuesday, March 26**  
6:30 p.m. – Vestry Meeting: Chafee

## Outreach Ministry News & Events



**Lenten Outreach Ministry** - You can make a difference in the life of a child! Please join us in collecting items to support the mission of Children’s Friend - to improve the well-being and healthy development of Rhode Island’s most vulnerable children. The Lenten Giving Cross can be found in the back of the church (near coffee hour refreshments) each Sunday throughout Lent. Simply remove a “bulb” from the cross, purchase the item(s) listed, and return the unwrapped item(s) to church any Sunday through Easter. If you choose to donate a gift card instead, please hand it to one of the ushers. Any other donations may be placed beneath the Giving Cross. All of the much needed items will be donated to families served by Children’s Friend.

As we get close to Easter and the donations are received, watch for the Giving Cross to begin to “bloom”! To learn more about Children’s Friend, please visit their website ([www.cfsri.org](http://www.cfsri.org)).

Please contact Elaine Gabellieri at [jeffoster1@cox.net](mailto:jeffoster1@cox.net) or Joshua Klemp at [jklemp@ccri.edu](mailto:jklemp@ccri.edu) for more information or to become involved in any aspect of the Grace Church Outreach Ministry.

## 2013 Inquirers’ Class at Grace Church

Beginning Sunday, April 7th, the rector will offer a six-week class on the Christian faith in the Anglican/Episcopal tradition, including theology and the Bible, history of the Church, the Book of Common Prayer, the structure of the Church, and a look at contemporary issues. The class will meet during the Sunday forum hour (9 a.m.) in the Chafee Room. The series will end the week that the sacrament of Confirmation (and Reception and Renewal of Baptismal Vows) is offered by the bishop to the churches in Providence. Those considering Confirmation (or Reception or Renewal) should attend all these classes, but anyone in the parish is welcome to come to any or all of them. If you have any questions, please contact the rector at:

[jhuyck@gracechurchprovidence.org](mailto:jhuyck@gracechurchprovidence.org) or at 401-331-3225.

## Help With Estate Planning

An experienced lawyer who is a member of the parish has kindly offered to help fellow Grace Church parishioners with basic estate planning, free of charge. If you would like some help in preparing for your future through estate planning, feel free to call the church office at 401-331-3225, and we’ll connect you with her. In the Book of Common Prayer, we are called upon to make such plans as a way to help the people and institutions we care about after we’re gone. So, if you haven’t yet looked into estate planning, this is a wonderful opportunity to do so!

## Stewardship 2013

The Stewardship Committee is overjoyed to announce that Grace Church has exceeded its 2013 stewardship goals! Thank you to everyone for your generosity. Your support ensures that Grace Church is able to continue its mission of building “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.”

*“You will be enriched in every way for your generosity.” - 2 Corinthians 9:11*

## Parish Profile: Jimps Jean-Louis

by Raymond Finelli

Jimps Jean-Louis, one of the newest members of the Grace Church Vestry, came to the United States from Haiti when he was still a teenager. In the 36 years since he has lived in the U.S., he has contributed substantially to the education and counseling of career-seeking high school and college students in Providence and in Fitchburg and Boston, Massachusetts.

Mr. Jean-Louis came to Grace Church from the Cathedral of St. John, Providence, where he was a member of the Cathedral Chapter (Vestry). His wife, Margrete (nee Oesterlin), came to Rhode Island from upstate New York. She attended Bennett College in Greensboro, North Carolina, and received a Master’s degree in Counseling from The College of St. Rose in Albany, New York, a private independent college that “instills students with a passion to do extraordinary things.” The couple’s two sons, Sebastian, 10, and Tristan, 9, were baptized at the Cathedral, and both are now in the Grace Church Sunday School. The family lives in Centerdale.

Jimps is impressed with the tradition and history of Grace Church. “I can feel its sense of community. It backs its youth-sponsored charities and varied fundraising activities.” He says the congregation is supportive and recognizes that young people have a significant place in the Church, putting a lot of emphasis on them as “the future of Grace Church.” His expressed appreciation of the church stems from his career. In his role as a guidance counselor at Hope High School, he offers advice on social and personal issues as well as guidance to students thinking of careers in business, science, and industry. Jimps notes, “Hope High has a great arts and technology program, and, as a public school, students come to Hope from all over Providence.”

Before coming to Rhode Island, Jimps successively taught in the Boston Public School System; worked as Technical Director for WGBH; was counselor of a student drop-out prevention program for the city of Chelsea, Massachusetts; and later worked at Fitchburg State University as Assistant Director of Admissions.

In 1990, Bryant College offered Jimps the position of Assistant Director for Multi



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cultural and International Students. In this position, he travelled extensively to points throughout the United States, Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, St. Thomas, St. Croix, and Haiti to give recruiting lectures and provide information about the college’s programs. Jimps went to Cambridge Rindge & Latin High School in Massachusetts. He then received a Bachelor of Science degree in Communication and a Master of Science degree in English as a Second Language (ESL) from the University of Massachusetts. He was certified to practice Counseling at Providence College in 1997.

At present, Jimps is the Community Treasurer at the Wiggins Village Apartments on

Cranston Street in Providence. He has also served on the board of the local Girl Scout Council and was a member of the Nominating Committee. With respect to hobbies, Jimps coaches soccer for the Tri-Town League, a community league consisting of teams from Johnston, Lincoln, and North Providence. He has an interest in photography, but his chief obsession is cooking. Says Jimps, “Most of the cooking - for family, visitors, reunions and other celebrations - is my self-appointed duty.”