



# ST. MARY OF THE HILLS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA  
MARCH 12, 2023

## WELCOME TO ST. MARY OF THE HILLS!

We are so glad that you are here. If you are a guest among us, we invite you to complete a 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 information about our congregation's life and ministry.

## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

### SUNDAY MORNING CHRISTIAN FORMATION OFFERINGS

- **Rector's Forum** - In Rector's Forum this morning, we continue a five-week study of the rituals and practices surrounding Holy Week with a closer look at Maundy Thursday. This is the first liturgy of the *Paschal Triduum*, the great three days of our Lord's Passion, Death, and Resurrection. Maundy Thursday is a day of multiple themes, the call to love and service of one another and the institution of the Eucharist. Join us in the Barrett Room at 9:00AM as we continue our study of the ways in which we worship during Holy Week.
- **Godly Play** - This morning in the St. Luke room, Godly Play will be offered for children of all ages as we prepare to enter the Mystery of Easter. This week we'll learn about the 40 days and 40 nights Jesus spent in the desert and what he discovered

**EASTER FLOWERS AND MUSIC OFFERINGS** - In a few short weeks, our worship space will be decorated with flowers to usher in the Easter season. For many, it is a tradition to make a gift toward flowers or to our music program, in honor of or in memory of a loved one, to be acknowledged in the Easter bulletins. If you would like to do so, please complete a form which will be located in the Foyer or by the Parish Administrator's office. You may place your form with your offering in the offering plate, put it in the wooden box outside the office or mail it to the church (P.O. Box 14, Blowing Rock, NC 28605). March 30<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for inclusion in the Easter bulletins.

**CENTERING PRAYER** - On Friday during the season of Lent, Lindsey Herring will offer Centering Prayer which is a contemplative spiritual practice that allows us to quiet the heart and rest in God's presence at 11:00AM.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** - Stations of the Cross will be prayed at 12:00PM on Fridays during the season of Lent. Materials are also available to pray the Stations individually or in a small group at other times.

**RECONCILIATION** - The Reconciliation of Penitent, commonly called Confession, is available on Fridays, 12:30-1:00PM, and at any time by appointment. Contact Fr. Andrew if you'd like to make an appointment or to learn more about Reconciliation in the Episcopal Church.

**OUTREACH LUNCHEON** - On Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, following the 10:10AM service, the Outreach Committee is hosting an Outreach Luncheon for all parishioners. The Outreach Committee is providing the main dish and is inviting everyone to bring a side, salad, or dessert.

### WORSHIP DURING THE WEEK AT ST. MARY'S

- **Morning Prayer** - Join us for Morning Prayer, a short (15-20 minute) service of scripture readings and prayers, offered Monday-Friday at 8:30AM in the Church.
- **Holy Eucharist on Wednesdays at 12:00PM** - Holy Eucharist is offered each Wednesday at 12:00PM in the Church.

## 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:**

3/12 Allison Postlethwait  
3/13 Ryan and Lindsey Postlethwait, Will  
3/14 Barbara Prichard  
3/15 Peter and Valerie Purcell  
3/16 Joe and Mary Ellen Raulerson  
3/17 Lennon and Megan Redford  
3/18 Greg Rhoads and Lynn Searfoss

**In our Diocesan cycle of prayer:** Diocese of Western North Carolina Commissions, Committees, Agencies and Boards; Diocesan Staff

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

**For those affected by natural disaster,** most especially those impacted by the earthquake in regions of Syria and Turkey.

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

**For all medical personnel and all ministering to the needs of those affected by COVID-19.**

**For healing:** Lanny Prichard, Paige and baby Ford, Tamara and her family, Bob Barham, Donna, Richard, Carole, Buddy H., Lucy A., Bill, Eddie, Kitty Taylor, Lori, Ashlyn, Jennifer, Joe A., William Wells, Jennifer Wells, Cliff Minor, Bruce, John, Linda, Jim, Fred, Lois, Jane F., Sallie, Terry, Debbi, Cheryl A., Helen F., Mel, Lauren, Denise A., Joel Keys, Jayden, Paula, Mel, Greg, Louann Kitchell, Elizabeth, Cat Carter, Joe Dyer, Christi and Charlie, Carl and his family, Elizabeth Young, Chris and family, Roberts family, JoAnna, Ashley, Neil, Byron, Junior Howell, Mary M., Donna and Dale, Pat R.

*\*\*\*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:** Van Nayne family, Matthew, Julia

**For those traveling this week:** Mary Ellen and Joe, Kay and Jim

**For those who have died:** Coy, Josh Bryan, Julien, Bill Taylor, Tom Roberts, Bijan Ahmadi, Carroll V., Jay, Storme

**For safe pregnancy and delivery:** Bre Lawler, Amy Shelton, Darrow, Caitlyn

**Thanksgiving for the birth of:** Hudson Peter Ekas, son of Rebecca and Cody Ekas and grandson of Valerie and Peter Purcell, born on February 28<sup>th</sup>, and for the birth of Ellen Clara

**For those celebrating a birthday this week:**

3/12 Alice Holt  
3/13 Joyce Gibson, Tim Silver  
3/15 Linda Norman  
3/18 Lynn Searfoss