



**ST. MARY OF THE HILLS
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA
FEBRUARY 11, 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 details about our congregation's life and ministry.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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, Amanda White is telling the story of the Transfiguration with Cathia Silver.
- **Rector's Forum – The First Letter to the Corinthians** – This morning we complete our study of Saint Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians. 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!

SHROVE TUESDAY

- 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. A signup sheet is available in the Foyer. All are welcome!

ASH WEDNESDAY – The season of Lent, our forty-day journey toward Easter, begins this week with Ash Wednesday. 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.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS – Stations of the Cross will be prayed at noon each Friday during Lent beginning on February 16. All are welcome.

CONFESSION – The Reconciliation of Penitent, commonly called Confession, is available on Fridays, 11:00AM-12:00PM, and at any time by appointment. Contact Fr. Andrew if you'd like to make an appointment or to learn more about the Reconciliation in the Episcopal Church.

MORNING PRAYER – Morning Prayer, a short service of scripture and prayer (15-20 minutes), is offered each weekday morning at 8:30AM in the Church.

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 Monday through Wednesday, June 17-19, at St. Mary's. This is a partnership with Rumble Presbyterian. We will need volunteers for props, song-leading, teaching, snacks, check-in, carpool and much more. Please reach out to Lindsey Herring at Lindsey@stmaryofthehills.org if interested or to learn more.

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:

02/11 Richard & Betty Howe
02/12 Sterling Hutcheson
02/13 Frank & Aline Irizarry
02/14 Robert Johnston
02/15 Bob & Anne Jones
02/16 Jonathan Jones
02/17 Larry & Faith Jones

In our Diocesan cycle of prayer: Church of the Redeemer, Asheville; Church of the Redeemer, Shelby

For our nation and those in positions of public trust: Joseph, our President, Roy, our Governor, 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, Pat, Lynniss, Collins family

****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, Gus Alfieri, Jim, Michael

For those with other concerns: Scott family, Earl, Martina, Jena, Diane and family, Corinne, Blair, for a family in pain

For those traveling this week: Herbert Norman, Sally & Pete, Grasinger family, Darlene Van Dyke

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

For those celebrating a birthday this week:

02/12 Adam Hill
02/13 Judy Gloster
02/15 Carolyn Crutcher, Lee Monroe, Mike Zuravel
02/17 Janet Hillis

For those celebrating an anniversary this week:

02/12 Bryan & Carolyn Crutcher
02/14 Fr. Sam Tallman & Mike Zuravel