



March 2023

*St. Mary's Episcopal Church:  
Serving with JOY!*

# The Bell Ringer

Online at [www.stmaryskinston.com](http://www.stmaryskinston.com)



## **PALM SUNDAY**

Palm Sunday, April 2, begins with the Holy Eucharist at 8am. Breakfast will be served in Moseley Hall at 9am, and throughout the morning, palm crosses will be made and freshly-baked hot cross buns will be enjoyed. The procession recalls Jesus' entry into Jerusalem before his Passion. At 10:30am, we will gather on the lawn near the playground for the procession. In the event of inclement weather, we will begin our procession in Moseley Hall.

## **MONDAY AND TUESDAY IN HOLY WEEK**

There will be liturgies offered on Monday, April 3 at 5:30pm and Tuesday, April 4 at 7:30pm. On Monday, our worship will be a "Teaching Eucharist" during which we will discuss each part of our usual Eucharistic liturgies. This service will begin in the Nave. Tuesday's liturgy will be a deep look at Jesus's last week.. This service will be held in the All Saints' Chapel.

## **WEDNESDAY IN HOLY WEEK**

On Wednesday, April 5, we will begin with our Parish Family Night supper at 6:30pm followed by a service of Tenebrae (Latin for "Darkness" or "Shadows"). Tenebrae includes music from Taize and spoken word from the Psalms and other passages that foretell Jesus' Passion. This beautiful service, located in the Nave, offers a meditation upon, and a prelude to, the events of our Lord's life between the Last Supper and His Resurrection.

## **THE PASCHAL TRIDUUM (Maundy Thursday - Easter Sunday)**

### **MAUNDY THURSDAY**

On Thursday, April 6, at 7:30pm, our Maundy Thursday liturgy will recall the institution of the Last Supper and Jesus' humble act of washing His disciples' feet. It ends with the stripping of the altar and the beginning of a vigil throughout the night. Join us for a special time of prayer and meditation, inspired by the question asked of all of us by Jesus - "Could you not watch with me one hour?" The Chapel prayer vigil follows the Maundy Thursday liturgy and ends with communion the following day at the Good Friday liturgy. All are invited to sign up for the vigil on the door to the Chapel.

### **GOOD FRIDAY**

This service, on Friday, April 7, at noon, includes a homily, Solemn Collects, Veneration of the Cross, and Communion from the Reserved Sacrament. The Way of the Cross (Stations) will also be offered in the Nave at 5:45pm, ending the Good Friday observance.

### **THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER**

Taking place in the Sanctuary, the Lenten observance officially ends and Easter celebration begins on Saturday evening with this liturgy, one of the most ancient and exciting of the Christian Church - the celebration of the transition from the darkness of Holy Saturday into the light of Christ's Easter Victory. The liturgy begins at 7:30pm, will last about an hour, includes the lighting of the New Fire, hymns & spiritual songs, accompanied by City Lights Jazz, renewal of baptismal vows, and will be followed by delicious cinnamon rolls!

### **EASTER DAY & BISHOP'S VISITATION**

On Sunday, April 9, the Feast of the Resurrection of our Lord will begin with the Holy Eucharist in the Chapel at 8am. The 10:30am service is a Festal Holy Eucharist with full choir, flowering of the cross, and all the glory of Easter Morning! Bishop Skirving will preach & celebrate at both liturgies. There is also an Easter Egg Hunt for children following the service.

## From the Rector

*Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

-Collect for Guidance; BCP pg. 100



# DISCERNMENT

Life is full of decisions. Some easy (don't touch that red-hot stove-top!). Some more difficult (what school to attend or how to respond to a difficulty in life?). Some are seemingly inconsequential and some seem to carry the weight of the world. This year, March is completely engulfed in Lent and it carries many Lenten decisions, among so many others: selecting and holding spiritual disciplines, voting in [Lent Madness \(check it out!\)](#), what to prioritize in your life in order to draw closer to God. This year, for you, perhaps it also includes decisions around [planning for end-of-life matters](#) as last month's BellRinger invited us into this Lent. You certainly have other decisions before you each day.

I wonder: how does your faith inform your decision-making? The intentional seeking of God's guidance through prayer as well as through the Anglican approach of consulting our sources of authority (study of [Scripture](#) & the [Tradition](#) of the faithful, as well as our own God-given [Reason](#)) are often early indicators that the Gospel of Jesus has taken root in someone's heart. This shifts the focus of authority from our own preferences and opinions to faithfully seeking God's heart and striving to be obedient to God's will. Another word for this is discernment.

As you faithfully discern the decisions that are before you, know that you are in my prayers. In all things, may God's will be done.

*Tom +*

## Congratulations!

Congratulations to the St. Mary's team (Lee Albritton, Bill Anderson, Kathy Hyler, & Vicki Kennedy) who successfully defended their championship and WON the 2023 Chamber of Commerce's Adult Spelling Bee! They



[Spelled With JOY](#) and even advertised a little for the Boar's Head Festival! Of course, our county school system was the big winner in this fundraising event.

## Vestry Meeting Highlights

The vestry approved the Parochial Report reflecting the life of St. Mary's Church in 2022. It showed an increase in total active baptized membership; a wide variety of worship offerings, Christian formation & discipleship groups, and outreach ministries; the accomplishments of several major projects including the capabilities to livestream liturgies; a steady number of pledging households, and an overall increase in revenues for the operations of the church. A motion from the Finance Committee to invest some funds in 6 & 9-month CD's was approved. The vestry continues to make plans for worship offerings, programming, and other considerations during the Clergy Sabbatical to take place this summer between Pentecost & Labor Day. Long Range Planning continues with plans to improve accessibility inside and into the church as well as development of the outdoor West Lawn. [The Organizational Statements for the church](#) were affirmed to continue to guide the Vestry's work for the coming year.

## The Episcopal Church

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### In the Anglican Communion

A global community of 80 million Anglicans in 38 member provinces/churches.

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### In the United States

A community of 1.9 million members in 118 dioceses in the Americas and abroad.

Established in 1788.

Presiding Bishop

The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry

Episcopal Church Center

815 2nd Avenue

New York, N.Y. 10017 212-716-6000

[www.episcopalchurch.org](http://www.episcopalchurch.org)

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### In the Diocese of East Carolina

A community of more than 15,000 communicants in 70 churches.

Founded in 1883.

The Rt. Rev. Robert S. Skirving

Diocesan Office, 705 Doctors Dr.

P.O. Box 1336, Kinston, NC 28503

Tel: 252-522-0885

Fax: 252-523-5272

[www.diocese-eastcarolina.org](http://www.diocese-eastcarolina.org)

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### St. Mary's Episcopal Church

"Serving with JOY!!

**J**esus First,

**O**thers Second,

**Y**ourself Last"

800 Rountree Street

Kinston, NC 28501-3655

Tel: 252-523-6146

Fax: 252-523-5134

[www.stmaryskinston.com](http://www.stmaryskinston.com)

Rector	<a href="#">The Rev'd Thomas P.H. Warren</a>
Sr. Warden	<a href="#">Mrs. Vicki Kennedy</a>
Jr. Warden	<a href="#">Mr. Jim Purnell</a>
Parish Administrator	<a href="#">Mrs. Lori Kelly</a>
Family Ministry Coordinator	<a href="#">Mrs. Liz Hengst</a>
Organist & Choirmaster	<a href="#">Mrs. Sharon Veitch</a>
Communications Director	<a href="#">Mrs. Sherry Tanner</a>
Mary's Kitchen Executive Director	<a href="#">Mr. Jim Godfrey</a>

## News at St. Mary's



We offer our prayers to the Saracino family as they mourn the loss of Joe's mother, Domenica, who passed away following a brief illness. As we pray for the repose of Domenica's soul, please also hold the Saracino family and all who love and miss her in your prayers. Let us pray:

*Deliver your servant, Domenica, O Sovereign Lord Christ, from all evil, and set her free from every bond; that she may rest with all your saints in the eternal habitations; where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*



Congratulations to the Minshew family for the birth of Abigail Rose Minshew! Abigail was born on February 3 to Andrea & Caleb Minshew and big brother, Benjamin. Please join in lifting prayers of thanksgiving as they begin this new season of life together!

*O God, you have taught us through your blessed Son that whoever receives a little child in the name of Christ receives Christ himself: We give thanks for the blessing you have bestowed upon this family in giving them a child. Confirm their joy by a lively sense of your presence with them, and give them calm strength and patient wisdom as they seek to bring this child to love all that is true and noble, just and pure, lovable and gracious, excellent and admirable, following the example of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.*



### Join Us! We're Hiring!

St. Mary's is receiving applications for several part-time Nursery Staff positions. The ideal applicant will have experience working with and caring for children, ages birth-5th grade. CPR certification is a plus, but training can be provided. Hours are 9:00am - noon on Sundays, Wednesdays 5:30-8pm, and occasional other hours for seasonal events. Interested applicants should contact Liz Hengst, Family Ministry Coordinator, at [lhengst@stmaryskinston.com](mailto:lhengst@stmaryskinston.com) with your resume or letter of experience.



**DAYLIGHT  
SAVING  
TIME INFO**

**SPRING FORWARD**

March 12, 2023  
at 2:00 am

Clock moves an hour ahead



# News at St. Mary's



Mark your calendars for the return of Mary's Kitchen Bingo Night on **Friday, March 17th from 6-9pm** at The Exchange (121 W. Gordon St.). For \$25/person, you will get 12 Bingo games, a hot dog dinner, and many chances to win additional prizes. **Since it is St. Patrick's Day, don your favorite green attire and get one extra Bingo game!** Come support the Mary's Kitchen ministry while enjoying a night of laughter and fun! **Space is limited!** Contact Jim Godfrey at 252-523-6146 or by [email \(maryskitchen@stmaryskinston.com\)](mailto:maryskitchen@stmaryskinston.com) to make reservations, for questions, or to make donations!



All are invited to an evening of Gaelic music for flute, trumpet, and harp, performed by The Astralis Ensemble, at St. Mary's on **Tuesday, March 7th at 6:00pm**. The Astralis Chamber Ensemble is an innovative and dynamic ensemble performing with much acclaim across the globe. Through creative programming and presentations on the works performed, Astralis aims to make classical music more accessible and for audiences to make a lasting connection to the music. A reception will follow in Moseley Hall.



## The St. Mary's Book Store

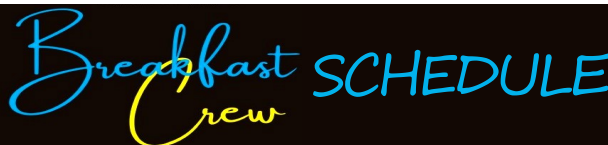
Peruse all the wonderful selections of available books in the St. Mary's Book Store, **open each Sunday from 11:30am-12:00pm**. Whether you are looking for a specific topic for seasonal reading (Lent, Easter, etc), a work of Christian fiction (for all you Jan Karon & Fr. Tim fans), or a gift for a special occasion, St. Mary's Book Store is a wonderful resource to meet your needs! And many of our books are half price! Stop by the Vestry Room (right across from Fr. Tom's office) and browse our shelves. We also have bibles, prayer books, greeting cards, children's books, and gift items. *(Sales are cash or check only.)* If you'd like to serve as a volunteer Book Store clerk, call or text Vicki Kennedy 252-560-5893.

Would you like to join the Warren family on a **Glory Ridge Easter Retreat, April 11th to 14th**? This is open to St. Mary's members of *all ages*, in contrast to our summer ministry weeks at the Ridge which are specifically missions of EYC. The Easter Retreat will include time spent in prayer & in fellowship, over great meals & in the beautiful outdoors. If you would like to join, submit your deposit of \$100 per person to the church office **by March 11th** (which will be half the total cost).



## March Serving Schedule

**March 5: Team 2**  
**March 12: Team 3 (Daylight Savings Time)**  
**March 19: Team 4**  
**March 26: Team 5**



**March 5: Sandy Shimer's Team**  
**March 12: Armistead Mauck's Team (Daylight Savings Time)**  
**March 19: Lee Albritton's Team**  
**March 26: Jess Edwards' Team**

## Worship



St. Mary's will be offering the Way of the Cross in the Nave of the Church on **Friday evenings at 5:45 p.m., beginning the Friday after Ash Wednesday.** Sometimes called the Stations of the Cross, this short devotional experience, usually about 20 minutes, is both tactile and meditative. As we move to each of the fourteen markers throughout the church, a different event of Jesus' Passion is remembered. Please consider making a commitment to walk the Way of the Cross at least once this Lent.



### A Lenten Retreat at Trinity Center

**Question:** What common thread binds Bob Dylan, Anne Lamott, and Desmond Tutu?

**Answer:** They will be a part of the conversation at the Lenten Retreat at Trinity Center!

All are invited to join a Lenten Retreat **March 3rd-5th** at the Pelican House or the main Trinity Center Campus (depending on the number of participants). God will be the retreat leader, while Lisa Richey, ObjN, will be the host and bring supplies. Cost is \$295 per person (single occupancy), with reduced rates if you double up with a friend. Contact Nancy Reynolds at 252-247-5600 (ext. 17) for more information and to register.



### Parish Lenten Fast

As you may have noticed, our bulletins have changed....tremendously. For several years, we have printed our Sunday bulletins on 4 large sheets of paper (folded in half to form a "booklet"). However, during Lent, our Sunday Bulletins will reflect fasting as a life-giving spiritual practice as we intentionally cut back on paper use and open up our Prayer Books during the liturgy. Feel free to bring your own Book of Common Prayer or use the books in the pews!

## ECW

Each Wednesday during Lent, we will enjoy The Prayer Course. This Lenten programming begins with a simple meal of Soup, Sandwiches, Salad or Fruit. Each week we will need: *two soups, one with meat and one without (a large pot or crock pot of each); two kinds of sandwiches, one with meat and one without (15 of each cut in halves); salad or fruit (either will be great); 2 people to set up; and 2 people to clean up.* A BIG thank you to those who have offered help with our Lenten Hospitality - because of you, March 1st and March 8th are full! There are ONLY a few needs remaining: **2 people to clean up on March 15th, March 22nd, March 29th, and April 5th.** Sign up in the Narthex or email Audra at [5haddad@suddenlink.net](mailto:5haddad@suddenlink.net).

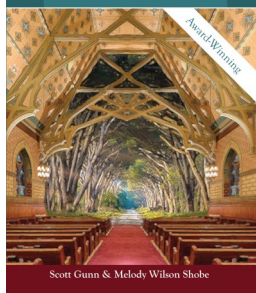
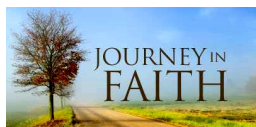


We hope you will make plans to join us for the Lenten Wednesday Night Kickoff on **March 1st** for a special presentation by the Women's House of Hope as they share their mission to assist residents in addiction recovery.





# Adult Christian Formation



## ***Journey in Faith: Christian Discipleship***

Journey in Faith (JiF) continues to explore the basics of the Christian Faith, Episcopal Church Anglican Tradition, and St. Mary's. It is especially appropriate for newcomers to St. Mary's and anyone considering baptism or confirmation when Bishop Skirving visits St. Mary's on Easter Sunday, April 9, 2023. Journey in Faith meets each Sunday morning during the Christian Formation Hour in the church's Parlor (unless noted otherwise). Our primary reference books throughout the course include: Walk in Love: Episcopal Beliefs & Practices, Scott Gunn & Melody Wilson Shobe; The Holy Bible, New Revised Standard Version; The Book of Common Prayer, 1979 American Edition; and The Hymnal, 1982. Copies of the Bible, Prayer Book, and Hymnal will always be available on Sundays, and some copies of Walk in Love will be available for purchase in the parish Book Store in the new year (if you're an e-reader, there is a Kindle version too). Sessions will follow a basic outline, but will be flexible enough to respond to emerging needs and spiritual prompts. JiF is open to all, so please contact Fr. Tom (at [tomwarren@stmaryskinston.com](mailto:tomwarren@stmaryskinston.com)) for more information or to join.

## **ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION**

### **The Satan Course**

Who is Satan? You've seen him in art works, cartoons, and movies, but who is the complex Biblical figure behind the stereotypes? Beginning Sunday, February 26th, and continuing during the five Sundays of Lent, join Vicki Kennedy and Carl Younger for Adult Formation, and we'll get to know Satan from many different and fascinating angles. Adult Christian Formation meets **each Sunday at 9:30 am in Moseley Hall**, and ALL are welcome!

### **The Sessions**

The Prayer Course is split into eight sessions:

- 1 Why Pray?
- 2 Adoration
- 3 Petition
- 4 Intercession
- 5 Unanswered Prayer
- 6 Contemplation
- 7 Listening
- 8 Spiritual Warfare

### **Lenten Program**

the  
**prayer**  
course

exploring the Lord's Prayer and discussing matters of faith. ALL ARE WELCOME! We hope you will accept this invitation, and invite a friend, to a special season of meaningful spiritual growth and exploration this Spring with The Prayer Course at St. Mary's. (*Childcare will be provided.*)

Make plans to join us in Moseley **each Wednesday through Holy Week** for our Lenten Wednesday Night Programming, The Prayer Course. Similar to our previous Wednesday evening programs Alpha and Life Shared, **The Prayer Course will begin with a shared meal at 6pm, followed by the program and small groups at 6:30pm.** Enjoy friendship, fellowship, and a meal while



### **Live Lent with Love & Give Generously**

Each Lent, our parish Outreach Committee selects an almsgiving effort for us to support as a church family. This year, we have chosen to come alongside the Women's House of Hope in Kinston. The House of Hope is an organization that provides transitional housing and needs for women who are in recovery. The program relies heavily on the generosity of others and are grateful for any assistance that is offered. We will be collecting your offerings in the basket in Moseley Hall during Wednesday night suppers or in the Narthex on during Sunday morning worship as well as at the church office during business hours. Checks may be made out to St. Mary's Episcopal Church, memo line: Lenten Almsgiving/House of Hope. God bless you!

# Children, Youth, & Families @ St. Mary's



## **EYC Coffee**

Thursdays in March ~ 4-5:30pm  
Join us at Middle Grounds for discussion and fellowship as we talk about our Lenten journey.

**Please Note: EYC Coffee will NOT meet on March 2nd.**

## **Wednesday Dinner and Activities**

Wednesdays in March from 6~7:30pm  
All kids and EYC are invited to join us for supper and lessons/activities on "Acts of Service."

## **EYC Fun Day**

Saturday, March 18th ~ Time and Location TBD  
All EYC are invited to join us for a day filled with fun and fellowship!

## **Intergenerational Family Game Afternoon**

Saturday, March 19th ~ Time TBD  
ALL AGES are invited to join us in Moseley Hall for snacks and games!

## **Parents Meeting at Mother Earth Brewing**

Tuesday, March 21st ~ 6:30-8pm  
ALL parents are invited for discussions about curriculum, parenting, and our kids. Come for any - or all - of the meeting. Your ideas, thoughts, and concerns are valued.

## FROM THE DESK OF LIZ ~

Hi Families!

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. Whether you cooked, cleaned, or ATE, it was a joyful event!

IN PEACE, LIZ



**KEEP  
CALM  
AND  
COME  
TO  
CHURCH  
ON SUNDAYS**

## **Sundays in March**

9:30-10:15am

### **Kids' Sunday School**

Birth-5th Grade

### **EYC Formation**

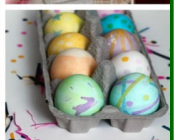
6th-12th Grade

### **Youth Confirmation Class**

Confirmation Students



Beginning Sunday, March 19th, through Saturday, April 8th, St. Mary's is seeking donations of candy and plastic Easter eggs for our annual Easter Morning Egg Hunt!!! The plastic eggs may be prefilled, or we will fill them with candy that is donated. Please drop off items on Sunday mornings, Wednesday evenings, or weekdays to the church office. Contact Liz Hengst for more information.



**St. Mary's Episcopal Church**  
**800 Rountree Street**  
**Kinston, NC 28501-3655**



### **Yoga at St. Mary's**

We are excited to offer Yoga on Thursday evenings at 8pm in Moseley Hall! Led by long-time St. Mary's member & certified yoga instructor, Lee Albritton, this class will help to clear our minds and strengthen our bodies through a series of stretches and poses. Bring your mats, your water, and your friends and join us every Thursday for **free** yoga, stretching, relaxation, and fellowship.



### **Camp Trinity Summer 2023**

Camp Trinity continues to provide a residential Christian camping experience on the banks of the Bogue Sound and has announced its 2023 Summer Camp dates! Brochures and information are available from their website at <https://trinityctr.com/home/portfolio/camp-trinity-info>.

### **SUNDAYS**

8:00 am - Holy Eucharist: Rite 1 in the All Saints' Chapel  
 9:00 am - Breakfasts for all in Moseley Hall  
 9:30 am - Christian Formation for all ages & JiF  
 10:30 am - Holy Eucharist: Rite 2 in the Church  
 (livestreamed to [YouTube](#) and shared on [Facebook](#))

### **TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, & THURSDAYS**

8:30 am - Morning Prayer in the All Saints' Chapel

### **WEDNESDAYS**

7:00 am - Men's Prayer & Bible Group in Moseley Hall  
 6:00 pm - Wednesday Evening Meal & Program

### **ST. MARY'S VESTRY**

2023	2024	2025
Skip Greene	Clifton Carey	Andrew Duppstadt
Audra Haddad	Jess Edwards	Whitney Grady
Vicki Kennedy	Jo Parrott	Anne Lindley
Pam Mazingo	Ginny Wade	Jim Purnell
Senior Warden – Vicki Kennedy	Clerk – Audra Haddad	
Junior Warden – Jim Purnell	Treasurer – Corey Fader	