



The Angelus

May 2023

From the Rector's Desk

One evening not too long ago, a local man who drops in to Grace occasionally, and whom some of us know, came into our church worship space in full psychotic breakdown. He wasn't violent, but it wasn't entirely clear, either, what he might do. It was a little unsettling for some who were here at the time, as well as for some who heard about it afterwards. Understandably. Thank goodness, Deacon Paul, Pat Ford-Smith, and some others were here to care for him graciously, get him some resources, and get him sent where he could get more help. This man is much better now and knows where he is loved and accepted. This unnerving event was a great gift from God. As a lot of unnerving, godly visitations are.

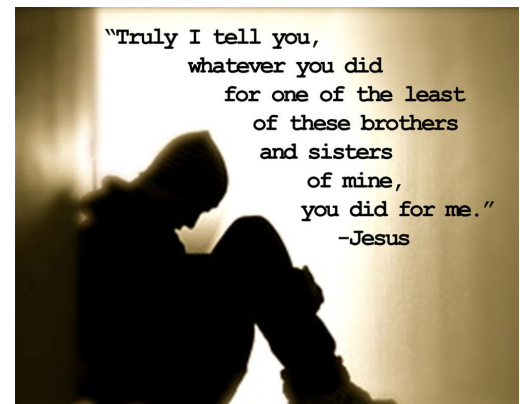
One of the great things about Grace is that we leave our church doors open during the day Sunday-Friday. Most days, the church doors are opened with Morning Prayer and closed after Evening Prayer or Mass.

Open doors during the day, especially for the poor, lost, broken, prayerful, warily agnostic, or weary are one of the showings that the Kingdom of Heaven is on earth now—every bit as much as incense and beautiful, transcendent worship are. It's precisely what our Anglican forebears who renewed the total catholic life in Anglicanism had in mind, and it's what Anglo-Catholicism really amounts to: Heaven on earth.

And so, our church doors are wide open . . .

This is not without risk, of course. People who worship a crucified Lord and promise to follow him to Golgotha don't expect to be totally shielded from the difficult surprises life in this world normally involves. So we ask expectantly and respond faithfully, "Who or what will God bring through our doors?"

When living into faithful, Christian openness in the world as it is, we can be prone to one of two responses: reckless romanticism or fortress mentality. At Grace, the rector, staff, vestry, and members are instead looking at how we can provide real openness with prudent security and boundaries. So, for example, we will continue to leave the doors open to our beautiful worship space, while locking doors from there into the rest of the building.



We also have a security door between the office and the 7th Street entrance. A new security door will also be installed between the office and rear kitchen entrance. Staff have attended training for increased security and procedures recommended for churches and will pass on this learning to vestry and others.

Not only do we want to learn how to make ourselves more secure, we also want to learn how to be more equipped, proactive, and skilled in responding to the needs holy visitors from God might bring with them.

Stay tuned as your vestry, rector, and staff learn together and develop more structures for prudent security, skilled hospitality, and ministry, and all the virtues that manifest the Catholic faith—readiness to receive Heaven on earth, right here, right now.

Peace,
WLB+

A New Beginning for Laying on of Hands and the Ministry of Healing in the Our Lady of Walsingham Shrine

Your rector would like to call our parish to renew its ministry of healing and laying on of hands in our shrine chapel of Our Lady of Walsingham at Sunday celebrations of the Holy Eucharist. If possible, after vetting and training of lay ministers, it is possible we would start this ministry around the time of our Grace Walsingham pilgrimage in October.

If after prayer, meditation, penitence, and fasting, you sense you might have a calling to offer prayer for healing and call on Our Lady for her prayers and intercessions, please contact Fr William for further discussion and mutual discernment. wbulson@gracesheboygan.com; 920.740.2308

This is one of the most beautiful gifts Grace as a parish has had to offer our town and world throughout our church's history. Give thanks to God for all God's blessings!

A Night at the Movies

Grace Church was lucky enough to have its local movie theater, Marcus Sheboygan Cinema, show *The Big Lebowski* April 20th for the movie's 25 year anniversary. Grace members and guests took advantage of the opportunity and had its first "Night at the Movies" activity. Fourteen parishioners gathered at the theater and took over row D plus a few seats in row C. Popcorn was thrown, laughter was shared and some tears were shed. Enthusiastic turnout for "Night at the Movies" plus the positive feedback is incentive enough to start thinking about arranging another event. Stay tuned . . .



March 2023 Vestry Focus and Actions

- Lower level has been rid of extraneous furniture and cleaned thoroughly
- 9th St. House proceeds will be invested in a CD
- Pat Sather will serve as coordinator for meals to parishioners who are in need
- Vestry is praying, and urges parishioners to pray for members to hear the calling to restart a healing ministry in the Chapel of Our Lady during Sunday services.

Financial Focus

Here is how Grace Church stands as of the end of the 1st quarter. We have 63 pledges for \$245,290. \$127,631 has been paid, including money paid at the end of 2022 for 2023 pledges. On Good Friday we collected \$255 for the churches in Jerusalem.

All Saints Chapel

All Saints Chapel, Elkhart Lake will open on Sunday, May 28th (Memorial Day weekend) and continue until September 3rd (Labor Day weekend). Service begins at 9:00 AM. Fr William Bulson will be the celebrant on the first Sundays in June, July, and August. Fr Patrick Twomey will be the celebrant on the other Sundays. There is a sign up sheet on the foyer table if you would like to help with preparations. Visiting the chapel is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy a countryside service and meet new and old friends.



Spring Cheer

On Thursday, April 27th workers gathered in the kitchen to assemble boxes of cookies and arrange daffodils for 10 homebound and elderly parishioners. Thank you to Leslie Kohler for the daffodils and for all the workers who baked, assembled, and delivered: Pat Miller, Deb Gagin, Mary Snyder, Andrea and Leona Aparicio, Polly Schmeiser, Ann Hanlon, Mary Clabots, Pat Ford Smith, and Barb MacEwen.



Kanemaru and Bulson Blessing of Marriage, the Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, May 31, 6 p.m.

All are invited to attend the Mass with the Blessing of the marriage of Tomomi Kanemaru and Fr William Bulson, at Grace Church, with the Rt Rev Matthew Gunter, Bishop of Fond du Lac, presiding. A reception follows in St Nicholas Hall, and all are invited to that, as well.

Tomomi and William were legally married on April 22, right after Tomomi arrived in the US, to secure Tomomi's legal immigration status as quickly as possible. Many thanks to Fr Paul Coey who officiated at the legal marriage at St Peter's, Sheboygan Falls, on April 22! Thanks to witnesses Dcn Nicci Beeck and Cory Bouck!

In our earliest years as the Church, a marriage became a sacrament for a Christian couple precisely when, at the celebration of the Holy Eucharist, the couple already married according to local cultural or civil custom, shared in Holy Communion and received a blessing from the priest or bishop.

William and Tomomi enter into sacramental grace as a legally married couple on May 31 in this most ancient Christian way of blessing of marriage. As shown in the Prayer Book, in this grace as husband and wife, they will represent Christ, as do all the baptized, to carry out Christ's work of reconciliation in the world.

What's On the Scenes at Grace Church?

On the scene this month is our Acolyte Master and team. Thank you to all of you for making our Holy Week and Easter services so special. We appreciate you.



(From our Acolyte Master, Tom Crouse)

Grace church has been my church home since 2007 shortly after moving to Sheboygan. Behind the scenes acolyte master duties include (but are not limited to) making a schedule each month for acolyte and sub deacon assignments, helping to keep candle lighters loaded with wax tapers and keeping supplies (coals, incense, wax tapers, etc.) in inventory. Other acolyte master duties include training new acolytes, readying the thurible for charging with incense, and of course performing Queen Anne's on high feast days (dabbling in martial arts long ago may have helped). Shared acolyte duties front and center include serving, torch bearing, crucifer and the occasional verger. We can use more acolytes and anybody interested (kids or adults)

Mark Your Calendars



- **May 18** Ascension Mass at 6:00 p.m.
- **May 28** All Saints Chapel opens for summer
- **May 31** Feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary Holy Eucharist and Blessing of the marriage of Fr William Bulson and Tomomi Kanemaru at 6:00 p.m., Bishop Matthew Gunther officiating. Reception to follow in St Nicholas Hall.

are encouraged to see me or Father William. The next time you see these acolytes please give a big thanks to:

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|--------------------|-----------------|
| Leona Aparicio | Stewart Schmidt |
| Paul Aparicio, Jr. | John Keller |
| Ben Crouse | Helen Mullison |
| Tasha Crouse | Shannon Luckey |
| Zack Sorenson | Starrla Lares |
| Steven Schmeiser | Clifton Bartels |
| Jostin McMillan | Cynthia Weiss |

Being in the Diocese of Fond du Lac has given me the opportunity to participate in a mission trip to Chicago and take Dee and Ben (when they were kids) to St. Thomas Menasha for youth group activities like Terminator Night. My interests include utilitarian bicycling, science fiction (both movies and books), motorcycling, heavy metal (this one goes to eleven) and the occasional winter autocross in the front wheel drive division. A labor of love is repairing bicycles with a group of ReBike volunteers, who then give the repaired bicycles to those who need a means of transportation to/from work or school. I'm still waiting to hear "In-A-Gadda-Da-Vida" by Iron Butterfly, "Spirit in the Sky" by Norman Greenbaum, or "Lazy" by Deep Purple on the organ from the back of the church.

As a wastewater operations and maintenance specialist I am often on the road during the week training personnel how to operate new equipment, troubleshooting wastewater treatment systems and optimizing processes. If there is one thing I know, it's \$h!t.

—Tom Crouse, Grace's Acolyte Master



We apologize for the omission of photos of Maya McMillan and the Media Center in last month's feature, "What's Behind the Scenes at Grace Church." Here is Maya working behind the scenes to make our audio and streaming technologies work smoothly. Thank you, Maya!



May Birthdays

Grafton Smith 5/1
 Michael Boland 5/2
 Art Imig 5/9
 Davis Maki 5/11
 Angel Klinzing 5/11
 Brenda Burgett 5/14
 Scott Gedemer 5/18
 Sarah Clabots-Kim 5/22
 LeRoy Schneider 5/23

Dale Massey 5/29
 Leona Aparicio 5/30
 Jack Britton 5/30
 Natasha Crouse 5/31
May Anniversaries
 Robert Wood 5/12
 Mary Tasche 5/14
 Louise & John Davis 5/16
 Jean-Margaret Merrell-Beech 5/25
 and Robert Beech

Parish Staff

The Right Reverend Matthew Gunter, *Bishop*
 The Reverend William Bulson, *Rector*
 The Reverend Paul Aparicio, *Deacon*
 Dr R Benjamin Dobey, *Organist Choirmaster*
 The Reverend Deacon Nicci Beeck, *Parish Administrator*

The Vestry

The Reverend William Bulson, *Chair*
 Mary Snyder, *Senior Warden*
 John Davis, *Junior Warden*
 Brian Heck, *Treasurer*
 Helen Mullison, *Chancellor*
Vestry: Jack Britton, Tasha Crouse, Mary Gallimore, Jane Hanson, Shannon Luckey-Mueller, Robert McMillan, Jean-Margaret Merrell-Beech, Pat Sather, Connie Schneider

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Grace Episcopal Church

