

Please Pray For...

Parishioners... Thomas, Patti, Ruth, Joseph, John and Anne, Lorna and Ken, Bette, Michael, Jack, Nora Lee, Lew, Richard

Family and friends... Pepper, Cathy, Mary, Jean, Brenda, Virginia, Paul, Martha, Carolyn and John, Bernice, John, Stephen and Marian, Harold, Amy, Tina, Cathie, Eileen, Heinz, Alec

Requiescat in Pace ... Lois Hatch, Jack Russell and all those killed in acts of terror and war around the world.

Those serving in Afghanistan or Iraq and all others at risk: Lt. 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, Chris and Maggie Corlett, Virginia Robinson, the Pattarini family, Evan and Kim Cannell.

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

The Anglican Prayer Cycle: Wyoming - (VI, The Episcopal Church), **The Rt Revd John Smylie.**

The Diocese of Virginia Prayer Cycle: Piedmont, Madison; Creator, Mechanicsville.

Grace Episcopal Church Prayer Cycle: **Chris Kupczyk**, Vestry chair of the **Worship Program** and the volunteers who serve in the Altar and Flower Guilds.

Those with birthdays this week:

17 Mary Fox, Mary Hix, Nasya Khanna, Charles Saphos

18 David Dellefield, Clay Everett, Owen Malone,
Maria Ribas

19 Mac Rein Jr.

20 Pat Edelin, Graham Murchison,

21 Holly Henderson, Christopher Martin, Wendy Wilmer

22 Meghan Ames, Priscilla Hanley

23 Constance Troyer

Contact the Parish Office with your prayer requests or submit them on the website at: <https://www.gracealex.org/worship/personal-worship/>. Requests will be removed after 4 weeks unless renewed.

Today

The Greens on the Altar

Today's greens are given in thanksgiving and to the glory of God by the Altar Guild.

Christian Education Hour (10:15 a.m.)

Adult Forum The EYC Mission Trip (Auditorium)

The EYC youth that attended the mission trip this summer will report to the congregation about their experience.

Inquirers Class The Two Christmas Stories (Library)

Advent Confession

Father Malm will be available for Confession in the Nave during Advent from 5:45-6:15 p.m. on the 19th or by appointment.

Christmas Pageant Today at 5:00 p.m.

Join us tonight at 5 p.m. A pizza and Christmas cookie reception will follow. Please bring a plate of cookies to share. Cookie drop off is in the auditorium prior to the pageant. The pizza is provided.

Greening of the Church

Wednesday, the 20th of December, is our annual Greening of Grace Church. Festivities beginning at 6 p.m. All are welcome to participate. Let's get ready for Christmas together. Bring a snack to share if you want. Any questions, contact Lucy-Lee Reed at lucylee.reed@gracealex.org.

Today is the Christmas Giving Program Deadline!

The deadline is **TODAY** and distribution will be next week. These cards will allow families to buy gifts for their children. Please contact Sally Schneider with questions at sally.schneider@gracealex.org.

Stewardship 2018: Reach those goals!

Hopefully, you have seen our posters upstairs in the stairwell outside the Auditorium with gauges measuring our progress toward 275 pledges and \$950,000 in donations. We have received 187 pledges for a total of \$680,083. Don't incur the wrath of Dr. Evil, help us reach our goals! Pledge online (www.gracealex.org/pledge) or pick up a pledge card. Email any questions to chrisrugaber@gmail.com.

Next Week

Christian Education Hour (10:15 a.m.)

There will not be a Christian Education Hour on December 24, 2017 as we prepare for the Christmas Eve services. Classes resume on January 14th.

Gifts for the Creche

Christmas Eve is next week! At our 5:00 service, we will be presenting gifts at the creche. This year's gifts will benefit Doorways for Women and Families. Please visit their Amazon Wish List at <http://amzn.to/2AB2mxg>. It includes everything from pacifiers and security blankets to clothes and baby monitors

Upcoming Events

Service Time Change for December 31

We will be having a 10:00 a.m. Christmas Lessons and Carols service instead of a 9:00 and 11:15 service. There will not be a Christian Education Hour.

Shrine Mont Camp Reunion

A Shrine Mont camp reunion will be held January 6 from 1:00-4:30 at St. Mary's in Arlington. Come reconnect with your friends!

Shrine Mont Camp Registration

Shrine Mont summer camp registration goes live on January 9. Dates and prices can be found at <http://www.shrinemontcamps.net/>.

Save the Date - Living with Difference, How to Build Community in a Divided World -- Saturday, Feb. 4

This day-long retreat will be led by David Montgomery, a founder of CEDAR, a group working to help members of disparate communities recognize and accept differences to create a civil society. The cost is \$30 and includes the book and lunch. Registration is limited and can be found at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090e45aba62eabf94-living> or by emailing Jenni Faires at jenni.faires@gracealex.org

There is a Christmas Eve service for everyone!

- 3:00 p.m. Eucharist for Families
This service has children as readers and the sounds of the Boys and Girls Choir. Following the service, the children sing Happy Birthday to Jesus and celebrate with a piece of cake!
- 5:00 p.m. Traditional Christmas Eve Eucharist with Brass
- 7:30 p.m. Contemplative Choral Eucharist
- 11:00 p.m. Traditional Midnight Mass of the Nativity of our Lord

Christmas Day

- 12:00 p.m. Festival Eucharist

*Nursery provided at 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. services only. Children's Chapel provided at 5:00 p.m. service.

Calendar of the Week
December 17-23

Sunday Advent 3

7:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist
9:00 a.m. Choral Eucharist
 La Gracia Eucharist
10:15 a.m. Christian Education Hour
11:15 a.m. Choral Eucharist with Holy Baptism
12:55 p.m. Rosary Group (Library)
5:00 p.m. Children's Pageant

Monday

1:00 p.m. Food Pantry open (until 3:00 p.m.)
6:30 p.m. Education for Ministry (St. Mark Room)

Tuesday

10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
1:00 p.m. Food Pantry open (until 3:00 p.m.)
4:00 p.m. Beginner Chorister Practice
5:00 p.m. Advanced Chorister Practice
5:45 p.m. Confessions
6:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist with Healing

Wednesday

7:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist
7:00 p.m. AA – St. Luke Room
7:30 p.m. Bible Study at the VTS Pub
8:00 p.m. AA/Alanon – Auditorium and St. Luke Room

Thursday

12:15 p.m. Holy Eucharist
6:45 p.m. Handbell Choir Practice
7:30 p.m. Adult Choir Practice

Friday

6:30 p.m. Food Pantry Open (until 7:30 p.m.)
8:30 p.m. AA (St. Mark Room)

Saturday

9:00 a.m. Altar Guild
7:00 p.m. La Gracia Christmas Service – Nave with Reception in the Merrow Hall
 Auditorium to follow