

**OUR GUEST PREACHER DURING THE TRIDUUM:**

**The Right Reverend Andrew St. John**



Bishop Andrew St. John was formerly Assistant Bishop of Melbourne, Australia before relocating to New York City in 2003. After two years as Interim Rector of the Church of the Holy Trinity on East 88<sup>th</sup> Street he was appointed Rector of the Church of the Transfiguration on East

29<sup>th</sup> Street until his retirement in 2016. At present he acts as an Assisting Bishop in the Diocese of New York and serves as Bishop-in-Residence at Saint Thomas Church, Fifth Avenue. Bishop St. John will preach on Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday. He is a friend and mentor of Fr. Jonathan's, and was the Officiant at the marriage ceremony of Fr. Jonathan and his wife Anne. **Welcome Bishop Andrew!**



*The Mission of Grace Church is to build, by the grace of God, a loving and joyful community which lives the Gospel through worship, proclamation, and service to each other, to downtown Providence, and beyond.*



**GRACE CHURCH IN PROVIDENCE**

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# HOLY WEEK & EASTER 2023



## GRACE CHURCH IN PROVIDENCE

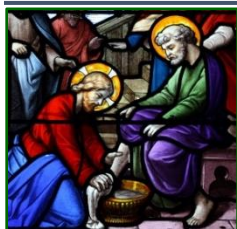


*Assist us mercifully with thy help, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts, whereby thou hast given us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (The Collect for Holy Week)*



**PALM SUNDAY** begins Holy Week and initiates the transition from Lent to Eastertide. During the Blessing of the Palms and Procession we reenact Christ's triumphant arrival into the city of Jerusalem. The service includes the reading of the Passion story which reminds us of what is to come at the end of the week.

On **SPY WEDNESDAY** (so-called because it was the day Judas decided in his heart to betray Christ) we offer **The Office of Tenebrae**, a liturgy which is based on the ancient monastic offices of Matins and Lauds. This "service of shadows" features the unaccompanied singing of Psalms to Gregorian chant and Renaissance polyphony in a darkened church with the gradual extinguishing of candles.



During the **Paschal Triduum**, the three days leading up to Easter morning, a service of Holy Eucharist takes place on **MAUNDY THURSDAY** which includes the Washing of Feet. This is to commemorate when Jesus humbled himself by washing the feet of his disciples the night before his crucifixion. At the end of this service all the altars in the church are stripped, reminding us that Christ was stripped of his belongings before his death. Following the service, those who wish to stay and pray during **The Night Watch** may do so until Midnight at **The Altar of Repose** in The Chapel of the Messiah which is decorated to represent **The Garden of Gethsemane**, where Christ prayed the evening before his death.



At Noon on **GOOD FRIDAY** we recall Christ's crucifixion and death on the cross. Meditations and music are offered and the **Passion of Christ** is sung. At the end of the service, the Tower Bell is tolled 33 times, each toll for a year in the life of Christ. In the evening, a special service of **The Way (Stations) of the Cross** with music features participants singing the *Stabat Mater* hymn while walking to the 14 stations of Christ's journey to Mount Calvary posted throughout the church.

**THE GREAT VIGIL & FIRST EUCHARIST OF EASTER** takes place the evening before Easter morning and is the first celebration of Christ's triumph over death. The service begins in near-darkness as the Easter Fire is lighted in the rear of the church. **The Paschal Candle**, representing the light of Christ is brought into the church and we either recite The Renewal of Baptismal Vows or a Baptism takes place. Excerpts from Salvation history are read and light is finally restored as we proclaim: "Christ is Risen!"



## **THE SUNDAY OF THE PASSION: PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 2<sup>ND</sup>**

Spoken Holy Eucharist *with* The Blessing of Palms *at* **8:00 AM**  
Festal Sung Eucharist *with* The Blessing of Palms & Procession *at* **10:00 AM**

## **SPY WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5<sup>TH</sup>**

The Office of Tenebrae: A Service of Shadows  
**8:00 PM**

## **MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 6<sup>TH</sup>**

Choral Holy Eucharist *with* The Washing of Feet,  
Procession to the Altar of Repose, & Stripping of the Altar  
**7:00 PM**

The Garden Watch in The Chapel of the Messiah  
**8:00 PM – 12:00 Midnight**

## **GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 7<sup>TH</sup>**

The Solemn Liturgy of The Passion  
**12:00 Noon**  
The Way (Stations) of the Cross *with* Music  
**6:00 PM**

## **HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 8<sup>TH</sup>**

The Great Vigil, Holy Baptism, & The First Eucharist of Easter  
**8:00 PM**

## **THE FEAST OF THE RESURRECTION: EASTER DAY,**

### **SUNDAY, APRIL 9<sup>TH</sup>**

Spoken Holy Eucharist  
**8:00 AM**

Festal Choral Eucharist *with* Choir, Brass, & Timpani  
**10:00 AM**



*On Easter Day, all children are most welcome to participate in The Easter Egg Hunt during Coffee Hour following the 10 AM Eucharist!*