



**ST. MARY OF THE HILLS**  
**EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
**BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA**  
**APRIL 21, 2024**

**WELCOME TO ST. MARY OF THE HILLS**

Connection Card in the pew rack so that we might connect with you further. More information about our parish is available online at [www.stmaryofthehills.org](http://www.stmaryofthehills.org). Members of our Vestry (*elected lay leadership*) are identified by name tags with yellow lanyards. Seek them out for details about our congregation's life and ministry.

**PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CHRISTIAN FORMATION**

- Godly Play: Cathia Silver and Sue Sweeting continue the series "Knowing Jesus in a New Way." We'll focus on our relationship with Jesus through times of doubt this week. Join us at 9AM upstairs in the St. Luke Room.
- Rector's Forum: This week we focus on the Acts of the Apostles. Fr. Andrew will explore scripture passages from the days of the early Church, immediately following the Resurrection. Grab a cup of coffee and meet us in the Barrett Room at 9AM.

**FEAST OF ST. MARK AND MEN'S BREAKFAST** – On Thursday, April 25, our monthly Men's Breakfast group will gather at 7:30AM for Holy Eucharist. We'll be celebrating the Feast of St. Mark during this Eucharist. A hearty breakfast and conversation follow. Our neighbor, Chef Aidan Waite, will be preparing breakfast. All in the parish are invited and encouraged to attend.

**VBS REGISTRATION OPEN** – VBS will be held at St. Mary of the Hills June 17-20 and is a joint program between Rumble Presbyterian and St. Mary's. Learn more about the 2024 VBS theme, "Hometown Nazareth," and register your child(ren) ages 5-11 online at the St. Mary's website. Contact Formation Director Lindsey Herring ([lindsey@stmaryofthehills.org](mailto:lindsey@stmaryofthehills.org)) with questions.

**CONFIRMATION CLASSES BEGIN SUNDAY** – This Sunday at 1PM we'll begin our spring Confirmation classes. Reach out to Formation Director Lindsey Herring ([lindsey@stmaryofthehills.org](mailto:lindsey@stmaryofthehills.org)) or Father Andrew ([rector@stmaryofthehills.org](mailto:rector@stmaryofthehills.org)) to learn more. Whether you want a refresher, would like some insight on certain topics or haven't yet been confirmed and desire to do so, please let us know!

**ALTAR FLOWER OFFERINGS** – If you are looking for a meaningful way to honor someone or to remember someone who has died, please consider making a gift to the flower guild for altar flowers for a particular Sunday. Your offering will be noted in the weekly announcement sheet. The suggested amount of an offering is \$60.00.

**VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS FROM APRIL 16 MEETING**

- Reviewed our Vestry Covenant, re-adopted earlier this year, a document that guides our work as leaders within the life of the parish.
- Received and accepted the resignation of Junior Warden, Bob Finney.
- Elected a new Junior Warden, Marshall Culp, to serve moving forward.
- Approved allocations from the Outreach Committee to support the Watauga Community Housing Trust and refugee families from Ukraine and Gaza.

**COFFEE MINUTE HOSTS** – We are looking for volunteers to host Coffee Minute following the 10:10 Holy Eucharist. Hosts provide light refreshments, assist with set-up and clean-up, and foster a hospitable environment for all. Coffee and tea, linens, etc. are provided by the parish. Partner with a friend and sign-up in the Parish Hall.

**FRIENDS OF MUSIC** – With the arrival of spring the Friends of Music need new committee members for planning our summer-fall concert series. For almost ten years we have supported bringing sacred and secular musical offerings for the entire community to St. Mary's. We also contribute to special music performed during holiday services. Contact any of our committee members to learn more and join. The committee includes Sterling Hutcheson, Marjory Holder, Tom Veale, Joby Bell, and advisors Fr. Hege and Choir Director Jim Bumgardner.

## PARISH PRAYER LIST

**For the Church:** Michael our Presiding Bishop, José our Bishop, Andrew, Sam and Gary our clergy, for our Vestry and staff, and for all the people of this parish

**In our Parish Prayer Cycle, we remember this week:**

04/21 Tom Rankin

04/22 Joe & Mary Ellen Raulerson

04/23 Lennon & Megan Redford

04/24 Greg Rhoads & Lynn Searfoss

04/25 Robert & Carol Rhoads

04/26 Edward & Stephanie Rickenbaker

04/27 Donald & Katherine Riopel

**In our Diocesan cycle of prayer:** St. Mark's, Gastonia

**For our nation and those in positions of public trust:** Joseph, our President, Roy, our Governor, all those who hold elected office

**For all who suffer from war throughout the world** and especially for the people of Ukraine and Russia, the Korean peninsula, Yemen, Ethiopia, the Sudan, Israel and Palestine

**For all affected by natural disaster throughout the world.**

**For healing:** Adam, Dale, Jorgann Rogers, Jeff Hedden, Gary, Kay McCloskey, Christine, John, Ann Greene, Bob Barham, Chris, Logan, Bob J., Mary M., Andrew C., Shelia & Ray, Valerie, Gae, Catherine, Kim, Bob, Cindy, Lauren, Robert, Vincent, Beth C.

*\*\*\*Please note that the names on this list will remain for four weeks,  
unless the office is notified that the person(s) needs to remain on the list for a longer period of time.\*\*\**

**For those who have died:** Richard

**For those with other concerns:** Blair, Dr. Hill and Family

**For those traveling this week:** Dallas, Kay & Jim, Bunky & Teena, Luba

**For safe pregnancy and delivery:** Megan Redford, Crawford, Caitlyn, Emily, Neta, Lindsey E., Brittany, Chelsea, Hanna

**For those celebrating a birthday:**

04/21 Cindy Milner

04/23 John Fitzgibbon

04/24 Sebastien Branstrom

**For those celebrating an anniversary:**

04/27 Bob & Sabine Miller