



# ST. MARY OF THE HILLS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA

FEB. 23, 2025

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER THE 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](http://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

**FEAST OF ST. MATTHIAS** – Join us in celebrating the Feast of St. Matthias with Holy Eucharist Monday morning at 9 am. All are welcome.

### SUNDAY CHRISTIAN FORMATION OFFERINGS

- **Godly Play:** Formation for our elementary-age children occurs upstairs in the St. Luke room at 9 am. Today the children will explore the Parable of the Leaven.
- **Youth:** Youth Formation occurs at 9 am in the St. Mary room.
- **Rector's Forum:** Peter & Valerie Purcell will share about their recent pilgrimage to Rome during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.
- **Children & Worship:** This offering runs through the first portion of the 10:10 am service. The children begin church as usual and leave together during the *Gloria* for a lesson on the 10 Commandments. Kids rejoin their families in the Nave before the passing of the Peace.

**TOH PLANNING MEETING** – John Jordan and Billie Rogers, co-chairs of the Tour of Homes are hosting a dinner at John's home on Feb 23. If you have RSVP'd for the dinner, please join Billie and John at the home of John Jordan, 315 Tarry Acres Circle, Blowing Rock, this evening at 5:30 pm. This is a catered dinner so RSVPs are a must, please. Reach out to Billie Rogers ([billie.rogers@kw.com](mailto:billie.rogers@kw.com)) with questions.

**MEN'S BREAKFAST FEB. 27** – The men of St Mary's gather for another morning of worship, food, fellowship and fun on Thursday, Feb. 27. And yes, of course all people of any gender are welcome! Eucharist is at 7:30 am followed by a hearty breakfast, period of fellowship and bit of planning for the Shrove Tuesday pancake supper coming up March 4.

**SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER** – Join us at 5:30 pm on Tuesday, March 4, for the annual pancake supper sponsored by Men's Breakfast as we prepare for Ash Wednesday and entering the Lenten season together.

**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES** – Join us at Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes will occur at 7 am, noon and 6 pm on Wednesday, March 5. All are welcome. The nursery will be open for those attending the 6 pm service and will be staffed from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm for children up to age 5.

**FEBRUARY VESTRY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS** – The St. Mary of the Hills Vestry met on Tuesday. Meeting highlights are available on the parish website at <https://www.stmaryofthehills.org/vestry>.

**VOLUNTEER FOR RISE AGAINST HUNGER ON MARCH 16** – From 2 to 4 pm on March 16, we'll be joining Ruple Presbyterian for Rise Against Hunger. To learn more about this and other Outreach events, and to sign up for a shift on March 16, visit us online at <https://www.stmaryofthehills.org/outreach>. Children are welcome to participate!

### ABOUT ST. MATTHIAS THE APOSTLE

**Feast Day: Feb. 24**

Nothing is known about the life of Matthias except the one mention of him in the Book of Acts. After the Ascension of Christ and the death of Judas, when some followers of Jesus met in the Upper Room, Peter asked the group to (Acts 1:12-26). Matthias is commemorated in the Episcopal calendar of the church year on Feb. 24. (Adapted from [Episcopalchurch.org](http://Episcopalchurch.org))

# ALTAR FLOWERS

*The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Sandra Brown's husband, Raeford Brown*

## 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:**

02/23: Marshall & Kaye Culp  
02/24: Mark & Michelle Curry  
02/25: Kathy Dacchille  
02/26: Bunky & Teena Davant  
02/27: Ryan & Wivianny DeHaas  
02/28: Bill & Donna Devereux  
03/01: Kay Donahue

**In the Diocesan Cyle of Prayer:** St. Matthias, Asheville

**For our nation and those in positions of public trust:** Donald our President; Josh, 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,** 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., Charlotte, Maxine P., Carolyn, Pam L., families of victims of Black Hawk helicopter and American Airlines plane crash, John Bagg, Bob, Marty, Pete, Belinda, Wayne, Caroline, Sam, Gary

*\*\*\*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:** victims of Black Hawk helicopter and American Airlines plane crash, Amy, Lily Crawley, Jack Lone, Ms. Allen, Marlana, B.T., Amy, Mary Ann C., Eric R., Burt D.

**For those with other concerns:** Clemens Family, Marcy & Cindy, Hayden

**For safe pregnancy and delivery:** Caitlyn, Chelsea, Hanna, Katherine, Kelley

**For those celebrating a birthday:**

02/24: Charlene Barham  
02/25: Greta Wilson, Belinda Scanlon  
02/27: Chip Myers  
02/28: Helene Harper, Sue Corcoran  
03/01: Rhonda Ann McDonald

**For those celebrating an anniversary:**

02/24: Michael & Amanda Silverman