



# ST. MARY OF THE HILLS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA

### MARCH 17, 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](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

### 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, Sue Sweeting and Cathia Silver tell the complete "Faces of Easter" story, beginning to end.
- **Rector's Forum** – During the season of Lent, we have been exploring a study based on Hilary Raining's book, *Joy in Confession: Reclaiming Sacramental Reconciliation*. We conclude this study and our deeper theological exploration of sin, shame, forgiveness, and joy today. Please join us!

Please note there will be no Formation on Palm Sunday, March 24.

**MEN'S BREAKFAST** – Men's Breakfast is usually held on the fourth Thursday of each month, which happens to fall on Maundy Thursday in March. In keeping with the solemnity of Maundy Thursday, Men's Breakfast will occur on the *third* Thursday this month, March 21. Please join us for this once in a lifetime Men's Breakfast on the third Thursday, Mar 21. at the usual time for Morning Prayer, fellowship and a splendid breakfast!

**BREAD OF LIFE AT HOSPITALITY HOUSE** – 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, prepare and deliver food. Seasonal support is also welcome. Please contact Sue Wilder ([suejackpaintfly@aol.com](mailto:suejackpaintfly@aol.com)) or Mike Austell ([austellmike37@gmail.com](mailto: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 on an outdoor Stations of the Cross project. While permanent Stations will not be completed in time for Holy Week, 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 and cleanup. 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](mailto: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:**

03/17 Jasmin McFayden & Tony Dienst, Maggie

03/18 Mike & Gay Miller

03/19 Joseph & Susan Miller

03/20 Suzanne Miller

03/21 Cobb & Cindy Milner, Sam

03/22 Jane Milner

03/23 Mitch Mitchell

**In our Diocesan cycle of prayer:** St. Joseph's Chapel & students, Christ School staff & faculty

**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, Dale, Collins family, Mary Dean, Mark Bennett, Jennifer, Brittany, Jorgann Rogers, Allan Morrison, Larry, Jeff Hedden, Belinda, Siri, Gary, Kay McCloskey, Christine, John, Clare, Ann Greene, Greg, Dick, Bob Barham, Susan, Mitch, Andy, Chris M., Vincent, Mary M., Bob, MJ, Susan, Sheila and Ray, Peggy, Laurie, Lauren, Bob Jones

*\*\*\*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, Peter, Rachel F., Wally V., Jane, Comb Family, Pinkney Rankin, Susan, Stanley L., Mina

**For those with other concerns:** Corinne; Blair; Josh; Ed; Kay & her family; Diane; Jena and family; Carli, Dat & Leo; A.C.

**For those traveling this week:** Mary Ellen & Joe Raulerson, Karen & Paul Smiley, Luba, Darlene, Dallas

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

**For those celebrating a birthday this week:**

03/17 Jenna

03/18 Lynn Searfoss

03/19 Orian Carter, Cathia Silver