

# CLARKE PARISH

Grace Episcopal Church / St. Mary's Memorial Church

## THE EVANGELINE

November 17, 2021



### FROM THE OFFICE

COVID TRACKER  
Clarke County, VA

Nov. 17, 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

#### *From the Rector*

Dear Friends:

We have all been waiting for this day! The day is finally here - we shall celebrate together this Saturday as we mark the next chapter in the ministry of Clarke Parish. The Reverend Edward O. Miller, Jr, a great friend and mentor of mine and retired rector of St. John's, McLean, where I served as Assistant Rector for three years has been appointed by the bishop to preside over the institution and he will also preach the sermon. During this service we will celebrate our shared ministry together and I will make promises to preach the gospel, celebrate the sacraments and provide spiritual leadership in this place.

The liturgy is based on that prescribed by The Book of Common Prayer, but it is also modified to our precise context. Both St. Mary's and Grace will feature in the liturgy and we will process between the two churches as part of the liturgy. For those unable to make the journey by foot to St. Mary's there will be music provided at Grace during this time.

We will gather at Grace at 3pm on Saturday to begin the service. This is a liturgy that Clarke Parish has not seen since 1984 when The Reverend Dwight Brown arrived here from Trinity, Arlington, where he had served three years as Assistant Rector. It is now 5

Virginia and Clarke  
County.  
<https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view>.

Community Transmission

**High**

New Cases - 87

Positivity - 18.31%

Deaths - 0

Eligible Population Fully

Vaccinated - 65.3%

1/2 years since Dwight and Cathy left and you have had a difficult transition and then a pandemic to deal with but we are now moving forward. I thank God that He has called me to this parish and this town of Berryville. I thank God for each of you. I thank God for wonderful colleagues in both the Episcopal region and the ecumenical Clarke County Ministerial Association. Saturday is going to be a great day, but it is only the beginning - we have great work to do in this place and together we will minister in His name.

Blessings,  
Justin+

### Coffee with the Clergy:

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!

## UPCOMING SERVICE SCHEDULE

### The Renewal of New Ministry & Welcoming of a New Rector Saturday, November 20, 2021

3 pm at Grace Episcopal Church

**Installation of Rev. Ivatts as Rector & Holy Eucharist**

**President/ Sermon:** The Rev. Edward O. Miller, Jr.

*Retired Rector of St. John's, McLean*

**Rector:** The Rev. Justin A. Ivatts

**Parish Seminarian:** Caroline Mitchell

**Parish Aspirant:** Becki Casey

**Lay Readers:**

The Rev. Tyler Phillips, *Berryville Baptist Church*

The Rev. Jonathan Bunker, *Berryville Presbyterian Church*

**Acolytes:**

Lily Bosworth, Stella Herndon, Miles Ivatts, Gray Jones, Robyn Preston

**Organist:**

Wendy Oesterling

**Guest Organist (Anthem):**

Dr. John Wulff

**Guest Musicians (Interlude):**

George Bowerman, piano

Christopher Tillman, violin

**Choir Members:**

Nicolas Carratura, Kim Davis, Catherine Dougherty, Marge Gill,  
Felicia Goldberg, The Rev. Julie Harris (retired), Seanna Krikorian,  
Tess Rose, Christopher Tillman, Devin Wulff



*The altar flowers at Grace Church are given to the glory of God by Mary Margaret & David Herndon in honor of their daughter, Mary McKenzie Herndon, who celebrates her 19th birthday this month.*

The chancel flowers at Grace Church are given to the glory of God by LaShonda Preston in loving memory of her sister, LaWanda Harper.

## *The Last Sunday after Pentecost*

November 21, 2021

8 am at Grace Episcopal Church  
<NO SERVICE>

9:15 am at St. Mary's Memorial Church  
**Morning Prayer**  
Officiant: Caroline Mitchell  
Lay Reader: Gwendolyn Malone  
Pianist: Helena Goldberg

11:15 at Grace Episcopal Church  
<NO SERVICE>

[Click HERE - Lectionary Insert for Nov. 21, 2021](#)  
2 Samuel 23:1-7 / Psalm 132 / Revelation 1:4b-8 / John 18:33-37

### NOTE

NO Christian Education Classes (youth & adult)!



## *Community Thanksgiving Service*

Tuesday, November 23, 2021

7 pm at Grace Episcopal Church

A special service based upon the Episcopal Church's Order of Evening Prayer will be offered by members of the Clarke County Ministerial Association.

This is a community service and OPEN to all!  
The wearing of masks will be mandatory for all regardless of age, vaccination status, and posted COVID tracking numbers for that week.

## *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/UCTT0nfgs77DzKrl2qxC38Cg>

Our Facebook page:

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

## CHURCH NEWS

Always stay up-to-date with events and activities

*Church Calendar - Quick View!*



**November 20** - Celebration of New Ministry for Rev. Justin A. Ivatts installation as Rector of Clarke Parish / 3 pm at Grace Church. Pre-registration is required([see below](#))

**November 21** - Service Schedule Change - only a 9:15 am service at St. Mary's will be offered this day

**November 21** - St. Mary's ECW Meeting - in the Parish House immediately following the 9:15 service.

**November 21** - NO Christian Education Classes - Youth and Adult!

**November 23** - Community Thanksgiving Service / 7 pm at Grace Church

**November 24-26** - Office CLOSED! Thanksgiving Holiday

**November 27** - Evening Taize Services BEGIN / 5 pm in the McIntosh Chapel

**November 28** - Blessing & Dedication of new altar hangings / a beautiful new set of custom-made blue altar hangings will be dedicated for use at Grace Church during the 11:15 am service. These hangings are given to the glory of God in memory of past parishioners, Ann Robertson Heard and Carle F. Germelman, Jr.

**November 28** - Advent Wreath Workshop! / 10 am in the Fellowship Hall at GEC. In lieu of regular Christian Education classes (youth and adult), everyone is invited to join us to make a beautiful Advent Wreath for their home using fresh greenery clipped from trees and bushes found on the church campus. Suggested donation \$15.

### *The Renewal of Ministry and Welcoming of a New Rector*

THIS Saturday, November 20th from 3 to 5 pm @ GEC

Please join us THIS SATURDAY for a very special service as we come together to celebrate Rev. Justin A. Ivatts and his call to serve as the rector of Clarke Parish.

Due to COVID concerns, we are capping attendance at 150 people inside the church AND asking everyone to pre-register for this special service. We will be processing to St. Mary's at one point during the celebration, but we do not expect everyone to process if they choose not to. As space inside St. Mary's is extremely limited, guests can stand outside and listen during this short portion of the ceremony.

If we run over the 150 person cap, we will have overflow seating available with a



live-stream feed viewable in the McIntosh Chapel in the Parish Hall building.

Please sign up using the link below ASAP to secure your seat.

[CLICK HERE TO RSVP!](#)

## *TAIZE in Advent!*

Saturday Evenings beginning on November 27th



During the Season of Advent, Clarke Parish will offer special Saturday evening Taize services for our church family and the community. Everyone is welcome!

**These services will begin at 5 pm in the McIntosh Chapel at GEC every Saturday in Advent - Nov. 27, Dec. 4, Dec. 11 and Dec. 18.**

**What is Taize?** Taize is an ecumenical type of worship that originated in 1940 in the small village of Taize, which lies in the southern part of Burgundy, France, by a monk named Roger Louis Shutz-Marsauche. The practice has spread worldwide since it is non-denominational and seeks to unite all forms of Christianity. A candlelit, contemplative service highlighted by repetitive prayers and music, and periods of silence, Taize allows attendees the opportunity to be in peaceful prayer and unity with God and their own spirituality. "According to the official Taize Community, the repetitive songs allow people to continue to pray the songs in their heads even after the service is over. This keeps prayer going all day long in the followers' minds and hearts."

## *Advent Wreath Workshop*

Sunday, November 28 - 10 am  
Fellowship Hall at GEC



In lieu of regular Christian Education classes (youth and adult), everyone is invited instead to join us in the fellowship hall to make a beautiful Advent Wreath for their home using fresh greenery clipped from trees and bushes found on the church campus.

This workshop is open to all - Suggested donation \$15

## *The Backpack Program* Holiday Food Drive



The Backpack Ministry is in full swing for the 21-22 school year. Clarke Parish is currently packing 36 bags each week that are distributed to two schools in Clarke County. Our volunteers are absolutely awesome as they are always reliable and extremely generous in so many ways.

We are getting geared up for our holiday packing and can use your help. When you are out shopping, consider adding any of the following items to your grocery list and dropping it off in the donation box in the Parish Hall.

- Canned Pasta (spaghettios, ravioli, etc.)
- Canned Chili/Stew
- Vienna Sausage
- Tuna
- Ramen Noodles
- Fruit Cups/Bags

As always, many thanks for your support.  
Susan Catlett, Coordinator

## CLARKE COUNTY HOLIDAY GIFT PROGRAM

### *Community Outreach*

Please help us spread holiday cheer throughout our community!



Clarke Parish has again partnered with our local Dept. of Social Services agency to help community members in need this holiday season. We have 'adopted' a bunch of people from the 'Angel Tree' who are in need of some extra love and assistance right now.

**We need your help** - In these difficult and uncertain times, the demand for assistance is greater than usual. Let's come together as a parish to lend a hand and help our neighbors!

If you would like to sponsor a family or individual (11 adults / 8 children) this holiday season, please contact Robin in the church office at 540.955.1610 OR [amzgrace@verizon.net](mailto:amzgrace@verizon.net). We have requests from children, teens, adults, and the elderly - wherever your heart lies, we can match you with an appreciative recipient. Will you lend a hand? Still facing the challenges of COVID in our lives, the majority of our adult and elderly adoptees would prefer gift cards to local retailers instead of specific items. Walmart, Martins Grocery, the Dollar General Store, and Amazon gift cards seem to be the overwhelming favorites. That's pretty easy, right? The children too like gift cards, but they also have specific 'wish list' items like coloring books, lego sets, jigsaw puzzles, pop-its, arts & craft supplies, etc...

I'd like to encourage our readers (congregants and friends) to please consider supporting this important program. Your help can be as simple as buying gift card(s) and sending them in the office OR simply making a monetary contribution and we'll do the shopping.

With Heartfelt Blessings -  
Robin McFillen, Parish Administrator & Director of Christian Education / Youth Activities

**NOTE** - Our gift offerings **MUST** be returned to the Dept. of Social Services no later than December 10th! We'll use the office as a collection site.

All 'Angel Tree' recipient information will be kept confidential. No names will be released.



## HOLIDAY CONCERT

# *The Piedmont Singers Present*

"Christmas in Our Hearts"

Saturday, December 4 @ 7 pm - Grace Church, The Plains

Sunday, December 5 @ 4 pm - Grace Church, Berryville

Many of our "regular" holiday activities and practices were turned upside down by the pandemic, leaving big holes in our hearts. For many of us, Christmas does not seem like Christmas at all without beautiful live Christmas music.

This was surely the case for **The Piedmont Singers**, the musical outreach ministry that came to Grace Church in early 2020. At Christmas 2020, The Piedmont Singers were silent, along with choirs around the world, celebrating Christmas in their hearts.

The Piedmont Singers began as a "musical outreach ministry" at Emmanuel Church in Middleburg with singers from churches across our region presenting Handel's *Messiah* in December 1999. Since then, the choir has gained a reputation for presenting the finest in sacred choral music from many periods and genres for Christmas and during Holy Week. Today The Piedmont Singers are at home and serve as a music ministry at both Grace Church in Berryville and Grace Church in The Plains. We are delighted to be surrounded by Grace!

**Christmas 2021** brings The Piedmont Singers back to live concerts with **Christmas In Our Hearts**, presenting "musical comfort food" at Grace Church in The Plains on Saturday, Dec. 4, at 7:00 pm, and at Grace Church in Berryville on Sunday, Dec. 5, at 4:00 pm. The concerts are open to the public and free of charge. Donations will be gratefully accepted. Masks are required.

We look forward to sharing wonderful music to fill all our hearts with beautiful images of the Christ-child coming to earth, including "Christ Is the Morning Star" by John Rutter. We hope you can join us!

Wendy O.

## *Stewardship News*

'Collection Sunday' was a tremendous success! We want to thank everyone that faithfully turned in their pledge card last week at both Grace and St. Mary's.



Your pledge commitments help our parish and its churches better plan for the future and allows us to continue our work spreading God's good news. Ministry over the last year has been challenging and sometimes discouraging, but there are moments of incredible joy when we think about how Clarke Parish shows our love for Jesus through the ministries you make possible. THANK YOU!

Grace Church - To Date:

28 Pledge Cards received totaling \$68,310 / 7 new pledge donors

St. Mary's - To Date:

11 Pledge Cards received

If you haven't yet returned a pledge card and are still considering a gift, it's not too late! We ask that you prayerfully consider how you can help Clarke Parish continue to meet the needs of our community through your financial pledge.

Pledge Cards are still available in the office or church narthex. Or you may make your commitment using our online partner: [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly)



## 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](http://www.ClarkeParish.org)

Grace Episcopal Church & St. Mary's Memorial Church | 540.955.1610  
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