

GRACE NOTES

DECEMBER 2019

HAPPENING THIS MONTH AT GRACE:

December 3 rd	Men's Bake Night	6:00 P.M.
December 7 th	14th Annual Cookie Walk	10:00 A.M. — 1:00 P.M.
December 15 th	Family Board Game Donation	Deadline
December 22 nd	The Greening of Grace	Following the 10:30 service
December 24 th	Christmas Eve (with music)	4:00 P.M. & 8:00 P.M.
December 25 th	Christmas Day (simple said)	9:00 A.M.
December 29 th	Lessons and Carols	9:00 A.M.

NEXT STOP, 2020:

January 25 th	"Sip & Savor" Cook-Off	6:00 P.M.
January 26 th	Annual Meeting	10:00 A.M.
February 25 th	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper	5:00 P.M. — 7:00 P.M.
Spring TBA	Trunk & Treasure Sale	
June 6 th	54th Annual Chicken BBQ	Noon — 6:00 P.M.
July 15 th	Community Band Concert	7:00 P.M. — 8:00 P.M.

OUR NEW NOTICE BOARD

(still under construction)

Many thanks to the Getting Grace Church's Name Out In the Community committee and the Tuesday Work Crew for installing the board next to the path to the school from our parking lot.



MOTHER CATHY'S CORNER

*Signs of endings all around us darkness, death, and winter days
Shroud our lives in fear and sadness, numbing mouths that long to praise.
Come O Christ, and dwell among us! Hear our cries, come set us free.
Give us hope and faith and gladness. Show us what there yet can be.*

This hymn from *Wonder Love and Praise* (the “green book”) paints a similar picture, to the following hymn I learned as a child, albeit with a more modern mood:

*Come thou long expected Jesus
Born to set thy people free
From our fears and sins release us
Let us find our rest in thee.*



Yet both hymns speak of the longing for comfort, rescue and liberation. That's Advent for you!

In church traditions which do not follow the church calendar of seasons, Advent may well be the run-up to Christmas, just as it is in the shopping centers. Everything is focused on baby Jesus, culminating with Christmas Eve. And then it is over.

For us in the liturgical part of Christ's Church, Advent is all about anticipation. About waiting. About living into that sense of longing for the world promised by God and begun in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. About living in the peculiar tension of now-but-not-yet. And every year, we begin the new liturgical year on the First Sunday of Advent. This year it falls on Sunday December 1st. Our lectionary begins anew as well with Year A.

The Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) that we Episcopalians use is an ecumenical three-year cycle of readings. In each year, one of the “synoptic” gospels (Matthew, Mark or Luke) is featured. However during special times such as Advent, Holy Week and Easter, other readings suitable to the season or occasion are used. For example, the Gospel of John always figures prominently in Holy Week.

Year A features the gospel of Matthew This gospel is especially suited to both Advent themes of Christ's coming in history and his return.

Join us for the Sundays of Advent as we wait and watch and live into the now-but-not-yet tension and prepare a place for Christ to be born in us at Christmas.

-Mo. Cathy

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cathy" followed by a plus sign "+". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid and personal.

NOVEMBER VESTRY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



- Nancy Fredette and Brad Pettit gave a summary of the Diocesan Convention. The theme for the event was “The Way of Love; Practices for a Jesus-centered life.” Both felt it was an extremely positive experience and are looking forward to next year’s convention with Presiding Bishop Michael Curry at the OnCenter on November 13th & 14th, 2020.

- The church shed now has a new roof thanks to the hard work of some volunteers for which we are very grateful.
- The grant application process has begun as we look into the funding for a sidewalk across the front of the church property.
- The Vestry Nominating Committee is working to fill positions for 2020.
- As part of our Mutual Ministry Review, the Vestry is working on communicating pastoral needs and addressing those in need.



THE 2019 HARVEST DINNER A HUGE SUCCESS!

A Special thank you to Allen and Stacey Wolf, Brian and Carla Smith, Pam Griffo, Jenna Griffo, Jenna Reese, Austin Wolf, Emma Wolf and Hannah Bell for all of their hard work planning, preparing and serving a delicious Autumn meal to our seniors. Also, we would like to express our appreciation to Carolyn Smith and the Enzian Bavarian Dancers who provided entertainment for this event. Thanks to All! *Parish Life*.



THANKS FOR YOUR DONATIONS TO THE OUTREACH PET PROJECT!

Once again Grace Church demonstrated generosity and compassion in donating items needed by Humane CNY animal shelter. Special thanks to Sharon Ney and family for delivering the items to the newly renovated shelter on Taft Road. Now that the new shelter is completed, it can provide better health, safety and comfort to homeless animals. The volunteers at the shelter were very appreciative of our support. Thanks to all who contributed! The project culminated in a Blessing of the Animals service, which was held on Sunday, October 6th and enjoyed by all who attended.



THE 14TH ANNUAL COOKIE WALK SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7TH

It's almost here!!! One of our big parish fundraisers. We need LOTS and LOTS of cookies and volunteers to make it successful, so please keep baking and come help with the event if you are able!



When Can Cookies and Breads Be Dropped Off?

Dec. 5th - Thursday, 6:00 P.M. — 8:00 P.M. (*see Note*)

Dec. 6th - Friday, 9:00 P.M. — 6:00 P.M.

Note: Thursday is the preferred drop-off day for all frozen breads, so they can defrost overnight to be packaged on Friday.

Please be sure to add your name and cookies to the drop-off-sheet located in the kitchen.



What Other Help Is Needed?

While we have a great group of people who have signed up to help out, we can use more people!

Dec. 5th Thursday Night 6:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.

Set up undercroft, decorate, or assemble boxes.

Dec. 6th Friday 9:00 A.M. – 6:00 P.M.

Assemble cookie trays (come whenever and stay as long as you wish, you can snack on any broken ones ☺)

Decd. 7th Saturday 9:30 A.M.– 1:30 P.M.

The BIG DAY!!:

If you haven't already signed up for a specific area, we'll find something fun for you to do!



Many hands make light(er) work! Please become part of our festive, "fun-raising" day! Thank you in advance for helping to make this a successful event for Grace Church!

GET INVOLVED AND SERVE

Outreach Christmas Collection



Our Christmas project started November 24th. The holidays will soon be upon us. We are once again asking for family board games to be donated to Baldwinsville Christmas Bureau. These went over really well last year and they have asked us to repeat the collection. Please bring the games in by December 15 for delivery to the Christmas Bureau.



Counters: Each Sunday, following the 10:30 service, a team of two people record the collection into the computer. The work is done as a team to avoid any concerns of impropriety and couples do not count as a team. Volunteers are desperately needed so that scheduling can be less frequent. Those who attend the 8:00 A.M. service are welcome. The computer system is very user friendly and easy to learn. Please see Mother Cathy if you are interested.



Musical Notes: Christmas will be here before you know it and with that comes our Christmas Eve services. If you are interested in singing in the choir at the 8pm service on Christmas Eve we would love to have you. Rehearsals will be scheduled based on singers' availability. You can see Jeff Wise after the 10:30 service on Sundays or email him at music@graceepiscopalbaldwinsville.org.



The Greening of Grace

Decorating the church for Christmas services will take place following the second service on December 22nd. All are welcome to help.



Annual Giving Campaign Reminder

If you have already returned your pledge card, THANK YOU! If you have yet to do so, please consider how we Shine Our Light in this place. Please place your pledge card in the offering place on Sunday or mail it to the parish office.

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS



Advent devotional materials: are located in the Welcome Area. For those interested in making a contribution, our cost is \$5.

Services:

Christmas Eve—4:00 P.M. & 8:00 P.M. (with music) At this time the choir intends to sing at the 8 p.m. service, and we hope to have other musicians, and of course, hymns and organ music at the 4 p.m. service. If you are interested in singing with the choir for Christmas, or playing an instrument, please email Jeff Wise (music@GraceEpiscopalBaldwinsville.org)

Christmas Day—9:00 A.M. (simple said service)

Lessons and Carols for Christmas—Sunday December 29th at 9:00 A.M. Come sing your favorite congregational carols that you may have missed Christmas Eve! To allow more time for the carols, there is no sermon on this day.



Christmas Poinsettias

May be given in celebration, thanksgiving, as a blessing, or in loving memory for a loved one. Please have your requests in the parish office no later than Wednesday, December 18th. Poinsettias may be returned to you or given to shut-ins following the Christmas Day Service. Request forms can be found in the Welcome Area or on our website. Plants are \$10.00 each.

Help Needed:

A Volunteer is needed to provide light refreshment following the 4:00 P.M. Christmas Eve Mass (warmed cider and shortbread cookies?) This is an opportunity to extend hospitality to those who may be visiting and those who we want to encourage to be with us more often.

Please contact Mother Cathy or the office if you are able take this on.

“SIP & SAVOR”

PARISH LIFE’S ANNUAL COOK-OFF

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 2020

Best Beverage

?

Best Food

?

Best Pairing

?

Bring your favorite home-made beverage, along with a home-made food of your choice. You may choose to participate in one, two or all three of the categories. Winners will be determined by the people's choice in each of the categories.

Perhaps you have a food you like, but not a beverage, or vice versa. You might “Pair Up” with someone. Each of you could enter the single category, and together enter the “Best Pairing” category.

All are welcome, even if you choose not to “compete.” The fun starts at 6:00 P.M.

We promise you will have a good time!



Foyers



The November Foyers gathering was held in the home of Kathy Tamblin and Brad Pettit. It was a night of fun and good company! Everyone brought a snack or dessert to share and we had a good variety of delicious items. The Foyers group meets once a month from October to May. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Sharon Ney or Elaine Ceresko for more information.



110 Oswego Street, Baldwinsville, NY 13027

Office Hours: Mon & Thur 12:00 P.M. —4:00 P.M., Tue & Wed 12:00 P.M. —5:00 P.M.

315 635 3214

Website: GraceEpiscopalBaldwinsville.org

HOLY EUCHARIST

Sundays - 8:00 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.

Tuesdays - 12:00 Noon

First Saturday Holy Eucharist - 4:00 P.M.



Grace Episcopal Church
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