

November 2023



St. Mary's Episcopal Church:
Serving with JOY!
The Bell Ringer

Online at www.stmaryskinston.com



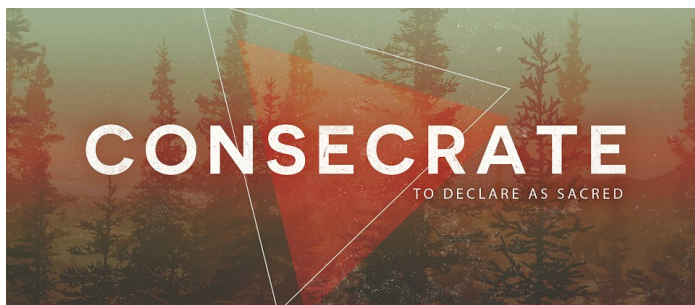
Since the December Bell Ringer cover will be all about Christmas, we wanted November's cover to offer a reminder that Advent will arrive soon! This year, Advent begins on December 3.

O give thanks

UNTO THE LORD; FOR HE IS GOOD.

Psalm 136:1

From the Rector



To **consecrate** means to set apart and make sacred. Christians follow Jesus' invitation to gather around the Table and consecrate bread and wine at the Eucharist, through which the elements become sacred to us. At the end of October, we celebrate Consecration Sunday, during which we state our intentions to consecrate (set apart) a portion of our income to God's special purposes through the

ministries of St. Mary's Church in the next calendar year. Consecration Sunday is always a joyful day because we celebrate together so many of the ways that our church family is able to serve in Jesus' name and be a witness to His love in the world! Because God first gives to us, we are able to participate in God's blessings to others. And now that we enter into a new month, I am moved to state the obvious: consecration isn't reserved for a day or a season. Every one of our days is a gift from God and **we** are called to be set apart in this world, dedicated to God's call in our lives. Some of us are called to particular seasons of ministry in particular roles... I hope you'll pay attention to the Vestry discernment process below, as well as the many other opportunities to *serve with JOY* throughout this BellRinger. But all of us are called to prayerfully discern and follow God's unique invitation to bear the Gospel in our everyday living. A song comes to mind that puts it another way: [Alison Krauss' *A Living Prayer*](#). Check it out when you can. May God bless our intentions to consecrate our seasons, our gifts, ourselves to follow in the Way of Jesus today.

Tom +

Vestry News

Vestry Nomination Process

The Vestry of St. Mary's has a vital role in the leadership of this parish, and St. Mary's will soon elect its next 4-person class of vestry leaders.

1. On October 13, a preliminary list of members who are eligible to serve on the vestry was posted in the church. The parish office needed any necessary corrections by Monday, October 30.
2. In November, nomination forms will be emailed and posted in the Narthex with instructions on the "Nomination by Ballot" process.
3. The Vestry's Nominating Committee (consisting of the 4 out-going members) will form a 4-person candidate slate based on the nomination ballots received. In the event of a tie, the Nominating Committee is entrusted to discern an appropriate solution based on the needs of the parish.
4. The Annual Parish Meeting will take place during the 10:30am liturgy on Sunday, December 10, 2023 during which the 4-person slate will be voted on. Please plan now to attend worship this joyous day!



Serving on the Vestry of St. Mary's Church is service to our Lord and is an honor and privilege. Please be in prayer for discernment about who you sense may be called to serve in this way. May God bless the leadership of this church.

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

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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

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St. Mary's Episcopal Church

“Serving with JOY!!”

Jesus First,

Others Second,

Yourself Last”

800 Rountree Street

Kinston, NC 28501-3655

Tel: 252-523-6146

Fax: 252-523-5134

www.stmaryskinston.com

Rector	The Rev'd Thomas P.H. Warren
Sr. Warden	Mrs. Vicki Kennedy
Jr. Warden	Mr. Jim Purnell
Parish Administrator	Mrs. Lori Kelly
Family Ministry Coordinator	Mrs. Liz Hengst
Interim Organist & Choirmaster	Ms. Sylvia Wall
Communications Director	Mrs. Sherry Tanner
Mary's Kitchen Executive Director	Mr. Jim Godfrey

News at St. Mary's



From the Parish Register

Burial:

John Thomas Langley, Jr.
October 14, 2023

Wedding:

Martha McConkey and Titus Martin
September 29, 2023



Cherished Members' Luncheon

November 2nd | **Moseley Hall**
11:30am

Sign up in the Narthex or call the parish office!

Daylight Savings Time Ends
Remember to **“FALL BACK”** one hour on **Sunday, November 5th.**

CLOSED

In Observance of
Veterans Day

Friday, November 10, 2023

HAPPY
Thanks
GIVING

Thursday, November 23, 2023
Friday, November 24, 2023

More News at St. Mary's (cont'd)

Sunday Morning Parish Breakfast

Sundays at 9am
Moseley Hall
Provided by Men's Cook Teams
All are invited!!!
No charge - love offerings accepted



Men's Bible Breakfast Wednesday Mornings at 7am

Join with many of the men of the church who gather in Moseley Hall each Wednesday morning to share life, pray, and read Scripture together. The coffee and treats are a great bonus too!

Wednesday Nights in the Fall

Please join us on Wednesday evenings at 6pm in Moseley Hall for supper and programming! Dinner is served at 6pm, and Bible study begins at 6:30pm. This season we are reading and discussing the readings from the weekly lectionary.

Have you ever wondered where we find our weekly Liturgical readings? Did you know that on any given Sunday, worshipers in every Episcopal Church are reading the same scriptures as you? What a comforting thought that we are reading, studying, and praying together over the same Biblical passages! If you have always wanted to attend a Bible study but didn't have the time to read and prepare, this is your opportunity! Take a break from the weekly demands and join us at St. Mary's to be fed physically and spiritually!



Boar's Head News

Get ready for Boar's Head 2024!

If you are interested in being in the Boar's Head Festival, please swing by the costume closet (*upstairs, above St. Mary's office wing*) during any of these times to secure your role with Marion Classen and pick out your costume for this year's festival. If you have any questions about roles, please contact Holly Warren by email at holly3799@hotmail.com.

Costume Fittings:

Wednesday, November 15th, 3-7pm
Wednesday, November 29th, 3-7pm
Sunday, December 3rd, 11:45am-3pm
Sunday, December 17th, 1-3:30pm

All singers high school age and above are invited to join the 2024 Boar's Head Festival Choir! We know that it is a busy time of year, but we ask that you make a commitment to attend at least two rehearsals, the dress rehearsal, and the performances.

Choir Rehearsals:

Sunday, December 3, 2:00-3:30pm
Sunday, December 10, 2:00-3:30pm
Sunday, December 17, 2:00-3:30pm
Tuesday, January 3, 6:30-8:00pm

Dress Rehearsal:

Saturday, January 6, 9am - Dress Rehearsal for everyone (except the animals!)

Performances:

Sunday, January 7th, at 3pm & 5pm



Christian Formation



the BIBLE
PROJECT

Sunday Morning Adult Christian Formation

In honor of our celebration of All Saints' Day on November 5th, the Adult Christian Formation will learn about St. Mary! For the remaining Sundays in November, we will continue to explore BIG ideas core to the biblical story from their first appearance through the entire narrative of the Bible using lessons from The Bible Project. Come learn and experience the connection and cohesiveness of The Good News from Genesis to Revelation! (Check out *The Bible Project* resources at www.bibleproject.com). Join us each Sunday at 9:30am for Adult Christian Formation - ALL are welcome!

AdventWord

DECEMBER 3-25 2023

3	WIND	15	HASTEN
4	HIDDEN	16	BEGIN
5	PRESENCE	17	SPIRIT
6	PEACE	18	REPAIR
7	GRACE	19	GIVE
8	WATCH	20	DREAM
9	AWAKE	21	LAUGHTER
10	GLORY	22	QUENCH
11	HERALD	23	PONDER
12	VALLEY	24	COVENANT
13	TRUTH	25	LIGHT
14	PATIENCE		

adventword.org



#ADVENTWORD

Advent begins on Sunday, December 3rd! Forward Movement has announced the 2023 reflection words for AdventWord, a global online advent calendar and community of disciples. For nearly a decade AdventWord has inspired followers of Jesus who wish to add an accessible prayer practice to their daily routine during this Holy Season. Daily meditations and images - inspired by a prompt word selected from the daily lectionary readings - will be released at adventword.org, **beginning Sunday, December 3rd.**

Participants can sign up to receive this daily message, in English and Spanish, by email or by following [AdventWord on social media](#). Gathering a worldwide community, AdventWord provides a daily meditation, visual image, and invites your personal reflections via social media to share your own Advent journey. Thousands have participated each year, responding to the words with photos, written responses, crafts, drawings, poems, found art, and Holy Spirit-filled posts. All-in-one graphics, bulletin inserts, and printable calendars of the 2023 prompt words are available for download at adventword.org/resources.

Episcopal Church Women

HO! HO! HO!

WRAP IT WITH A BOW!

DECEMBER 17, 2023 ~ 3-5pm
Moseley Hall

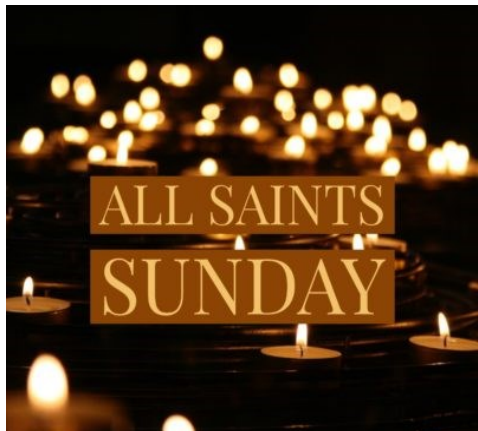
Wrap your Christmas gifts!
Design beautiful bows!
Enjoy fun and fellowship!



Worship

All Saints Sunday, November 5th

For all the saints, who from their labors rest



All Saints worship is a deeply meaningful Principal Feast Day that will be observed this year on **Sunday, November 5th**. That evening, at 5pm, there will be an All Saints liturgy of Evening Prayer. During this service, the names of those who have been interred in the St. Francis' Garden will be named in prayer, along with the names of other loved ones who have been listed on the Roll of Remembrance. It is always a very moving time of thanking God for these lives that have touched ours and also for giving witness to Christ's resurrection. Please keep this day in your prayers and join us in this special day!

**Compline
Under the
Stars**

Sunday, November 12 at 6:00 pm

Prayers. Campfires.

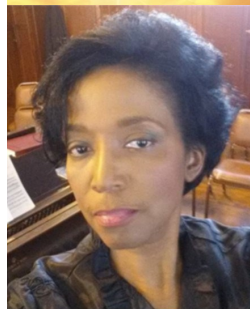
S'mores. Hot Chocolate.

St. Mary's Parish Park Lawn

Kinston/Lenoir County Community Chorus
presents

Handel's Christmas Classic MESSIAH

The Kinston/Lenoir County's annual performance of Handel's Messiah will be **Monday, December 11th at 7pm** at The First Presbyterian Church (2101 N. Herritage St., Kinston). As a community production with the North Carolina Baroque Orchestra and under the direction of Dr. John O'Brien, your participation is vital to make this well-loved tradition possible. There is a need for singers and supporters! For more information, call (252) 522-1921 or email at Messiah@fpckinston.org. For updates on the performance, announcements about soloists and other exciting news, and information about how you can participate, follow their Facebook page (Kinston/Lenoir County Messiah).



**Welcome
Ms. Sylvia Wall**

On **Sunday, October 29th**, St. Mary's welcomed Ms. Sylvia Wall as our Interim Organist and Choirmaster. Ms. Wall has served many times in ministry with us in the past as guest organist, and we are excited to share ministry and life with her during this interim period. If you haven't yet introduced yourself, please be sure to take a moment and give her a warm St. Mary's welcome!

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



Movie Night in the Park

Friday, November 3rd ~ 6:30-9pm
Families and EYC students are invited to join us for the Movie in the Park at Pearson Park.

Family Service Day

Saturday, November 4th ~ 4-5:30pm
Come help get our church beautiful for the season of Advent!

Family Dinner & Movie Night

Saturday, November 4th ~ 5:30-7:30pm
All ages are invited for dinner, fellowship, and a movie!

Family Camping & Raleigh Adventure Weekend

November 10th-12th
Contact Liz if you are interested.

Compline Under the Stars

Sunday, November 12th ~ 6pm
Join us on the Parish Park Lawn (West Lawn) for compline, fire, and s'mores!

Fall Conference for Middle Schoolers

Friday-Sunday, November 17th-19th
There is still time to sign up. Contact Liz Hengst for more details or if you are interested.

EYC Sunday Give Thanks Dinner

Sunday, November 19th ~ 5-7:30pm
All EYC students are invited to join us for a night of prayer stations, conversation, fellowship, food, and fun. Bring your favorite Thanksgiving side dish (if you are able).

EYC Pre-Thanksgiving Service Day Mary's Kitchen

Wednesday, November 22nd ~ 8:30-11:45am
All EYC students are invited to join us for our annual pre-Thanksgiving service day of cooking, serving, and cleaning at Mary's Kitchen.

EYC Dinner and Advent Planning

Thursday, November 30th ~ 5-7pm
Join us for dinner, prayer stations, and Advent preparation.

From the Desk of Liz:

As we move into November, we are reminded to think more about things that make us thankful. We also start to think more about Advent and Christmas. How can we slow down to enjoy those things that make us thankful? How can we take more time to discern what we want Advent and Christmas to look like this year? This season, we will focus on slowing down and enjoying November, everything we are thankful for, and everything the season of Advent might hold for us.

In Peace, Liz

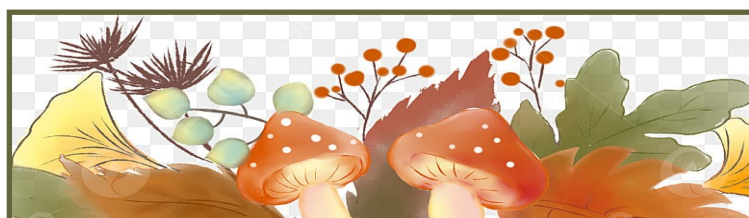
Join us for these regular events in November:

EYC Coffee with Liz ~ Middle Grounds
November 2nd & 16th ~ 4-5:30pm

Wednesday Night Suppers & Lessons
Wednesdays in November ~ 6-7:30pm
All Ages

Kid's Sunday School
Each Sunday in November ~ 9:30-10:20am
Birth-5th Grade

EYC Formation
Each Sunday in November ~ 9:30-10:20am
6th grade-12th grade



SAVE THESE DATES

December 2nd - Kinston Christmas Parade
December 9th - Parents' Night Out hosted by EYC
December 10th - Christmas Movie Night
December 17th - Kids Ministries Christmas Party
December 21st - EYC Christmas Party



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



**CARDS, CASSEROLES,
 & CARE**
Now at Your Convenience

If you know of someone in need of a little cheering up, please feel free to explore thoughtful cards that are located in the credenza closest to the stage in Moseley Hall. Fill someone's day with a little sunshine, let them know that you are thinking of them, or send a message of comfort in times of sorrow. You will find a notebook there of our parish members who are currently on our prayer list as well. They would love to hear from us all! If you need to add a bit of warmth and sustenance....you will find a casserole in the kitchen freezer labeled specifically for CCC. Thank you for participating, and please let me know if I can do anything to help make this easier. Peace to ALL!

Anne Lindley, Pastoral Care
 252-521-6404

SUNDAYS

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

TUESDAYS & 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 Share & Prayer

ST. MARY'S VESTRY

2023	2024	2025
Skip Greene	Rob Bizzell	Andrew Dupstadt
Audra Haddad	Jess Edwards	Bonnie Holton
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	