

Please Pray For...

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

Family and friends... Pepper, Cathy, Mary, Jean, Brenda, Virginia, Paul, Martha, Carolyn and John, Bernice, John, Stephen and Marian, Harold, Nancy, Gene

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

Thanksgiving for the birth of Claire Georgene Rosman, daughter of Scott and Katie, granddaughter of Barry and Jane.

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 travelling: Karla Merritt, Anne McFadden and Gary Schroen,

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

The Anglican Prayer Cycle: West Buganda - (Uganda), **The Rt Revd Henry Katumba-Tamale.**

The Diocese of Virginia Prayer Cycle: St. Mark's, Alexandria; San Marcos, Alexandria; Trinity, Charlottesville; St. Andrew's, Burke.

Grace Episcopal Church Prayer Cycle: Dr. Richard Newman, Director of Music and Francisco Robles, as well as those who volunteer in the Adult Choir, the Choristers and the Handbell Choir.

Those with birthdays this week:

- 4 Kevin Plunkett, Clara Shriner, Nicholas Shriner,
Mary Walsh
- 6 Cameron Sweet
- 7 Graham Murchison, Harrison Moore
- 8 Valerie Eudy

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 Bilingual Advent Forum (Auditorium)

Mother Belanger and Jenni Faires will lead our first bilingual forum entitled "All about Advent: from theoretical to the practical.

Inquirers Class The Church Year: Sacred Time (Library)

Photo Sale Today (Auditorium)

It's a great time to get that special photo. Typically, the sale brings \$1,400 into the parish general fund. Come look, browse, buy!

Bethlehem Craft Sale Today (Foyer)

Please take the time to browse the display of handmade olivewood religious carvings from Bethlehem and Jerusalem. They are handmade by Christians in Bethlehem who rely on these sales for their daily bread. Please support our Christian brothers and sisters. For more information, visit holylandcsc.com.

Youth News

The Youth Christmas gathering is tonight at Hard Times Cafe in Springfield. The gathering is from 6-8 p.m. Drop off/pick up is at Hard Times Cafe. Contact Jenni or your youth sponsor if you have any questions.

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 178 pledges for a total of \$651,073. 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.org.

Christmas Flowers Deadline December 9!

It's time for Christmas Flower donations. Forms are available on the credenza and in the Narthex tract rack or donate online on the under Stewardship at GraceAlex.org. These donations cover the cost of the flowers and greens for Christmas and help with flower costs during the year.

Christmas Giving Program

The Thanksgiving Basket program was a fantastic blessing this year thanks to your generosity, We helped 105 families in the community with either baskets and gift cards (74) or just gift cards (31)! The Outreach Committee is asking for your support again with the 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@graceslex.org. Thank you for your many blessings!

Arlandria Quality of Life Walk, Dec. 8 at 9:00 a.m.

The annual Quality of Life Walk is designed for City Staff and Arlandria residents to collectively walk the Arlandria neighborhood and observe and document areas or issues that need to be addressed or improved. Departments will follow up on any issues related to public health, safety, and welfare per each department's internal policy and practice. It will start at 4109 Mount Vernon Avenue.

Next Week

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

Adult Forum The Book of Mark (St. Mark Room)

Inquirers Class The Gospels (Library)

Visit from St. Nicholas, December 10

During both the 9:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. services, our children will receive a special visit from St. Nicholas.

Brown Bag Help Needed for December 11-15

In October, there was a great need for more lunches than expected. There weren't enough sandwiches to fill the brown bags we provide for the week. If it is possible for you to make 10 or 20 sandwiches, please sign up on the Outreach bulletin board or e-mail linda.waskowicz@gracealex.org. Instructions are on the bulletin board or can be e-mailed to you. Two servers are needed for December 13. Thank you for any help you can give.

Advent Lessons and Carols, December 10 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.

Calling all bakers!

Help us provide 20 dozen homemade Christmas treats for our DIA military and civilian personnel who cannot be home for the holidays. Drop off is Sunday, December 10 by noon in the office. The chaplain overseeing this agency will pick up the cookies and deliver them to the different agencies. Please register the number of dozens of cookies you're bringing at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090e45aba62eabf94-cookies> or email Jenni for additional information.

Upcoming Events

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

The Christmas Pageant will be here before you know it! Rehearsals begins today during Sunday school! Mark your calendars for December 17 at 5:00, for an unforgettable Advent worship experience. If you are interested in helping with the pageant (costumes, coordinating, cooking) please contact Jenni at jenni.faires@gracealex.org.

Community Events

St. Clement Christmas Tree Sale

Get a beautiful Christmas tree and support a local Episcopal congregation. Trees are available on Friday nights (5-8 pm); Saturdays (10-6 pm) and Sundays (11-5 pm). These are fresh cut Fraser Fir trees from a farm in North Carolina. Saint Clement is located between Fairlington and Park Fairfax: 1701 N Quaker Lane.

Calendar of the Week
December 3-December 9

Sunday

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
5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist
5:30 p.m. Youth Evening Fellowship – Hard Times Cafe
6:00 p.m. COHI – St. Mark Room

Advent 1

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
6:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist
7:00 p.m. Executive Committee Meeting

Requiem

Wednesday

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

Nicholas of Myra, 342

Thursday

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

Ambrose, 397

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
6:00 p.m. Casa Chirilagua Holiday Party (Auditorium, St. John)