



# ST. MARY OF THE HILLS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA  
MARCH 5, 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 the Rector's Forum this morning, we continue a series studying the rituals and practices surrounding Holy Week. Today, we will continue discussing the large arc of the week's pilgrimage and specifically take a closer look at the ways in which we worship on The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday. We gather at 9:00AM in the Barrett Room. All are welcome!
- **Godly Play** - This morning in the St. Luke Room, Godly Play will be offered for our children of all ages. We are preparing for the Mystery of Easter by focusing on Jesus' birth and growth in the "Faces of Easter" story.

**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.

**UNCTION OFFERED** - Fr. Andrew will be at the bottom of the chancel steps to offer unction (prayers for healing with anointing with oil) to anyone so desiring immediately following the 8:00AM and 10:10AM services today.

**OUTREACH LUNCHEON** - On Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, immediately following the 10:10AM service, the Outreach Committee is hosting an Outreach Luncheon for all parishioners. The Outreach Committee is providing the main dish but 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.

**LENTEN BOOK STUDY 2023** - During the season of Lent, Fr. Andrew invites all in our parish to join in reading the book, *The Lord and His Prayer*, by N.T. Wright. Copies are available for a suggested donation of \$10; the book is also available online from a variety of booksellers. A discussion group is gathering each Thursday at 12:00PM in the Barrett Room and online via Zoom (link is available on our parish website).

## 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:**

3/05 Randy Ouzts and Scott Adams  
3/06 Mike and Laura Page  
3/07 Pete and Sally Page  
3/08 Carmen and Patty Patella  
3/09 Bill and Catherine Pearson  
3/10 Nick and Sara Placentra  
3/11 Shawn and Gigi Poole

**In our Diocesan cycle of prayer:** St. David's, Cullowhee

**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:** Paige and baby Ford, Tamara and her family, Bob Barham, Donna, Richard, Lucy A., Bill, Carole, 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

*\*\*\*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:** Josh Van Dyke

**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 Ellen Clara

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

3/05 Mark Curry, Spencer Blackburn  
3/07 Suzanne Miller  
3/08 Anne Jones  
3/09 Buddy Fore  
3/10 Mike Austell

**For those celebrating an anniversary this week:**

03/10 Jim and Kay Snow  
03/11 Robert Kling and Tom Veale