



The ANGELUS

News of the Life of GRACE CHURCH

FROM THE PRIEST-IN-CHARGE

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. BCP 231

Dear Friends,

This is a good time to enjoy “things temporal” like family, friends and yes, WORLD CUP SOCCER! Summer invites a change of attitude, another chance to “get a life.” We can start by being thankful for the gifts we fly right by in the driving press of work. As people of Grace, let’s pray this Collect in a spirit of expectant inquiry. What are those “things eternal” you are in danger of missing because of the heaviness of “things temporal,” including unreconciled relationships and other “things undone?” Mindful of God’s mercy, we can recover strength and holiness as we arrive at the destination of our long interim pilgrimage.

The year to come will be alive with things seen and unseen, temporal and eternal, as congregation and Rector settle into a new life together. Your mutual ministry will be celebrated sometime during the fall at a gala worship service called the Celebration of a New Ministry. Diocesan representatives and friends from the past will join you in that joyful, hopeful celebration – marking the *day to day realities* of congregational leadership, educational programming, parish finances, building and grounds, membership lists and stewardship goals and the *eternal verities* of worship, liturgy, pastoral care, in-depth prayer, inviting the Holy Spirit ever more deeply into the continuing mission of God with and through the Body of Christ that is Grace Church.

The trials and tribulations of temporal life – hours spent at search committee meetings, surveys filled and discussed or not, loose ends and forgotten goals, hopes fervent and dashed, private conversations and parish-wide meetings – are safeguarded and in God’s own time fully redeemed in the light of God’s eternal love. Burdens incurred through the long labor of love will be overcome by the joy of new life born - and the past four years will make a lot more sense; the trail obscured during the upward climb will be more clearly visible from the mountain’s summit. *We can be filled with God’s peace if we trust in God, our ruler and guide who brought us to this place: “Well done, good and faithful servants.”*

What I really want to say is this: The extended Interim hasn’t been easy; but it has been a treasure trove of healing, growing, learning and loving. These things eternal *can’t* be lost. As Gene Pitney crooned in his hit song of the 60’s, “Only love can break a heart; only love can mend it again.” May the God of things temporal *and* eternal redeem every Cross as it yields redemptive joy in the fulfillment of this holy pilgrimage.

With much affection in Christ,
Jane +

NEWS AT GRACE

Welcome LUIS GOMEZ, La Gracia's New Music Leader

Luis Gomez is an accomplished Latin and jazz pianist with extensive professional performance experience. He started as the new music leader for the La Gracia congregation on Sunday, July 4th. By the age of sixteen, Luisito had performed with various Latin luminaries such as Ismael Miranda, Andy Montañez, Oscar De Leon, Adalberto Santiago, Tito Gomez, and others. Luis has also appeared in numerous television appearances and concerts (including on the nationally televised morning program, Despierta América, Hispanics Today), and a live performance at the 2004 Latin Billboard Awards in Miami with Oscar De Leon where he shared the stage with Alicia Keys, Paulina Rubio and other stars of Latin music. He is currently a senior at Berklee College of Music in Boston and will graduate in May 2011 with a bachelor's degree in Music Production & Engineering and another one in Jazz Composition. He has previously played for liturgies at St. Matthew & St. Timothy Episcopal Church and in Christian Salsa Bands for various Christian concerts.

Bienvenido a LUIS GOMEZ, Nuevo Director Musical de La Gracia

Luis Gomez es un exitoso pianista del género de música jazz latino con extensa experiencia profesional. Luisito comenzó como el nuevo director musical de la congregación La Gracia el pasado domingo, 4 de julio. A la edad de 16, Luisito había tocado con varias luminarias de la música latina tal como Ismael Miranda, Andy Montañez, Oscar De León, Adalberto Santiago, Tito Gómez y otros. Luis también ha aparecido en televisión (incluyendo Despierta América el cual es transmitido nacionalmente) y en conciertos y presentaciones en vivo como los premios Latin Billboard 2004 en Miami con Oscar de León. En esta celebración, Luisito compartió el escenario con Alicia Keys, Paulina Rubio y otras estrellas de la música latina. Actualmente, Luis cursa el último año de estudio en la prestigiosa escuela de música, Berklee College, en Boston, y se graduará en mayo del 2011 con una licenciatura en producción musical y otra en composición musical en el género jazz. Luisito ha tocado para las liturgias en la iglesia de San Mateo y San Timoteo. El también se ha presentado con bandas de salsa cristiana en varios conciertos.

The Angelus

Quarterly Newsletter
of Grace Church

Priest-in-Charge	Mother Jane Butterfield
Editor	Cynthia S. Brown
Contributor	Elsie Adams

Do you have an article or a picture you wish to include?
See me during Coffee Hour
after the 9:00 am mass or
contact me via email at:
cyndysbrown@gmail.com

The Roof is Fixed!

Now let's pay for it.

No more leaking in the hall, the church, the kitchen, or Nursery. It cost \$50,000 that wasn't in the 2010 budget. Finance Committee members, Carlos Munoz & Jim Brown, are leading the short-term Capital Campaign.

\$6,350 has been pledged so far.

\$4,950 has been collected.

You too can help replace the cost!

Buy a bundle of shingles and watch the roof get covered:

1 shingle = \$50

10 shingles = \$500

Only 837 shingles left = \$43,650 and we're done!

Shingles are on sale in the entrance of the church.

Put some shingles on the roof and feel good.

GONE TO GLORY

Here is the letter Verna Brown read at Mural Patrick's funeral on June 25th.

Dear Mural,

You are here among us still: in Michelle, Jack, Ty and Mia; in Kevin and Jesse; in Melanie and Alek; in Adrienne, Naftali and Amziel; in Halona, Amali and the baby on the way. Your spirit fills this place; we feel your presence as we celebrate your life, your gifts, and your legacy. Your children and grandchildren are the embodiment of the treasures you have given to us and the world....and we thank you.

I feel enriched for having known you, for being your friend, for working with you on so many projects here in Grace Church. Your creative vision, artistic ability and dedication to God's work have defined your membership in this place. I can still see you in meetings, and work sessions and events: Christian Formation meetings at the Rectory; Sunday School planning in the Parish Hall; setting up the Jesse Tree with your wonderful decorative Biblical passages(today a 21st Century Jesse that you have left with us sits in our midst); I see you making costumes for Christmas Pageants; taking part in Book Club discussions; attending a GCCC formal at the Elks Club with Carl; attending Downtown Music concerts - the last one a concert of Spirituals this past February; I see you and Carl and Alek in your pew at worship, then I see you and Carl in your pew - releasing you, Alek to go and find your own direction.

When the church celebrated its 175th anniversary, Mural, you chose the iconic symbol of a Family Tree to be the centerpiece of a display you were creating. Your " I Am the Vine" family history was a powerful representation of Christ, the Vine, with sprawling limbs and green leaves, each leaf representing a Priest who had been installed as Rector of Grace Church. I hope that this mural will someday soon be permanently installed in the Library or Sacristy. Those of us who were here at the time can never forget the beautiful Shepherd's Crook that you created with the Sunday School as their gift for a newly installed Rector. I am sure that is a gift Janet will treasure forever.

I want to thank you too, Mural, for working with me on the Knitted-in-Grace project. The beautiful afghans that you knitted, the ones you designed from squares knitted by others have become Shawls of Comfort to the recipients who receive them as tangible prayers and hugs from a caring congregation. One special afghan designed by you, called "Grace Mosaic" now hangs in the Library. I'm so glad you saw it in February. All these and more, Mural, have knitted you into the hearts of your Grace Church family.

We thank you, we celebrate you, and we take comfort in our shared Faith. May your children, grandchildren and friends find solace in your inspiring life and this verse from the prayer that accompanies each gift of a shawl:

"May you be comforted by the presence of those who love and support you
By faith in the eternal loving One
By the memories of what you hold most dear."

God bless you and keep you.

Love,
Verna

P.S. Mural's grandson, Isaiah Malik Shaw, was born to daughter Halona and Ted Shaw on Friday, July 9, 2010 at 5:34 pm weighing 7.56 lbs. Praise God in every generation!

GRACE HAPPENS

Sleep-out for the Homeless Sponsored by WPHS – Midnight Run Club

Our early April evening began with each of us arriving at White Plains High School (WPHS) and we began to scavenge the school for extra boxes, big and small, to construct ourselves little box houses. Within the first hour, several different apartments were created in the courtyard of WPHS and we began to tough the cold. We then learned of the rules of the Sleepout and after a small dinner of soup and a piece of bread, we went our separate ways. Soon, games were played, songs sung and played (guitar circle!), and battles fought (“I won spider!”). By midnight, the temperature was well below freezing, combined with the intense wind, perhaps it was down in the negatives. Eventually, each of us retreated to our own structures and fell asleep (harder for some than others). Finally in the morning, we dismantled our shanty town and, using teamwork, managed to get all the boxes into the recycling bin.

It was a long, cold night for all, no matter how well we built our shelters and it wasn’t even winter. It really helped all of us, both the members of Midnight Run and the others participating, to understand the difficulties homeless people face every day. In addition we managed to raise \$1,500+, which was a lot considering this was the first time for this event. We gave half of the proceeds to the larger Midnight Run organization for supplies. The other half was given to the GCCC’s Open Arms Men’s Shelter.

Thank you to the many Grace Church parishioners who made donations!

By: Eric Louis

With Heartfelt Thanks & Appreciation

Below follows an excerpt of a letter sent by Carolyn Rogers to the Fire Department for their assistance during that horrible “hurricane with no name” back in March. Robert Mauro, the Fire Chief, responded with a letter of his own (which follows). Ironically, *he* is a new member of our church. Bob & his family were invited to attend Grace Church by Allyson & Peter Munch, whom they met while on vacation. It is indeed a small world!

March 20, 2010
Fire Chief Robert Mauro
c/o Fairview Fire Department

Dear Mr. Mauro,

It is with deep gratitude that we wish to express our appreciation for the wonderful job you and your men did on the day and night of the horrendous rain and wind storm last week... Before we even realized what had happened, a fire truck was outside, and the crew was directing traffic around the danger. The truck and crew remained there until the danger was removed.

We are sure this was just one of hundreds of heroic, life saving missions your department performed with skill and dedication that day and night, and that you do every day to keep this community safe. For this we offer eternal thanks, and we will continue to pray for safety and health for all of you.

Very Sincerely Yours,
Carolyn and Henry Rogers

continued from previous page

Response sent on March 29th, 2010

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Rogers:

Thank you for your recent letter commending the Fire Department for the assistance that we provided during the rain and wind storm on March 13, 2010. It was a pleasure to read your letter. It is always gratifying to hear about the excellent performance of our firefighters. We responded to over 88 emergency calls due to the rain and wind storm, and I am proud of the dedication and service provided by our firefighters.

Your letter will be brought to the attention of Firefighters Ted DiGilio, Peter DiBiase, and Angel Rodriguez, the three firefighters who responded to your home, and it will be made a permanent part of their record.

Thank you again for taking the time to write such a wonderful letter.

Very truly yours,
FAIRVIEW FIRE DEPARTMENT
Robert A. Mauro, Chief of Department

Reflections

This past June, the school year ended fraught with unique circumstances. Usually, young people rejoice; parents organize camp sessions and family trips; teenagers contemplate summer jobs, increased recreational opportunities and/or summer school. Not in the summer of 2010. Elementary school-aged children are happy to free, but if they are old enough to be aware of the current economic climate, they are apprehensive about whether favorite teachers will still be on the payroll come September. Older students are concerned about getting a job or being able to college. Teachers face grave uncertainty in their job security. Parents are confronted with choices too; increased taxes, lower incomes and elimination of certain school and/or social programs.

What can be done? Be more creative by planning family activities that require less expense. Encourage young people to join in family projects rather than solely engage in technological pursuits. Such interaction enhances family solidarity, strengthens bonds between generations, and helps establish coping skills for dealing with crises – present and future.

Mother Jane's sermon on Graduate Recognition Day captured the essence of the moment and established a road map for the summer of 2010 and beyond. Decision making says it all! Families can gather, discuss and decide on activities that will interest as well as enrich. The beautiful statements of the graduates proved that positive decisions result in growth and strong character-building. Being in the Grace Church family with conscientious parents, caring Sunday School teachers, and group leaders helped establish a solid foundation and environment for young people to learn how to make appropriate decisions.

As we all know, some decisions don't work out but mistakes help us grow and learn. Recognition of poor choices, willingness to try again and/or change directions are paths to maturity. All of this is predicated on the need and ability to strengthen our faith. We will be able to look back at the core family values, be rejuvenated with a sense of family unity and decide how to cope with current road blocks.

Remember that with God ALL things are possible. Believe, and this too will pass. HE is in control and never fails to provide what we need.

Amen, Elsie Adams

PEOPLE AT GRACE

Gone to Glory

Eleanor Nelson June 2, 2010

Mural Patrick June 21, 2010

Baptisms

Mirna Dulce Sanchez and Francesca de Fatima Navarro on May 23rd

Ava Mariah Maughan May 30th

Blessing of a Civil Marriage

Steve & Nora Gyetko May 29th

Bon Voyage

Dr. Karen Southwick and George O'Hanlon are moving to Sao Paulo, Brazil where George will serve as legal counsel for IBM. Their 3 children, Nikolas, Anna Kristina and Vika will of course go with them! What a great adventure for the O'Hanlons, but we will miss them!

We look forward to keeping in touch and welcoming them back in about three years.

Welcome Back!

Walter and Sylvia Simon are back from their three week trip to the Holy Land and Egypt. Once they organize their pictures, they will share them at a Forum. Meanwhile, they have fascinating stories from a part of the world that has much to teach and tell!

Always an ear for music!!

Earlier in June, members of the Pastoral Care ministry had to share that Grace Messiah is doing as well as can be expected. Eileen McClaine and Ray Williams paid Ms. Grace a visit and brought along guests, Eileen's niece, Kimberly Griffith, and Everett Suttle. Kimberly read a lesson and Everett sang "Balm of Gilead." Eileen and Ray shared that Everett sang beautifully and Ms. Grace was extremely touched and appreciative.

Our Young Folk are Up to Something GOOD!

Did you know that Matthew Gallo placed third out of 160 competitors from across the country in the National Fencing Championships held in Atlanta, Georgia last week? Did you know that William Heffner is teaching music to children at the GCCC Summer Camp? William and his students welcome your empty soda bottles to create musical instruments. Talk about redemption!

Let us know what good things your children are up to this summer!

Grace Church Book Club: 10 years and counting!

The book club wraps up its 10th season by dishing and dining at The Melting Pot in White Plains on July 24, including a review of our last selection of the season, **The White Queen** by Philippa Gregory. This past season book club members spent time with ruthless royals in 15th century England, took a magical journey across 100 years and five generations of extraordinary Afro-Puerto-Rican women, bonded with hostages and the extraordinary soprano whose voice gave them hope, inspiration and the universal language of music, examined the resiliency of the human spirit and its ability to rise above unspeakable atrocities endured by Muslim women in Somalia, Kenya and Saudi Arabia, and were reintroduced to the Kennedys through the up close and personal view of youngest son Ted Kennedy and the people and events that shaped him.

A special highlight of the year was our rich, lively, and thought-provoking discussion with Dahlma Llanos-Figueroa, author of **Daughters of the Stone** (our April/May parish-wide selection), who helped deepen our understanding of her compelling interconnected characters and the circumstances that motivated their legacies and life choices. Llanos-Figueroa said her tale of African slaves in Puerto Rico and their descendents “comes from a tradition of oral storytelling. I wanted to tell the story of a slave who was not a victim,” she explained in sharing the fascinating back story behind her book that was as much a journey of self-discovery as an exploration of a specific time and place in history. She even left us with a hint of her next work in progress: “exploring what happens to unskilled slaves after emancipation.”

Our collective ratings of this season’s selections (out of five stars):

Bel Canto by Ann Patchett	* * * 1/2
Daughters of the Stone by Dahlma Llanos-Figueroa	* * * *
Infidel by Ayaan Hirsi Ali	* * * * 1/2
The Lost Symbol by Dan Brown	* * *
Stormy Weather: The Life of Lena Horne by James Gavin	* * *
True Compass: A Memoir by Edward M. Kennedy	* * * * 1/2
The White Queen by Philippa Gregory	* * *

Over the summer we’ll be immersing ourselves in the intricate story of Sally Hemings and Thomas Jefferson, exploring not only their relationship, but the relationships of their extended families in **The Hemingses of Monticello: An American Family** by historian and legal scholar Annette Gordon-Reed.

Remember, our meetings are always open—whether or not you’ve read the book, feel free to join us on any of our literary journeys! And, don’t forget our book club library where many of our selections are available for borrowing. Just sign out and return your selection to the top left bookshelf in the church library. It couldn’t be easier!

– Karen Odom

A Special Thank You

On April 20th I had received some very distressing news that my father had been injured in a hunting accident. What made that even more disconcerting was that my father, Carlos, is retired and returned to his native country Ecuador. I was able to speak with him over the phone, but he was weak and his doctor requested that conversations be kept to a minimum.

He was in the hospital for a week before being sent home under strict orders from his doctor not to do anything strenuous. I was worried that he would not follow orders, but fortunately, his sister is retired and had time on her hands. (My Aunt Rosa took exceptionally good care of him.) I decided to visit him to see if I could assist her; I left on April 30th and returned May 15th. What I saw for myself was that my father was a difficult patient – which of course meant only one thing – he was going to be alright!

My parents moved here in 1968; I was born and raised in the States. I do not get the chance to travel to Ecuador often. I am not very close to my extended family so I did not want to be a burden to them during my visit. After sharing this with Mother Jane, prior to my departure, she mentioned that she knows a couple that live in the capital, not far from my Dad. Maybe, I could stay with them. Chris & Trish Morck are missionaries for the Episcopal Church and they know Mo. Jane and Father Titus. (It is truly a small world.) They offered their home to me and they were hospitable in every way imaginable. As stressful as it was for me to go there in such an unfortunate circumstance, Chris, Trish and their daughters were warm and gracious hosts. Thank you so much Chris & Trish, and of course Mo. Jane!

My husband was very supportive in my decision to leave him with the kids; we are fortunate (and blessed) to have family here in White Plains. Jim's mother and niece pitched in where they could. Mo. Jane included my father's name in the bulletin under "Held in Prayer" and several members of Grace Church welcomed me back with lots of hugs when I attended the May 16th service. Only by the grace of God is my father alive, and this difficult experience reminds me that I am where I should be - at Grace Church.

- C.S. Brown



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