



ST. MARY OF THE HILLS EPISCOPAL CHURCH BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA JAN. 12, 2025 FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

WELCOME TO ST. MARY OF THE HILLS

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. Members of our Vestry (elected lay leadership) are identified by name tags with yellow lanyards. Seek them out for details about our congregation's life and ministry.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTIAN FORMATION –

- **Children:** Today, elementary-age children will learn about the Baptism of Our Lord during a special Formation offering for runs through the first portion of the 10:10 am service. The children should begin church as usual with their families and they will leave together during the Gloria. Kids will rejoin their families in the Nave during the passing of the Peace.
- **Rector's Forum:** Join us at 9:00AM in the Barrett Room for a conversation about Baptism – the Baptism of our Lord and our own Baptisms.

BLESSED CHALK FOR EPIPHANY HOME BLESSING – Chalk blessed at the Holy Eucharist on the Epiphany is available in the Foyer. You are invited to mark the threshold of your home with the inscription – 20+C+M+B+25 – a blessing that remembers the magi who traveled to meet the infant Christ and a prayer that your home may be a haven of blessing and peace.

EUCCHARISTIC VISITOR TRAINING – Anyone interested in serving as Eucharistic Visitors, taking the sacrament to those homebound, are invited to an information session on Sunday, January 19 at 11:30AM in the Barrett Room.

RSVP FOR FEB. 23 TOUR OF HOMES MEETING – The Tour of Homes Chairs and those who desire to be deeply involved in this annual fundraiser will be having a dinner meeting on Feb. 23. Email Billie Rogers at billie.rogers@kw.com if you're interested in attending.

WELCOME & HOSPITALITY –

- **Coffee Minute Hosts:** This is our primary point of contact each Sunday following the 10:10 am Eucharist and it's a great time of fellowship. Volunteers are needed to host each week. Partner with a friend to host and help cultivate a space of hospitality and welcome. Contact Director of Hospitality & Facilities Bill Devereux at bill@stmaryofthehills.org to learn more.
- **Welcoming the Stranger:** The Vestry is creating a name tag initiative for the parish to help us welcome visitors and guests, as well as get to know one another better. This simple act of hospitality can make a difference as we know from Matthew 25:35: "... I was a stranger and you welcomed me ...". This initiative will be starting soon. You can pick up a name tag when you arrive, fill it out and return it before leaving. There will be designated locations for name tag pickup and drop-off. Contact Sue Sweeting for more details at 828.406.9376 or sweetingsue75@yahoo.com.

BREAD OF LIFE MINISTRY – The Bread of Life teams are in need of more volunteers to feed the folks at Hospitality House, the only shelter for seven counties. There are five teams in this ministry: two teams that cook and three teams that purchase meals from Farm Café. If you cannot spare the time to cook, a monetary contribution would be greatly appreciated. Hurricane Helene has made our work even more imperative. Contact Sue Wilders at suejackpaintfly@aol.com for more information.

PARISH PRAYER LIST

For the Church: Sean, our Presiding Bishop; José our Bishop; Andrew, Sam and Gary, our clergy; for our Vestry and staff; for all the people of this parish

In our Parish Prayer Cycle, we remember this week:

01/12: Albert Yount

01/13: Chris & Joe Albertson-Coyne

01/14: Walt & Martha Armeika

01/15: Bob Amos & Sallie Corrigan

01/16: Charlie & Amy Anderson, Sarahfina and Asher

01/27: Toby & Marion Arnheim

01/18: Marks & Mimi Arnold

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St. John's, Battleboro; Church of the Holy Comforter, Burlington; St. Paul's, Cary

For our nation and those in positions of public trust: Joseph, our President; Donald our President-Elect; Josh, our Governor; all those who hold elected office; and for those who offered themselves for election this year

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 Palestine

For all affected by natural disaster, especially those impacted by Hurricanes Helene and Milton, and those impacted by fires throughout California.

For healing: Dale, Bill & Jorgann Rogers, Jeff Hedden, Christine, John, Ann Greene, Bob Barham, Clare, Bill Tessien, Emily R., Suzie W., Lynn Turnbow, Grace, Bobbie, Tom, John Horne, Joe Dyer, Joe Doswell, Mark Tribby, Billy Tribby, Gary L., Belinda Scanlon, Jennifer, Helen Wells, Darren Van Dyke, Harry Steele, Carol Gray, Lora, Chris M., Mary M., Andrew C., Ben Cook, Vinny, Lucy, Bill Courtney

****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: Guy Snow, John Monguillot, Bernie Earp, Tom Clemens, David C.

For those with other concerns: Pat, Marcy, Cindy, Luca, Clemens Family, Betty Joan

For those traveling: Darlene Van Dyke

For safe pregnancy and delivery: Caitlyn, Mary Ella, Emma Unkovic, Chelsea

For thanksgiving: The birth of Elise Kelly Lawler on Dec. 31

For those celebrating a birthday:

01/13: Beau Wilson

01/16: Bunky Davant, Mike Tinka

01/18: Michelle Curry