



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

APRIL 5, 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

Pastoral Emergencies-- Please continue to contact Sr. Warden, Peter Purcell, 828.261.6859, with pastoral care needs. He will put you in touch with the pastoral care team.

Worship During the Week –

- Morning Prayer is offered M-F at 8:30 AM. 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.

Don't forget the Easter Egg Hunt--today (Easter Sunday) at 9:00. Baskets are ready for all young egg-seekers.

Receptions Follow Both Easter Day Services--The reception following the 8 a.m. service will coincide with our legendary Easter egg hunt, St Mary's being one of the Easter bunny's favorite places! The reception following the 10:10 service will feature Mimosas. Come celebrate the Resurrection!

Church Office Closed-- The office will be closed Monday, 4/6, for the Easter holiday.

Announcing The J. Gary and Julia Jayne Gloster Caring Trust-- The St. Mary's Charitable Outreach Trust is now The J. Gary and Julia Jayne Gloster Caring Trust. The new name reflects the Glosters' tireless dedication to delivering assistance, care, and hope to those in need through outreach. Your contributions can both help those who are less fortunate and honor Bishop Gary and Judy. Contributions of any amount may be made to the Gloster Caring Trust. Please write your check to St. Mary of the Hills and designate the J. Gary and Julia Jayne Gloster Caring Trust in the lower left memo line on your check. Bequests can also be made to St. Mary's and designated to the trust.

Save the Date! A Reception in Honor of the Glosters-- A reception honoring the ministry of Judy and Gary Gloster will be held Sunday, April 12, following the 10:10 service in the Parish Hall. Please join us as we celebrate the time we have spent with the Glosters and give thanks for their ministry among us!

Stephen Ministry – Make a difference for folks in our parish who could use a listening ear and a loving heart. Training will begin in early May. To pick up an application, please talk to Lynn Searfoss or Torrence Harman.

Contributions for OASIS--The Outreach Committee is collecting items throughout the month of April to support OASIS. As part of its services to the community, OASIS provides emergency services and support for victims of domestic abuse and assault. Families are in need of full size shampoo, conditioner, body wash and face wash; totes and suitcases for moving; and 2026 planners and journals. Items may be left in the foyer at church during the month of April.

Save the Date-- Calling all little adventurers to Vacation Bible School *Creation Care Camp*! Children who are rising 1st graders through rising 5th graders are invited to grow in knowledge and love for God and his wonderful creation through the VBS Wild Wonder curriculum, June 15-18, 2026 (9:00-12:00 each day). Additional details and registration coming soon!

PARISH PRAYER LIST

For the Church: Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury; Sean, our Presiding Bishop; José our Bishop; Andrew, Rick, Sam, Torrence, 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:

4/5 Will Merrill and Andy Sicard
4/6 Chris and Katherine Metzger
4/7 Bob and Sabine Miller
4/8 Mike and Gay Miller
4/9 Suzanne Miller
4/10 The Cobb and Cindy Milner family
4/11 Jane Milner

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Calvary Episcopal Church, Fletcher

For our nation and those in positions of public trust: Donald, our President; Josh, our Governor; and all who hold elected office.

For all who suffer from war and violence throughout the world, especially for the Middle East, for Iran, Israel, and the United States, for Gaza, for Ukraine and Russia, for Cuba. For the peace of the world.

For healing: Andrew, Ann, Anthony, Barbara, Bob A, Cadance, Carrie H, Baby Charlotte, Chris M, Clare, Dale, Darren V, Dean H, Denica Joyce, Gary, the Gizinski family, the Hege family, Jonathon, Kadence, Lucy, MaryKate, Mary M, Mike, Mike T, Mills, Myra, Neal H, Patsy, Peter, Rebekah, Susan, Susie B. Wright, Tamara, Tom

****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 safe pregnancy and delivery: Camille, Caroline, Kelley, Caitlyn, Katherine, Katie, Anna, Jennifer, Corinne, Eryn, Giuliana, Tamar

For those with other concerns: family, the Glosters, Julie and Don, Kaidence, Kimmi and Beau, Mac H, Zane,

For those celebrating a birthday:

4/5 Anderson and Zachary Page
4/7 Paul Delmonico, Perry Mixer
4/9 Alva Browning, Barbara Ballesty, Emma Scanlon Unkovic
4/11 Jim Bumgardner

For those celebrating anniversaries:

4/8 Sue and Jim Corcoran

For those who are traveling: Sarah and Mike Matthews, the Troskey family,

For those who have died: Ashley, Bridget, Cheryl, John Brown, Kim, Marianne Galke, Tom, Wilson King