

Please Pray For...

Parishioners... Thomas, Patti, Ruth, Joseph, Michael, Jack, Richard, Rose, Joyce, Julie

Family and friends... Pepper, Cathy, Martha, Amy, Tina, Cathie, Eileen, Alec, Sherril, Grant, Henry, Olga, Christie, Howard, Neal, Alice, Tammi, Dutch, Adam, Kimberly, Julie, Hans

Requiescat in Pace ... Shirley Tyler, The Rev. Dr. Wallace Bruce Clift 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, Andrew Boyd and Audra Kreger, Chris and Maggie Corlett, Virginia Robinson, the Pattarini family, Evan and Kim Cannell.

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

Those travelling: Kelly Gable and all those travelling with her in celebration of her birthday.

The Anglican Prayer Cycle: The Anglican Church of Canada **The Most Revd Frederick Hiltz** Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada

The Diocese of Virginia Prayer Cycle: St. Stephen's, Heathsville; St. Paul's, Richmond.

Grace Episcopal Church Prayer Cycle: The Board and staff of Grace Episcopal School, **Patricia Culbreth**, Head of School, and **John Berry**, School Board Chair.

Those with birthdays this week:

- 11 Kelley Miller
- 12 Elizabeth Legere, Sarah Calvert, Peregrine Enger
- 13 Lucy-Lee Reed, Libby Padilla
- 15 Pilar Boucher, Catherine Giacomo
- 16 Jose Rodriguez, Jack Hamilton, Aidan Koelbl
- 17 Kate Reeder

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 Flowers on the Altar

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God by Karla Merritt in memory of her father, Paul Cain.

Adult Forum (St. John Room)

William Campbell will lead this week's session of Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John: God is Love. If you missed last week, you can still catch up and be ready to begin the study in plenty of time for Ash Wednesday, February 14. Prayer journals for the study and other Lenten material will be available.

Inquirers' Class (Library)

Today, we will be discussing Baptism, Confirmation, and the Renewal of Vows.

It's time for the Chili Bowl! Tonight 6:00-8:00 p.m. (Auditorium)

Come one and all to sample the great tastes of chili makers throughout the parish! Tasting spoons are \$5 and votes for the best chili are cast with cash.

This Week

Collection of Palms

You are invited to return your blessed palms between now and Shrove Tuesday, February 13, placing them in the baskets in the Narthex or the church office. The palms will be burned for use at Ash Wednesday services.

Confession

Father Malm and Mother Belanger will be available for private confession on Tuesday evenings from 5:45 – 6:15 p.m., Friday mornings from 11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., and by appointment starting after Ash Wednesday.

Pancake Supper, Shrove Tuesday, February 13, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

The season of Lent kicks off in two days with the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. Be sure to read the history of Shrove Tuesday on the newest pew cards! Our youth will be cooking and serving pancakes from 6:00-8:00 pm. Cost of dinner is \$6 per person.

Ash Wednesday Children's Service, February 14, 6:00 p.m.

Our families and children have the opportunity to experience an Ash Wednesday service designed just for them. From coloring Alleluia butterflies to "catch" until Easter to understanding the connection between our baptism and the imposition of ashes, we invite all families with children to experience this unique service.

Parish News

Altar Guild Needs Your Help

The Altar Guild relies on donations not only for flowers but also the wafers and wine at each service. We do our best to stretch dollars with candle sales, but it is only a very small portion of the annual cost. Please consider donating \$5 a month or \$60 a year as your share to supporting all the work the Altar Guild does. Be sure to mark on the memo line that it is for the Altar Guild.

Grace at the Hypothermia Shelter

We are helping those who need shelter have a warm place to sleep. We need a volunteer to serve from 11:45 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. on **Feb. 26** at St. Clement. Our Sign-Up Genius page is www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0A4CA5A728ABFB6-hypothermia2.

The Grace Episcopal Church Legacy Society

The *Book of Common Prayer* offers instructions about legacy giving on page 445: "The Minister of the Congregation is directed to instruct the people ...to make wills, while they are in health, arranging for the disposal of their temporal goods, not neglecting, if they are able, to leave bequests for religious and charitable uses". A will allows the writer to have control over the distribution of real and personal property upon his/her death. A will is not legally required; if one dies without a will, the laws of intestacy will determine the distribution of assets. The outcome may not coincide with the individual's wishes, so it is generally advisable to create a last will and testament. All are encouraged to seek legal counsel on this matter. In the upcoming months, the Grace Legacy Society will provide information about many ways to secure ones legacy.

Flower Delivery Ministry Needs Help!

Every Monday (except during Lent, Advent and on holidays) volunteers deliver flowers from the altar to three parishioners designated by the clergy. Please consider delivering flowers on one Monday a month, or less frequently if you can't commit to deliver each month. Subs are also needed. Please contact Mike Reed at (703) 836-4550 or mikereed@gracealex.org for information or to volunteer.

Next Week

Christian Education Hour

There will not be an Adult Forum or Christian Education class on Sunday, February 18 due to the holiday weekend. Join us for a Fellowship Coffee Hour in Merrow Hall Auditorium.

Inquirers' Class

The class will meet on Sunday, February 18 to discuss the Oxford Movement and its lasting influence.

Looking Ahead to Lent

Lenten devotionals are available. All of the following materials, with the exception of online resources, are available at coffee hour locations and outside the 2nd floor elevator

Adults

Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John

The companion piece to the Monday night Lenten series is a six-week offering of prayer and reflection. The journal includes weekly suggestions for prayer and daily scripture and themes to consider. In addition to the journal, daily reflection videos by the Brothers of Saint John the Evangelist can be found at www.meetingjesusingospelofjohn.org

Lent: A New Beginning

Spiritual Reflections by Pope Francis touch on the many dimensions of our personal conversion to Christ and to his example of boundless mercy and loving service. Each day, as we connect God's Word with the Pope's helpful

guidance, we can consider what we can do now to follow Jesus more closely. Thus our experience of conversion will grow as the Holy Spirit works within us to draw us into the mystery of God's love and God's desire to give us new life. - Steve Mueller, Editor

Draw Near to God

When Jesus' disciples were worn out from their ministry and burdened by the cares of their discipleship, Jesus invited them to come to him, to go apart from the crowds and the hustle-bustle of their daily lives and to rest and refresh themselves. Lent is our time to do the same. We can take the opportunity during this holy season to draw near once again to Jesus through our prayers, our engagement with the Scriptures, our Lenten fasting and abstinence and other practices that draw us closer to Jesus and deepen our commitment to him and his desire to build God's kingdom of justice and peace for all in our world today. As we turn once again to God this Lent, we will be invigorated and empowered through the power of God's Holy Spirit working in and through us. Now is the time to "draw near to God and God will draw near to us" (James 4:8) - Steve Mueller, Editor

The Good Book Club

The Good Book Club is an invitation to all Episcopalians to join in reading the Gospel of Luke and the Book of Acts during Lent-Easter 2018. Led by Forward Movement, The Good Book Club will begin today and continue through Easter. An introduction by Bishop Curry can be found at goodbookclub.org as well as a link to a reading schedule. There is also a Facebook page, The Good Book Club that you can join for additional resources.

Families with Children

Our Lenten Journey: Exploring the Mysteries of Our Faith is a Lenten devotional for kids that helps to unravel the parts of our faith that seem most confusing. With puzzles, activities, and journaling, it is the perfect opportunity for elementary-aged children to independently begin a Lenten routine.

Forty Footsteps for Forty Days is a day by day journey through Lent most appropriate for younger children with parental guidance. Enjoy spending time learning about the words familiar in the Lenten journey, having conversations about your faith and even opening the Bible to read small passages. Younger children will have the beginnings of a solid foundation as we move into the Easter season.

The Good Book Club and Forma (the education group of the Episcopal Church) has developed an online **Weekly Faith-at-Home for Families** series for Lent. Links and information can be found at <https://www.forma.church/good-book-club/>. Jenni will be sharing these each week in the Weekly Round Up, if you would like to follow along.

Monday Night Lenten Series

The Monday Night Lenten Series begins Monday, February 19. We will be using the series, Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John, a Lenten collaboration between SSJE (Society of St. John the Evangelist) and VTS. Prayer journals that coincide with the series will be available beginning this week in the Adult Forum.

Each Monday night during Lent will begin with a service in the Nave at 6:30 pm followed by a Simple Supper in Merrow Hall Auditorium. Our speakers will begin their presentation at approximately 7:45 pm.

- February 19 The Word Made Flesh (Lisa Kimbell)
- February 26 Close to the Father's Heart (Noelle York-Simmons)
- March 5 I Have Called You Friend (Robert Heaney)
- March 12 Abide in Me (Martin Smith)
- March 19 We Declare to You (Jim Mathes)

Quiet Service in the Narthex, February 21

Please join us for a quiet service on Wednesday evening in the Narthex at 7 p.m. Inspired by our experiences on retreat at the monastery of the Society of Saint John the Evangelist, this service offers an opportunity for quiet reflection and devotions. This short service will be followed by discussion and sharing. If you loved the SSJE experience or simply seek a contemplative worship service, this is one to try.

In our Community

Bishop Suffragen Listening Session, February 18 at 2:00 p.m.

The Diocese has asked the Regional Deans and Presidents to schedule "listening sessions" in their regions to provide an opportunity for the people of the Diocese to gather and share their thoughts and ideas regarding the future of the Diocese and what we seek in a second Bishop Suffragan. The listening session for the Alexandria Region is scheduled for Sunday, February 18 at 2:00 p.m. at Emmanuel Episcopal Church, 1608 Russell Road, Alexandria, VA. The session will last for

no more than two hours. All members of the eight Episcopal churches in Alexandria are invited. Parking will be limited, so carpooling is encouraged. If you have any questions, contact June Huber, Regional President, at june.huber@gracealex.org.

Shrine Mont Camps

Registration for Shrine Mont Camps is now open. Early Bird rates last until February 28. For more information, visit www.shrinemontcamps.net.

Applications for the 2018-2019 School Year

Grace Episcopal School is accepting applications for Kindergarten through Fifth Grade, as well as the early childhood program, for the 2018-2019 school year. Before and after care and enrichment clubs are available. For more information, visit our website at www.GraceSchoolAlex.org or call 703-549-5067.

Community Lodgings Gala, February 17

Celebrate Grace Episcopal's 30 years of helping Alexandria's most vulnerable citizens at the Belle Haven Country Club (6023 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria), 6 – 10 p.m. Grace Episcopal will be honored with the seven other Episcopal churches who founded Community Lodgings in December 1987. The evening includes dinner, dancing, bar, and live entertainment by The Intruders. Tickets are \$125/\$100 for under-30. Black tie optional. Register at <http://geni.us/gala> or call Community Lodgings at 703-549-4407.

Calendar for February 11-17

Sunday	Last Sunday after the Epiphany
7:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
9:00 a.m.	Choral Eucharist, La Eucharista
10:15 a.m.	Christian Education Hour
11:15 a.m.	Choral Eucharist
5:00 p.m.	Holy Eucharist
6:00 p.m.	Chili Bowl (Auditorium)
Monday	
1:00 p.m.	Food Pantry open (until 3:00 p.m.)
6:00 p.m.	Education for Ministry (St. Mark Room)
Tuesday	Shrove Tuesday
1:00 p.m.	Food Pantry open (until 3:00 p.m.)
4:00 p.m.	New Chorister Practice
5:00 p.m.	Advanced Chorister Practice
6:00 p.m.	Pancake Supper (Auditorium)
6:30 p.m.	Holy Eucharist
7:00 p.m.	Girl Scouts (Library)
Wednesday	Ash Wednesday
7:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
9:00 a.m.	GES Chapel
12:00 p.m.	Holy Eucharist
4:00 p.m.	Chorister Practice
6:00 p.m.	Children's Ash Wednesday Eucharist
7:00 p.m.	AA – St. Luke Room
7:30 p.m.	Choral Eucharist
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	
11:30 a.m.	Private Confessions
12:15 p.m.	Stations of the Cross with Holy Eucharist
6:30 p.m.	Food Pantry open (until 7:30)
8:30 p.m.	AA (St. Mark Room)
Saturday	
9:00 a.m.	Altar Guild
2:00 p.m.	Requiem for Shirley Tyler