

Please Pray For...

Parishioners... Michael, Richard, Tina, Lisa, Charles, Dottie, Bette, Howard, Dorothy, Barbara, Mike, Dick, Karla, Charles, Susan, Claudine, Barbara S., Lisa B., Amy, Alex, Tracy

Family and friends... Pepper, Cathy, Christine, Joe, Joey, Jared, Julie, Julius, Yeeleng, Jennie, Kemper, Sharon, Adam, Alec, Jack, Troy, Kathy

Requiescat in Pace ... Ken Chamberlain, Doretta Reif, Tod Reese, Douglas Clunie and all those killed in acts of terror and war around the world.

Those serving in Afghanistan, Iraq or Syria and all others at risk: Christopher Corlett, Blair Sokol, Zach Heinrich and 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, Virginia Robinson, the Pattarini family, Evan and Kim Cannell, Karen and Eric Coulson, Melissa and Edi Jurkovic, with daughters Elena, Ana, Mia and Olivia.

Those in assisted living: Jorge, Joan, Clare, Tom, Fr. Jack, Rose, Kathleen, Audrey, Jim, Dabney, Dorothy, Margaret, Lew, Vi, Muriel, Mary, Alice, Neal, Betty, Jane

The Diocese of Virginia Prayer Cycle: All the baptized in their daily life and work.

The Anglican Prayer Cycle: Kubwa - (Abuja, Nigeria) and **The Rt Revd. Duke Akamisoko**

Grace Episcopal Church Prayer Cycle: Molly Sim, coordinator of the Youth Acolytes, and **Stephanie Reed**, coordinator of the Adult Acolytes, and all of the volunteers who serve as acolytes.

Those with birthdays this week:

23 Constance Troyer
24 Yolanda Oertel
27 George Winstead
28 Matt Tschetter
29 Stanley Borgia

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

Greenery on the Altar

The greenery on the Altar today is given to the glory of God by the Joe Donovan in thanksgiving for Claudine and Joe Donovan's 55th anniversary.

Adult Forum

Adult Forums will **resume January 13** with a forum presented by Mary Stewart on the detectives of PBS. This should be a fun time for all our PBS detective fans out there! Coffee Hour will continue in Merrow Hall Auditorium following the 9:00 am service and downstairs in the common area following the 11:15 am service during the holiday break.

Angel Tree Thank You

Many, many thanks to all the "angels" who responded so generously to our appeal for Christmas gifts for a dozen needy families here in Alexandria. You made a real difference in the lives of children whose holidays will be all the brighter because of you.

Schedule Notes

Please see the full schedule for Monday and Tuesday, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. There will not be any other celebrations on the weekdays following. The next weekday services will be January 1 at 12:00 p.m., January 2 at 7:30 a.m. and January 3 at 12:15 p.m.

Christmas Services

Christmas Eve, December 24

3:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist for children and families
4:30 p.m. Choral Prelude
5:00 p.m. Festival Eucharist
7:30 p.m. Festival Eucharist
10:30 p.m. Choral Prelude
11:00 p.m. Midnight Mass of the Nativity of our Lord

Christmas Day, December 25

12:00 p.m. Festival Eucharist

The Sunday after Christmas, December 30

7:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist
10:00 a.m. Christmas Lessons and Carols with Holy Communion
5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Thank You to Stewardship and all who Pledged

We'd like to thank all of the families and individuals who have pledged so far for 2019 as well as Stephen Lovell and the Stewardship committee who have been contacting everyone and sending out reminders. We will be taking a two-week respite and will return to following up in the new year.

Financial Year Closes on December 31st

All pledges and contributions credited for 2018 must be received by Monday, December 31st. This also holds true for requests for reimbursements. Please contact our Financial Administrator, Beth Calaman, if you have any questions.

Upcoming Events

Feast of Epiphany

On January 6th, we will be celebrating the Feast of Epiphany. Join us at the 9:00 a.m. service for a bilingual celebration followed by a fellowship coffee hour with a visitation from the three kings.

Candlemas and Annual Meeting

On January 27th, we will be holding hold a 10:00 service instead of a 9:00 and 11:15 service. It will be a celebration of Candlemas and we will follow it with our Annual Meeting.

Stained Glass Windows Update

Following the October forum on our stained-glass windows, there has been significant interest in moving forward with the proposed restoration work. The vestry has approved the creation of a set-aside fund for the stained-glass windows. It will cover 1) restoration work, 2) memorializing all contributions, and 3) performing minor post-restoration maintenance in the years to come, as necessary. More information on contributing to the project will follow after the Christmas holidays.

From the Food Ministries

Advent Giving!

We're all familiar with Advent Calendars. Who doesn't like to count DOWN the days until Christmas by opening each day's window to reveal a picture to help us get ready for the birth of Baby Jesus. "Advent in Reverse" works by filling UP a bag with food and/or household items for the Grace Church Food Pantry. We'll even give you a green Food Pantry tote bag to fill! Items that are especially appreciated are:

Non-perishable Foods: Dried beans, rice, cooking oil, tortillas, corn meal and corn flour (Masa), canned meats and fish, canned fruit, cereal, oatmeal, jams and jellies, etc.

Cleaning Supplies: Liquid dish soap, sponges, all-purpose cleaners, laundry supplies, etc.

Toiletries: Shampoo, soap, lotions, toothbrushes and other dental care items, etc. for both adults and children.

Thank You for participating in "Advent in Reverse!"

Your contributions help those in need in our Alexandria Community.

Don't Have Time to Shop?

Financial support is always appreciated and we'll do the shopping for you! Just note FOOD PANTRY on your check memo line. Thank You!

Calendar for December 23-29

Sunday	The Fourth Sunday of Advent
7:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
9:00 a.m.	La Gracia (Auditorium)
9:00 a.m.	Choral Eucharist
10:15 a.m.	Coffee Hour and La Gracia Reception
11:15 a.m.	Choral Eucharist
5:00 p.m.	Holy Eucharist
Monday	Christmas Eve
	Office, Food Pantry and School Closed
3:00 p.m.	Holy Eucharist for children and families
4:30 p.m.	Choral Prelude
5:00 p.m.	Festival Eucharist
7:30 p.m.	Festival Eucharist
10:30 p.m.	Choral Prelude
11:00 p.m.	Midnight Mass of the Nativity of our Lord
Tuesday	Christmas Day
	Office, Food Pantry and School Closed
12:00 p.m.	Festival Eucharist
Wednesday	No Holy Eucharist*
	Office, Food Pantry and School Closed
7:00 p.m.	AA District 1 (St. Luke)
8:00 p.m.	AA/Al Anon (Auditorium)
Thursday	No Holy Eucharist*
Friday	
6:30 p.m.	Food Pantry Open
8:30 p.m.	AA (Auditorium)
Saturday	
9:00 a.m.	Altar Guild

* *Weekday services will resume on January 1st with a 12:00 p.m. service*