



Weekly E-News from Grace Episcopal Church

January 15, 2021

Spotlight: Vestry Nomination Process

The Grace Church Vestry has twelve members made up of three in-coming classes of four members each, elected to serve three year terms. This creates a stagger in membership, so that no more than one-third of the Vestry cycles off in any given year. However, many vestry members choose to serve a second term so that there is generally less turnover. Members are elected at the Annual Meeting of the parish, held in February.



In 2021, the Vestry will have three openings. Sandra Read and Adrienne Southgate have each completed two terms and must step down under the parish bylaws. Their replacements will be elected to three-year terms. There is also a vacancy for the unexpired term of Douglas Powell, whose employment outside the United States precludes his completing his two final years.

In preparation for the Annual Meeting, the Vestry appointed three of its members (Adrienne and Sandra, and Vestry Clerk Joel Goloskie) and the Rector appointed two members of the parish (Liza Wagner and Charlie Carroll) to serve on the Nominating Committee. Anyone interested in serving on the Vestry can self-nominate by sending an email to Adrienne at asouthgate@providenceri.gov or by calling 301-7823 or the Church office, 331-3225. The nominating process has typically involved conversations between the committee and the nominees about what it's like to be on the Vestry (in terms of time commitment, responsibilities, etc.) and answer any questions the nominees may have. After these conversations, a slate is proposed to the Vestry as a whole and to the Rector. During these times, that process has gone virtual. The committee is meeting on Zoom; interviews are likely to use that platform or telephone/FaceTime. The committee hopes that candidates will prepare a brief biographical statement and indication of how they would like to serve Grace, which can then be included with the Annual Meeting materials.

Interested in serving, but perhaps in some other capacity? The church has several standing committees which welcome participation and which are good places to get your feet wet before joining the Vestry.

Continuing Zoom Link for Voices at Grace Sunday Morning Worship January 17, 2021 at 10:00 AM

Since last Sunday's Zoom worship was well-received, we have decided to continue this practice through the Epiphanytide Season until the beginning of Lent (Ash Wednesday occurring on February 17). The Zoom link will continue to be included in ENews as well as sent out on Sunday mornings. *Please note: This is simply another way for the Grace community to worship together and is not in place of the regular Sunday worship videos, which will still be made available on the normal channels for viewing "on demand".* We hope to see you on Zoom this Sunday!

To join the Service, please use the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84748978228>



Meeting ID: 847 4897 8228

One tap mobile:

+19292056099,,84748978228# US (New York)

+13017158592,,84748978228# US (Washington D.C.)

Dial by your location:

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C.)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 847 4897 8228

Find your local

number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84748978228>



Voices of Grace: Virtual Sunday Morning Worship

At Grace Church we are committed to building a loving and joyful community through worship despite temporarily not being able to gather as we normally would 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!

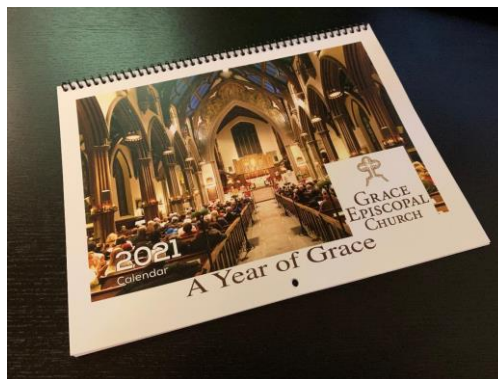


If you'd like to download or print the service leaflet for this Sunday's Virtual Worship, [please click here.](#)

A Year of Grace Calendars

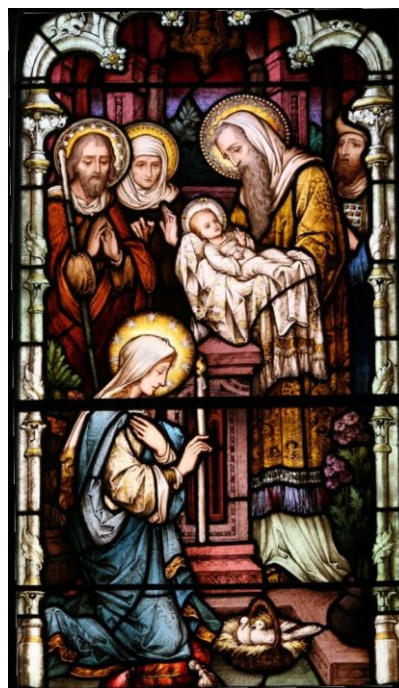
We've mailed to everyone in the parish a 2021 Calendar featuring photos of Grace Church & The Pavilion. We hope you enjoy this Epiphanytide gift from your church!

Depending on how the U.S. mail goes, you should receive your calendar soon!



Upcoming "Virtual" Eucharist for The Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple: Candlemas

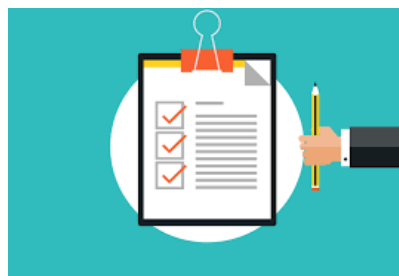
Our virtual Zoom Epiphany service with pre-sanctified eucharist was so well received that we've decided to do it again on **February 2nd** for Candlemas, also known as The Feast of the Presentation of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple. The occasion commemorates the Holy Family's visitation of the Temple in Jerusalem (to learn more about this unique feast day, [please click here](#)). Our service will include the [blessing of candles](#), which you can pick up at the church (along with wafers and bulletins) in the two days prior to the service at 6:00 PM on the 2nd. Times for pick-up and the zoom link will be available next week.



Parish Engagement Survey

This past fall, vestry member Jeff Williams gathered a group of parishioners together with the rector to form the Parish Engagement Committee. The group's mission is to spearhead initiatives that build connections among Grace parishioners during this time of physical separation from each other. Two recent initiatives that sprang out of this committee were the Advent prayer services and the 2021 Grace calendar. As we enter 2021, we are asking you to fill out a brief survey to help us learn what kind of activities (largely virtual at this time) would speak to folks at Grace.

Kindly submit the survey via the link below by January 25th. Thank you!



Click this link to take the survey:
<https://forms.gle/t1nzqcf3DTKgmo9z6>

Worship with the Canterbury Cathedral Community

Several services from Canterbury Cathedral are available online each day. On weekdays, Morning Prayer is available online by 5:00 AM (EST), and Choral Evensong is available online by 12:30 PM (EST). On Sundays, Eucharist and Compline are available online. To get access to these online services and to get more information about worship services and other resources made available by the Cathedral,



visit the website: www.canterbury-cathedral.org/#onlineservices or [click here](#)

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.



January 17, 2021 The Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*



For the texts of the readings for The Second Sunday after the Epiphany, [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.](#)