



## GRACE NOTES

March 15, 2018

Grace Episcopal Church,  
19 Kings Highway East  
Haddonfield, New Jersey 08033  
856/429-0007

E-mail: [office@gracehaddon.org](mailto:office@gracehaddon.org)



[www.gracehaddonfield.org](http://www.gracehaddonfield.org)

*“Grace Notes” is a weekly newsletter to inform people of upcoming events and activities for the week. For more information, please check the website or contact the office. Thank you.*

**Love God. Love others. Change the World.**

Dear Friends in Christ:

My daughter, Jennifer, is in labor today and we are awaiting the arrival of our first grandchild. We know life will change for Jennifer and Ira, as well as Diane and me. We have been thinking about what kind of world we are bringing this child into. It's not a perfect world, and there are a lot of changes that need to be made. We also received news this morning that Jessie Orlando died after her 98 year journey on earth among us. We wish there were more people in the world like her. What is it going to take to make this world a better place?

Clearly, there is too much hate, anger, depression and anxiety in the world. One thing that will help us is to follow Jesus' teaching on forgiveness. If we want more joy in the world, we have to learn and live as forgiven and forgiving people. Archbishop Desmond Tutu and the Dalai Lama talk about how forgiveness has the power to free us from the past. They see a key to joy in our ability to forgive others. Just think about it ... Tutu was the victim of some of the worse apartheid in history. The Dalai Lama was driven from his home in Tibet and has lived all these years in exile. Despite this, both men have learned to forgive and encourage us to do the same.

Too many people misunderstand forgiveness. Some see it as a weakness. Others think it means to forget the hurt or wrong done to us. Forgiveness is about letting go of the hurt that has been done to us. It does not mean that what was done to us was right or isn't subject to punishment. What it does mean is not letting the hurt of others to have power over us. Forgiveness opens the door to the possibility of reconciliation, but it does not mean it will happen. Tutu headed up the “Truth & Reconciliation Commission” in South Africa. It helped to avoid further civil war and bloodshed. People, who had committed hate crimes came forward, confessed their deeds and their victims offered forgiveness. This allowed reconciliation to happen. Forgiveness is always our first step. Reconciliation involves confession and repentance. These are latter steps.

In the Bible, Peter one day comes to Jesus with a question about forgiving others. He thought he had figured out Jesus, who challenges us to go beyond what is normally required. Peter asked, “How many times do I forgive; as many as seven times?” Remember seven represented wholeness and completeness in the Bible. Maybe Peter was looking for how many times he had to forgive, and when he could stop! Jesus replies, “No, forgive them seventy seven times; (or depending on your translation, seven times seventy!)” Jesus' point is that forgiveness is not something we do once or twice and we are done ... it has to be a way of life.

Forgiveness breaks the hold that the person who hurt us has over us. It can free us from anger, hurt, depression, anxiety and more. It can actually create a new life for us where joy can be discovered. Sometimes the hardest people to forgive are those closest to us, both family and friends. It may be even harder to forgive ourselves. Until we are able to forgive, we are trapped in a dark place that can threaten to overcome us. Forgiveness is a way to

new life and joy. This season of Lent is a perfect time for us to practice forgiveness ... and open us to the joy God has intended for us.

With warmest regards, I remain, faithfully yours in Christ, Fr. Pat

Happy people seldom think of happiness. They are too busy losing their lives in the meaningful sacrifices of service.  
David Augsburg

*OUR MISSION STATEMENT: GRACE is God's gift of unconditional love made known to us in Jesus Christ. Our vision is to live with grace as an open, welcoming community. In the pew and at the altar, we invite you to be part of our faith journey. No matter where you are, we will meet you there.*

(GPH) Grace Performance Hall; (C) Church; (PH) Parish Hall; (P) Parlor; (L) Library; (U) Undercroft and (R) Rector's Office.

### **THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES:**

- **Thursday, March 15<sup>th</sup>**
  - 10 am, Bible Study
  - 4 pm, Confirmation Class
  - 7:30 pm, Adult Choir
  - 8:30 pm, Grace Speakers, AA Meeting (GPH)
- **Friday, March 16<sup>th</sup>**
  - 10 am – 4 pm, Thrift Shop
- **Saturday, March 17<sup>th</sup>**
  - 10 am – 4 pm, Thrift Shop
  - 10 am, Knit Wits (P)
  - 11 am, Open Door Clinic (St. Wilfrid's, Camden)
  - **5:30 pm, Holy Communion (Fr. Pat, Deacon Jim Preaching)**

### **SUNDAY, March 18<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN LENT**

- **8 am & 9:30 am, Celtic Holy Communion (Fr. Pat, Deacon Jim Preaching)**
- **Bible Readings: Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:1-13; Hebrews 5:5-10; John 12:20-33**
- **10:45 am, Church School & Communion Class**
- **10:45 am, Tax Preparation Seminar (P)**
- **11:45 am, St. Michael's Choir**
- **11:45 am, EYC Meeting**
- **6:30 pm, AA (PH)**
- **Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup>**
  - 10 am, Staff
  - 7 pm, Vestry (L)
- **Tuesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>**
  - 12 Noon, HCC Lenten Preaching Series & Soup Lunch
  - 7 pm, Zumba
- **Wednesday, March 21<sup>st</sup>**
  - 7 am & 9:30 am, Holy Communion Services
  - 10:30 am, St. Anne's Guild (L)
  - 12 noon & 6:30 pm, CEC Lenten Series, Fellowship & Soup (PH), St. Mary's Church, Haddon Heights

### **COMING NEXT WEEK:**

- **Thursday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>**
  - 10 am, Bible Study
  - Food Trucks & Night Market in Haddonfield
  - 7:30 pm, Adult Choir
  - 8:30 pm, Grace Speakers, AA Meeting (GPH)
- **Friday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>**
  - 10 am – 4 pm, Thrift Shop
- **Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup>**
  - 9:30 am, Instructed Holy Communion
  - 10 am, Altar Guild Cleanup
  - 10 am – 12 noon, Choir Rehearsal
  - 1 pm, Palm Cross Making (PH)
  - 10 am – 4 pm, Thrift Shop
  - 5:30 pm, Holy Communion (Fr. Pat)

**SUNDAY, March 25<sup>th</sup> – PALM SUNDAY/PASSION SUNDAY**

- 8 am & 9:30 am, Liturgy of the Palms, Holy Communion
- Bible Readings: Mark 1:1-11; Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11; Mark 14:1-15:47
- *Brunch following both services*
- 11:45 am, St. Michael's Choir
- 6:30 pm, AA (PH)
- **Monday, March 26<sup>th</sup>**
  - 10 am, Staff
  - 7 pm, Vestry (L)
- **Tuesday, March 27<sup>th</sup>**
  - 12 Noon, HCC Lenten Preaching Series & Soup Lunch
  - 7 pm, Zumba
- **Wednesday, March 28<sup>th</sup>**
  - 7 am & 9:30 am, Holy Communion Services
  - 7:30 pm, Tenebrae Service



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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please note that announcements will now appear in Grace Notes & the Newsletter. Announcements are only for events occurring this month. Future events may be listed in the newsletter. If you wish to include an announcement, please contact the Parish Office. Thanks!*

**HCC LENTEN PREACHING SERIES & SOUP LUNCH:** The Haddonfield Council of Churches Lenten Program will be offered one again at Grace Church beginning Tuesdays, at 12 noon followed by a soup lunch. The area clergy will be preaching on the topic of “Suffering & Joy.” They will draw on insights from “The Book of Joy”, a conversation between His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu. Their conversations will speak about finding joy in a world of suffering, and the search for lasting happiness in our changing world. All members of the community are welcomed to join us for this program that has been a regular part of the HCC’s joint programs for 52 years!



**EYC MEETING:** The Youth Group will meet on Sunday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at 11:45 am to plan the 30 Hour Famine Event coming up in April and this summer’s “Mission Staycation.” For more information, contact Dana Cotter or Betsy Murphy.

**TAX PREPARATION SEMINAR:** There will be a special tax seminar this Sunday, March 18, at 10:45 am in the Parlor in the Parish House, to help answer questions you might have concerning your tax filings. Come bring your questions, and learn what changes are current this year and future changes yet to come. All are welcomed to attend.

**MAUNDY THURSDAY DINNER:** The Maundy Thursday Reenactment of the Passover Dinner, will be Thursday, March 29 at 6:00 p.m. Grace Church. Everyone is invited to attend and participate in this event. Members of the Communion Class will be our honored guests. Tickets are available <http://www.gracehaddonfield.org/whats-happening/online> or <https://gracechurchhaddonfield.ticketspice.com/maundy-thursday-passover-dinner>. For more information, please contact Betsy Murphy at 856/433-2151 or by email, [gracehaddonchurchschool@gmail.com](mailto:gracehaddonchurchschool@gmail.com).



Holy Thursday



**LOOKING AHEAD:** Please note these activities coming up later this month:

- Tuesdays, HCC Lenten Preaching Series & Soup Lunch Begins
- Wednesdays, Cooper Episcopal Churches Lenten Program
- March 24<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 am, Instructed Holy Communion
- March 24<sup>th</sup>, Altar Guild Clean-up
- March 25<sup>th</sup>, Palm Sunday Brunch (PLEASE SIGN UP!)
- SEE FLYER BELOW FOR HOLY WEEK & EASTER SERVICES





# Holy Week at Grace Church

## Palm Sunday, March 25

8:00 am Liturgy of the Palms & Holy Communion

9:30 am Liturgy of the Palms & Holy Communion

## Wednesday, March 28

7:30 pm Tenebrae

## Maundy Thursday, March 29

6:00 pm Maundy Thursday Passover Dinner

7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Liturgy, Foot washing  
& Holy Communion

## Good Friday, March 30

Noon Stations of the Cross

2:30 pm Children's Stations of the Cross

7:30 pm Good Friday Liturgy

## Holy Saturday, March 31

7 pm Easter Vigil & Open Baptisms

## Easter Sunday, April 1

6:30 am Sunrise Easter Liturgy & Holy Communion

8 am Festive Easter Liturgy & Holy Communion

9:30 am Festive Choral Easter Liturgy & Holy Communion

9:30 am Parish House Festive Easter Holy Communion

10:30 am Easter Egg Hunt

11:15 am Festive Choral Easter Holy Communion



HOLY WEEK

