

Announcements for December 1, 2019

Please Pray For...

Parishioners: Michael, Richard, Tina, Bette, Susan, Frank, Katherine, Will, Easter, Douglas, Christine, Rosemary Claire, Linda, Denise, Yolanda, Claudine, Breen

Family and friends: Pepper, Cathy, Martha, George, Amanda, Kara, Hatch, Andy and Mia, Don, Rt Rev Carl, Virginia, Michael, Denis, Michael, Arden

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

Those serving in Afghanistan, Iraq or Syria and all others at risk: including Chuck DeHoag, 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, Virginia Robinson, the Pattarini family, Melissa and Edi Jurkovic, with daughters Elena, Ana, Mia and Olivia, Chris Slattery, Christopher and Marjorie Corlett, Eric and Karen Coulson.

Those in assisted living: Jorge, Joan, Clare, Tom, Rose, Audrey, Jim, Dabney, Dorothy, Margaret, Vi, Muriel, Mary, Alice, Neal, Betty, Jane, Polly

The Diocese of Virginia Prayer Cycle: Grace, Bremono Bluff

The Anglican Prayer Cycle: Pray for mission agencies and their work throughout the Anglican Communion.

Grace Episcopal Church Prayer Cycle: Diana Jarrett, Vestry chair of the Worship Program and all the volunteers who serve in the Altar and Flower Guilds.

Those with birthdays this week:

4 Kevin Plunkett, Taylor Whitworth, Clara Shriner, Nicholas Shriner

Contact the Parish Office with your prayer requests or submit them on the website at: <http://bit.ly/Grace-Prayer>. Requests will be removed after 4 weeks unless renewed.

A Prayer for Our Search Process

Almighty and gracious God, be with us and guide us; open our hearts and minds, and teach us. Fill us with wisdom and an awareness of your vision as we seek a new rector for Grace Church. Grant continued grace and commitment to those who will be called to serve as members of the search committee, that they may become faithful companions to each other, to the vestry, and to this parish. Grant us an adventurous spirit, willing to attempt new tasks and embrace new ways, and make us ever mindful of the need to listen to your still, small voice; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Today

The greens on the Altar today are given to the glory of God by the Reil family in loving memory of Carolyn Reil.

Adult Forum: Inter-generational Advent Event

There will be no Sunday school or Adult Forum as we gather in Merrow Hall Auditorium to celebrate the beginning of the Advent season. There will be Advent wreath making and crafts as well as devotional materials available for the season. If you did not pre-order the materials for an advent wreath, you may still make one for your family on a first come first served basis. Cost of each wreath is \$25.



Youth Night, 5:30-8:00 p.m.

Tonight is the Youth Christmas Party in Springfield from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. For more information, check the Wednesday RoundUp. Have you been visiting and want your youth involved? Contact Jenni Faires at Jenni.Faires@gracealex.org for more information.

Card Signing (Auditorium)

We will be signing Advent cards for our College and Grad Students, Military, Diplomats and others serving Abroad, and parishioners on our prayer list during the 9:00 and 11:15 coffee hours. Make sure your homesick loved one doesn't miss out on a little encouragement from Grace: send their updated name, mailing address and email to Nancy.robinson@gracealex.org. We even scan and email signed cards to those stationed in remote locations.

Annual Photo Sale

The annual wall photo sale will occur today and next Sunday, December 8, after all morning services. All proceeds from the sale go into the general fund.

First Sunday with the Angel Tree

Beginning December 1, there will be a Christmas tree on the third floor with gift requests from some of the La Gracia families. Please sign up for one or more of the cards. Return the wrapped presents (with the tag attached) by December 19.

Parish News

First Alert for Brown Bag Program: December 9 - 13

Needed are two servers for about three hours either on December 9 or 11 to prepare lunch bags at Grace Church and serve to the homeless and working poor at Meade Memorial in Old Town. Also needed are parishioners to make 10 or 20 sandwiches to be delivered to the Merrow Hall kitchen by December 8. 200 sandwiches are needed for the week. If you are able to volunteer for either task, please sign up on the Outreach bulletin board or email Linda.waskowicz@gracealex.org. Instructions are on the same bulletin board.



Christmas Flowers

It's time for Christmas Flower and Greens donations. The Altar Guild invites you to help make Grace Church beautiful with seasonal decoration. If you wish to contribute to the Christmas decoration fund, please fill out the form and enclose a donation of \$50 or visit gracealex.org and complete the online Flower Donation form if you'd prefer to pay online.

New Photo Wall

Check out our updated photo wall featuring Halloween activities, our very healthy youth program, the blessing of the animals, and a golf outing involving a former President -- among other things.

Stewardship

Pledge Season Continues!

A big thank you to all the individuals and families who have already made their pledge for 2020. We have currently received 118 pledges for a total of \$491,910.92. If you are still prayerfully considering your yearly gift, you may return your card to the church office by mail or drop it in the offering plate in the

coming weeks. Online pledge forms are also available through the [gracealex.org](http://bit.ly/Grace-Pledge) website at <http://bit.ly/Grace-Pledge>.

Have you completed your pledged giving for your 2019 contribution?

Worship, outreach, and ministry programs are all budgeted for the whole year relying on parishioners to fulfill their annual pledge amounts, and we have been careful with our expenses. While additional giving to special funds or occasions is always appreciated, your annual pledge is the critical financial structure supporting our mission. If you have questions about your year-to-date totals, please call the church office. Then please complete your 2019 pledge now to make sure we finish this year on budget.



This Week, December 2-7



Holiday Bazaar is this Saturday!

Begin your holiday shopping with local crafters and vendors at our Holiday Bazaar! Take advantage of the variety of unique gift items including jewelry, accessories, toys, fabric arts, home and holiday decor, and more. The Bazaar will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. All proceeds from the rental of vendor space and the raffle items go to the Food Pantry. **How can you help?** Bring up to 3 non-perishable food items to exchange for raffle tickets! Volunteer to welcome and direct guests by contacting Cor (holidaybazaar.grace@gmail.com)

Next Week December 8-15

December 8: Advent Lessons and Carols

Advent Lessons and Carols will be sung by the Boys and Girls Choir and the Adult Choir on December 8 at 5:00 p.m. Music from *The Southern Harmony* and Handel's beloved masterpiece *Messiah*. Festive hymns for the season will also be sung. The service concludes with Holy Communion Rite I.

December 8: Reception Honoring Father Michael Guy

Following Advent Lessons and Carols, we invite you to a reception in Merrow Hall Auditorium honoring our new interim rector, Father Michael Guy. Drinks will be served from 6-6:30 pm with heavy hors d'oeuvres from 6:30-7:30.

Christmas Flower Donations!



Please **print** your name here:

It's time for Christmas Flower and Greens donations. The Altar Guild invites you to help make Grace Church beautiful with seasonal decoration. If you wish to contribute to the Christmas decoration fund, please fill out the form below and enclose a donation of \$50. These forms may be dropped in the Sunday offering or sent directly to the church office. Please note 'Christmas Flowers' on the check memo line. **If you wish to have your offering listed in the Christmastide Booklet, the office must receive this form and payment by 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 15.** Question? Contact Lisa Doelp, Altar Guild Flower Chair, at 703-239-1302 or lisa.doelp@gracealex.org.

Please circle one of the choices below and **print** the remainder of the message exactly the way you would like it to appear in the Christmastide booklet:

“In loving memory of” or **“In thanksgiving for”**

Given by (**print** the name or names of the donors exactly as you want them to appear):

December 15: Christmas Pageant

The Christmas Pageant is quickly approaching! Jenni Faires is looking for volunteers! Anyone willing to help out in this special production, please contact Jenni at jenni.faires@gracealex.org.



In Our Community

Helping Others Without Leaving Home!

The Card Ministry reaches out to members of our community who have cause for celebration, for concern, reasons to mourn, and those with reason to rejoice. A piece of mail can lift someone's spirit. We need card writers for those everyday events – births and baptisms, weddings and anniversaries, illnesses and condolences. Cards are provided and can be mailed from the church at Grace's expense (though using one's own cards and stamps is an option). If this might interest you, or if you have any questions, contact John Boris at 703-941-3222 or borisjj@hotmail.com.

Hungry during the Holidays

While 90 Thanksgiving Baskets are being given out this morning, the work of the food pantry isn't done. Help us to make sure that the clients who come to us this week have what they need to have a nice Thanksgiving.

Food items: Dried Beans, Tortillas, Jam or Jelly, Fruit Snacks, Bagged Onions, Potatoes, Apples and Oranges

Toiletries: Soap, Toothpaste & Toothbrushes, Shampoo, Toilet Paper, Feminine Hygiene Products

Cleaning Supplies: Laundry Detergent, All Purpose Cleaner, Paper Towels, Dish Soap

Grocery Bags: The Food Pantry always needs clean, non-torn, grocery bags w/handles (Trader Joe's, Harris Teeter, MoM's & Whole Foods).

Advent and Christmas at Grace Church 2019

December 1: Advent 1

7:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist
 9:00 a.m. La Gracia Eucharist in Spanish
 9:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Choral Eucharist
 10:15 a.m. Intergenerational Event and Annual Photo Sale

December 7: Saturday

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Holiday Bazaar
Craft and Gift sale to support the Grace Food Pantry.

December 8: Advent 2

7:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist
 9:00 a.m. La Gracia Eucharist in Spanish
 9:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. St. Nicholas Visit to both Choral Eucharists
 5:00 p.m. Advent Lessons and Carols
With the Boys and Girls Choir and Adult Choir

December 15: Advent 3

7:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist
 9:00 a.m. La Gracia Eucharist in Spanish
 9:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Choral Eucharist
 5:00 p.m. Christmas Pageant followed by a reception

December 22: Advent 4

7:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist
 9:00 a.m. La Gracia Eucharist in Spanish
 9:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Choral Eucharist

December 23

7:00 p.m. La Gracia Christmas Holy Eucharist

December 24: Christmas Eve

3:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist for Children and Families
 5:00 p.m. Festival Eucharist of the Nativity of our Lord
Prelude begins at 4:30 p.m.
 7:30 p.m. Festival Eucharist of the Nativity of our Lord
Prelude begins at 7:15 p.m.
 11:00 p.m. Solemn High Mass of the Nativity of our Lord
Prelude begins at 10:30 p.m.

December 25: Christmas Day

12:00 p.m. Festival Eucharist

Calendar for December 1-7

Sunday

7:30 a.m.
 9:00 a.m.
 9:00 a.m.
 10:15 a.m.
 11:15 a.m.
 5:00 p.m.

The First Sunday of Advent

Holy Eucharist
 Choral Eucharist (Nave)
 Santa Eucaristía (Auditorium)
 Inter-generational Advent Event
 Choral Eucharist
 Holy Eucharist

Monday

1:00 pm.
 6:30 p.m.

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

Tuesday

10:00 a.m.
 1:00 pm.
 4:30 p.m.
 5:30 p.m.
 6:30 p.m.

Staff Meeting (St. Mark)
 Food Pantry open (until 3:00 p.m.)
 Advanced Treble Rehearsal
 Novice Treble Rehearsal
 Holy Eucharist

Wednesday

7:30 a.m.
 7:00 p.m.
 7:30 p.m.
 7:30 p.m.
 8:00 p.m.

Holy Eucharist
 AA District One (St. Mark)
 9:00 a.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal
 Bible Study (Library)
 AA/Al-Anon (Auditorium)

Thursday

12:15 p.m.

Holy Eucharist

Friday

9:00 a.m.
 8:30 p.m.

GES Chapel
 AA (St. Mark)

Saturday

9:00 a.m.
 10:00 a.m.
 3:00 p.m.

Altar Guild
 Holiday Bazaar (Auditorium)
 Requiem for Mimi Barnes