



Weekly E-News from Grace Episcopal Church

May 29, 2020

A Weekly Message from the Rector



[Click here](#) or on the image above to watch.

A Farewell Message from Michele Adamo

Dear People of Grace,

This is definitely not the way I wanted this internship to end. In my head, on my last day there (Pentecost, May 31), there were going to be hugs and handshakes and waves across the Pavilion, and the swapping of phone numbers, and pics on my phone, and a bittersweet farewell as I packed up vestments and turned in my key fob. And time. There was going to be plenty of time... to say "so long" (because "goodbye" is much too final) and "I look forward to seeing you again soon" and, "can we connect for coffee next week?" Most of all, though, there would have been a chance to say, "thank you."



- Thank you for the joy, energy, and enthusiasm you show for your church community, for service, and for participation. It has been a real pleasure to experience your spirit firsthand, and I pray that this commitment continues to grow.
- Thank you for the gracious welcome you extended to me from the very beginning. It

was a powerful witness to what you have to offer and demonstrates your willingness to make space for newcomers. I pray that you continue to extend that hand and heart of generosity to all who God brings your way.

- Thank you for making yourselves known to me - sharing your time and your insights, your love of God and of each other - and showing me a wider view of God's kingdom. I pray that you continue connecting with one another and finding the divine spark in your neighbor.
- And the music! Extraordinary, joyful, exuberant, a gift every Sunday... Dear Lord, don't get me started.

Thank you, dear people of Grace, for all that I've learned from you and with you and through you. And while my time with you ended rather more abruptly than expected, know that you will be with me always, and that I will keep you in my prayers today and always.

Peace be with you.
Michele

P.S. - As of the time of this writing, my ordination date is still pending. It was originally scheduled for June 27, then was in limbo due to the pandemic guidelines on social-distancing and limitations on gatherings. However, after consulting with the bishop, we've decided not to be delayed by Covid-19. At the moment, we're planning on a live-streamed service somewhere in the diocese - and you're all invited! When more information is available, I'll be sure to share it with you. Hope you can make it!

Voices of Grace: Virtual Worship

At Grace Church we are committed to continue building a loving and joyful community through worship despite temporarily not being able to gather on Sundays or weekdays due to health concerns related to COVID-19. Until our normal rhythm of worship and gatherings resumes, every Sunday morning we will send an email, post on Facebook and upload to Vimeo and YouTube a short worship video put together by our staff that will feature clergy and parishioners participating in "virtual worship" by



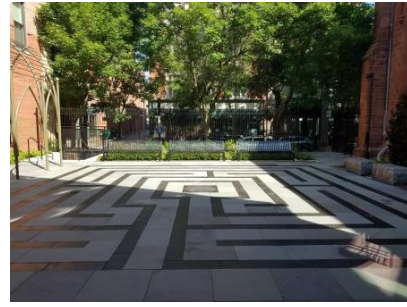
reading lessons from scripture, preaching, and making music all from their homes. Keep a look out for Voices of Grace: Virtual Worship every Sunday morning!

If you'd like to download or print the service leaflet for this Sunday's Virtual Worship, please [click here](#).

Courtyard Garden & Labyrinth Opening Next Week!

Beginning next week the Courtyard Garden and Labyrinth at Grace will be open for visitors between 11:00 AM and 2:00 PM Monday through Friday as weather permits.

Guidelines for walking the Labyrinth while observing social distancing will be posted.



Tea Time Theology

Grace parishioner Mo Akande and a couple other young adults from different Episcopal parishes in RI have created a podcast called "Tea Time Theology" featuring interviews with different clergy members around RI. Mo produced the music for the podcast, and she will be the host for Season 2!

Listen on: [iTunes](#), [Stitcher](#), [Google Play](#), or [Podbean](#)

You can also listen to the hymn playlist of all the hymns for each episode (performed by Mo with Jess Huetteman and Chelsea Sardonì) by [clicking here](#) or on the logo to the right!



Daily Prayer Link

Inspiring readers since 1935, the Forward Day by Day meditation is a significant resource for daily prayer and Bible study to more than a half million readers worldwide. Also: pray Morning, Noonday, and Evening Prayer, plus Compline, every day; get Daily Devotions, Prayers and Thanksgivings, and the Liturgical Calendars, all linked for use online.



[Click here](#) or on the logo above to find out more!

Thank You For Sustaining Your Stewardship

As the offering plate has ceased circulating each Sunday, it is only through the deliberate continuity of stewardship by our parishioners that Grace will reliably meet its financial obligations during this period.



We know that some among us have lost jobs or seen household income disrupted by this pandemic, so we understand some may need to pause or reduce their support for a time. For this reason, we're in particular need of broad participation - and perhaps even accelerated pledge payments where possible - from those who are able.

Please mail in your pledge payments or schedule electronic contributions. If you're accustomed to placing cash contributions in the offering plate, please consider mailing a check instead. Alternatively, an outdoor mail slot is located adjacent to the reception office at The Pavilion entrance.

Electronic contributions are fast and easy to arrange [through our website](#) or by using the [GivePlus mobile app](#). We're [standing by to help](#) if anyone would like assistance setting that up.

Thank you for maintaining your support of Grace Church as we navigate through an unprecedented challenge. And thank you for joining us in prayer for all who are in need of comfort, peace and healing this Eastertide. May they find these in the never-ending love of our resurrected Christ, and may God's blessing be upon us all.

An Offer of Help: Preparing Wills & Medical Guidelines

Even as we each hope and pray for everyone's health and well being during this pandemic, it never hurts to be prepared for any possibility. If you have not already made a Last Will and Testament, or prepared a document which gives medical personnel guidance about the kind of care you want to receive, this may be a good time to do so. Our Senior Warden has offered to prepare a simple set of papers for any parishioner, free of charge. If you would like to discuss this, please call Adrienne Southgate at 401-301-7823 or email her at asouthgate1@cox.net.



Wednesday Virtual Prayer Group

The Wednesday prayer group invites all parishioners to join them in prayer via Zoom every Wednesday at noon. If you can't make that time but would still like to have their prayer list for your own prayers, you can request that list instead. Either way, contact Adrienne Southgate at asouthgate1@cox.net to join in.



"Virtual" Thursdays at Noon Concerts May 28, 2020

Though our normal Thursdays at Noon Concert Series has been temporarily put on hold, the parish musicians will continue the music online! [Click here](#) or on the image to the right to watch Vince Edwards, Organist & Director of Music, playing Veni Creator from Premier Livre d'Orgue by Nicolas de Grigny (1672-1703) with chant sung in between each verset in the alternatim style of the 17th and 18th centuries.



May 31, 2020 **The Feast of Pentecost: Whitsunday**

O God, who on this day taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit: Grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgment in all things, and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

For the texts of the readings for The Feast of Pentecost: Whitsunday, [please click here](#).

[Click here](#) for the latest from the Episcopal News Service. And for current news from the Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island, [please click here](#).



Details of the Temporary Closure at Grace

This closure impacts all parish activities until further notice, including Sunday worship, the Open Doors ministry, the Wednesday Eucharist, the Thursday Noon concert, all meetings and ministry gatherings, all music lessons and choir rehearsals. We will continue to send a weekly ENews, so please stay tuned for further updates and our online worship experience videos sent out every Sunday.
