



ST. MARY OF THE HILLS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA
DECEMBER 24, 2023



Christmas at St. Mary of the Hills

Christmas Eve

5:00PM Holy Eucharist
with Children's Pageant

10:00PM Holy Eucharist
Sung Service with Incense
Prelude begins at 9:45PM

Christmas Day

11:00 AM Holy Eucharist
with Carols of the Season

WELCOME TO ST. MARY OF THE HILLS!

We are so glad that you are here. If you are a guest among us, we invite you to complete a 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 information about our congregation's life and ministry.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTIAN FORMATION – Christian Formation classes will not be held today or next Sunday, December 31st. The regular schedule of Christian Formation offerings resumes on January 7th at 9:00AM.

COFFEE MINUTE – Join us in the Foyer (following the 8:00AM service) or in the Parish Hall (following the 10:10AM service) for coffee, refreshments and time for conversation. Hosts are still needed for the 10:10AM service Coffee Minute. A sign-up sheet is available in the Parish Hall.

YEAR-END GIVING – Please remember that gifts must be received or post-marked by December 31st to be credited on 2023 Giving Statements. Thank you for your abundant generosity toward the parish in 2023!

ROOTED IN ABUNDANCE – ANNUAL GIVING 2024 – Have you submitted your pledge card for 2024? Currently we have received 109 pledges for \$466,668. We want to hear from you! Our Vestry leaders are making plans for the year ahead and every commitment of wealth, works, and wisdom is essential to our common life of mission and ministry.

OFFICE CLOSED – The Parish Office and the Church will be closed on Monday and Tuesday, December 25th and 26th, in observance of the Christmas holidays. If you or a loved one are experiencing a pastoral emergency (hospitalization, death, arrest, mental health crisis), please contact Fr. Andrew directly (336.848.4052).

SAVE THE DATE –

- January 1 – The Feast of the Holy Name – Holy Eucharist at 9:00AM
- January 6 – The Feast of The Epiphany – Holy Eucharist at 9:00AM

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:

12/24 Jim and Sue Corcoran

12/25 Lynn Coulthard

12/26 Bill and Owene Courtney

12/27 Bryan and Carolyn Crutcher

12/28 Marshall and Kaye Culp

12/29 Mark and Michelle Curry

12/30 Kathy Dacchille

In our Diocesan cycle of prayer: Holy Family, Mills River; St. Mary's and St. Stephen's, Morganton

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 healing: Jorgann, Gary, Mary Ellen, Joe, Su, Cullie, Stephanie, Dick R., Larry, Kent Wells, Timothy, Dale, Mary M., Mary, Belinda, Betty, Randolph, Alyce, Vincent, Daphne, Matt, Carol, Chris, Rick, Hayes R., Lindsey, Jeannie H., Peggy, Martina, Haydee Majica de Santiago, Cullie, John, Mary Jane, Catherine, Pat, M J, Baxter, Meg Henry, Jan, Evie, Christine, Kay McCloskey, Roseann, Lynne, Carolyn, Lora, Jo-Anne Findt, Sheila, Mike, Adam, Luella, Clare, Michael Curry, Ann Greene, Greg, Bob Barham

****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: Lois, Alon Shamriz, Elsie Wright, Tom D., Tom W., Kathy

For those with other concerns: Blair, Earl, Martina

For safe pregnancy and delivery: Becky, Conner, George, Diane, Jena and family, Crawford, Selby, Hanna, Caitlyn, Emily

For those celebrating a birthday this week:

12/25 Megan Redford, Randy Ouzts

12/26 Marjory Holder, Duncan McGill

12/27 John Carlson

For those celebrating an anniversary this week:

12/28 Bill and Owene Courtney

12/29 Andrew and Amanda Hege, Mike and Gay Miller