

From Father John Warfel

“All they ever talk about at church is money.”

This may be a legitimate complaint among some faith communities, but I don't believe that it is particularly true here at Grace Church. It's just not our style to pass the plate a second time on Sunday morning. Nor do we charge fees for baptisms, weddings, funerals, Mass intentions, etc. We do not even suggest an appropriate donation for these because we must be very clear: **the services of the Church are not for sale.**

Maybe we don't talk about money enough. Perhaps it's an unfortunate part of the Anglican ethos *not* to talk about money - to dismiss any serious talk about personal finances as intrusive or downright unseemly. Perhaps it's my fault for not broaching the subject head-on. Our Episcopal sensibilities notwithstanding, it is an irrefutable fact that **Jesus talked about money**, and often. The widow and her two copper coins. The rich young man who walked away sorrowful. *A slave cannot have two masters. Where your treasure is there your heart will be also. It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than it is for someone who is rich to enter the Kingdom of God.* And this is just scratching the surface.

It is easy to dismiss Jesus' purposeful focus on money as fodder for a manipulative stewardship sermon. We've all been subjected to sermons of that ilk. My father's contempt of all things associ-



ated with church was fueled by such manipulation. (One of his favorite plays-on-words was Palm Sunday - he would hold out his palm mimicking what to him was the never ending gesture of the Church.)

Some might argue that yes, Jesus talked about money, specifically about our relationship with money, but he didn't take up a collection for his ministry at the end of the talk. And they'd be right. So the focus of your Stewardship Committee this year will not be limited to the budget or the annual pledge. Instead, we will engage you in an ongoing exploration of *time, talent and treasure* from Our Lord's perspective as revealed in the gospels. As the spiritual leader of this parish, it is not my job to coax, brow-beat or guilt-trip you into supporting your parish by making a financial pledge. (I don't know who pledges or how much, and I don't want to know.) But it is my job to encourage you to take a fresh look at your relationship with money. You won't be doing this alone; I'll be doing this with you and alongside you.



PRAYER LIST

To have names added to or deleted from the prayer list, please leave a yellow prayer request slip in Kathryn Parker's mailbox-- upper right--or e-mail her at kparker7@hvc.rr.com.

Please pray for	Prayer Intention	Submitted by	Please pray for	Prayer Intention	Submitted by
Sarah Clark	healing	Peggy Fellows	Jennifer Bellotto	creativity, love, peace	Penny Ames
LynnMarie Monroe	happiness, guidance	Kathryn Parker	The people of Tibet	courage, peace, freedom	Penny Ames
Marie	comfort	Kathryn Parker	Barbara, Charlie, Andy Clark	health, prosperity, love	Penny Ames
Lynn, Kenny, Lily, Madeline	healing, peace, guidance	Kathryn Parker	Richard	health, love, prosperity	Penny Ames
Kathryn & Shannon Leary	comfort, peace	Kathryn Parker	Kathryn Parker	healing, peace, happiness	Penny Ames
Graham Jamison	healing, comfort	Ellen Jamison	Ron Cosentino		Grace Church family
Jessi Jamison	healing, guidance	Ellen Jamison	Julia Logiodice	acceptance at school	Mike Saunders
Justin Guardino	healing, guidance, employment	Ellen Jamison	Ilene Stepanick	comfort, happiness	Mike Saunders
Lenora Vaughn	comfort	Ellen Jamison	Meri	healing, comfort	Beth Maisonet
Isabelle Townsend	healing, comfort, release from pain	Ellen Jamison	Tara Catizone	healing	Eleanor & Meg Catizone
Alex Jamison	healing, comfort, guidance	Ellen Jamison	Leah Veloudas	healing, comfort	Eileen Bloomer
Linda Totaan	healing	Christine Ford-Huebsch	Katie White	healing, comfort	Anne Caldwell
Stephanie	healing, safety	Christine and Les	Carol McGinis	strength, healing, peace	Sue Scott
James Mariano	safe return from Iraq	The Ford-Huebsch Family	Carmen Musolino		Jan & Frank Musolino
Megan, Penilynn, Brandon	well-being	Their Church School Family	Owen and Family		Jan & Frank Musolino
Carlee	healing, well-being	Her Church School Family	Ewing Orlando	healing, comfort	Andrew & Lorraine Higgins
Lisa Bonkowski	healing, comfort	Lisa DeNisco	Zachary Brownstein	healing	Andrew & Lorraine Higgins
Jayne Hess & family	healing, comfort	Lisa DeNisco	James Higgins	healing, comfort	Andrew & Lorraine Higgins
Lisa Oboyski	healing, comfort	Lisa DeNisco	Nora & Gillian Dirr	comfort, guidance	Andrew & Lorraine Higgins
Sammy Rogers	healing, comfort	Lisa DeNisco	Maryanne Sevarino		Andrew & Lorraine Higgins
Donna Black	healing, comfort	Lisa DeNisco	Gary Anallo		Andrew & Lorraine Higgins
Ryan DeNisco	healing, guidance	Lisa DeNisco	Jeanette Dahl	healing	Lebow
Francine Scott	healing, comfort	Carol Warner	Eddie Zeh	healing	Martha Lebow
Messiah Warner	personal, healing	Francine Scott	Jake Lopata	healing, comfort	Marj and Mike Edwards
Micah Warner	healing, strength	Francine Scott	Joan Karalis	healing, comfort	Grace Church family
Norman Warner, Jr.	safety	Francine Scott	Nicole Rumsey	comfort	James Rumsey
Charles Warner & family	healing, strength	Francine Scott	Lisa Oboyski	healing, comfort	Lisa DeNisco
Denzel Warner	strength, guidance, safety	Francine Scott	Nick Gisondi	healing	Patricia Lewis
The Mather-Cathy family	healing	Pam Mather-Cathy	Tom Quinn	healing	Patricia Lewis
Lauren Ponzoni	healing, comfort	Nancy Karp	Artie Colatrella	healing	Patricia Lewis
Joe Baurenfeino	healing, comfort	Christy Silvels	Kayden Moore	healing	Tim Moore, Mary Beth McGuire
Jill	healing, comfort, release from pain	Christy Silvels	Amy, Ndan, Dylan	healing, guidance, employment, release from pain	
Denise Fallo	healing, comfort, guidance	Christy and Magen	Barbara	healing, comfort	Eileen Callahan
Magen Phillips	healing, comfort	Mom (Christy)	Susan Heintz	healing, comfort	Eileen Callahan
Patricia Phillips	rest in peace	Christy and Magen	Michael Roe	healing, comfort	Eileen Callahan
Kelley Phillips	healing	Christy and Magen	Beth Finger	jobs	Barbara Pinkall
Bill Gray	comfort, peace	Penny Ames	Harriet, Kathy, Sheryl	healing, comfort, strength	Nancy Karp



Thank You from the Grace Church Youth Group

The Youth Group received a very generous gift this month and we wanted to say thank you. Some of the newest members of our parish family, Joe, Eileen, and their son, Tom, offered to donate a foosball table to us. If you don't know what foosball is, it is a table game akin to table tennis or air hockey.

Of course we enthusiastically accepted this gift as the kids have been wishing we had some sort of tabletop game down in the youth group room for years. Joe, Eileen, and Tom brought the table in and set it up for us! The second they finished the kids were all around the table playing together.

Thank you Joe, Eileen, and Tom for your generosity. I am sure we'll have so much fun with the foosball table!

- Grace Youth Group

Church School Calendar

Sunday, April 4 - Easter - Flowering of the Cross and Egg Hunt. Children's Sunday - we will not sit as a church school

Sunday, April 11 - Regular Classes

Sunday, April 18 - Regular Classes

Sunday, April 25 - Regular Classes

Date To Be announced in April:

Family Event... requests? ideas??

Sunday May 2 - Children's Sunday

Sunday, May 9 - Regular Classes

Sunday, May 16 - Regular Classes

Sunday, May 23 - Regular Classes

Sunday, May 30 - Regular Classes

Sunday, June 6 - Children's Sunday,
Last Sunday of Church School, Party

Date to be Announced in June:

Children's Day in the Church Yard

Sunday, July 4 - Children's Sunday:

Volunteers Needed to serve

Monday, July 26 - Friday July 30th - ***Vacation Bible School*** - Not too early to sign up and/or volunteer. Mark your calendars and join us for some great family fun!!!

Sunday, August 1 - Children's Sunday

Date to be announced in August: ***Family Fun Night***

Sunday, September 5 - Children's Sunday and Blessing of the Backpacks

Sunday September 12 -

First day of Church School for 2010/2011 year



The Stained Glass Windows of Grace Church:

Come Unto Me 1916

This window is located in the choir transept. The quote "Come unto me" is from Matthew 11:28. The window is from a period painting. Jesus' robe is of textured glass and is red, so it was before the Resurrection. The window is double-layered; the rays behind are in a separate pane of opalescent glass. This window is from 1916 and is from Payne Studio in New Jersey.

From a booklet prepared several years ago by the Stained Glass Restoration Committee.

– Kathryn Parker

Holy Week at Grace Church

Palm Sunday

- 8:00 am Liturgy of the Palms and Holy Eucharist
10:30 am Liturgy of the Palms, Procession, and Holy Eucharist

Wednesday in Holy Week

- 10:00 am Healing Mass

Maundy Thursday

- 7:00 pm Holy Eucharist,
Procession to the Altar of Repose,
Stripping of the Altar (Vigil before the
Altar of Repose throughout the night)

Good Friday

- 12:00 pm The Three Hours (Presented by the
Middletown Interfaith Council)
7:00 pm Veneration of the Cross, Mass of the Pre-Sanctified

Holy Saturday

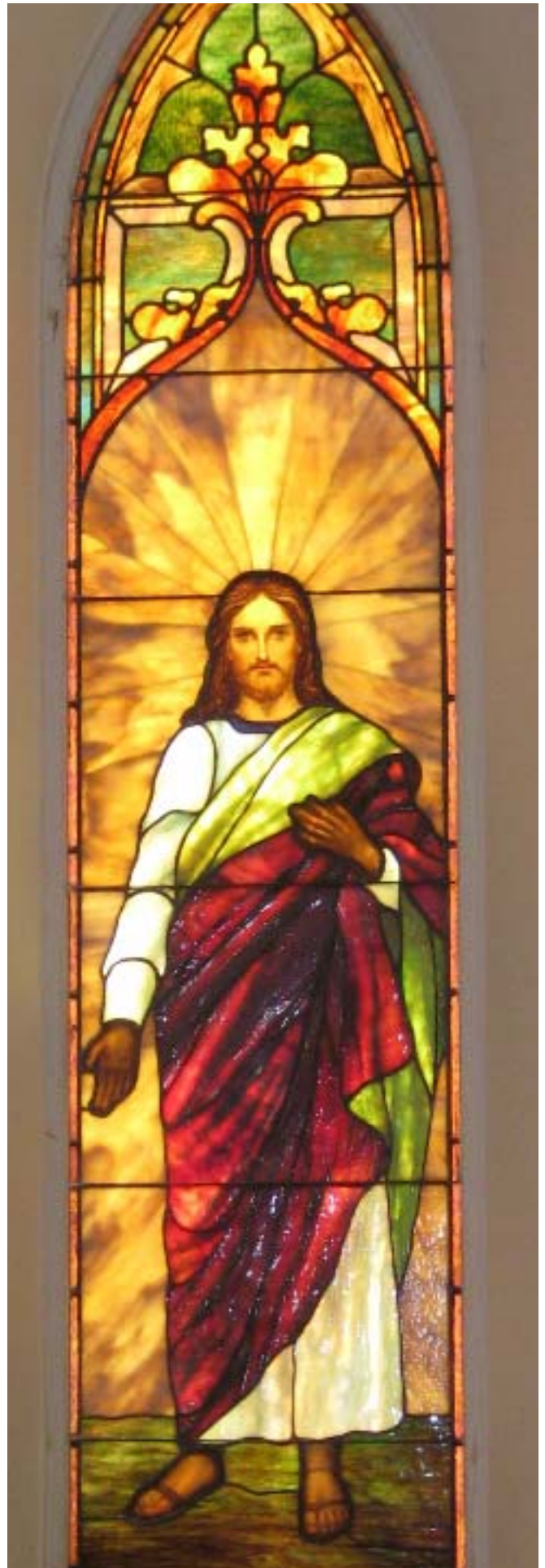
- 9:00 am Liturgy of the Word and Prayers
8:00 pm The Great Vigil of Easter

The Feast of the Resurrection: Easter Day

- 8:00 am Sung Eucharist (Rite I)

Pancake Breakfast served between the Masses

- 9:45 am Alleluia Hunt and the Flowering of the Cross
10:30 am Holy Eucharist (Rite II)





From the Senior Warden

In my role as Senior Warden, and probably because I'm somewhat nosy, I find myself in and out of the Parish Hall fairly frequently each week. During the morning hours, I'm often greeted by some of the guests waiting to come into the building for the Soup Kitchen. We say hello and comment about the weather. They often tease me about the cups of coffee I regularly bring in. I'm so accustomed to seeing the guests that I find myself forgetting amazing work that's being done on the second floor of our parish house. I suspect that unless you are a Guild of St. Margaret volunteer, or are perhaps more thoughtful than I, you too may be taking this mission a bit for granted.

Every Sunday, Father John offers the Mass for our parish and for the work and the witness of the Guild of St. Margaret. I think it's important for us to remember and recognize exactly what that is. The Guild of St. Margaret has been feeding the hungry of Middletown for over 30 years, 7 days a week, 52 weeks a year. The Soup Kitchen doesn't close for holidays or during snow storms or for vacation. Meals are served to anyone who comes during hours, without question or needs assessment or a fee. We offer a nutritious, usually hot, meal and the opportunity for our guests to relax a bit, get warm in the winter or cool off in the summer, and socialize. Guests are treated with dignity and respect and, in my experience, most of them respond in kind.

Just to put this work in perspective, the Soup Kitchen has been operating for over 10,000 days! Last year on average we served 127 meals per day or 46,518 meals for the

year. An average of 90 meals per day were served throughout the period that the Parish Hall was closed for repairs and meals were served in shifts in the kitchen anteroom.

All of this work is done by a small number of dedicated staff and a larger number of equally dedicated volunteers, both from Grace Church and from the larger community. Without these individuals there would be no Guild of St. Margaret.

This is not intended as history of the Guild; that would take more room than I have here. If you are interested in learning more about it, let me know or speak to Virginia Orgonista, the Director of the Guild, or one of the many volunteers in our parish. What I hope I have done in this article is to remind you of the amazing work that is done in our name each day of the year in our parish house. The next time you hear Father John offer the Mass for the work and witness of the Guild of St. Margaret, remember that it is our work and our witness.

– Claire Newquist

***Please remember, if you are ill at home
or in the hospital, be sure to call the
parish office at 343-6101, or have some-
one do it for you, and let us know.
If we know, we can send cards
and visit you.***

The Lord is Risen, Indeed! Alleluia!



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