

This Week at



DECEMBER
18
2025

THE PARISH AT A GLANCE

Worship

SUNDAY, December 21 - Holy Eucharist, Rite II

The 4th Sunday in Advent/Christmas

Lay Ministers: John Brent, Alex Garrett, Jim Gilliam, Katherine Johnson, Martha Dimon, and Riley-Anne Johnson

WEDNESDAY, December 24

Christmas Eve: No Evening Prayer

Upcoming Events

DEC 17-22 Office closed for Parish Admin vacation

DEC 24: Christmas Eve - no Evening Prayer

DEC 25: Christmas Day - office closed

DEC 31: New Year's Eve - no Evening Prayer

JAN 1: New Year's Day - office closed

JAN 7: Book Club after Evening Prayer at 5:00 p.m.

JAN 11: Annual Parish Meeting with "2nd Sunday Brunch" after the service

Connect and Serve: BackSnacks

BackSnacks needs food! Easy-to-prepare entrees such as canned ravioli or spaghetti and meatballs, mac-and-cheese, or ramen noodles are especially appropriate.

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IN OUR PARISH

Office closed December 17 – 21. The Parish Administrator is taking a few days off!

Episcopal Christmas worship in the area:

A Service of Lessons and Carols this afternoon at 4:30 at St. Thomas

Christmas Eve services will be held at St. Thomas in Columbus and St. Mark's in LaGrange. St. Thomas has two services, at 4:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. (Both services are exactly the same, except that the 10:30 service will have incense.) St. Mark's will have a Children's Pageant Christmas Eve service at 4:00 p.m. and a service with Musical Prelude at 8:00 p.m.

St. Mark's will have a **Christmas Day service** at 10:00 a.m.; there is no Christmas Day service planned at St. Thomas.

It's Time to Recycle Those Shoes! October 1 – December 31, St. Nicholas is participating in Keep Columbus Beautiful's Shoe Recycling drive. Bring any kind of shoes you're ready to get rid of. Rubberbanding them together is helpful, but condition does not matter. Those that can be worn will be sent to those who can use them; those that can't will be recycled – either way, they stay out of the landfill! Bin in the narthex.

St. Nicholas Book Club has selected *Resistance Women* by Jennifer Chiaverini as their January read. The novel is inspired by the life of Mildred Harnack, a real historical figure whose story was previously untold because the U.S. government deliberately buried it after the war. Harnack was one of dozens of members of the network of American and German resistance fighters the Gestapo called *die Rote Kapelle* (the Red Orchestra). The bulk of the action takes place between the wars, beginning in 1929; I was initially surprised that a novel about Nazi Germany before and during WWII began so early, but Chiaverini's chosen timeline serves her story well: As a reader, you see events escalate over time through these women's eyes. The setup feels leisurely, but the payoff is worth it. (from *Modern Mrs. Darcy*) The Book Club next meets on January 7, 2026.

The Annual Meeting of the church is set for **January 11, 2026** after the service. Participating in this meeting is an important part of stewardship: New Vestry members will be voted upon, the budget will be presented, and there will be reports on church programs and activities. **First Sunday Brunch** will be moved to this day so we can meet on a full stomach – plan to attend!

The end of the fiscal year approaches! Any contributions to the church (in fulfillment of a pledge or not) that you wish to claim in your 2025 tax-year giving should be received by December 31.

(Regarding 2025 pledges: December can be a tough month. If you need to put off fulfilling the rest of your 2025 pledge until 2026, that's okay! We'll take it any time it fits into your household budget.)

IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Prayer Requests

Your prayers are asked for Kelly Dimon, Sheri Cody and the grieving family of Bruce Clouser, Christine Risdon, Kenny Hall and his family, and Ryder Hughes. Continued prayers and loving thoughts for our beloved homebound congregants: Mike Sawyer and Liz Dixon.

We pray for wisdom for those in authority, for guidance for those who feel called to action, and for safety and peace for those who feel fear in these times. We continue to pray for all those in need within our community and those in the world who have suffered due to war and natural disaster.



IN OUR WIDER CHURCH

- **News from the Diocese:** [Click here](#) to catch up on what's happening in our own Diocese of Atlanta, including an Events calendar for the few months.
- **News from The Episcopal Church:** [Click here](#) to read The Episcopal Church Weekly.
- **News from the Episcopal Community Foundation:** [Click here](#) to read the latest news.

IN OUR GREATER COMMUNITY



**PINE
MOUNTAIN
CHRISTMAS
GATHERING**

SUNDAY DECEMBER 21ST | 5PM
PINE MOUNTAIN BASEBALL FIELD

Christmas Choir & Live Nativity

FREE hotdogs, hot
chocolate, coffee &
apple cider