

CLARKE PARISH

Grace Episcopal Church / St. Mary's Memorial Church

THE EVANGELINE

September 29, 2021



FROM THE OFFICE

COVID TRACKER
Clarke County, VA

Sept 20, 2021

RED ALERT (High)

While we remain in either **RED** (high) or **ORANGE** (substantial), we will continue to require masks at all Clarke Parish services.

If we drop to **YELLOW** (moderate) or **BLUE** (low) for 14 consecutive days, we will lift the mask mandate.

It **MUST** be 14 consecutive days though in accordance with CDC guidelines.

If you wish to monitor this information, you may use the following link using the CDC website, and select

Reflections

Dear Friends:

As we approach the Feast of St. Francis, which actually falls on October 4th this year, we will hold our annual **Blessing of the Animals** service in the Rectory grounds on **Saturday, October 2nd at 10 am.**

The Blessing of the Animals started over 800 years ago when St. Francis used to bless the animals in Assisi in Italy. Please come, even if you do not currently have an animal but love animals. Bring all sizes of animals from horses and donkeys down to small cats. We will pray over the animals and there will be treats for the dogs. There will also be treats for humans. If you are bringing an animal who is not K-9 then please bring treats for them.

We look forward to seeing you on Saturday!

Blessings,
Justin+

Coffee with the Clergy RETURNS:

Please join me on Monday afternoons at Cordial Coffee in Berryville from 2-4 pm. This time is meant for parishioners and community members alike to come down and share a cup of coffee/tea and some conversation with me. I hope to see you soon!

Virginia and Clarke
County.

<https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view>.

Community Transmission

High

New Cases - 59

Positivity - 14.35%

Deaths - 0

Eligible Population Fully

Vaccinated - 62.6%

Sing a New Song! / A note from Wendy Oesterling

All of us who grew up in church have "favorite" hymns. Maybe a hymn is a favorite because hearing or singing it takes us back to a time and place with fond memories and feelings of love. Maybe it's a favorite because the words of that hymn describe how we feel in God's presence. Maybe it's a favorite because the tune reminds us that God's love is with us always. I love to hear stories of why a hymn is a favorite. It confirms for me that hymns are a very important part of worship throughout our lives. You may be surprised to learn that your favorites are not loved by others, and a friend's favorites are hymns you have never even heard! Or even that others love the words you do, but love them to a different tune than you do. At least 22 times in the Bible the call to "Sing a new song to the Lord!" appears. God is calling us to sing new songs, even new hymns, those we don't yet know.

On November 20, we will gather to celebrate our ministry together with Justin as Rector of Clarke Parish. Like all of us, Justin has some favorite hymns, perhaps not familiar, that he would like to include in this special celebration liturgy. I'm always glad to learn new hymns and new hymn tunes! We will include these hymns in worship at Grace Church over the next few Sundays so we can sing them with confidence and gusto on November 20. We will surely answer God's familiar call to "Sing a new song!"

Blessings,
Wendy O.

UPCOMING SERVICE SCHEDULE

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost October 3, 2021

8 am at Grace Episcopal Church

Holy Eucharist (Rite I)

Celebrant: Rev. Justin A. Ivatts

Seminarian: Caroline Mitchell

Lay Reader: Wendy Oesterling

9:15 am at St. Mary's Memorial Church

Holy Eucharist (Rite II)

Celebrant: Rev Justin A. Ivatts

Seminarian/Lay Reader: Caroline Mitchell

Pianist: Hailey Outland

11:15 at Grace Episcopal Church

Holy Eucharist (Rite II)

Celebrant: Rev Justin A. Ivatts
Seminarian: Caroline Mitchell
Lay Reader: Jim Greene
Organist: Wendy Oesterling
Acolytes: Lily Bosworth
Usher: Kim Schreckengost (October)

[Click HERE - Lectionary Insert for October 3, 2021](#)

Job 1:1; 2:1-10 / Psalm 26 / Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12 / Mark 10:2-16

*The altar flowers at Grace Church are given to the glory of God by
Susie & Joe Guenther in loving memory of departed loved ones.*

*The flower arrangement in the narthex is given to the glory of God by the Shaffer
family in celebration of Parker Alan Burch, infant son of Holland & Troy Burch, who
is being baptized this day at Grace Episcopal Church.*

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost October 10, 2021

8 am at Grace Episcopal Church

Holy Eucharist (Rite I)

Celebrant: Rev. Justin A. Ivatts

Seminarian/Lay Reader: Caroline Mitchell

9:15 am at St. Mary's Memorial Church

Holy Eucharist (Rite II)

Celebrant: Rev Justin A. Ivatts

Seminarian: Caroline Mitchell

Lay Reader: Gwendolyn Malone

Pianist: Hailey Outland

11:15 at Grace Episcopal Church

Holy Eucharist (Rite II)

Celebrant: Rev Justin A. Ivatts

Seminarian: Caroline Mitchell

Lay Reader: Ben Newlon

Organist: Wendy Oesterling

Acolytes: Miles Ivatts & Warren Maiberger

Usher: Kim Schreckengost (October)

[Click HERE - Lectionary Insert for October 10, 2021](#)

Job 23:1-9, 16-17 / Psalm 22:1-15 / Hebrews 4:12-16 / Mark 10:17-31

*The altar flowers at Grace Church are given to the glory of God by
Rives & Jess Bacon in celebration of their daughter, Margaret, who will be married
here on Saturday, October 9th to long-time sweetheart, Joey Howard.*

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

October 17, 2021

8 am at Grace Episcopal Church

Holy Eucharist (Rite I)

Celebrant: Rev. Justin A. Ivatts

Seminarian: Caroline Mitchell

Lay Reader: Melissa Casey

9:15 am at St. Mary's Memorial Church

Holy Eucharist (Rite II)

Celebrant: Rev Justin A. Ivatts

Seminarian/Lay Reader: Caroline Mitchell

Pianist: Hailey Outland

11:15 at Grace Episcopal Church

Holy Eucharist (Rite II)

Celebrant: Rev Justin A. Ivatts

Seminarian: Caroline Mitchell

Lay Reader: Stuart Dunn

Organist: Wendy Oesterling

Acolytes: Lily Bosworth & Stella Herndon

Usher: Kim Schreckengost (October)

[Click HERE - Lectionary Insert for October 17, 2021](#)

Job 38:1-7, 34-41 / Psalm 104 / Hebrews 5:1-10 / Mark 10:35-45

The altar flowers at Grace Church are given to the glory of God by Abby, Bill & Mitchell Sours in loving memory of Katherine Sours.

The chancel flowers at Grace Church are given to the glory of God by Cathy Heard Holland in loving memory of her parents, Ann & John Heard (devoted Virginia Tech fans). Go Hokies!

Virtual Worship

For those of you still wishing to join us virtually instead of attending in-person worship, the 11:15 am service at Grace Church will continue to be live-streamed each week.

Please use the links below to view the service offerings.

These links are permanent and will not change week after week.

Our YouTube page:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTT0nfgs77DzKrl2qx38Cg>

Our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/Grace-Episcopal-Church-111667788869782>

Lay Reader & Acolyte Schedule

Please click the link below to access the most recent schedule of lay



readers and acolyte assignments at both Grace and St. Mary's.

[Click HERE - October 2021](#)

If scheduled, please remember to contact the office in case of conflict or unavailability and always attempt to find a substitute to swap dates with if needed.

Always stay up-to-date with church events and activities...

Church Calendar - Quick View!



September 29 - Wednesday Morning Bible Study / 10:30 am in the Conference Room.

September 8 - 'Sacred Ground' - 6 pm in the McIntosh Chapel [see below](#)

October 2 - Blessing of the Animals - 10 am at the Rectory [see below](#)

October 3 - YOUTH Sunday School Classes RESUME / 10 am in the Parish Hall (We will start the program year with a Parent/Student Informational Meeting in the McIntosh Chapel - [see below](#))

October 3 - Baptism of Parker Burch, infant son of Holland & Troy Burch, during the 11:15 am service.

October 5 - St. Mary's Vestry Meeting / 1 pm in the Parish House

October 6 - 'Sacred Ground' - 6 pm in the McIntosh Chapel

October 13 - 'Sacred Ground' - 6 pm in the McIntosh Chapel

October 16 - Stewardship Kick-Off Party / 5-7 pm at the Rectory

October 17 - St. Mary's ECW Meeting / 10 am in the Parish House

October 18 - GEC Vestry Meeting / 7 pm in the Conference Room

October 20 - 'Sacred Ground' - 6 pm in the McIntosh Chapel

October 23 - First Aid Course for members of the Joint Vestries / 9 am in the Fellowship Hall (led by Dr. Caroline Mitchell)

October 24 - St. Mary's 114th Homecoming Service/ Dr. Caroline Mitchell will be the guest speaker. This service will be pre-recorded and released on Oct 24

October 27 - 'Sacred Ground' - 6 pm in the McIntosh Chapel

October 30 - Choral Evensong at Wickliffe / 4:30 pm

October 31 - Rogue Sunday Service offered at 11:15 am by the youth of Clarke Parish. Rogue Sunday will be immediately followed by our annual Spooktacular Halloween Party in the grassy area outside the parish hall.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS



Christian Education

Youth Sunday School
and Confirmation Classes
10 am in the 'Gracement'

CLASSES BEGIN THIS SUNDAY, October 3, 2021!

Hooray...It's almost time to finally rejoin for in-person Sunday School fun in the Gracement! After enduring over a year of virtual, take-home, or no classes, we can

now safely regather on Sunday mornings for classroom lessons, fun projects, and extracurricular activities. Who's ready?

We will begin our program year on Sunday, October 3 @ 10 am. All students AND parents are asked to join us in the McIntosh Chapel at this time for an informational meeting, session overview, teacher introductions, and classroom assignments.

Christian Education Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study 10:15 am in the Parish House @ St. Mary's



Please join us each week as we focus on a new session of Adult Sunday School - 'Episcopal Church 101'.

This fun and informative class is open to all seeking a clearer understanding of our Episcopal traditions but is mandatory for those seeking confirmation or reception into the Episcopal Church on November 7th when Bishop Gulick visits Clarke Parish.

Have you ever wondered what makes us English? Who are the Anglican Communion anyway? Who is our head, God, The Queen, The Archbishop of Canterbury, The Presiding Bishop, all of the above? How is our local parish governed? How do the readings on Sunday get selected? What do Anglicans believe about the sacraments, especially Holy Baptism and the Eucharist? Come and find out the answers to these and many other questions in our Episcopal Church 101 class starting THIS SUNDAY, September 12th and every Sunday in October at 10:15 am at the St. Mary's Parish House. Mandatory for those being confirmed or received, encouraged for all others.

Everyone is welcome! Masks mandatory!

Syllabus - Episcopal Church 101

- **October 3** - An introduction to The Revised Common Lectionary
- **October 10** - An introduction to the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion
- **October 17** - An introduction to the Book of Common Prayer
- **October 24** - Class will meet at 9:45 in the Parish Hall @ GEC (Homecoming at St. Mary's - one service at 11:00) / Q&A - bring your questions and have them answered

Wednesday Morning Bible Study Study Topic - Heaven and Hell!

Wednesdays at 10:30 am in the Conference Room

We've embarked on our latest study topic - an in-depth exploration of heaven and hell! If you are interested in participating, please purchase *Heaven and Hell: A History of the Afterlife* by Bart D. Ehrman. Class begins @ 10:30 / Social time and coffee @ 10 am.



Everyone is welcome! Masks mandatory!

'Sacred Ground'

A Film-Based Dialogue on Race & Faith

Wednesday Evenings at 6 pm in the McIntosh Chapel!

All are invited to join us for a series of conversations walking through important chapters of America's history of race and racism while weaving in a thread of family stories, economic class, and political and regional identity. We focus on our long-term commitment, as the Episcopal Church, to racial healing, reconciliation, and justice in our personal lives, our ministries, and our society as part of the church initiative *Becoming Beloved Community*.

Gwen Malone and Wendy Oesterling serve as facilitators for this 10-week program. We meet weekly on **Wednesdays at 6:00 pm in the McIntosh Chapel at Grace Church.** (9/8, 9/15, 9/22, 9/29, 10/6, 10/13, 10/20, 10/27, 11/3 & 11/10)

Everyone is welcome! Masks mandatory!

CHURCH NEWS



Blessings of the Animals

Saturday, October 2, 2021

10 am @ The Rectory

At this time of year, you might notice a procession of animals, everything from dogs and cats to hamsters, chickens, lambs, and even horses, being led to churches for a special ceremony called the 'Blessing of The Animals.' This custom is celebrated in remembrance of Saint Francis of Assisi's love for all creatures great and small. Saint Francis wrote a Canticle, an ode to God's living things: "*All praise to you, Oh Lord, for all these brother and sister creatures.*"

You are invited to bring your furry, feathered, or finned friends to the Rectory grounds on Saturday, October 2nd @ 10 am to receive a special blessing at this wonderful outdoor service. **RAIN OR SHINE!** For our younger parishioners, stuffed animals are most welcome to come and receive a special blessing too.

Blessed are you, Lord God, maker of all living creatures. You called forth fish in the sea, birds in the air, and animals on the land. You inspired Saint Francis to call all of them his brothers and sisters. We ask you to bless this pet. By the power of your love, enable it to live according to your plan. May we always praise you for all your beauty in creation. Blessed are you, Lord our God, in all your creatures! Amen.

Stewardship Kickoff Event

Saturday, October 16

5 to 7 pm at the Rectory

Please join us for a wine and hors d'oeuvre reception at the

firepit in the rectory yard from 5-7 pm on Saturday, October 16th. All parishioners are invited to this fun event where we can have fun and laughter with an extremely brief presentation from our Stewardship Chair, Melissa Casey. There will also be stewardship packets and pledge cards available. Bring kids as well, we are working on having some activities for the kids. Thank you to Melissa Casey for organizing this event. The rain date is Saturday, October 23rd. Commitment Sunday is Sunday, November 14th.



Important News From the Diocese

Bishop Search Committee Announces Listening Sessions and Open Survey



The search process for the 14th Bishop of Virginia is lifting off in earnest this Fall, and we want to hear from you! Be on the lookout in the coming weeks for an important online survey.

We want as many people as possible in the Diocese to participate in this survey.

In early October the committee will also conduct **virtual listening sessions** to give parishioners an opportunity to share their hopes for our new bishop. The schedule for the listening sessions will be as follows:

- Tuesday, October 12 at 7:30 p.m.
- Thursday, October 14 at 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, October 16 at 10:30 a.m.
- Monday, October 18 at 7:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, October 20 at 7:30 p.m.
- Friday, October 22 at 7:30 p.m.

For now please mark your calendar. A sign-up for each virtual listening session will be coming soon!



Online Giving

It's as easy as 1,2,3...

We have partnered with [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly) - a trusted platform to provide a simple, convenient, and secure way to continue supporting our ministry through online giving from anywhere at any time.

Please consider this option to make a pledge or one-time payment to the church. You can also set up recurring payments, and likewise, you can utilize [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly) to give to the General Fund, Grace Giving, St. Mary's Giving, the Rector's Discretionary Fund, the Backpack Program, or 'Other' by selecting from the drop-down menu options.

[Click HERE to Give Online Now](#)

The [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly) link is also available by visiting the Parish Website at www.ClarkeParish.org

COMMUNITY NEWS

Music Together!

The Community Music School of the Piedmont

This fun 10-week class will be held in the 'Gracement' at Grace Episcopal Church.

Please help spread the word or register your little person now.

Music Classes for Children from Birth – Kindergarten



Next 10 week session starts
Monday, September 13th at 10am

Grace Church
110 North Church Street
Berryville 22611



Presented by:
The Community Music School of the Piedmont



To register or for more information:

(540) 592-3040

www.piedmontmusic.org

piedmontmusic@aol.com

Grace Episcopal Church & St. Mary's Memorial Church | 540.955.1610
amzgrace@verizon.net | www.clarkeparish.org