



ST. MARY OF THE HILLS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA

NOVEMBER 23, 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

Welcome Canon Augusta – Today we welcome The Rev'd Canon Augusta Anderson as our guest preacher. Canon Augusta serves the Diocese as Canon to the Ordinary, assisting the bishop throughout the diocese particularly in the areas of leadership development and transition. Welcome Canon Augusta!

Thanksgiving Holiday – Please note the following schedule changes and additions this week as we observe Thanksgiving –

- Holy Eucharist will be offered at 11:00AM on Thursday, November 27, in observance of Thanksgiving Day.
- The Parish Office will close at 12:30PM on Wednesday, November 26, and remain closed on Thursday and Friday. The Parish Office reopens at 9:00AM on Monday, December 1.
- Fr. Andrew will be out of the office this week. If you are experiencing a pastoral emergency (hospitalization, mental health crisis, arrest, death), please contact him directly (336.848.4052).

Tell Out My Soul – Annual Giving 2026 – Our parish relies on your generous financial support and our Finance Committee and Vestry are now planning our priorities and budget for the coming year. Pledge cards for 2026 are available in the Foyer and Parish Hall, as well as on our website.

Reading Between the Lines – Join Owene Courtney in the Parish Library on Tuesday mornings from 9:00-10:00AM to read, mark and inwardly digest the gospel stories for Advent. Using a process and path for reading scripture called Reading Between the Lines, we invite you to journey alongside the characters of Christmas, listening to their stories and your own, imagining where they intersect. We begin this week, on Tuesday, November 25.

Morning Prayer – Morning Prayer will not be offered this week and will return on Monday, December 1st, at 8:30AM.

Feast of St. Andrew – The Feast of St. Andrew, Apostle, will be observed on Monday, December 1st. Holy Eucharist will be offered at 9:00AM, following Morning Prayer. Join us. All are welcome!

Bread of Life at Hospitality House – Bread of Life teams have been preparing meals for friends at Hospitality House for more than 25 years. There are 5 teams providing meals just one day per month. We would love it if you would help us serve as well. Please contact Sue Wilders (suejackpaintfly@aol.com) or Mike Austell (austellmike37@gmail.com) to learn more or to join one of our teams.

November Diaper Drive – Throughout 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.

WYN Christmas Angels – In partnership with Western Youth Network (WYN), we are seeking sponsors to provide a child or youth in need with a special Christmas package, which includes a gift, an outfit, a coat, and a pair of shoes. All gifts need to be to the church by December 15th. Families and friends are welcome to team up to sponsor and shop for a child together. To be matched with an angel or if you have any questions, please email Michelle Curry at verger@stmaryofthehills.org.

Save the Dates –

- **Episcopal Church Women** - On December 3rd at 5:30PM the ECW will celebrate the holidays with a cookie exchange, Pot Luck dinner and Dirty Santa gift exchange. Bring your favorite cookies to share, a inexpensive gift for the exchange, and a side for the dinner. ECW will provide the main course. Please RSVP to Sue Wilders suejackpaintfly@aol.com.
- **'Buy Boone Lunch' – December 10** – On Wednesday, December 10, St. Mary's is sponsoring another 'Buy Boone Lunch' event at F.A.R.M. Café. Sign-up is now available online for set-up, serving, and clean-up, throughout the day.

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 OFFERING

The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of Randolph and Clementi Lacey-Baker Holder by the Holder-Turnbow family.

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:

11/23 Dave & Julia Ralston
11/24 Joe & Mary Ellen Raulerson
11/25 Lennon & Megan Redford, McLean
11/26 Dave & Joanna Reule, Reese, David, Hannah, John
11/27 Greg Rhoads & Lynn Searfoss
11/28 Bob & Carol Rhoads
11/29 Billie Rogers

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Christ Church, Sparta; Church of the Savior, Newland; and the Chapel of Christ the King, Craggy Correctional Center, Asheville and all other prison ministries

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 those affected by natural disaster and especially for the people of Cuba & Jamaica in the aftermath of Hurricane Melissa.

For healing: Rachel; Pete P.; Olivia; Luba; Lynn S.; Mike & Sarah; David; Dale; Bill & Jorgann; Jeff Hedden; Christine; Ann Greene; Bob; Clare; Evie; Susan; Leigh K; 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.; Hudson Van Dyke, Melanie, Leigh; Sarah Johnson; Bob; Susan; Todd, Steve B.; Josh; Kerry R.; Mary

****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 with other concerns: The Matthews Family; Josh; Corinne; Joe Dulaney; The Reece Family; Ruby & Family; Hampton Van Dyke

For those who travel: Barbara & Rick; Booker Purcell; Luba; William Sudderth; The Hege Family; The Troskey Family; The Hayes Family; John; Randy

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

For those celebrating a birthday:

11/29 Adam Lemnouri

For those celebrating an anniversary

11/24 Ray and Heather Cameron:

For those who have died: Posie Duphiné; Lisle; Scott; Andrey Skibo