

# The Weekly Epistle: The Fourth Sunday of Easter, 25 April 2010

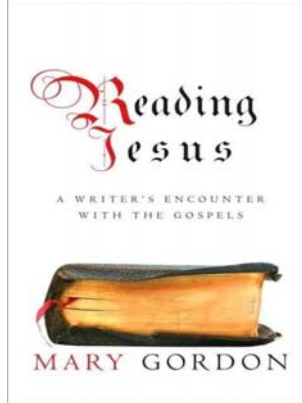
## GRACE CHURCH IN NEW YORK

Dear Friends,



One of the realities of life in NYC is how we take for granted that we live constantly in the shadows of what may be history in the making. On Thursday of this week, as Stacie and I walked our two sons to school we noticed the “No Parking” signs on 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue. “What’s going on here?” I wondered. “A street fair?” Later in the morning, as I heard the helicopters hovering near the church, I remembered, “No, it’s not a street fair, it’s President Obama speaking at Cooper Union this morning.” Just another day in NYC. This can be a parable of whatever faith you hold. We take it for granted, and never step back to examine it.

This coming Sunday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, we are especially pleased to welcome **Mary Gordon** to the 10 am



Adult Education class. Mary is the author of the recently published, ***Reading Jesus: A Writer's Encounter with the Gospels***. What led her to write the book was an urge to step back from her lifelong Christianity, and look at the Gospels and Jesus as objectively as she was able. The result is a fascinating read. On Sunday, Ms. Gordon will reflect on the personal journey that gave rise to the book, and the impact it has made on her and others. We have limited copies of *Reading Jesus* available for \$20.00 apiece, and we will carve out some time for the Ms. Gordon to sign them.



Mary Gordon is also the author of six novels, including *The Company of Women*, *Final Payments*, and *Spending*. She is the recipient of a Lila Wallace - Reader's Digest Writer's Award, a Guggenheim Fellowship, and the 1997 O. Henry Award for best story. She teaches at Barnard College and lives in here NYC. Don't take for granted a unique opportunity to be in conversation with a celebrated author.

See you Sunday.

The Rev. J. Donald Waring  
Rector

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**9:00 a.m.**

**The Holy Eucharist, Rite II**  
**Sermon: The Rev. J. Donald Waring**  
**Music: The Parish Choir**  
*Nursery care for children ages 0-3*  
*Sunday School for children at 9:00 a.m.*

**11:00 a.m.**

**Morning Prayer and Sermon**  
**Sermon: The Rev. J. Donald Waring**  
**Music: The Girls Choir with Adults**  
*Nursery care for children ages 0-3*  
*Sunday School for children during the sermon*

**6:00 p.m.**

**The Holy Eucharist, Rite II in the Chantry**  
**Sermon: Mr. Matthew Holcombe, Seminarian**  
**Music: Hymns with piano, instrumentalists**

### SUNDAY

**THE ADULT CONFIRMATION CLASS** meet today in the Reception Room at 10 am to hear the author, Mary Gordon.

**THE YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASS** will meet at 12:30 pm in the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor conference room.

**BROADWAY SIDEWALK** - Thank you for your patience as we replace the entire Broadway sidewalk between 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Streets, fronting the rectory yard, church, and Huntington Close. The project will be done in phases, and should be completed by June. Access to the parish house, church, and chantry will be maintained at all times.

**COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP** follow the 9 and 11 am service today in Tuttle Hall and after the 6 pm service in the Reception Room. Do come back and say hello before being on your way.

**CENTERING PRAYER GROUP** meets at 5 pm in the Third Floor Conference Room.

**EVENING ADULT EDUCATION** - Following the 6 pm service in the Reception Room, light refreshments are available. Then from 7:30 - 8 pm the preacher of the evening helps us take a deeper look at the Scripture readers we heard in worship.

### FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** - All children ages 4-8 are welcome to attend. At 9 am, parents should drop their children off at the classrooms near Tuttle Hall. Children then rejoin their parents in time to receive Communion together. At 11 am, parents and children begin together in the church, and children follow the crucifer to their classes during the sermon. Parents the collect their children in Tuttle Hall during the coffee hour.

## SUMMER CAMP OPPORTUNITIES –

Are you looking for summer camp opportunities for your child? An option is Incarnation Camp, which offers an abundance of spiritually rich and fun activities for children and teenagers. Located only 2 hours outside Manhattan, it is a camp adventure close to home. Incarnation is a values oriented camp, which makes chapel and grace at mealtimes an integral part of the fun. For more information, you can visit their website at [www.incarnationcamp.org](http://www.incarnationcamp.org), or talk to Maura Hooper for more information. Also, mark your calendars for this year's Vacation Bible School, which will run June 28<sup>th</sup> - July 1<sup>st</sup>!

## PARISH LIFE

**WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY:** Beginning April 14 and going through June 2 Linda Bartholomew and Ted Pardoe will lead a small group Bible study focusing on the upcoming Sunday readings. Participants can join at any time. Classes meet in the reception room from 7-8 pm. No prior studies necessary. Contact Linda Bartholomew [lbartholomew@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:lbartholomew@gracechurchnyc.org) for more information.

**MANY THANKS to everyone who has so far made a financial pledge in support of the Lord's work through Grace Church in the year 2010.** So far 231 households have pledged for a total of \$846,946. The Vestry has passed a budget for 2010 in confidence that we will reach our goal of \$900,000 in pledges (last year was \$912,000). We have also committed to a maximum 3% draw on the endowment. If you haven't yet made a financial pledge, now is the time to do so in order to avoid further, painful cuts to an already austere budget. If you make a pledge, remember: you can pay it off in 52-weekly installments, and you can now give to Grace Church online. Please contact Joe Manzella at [jmanzella@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:jmanzella@gracechurchnyc.org) for more information.

**GIVE TO GRACE ONLINE** - Our website is now capable of receiving online donations through all major credit cards. Make payments on your annual pledge, adopt a pipe, support outreach and music, put flowers on the altar, help restore the building all through our secure connection. Go to [www.gracechurchnyc.org](http://www.gracechurchnyc.org) follow the links.

**A CALL FOR HOSPITALITY** - The baked goods and other delicious nibbles that we enjoy after the 11 am service are the gift of parishioners who volunteer to bring them. For anyone who wishes to participate in this much needed ministry of hospitality, please visit bulletin board to the left of the ladies room door to sign up. The hospitality committee will be in touch with you shortly.

**BAPTISM** - *The next dates for Baptism are Sunday, May 2 at the 9 am service; and Sunday, May 23, at the 11 am service. Please arrange your family plans around one of these times, and contact Ted Pardoe at [tpardoe@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:tpardoe@gracechurchnyc.org)*

**20s/30s SUNDAY BRUNCH ON MAY 2<sup>nd</sup> IS POSTPONED** - In lieu of brunch, we'll be hosting a **Memorial Day barbeque** later in the month. Stay tuned for details!

## OUTREACH:

**FOOD COLLECTION** - Many thanks for yet another large delivery of food we were able to make this month to Jan Hus Homeless Outreach. They send their profound thanks. Let's keep up the tradition of bringing canned and non perishable food items to share each Sunday. Food baskets are in the back of the church awaiting your generous response.



**NEW ORLEANS MISSION TRIP** - All those going on this year's trip will meet each other and do last minute planning for the week of May 1-8. Plan to join in on Monday, April 26<sup>th</sup> in the Reception room from 6:30-8. Please confirm your presence: Michael Watson [mwatson@americatunnelvision.com](mailto:mwatson@americatunnelvision.com).

**NEW ORLEANS VOLUNTEERS** will leave the front steps of Grace Church at 5:45 am on Saturday, May 1, for our fifth annual mission trip to help in the recovery from Hurricane Katrina. This year we will continue to rebuild homes, help to restore Grace Church, New Orleans to its pre-hurricane condition, prepare and serve food to other rebuilders and the homeless, work with inner-city youth in their art program, and help to restore the wetlands that protect the city from storm surges during hurricanes. After our 27 volunteers complete this trip, we will have given a total of 4,000 hours of service over our five trips to New Orleans. Please keep our team in your prayers for a fulfilling journey and a safe return on May 8th.



## EVERY WEEK:

**BACH AT NOON** - The organ compositions of Johann Sebastian Bach are played between 12:20 - 12:50 p.m. every Tuesday through Friday. **CHORAL EVENSONG** with the Junior Choristers on Tuesdays, 6 pm, when Grace Church School is in session.

**THE WEDNESDAY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY** meets each week at 10:15 am in the Reception Room.

Newcomers are always welcome. **WEDNESDAY 6 PM EUCHARIST** - The Holy Eucharist is celebrated every Wednesday at 6 pm in the Chantry with hymns and homily. Perfect for those who missed church on Sunday, or simply need an extra-dose of God's good news in the middle of the week. This Wednesday's preacher is the Rev. Ted Pardoe.

**PRAYER LIST** - If you would like to have a name added to the prayer list, please email Bill Nave:

[Bnave@gracechurchnyc.org](mailto:Bnave@gracechurchnyc.org) or 212-254-2000, ext 100 by Tuesday. Names will be read during the services for four weeks unless notified otherwise.