

Please Pray For...

Parishioners... Mary, Michael, Jimmy, Joyce, Lisa, Michael, Dick, Martha, Liz, Nate, Easter, Thomas, Bette, Jack, Sherrie, Sharon, Eleanor

Family and friends... Tina, Carol, Matthew, Sherrel, Pepper, Jack, Cecilia, Tom, Jeanne, Spencer, Ella, Lori, Jennifer, Margaret, Joan, Rob, Richard, Denise, John, Gayle, Steve, Patty, Bobby, Caitlin, Bibsy, Wally and his family, Tina, Jack, Megan, Dottie, Lavonia, John, Ann, Scott, Larry, Sue, Nate, Cynthia, Jack, Sarah, Dominic, Maureen, Josie, Eileen, Meredith, Atelia, Yvonne, Kimberly, Sheila, Maria, Kathy, Jim, Jack, Bud, Max, Bill, Ella, Shannon, Chris, Neal, Alec, Darrie, Tammy, Alice, Sandra, Vicky, Russ

Requiescat in Pace ... all those killed in acts of terror and the wars around the world.

Those serving in Afghanistan or Iraq and all others at risk, including, Alex Ford, Andy Lopez, Eric and Karen Coulson, and Claire Eudy. Pray for healing for US troops wounded as casualties of war and their caregivers.

Others who are overseas serving the Church or our nation, or studying, including Lit and Mary Carol Tazewell, Maggie Eckel, Andrew Boyd and Audra Kreger, the Scudi family, Mike and Kim Bomberger, Chris, Maggie and Eddy Corlett, Virginia Robinson, the Pattarini family, Evan and Kim Cannell

Those in assisted living: Shirley, Jorge, Joan, Clare, Tom, Fr. Jack, Kathleen, Jim

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Westover, Charles City; Immanuel, Old Church; Fork Church, Doswell; St. James-the-Less, Ashland.

In the parish The work of the Virginia Theological Seminary and Seminarians **Jason Roberson** and **William Campbell**.

Those with birthdays this week:

18 Luke Carle, David Dellefield, Clay Everett

19 Moira Henel, Mac Rein Jr.

20 Pat Edelin, Graham Murchison

21 Holly Henderson, Wendy Wilmer

22 Priscilla Hanley

23 Constance Troyer

Notes for Today

Greenery on the Altar

The greenery arrangements on the Altar today are given to the glory of God and in Thanksgiving by the Altar Guild.

Adult Forum Series with Senior Seminarian Jason Roberson

Explore the use of Scripture in several rites of the *Book of Common Prayer*. We will meet in the St. John Room.

The Inquirers Class

The Inquirers Class will be meeting in the St. Mark Room with Father Malm. This week's topic will be: The Two Christmas Stories.

Restoring Needed Funding

So far we have 190 pledges and are moving closer to our goal of 250. Please fill out a pledge card or pledge online at www.gracealex.org/pledge.

Pledge Envelopes

This year we are trying a new program through the vendor who provides our pledge envelopes. Each quarter the envelopes will be mailed directly to the homes of everyone who has made a pledge. If you do not receive your envelopes by the start of the new year, please contact Amy at

parish.administrator@gracealex.org so she can get you a temporary set of envelopes and check on your address.

Invitation to Serve

The Vestry is seeking candidates to begin serving in January 2017. We are electing five members for three-year terms, two members for two-year terms, and two members for one-year terms. Vestry candidates must be confirmed members, in good standing, who are “known to the Treasurer.” If you are interested or if you know someone to suggest as a nominee, please contact a member of the senior class (Bill Eckel, Jeff Chiow, Easter Thompson, Lina Dobbs, or Bill Malone).

This Week

Guide for Christmas

A brochure with a description of each of the Christmas liturgies is available in the tract rack in the Narthex and on the credenza in the Commons.

Christmas Offering

Special Christmas Offering envelopes are available in the pews, in the tract rack and on the credenza in the Commons.

Greening of Grace Church

Wednesday, the 21st of December is our annual Greening of Grace Church. Festivities begin at 6 p.m., and all are welcome to participate. Let's get Grace Church ready for Christmas together. Bring a snack to share if you want. Any questions please let Cindy Diehl know, cindy.diehl@gracealex.org.

Father Jack's Anniversary

This Thursday at the 12:15 Holy Eucharist, we will celebrate Father Jack Weise's 54th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood. Father Jack helped at Grace Church for many years after retiring from the Diocese of West Virginia. He currently resides in Goodwin House.

Upcoming Events

2016 Contributions

In order to have your pledges and other contributions recorded for 2016, they must be received in the office by December 31 or postmarked December 31.

Save the Date: Grace at the Movies, Tuesday, January 10

Watch and discuss the film “Love and Mercy.” The film starts promptly at 6:30 p.m. RSVP by January 2 to elisabeth.graham@gracealex.org.

#AWAKEN GRACE February 3-5, Richmond, VA

Join youth from around the Diocese for the first annual conference for spiritual formation. Limited spaces and application required. If your 9-12th grader is interested, contact Jenni at jenni.faires@gracealex.org for more information. Cost: \$80.

Gifts at the Creche

Through the Christmas season, we will collect gifts of unwrapped school and craft supplies for the children in the International Academy at TC Williams High School in Alexandria. Most of these children have come here from other countries, often times after traumatic, even life-threatening events. Children will be invited to bring them forward to the crèche at the 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. Christmas Eve celebrations.

The Calendar for the Week

Sunday, Dec 18

- 8:30 a.m. Library open (8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.) and when church is open
- 8:45 a.m. Childcare for children 6 weeks through 2 years
(until 12:30 p.m.) — Nursery
- 9:00 a.m. Children's Chapel — St. Nicholas Room
- 10:15 a.m. Adult Forum – St. John Room,
- 10:15 a.m. Inquirers Class – St. Mark Room
- 11:15 a.m. Children's Chapel — St. Nicholas Room
- 6:00 p.m. Community of Hope International — St. Mark Room

Monday, Dec. 19

- 6:30 a.m. Strength and Flexibility Class — Auditorium
- 1:00 p.m. Food Pantry (until 3:00 p.m.)
- 6:30 p.m. Education for Ministry — St. John Room

Tuesday, Dec. 20

- 1:00 p.m. Food Pantry open (until 3:00 p.m.)
- 4:15 p.m. Boys and Girls Choir Rehearsal
- 5:45 p.m. Confession – Lady Altar
- 6:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist with Healing Prayers — Lady Altar

Wednesday, Dec. 21

Thomas the Apostle

- 7:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist — Lady Altar
- 8:00 p.m. AA and Al-Anon — St. Luke Room and Auditorium

Thursday, Dec. 22

- 12:15 p.m. Holy Eucharist — High Altar
- 4:15 p.m. Boys and Girls Choir
- 6:45 p.m. Handbell Choir
- 7:30 p.m. Adult Choir

Friday, Dec. 23

- 6:30 p.m. Food Pantry
- 8:30 p.m. AA — Auditorium

Saturday, Dec. 24

- 9:00 a.m. Altar Guild — Sacristy and Nave
- 3:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist with Carols
- 5:00 p.m. Festival Eucharist
- 7:30 p.m. Festival Eucharist
- 11:00 p.m. Festival