



ST. MARY OF THE HILLS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA

OCTOBER 19, 2025

WELCOME TO ST. MARY OF THE HILLS

We are so glad that you are here to share in worship of the Living God and in community with one another.

Restrooms are in the hallway beyond the Foyer. A nursery is available for children up to age five and is in the hallway beyond the Parish Hall. 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.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rector's Forum – Fr. Andrew concludes a series on the 1700th Anniversary of the Council of Nicaea in the Rector's Forum, beginning at 9:00AM in the Barrett Room. This morning, we will look more deeply at Nicaea as a Political Moment.

Tell Out My Soul – Annual Giving 2026 – With gratitude for the ways that St. Mary's parishioners have supported the mission and ministry of our parish this year, we are looking to the year ahead and making plans for our common life. Our parish relies on your generous financial support. Pledge cards for 2026 are available in the Foyer and Parish Hall, as well as on our website.

Rowan Williams Book Study – Fr. Sam Tallman continues a three-week study of *Discovering Christianity: A Guide for the Curious*. Monday sessions will be 3:45 to 5:00 both in person at St. Mary's and by Zoom. This is the former Archbishop of Canterbury's latest book, and this is his invitation to the life-giving possibilities at the heart of the Gospel. Contact Fr. Sam (sam@stmaryofthehills.org) for more information. Also, please read Chapters 3 & 4 for this week's session.

Men's Breakfast – Join us on Thursday morning, October 23, for the final Men's Breakfast of the year. Holy Eucharist begins at 7:30AM in the Church, followed by breakfast and conversation in the Parish Hall. All are welcome!

Burial Services for Martha Jones – Longtime member, Martha Jones, will be buried from St. Mary of the Hills at a service on Friday, October 24, beginning at 1:00PM in the Church.

Save the Date - Annual Chili Cookoff – Sunday, October 26 – 5:30PM – Our annual chili cookoff is just around the corner. Save the date, prepare your favorite chili recipe and join us for fun activities for children & families, friendly competition, good food & fellowship.

Upcoming Feast Days

- **St. James of Jerusalem – October 23, 7:30AM** – Holy Eucharist
- **Sts. Simon and Jude – October 28 – 12:00PM** – Holy Eucharist

A Morning with Mary – November 1, 9:30AM-1:00PM - For nearly two thousand years, women and men, young and old, from all ages and stages of life have reached out to Mother Mary in prayer for help, comfort, and wisdom. Here at St. Mary of the Hills we especially feel her presence and protection. The morning will include creative prayer, reflection, conversation, lunch and a closing Eucharist. Owene Courtney and The Rev'd Torrence Harman will guide the program. Please RSVP by Wednesday, October 29th.

Coffee Minute Hosts – Please join us in the Parish Hall following our 10:10 Holy Eucharist. You can host too! Partner with a friend to host and help cultivate a space of hospitality and welcome for all. A sign-up sheet is posted in the Parish Hall.

Flower Sponsors - Is there an important person or a significant event happening in your life? Sponsoring the flowers placed at the altar each week is a great way to offer thanks for life's many gifts. If you would like to sponsor flowers, please contact Michael Marshall in the Parish Office for more information and available dates.

Worship During the Week – Morning Prayer is offered each weekday morning at 8:30AM; this service lasts 15-20 minutes and includes readings from scripture and prayers. Holy Eucharist is also offered each Wednesday at 12:00PM.

PARISH PRAYER LIST

For the Church: Sean 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:

10/19 Butch & Donna Kerns
10/20 Robert Kling & Tom Veale
10/21 Olivia Knight
10/22 Chris & Antoinette Kollmer
10/23 Rick & Beth Lawler
10/24 Sid & Donna Lemnoui
10/25 Renee Lyons

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St. Luke's, Asheville; St. Luke's, Boone; St. Luke's, Lincolnton

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 Gaza.

For healing: Gary; Pete P.; Shawn; Olivia; Luba; Lynn S.; Mike & Sarah; Dale; Bill & Jorgann Rogers; Jeff Hedden; Christine; Ann Greene; Bob Barham; Clare; Evie; Susan; Lynn Turnbow; Leigh; John H. Pat B.; Lucy A.; Myra; Chris M.; Mary M.; Larry, Joan Anderson, Tony; Margaret; Patsy; Daniel R.; Susie; Jim; Denny; Lambert; Daniel R; Ishitz; Marie; Pam; Bill; Pat; Jonathan; Bill, Robert; Anthony D.

****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: Bishop Robert Johnson, Martha Jones, Andrey Skibo; Jim Tabor; John; Jane; Keith

For those with other concerns: The Matthews Family; Josh; Corinne; Joe Dulaney;

For those who travel: Gigi, Barbara & Rick; Katherine & Chris

For safe pregnancy and delivery: Caitlyn, Katherine, Anna, Hanna, Lauren, Jennifer, Corinne, Amy, Dani, Jessica

For those celebrating a birthday:

10/20 Allison Postlethwait
10/21 Peter Purcell
10/24 Mary Lois Bolka

For those celebrating a marriage anniversary:

10/23 Sam and Rhonda Ann McDonald