



Weekly News from Grace Episcopal Church - October 16, 2026

Can Grace Do More?

The answer to the question, “Can Grace do more in outreach, social justice, and mission work with the poor?” is obvious. Any church that answers “No” to such a question is not trying hard enough. Every church can and should do more, until the kingdom comes and God’s will has been done “on earth as it is heaven.”

Our relationship with St. Peter’s and St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church (or Pete and Andy’s) in Mt. Pleasant needs our best effort. That’s where the food that is collected on Sunday goes.



When I visited this week, their Vicar Maryalice Sullivan showed me the empty shelves awaiting their Saturday distribution. They are having to buy more and more surplus food from the RI Community Food Bank to meet demand as donations are not keeping up.

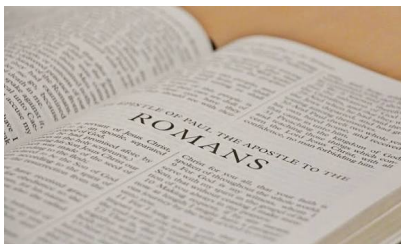
They are on target to serve 30,000 people this year.

So, the next time you’re at the market buying \$100 of groceries, be sure to add \$10 of peanut butter or spaghetti or rice and beans. It’s a good habit. Or, send a big order directly from Amazon. Or put a check in the collection plate marked, “For Pete and Andy’s” and we’ll send along. Or go to their website and donate directly.

In the weeks ahead, we’ll discuss how Pete and Andy’s needs a team of 3-5 volunteers on the second Friday of every month to help move food and sort clothes in the thrift store (where no one pays a dime!). Can we put together a reliable team?

And soon, we’ll have ways to participate in their Christmas drive for toys and children’s clothes.

Timothy Safford, Interim Rector



Spiritual Growth on Sunday Morning

Starting this Sunday, October 18, Interim Rector Tim Safford and our adjunct clergy invite you to join them each Sunday morning at 9am for a participatory conversation reflecting on the Sunday readings. Always, we'll focus on the question: **How is the Holy Spirit speaking to me?**

The group will meet in the Chafee Room promptly at 9am and will end exactly at 9:40am. Be sure to stop by!

Children & Youth at Grace

The **Youth Group (for youth in grades 7-12)**, under the direction of Cass Suttan Coats and Noah Klein, will this Sunday at 12pm. Please contact Cass (youthgroup@gracepvd.org) or Noah (nklein@gracepvd.org) with any questions.



Our Church School's **"Big Kids" class (for ages 7-12)**, meet on select Sundays - including this weekend! Email sundayschool@gracepvd.org with any questions.

The **"Little Kids" class (for ages 3-6)** meet every week. Like the Big Kids, the Little Kids start in the service with their families, then leave soon after the opening hymn to go upstairs to the classrooms. They return to the service in time for Communion with their families. Email sundayschool@gracepvd.org with any questions.

Grace's Nursery (for kids up to age 3) is open on Sunday starting at 8:30am.

"Un-Retiring Persons" to Meet Sunday

Announcing the kick-off meeting at Grace Church of the AUP (Association of Un-retiring Persons)! Join us in a corner of the Pavilion after service on Sunday, October 18 and 25, and bring coffee and an inquiring mind.

This AUP initiative will be led by Oliver Chamberlain, Jr., and will include conversation about anything of interest you want to discuss.

I hope to see you Sunday.

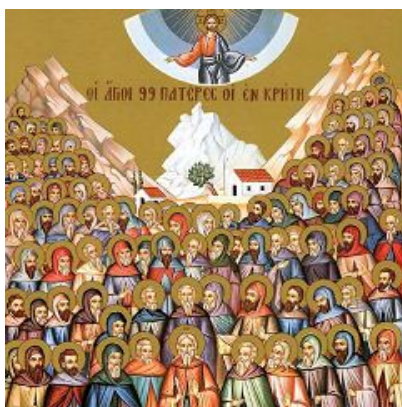
—Oliver

Rector-Search Teams Named

The Vestry of Grace Episcopal Church announces appointments to the four teams who will lead our congregation in the Rector Search Process for 2026-27.

All four of these groups are integral parts of our Rector-Search Committee, and we are grateful for their willingness to serve with open hearts and willing spirits.

[Click here to see the full list.](#) And thank you to all who are serving!



Observing All Saints Day

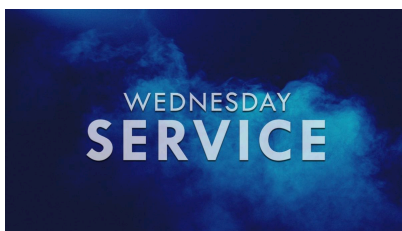
Join us at 10am on Sunday, November 1, for a Choral Eucharist with Holy Baptism for The Feast of All Saints. We hope you will be with us to commemorate this important Feast Day in the life of the church!

Photos for All Saints': It is a tradition at Grace Church for our community to bring photos of departed loved ones which are placed near the altar. All are welcome to bring a framed photo of a loved one to be part of the memorial for this feast day.

Shawl Ministry at Grace

Shawl Ministry is now making hats, scarves and mittens for the youngsters at Children's Friend of Providence. Warm items are needed for children of all ages.

Knitters and crocheters are invited to join us at Shawl Ministry each Wednesday at 10am in the Pavilion. All are invited! Questions? Please contact Jane Ditmars at shawls@gracepvd.org.



Weekly Wednesday Eucharist

Did you know that each Wednesday at noon, Grace Church offers a mid-week service of Holy Eucharist which is open to the public? If you're in the area for the day or work/go to school downtown and are on your lunch break, please join us in the Pavilion for a spoken service of Holy Eucharist. (Parking is available in our lot on a first-come, first-served basis.)

The Rite of Confirmation on January 10

The Bishop of Rhode Island, Nicholas Knisely, visits Grace Church on Sunday, January 10, and will offer the rite of Confirmation during the service to all desiring adults and youth 7th grade and up.

In the Rite of Confirmation, the Bishop says a unique blessing upon you to be strengthened with the Holy Spirit and empowered for service in the Church.

Especially for youth, Confirmation is the opportunity to “confirm” your baptism; this is a critical spiritual step in the journey toward adulthood.

For adults, Confirmation is an opportunity to make a mature statement of your faith and receive a unique blessing from your Bishop. Those confirmed in another branch of the “one, holy and apostolic Church” are invited to be “Received,” declaring that you are under the spiritual care of an Episcopal bishop and have received their unique blessing.

We are members of Grace Church by virtue of our baptism; nothing more is required. Still, it is **highly encouraged or required** that those in certain ministry positions here at Grace (Chalice Bearer, Eucharistic Visitor, Altar Guild, Vestry, etc.) have been confirmed or received. If you have questions (and who wouldn’t?), speak to the Rev. Maggi Dawn or me.

Confirmation requires preparation. For **adults**, Maggi and I are holding preparation classes on three Sundays in November (8, 15, and 22), at 11:45 a.m. A quiet day (half-day, really) and rehearsal for the service is scheduled for Saturday, January 9, from 9am to noon. Please register by emailing me at rector@gracepvd.org.

For **youth confirmation**, Cass Suten Coats will communicate with you and your parents shortly.



-Timothy Safford

Worship with Us!

Twenty-First Sunday of Pentecost

October 18, 2026

Most Sunday mornings, Grace Church live-streams our 10am service of Holy Eucharist on YouTube. We hope this experience allows those who are not able to join us in person on Sundays to participate in our worship life at Grace.

Live-streamed Worship: Our Sunday services are live-streamed on the Grace Church YouTube Channel. If you can't join us Sunday morning, visit [our YouTube channel](#) and watch/share at your convenience. (Note that if the recording isn't in [the "Live" listing](#), you may find it in [the "Videos" tab](#).)



Click the window above to view our live-streamed service.

Click Here to See the Bulletin for This Sunday's Service

Collect for This Sunday: *Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

Readings: For the texts of the readings for Sunday worship, [please click here](#).

More About the Episcopal Church: [Click here](#) for the latest from the Episcopal News Service. [Click here](#) for current news from the Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island.

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

Find Sunday's Readings

Find Recent Services

Planning a Special Event?
Rent The Pavilion at Grace!



The Pavilion
at Grace



300 Westminister Street
Providence, RI 02903

(401) 331-3225 | www.gracechurchprovidence.org

info@gracepvd.org

Connect with Grace Anytime!



*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.*

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