

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Healing Service
3rd Sunday During Eucharist

Food Pantry Collection
1st Sunday

Stewardship
1st Monday, 7:30 pm

Health Ministries -
2nd Sunday, 12:15 pm

Investment Committee
2nd Monday of March, June, September & December

Finance Committee-
Friday before Vestry, 7:00pm

Vestry
3rd Wednesday, 7:30pm

Men's Guild
3rd Sunday, 12:15 pm

Women of Grace
3rd Sunday, 12:15 pm

Grace Church Choir
Wednesdays,
7:30pm - 9:00 pm

Communications
Last Tuesday ,6:30pm

Grace's Kitchen
Last five days of the month
11:30pm-1:00pm

PCO Board
Date and Time to be Determined

Worship Commission
1st Sunday, 12:30 pm

Youth Group
4th Sunday , 12:15 pm

Youth Choir Sings
4th Sunday , 10:30 am

THIS WEEK AT GRACE December 18-25,2016

Please also check the website, display tables, and bulletin board for more information about other activities in which you might want to participate.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18— FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

O ADONAI O LORD

7:45 am Holy Eucharist Rite 1, *All Saints' Chapel*
10:00 am Lighthouse Chapel International, *All Saints Chapel*
10:30 am Sunday School
10:30 am Choral Holy Eucharist with Youth Choir, Rite II, *Church*
12:15 pm Women of Grace, *Grace Lounge*
12:15 pm Men's Guild *Grace Lounge*
12:30 pm - 1:30 pm Grace Youth Choir, *Church*
4:00 pm - 9:00 pm Friendship World Outreach, *All Saints Chapel & Lounge*

Monday, December 19 *Parish Office Hours 9:00 - 12:00 pm; 1:00 - 3:00 pm*

O RADIX JESSE O ROOT OF JESSE

7:30 pm - 9:00 pm AA., *Knickle Hall*
7:30 pm - 9:00 pm ESL Classes

Tuesday, December 20 *Parish Office Hours 9:00 - 12:00 pm; 1:00 - 3:00 pm*

O CLAVIS DAVID O KEY OF DAVID

Wednesday, December 21 *Parish Office Hours 9:00 - 12:00 pm; 1:00 - 3:00 pm*

O ORIENS O DAYSPRING

FEAST OF ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

7:30 pm - 9:00 No ESL Classes Resumes January 4
7:30: pm Vestry Meeting, *Grace Meeting Room*
7:30 pm Grace Choir, *Grace Choir Room*

Thursday, December 22 *Parish Office Hours 9:00 - 12:00 pm; 1:00 - 3:00 pm*

O REX GENTIUM O KING OF THE NATIONS

Friday, December 23 *Parish Office Closed*

O EMMANUEL O GOD WITH US

Saturday, December 24 *Parish Office Closed*

10:00 pm Carillion
10:15 pm Carols & Solemn First Eucharist of Christmas, *Church*
Mass of the Angels

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25— CHRISTMAS DAY

10:00 am Lighthouse Chapel International, *All Saints Chapel*
10:00 am Eucharist, Rite II, *Church*
4:00 pm - 9:00 pm Friendship World Outreach, *All Saints Chapel & Lounge*

Next Sunday's Readings Christmas Day

1st Lesson: Isaiah 52:7-10 Response: Psalm 98
2nd Lesson: Hebrews 1: 1-12 Gospel: John 1:1-14

Please join us for refreshment and conversation in Grace Meeting Room

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLEASE TAKE HOME THIS BULLETIN SINCE IT HAS SOME IMPORTANT DATES AND FLYERS.

A CHRISTMAS LETTER WAS MAILED FROM OUR WARDEN THIS WEEK. PLEASE BE GENEROUS IN YOUR CHRISTMAS CONTRIBUTIONS.

THE 2016 CALENDARS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE USHERS AS YOU LEAVE CHURCH TODAY.

PLEDGE CARDS HAVE BEEN MAILED. IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED ONE IN THE MAIL, PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE PLEASE CONSIDER WHAT YOU WILL BE ABLE TO PLEDGE TO GOD FOR GRACE EPISCOPAL IN 2017

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE 7:45 AM EUCHARIST WILL BEGIN AT 8:00 AM STARTING ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 1

THE ACOLYTE GUILD IS LOOKING FOR NEW SERVERS AT THE ALTAR. PLEASE CONTACT HARRY WATSON AT JUNIOR1983@EXCITE.COM OR CALL AT 732-456-0531

Grace Church
Financial Results Summary
October Year To date

DESCRIPTION	Actual	Budget	B / (W) * Budget
Pledges	66,968	80,796	(13,828)
Other Member Giving	22,138	23,000	(862)
Investment/Trust Income	20,708	24,253	(3,545)
Other Income	27,376	19,842	7,534
Total Income	137,189	147,891	(10,702)
Total Expenses	214,097	232,206	18,109
Net Income (Loss) Before Transfers	(76,908)	(84,315)	7,407
Endowment Transfers	65,000	-	65,000
Net Income (Loss)	(11,908)	(84,315)	72,407

*** Legend:**

B - Better than budget
(W) - Worse than budget

Note: The above statistics will be updated monthly after the approval of the vestry.

What are the "O Antiphons"?

The O Antiphons refer to the seven antiphons that are recited (or chanted) preceding the Magnificat during Vespers of the Liturgy of the Hours. They cover the special period of Advent preparation known as the Octave before Christmas, Dec. 17-23, with Dec. 24 being Christmas Eve and Vespers for that evening being for the Christmas Vigil. The exact origin of the O Antiphons is not known. By the eighth century, they are in use in the liturgical celebrations in Rome. The usage of the O Antiphons was so prevalent in monasteries that the phrases, Keep your O and The Great O Antiphons were common parlance. One may thereby conclude that in some fashion the O Antiphons have been part of our liturgical tradition since the very early Church.

The importance of O Antiphons is twofold: Each one highlights a title for the Messiah:

O Sapientia: O Wisdom, O holy Word of God, you govern all creation with your strong yet tender care. Come and show your people the way to salvation. Isaiah had prophesied,

O Adonai: O sacred Lord of ancient Israel, who showed yourself to Moses in the burning bush, who gave him the holy law on Sinai mountain: come, stretch out your mighty hand to set us free. Isaiah had prophesied, But He shall judge the poor with justice, and decide aright for the lands afflicted.

O Radix Jesse: O Flower of Jesses stem, you have been raised up as a sign for all peoples; kings stand silent in your presence; the nations bow down in worship before you. Come, let nothing keep you from coming to our aid. Isaiah had prophesied, But a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots a bud shall blossom.

O Clavis David: O Key of David, O royal Power of Israel controlling at your will the gate of Heaven: Come, break down the prison walls of death for those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death; and lead your captive people into freedom.

O Oriens: O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice: come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death. Isaiah had prophesied, The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shown.

O Rex Gentium: O King of all the nations, the only joy of every human heart; O Keystone of the mighty arch of man, come and save the creature you fashioned from the dust. Isaiah had prophesied, For a child is born to us, a son is given us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace. and He shall judge between the nations, and impose terms on many peoples. They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; one nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again. .

O Emmanuel: O Emmanuel, king and lawgiver, desire of the nations, Savior of all people, come and set us free, Lord our God. Isaiah had prophesied, The Lord himself will give you this sign: the Virgin shall be with child, and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel. Remember Emmanuel means God is with us.

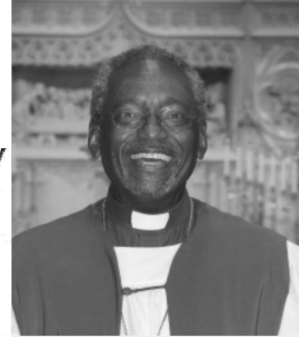


GAUDE! GAUDE! EMMANUEL, NASCETUR PRO TE ISRAEL

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry Christmas Message 2016

From Isaiah Chapter 9

*For unto us a child is born,
unto us a Son is given;
and the government shall be upon His shoulder;
and His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*



These words of Isaiah are often seen as words that foretell and foreshadow the coming of Jesus of Nazareth, born of Mary. The truth is, these words befit Him because this child changed the world. This child changes lives. This child changes us.

I remember when our oldest daughter was a baby. My wife and I were young. We were footloose and fancy-free. It was just the two of us newlyweds, so if we wanted to go out to eat dinner, we went out to eat dinner. If we decided to go to a movie at the last minute, we just went. We actually felt like we had money back then. And we did have a little bit of discretionary income. We could pretty much do what we wanted to do, within reason, and we didn't have to think too much about the consequences or impact of a spontaneous decision and what we had to do to make that happen. And then, all of a sudden, this little, innocent human being, a little child, came into our lives, and literally gained control over our entire world. Before we could do anything else we had to think about, "Who's going to keep the baby?" or "Is this a good time for us to go without the baby?" We soon learned that we were not in control of our lives anymore. Even our sleeping patterns became very different. We would stay awake when the baby was awake and we went to sleep when the baby went to sleep. Literally this child began to control our lives and the child didn't even know she was doing it. And then we had a second one she did the exact same thing. And I've since learned that that's what babies do. When they arrive they take over! And their parents begin to develop their lives around this child. To mold their entire lives around this precious needy baby.

Isaiah wrote, "*Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given . . . and His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*" This child who was born of Mary changes everything. This child born in a manger, wrapped in swaddling clothes changes how we live. This child born to the sound of angels singing Gloria in excelsis Deo -- this child to whom the wise ones came from afar bearing gifts --- this child, changed the way the entire world works. And this Jesus, born into a world torn by strife and hatred and division and pain and poverty, this child is born anew wherever men and women say, "I'll follow Him. I'll follow Him as my Savior. I'll follow Him as my Lord."

When this child grew up, He said His reason for coming, again quoting Isaiah, from the 61st chapter, he said,

The spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach Good News to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives, the recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty all those who are oppressed, and to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.

This child, when He grew up, came to show us the way to live lives of love, lives of compassion, lives of goodness, lives of kindness, lives of justice. This child came to show us how to change the world. So this Christmas, make room for him to change us. This Christmas help us change the world. And make a new commitment, to go out from this day, to let this Christmas Day, be the first day of a new world.

God bless you. God keep you. Have a blessed Christmas. A Happy New Year. And go on out and change the world!

**The Most Rev. Michael Curry
Presiding Bishop and Primate
The Episcopal Church**

HOLIDAY SERVICES

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24 10:00 PM GRACE CHURCH CARILLON RECITAL –
JEFF SPELMAN, CARILLONNEUR
10:15 PM CAROLS & FIRST EUCHARIST OF CHRISTMAS
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25 10:00 AM EUCHARIST, RITE II
SUNDAY JANUARY 1 10:00 AM FEAST OF THE HOLY NAME OF JESUS EUCHARIST
RITE II
JANUARY 8 BAPTISM OF THE LORD 8:00 AM EUCHARIST, RITE 1
10:30 AM CHORAL EUCHARIST, RITE II

Dear Grace Family,

I implore you all, to please make a special Christmas contribution to the ministry of Grace. I encourage you to use the enclosed form and envelope for that special gift. You may mail it to us, drop it in the collection plate on Sunday, December 18, or bring it to the parish office. I hope you will avail yourself of the opportunity to celebrate the coming of Joy on earth in The Lord's presence here at Grace because we were glad when they said to us "let us go to the house of the Lord" Psalm 122.

Blessings of Christ's Birth,



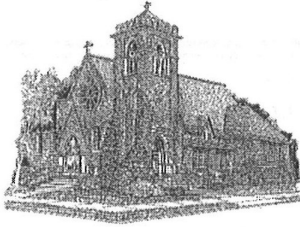
Warden

**CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS 2016
PLEASE REMEMBER**



Given by: _____ Amt Enclosed _____

For use of _____ Christmas Decorations _____ Christmas Music _____ Where needed



GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH



The Diocese of New Jersey

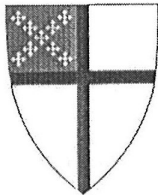
600 Cleveland Avenue, Plainfield, NJ 07060

908-756-1520 www.graceplainfield.org

Twitter: @grace diverse

Facebook: Grace Episcopal Church - Plainfield, NJ

CLERGY AND STAFF



The Reverend Theodore E. Moore, *Deacon*

Andrew Kilkenny, *Director of Music & Organist*

John Taitt, *Treasurer*

Noel Taitt, *Assistant Treasurer*

Vince Chiumento, *Parish Office Administrator*

Karen Moore, *Board President, Plainfield Community Outreach, Inc.*

Patience Smith, *Project Director, 21st Century After School Program*

David Holmes (Chef D), *Grace's Kitchen Coordinator*

WARDENS Trevor King (2016) Lawrence Ishmael (2017)

VESTRY

Jason Algeo (2017), Clerk

Dennis Bazzey (2018)

Selma Cato (2016)

Anita Griffith (2016)

Brenda Loncke (2018)

Timothy Mann (2017)

Winsley Rudder (2018)

Carol Taitt (2017)

Harry Watson (2016)

DIOCESAN CONVENTION DEPUTIES 2016

Victoria Blenman

Timothy Mann

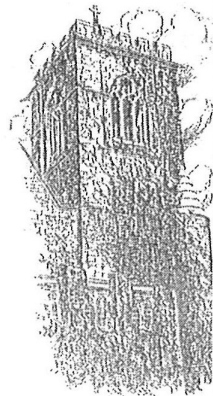
Harry Watson

ALTERNATE DEPUTIES 2016

Anita Griffith

Carol Taitt

John Taitt



To contact the parish office

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