

# GRACE NOTES—December 2021

## MOTHER CATHY'S CORNER



Ten turkeys, ten bags of potatoes and stuffing, ten cans of gravy and cranberry sauce. Ten pies. Ten grocery gift cards to add what's missing (or fund another couple of meals). Ten dinners for ten families who might not have had one.

**Your generosity is astounding.**

**Thank you.**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cathy" followed by a plus sign.

The other day, as I was putting out Advent materials in the Welcome Area, one of the Head Start staff stopped to say that the Thanksgiving baskets from Grace Church were especially appreciated this year. It's been a really tough year for many people, and some parents didn't know how they were going to afford a Thanksgiving meal for their kids. She said, **"You should have seen their faces when they saw the turkeys and all the stuff!"**



## PANDEMIC PRECAUTIONS



Out of concern for both comfort and energy usage, the vestry has agreed to reduce the number and extent of open windows and doors used to ensure proper air exchange in the church. All persons, except vaccinated readers/preachers/soloists must wear a mask at all times while in the building, and physical distancing, hand washing/sanitizing is strongly recommended. \*PLEASE NOTE: Despite these efforts, due to winter weather, the church will still be cool and there will be a slight draft. Please plan to dress accordingly.

## NOVEMBER VESTRY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- The overage of insurance monies received for the sump pump failure will be applied against the basement floor refinishing. Any monies left at year's end will go into the building fund. Work on the 2022 budget will begin soon.
- The Ministry Grant application to fund Phase 2 internet and livestreaming improvements has been submitted and is awaiting a decision.
- The nominating committee is in search of three persons to fill upcoming vacancies on the vestry. This will be posted each week.
- Due to COVID concerns, the annual Cookie Walk is again cancelled. Notices to the parish and public will be posted.
- November 21 is Grace Sunday. Our generous offers of time, talent, and treasure are due. Remember to post your butterfly on the bulletin board. Our Harvest Dinner is also offered that day. Thank you, Parish Life!
- The Village has notified us of a few building code violations:
  - There is a roof leak in the entry and the addition requires a new roof. Vestry voted to authorize replacement/repair estimated costs not to exceed \$4000
  - to be drawn from the General Maintenance Fund.
  - Non-functioning emergency lights have been fixed.
- The sanctuary thermostat will be replaced with an updated 7-day programmable one to allow better control of energy usage and cost.

## VESTRY MEMBERS NEEDED

Vestry Member Qualifications Are you called to lead? The work of the vestry has two faces: leadership and management. As a vestry member, together with the rector and wardens, you will be expected to manage and lead. Vestry members should be able to make the following commitments:

- ⊗ Vestry meetings (1x per month, plus occasional additional meetings as needed);
- ⊗ Committee work (usu. 1x per month);
- ⊗ Vestry retreat (annual);
- ⊗ Regular attendance at worship services (rotating services occasionally);
- ⊗ Congregational events: coffee hours, meals, fundraisers, adult ed. programs, etc.;
- ⊗ Diocesan meetings, as necessary;
- ⊗ Annual meeting.



© Exercise confidentiality and practice healthy, honest, open communication patterns in the parish.

### Qualifications

- Eighteen years of age or older;
- Baptized; (wardens must be confirmed)
- Active member of the parish who is regular in worship attendance and contribution of time and talent and treasure.

Please prayerfully consider your calling to this important role.

## CALLING ALL CHOIR!!!!

We are looking to have choir for the 7:00 PM Christmas Eve service this year. Rehearsals will be **December 12th and 19th after the 11 AM service**. Contact Jeff Wise at [music@greacepiscopalbaldwinsville.org](mailto:music@greacepiscopalbaldwinsville.org) for more information.



View from the organ pipes during tuning

## MUSIC FOR ADVENT

A service of Taizé for Advent will be held on **December 12, 2021 at 7pm** at All Saints Episcopal Church in Fulton, NY. It is a time of contemplative song, prayer and meditation in the style of the ecumenical Taizé Community in France.

Photo by Mike Labrum on Unsplash





## PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD! (AND THE BISHOP TOO!)

Santa may be making a list and checking it twice, but so are we! Christmas plans, though adapting for the still-present pandemic concerns, are going forward apace and **your help is needed!**

- The Altar Guild could use some help decorating on Sunday December 19, after the 11:00 AM service.
- We would also like choir singers, a Christmas Eve cookie host, volunteers to usher, someone to read, and someone to run the live stream for those at home.
- On the First Sunday after Christmas Day, December 26, we will have Lessons and Carols at 11:00 AM with a brief celebration of Holy Eucharist. Readers for the Lessons are needed.



- On January 9, the First Sunday after the Epiphany the Rt. Rev. Dr. DeDe Duncan-Probe, Bishop of Central New York will make her parish visitation and administer the Sacrament of Confirmation. Plans are underway for Bishop DeDe to meet with confirmands, the vestry, and have some time with congregants at a (cautious) coffee hour. On this day we will have one service at 11:00 AM. Please mark your calendars to come and support our youth!

## BALDWINSVILLE COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY

We received a note of thanks from the Baldwinsville Community Food Pantry for the donation of \$50 from Parish Life's summer Tai Chi class. Thanks to those who participated and to the instructor for their generosity!

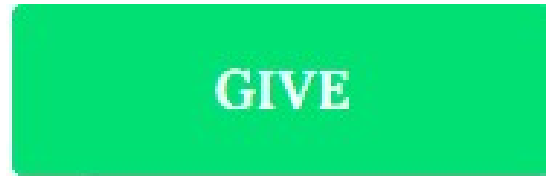


## THANK YOU!



Thank you to those who continue to support the church by bringing or 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. You may also contribute in this way for flowers, or to special efforts like Samaritan Center Meals.



## FAMILY BOARD GAME COLLECTION

Outreach Ministry is collecting family games for the Baldwinsville Christmas Bureau. These are very popular Christmas gifts for the needy. Any games are accepted, but we especially need those that are appropriate for families with older children and adults. Join us in helping the Christmas Bureau spread joy this holiday season! Please bring your donations of games to church by December 12. Thank you!



## A NOTE FROM THE VESTRY

If you have not yet mailed or delivered a pledge card for 2022, please do so as soon as possible. Pledges can also be made on our website. Thanks for your support of the mission and ministry of Grace Church!



## SYRACUSE HOME WORSHIP



Syracuse Home worship has resumed, and the broken piano has been replaced! Next date is Evening Prayer at 3 pm on December 12th. Readers, singers, musicians, and people to help residents with the bulletin are all needed. Please speak to Mother Cathy if interested in helping out.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Can you help with services in church? Volunteers are needed to read the first lesson and psalm.



Contact the parish office. Also urgently needed are volunteers to run our livestream at the 11:00 service and at baptisms and funerals. No particular technical skill is needed, although familiarity with a touch-screen is helpful.

Training and resources will be provided. Contact Mother Cathy or Ash McNamara



## SENIOR HARVEST DINNER THANK YOU



THANK YOU to our cooks (and logistics experts) Stacey & Emma Wolf and Carla Smith for a successful and DELICIOUS Harvest Dinner to go, and to Parish Life for their support of this parish tradition.

Photo by [Element5 Digital](#) on [Unsplash](#)



## CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA ORDER

Please return form by December 22 for inclusion in the Christmas bulletin. You may pick up your flowers following the Christmas Eve service, or following Sunday services on December 26. If you will not be picking up your flowers at all, please indicate below\*, and we will distribute them.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of plants: \_\_\_\_\_ at \$12.00 each = Total Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

\*I will NOT be picking up my flowers: \_\_\_\_\_

Please PRINT CLEARLY all names and dedications below exactly as they should appear in the bulletin. e.g. "In Memory of Jane Doe" or "In Thanksgiving for Thomas, Edward and Kristen"

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(You can also find this form on our website)

## HAVE YOU SEEN US ON YOUTUBE OR FACEBOOK?

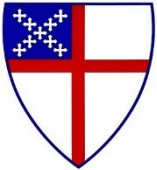


Grace Church is now livestreaming to Facebook for our 11:00 AM in-person Sunday services. Can't find our Facebook Page or YouTube Channel? Click the social media icons in the header and footer on our website [GraceEpiscopalBaldwinsville.org](http://GraceEpiscopalBaldwinsville.org).

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office@graceepiscopalbaldwinsville.org  
Website: GraceEpiscopalBaldwinsville.org

**WORSHIP**

Sunday Holy Eucharist Rite 1 8:00 a.m.  
Sunday Holy Eucharist Rite 2 11:00 a.m.  
Tuesdays 12:00 NOON  
Christmas Eve December 24, 7:00 p.m.



**Grace Episcopal Church**  
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