



MOTHER CATHY'S CORNER

When I was about ten years old, and a member of the little girls' choir, a highlight of the choir season was when we observed Rogation Sunday (the Sixth Sunday of Easter) by processing from the Sunday service out into the garden chapel, where prayers were said, and the girls' choirs sang "Fairest Lord Jesus" *a cappella*. Later, as a young adult at a city church, I participated in Rogation processions around the church property, following the cross, incense and clergy and helping to hammer wooden crosses into the ground marking the corners of the lot where the church was located. This practice is sometimes called "beating the bounds."



Rogation Sunday gets its name from Latin *rogare* "to ask" because it is the occasion when we ask God's blessing on crops and, by extension, the property where the church is located. We beat the bounds and pray for "fruitfulness", the latter literally in the case of crops, and metaphorically in the case of the church.

A recent conversation about being the church in our 21st century, (almost) post-pandemic world reminded me of these practices of marking a particular place, and praying for fruitfulness. It appears that the Holy Spirit may be prodding the church toward expanding the definition of both the "bounds" and "fruitfulness" in new directions. Since we re-started in-person and live-streamed services at Grace, on average, a quarter to a third of those "attending" are not present in the building. Some are not our "regular" members, and a few are not even located in our area. Other churches, in our diocese and across the country have similar stories of boundaries that have expanded, sometimes quite dramatically, and ministries (fruits) that are unexpected.

In our diocese, parishes, church staff, and vestries have, for several years, been exploring new ways of being the church in our particular places and contexts. Maybe the Spirit is leading us into even more expansive views of places and contexts". And maybe "fruitfulness" won't look exactly as it has before, but it's the nature of Holy Spirit to draw use further and faster into God's next thing before we feel quite ready for it.

The Book of Acts describes one event after another in which the newly-formed church, prompted and pushed and surprised by the Holy Spirit, has to constantly recalibrate their ideas of what it is to follow Jesus and be the church, including who and where the church is to be. Our (almost) post-pandemic church appears to be tracing the same path. May we pray for fruitfulness in the endeavor of ever becoming more faithful followers in the way of Jesus.



***Photo credit Christine Cullen*

MAY VESTRY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- Added a new signer for outgoing checks
- Discussed an audit plan for yearly audit in September, 2021
- Reviewed Vestry guideposts created on our February Vestry Day
- Recommended approval of a request from the Community Band to hold rehearsals in the undercroft
- Received an update on the chicken barbecue

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Thank you to all who keep things going here at Grace, by volunteering, sponsoring altar flowers, organizing lunch and the parish clean-up, baking and donating for the Chicken Barbeque, for the Samaritan Center meals, for the coat collection.

A special thank-you to Altar Guild members who faithfully set up and clean up the church for in-person worship. It's not easy when the procedures are changing so frequently as we return to in-person worship and begin to hold funerals postponed due to COVID-19.

Also thanks to former Parish Administrator Jonathan Howell who (thanks to technology) continues to record for services all the way from Rochester, and to Organist Jeff Wise



for his musical and technical expertise, and the use of his portable speaker equipment for outdoor worship.

REST ETERNAL GRANT UNTO HER O LORD...

Gail Kozikowski's requiem Holy Eucharist and burial in Grace Memorial Garden took place on Saturday May 29th. Gail died December 20, 2020.

GIVING STATEMENTS

Giving statements were mailed out in May for the period January- April 2021. If you did not receive your statement, or if you find an error, please contact us as soon as possible so records can be corrected. Statements are sent three times per year, in May (January-April), September (January – August) and January (year-end). You may also request a statement at any time, or view your giving record if you are signed up on Realm. For more information email Giving@GraceEpiscopalBaldwinsville.org or call the parish office.

THANK YOU LETTER FROM SAMARITAN CENTER

On May 12, Grace Church received a thank you letter from the Executive Director of the Samaritan Center.

Dear Rev. Carpenter,

On behalf of all those benefited, I would like to thank you for your generous support of the meal program here at the Samaritan Center!

Your donation of \$400.00 helped us provide nutritious, well-prepared and dignified meal daily, without conditions, to men, women and children.

Your involvement makes it possible to offer a place of safety, hope and opportunity to individuals and families struggling with hunger and poverty. It could not happen without you.

I cannot fully express the difference you make in the lives of those we serve through your support and generosity. I can only offer my sincerest thanks and gratitude for your faith in us and the work we do to help those in need.

With deepest appreciation,

Mary Beth Frey

CALLING ALL GARDENERS

Some of you may remember the Garden of Grace, located in the lawn down the hill from the Memorial Garden. For the past few years a few Grace gardeners have planted one or more of the 9'x9' raised beds with veggies, flowers and herbs. Children from Head Start have had their own plots and harvested mini pumpkins for their Halloween projects. Flowers from the garden have been delivered to folks in nursing homes and assisted living. Tomatoes and other veggies were donated to Baldwinsville Food Pantry or just shared with family and friends of the gardeners.



The 9 plots available are perfect for gardening! There is a deer and rodent proof fence surrounding the garden plots. There is full sun all day.

There is even a sprinkling system that will water all nine plots just by turning on the faucet.



Any parishioner (or friends!) interested in “adopting” a 9'x9' plot or two is welcome to do so. Plant whatever brings you joy and enjoy the fresh air and sunshine. Just let the office know so we can reserve your space. If you need help getting started, contact Elaine Ceresko at eceresko@twcny.rr.com.



THANK YOU!

Dear Grace Church Family,

I wanted to say thank you for the graduation card I received. It was a very nice surprise to receive the Saturday that I actually graduated and it made me smile. I also wanted to say thank you to everyone who wished me a congratulations when they saw or talked to me.

I graduated on May 15, 2021 from OCC with an associates degree in Criminal Justice. My plan is to go through the police academy and either work for a police department or sheriff department.

It is wonderful to know that the Grace Church family is always there for everyone, even if they do not know it.



Thank you again,
Cate Griffo



PHISHING AND HACKING

Members of the parish and diocese have received emails from people who are impersonating clergy members and Bishop DeDe. Please watch out for these emails, report them as phishing through your email provider and please DO NOT reply to them.

The parish and Diocese will never ask for favors or gift cards over an email.

Also, phishing like this is not the same as hacking. Hacking is when you get an email from an email that belongs to the parish or Diocese.

The best way to determine if emails are phished is by looking at the email address it is from. For example, if the church sends you an email it will come from the

office@graceepiscopalbaldwinsville.org email or the [rec-](mailto:rec-tor@graceepiscopalbaldwinsville.org)

[tor@graceepiscopalbaldwinsville.org](mailto:rec-tor@graceepiscopalbaldwinsville.org)

email. If you have any questions about an email you received and are wondering if it is real or not, you can always call the parish or Diocese directly and ask.

The Diocese has more information about Phishing, and how to spot it at <https://cnyepiscopal.org/2019/12/phishing/>.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Are you interested in helping with services in church?

Volunteers are needed to read lessons, psalm and

prayers of the people, and to make the responses at each service.

Please contact Mother

Cathy if you are interested in helping out.



A BIG THANK YOU!



Thank you to those who continue to support the church by mailing in your offerings. For those who would like to make a gift without having to write a check and use the postal system,

please consider giving online by clicking the green button on the home page of our website that says, "Give." It is an easy and safe way to give to Grace.

GIVE

HAVE YOU SEEN US ON YOUTUBE OR FACEBOOK?

Grace Church is now livestreaming to Facebook for our 11:00 AM alternate-week in-person Sunday services (and some holidays too!). You can also see and hear every Sunday's music on our YouTube channel. Can't find our Facebook Page or YouTube



Channel? Click the social media icons in the header and footer on our website GraceEpiscopalBaldwinsville.org.

SCHEDULING A MEETING?

Are you planning on having a meeting here at Grace Church? As a reminder as we begin to have more in person meeting, please remind the parish office to schedule a meeting and location (e.g. parish center, undercroft, parlor). Also, during this time, the conference room is not being used for any meetings. If you are planning a meeting or gathering please contact the office at office@graceepiscopalbaldwinsville.org or by calling (315) 635-3214.

110 Oswego Street, Baldwinsville, NY 13027
315 635 3214
office@graceepiscopalbaldwinsville.org
Website: GraceEpiscopalBaldwinsville.org

WORSHIP

Sunday Rite 1 8:00 A.M.
Sunday Rite 2 11:00 A.M.
Tuesdays 12:00 NOON



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