



This Week at Ascension

[Link to the Bulletins for February 14](#)

[Link to Rev. Javier Garcia Ocampo's Sermon "The Shiny Lord" from February 7.](#)

[Link to Randy's Ash Wednesday Sermon "Dust and Ashes"](#)

[Link to the Episcopal Diocese of Washington's Website](#)

Calendar Highlights

Friday, February 12
7:30pm Vigil for Susan MacDonald, Main Church

Saturday, February 13
9am Overeaters Anonymous, Undercroft Commons
11am AI-Anon, Undercroft Commons
11am Overeaters Anonymous, Chapel
1pm Funeral Service for Susan MacDonald, Main Church

Sunday, February 14
7:45am Holy Eucharist, Main Church
8:15am Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
9am Holy Eucharist, Main Church
9am *Godly Play*, Room 6
9am *A Joyful Path*, Room 11
9am ESOL Class, Room 1

C. S. Lewis on Friendship

A couple of weeks ago I referred to Lewis's classic The Four Loves. I thought you might enjoy seeing some of his own words. Here he writes about philia, friendship....

"In friendship...we think we have chosen our peers. In reality a few years' difference in the dates of our births, a few more miles between certain houses, the choice of one university instead of another...the accident of a topic being raised or not raised at a first meeting--any of these chances might have kept us apart. But, for a Christian, there are, strictly speaking no chances. A secret master of ceremonies has been at work. Christ, who said to the disciples, "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you," can truly say to every group of Christian friends, 'Ye have not chosen one another but I have chosen you for one another.' The friendship is not a reward for our discriminating and good taste in finding one another out. It is the instrument by which God reveals to each of us the beauties of others. They are no greater than the beauties of a thousand other men; by Friendship God opens our eyes to them. They are, like all beauties, derived from Him through the Friendship itself, so that it is His instrument for creating as well as for revealing. At this feast it is He who has spread the board and it is He who has chosen the guests. It is He, we may dare to hope, who sometimes does, and always should, preside. Let us not reckon without our Host.

"In each of my friends there is something that only some other friend can fully bring out. By myself I am not large enough to call the whole man into activity; I want other lights than my own to show all his facets... Hence true Friendship is the least jealous of loves. Two friends delight to be joined by a third, and three by a fourth, if only the newcomer is qualified to become a real friend. They can then say, as the blessed souls say in Dante, 'Here comes one who will augment our loves.' For in this love 'to divide is not to take away.'

"Friendship exhibits a glorious 'nearness by resemblance' to Heaven itself where the very multitude of the blessed (which no man can number) increases the fruition which each has of God. For every soul, seeing Him in her own way, doubtless

10:15am Holy Eucharist for Families with Young Children, Chapel
11am Holy Eucharist in Spanish, Chapel
11am Godly Play, Room 6
11am A Joyful Path, Room 11
11:15am Holy Eucharist, Main Church
12:30pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, Undercroft Commons
1pm Godly Play/Joyful Path Teacher's Meeting, Library
5pm Holy Eucharist, Chapel
6pm Youth Group, Undercroft Commons

Monday, February 15
President's Day - Office Closed

6:30pm Overeaters Anonymous, Undercroft Commons
7pm Listening Heart Community, Library

Tuesday, February 16
6:30pm Spanish Class, Ascension House
7pm Education for Ministry, Library
7pm Codependents Anonymous, Room 1
8:30pm AI-Anon, Room 1

Wednesday, February 17
10am *Falling Upward* Book Group, Library
7pm Ensemble Rehearsal, Main Church
7pm Spanish Bible Study
8pm Gamblers Anonymous, Chapel

Thursday, February 18
7:45pm Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

[Link to our Online Calendar](#)

Worship Leaders

communicates that unique vision to all the rest. That, says an old author, is why the Seraphim in Isaiah's vision are crying 'Holy, Holy, Holy' to one another (Isaiah VI, 3). The more we thus share the Heavenly Bread between us, the more we shall all have."

Announcements
(click for more info)

HEADLINERS

[Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, February 14](#)
[Lenten Series: God's Children Talk About Race](#)
[This Year's Rice Bowl Offering](#)
[Men's Shelter Lunch Preparation](#)

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

[Godly Play, February 14](#)
[A Joyful Path, February 14](#)
[Youth Group, February 14](#)
[Education for Ministry](#)
[Intro to Islam](#)
[Falling Upward, Wednesday Morning Book Group](#)
[New Book for Wednesday Morning Book Group](#)
[Yoga at Ascension](#)
[Listening Heart Community at Ascension](#)
[Still Water Mindfulness Practice Group](#)

WORSHIP

[Bulletins for Tablets Link](#)

SERVICE

[Gaithersburg HELP](#)
[Ascension's Cancer Support Group](#)
[Lord's Table Soup Kitchen](#)

LIFE AT ASCENSION

[Ascension's Adventure Group to Tour the "Holy Land"](#)

Sunday, February 14

Preacher: Ms. Diana Gustafson

Flower Delivery: Eliane Dunn-Johnson, Alice Padmore

7:45 AM *Reader/Prayers:* Jackson Douglas, *Chalicians:* Wadai Dennis, Edna Leake, *Healing Prayer:* Jean Cohn, *Acolytes:* Raymond Chin, Jackson Douglas, Aidan Douglas, *Welcome Team:* Herald Douglas, Lisa Murdock, *Altar Guild:* Georgette Dennis

9:00 AM, *Readers:* Susan McLaughlin, Kate Siberine, *Prayers:* Betsy Hasegawa, *Chalicians:* Dotty Pfadenhauer, Esterh Tellu, *Healing Prayer:* Javier Ocampo, *Acolytes:* Manny Johnson, Msangwa Ogada, Nuelle Johnson, *Welcome Team:* Dorett Sutherland, James Black, Jonathan Black, *Altar Guild:* Dorett Sutherland, Margaret Joseph

11:15 AM *Reader:* Kendall Anderson, *Chalicians:* Diana Gustafson, Sarah Rubin, *Healing Prayer:* Alex Langley, *Welcome Team:* Avin Lalmansingh, Karl Didavi, *Altar Guild:* Laura Shay, Lynne Shaer

5:00 PM *Reader/Usher:* Kate Siberine

Eucharistic Visitors: Meredith Horan

Annual Meeting and Candidate's Forum

Easter Flowers

Our Winter Weather Policy

Keeping the Feast

Spanish Classes

ESOL Classes

Prayer Request Updates

PUBLICATIONS

February Ascendant

Together We Shine

Prayers

FOR THOSE WHOSE LIVES ARE CLOSELY LINKED WITH OURS:

In the Diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for World Mission Sunday, Companions in World Mission, Episcopal Relief and Development

PRAY FOR COMFORT, HEALING, COURAGE, AND HOPE:

Carol, Ann, Dorothy, Leo, The FitzPatrick Family, Abby, George, Marguerite, Warren, Adam, Nancy, Janet, Lou, Fran, Maria, Peter, Leslie, and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

We pray for peace in the world and all who are serving our country here and abroad, especially those in harm's way, and their families. For all people affected by natural disasters, violence, and war.

Equip us and empower us to be witnesses to your love - as advocates and as servants, as ministers of welcome and of hope for all those displaced by war and violence.

We pray for all those working to save the lives of refugee families.

We pray for all special intentions, and those on our extended Healing Prayer List.

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