



Weekly E-News from Grace Episcopal Church

December 20, 2019

Spotlight on Grace Messiah: An Oratorio for the Ages

Handel's great oratorio Messiah has been in existence for nearly 280 years. First performed in Dublin in April 1742, the Messiah received only modest public approval. That's difficult for us to believe as this magnificent work has gone on to become one of the most beloved choral pieces of all time. Please plan to join us this Sunday, December 22 at 4:00 PM for a performance of Part I (the "Christmas" portion) of Messiah, along with the noble "Hallelujah" chorus. The Grace Church Choir and Choristers will be joined by members of *Collegium Ancora*, and accompanied by the Providence Baroque Chamber Orchestra. The concert is under an hour, and no tickets are required - just a \$10 suggested donation at the door. We are pleased to offer this timeless music to the downtown Providence community, and hope that many of you will make it part of your Advent and Christmas celebration this year.



"For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given" (Isaiah 9:6)



Share in the Joy of Christmas at Grace Church

Christmas Eve at 5:00pm and 10:00pm

*With musical preludes beginning at 4:30 and 9:30pm
featuring the Grace Church Choir, soloists, organ, and more*

Christmas Day with Carols at 10:00am

gracechurchprovidence.org

Church Office Closure

The parish offices will be closed from Christmas Day through January 1, 2020. Normal hours, as well as Open Doors, will resume on Thursday, January 2. There will not be a Noon-day Eucharist on Wednesday December 25. For pastoral emergencies please contact the rector.



Upcoming Music at Grace

Händel's Messiah, Part I: Christmas

Sunday, December 22 at 4:00 PM, The Choir & Choristers of Grace Church, members of Collegium Ancora, and the Providence Baroque Chamber Orchestra will offer the Christmas portion of George Frederic Händel's famous oratorio along with the "Hallelujah" Chorus. A donation of \$10 is suggested and a reception will follow in The Pavilion. Come support all three of our wonderful choirs and kick off the Christmas season with one of the most moving pieces of music ever composed!

Lessons and Carols for Epiphany

On Sunday, January 5, 2020 at 4:00 PM, the Choir of Grace Church will sing music for the Epiphany season, illustrating the story of the three Magi visiting the Christ Child. Composers featured include Cornelius, Titcomb, Willan, Handl, Archer, and Mendelssohn. Readings from Scripture and poetry will be interspersed with Epiphany carols and hymns sung by the congregation. A reception will follow in The Pavilion.



Thursdays at Noon Concerts

There are no recitals during the month of January. 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

Epiphany Celebration of the Holy Eucharist in French

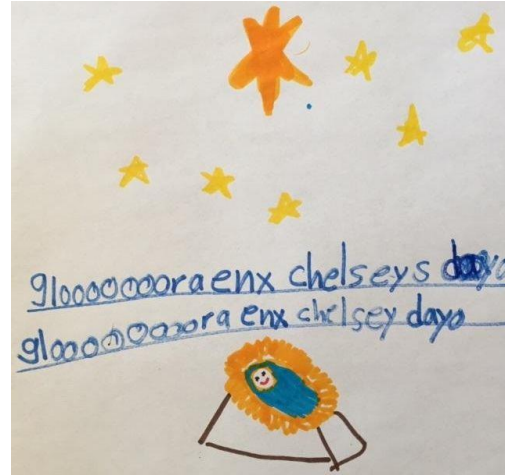
In conjunction with the [Alliance Française](#) of Providence, Grace Church will host a celebration of the Holy Eucharist in French at 3:00 PM on Sunday, January 19th. The service will feature a bilingual bulletin, so even if your French is rusty, you'll be able to follow the service. Immediately following in the Pavilion there will be an Epiphany party featuring the traditional French Epiphany cake, *les galettes des rois*. All are invited, no matter how much French you know!



Grace Church Sunday School

An enormous thank you and congratulations to all Grace Church Sunday School participants and their parents on their fine job of putting together and presenting the annual Advent Pageant!

Sunday School classes will resume in the New Year, beginning on Sunday, January 5, 2020 during the 10:00 AM Eucharist.



This Week at Grace

Weekly Worship Schedule:

Sunday 8:00am Spoken Holy Eucharist
Sunday 10:00am Sung Holy Eucharist with Music

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 22, 2019 The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

This Sunday's readings: Isaiah 7:10-16; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-25; Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

Would you like to add someone to the prayer list? Please email cbarker@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.

