

GRACE ABOUNDS



Weekly E-News from Grace Episcopal Church

February 25, 2022

Spotlight: Annual Parish Meeting & Covid Protocol Updates



The 193rd annual meeting of the parish will take place in The Pavilion immediately following 10:00 a.m. service this coming Sunday, February 27th to hear reports from parish leaders and elect vestry members. The Vestry Nominating Committee (Diane Stamp, Sue Hall, Joseph Berryhill, Bill Galligan, Melody Ennis) will present the following slate for the Vestry: for a second, three-year term - **Lori Brown, Carissa Mills, and Joel Goloskie**, and for a first, full, three-year term - **Nicholas Halar**. The Committee is also presenting **Adrienne Southgate** as our delegate to Diocesan Convention, and **Melody Ennis** as the Alternate Delegate.

As of this coming Sunday (February 27), mask wearing will be optional at Grace Church. This applies to all activities at Grace (some exceptions may be programs for kids). We still ask those who are not vaccinated to mask (presuming they are over 5 years old), and people are always welcome to mask if they feel more comfortable doing so. **Coffee Hour will also return on Sundays, the weekly Wednesday Eucharist will resume on Ash Wednesday, and the wine at Communion will return on Maundy Thursday**, a fitting day to do so, as that is when we celebrate the institution of the Lord's Supper! **Sunday School will return in Eastertide.** If you have any questions about this transition, feel free to call the parish office at 331-3225.



Ricky Birkes (1949-2022)

Long-time parishioner Ricky Birkes, beloved husband of Patty, departed this life on Saturday (February 19) morning surrounded by his family. Ricky's memorial service will take place next Friday, March 4, at 11:00 a.m. at Grace Church. All are invited to attend.



May Ricky's soul, and the souls of all the departed, rest in peace.

Choral Evensong this coming Sunday!

On **Sunday, February 27 at 4:00 PM**, the Grace Church Choir and Choristers will sing a service of Choral Evensong, one of the treasures of our Anglican worship traditions. Music of William Byrd, Richard Sheppard, Herbert Murrill, will be sung, along with Sir John Stainer's monumental double-choir anthem "I saw the Lord."



Ash Wednesday Services

Join us for one of our services on **Ash Wednesday (March 2)** as we begin our journey through the season of Lent and are reminded of our earthly mortality by having the sign of the cross imposed on our foreheads.



Spoken Holy Eucharist with the Imposition of Ashes
12 Noon

Sung Holy Eucharist with the Imposition of Ashes
7:00 PM

The Choir and Choristers of Grace Church will sing choral music by Richard Lloyd, Herbert Howells & Gregorio Allegri's famous "Miserere mei".

Lent 2022 at Grace Church

The penitential and reflective season of Lent begins next week as Christians around the world observe Ash Wednesday. Here at Grace Church we will have several additional offerings during Lent which are listed in the Lent 2022 Brochure found on the tables in the rear of the church or by [clicking here](#).

We hope that these opportunities will guide and aid your prayers and spiritual life during Lent, so please do join us!



Organ Project Update!

We are SO EXCITED to announce that we have had TWO generous gifts to the Organ Project! First, we have a **\$25,000 CHALLENGE GRANT** from a family in the parish. They have asked to remain anonymous, but in their words "hope that their gift will inspire others to contribute to this exciting project." ***We are hoping to get this gift matched very soon, because there is another potential matching gift waiting in the wings, when this one is completed.*** Please speak to the Rector, Fr. Jonathan or to Vince Edwards if you would like to contribute to the challenge grant, in any amount.



A second anonymous gift of \$50,000 has been pledged from a friend of Music at Grace. We are so profoundly grateful for these generous gifts, that will help us on our way to realizing the Organ Project at Grace! www.gracechurchprovidence.org/organproject

Organ Project Promotional Video

The Organ Project at Grace was officially endorsed by the Vestry in October, and **we are actively seeking funding for this project**. A small group of parishioners has assembled as a committee to explore financing and funding options. We want to keep the project alive and in the hearts and minds of the Grace community and beyond. In addition to the two brochures ([Click here for the Overview Brochure](#) and [Here for the Proposed Specification Brochure](#)), we have created a short promotional video to share with friends, acquaintances, and anyone who might have interest in our project. As always, if you would like to know more about this exciting project, or just want to know more about the organ at Grace in general, please be in touch with Vince Edwards, our Director of Music. vedwards@gracepvd.org Enjoy the video!



Thursdays at Noon Concerts

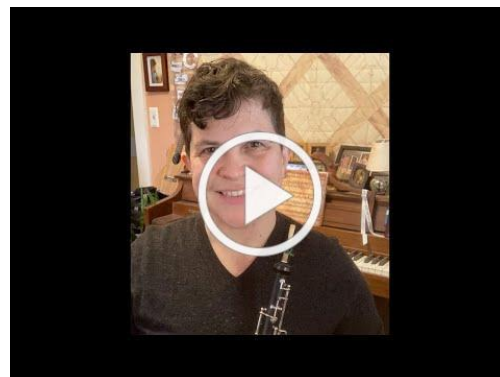
Next Thursday, March 3 at 12 Noon, our guest recitalist will be **Benjamin Straley**, the former Organist & Associate Director of Music of Washington National Cathedral. Benjamin will play a program of featuring music by Felix-Alexandre Guilmant and Johann Sebastian Bach.

Bookmarks detailing the line-up of Thursday performers are available on the information tables in the rear of the church. We hope you join us and bring along friends!



If you missed this week's concert,
played by oboist Criknett Young,
you can watch the recorded performance
by [clicking here](#),
or on the image to the right.

To view Criknett's program,
[please click here](#).



Please note, if you are not able to attend in person, or prefer not to yet, we will still be live-streaming most concerts. Recordings of the concerts will also be made available in the usual places ([church website](#), [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#), and [Vimeo](#)).

For a complete list of performers and videos of previous concerts, please check out the Thursdays at Noon Concerts webpage on the Grace website by [clicking here](#).

Sunday Morning Worship: **The Last Sunday after The Epiphany** **February 27, 2022**

Every Sunday Morning, Grace Church offers a 'live-stream' broadcast of our Sunday morning eucharist service. We hope this experience allows those who are not able to join us in person on Sundays to participate in the worship life at Grace.

~ **Sunday Morning Links** ~
YouTube: [Click here!](#)
Facebook: [Click here!](#)



This service will be live-streamed to the [Grace Church Facebook Page](#) and the [Grace Church YouTube Channel](#). Please use the links provided below to watch. The service will also be archived on the [Grace Church website](#), [Vimeo](#), Facebook, and YouTube pages for 'on-demand' viewing after Sunday morning. We hope this experience allows those who are not able to join us in person on Sunday to participate in the worship.

**If you would like to download or print the service leaflet
for The Last Sunday after the Epiphany, [please click here](#).**

**Following recent Covid protocol updates,
mask-wearing is now optional at Grace Church
for those who are vaccinated.**
**We still ask those who are not vaccinated to mask
(presuming they are over 5 years old),
and [people are always welcome to mask if they feel more comfortable doing so.](#)**

Regardless of how you choose to participate in our worship life together,
ALL ARE WELCOME at Grace Church!

February 27, 2022
The Last Sunday after
The Epiphany

O God, who before the passion of your only begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

For the texts of the readings for The Last 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.](#)

