



ST. MARY OF THE HILLS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA

FEBRUARY 8, 2026

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 this community with one another.

Restrooms are in the hallway beyond the Foyer. A nursery is available for children and is located in the hallway beyond the Parish Hall.

Coffee and Refreshments are served following each service, in Foyer following 8:00AM and in the Parish Hall following 10:10AM.

More information about our parish is available online at www.stmaryofthehills.org.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rector's Forum – ‘The Politics of Mercy’ with Bishop Mariann Budde – On Tuesday evening, February 3, Bishop Mariann Budde presented a lecture at Virginia Theological Seminary. In this morning's Rector's Forum, we will view a portion of her presentation and engage in conversation. We gather in the Barrett Room at 9:00AM. All are welcome to join!

Coffee Minute Hosts – Please join us in the Parish Hall following our 10:10AM Holy Eucharist or in the Foyer following the 8:00AM 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 for the early months of 2026.

Worship During the Week –

- Morning Prayer is offered each weekday morning at 8:30AM. Evening Prayer is offered on Wednesdays at 4:00PM. Each service lasts 15-20 minutes and includes readings from scripture, silence, and intercessions.
- Holy Eucharist is offered each Wednesday at 12:00PM in the Church. Prayers for Healing, along with Laying on of Hands and Anointing is offered on the third Wednesday of each month.

Episcopal Church Women - St. Mary's ECW is offering an evening of heart-warming fellowship to celebrate, on Tuesday, February 10, beginning at 5:30PM in the Parish Hall. We'll engage in conversation led by Vestry Member Lynn Searfoss and Rev. Torrence Harman on the theme “The Heart of St. Mary's” – what it looks like and what contributes to its health, strength, and well-being. Also, we will offer a preview of St. Mary's new Stephen Ministry and its emphasis Christian Caregiving. Please bring your favorite dish for this special evening. RSVP to Sue Wilders suejackpaintfly@aol.com.

Looking Ahead...

- Shrove Tuesday Supper – Tuesday, February 17, 5:30PM – Join us for a feast before the fast! A Cajun-themed supper will be offered by our Men's Breakfast group on Shrove Tuesday evening. All are welcome and invited!
- Ash Wednesday – Our Lenten journey begins with worship throughout the day – Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes will be offered at 7:00AM, 12:00PM, and 6:00PM. Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer will also be offered on this day, at 8:30AM and 4:00PM, respectively.

The Listening Post at App State - The Listening Post, a campus ministry sponsored by Presbyterian Episcopal Campus Ministry, is seeking volunteers for the Spring Semester. Listeners are adults who will enjoy listening more than talking with college students (as well as others). Volunteers ask leading questions and then listen with an open mind and heart without trying to “fix it.” Listeners to serve 1.5-to-2-hour shifts on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday. Contact Fr. Andrew to learn more or to connect with the Listening Post Coordinator to volunteer.

Stephen Ministry – Do you care about suffering folks in the parish? Stephen Ministers are trained to provide high-quality, one-to-one, Christ-centered care for people in our congregation who are experiencing life challenges such as illness, grief, job-related stress, or other common situations. If you are interested in serving members of our parish through this ministry, contact Lynn Searfoss or Torrence Harman.

Tell Out My Soul – Annual Giving 2026 – It's a new year! Have you submitted a pledge card with your intention for giving in the year ahead? Pledge cards for 2026 are available in the Foyer and in the Parish Hall, as well as on our parish website. Submitting a pledge allows our Vestry and Staff to better plan and make decisions about our common mission and ministry.

PARISH PRAYER LIST

For the Church: Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury; 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:

2/8 Kaye Culp
2/9 Mark & Michelle Curry
2/10 Kathy Dacchille
2/11 Bunky & Teena Davant
2/12 Michael DeCorte & Dale Marie Sandusky
2/13 Bill & Donna Devereux
2/14 Charles & Laura Dunn

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St. Paul's, Edneyville; St. Paul's, Morganton; St. Paul's, Wilkesboro

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, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, the Sudan, Myanmar, Venezuela, Israel and Gaza.

For those affected by natural disaster and especially for the people of Cuba & Jamaica in the aftermath of Hurricane Melissa and for those throughout the country affected by winter weather.

For healing: Bob Amos; Torre; Susie; Katherine; Valerie P.; Pete P.; Olivia; Luba; Lynn S.; Mike & Sarah; David; Dale; Bill & Jorgann; Jeff Hedden; Ann Greene; Bob; Clare; Evie; John H. Pat B.; Lucy A.; Myra; Chris M.; Mary M.; Larry, Joan Anderson, Tony; Margaret; Denny; Lambert; Cullie; Violet Horton; Joshua; Tamara, Jamie S.; Siri S.; Matt H.; Robert; Anne; Jane; Eddie; Mary Pearce; Justin M.; Leigh K.; Sylvia; Wayne; Jonathan; Doug

****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 with other concerns: Joe Dulaney; Sylvia; Zane; Tamara & Kirk

For those who travel: Booker Purcell; Amanda

For safe pregnancy and delivery: Sydney, Caitlyn, Katherine, Anna, Hanna, Jennifer, Corinne, Dani, Jessica; Eryn; Giuliana

For those celebrating a birthday :

2/9 Dave Ballesty
2/13 Judy Gloster

For those celebrating an anniversary:

2/14 Sam Tallman & Mike Zuravel

For those who have died: David; Mike; Sarah; Peggy Kaufman