



ST. MARY OF THE HILLS EPISCOPAL CHURCH BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA Nov. 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. 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

ANNUAL GIVING – Our Annual Giving theme this year is “Walk in Love,” calling us to remember that our greatest gift in community is how we come together in purpose and mission. All are invited to consider a financial commitment to St. Mary of the Hills in 2025. Pledge cards are also available in the pew racks, in the Foyer and Parish Hall, as well as online at www.stmaryofthehills.org.

LAST FOM CONCERT OF 2024 TODAY – St. Mary's own Baritone, Thomas McNeil, presents the last concert of the Friends of Music season this afternoon at 3 pm. McNeil, a Senior Music Education major at AppState, is a choral scholar and frequent cantor with our choir. He'll sing a varied program, including African-American spirituals and Ralph Vaughan Williams' Five Mystical Songs, accompanied by Marc Longlois, well-known guest organist at St. Mary's.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION – Join us at 9 am on the second floor Sunday for Rector's Forum and Godly Play. All are welcome.

- In the Barrett Room, Father Andrew will lead an introduction to and deeper exploration of the Gospel according to Luke. This will be primary Gospel from which we read in Sunday worship during the year ahead. Join us as we begin to explore the ways in which Luke is similar to and distinct from the other Gospel accounts in sacred scripture.
- Across the hall in the St. Luke room, our elementary-aged children will learn what it means to embody the concept of truly loving one's neighbor through the Parable of the Good Samaritan.

NOVEMBER VESTRY MEETING – The St. Mary of the Hills Vestry will meet Tuesday, Nov. 19, at 5:45 pm in the Parish Hall. All are welcome to attend.

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS – The office is in need of volunteers to help sort and organize hard copies of old church files, as well as scan and email files that we need in digital format. For more details, contact Director of Finance and Administration Michael Marshall at Michael@stmaryofthehills.org.

'FRUITS OF FALL' STUDY CONTINUES MONDAY – Join Formation Director Lindsey Herring and the Rev. Torrence Harman for the second session of “Fruits of Fall: Delving into the Divine,” from 4 pm to 5:30 pm on Nov. 18 in the Barrett Room. This study focused on spiritual practices that help us sense the sacred all around us in the season of fall and track the movement of the Spirit in the everyday. The sessions are independent of each other. If you missed the first class, join us for the second. Contact Lindsey (Lindsey@stmaryofthehills.org) with questions.

ADVENT WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY – Join us this Advent for a brand-new, lay-led Women's Bible Study focusing on the foreshadowing of Jesus in the Old Testament. This is a three-week study led by parishioner Patricia Murphy that occurs at 10:30 am on Fridays during Advent: Dec. 6, Dec. 13 and Dec. 20, at the Church. Come for fellowship, learning and to celebrate the season. RSVP to Formation Director Lindsey Herring at Lindsey@stmaryofthehills.org.

GUEST SPEAKER FROM CAMP HENRY: DEC. 8 – Camp Henry Interim Director Sadie McNair will join us for coffee and conversation about Camp Henry and the role attending summer camp plays in the lifelong Formation of our youth on Dec. 8 at 9 am. Parents and youth are encouraged to attend.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers adorn the altar to the glory of God and in memory of Randolph & Clementi Holder and Walter & Eric Turnbow by the Holder-Turnbow Family.

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:

11/17: Donald & Katherine Riopel

11/18: Ralph & Francine Roberson

11/19: Bill & Jorgann Rogers

11/20: Ethan & Kristen Rundell, John Anders, Anna, Alethea and Eden

11/21: John & Luella Rundell

11/22: Dale Sandusky & Michael DeCorte

11/23: Brian & Maria Saterbo

In the Diocesan Cyle of Prayer: Spanish-Speaking Congregations at Trinity, Spruce Pine; St. Mary's, Morganton; Grace, Waynesville; Church of Our Savior, Newland; and for Diocese Spanish-Speaking Missioners

For our nation and those in positions of public trust: Joseph, our President; Donald our President-Elect; Roy, our Governor; Josh, our Governor-Elect; all those who hold elected office; and for those who offered themselves for election this year

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

For healing: Dale, Bill & Jorgann Rogers, Jeff Hedden, Christine, John, Ann Greene, Bob Barham, Clare, Bill Tessien, Emily R., Carole, Scotty, Jane, Sam, Evie, Lisa K., Julia, Thad, Roy, Chris, Mary, Lucy, Chris J., Bryan, Lisa, Ben C., Suzie W., Tanya, Alison, Sheila & Ray, John, Christine, Nioucha, Peter, Judy, Lynn Turnbow, Anne, Tom Dixson, Taylor Van Dyke, John Rundell

****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: Richard, Goetz, Butch, Adam, Nick Lyons, Margaret Robins, Richard, Ted

For those with other concerns: Chris & Angela, Kirra, Sophia, Belle; The Robins Family, Corinne

For those traveling this week: Blair, Oliver & William; Jim C.; Troskey Family

For safe pregnancy and delivery: Caitlyn, Mary Ella, Sarah, Bre Lawler, Emma Unkovic, Elizabeth, Chelsea

For those celebrating a birthday:

11/17: John Bagg, Jerry Starnes

11/18: Bob Barham, Caroline Howe Clapp