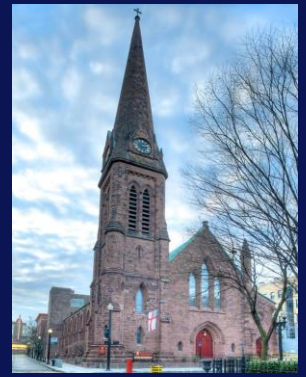


# GRACE ABOUNDS



Weekly E-News from Grace Episcopal Church

March 22, 2024

## A Holy Week Message *from* The Rector

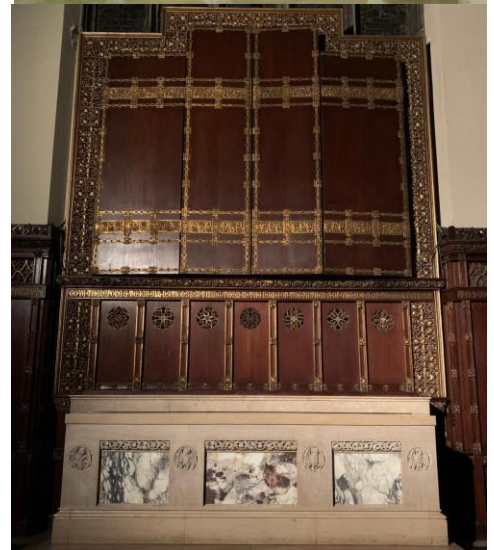
Friends,

When I was in college here in Providence 30+ years ago, I attended my first Holy Week service, on Maundy Thursday. I'm not sure if my childhood parish even *had* Holy Week services between Palm Sunday and Easter Day, but, if it did, my family didn't attend. That first Maundy Thursday service in the late 1980s made real for me the events that led up to that feast day that my family *always* celebrated: Easter. I felt in that Thursday evening service (at St. Stephen's Church, next to the Brown campus) that I was with the disciples as Jesus celebrated his Last Supper with them and that I was witness to his prayers and arrest in the Garden of Gethsemane. I was transported, through stories and actions and music, to those great events in the final days of Christ's life.

I imagine most American Christians don't attend a church service between Palm Sunday and Easter Day. Let's be honest, a lot of Christians don't attend a church service between *Christmas* and Easter Day! But there is nothing in the church year like the [Triduum](#) (Latin for "Three Days") – Maundy Thursday (from the Latin, "[Mandatum](#)", meaning "commandment", since it was at the Last Supper that Jesus gave us the new commandment that his followers were to love one another), Good Friday ("Good" in its alternate meaning of "holy") and the Easter Vigil, which follows the ancient practice of celebrating the first Eucharist of Easter the night prior. It is perhaps the closest we can come through worship to walking with Jesus at the end of his earthly ministry and life.

Easter is a glorious celebration no matter what you've been doing (or failing to do) in the previous 40 days. St. John Chrysostom said in his Easter Sermon 1,600 years ago, "If any have toiled from the first hour, let them receive their due reward; If any have come after the third hour, let him with gratitude join in the Feast! And he that arrived after the sixth hour, let him not doubt; for he too shall sustain no loss. And if any delayed until the ninth hour, let him not hesitate; but let him come too. And he who arrived only at the eleventh hour, let him not be afraid by reason of his delay. For the Lord is gracious and receives the last even as the first. He gives rest to him that comes at the eleventh hour, as well as to him that toiled from the first." But if St. Chrysostom were here today, he'd share my advice and encourage you to attend services at Grace Church this Holy Week!

Holy Week blessings,  
Jonathan+



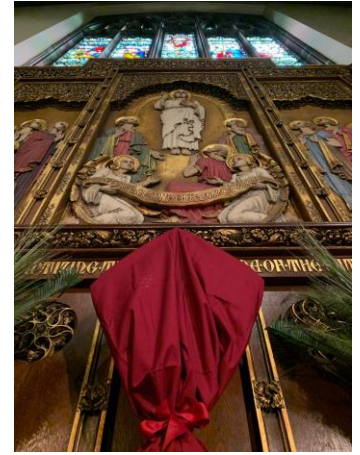
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## Holy Week & Easter 2024

Grace Church is very happy to celebrate the yearly observance of the Paschal Triduum and offer the many unique services that lead up to the Feast of the Resurrection on Easter Day.

To learn about the multiple worship opportunities during Holy Week, please pick up a copy of the Holy Week & Easter 2024 Brochure found on the tables in the rear of the church or by [clicking here](#).

We hope that you join us for these moving liturgies that illustrate the progression of Christ's betrayal and death to his glorious resurrection!



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## **Bins, Bins, Bins!**



**A huge thanks to all who donated household items for our Refugee Ministry through the Dorcas Institute. We collected 36 bins of items!**

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# Capital Campaign Feasibility Survey: *The Organ and Mural*



We are asking Grace parishioners to complete a Feasibility Survey regarding a possible Capital Campaign to restore our pipe organ and the chancel arch mural. Remember – this is not a pledge form, only a survey to help us determine our ability to raise the needed funds for these projects. **Please complete the survey before Sunday, March 24** if possible. If you need a printed version of the survey, please contact the office. As we approach our 200th Anniversary as a parish (in 2029) it is exciting to think about restoring our pipe organ and beautiful mural, complete with an angel orchestra! Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

**If you have not filled out the survey,  
please do so by clicking on the button below! Thank you!**

[Click here to fill out the Feasibility Survey](#)

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## Easter Vigil Champagne Reception!

Join us for The Great Vigil & First Eucharist of Easter on **Saturday, March 30 at 8:00 PM**. The Vigil takes place the evening before Easter morning, and is the first celebration of Christ's triumph over death. Following the service a festive reception will be held in The Pavilion. **Please bring a dessert - chocolate or otherwise - to share**, the champagne will be provided! We hope you join us!



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## Easter Flowers & Music Donations/Dedications

Thank you for filling out a card located in the pews, and for your support of Easter flowers and music! Please print dedications legibly: *In memory of... in honor of... in thanksgiving for...* Place your card and gift in the green flower envelopes provided, and return in the offering plate or by mail. Dedications received **by Tuesday, March 26** will be printed in the service bulletins for Easter Vigil (March 30) and Easter Sunday (March 31).



# HOLY WEEK & EASTER 2024

## THE SUNDAY OF THE PASSION: PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 24<sup>TH</sup>

Spoken Holy Eucharist *with* The Blessing of Palms

**8:00 AM**

Festal Sung Eucharist *with* The Blessing & Procession of Palms

**10:00 AM**

## SPY WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27<sup>TH</sup>

The Office of Tenebrae: A Service of Candlelight & Shadows

**8:00 PM**

## MAUNDY THURSDAY, MARCH 28<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, MARCH 29<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, MARCH 30<sup>TH</sup>

The Great Vigil, Holy Baptism, & The First Eucharist of Easter  
*(followed by a Champagne and Chocolate Reception in The Pavilion!)*

**8:00 PM**

## THE FEAST OF THE RESURRECTION: EASTER DAY

### SUNDAY, MARCH 31<sup>ST</sup>

Spoken Holy Eucharist

**8:00 AM**

Festal Choral Eucharist *with* 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!*

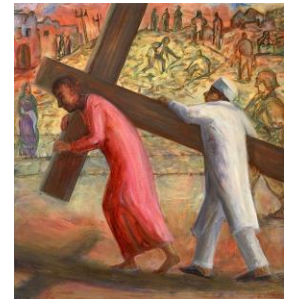


## Coffee Hour Donations Needed!

Ever wonder where that delicious food at Coffee Hour comes from? From you! Parishioners are welcome and encouraged to bring food to share at Coffee Hour. Homemade or store-bought, fresh fruit or baked goods – whatever you are moved to share! Simply place items on the large rectangular tables in The Pavilion before church. Your fellow parishioners thank you!



# The Way (Stations) of the Cross Services during Lent

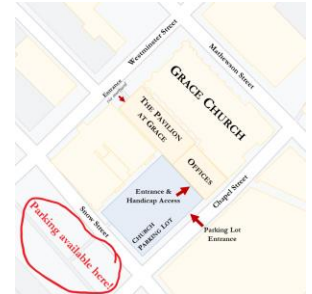


Join us for this short liturgy during which participants walk to 14 stations posted throughout the church commemorating Christ's journey to Mount Calvary and his death on the Cross. This service lasts about 25 minutes and is scheduled for **every Friday at 12 Noon** during Lent.

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## Parking for Holy Week Services

*Free parking will be available for the Maundy Thursday and Easter Vigil services at the lot on Snow Street between Westminster and Chapel Streets (opposite the church's lot, which is always available for parishioners!).*



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## Shawl Ministry Prayer Cloths

Shawl Ministry is making prayer cloths with cards which say: "This Prayer Cloth is a symbol of God's grace, peace and love. Keep it in your pocket. Let it remind you of God's presence. You are never alone." Adrienne Southgate is going on a pilgrimage to the Isle of Iona in Scotland. She would like to take prayer cloths from Grace Church to give to each of the 30 participants in this program. Can you knit some for us? Please email [janeditmars@gmail.com](mailto:janeditmars@gmail.com) if you need the instructions. Thank you for your help!



# Sunday Morning Worship *The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday*



~ Sunday Morning YouTube Link ~

[Click here!](#)

This service will be live-streamed to the [Grace Church YouTube Channel](#). Please use the link provided above to watch. The service will also be archived on the [Grace Church website](#) 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.

To view the Order of Service for **The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday**,  
[CLICK HERE!](#)

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

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## *The Sunday of the Passion:* **Palm Sunday** March 21, 2024



Almighty and ever-living God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his resurrection; 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 Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday**,  
[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.](#)