

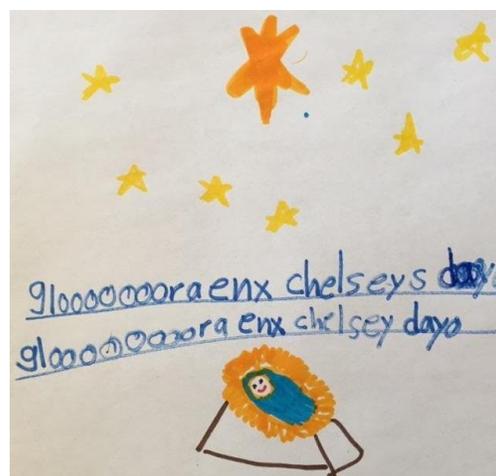


Weekly E-News from Grace Episcopal Church

December 13, 2019

Spotlight on Grace A Pageant for Advent and The Great "O"s

Join us for the Nativity Pageant this Sunday! With over 35 children and youths from the Grace Church Choristers, Sunday School, and Youth Group participating, this year's Nativity Pageant promises to be something special. We encourage you to join us for worship this Sunday at 10:00am, and be treated to the glorious story of Christ's birth as told by these youngsters. Invite friends and family, especially those with children to witness our youngest disciples share the Gospel!



Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs." (Matthew 19:14)

The O Antiphons, also called "The Great Os", are seven antiphons that precede the Magnificat at Vespers during the final seven days of Advent. Each of these begins with the vocative particle "O" followed by one of the seven Messianic names of Christ found throughout scripture, those being: **S**apientia (Wisdom), **A**donai (Lord God), **R**adix Jesse (Root of Jesse), **C**lavis David (Key of David), **O**riens (Day-Spring), **R**ex Gentium (King of the Gentiles), and **E**mmanuel (God Among Us). When the first letters of each of these names are put in reverse order, they create the corresponding Latin phrase **ERO CRAS**, which translates to "Tomorrow, I will come". These seven antiphons will be chanted by members of the Grace Church Choir prior to Choral Compline this coming Sunday, December 15 beginning at 7:00PM (see announcement below).



Christmas Flowers

Christmas is Coming! Please submit your Christmas Poinsettia and Music dedications this week or next. You'll find the dedication cards located in the pews, on the back table near the baptismal font, and in the Narthex literature rack. Thank you for printing your dedications legibly, and using the green flower envelopes. Submit dedications along with your gift in the collections plate, or mail to the church office by December 20.



Advent Giving Tree

This Sunday, December 15, is the final day of gift collection here at Grace for the Advent Giving Tree, located in The Pavilion. The ornaments that decorate the tree represent the holiday wishes of children through Children's Friend (a local social children's service agency that Grace regularly supports). In the case of gift store cards, please place those into the donation box near the baptismal font. Wrapping supplies, including wrapping paper, ribbon, tape and gift tags are also welcome gifts.



Upcoming Music at Grace

Caroling with the Grace Church Choristers On Saturday, December 14 beginning at 3:00 PM, join the Choristers of Grace Church in the courtyard of The Pavilion at Grace and sing Christmas Carols around a warm and roaring fire! There will seasonal refreshments and a cheerful holiday atmosphere so bring your friends and family! *N.B. In the case of inclement weather, we will move inside the church and gather around the piano.*



"O" Antiphons & Advent Meditations

On Sunday, December 15 at 7:00 PM the Men's Compline Choir will sing a special liturgy based on The Great "O" Antiphons of Advent. Silence between each chanted antiphon will allow time for meditation and reflection. An order of service will be printed with the psalms that correspond to each antiphon to help guide your prayers. Then at 8:00 PM Choral Compline will commence as usual.



Thursdays at Noon Concerts

On Thursday, December 19, Carolyn Craig, Junior Organ Scholar at Trinity Church on the Green in New Haven, CT and a Master's candidate in Organ Performance at Yale University will present a 30 minute organ recital of music for the Christmas season. Composers featured will include Marcel Dupré, Petr Eben, J.S. Bach, and John Ireland. *N.B. This is our final Thursdays at Noon program of 2019! The series resumes on February 6, 2020, as there are no concerts during the month of January.*



COLLEGIUM  ANCORA
PRESENTS

Handel's Messiah

THE CHRISTMAS PORTION

Collegium Ancora Joins the Grace Church Choir & Choristers
Accompanied by Early Music Ensemble

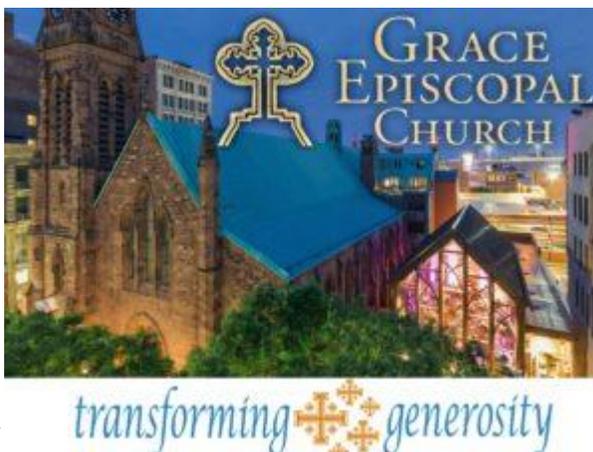
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22 | 4:00 PM
GRACE CHURCH
300 WESTMINSTER ST. PROVIDENCE

\$10 Suggested Donation at the Door
Visit www.CollegiumAncora.org for More Information

Please Pick Up Your Pledge Envelopes

For those who requested pledge envelopes or have traditionally received them, they will be available for pick-up in The Pavilion after the 8am and 10am services this Sunday (December 15). Each assigned set has been labelled, so please take care to take only the correct set with your name on it.

Thank you to all who have submitted their annual pledges. If you have not yet submitted yours, please mail your pledge form at your earliest opportunity. Thank you also for ensuring completion of your 2019 pledge payments before year-end. For information on balances remaining, please contact Chris in the office (cbarker@gracepvd.org).



Please e-mail the parish office or call 401-331-3225 to request one of a very few remaining sets available. Thank you all for supporting the mission and ministry of Grace Church!

Coffee Hour Donations

All the delicious foods we share at coffee hour are brought in on Sunday morning by parishioners just like yourself. If you're moved to bring food to share on a Sunday, you can drop it off in the Pavilion kitchen prior to worship and we'll slice/plate/present as needed. On the kitchen table you'll find three labels which you can place on your item as needed - "contains nuts", "gluten free", and "contains meat." We'll place that label next to your item at coffee hour. Thank you!



This Week at Grace

Weekly Worship

Sunday 8:00am Spoken Holy Eucharist
Sunday 10:00am Sung Holy Eucharist
Wednesday 12:00noon Spoken Holy Eucharist

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.



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.

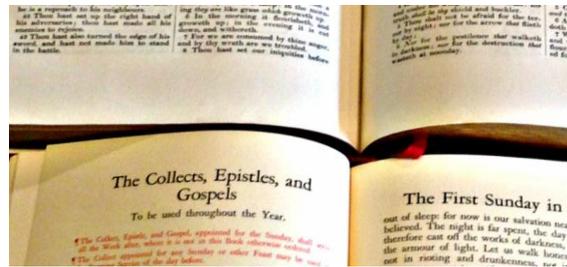
Parking for Worship: Free parking for Sunday worship is provided:

- 1.) in the lot directly across Snow Street from our lot, at the SW corner of Westminster and Snow; and
- 2.) 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.

December 15, 2019

The Third Sunday of Advent: *Gaudeté*

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*



This Sunday's readings are:

Isaiah 35:1-10
James 5:7-10
Matthew 11:2-11
Psalm 146:4-9

This week from the Episcopal Church: [Journeying with Community](#).

Would you like to add someone to the prayer list? Please email administrator@gracepvd.org 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.
