

CLARKE PARISH

Grace Episcopal Church / St. Mary's Memorial Church

THE EVANGELINE

December 15, 2021



FROM THE OFFICE

COVID TRACKER
Clarke County, VA

Dec. 15, 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.

Community Transmission
High
New Cases - 57
Positivity - 38.08%
Deaths - <10
Eligible Population Fully

Reflections

From the Rector

Dear Friends:

Each Christmas Eve at 3 pm local time in the chapel of King's College at the University of Cambridge in England a boy chorister steps forward to sing that immortal first verse solo of Once in Royal David's City. And so the annual Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols begins. The service was first devised by The Rt. Rev. Edward Benson who was Bishop of Truro in 1880 and was held at Truro Cathedral, which happens to be my mother's diocesan cathedral. In 1918, the country and the world were recovering after the bloodiest war in history and so the dean of King's College, Cambridge adapted Benson's service for use there and it has been held every Christmas Eve since. It has been broadcast on the BBC radio and around the world (NPR in the US) every year since 1928. For many, Christmas is not complete without Nine Lessons and Carols from Kings.

This distinctly Anglican service has nonetheless been picked up and used, sometimes in modified form, by other Christian denominations, particularly Roman Catholic and Methodist.

This Sunday, December 19th, at 6pm our youngest Chorister, Lily Bosworth, will step forward to sing that solo verse of Once in Royal David City and we will again embark upon the story of salvation through nine lessons and carols, starting with the story of creation and ending with St. John's great unfolding of the incarnation.



Our Music Director, Wendy Oesterling, and our choir have been hard at work preparing for this annual celebration. Please do come and support them as we celebrate the beginning of Christmas in Clarke Parish.

Blessings,

Justin+

Coffee with the Clergy:

Please join me on Monday afternoons at Cordial Coffee in Berryville from 2-4 pm (THIS MONTH on December 6th, 13th, and 20th). 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

Evening Taize Service

December 18, 2021

5 pm in the McIntosh Chapel at GEC

Celebrant: Rev. Justin Ivatts

Lay Reader: Penny Poe

Pianist: Wendy Oesterling

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 19, 2021

8 am at Grace Episcopal Church

No Service This Week!

10:15 am at St. Mary's Memorial Church

Holy Eucharist (Rite I)

Celebrant: Rev. Justin Ivatts

Lay Reader: Gwendolyn Malone

Pianists: Hailey Outland & Helena Goldberg

11:15 at Grace Episcopal Church

No Service This Week!

6 pm at Grace Church

Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols

Celebrant: Rev. Justin Ivatts

Lay Readers:

Mike Casey, Dorothy Davis, Stuart Dunn,

Tara Flaten, Gwendolyn Malone, Robin McFillen,

Bette Milleson and Ben Newlon

Acolytes:

Lily Bosworth, Warren Maiberger and Molly McFillen

Organist/Pianist:

Wendy Oesterling

Church Choir:

Lily Bosworth, Jon Campbell, Catherine Dougherty,
Kim Davis, Marge Gill, Zach Gnall, Felicia Goldberg,
Tess Rose, Seanna Krikorian and Chris Tillman

Guest Choir

Debbie Dempsey, Michael Forest, Diana Kincannon, Alan Moser, Robin Prinz,
Kay Redditt, Jim Smith, Joan Smith, Nancy Thomas and Anne Vandenberg

[Click HERE - Lectionary Insert for Dec. 19, 2021](#)

Micah 5:2-5a / Canticle 3 / Psalm 80 / Hebrews 10:5-10 / Luke 1:39-55

Christmas Poinsettia Flower Order Form



If you wish to donate a Poinsettia to help decorate the church for Christmas,
please complete this form and return it (with payment)
NO LATER THAN 12/20/2021

GRACE CHURCH / PO Box 678 / Berryville, Virginia 22611
\$15 per poinsettia

Given by: _____

In memory, honor, or celebration of: (please circle your choice)

For St. Mary's Church, please contact Dorothy D. @ 304-229-4710

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>

CHURCH NEWS

Always stay up-to-date with events and activities

Church Calendar - Quick View!



December 18 - Evening Taize Service / 5 pm in the McIntosh Chapel

December 19 - NO Sunday School Classes!

December 19 - Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols/ 6 pm at Grace Church

December 20 - GEC Vestry Meeting / 7 pm in the Conference Room
December 22 - Wednesday Morning Bible Study / NO CLASS!
December 24 - Christmas Eve Services / 5 & 11 pm at Grace Church
December 25 - Christmas Day Service / 10 am at St. Mary's
December 26 - Only one service of worship will be offered this morning beginning at 10:15 am @ Grace Church / Morning Prayer with Caroline
December 27-31 - OFFICE CLOSED!
December 29 - Wednesday Morning Bible Study / NO CLASS!

Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 19 at 6 pm
Grace Church, Berryville



Please join us at Grace Church **THIS SUNDAY** for a special service of Lessons and Carols beginning at 6 pm. In addition to a morning service (Eucharist) at St. Mary's beginning at 10:15 am, these will be the only services offered by Clarke Parish this day.

The readings trace the history of God's redeeming acts: from humanity's fall from grace, through the expectant watchfulness of the people of Israel, and finally to the birth of the Messiah. The readings reach their dramatic conclusion with the solemn proclamation of the God who became flesh and who dwells with his people. Together, we will listen, rejoice, and proclaim this great mystery of God's Incarnation that we might worship him in spirit and truth.

PLEASE SUPPORT THE PARISH Holiday Fundraiser!

Looking for a last-minute gift? We can help!

These engraved, 30oz RTIC Tumblers are stainless steel, double-wall vacuum insulated, and are suitable for hot or cold beverages. It will keep your drinks ice-cold longer or your coffee/tea nice and hot! The included splash-proof lid with flip-top closure resists spills and is straw-friendly too.

\$26.50 each / supplies are limited!
(we're down to our last dozen tumblers)



Stop by the office or email Robin at amzgrace@verizon.net to get yours today! ALL proceeds benefit our youth activities and Sunday School program.



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](#) link is also available by visiting the Parish Website at www.ClarkeParish.org

COMMUNITY NEWS

Come join the fun!

The Community Music School of the Piedmont

Music Together

Winter session begins Friday, January 7 at 10:00 am
at Grace Episcopal Church

Music Together is a wonderful early childhood music class for infants, toddlers, parents, and caregivers. The 10-week session consists of 45-minute classes which include an artistically conceived flow of songs and movement. Great music and fun activities help children develop rhythm and tonal skills.

Siblings are free! For more info or to register visit:
www.piedmontmusic.org or call 540.592.3040

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