



ST. MARY OF THE HILLS EPISCOPAL CHURCH BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA

OCTOBER 26, 2025

WELCOME TO ST. MARY OF THE HILLS

We are so glad that you are here to share in worship of the Living God and in community with one another.

Restrooms are in the hallway beyond the Foyer. A nursery is available for children up to age five and is in the hallway beyond the Parish Hall. 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.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rector's Forum – What is a Verger? Join our Parish Verger, Michelle Curry, as she shares experiences and learnings from her recent trip to the Annual Conference of the Verger's Guild of the Episcopal Church and about the ministry of a Verger in our parish. We gather in the Barrett Room at 9:00AM. All are welcome!

Tell Out My Soul – Annual Giving 2026 – With gratitude for the ways that St. Mary's parishioners have supported the mission and ministry of our parish this year, we are looking to the year ahead and making plans for our common life. Our parish relies on your generous financial support. Pledge cards for 2026 are available in the Foyer and Parish Hall, as well as on our website.

TONIGHT - Annual Chili Cookoff – Sunday, October 26 – 5:30PM – Our annual chili cookoff is this evening. Prepare your favorite chili recipe, or bring along a side or dessert, and join us for fun evening with activities for children & families, friendly competition, good food & fellowship.

Rowan Williams Book Study –Fr. Sam Tallman wraps up a three-week study of *Discovering Christianity: A Guide for the Curious*, on Monday afternoon, October 27, 3:45 to 5:00 both in person at St. Mary's and by Zoom. This is the former Archbishop of Canterbury's latest book, and this is his invitation to the life-giving possibilities at the heart of the Gospel. Contact Fr. Sam (sam@stmaryofthehills.org) for more information.

Saints Simon and Jude – Tuesday, October 28 – 12:00PM – Holy Eucharist will be offered on Tuesday, October 28, at 12:00PM in observance of the festival day of Sts. Simon and Jude. Join us!

All Souls Requiem and Remembrance – November 2, 3:00PM – On All Saints Sunday, November 2, join us for an afternoon of prayer and reflection as our choir sings a Requiem setting by Gabriel Fauré. The necrology will read in the context of the Requiem and prayers offered for our beloved dead who have died over the course of the past year.

November Diaper Drive – During the month of November, the Outreach Committee invites the parish to participate in a drive to support the Diaper Bank at the Children's Council of Watauga County. Diapers will be collected in the Foyer and all sizes are currently needed by the Children's Council.

Coffee Minute Hosts –Please join us in the Parish Hall following our 10:10 Holy Eucharist. You can host too! Partner with a friend to host and help cultivate a space of hospitality and welcome for all. A sign-up sheet is posted in the Parish Hall.

Flower Sponsors - Is there an important person or a significant event happening in your life? Sponsoring the flowers placed at the altar each week is a great way to offer thanks for life's many gifts. If you would like to sponsor flowers, please contact Michael Marshall in the Parish Office for more information and available dates.

Worship During the Week – Morning Prayer is offered each weekday morning at 8:30AM; this service lasts 15-20 minutes and includes readings from scripture and prayers. Holy Eucharist is also offered each Wednesday at 12:00PM.

FLOWER OFFERINGS

The flowers at the altar are given the glory of God and in thanksgiving for the marriage of Claudia Heath and William Campbell on Saturday, October 25.

The flowers in the Foyer are given the glory of God and in memory of Martha Eloise Jordan Jones who died on October 6 and was buried from St. Mary's on Friday, October 24.

PARISH PRAYER LIST

For the Church: Sean 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:

10/26 Daryl Mathias
10/20 Mike & Sarah Matthews
10/21 Malia McAllister
10/22 Roy & Nedra McCraw
10/23 Kay McCloskey
10/24 Sam & Rhonda Ann McDonald
10/25 Paul & Loy McGill, Duncan

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St. Francis, Rutherfordton

For our nation and those in positions of public trust: Donald, our President, Josh, 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 Gaza.

For healing: Gary; Pete P.; Olivia; Luba; Lynn S.; Mike & Sarah; Dale; Bill & Jorgann; Jeff Hedden; Christine; Ann Greene; Bob; Clare; Evie; Susan; Leigh; John H. Pat B.; Lucy A.; Myra; Chris M.; Mary M.; Larry, Joan Anderson, Tony; Margaret; Patsy; Susie; Jim; Denny; Lambert; Daniel R; Marie; Pam; Bill; Pat; Jonathan; Robert; Anthony D.

****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: Bishop Robert Johnson, Martha Jones, Andrey Skibo; Helen Fabry

For those with other concerns: The Matthews Family; Josh; Corinne; Joe Dulaney

For those who travel: Barbara & Rick; Katherine & Chris, Booker Purcell, Cecilia

For safe pregnancy and delivery: Caitlyn, Katherine, Anna, Hanna, Lauren, Jennifer, Corinne, Amy, Dani, Jessica

For those celebrating a birthday:

10/27 Amanda Hege, Jim West
10/29 Bill Gibbons, Bob Jones

For those celebrating a marriage anniversary:

11/1 Jim and Gale Buchanan