



ST. MARY OF THE HILLS
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA
FEBRUARY 4, 2024

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. 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

CELEBRATING GRETA WILSON – Our Parish Administrator, Greta Wilson, retired on Friday, having served the parish for 15 years. Join us today for a festive reception following the 10:10AM Holy Eucharist as we celebrate Greta and give thanks for her many years of faithfulness to St. Mary of the Hills. As a part of her retirement, Greta will be presented with a ‘purse’; if you’d like to make a contribution, please note ‘Greta Retirement’ in the memo line of your check or online gift.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION TODAY

- **Godly Play** for children ages 3 to 10 occurs at 9:00AM in the St. Luke Room on Sunday mornings. This week, Sue Sweeting and Lynne Bell will be leading the class.
- **Rector’s Forum – The First Letter to the Corinthians** – Throughout the next several weeks, we'll be hearing from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians in worship. This letter has some of the most familiar passages in all of scripture as well as some portions that have been used and misused throughout the Church's history. Join us in the Rector's Forum at 9:00AM in the Barrett Room as we take a closer look at this portion of scripture together. All are welcome!

UNCTION – Prayers for healing and anointing with oil will be offered following both services on Sunday. Gather at the bottom of the steps in front of the church after services.

SHROVE TUESDAY (FEBRUARY 13) –

- Join us for Evening Prayer at 5:00PM, to draw the season after Epiphany to a close and observe one final offering of our ‘Alleluias’ before the season of Lent begins.
- At 5:30PM, join us for a Cajun Feast in the Parish Hall. Our Men’s Breakfast crew and their families will provide the main dishes and request that attending parishioners bring a side to share. A sign-up sheet is available in the Foyer.

ASH WEDNESDAY (FEBRUARY 14) – The season of Lent, our forty-day journey toward Easter, begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14. Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes will be offered at 7:00AM, 12:00PM, and 6:00PM. Join us as we make a right beginning of this holy season.

LENTEN BOOK STUDY – During the season of Lent, we will read “The Sign and the Sacrifice” by Rowan Williams, former Archbishop of Canterbury. Copies of the book are available in the library for a suggested donation of \$10. You can also purchase online from a variety of online book sellers. Conversation circles dates and times will be shared soon.

UPCOMING FEAST DAYS –

- February 24 – The Feast of St. Matthias – Holy Eucharist at 9:00AM
- March 19 – The Feast of St. Joseph – Holy Eucharist at 12:00PM

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS – Are you interested in becoming an office volunteer? We need regular weekly volunteers to assemble our Sunday service bulletins and ready the parish pews for services. Please reach out to our new Director of Finance and Administration, Michael Marshall, at Michael@stmaryofthehills.org to learn more. Volunteers are also needed to assist weekly in Godly Play and help with Vacation Bible School, which will be held June 17-19 at St. Mary’s. Please reach out to Lindsey Herring at Lindsey@stmaryofthehills.org to learn more.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers today are given by Sandra Churchill in loving memory of her parents, Hilda & Marvin Wade, on what would be their 80th wedding anniversary.

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:

02/04 Kate Hill

02/05 Norman & Janet Hillis

02/06 Torre Hinnant & David Brendle

02/07 Marjory Holder & Larry Turnbow

02/08 Alice Holt

02/09 Art & Sandra Hooper

02/10 Brendan Housler & Chris Cooley

In our Diocesan cycle of prayer: Seminarians and all students, faculty and staff involved in theological education

For our nation and those in positions of public trust: Joseph, our President, Roy, our Governor, and 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 Palestine

For all affected by natural disaster throughout the world and especially for those impacted by severe flooding in Sri Lanka

For healing: Teresa, Jeff Hedden, Lisa Kaufmann, Claudia, Andrew, Belinda, Siri, Jamie, Jordan M., Gary, Gary Bolka, Sue, Cullie, Debbie, Dennis, Joe, David S., Mary M., Mary Jane, Christine, Kay McCloskey, Jo-Anne Findt, Sheila, Mike, Adam, Luella, Clare, Michael Curry, Ann Greene, Greg, Bob Barham, Peggy, Mark, Larry, Joe, Laura, Kent Wells, Virginia V., Mary Ann, Handi Alejandro Santiago, Dale, Catherine, Bill

****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: Michael Neff, Shelia Deal, Jane Rogers, Janice, Haydee Mojica de Santiago, Jim, Alon Shamriz, Steve

For those with other concerns: Scott family, Earl, Martina, Jena, Diane and family, Corinne

For those traveling this week: Holly, Dallas

For safe pregnancy and delivery: Megan Redford, Crawford, Selby, Hanna, Caitlyn, Emily

For those celebrating a birthday this week:

02/05 Pat Moore

02/06 Laurie Orgass, John Thacker, Albert Yount

02/09 Dave Ballesty