



ST. MARY OF THE HILLS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA

OCTOBER 25, 2026

WELCOME TO ST. MARY OF THE HILLS

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

Restrooms are in the hallway beyond the Foyer. A nursery is available for children, located in the hallway beyond the Parish Hall. Coffee and Refreshments are served following each service, in Foyer following 8:00AM and in the Parish Hall following 10:10AM.

More information about our parish is available online at www.stmaryofthehills.org.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rector's Forum--Join Father Andrew at 9 a.m. in the Barrett Room on Sunday, Oct. 25, for the fourth installment in our *special forum series on health and wellness*: "Health and Healing in Spiritual Practice." On Sunday, Nov. 1, Michelle Curry will present on "Discernment, Postulancy, and the Diaconate." All are welcome!

Youth Sunday School--Calling all students grades K-12! Join your friends in the St. John Room on Sundays from 9-10 a.m. for **Little Lambs Sunday School**, a fun time of play, fellowship, wonder, and reflection. As always, the nursery remains open to children ages up to 5 from 8:30-11:30am, and youngsters of all ages are invited to Children's Worship during the 10:10 service.

Chili Cook-Off Today--Have a frighteningly good time beginning at 5:30 p.m. today, Sunday, Oct. 25, at our spooky chili supper. Bring your scariest side dish or dessert, or cook up a cauldron of your best bubbling brew (chili, that is!).

Stephen Minister Training--Monday, October 26, beginning at 5:30, covering Modules 6.2 and 7.

Feast of All Saints Next Sunday--Join us on Sunday, November 1, for the Feast of All Saints. Baptism will be celebrated at the 10:10 service.

All Saints Choir Concert--Join the choir at 3:00 p.m. next Sunday, November 1, for a solemn concert with readings, featuring movements from the Durufle requiem and a reading of the necrology.

October Diaper Drive--The Outreach Committee requests diapers throughout the month of October. Please leave any size package of diapers in the foyer. Large diapers are especially needed. They will be delivered to the Children's Council at the end of the month.

Mother Torrence Office Hours--Want to meet with Mother Torrence? Stop by the office any time between 9:30 and 4:00 on Wednesdays, or make an appointment by emailing mailto:torrence.harman@aol.com or calling/texting (804) 436-7591.

Book Study with Fr. Sam Tallman--Join Fr. Sam Tallman for a study of *Have Mercy: Following Jesus in Politically Perilous Times*. The third session is on Tuesday, October 27, from 4-5:15 p.m. **Registration is required** at <https://forms.gle/dTBXRtKLYxfyaWw49>.

Altar Flower Donations--Please help to make our altar beautiful while honoring or remembering a loved one! The sign-up sheet is in the Parish Hall. Choose the date and add your name plus the name of the person you want to remember or recognize, and the Flower Guild will do the rest. Suggested donation of \$80-\$100.

Bible Study at the South End of Main Street--The study meets Friday mornings from 9:00-10:30 on zoom. For more information, please contact owene_courtney@yahoo.com.

Bishop Search Committee Listening Sessions--The search for the new bishop of Western North Carolina is underway. The Committee needs our input to guide the search. Committee members will meet in person with church members from the diocese beginning on November 15. The closest session to St. Mary's will be at St. Luke's in Boone at 3:00 p.m. on Nov. 15. Come be part of the conversation!

Regular Worship During the Week –

- Morning Prayer is offered M-F at 8:30 AM. Lasting 15-20 minutes, the service includes scripture, silence, and intercessions.
- Holy Eucharist is offered each Wednesday at 12:00PM in the Church. Prayers for Healing, along with Laying on of Hands and Anointing, are offered on the third Wednesday of each month.

PARISH PRAYER LIST

For the Church: Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury; Sean, our Presiding Bishop; for our diocese and the bishop search committee; for Andrew, Sam, and Torrence, our clergy; for our Vestry and staff; and for all the people of this parish.

In our Parish Prayer Cycle, we remember this week:

10/25 Suzanne Miller
10/26 Cobb and Cindy Milner
10/27 Perry and Jan Mixter
10/28 Chip Monroe, Emma Kate, Lee, and Arden
10/29 Marty and Pat Moore
10/30 Richard and Patricia Murphy
10/31 Paige Naylor

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; and all who hold elected office. For all who offer themselves for public election and service.

For all who suffer from war and violence throughout the world, especially for the Middle East, for Iran and the U.S., Israel, Lebanon, and Gaza, for Ukraine and Russia. For the peace of the world. We pray for the cessation of war.

For healing: Amy, Angela, Angus M, Ann, Anna C, Baby Jensen, Bill R, Bob A, Candy, Chris B, Chris C, Chris M, Darlene, Earle, Evie, Jeremiah, Jim, Jon, John W, Joshua, Kenny O, Kerry, Leo, Leslie, Lucy, Mandy L, Martha T, Mary Ellen, Mary M, Mike, Mike M, Myra, Neal H, Nick, Pat, Sarah M, Siri, Valerie, Vincent, Vinny.

For those suffering from storms, flooding, wildfires, glacial collapse, and all natural disasters.

**Please note that the names on this list will remain for four weeks, unless the office is notified that the person needs to remain on the list longer.*

For safe pregnancy and delivery: Camille, Emily, Kelley, Caitlyn, Katherine, Jennifer, Corinne, Megan, Nicola, Isabelle.

For those with other concerns: Anders, Corinne, Darlene, Jennifer, Lamar.

For those celebrating a birthday

10/27 Amanda Hege, Chloe Shaut, Jim West
10/29 Bill Gibbons, Bob Jones, John Reule

For those celebrating an anniversary

For those who are traveling: Paula Oneal, Susan Barnes

For those who have died: Al H, Anna Clifford, Beth, Clark, Fred, Hobie D, Janet, Joe Dulaney, Joyti, LaBibi Ghosn, Mark, Randy Phipps, Terry Leiter, Thomas Buxton