

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

Requiescat in Pace ... Nancy M. Breedlove Trezza, Eugene Cox, Joe Hildenbrand 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: Western North Carolina - (IV, The Episcopal Church), **The Rt Revd José Antonio McLoughlin.**

The Diocese of Virginia Prayer Cycle: Santa Maria, Falls Church; Meade Memorial, Alexandria.

Grace Episcopal Church Prayer Cycle: Kemp Williams, chair of the Lay Eucharistic Ministers, and the volunteers who serve at the altar.

Those with birthdays this week:

11 Juliet Carr, Alexander Everett, Mia Simpson

13 Isabella Giacomo, Michael Miller, Lucio Ovando, Edwin Vasquez

14 Mike Stancil, Mary Carol Tazewell, Lucy Waskowicz

15 Peter Eckel, Greg Whitlow

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 Book of St. Mark (St. Mark Room)

An introduction to the Book of Mark by Mother Belanger. The new church year also brings a new Gospel. Note the location!

Inquirers Class The Gospels (Library)

Photo Sale Today (Foyer)

Final opportunity to get that picture that you absolutely love, or absolutely want out of circulation! Funds go to the parish general fund.

St. Nicholas is coming today!

During both the 9:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. services, St. Nicholas will visit. There is a special display in the new Narthex.

Advent Lessons and Carols today at 5:00 p.m.

Advent Lessons and Carols will be sung by the Boys and Girls Choir and the Adult Choir. Music by Elgar, Stanford, Jean, Ord, and Palestrina as well as festive hymns. The service concludes with a Rite I Holy Eucharist.

Advent Confession

Father Malm will be available for Confession during Advent from 5:45-6:15 p.m. on the 12th and the 19th or by appointment.

GES Book Sale (St. John)

Support the school while getting some of your shopping done. The book sale is set up in the St. John Room and will be available following the 9:00 a.m. service.

Christmas Giving Program

Our goal is to help as many in our La Gracia community as possible. Please donate money for the purchase of gift cards to be distributed to those families and individuals identified by the clergy and lay ministers. The deadline is **Sunday, December 17** and distribution will be the week before Christmas. These cards will allow families to buy gifts for their children. Please contact Sally Schneider with questions at sally.schneider@gracealex.org.

Next Week

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

Adult Forum The EYC Mission Trip (Auditorium)

Inquirers Class The Two Christmas Stories (Library)

Christmas Pageant, December 17 at 5:00 p.m.

This unforgettable Advent worship experience takes place on December 17 at 5 p.m. In addition to Advent activities, rehearsals will be taking place during Sunday school! A pizza and Christmas cookie reception will follow the pageant. Please bring a plate of cookies to share during the reception. The pizza is provided.

Upcoming Events

Gifts for the Creche

Christmas Eve is coming soon and at our 5:00 service we will be presenting our gifts at the creche. This year the gifts will benefit Doorways for Women and Families. Please see their list of urgently needed items or visit their Amazon Wish List at <http://amzn.to/2AB2mxg>. It includes everything from pacifiers and security blankets to clothes and baby monitors

There is a Christmas Eve service for everyone!

3:00 p.m. Eucharist for Families

This service is designed with children in mind and includes children as readers and the sounds of the Boys and Girls Choir. Following the service, the children are invited to sing Happy Birthday to Jesus and celebrate the birthday of Jesus with a piece of cake!

5:00 p.m. Festival Christmas Eve Eucharist With Brass

7:30 p.m. Choral Eucharist

11:00 p.m. 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 10-16

Sunday	Advent 2
7:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
9:00 a.m.	Choral Eucharist with Holy Baptism La Gracia Eucharist with Holy Baptism
10:15 a.m.	Christian Education Hour GES Book Sale (St. John Room)
11:15 a.m.	Choral Eucharist
5:00 p.m.	Holy Eucharist
Monday	Brown Bag Lunches (through Friday)
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
7:00 p.m.	Vestry Meeting
Wednesday	
7:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
7:00 p.m.	AA – St. Luke Room
7:00 p.m.	Mather Lay Committee (Library)
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	
10:00 a.m.	GES Christmas Program
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