

# House of the Redeemer

7 East 95<sup>th</sup> Street New York, New York 10128 www.houseoftheredeemer.org



The House of the Redeemer, a place apart, based in the Episcopal tradition is open to all.

Housed in a landmarked building, we provide hospitality through worship, spiritual renewal, and cultural and community events.

## Fall 2025 Newsletter

## Winter Benefit 2025



The Rt. Rev. Mary Glasspool, Becki Sander, The Rev. Christina Rees, and The Rev. Margaret Rose



The Rt. Rev. Dean Wolfe and The Rev. Marisa Sifontes



Honoree Judi Counts

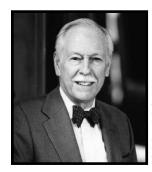


The Rt. Rev Matthew F. Heyd and Percy Preston, Jr.

On February 20, 2025 the House held the Annual Winter Benefit honoring Judi Counts, Executive Director, who retired in June.

Photos are courtesy of Kara Flannery.

## Notes from the President



This has been a year of transition at the House. In June, we bid goodbye to Judi Counts after a quarter-century of exemplary service as our Executive Director. At our Board of Trustees meeting in June we presented her with a piece of crystal engraved with her name and the years of her service to the House. We are profoundly grateful for her stewardship, and wish her a long, happy retirement.

On July 1st, we welcomed Natasha Donnelly as our new Executive Director. She comes to us after seven years at the Convent of the Sacred Heart. With a background in theology and spiritual education, she is uniquely equipped to nurture the mission of the House of the Redeemer as a sacred place for rest, reflection and renewal. My colleagues on the search committee, Alicia Benoist, Frances Olivieri, David Rowe, Nancy Treuhold and Andrew St. John, all deserve a standing ovation for their hours of devoted work evaluating and interviewing candidates for the executive director position.

By the time you are reading this, the new furnace will be installed and operational. This major project, largely funded by a testamentary gift from Robert and Suzanne Parsons, has been overseen by Leslie Rupert, chair of the Property Committee, and Moumen Haffar, our multi-talented operations manager. We are all in their debt. For once the weather co-operated and on June 5th we were able to hold the garden party outside. The benefit committee, chaired by Leslie Rupert, assembled a number of items for both silent and live auctions. Adam MacDonald was a superb auctioneer who coaxed sufficient money out of attendees to pay for the restoration of the antique glass dome in the House's front elevator.

With the support of trustee Robert Edgar, we launched the Fabbri Library Project with Patricia Davalos, a professional librarian, as project manager. She has been here one day a week for several months assessing our collection with the ultimate goal of bringing some semblance of order to the library. Among the bibliographic treasures she uncovered is a copy of the score of Giacomo Puccini's opera Tosca inscribed by the composer to Sandro Fabbri in 1909. Alessandro "Sandro" Fabbri was Edith Fabbri's brother-in-law and later a frequent visitor to 7 East 95th Street.

Thanks to Nancy Treuhold, the Board of Foreign Parishes of the Episcopal Church has rented two small rooms at the House, one for occasional guests and the other to serve as the board's office. Currently, Schuyler Rowe, a postulant in the Diocese of New York, is working on organizing and digitizing the board's archives from this space. I look forward to seeing you at one or more House events over the months ahead.

Percy Preston, Jr. President

#### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

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Moumen Haffar

HOUSE OF THE REDEEMER
7 East 95th Street
New York, New York 10128
(212) 289-0399

### Priests-in-Residence

The Rev. Lynn C. Sanders, September 1-12, is a retired Episcopal priest canonically resident in the Episcopal Diocese of New York. Before retiring, Lynn served as vicar of St. Bartholomew's Church. She graduated from Church Divinity School of the Pacific (CDSP) in Berkeley, California, and was ordained to the diaconate and priesthood in New York in 2004. She served as assistant rector at Good Shepherd Episcopal Church in Austin, Texas before returning to NYC and St. Bart's. Lynn holds M.Div. (CDSP), MBA (Clemson Univ.), and B.S. (Furman Univ.) degrees, as well as certification from The Haden Institute's Spiritual Direction program. Lynn lives in Greenville, South Carolina, her childhood hometown, where she serves as frequent supply priest, church consultant, and spiritual director in the Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina.

The Very Rev. Zachary Fleetwood, September 14-30, is Dean Emeritus of The American Cathedral in Paris, where he served from 2003-2011. Since his ordination to the priesthood, he has served rural, suburban, and urban parishes in Virginia, Washington DC, New Jersey, Georgia, and Edinburgh, Scotland. Since retirement from full-time parish ministry he happily divides his time between his homes in Charlottesville, Virginia and a little village on the Seine in Normandy. His interests include grandparenting, biking, swimming, reading, architecture, design and travel. A devoted *flaneur*, he loves wandering and exploring the streets of Paris, Amsterdam, Mexico City, and of course New York!

The Rev. Michael Rowe, October 1-15, who was educated at McGill, Oxford and the University of the South, has served as a priest in Montreal, the UK, Bermuda, Maine and now Florida. He has taught history and liturgy at the Montreal Diocesan Theological College; Bangor, Maine Seminary; and the Diocese of Southwest Florida School for Ministry Development. He is currently the priest-in-charge of St. Raphael's Church in Fort Myers Beach, Florida.

**The Rev. Thomas N. J. Synan, October 16-31,** is the Rector of Grace Episcopal Church in Amherst, Massachusetts. He is originally from New York, was ordained in the Diocese of New York, and served at Church of the Heavenly Rest for 13 years before moving to Amherst.

The Very Rev. Mark Goodman, November 1-15, is the retired Dean Emeritus of St. John's Cathedral in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Originally from Oklahoma, Dean Goodman has served parishes in the dioceses of Southern Ohio, South Carolina, and the Rio Grande. He and his wife, Dawn, have two grown children. Trained as a botanist, Mark received his B.Sc. from the Univ. of Oklahoma and his M.Sc. from the Univ. of Iowa. He remains interested in botany and is also an amateur astronomer, being the President of the Albuquerque Astronomical Society. An active Rotarian, Mark is a past-president of the Rotary Club of Alburquerque. In retirement,

Dean Goodman enjoys going on pilgrimages, opera, reading, and cooking.

Canon William Derby OGS, November 15-30, now resides in Montreal, Canada, and is a retired Rector of nearby St. Edward the Martyr NYC. Ordained in the Diocese of New York, he also served congregations in Montreal and Vancouver, as well as in Cuernavaca and Oaxaca, Mexico. As the US Prior of the Oratory of the Good Shepherd, a religious society of the Anglican Church, he continues to offer retreats and spiritual formation counsel to clergy and laity. An avid traveler, he has led education travel and pilgrimages for over 30 years in many parts of the world. As an interest, he collects antique textiles and Spanish Colonial art. Fluent in French and Spanish, he enjoys both the history and cuisine of many countries and is a fan of their 20th century literature and music.

The Rev. Cn. Gary R. Hall, December, retired in 2016 as the 10th Dean of Washington National Cathedral. Prior to serving in Washington, Rev. Hall served as Dean and President of Seabury-Western Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois. He has also served as rector of parishes in Pennsylvania (Church of the Redeemer, Bryn Mawr) and Michigan (Christ Church Cranbrook in Brookfield Hills). Since 2020 Rev. Hall has served as interim rector of Trinity Church, Santa Barbara, priest-in-charge of St. Wilfrid's in Huntington Beach, and President of Bloy House, the Episcopal School of Theology at Los Angeles until 2024. He has served the national church as a member of the Standing Commission on Ministry Development (two triennia), the Task Force on the Episcopacy, and as Board Chair of Episcopal Divinity School. He is an associate of the Order of the Holy Cross.

The Rev. Dr. Adam D. McCoy, OHC, January, is a solitary monk of the Episcopal Benedictine Order of the Holy Cross and lives in Southern California. He was Prior of Mount Calvary Monastery in Santa Barbara, California from 2014-2020, and also was President of the Board of Trustees of the House of the Redeemer from 2003-2013. He is a historian of monasticism.



The House Chapel

## Calendar of Events

#### Examining HBO's The Gilded Age: Fact or Fiction

Join NY Adventure Club for a special evening with licensed NYC tour guide Ginny Poleman, who will lead an illustrated 60-minute talk unpacking the real people, places, and power struggles that shaped NYC's Gilded Age and how they compare to their portrayals in HBO's *The Gilded Age*. Through historic visuals and photographs, Ginny will illuminate the cultural and social forces that defined the era, introduce the figures and families who influenced society and industry, and trace how their legacies continue to shape modern portrayals. **Tickets \$45. Reserve through Eventbrite** 

Wednesday September 17 6:00 PM

#### Carnegie Hill Cinema Club: Screening of Ghost Town

We are partnering with Carnegie Hill Neighbors for the launch of a new Cinema Club series! Join us in the Library for a night of film, conversation, and connection—where neighbors gather, friendships spark, and a new community tradition begins. We're delighted to be screening *Ghost Town*, the sharp and charming romantic comedy starring Ricky Gervais and Téa Leoni—filmed in part right here in our neighborhood! The story follows a cranky dentist who, after a brief brush with death, returns to life with an unusual gift: the ability to see ghosts—each one eager for his help. Come for the cinema, stay for the community. **Tickets \$10 donation. Reserve through Eventbrite** 

Friday September 19 6:30 PM

#### **Fabbri Chamber Concert: Andrew Armstrong**

The Fabbri Chamber Concerts return for the season with acclaimed pianist and host Andrew Armstrong. The evening's program features works by Julia Perry and William Grant Still, Beethoven's beloved *Das Lebewohl* Sonata, and Mussorgsky's masterful *Pictures at an Exhibition*. Praised for his passionate expression and dazzling technique, Armstrong has performed on the world's great stages from Carnegie Hall to Wigmore Hall. Join us in the intimate Fabbri Library for an unforgettable evening of chamber music. **Tickets \$55. Reserve through Eventbrite** 

Wednesday September 24 6:30 PM

#### André DeShields is Tartuffe

This October, Tony Award winner and Broadway legend André De Shields transforms the House of the Redeemer into a decadent spectacle of *André De Shields is Tartuffe*. In this strictly limited engagement, 100 guests per night will witness an "exorcism of hypocrisy" inspired by Molière's infamous deceiver. With a razor-sharp translation by Ranjit Bold (OBE) and direction by Keaton Wooden, the scandalous satire that once shocked Paris returns as an opulent evening of ritual, revelry, and theatrical excess. **Tickets available at** <u>TartuffeNYC.com</u>

October 1 through November 23

## **House Christmas Party**

Join us for the 30th anniversary of our annual end-of-the-year celebration as Anthony Newfield, Broadway performer and Artistic Director of I Fabbristi, continues the popular House tradition of a holiday reading followed by caroling and a festive reception. This is one of the most eagerly anticipated events each year at the House, and the trustees look forward to welcoming friends to celebrate the spirit of the season! **Tickets \$28. Reserve through Eventbrite.** 

Monday December 8 6:30 PM

#### Fabbri Chamber Concert: 4 International Soloists Join 4 Rising Stars Ravel Quartet and Mendelssohn Octet

Hosted by Andrew Armstrong, the Fabbri Chamber Concerts continue with an extraordinary ensemble of eight musicians. The program pairs Ravel's shimmering *String Quartet in F Major* with Mendelssohn's exhilarating *Octet in E-flat Major*—a work composed when Mendelssohn was just sixteen and now celebrated as one of the crown jewels of chamber music. This rare opportunity to hear both masterpieces performed live will showcase violinists Simone Porter, Nathan Meltzer, Virgil Moore, and Hayoung Choi; violists Melissa Reardon and Carlos Walker; and cellists Alice Yoo and Sara Scanlon.

Wednesday December 10 6:30 PM

Tickets \$55. Reserve through **Eventbrite**.

# **Weekly Offerings**

All are welcome to the following weekly programs:

## **Morning and Evening Prayer**

Monday through Friday 8:00 am and 5:30 pm Eucharist on Tuesday Evening and Thursday Morning

If you would like to add names to the Chapel prayer list please let us know.

## Gentle Yoga

Yoga begins on Monday, October 6, and will meet every Monday at 4:00 pm.

Join us for gentle yoga led by Nancy Treuhold, open to all levels. This restorative practice is designed to nurture body and mind, offering a calm start to your week. No advance sign-up is needed.

Suggested donation: \$10, with proceeds supporting the House of the Redeemer.

## **Bible Study**

Bible Study resumes Wednesday, October 8, and will meet every Wednesday at 4:00 pm.

Helen Goodkin, who has led Bible Study at the House since 2019, is planning a series that will focus on what Jesus was known for during his lifetime: teaching and healing. The seven-week class will begin by focusing on key parables in Mark, Matthew, and Luke, and conclude with healing stories from all four Gospels.

Everyone is welcome, so come and bring a friend!

Please consider including the House in your estate plans. Bequests have been important to the House over the years, especially unrestricted bequests, due to the flexibility they provide.

The suggested language for your will is:

"I give the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to House of the Redeemer, New York, NY for its general corporate purposes."

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Donors contemplating making a gift of marketable securities should contact the office for instructions on how to deliver those securities.

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