



ST. MARY OF THE HILLS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA

MARCH 10, 2024

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 TODAY

- **Godly Play** for children ages 3 to 10 occurs at 9:00AM in the St. Luke Room on Sunday mornings. This morning, Lindsey & Ryan Postlethwait continue our Lenten journey through the "Faces of Easter" series.
- **Rector's Forum** – During the season of Lent, we are exploring a study based on Hilary Raining's book, *Joy in Confession: Reclaiming Sacramental Reconciliation*. We begin with a deeper theological exploration of sin, shame, forgiveness, and joy. Grab a cup of coffee and join us at 9:00AM in the Barrett Room (second floor, above the Parish Hall)!

BREAD OF LIFE AT HOSPITALITY HOUSE – Looking for a place to get involved in the mission and ministry of St Mary of the Hills? Join a Bread of Life Team. We have four active groups supplying meals for over 100 people on four different nights (once a month) at Hospitality House, our local emergency shelter for those experiencing hunger and/or housing insecurity. We are seeking new volunteers to contribute, help prepare, and deliver food. Seasonal support is also welcome. Please contact Sue Wilder (suejackpaintfly@aol.com) or Mike Austell (austellmike37@gmail.com) for more information.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS – Stations of the Cross is prayed at 12:00PM each Friday during Lent. All are welcome.

RECONCILIATION (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.

CENTERING PRAYER – Lindsey Herring, Christian Formation Director, is leading Lenten sessions of Centering Prayer, a contemplative spiritual practice that allows us to quiet the heart and rest in God's presence, at 4:30PM on Wednesdays. All are welcome, newcomers and lifelong practitioners alike.

EVENING PRAYER – Following the conclusion of Centering Prayer, all are invited to join us as the sun begins to set for Evening Prayer. This short service of prayer and thanksgiving occurs Wednesdays during Lent at 5:15PM. Join us!

OUTDOOR STATIONS OF THE CROSS VOLUNTEERS – St. Mary of the Hills and Rumble Presbyterian Church have been working together for several months now on an outdoor Stations of the Cross project. While permanent Stations will not be completed in time for Holy Week 2024, we are planning a set of temporary Stations in the chosen locations at both churches, for Good Friday from 1pm-5:30pm. We are asking for volunteers from St. Mary's (and from Rumble) to help set up a few tables, and remove them, and any debris that may have been left. We would love to have five volunteers from St. Mary's for that afternoon. If you feel called to help or are interested in learning more, contact Peter Purcell at peternelsonpurcell@gmail.com.

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HOLY WEEK & EASTER

March 24-31, 2024

You are invited to join us for the journey of Holy Week.

Experience the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus through song, silence, prayer, and proclamation.

Palm Sunday
8:00am Holy Eucharist (spoken)
10:10am Holy Eucharist w/ Palms Procession*

Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday
12:00pm Daily Holy Eucharist


Maundy Thursday
6:00pm Maundy Thursday Holy Eucharist*

Good Friday
1:00-5:00pm Stations of the Cross (outdoors; self-guided)
6:00pm The Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday

Holy Saturday
8:30am Liturgy of Holy Saturday
7:30pm The Great Vigil of Easter*

Easter Sunday
8:00am Holy Eucharist (spoken)
9:30am Easter Egg Hunt
10:10am Festal Holy Eucharist*

*services include the use of incense



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:

03/10 Roy & Nedra McCraw
03/11 Paul & Loy McGill, Duncan
03/12 Tina McKnight
03/13 Will Merrill & Andy Sicard
03/14 Chris & Katherine Metzger
03/15 Bob & Sabine Miller
03/16 Matthew Miller & Ashley McCurry, Skyler, Maddox

In our Diocesan cycle of prayer: Diocese of Western North Carolina Commissions, Committees, Agencies and Boards; Diocesan staff

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.

For healing: Adam, Lisa Kaufmann, Dale, Catherine, Bill, Catherine, Pat, Lynn, Collins family, Mary Dean, Mark Bennett, Jennifer, Brittany, Jorgann Rogers, Allan Morrison, Larry, Jeff Hedden, Belinda, Siri, Gary, Kay McCloskey, Christine, Clare, Ann Greene, Greg, Dick, Bob Barham, John, Christine, Susan, Mitch, Andy, Chris M., Vincent, Mary M., Bob, MJ, Susan, Sheila and Ray, Peggy, Laurie

****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: Jim, Michael Neff, Rachel Ferguson, Peter, Wally Vandergrift, Michael, Jane, Peter, Comb Family

For those with other concerns: Corinne; Blair; Josh; for a family in pain; relationships and transitions; Ed; Kay & her family; Diane, Jena and family; Carli, Dat & Leo

For those traveling this week: Mary Ellen & Joe Raulerson, Karen & Paul Smiley

For safe pregnancy and delivery: Megan Redford, Crawford, Hanna, Caitlyn, Emily, Neta, Lindsey E.

For those celebrating a birthday this week:

03/10 Margaret Jane Joffrion, Mike Austell
03/12 Alice Holt, Jim Shaut
03/13 Joyce Gibson, Tim Silver
03/15 Linda Norman

For those celebrating an anniversary this week:

03/10 Jim & Kay Snow
03/11 Robert Kling & Tom Veale