

Weekly E-News from Grace Episcopal Church - December 20, 2024

### The Great "O" Antiphons This Sunday!



# THE SEVEN GREAT "O" ANTIPHONS OF ADVENT & CHORAL COMPLINE

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2024 BEGINNING AT 8:00 PM

The men of the Grace Church Schola will chant The Seven Great "O" Antiphons of Advent.

Psalms will be read in between each Antiphon to guide your prayers and meditations. Choral Compline follows immediately with hundreds of candles and fragrant incense. Doors open at 7:30 PM.

# Grace's Christmas Pageant Rehearsal Tomorrow!

Our annual Christmas Pageant will be during our service this Sunday, December 22; we hope you can join us!

The rehearsal schedule will be really easy - just one day! - and will take

place tomorrow from 2pm to 4pm. Children and teens of all ages are welcome. If your child/ren would like to participate, email our Director of Youth Ministries Charlene Williams at <a href="mailto:cwilliams@gracepvd.org">cwilliams@gracepvd.org</a>.



### Christmas Caroling in the Courtyard -Tomorrow

Join us tomorrow at 4pm for some festive, yule-tide singing around a roaring fire with hot chocolate and seasonal refreshments in the courtyard of The Pavilion at Grace (entrance on Westminster Street). Caroling sheets

and hot chocolate will be provided. Please bring cookies or a sweet treat to share!

### Parish Directory - Get Ready for Your Close-Up!

Some of our entries in the latest parish directory were missing photos, and one of our parishioners is doing something about it.

Doug Ditmars has volunteered to take photos of any individuals/families who would like a new (or updated) photo added to their entry. If you're interested, please see Doug outside the Parish Office during coffee hour through the rest of December, and be ready to say "cheese"!

Directories will be available in January; watch for updates!



**Last Call: Poinsettias and Music Dedications** 

This weekend is the last chance to lend your support toward the uplifting music and beautiful poinsettia display you'll experience at Grace Church during the Advent and Christmas seasons!

All donations - made in memory of those who have passed, in honor of those in our community who inspire us, or in thanksgiving for someone special in our lives - help to make possible these seasonal treats during our services. To make a gift, please use the "Christmas Poinsettias and Music" dedication cards found in the pews, on the back table near the Baptismal Font, and in the Narthex literature rack.

Thank you for printing your dedications legibly, then place it and your payment in a light-green "Flower Guild" envelope and drop it in the offering plate or at the Parish Office right away.



### children's friend Nurturing Children. Empowering Families.

SpiritofGivingHolidayDrive.org

## A Big "Thank You!" from Children's Friend

This past Wednesday, Jane Ditmars (leader of our Shawl Ministry group, pictured here) and Rev. Jonathan Huyck delivered to Children's Friend and Service the many gifts collected here at Grace in the past few weeks.

Donations included coats, toys, and gift cards (to CVS, Walmart, and a variety of fast-food restaurants - all of which were much appreciated). We also collected rolls of wrapping paper, diapers and baby wipes - and, thanks to the hard work of the Shawl Ministry, 144 beautiful hand-knitted hats, mittens and scarves!

Many thanks to everyone for your support of our friends at CFS!

#### **Year-End Donations - Due December 30**

Please note that all donations you wish recorded toward your 2024 giving must be received in the Parish Office no later than Monday, December 30. All gifts received by Monday will be deposited on Tuesday, December 31.

For those who give electronically, please make those arrangements by Monday as well so those gifts can be processed overnight and recorded in 2024.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact the Parish Office at 401-331-3225 or admin@gracepvd.org.

### **Changes for the New Year**

Starting in 2025, we'll transfer to a new donor-management system at Grace Church!



After several years of using Servant Keeper, we're transitioning to Realm. There are several reasons for the change - one of which is to give you a better experience when you're making online donations, supporting our many music programs, or updating your online records.

With this transition, you'll notice new online giving forms and - if we have your email address saved - you'll even get your giving statement electronically! All of these features should help you better track your giving and ensure you can easily make adjustments as needed.

One note: For those who have set up a recurring payment through Servant Keeper, we've been assured that those transactions will transfer seamlessly to Realm. We'll monitor that and encourage you to check your online Realm account when you log in starting in January.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact the Parish Office at 401-331-3225 or admin@gracepvd.org.

### **Parish Office Closed for Holidays**

This year, the Parish Office will be closed between Christmas and New Year's while the staff all take time off; we will close on December 25 and reopen on January 2. In the case of a pastoral emergency, please contact our rector, Jonathan Huyck, at <a href="mailto:jhuyck@gracepvd.org">jhuyck@gracepvd.org</a> or on his cell at 401-573-9341. Happy Holidays!

### **Sunday Worship:**

## Fourth Sunday of Advent

**December 22, 2024** 

Most Sunday mornings, Grace Church offers a 'live-stream" broadcast of our 10:00 AM service of Holy Eucharist. We hope this experience allows those who are not able to join us in person on Sundays to participate in our worship life at Grace.



~ Click Here to Join This Sunday's Service on YouTube ~

Livestreamed Worship: When available, this service will be live-streamed to the **Grace Church YouTube Channel.** Please use the link provided above to watch. The service also will be archived on the Grace Church website for on-demand viewing after Sunday morning.

**Order of Service:** To view a downloadable version of the Order of Service for the Fourth Sunday of Advent, please <u>CLICK HERE</u>.

**Collect for This Sunday:** Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Readings:** For the texts of the readings for Sunday worship, please click here.

More About the Episcopal Church: Click here for the latest from the Episcopal News Service. Click here for current news from the Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island.

Regardless of how you choose to participate in our worship life together, ALL ARE WELCOME at Grace Church!

### **Connect with Grace Anytime!**

This Sunday's Readings

**Click Here for Recent** Services











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The Mission of Grace Church is to build, by the grace of God, a loving and joyful community which lives the Gospel through worship, proclamation and service to each other, to downtown Providence, and beyond.

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