



November 2025

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

The Bell Ringer

Online at www.stmaryskinston.com

*Join St. Mary's for a season of
wonder, openness, and new beginnings.*

Advent
begins
November 30, 2025



From the Rector



Discerning the 9th Bishop of the Diocese of East Carolina

The electing convention of the Diocese of East Carolina will be held on **Saturday, November 15th** in Goldsboro. In late October, our candidates visited various places in the diocese for a series of "Meet & Greet" events. You can learn more about the Reverends Brian Cannaday, Sarah Fisher, and Caleb Lee (pictured at left, top-to-bottom) and watch recordings of the events at the diocesan [Bishop Search page](http://www.diocese-eastcarolina.org) at www.diocese-eastcarolina.org.



Gracious and loving God, guide the hearts and minds of those among us who will search for a new bishop to lead the Diocese of East Carolina, that we may listen carefully to discern your will and call a bishop who will love and serve your people in all the communities of this diocese and lead us forward in new ways in our ministries and service to you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

"Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being...guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit"

In our nation, November always holds an election day - an opportunity of sacred importance that should never be taken for granted (even in mid-terms). This year, in our parish and diocese, there are additional very important decisions before us. In every decision of our lives, may we keep a few things in mind:

- God cares! God cares about our lives, communities, and relationships. God loves each person, each candidate, fully. And so our engagement in processes that impact people and communities (and how we engage) are matters of spiritual importance.
- Seek to become informed! May we ask questions and read/listen carefully, recognizing the differences between opinion and fact, which both have their places.
- Pray! May we ask God to guide us, and then may we listen and follow.

Tom +

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 12th**, 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 Sunday, October 24th**.
2. On **November 1st**, a Vestry nomination form 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) is entrusted to discern a 4-person candidate slate informed by the nomination ballots received and based on the needs of the parish.
4. The Annual Parish Meeting will take place during the 10:30am liturgy on **Sunday, December 7th, 2025**. At that time, voting for the 4-person slate will take place. Please plan now to attend worship this joyous and significant 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. Sean Rowe

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. Bonnie Holton
Jr. Warden	Mr. Richard Crumbacker
Parish Administrator	Mrs. Lori Kelly
Minister of Music	Mr. Sam Holt
Communications Director	Mrs. Sherry Tanner
Administrative Assistant	Mrs. Lisa Maxwell
Mary's Kitchen Executive Director	Mr. Richard Crumbacker

News at St. Mary's

From the Parish Register

Marriages:

Bishop Jones & Sam Palumbo

October 11, 2025



Christian Formation

LEARN ABOUT THE CAMINO DE SANTIAGO!

The pilgrims who walked the Camino Portuguese in late April of this year will share through pictures and stories about their adventures walking over 100 km from Vigo, Spain to Santiago de Compostela, Spain.

CAMINO de SANTIAGO

SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 9
9:30AM



CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Adult Christian Formation

Adult Christian Formation meets **every Sunday at 9:30am** following parish breakfast and is a wonderful time of strengthening your faith journey in community!

In November, we are excited to offer a variety of ways to share in this time together. We will have intergenerational activities that include making care packages for our college students, playing informative and fun All Saints' Jeopardy, and Advent Wreath making. Also, we welcome guest speakers to share about the Camino de Santiago. Then on **Sunday, November 23rd**, Fr. Tom will guide us through an introduction to Advent. Learn more about the history, practices, and importance of this season dedicated to anticipating the arrival of Jesus.

Advent Wreath Making



Advent begins on Sunday, November 30th. That morning, we will share an intergenerational wreath making event in Moseley Hall during the Christian Formation hour at 9:30am. ALL are welcome!



PASTORAL CARE

If you use your spiritual gifts and talents like conversation, prayer, and hospitality in the care of others, we would like you to be a part of our St. Mary's Pastoral Care Ministry! There will be a meeting in the

Parlor immediately **following the 10:30am liturgy on Sunday, November 2nd**. The meeting will be brief but loaded with information, sharing ideas on how we can improve our ministry and answering questions. Light refreshments will be served. We look forward to seeing you and hearing your ideas! Bring a friend ~ ALL are welcome! If you have ideas but cannot attend, please contact Kay Turner or Anne Lindley.

Episcopal Church Women

ECW EVENT

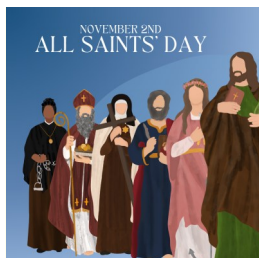
Christmas Ornament Shell Activity

**NOVEMBER 30 AT 3PM
MOSELEY HALL**

- Join us for a time of fun, fellowship, and craftiness! Bring your favorite paper napkins (Christmas or others) and make a beautiful Christmas ornament.
- Look for sign up information coming soon!



Worship



All Saints Sunday, November 2nd *For all the saints, who from their labors rest*

All Saints worship is a deeply meaningful Principal Feast Day of the Church that will be observed this year on **Sunday, November 2nd**. During the Christian Formation hour (9:30am) that morning, we are excited to share an intergenerational activity where all classes (adults too!) will meet in Moseley Hall after breakfast to put together care packages and write encouraging notes for our college students while playing “All Saints Jeopardy.” Come join in the fun! We will be joined by Rev. Ron Abrams, who will serve as officiant and preacher and will offer special words regarding Consecration Sunday (the following Sunday, November 9th). Fr. Ron began his ministry in New York, where he was Assistant Rector of St. Mark’s in Westhampton Beach from 1982 to 1984, followed by seven years as Rector of St. Ann’s Church in Bridgehampton from 1984 to 1991. In 1991, Ron embarked on a new chapter, coming to North Carolina as Rector of Holy Trinity Church in Fayetteville. During his time there, he devoted himself to supporting military families and shared his expertise as a guest lecturer for the Bishop of the Armed Forces at conferences in Japan and Germany. He then served a 20-year tenure as Rector of St. James’ Parish in Wilmington from 1999 to 2019, followed by serving as Priest in Charge at Holy Trinity Church in Hampstead from 2019-2025. Most recently Ron has served as the summer ministry coordinator for the worship community on Figure 8 Island, NC. Ron is married to Kathleen, an accomplished interior designer, and together they have two sons and four grandchildren.



Consecration Sunday

Make plans to join us **Sunday, November 9th**, for Consecration Sunday. This

special day is set aside as members and friends of St. Mary’s make a stewardship commitment as a confidential part of worship. **Please note: there will be only one liturgy that morning at 10:30am which will be followed by a catered celebration luncheon in Moseley Hall!** May God bless your discernment during this process!

DATE CHANGE	
WORSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING	
SUNDAY	NOVEMBER
16	JOIN US AFTER CHURCH FOR PRE-ADVENT PLANNING

**Compline
Under the
Stars**

Sunday, November 16 at 6:00 pm

Prayers - Campfires - S’mores - Hot Chocolate
St. Mary’s Parish Commons

Music Notes



Dear St. Mary's Family,

Several weeks ago, a group of people met after church to discuss the possibility of beginning a concert series at St. Mary's for our church and for the community at large. We have already established a music tradition in the community with our Boar's Head Festival each year that draws a huge following, so we would like to build upon that tradition with a concert series that offers outstanding musical performances within the program year. The decision was made to host the **Ciampi Quartet from Duke University** as our first event on **Sunday, March 22nd, 2026**. For those who are not

familiar with the Ciampi Quartet, they are a world renowned string quartet centered at Duke University in Durham, N.C. who are known for their skill and finesse in interpreting string music of all musical genres. As our first event, they will set a high standard for the quality of music in our series that will help build a reputation of excellence in the region to include not only Kinston but surrounding areas such as Greenville, Goldsboro, New Bern, and Jacksonville. I feel confident that there are few churches anywhere that are as beautiful and that offer such a rich acoustical environment as St. Mary's. There is no better place anywhere to share beautiful music!

It will take financial support to launch a series at St. Mary's. The cost of the Ciampi Quartet is \$4,000.00, and we have already received several donations. There are several ways to contribute to the concert series. If you write a check, write "concert series" in the memo line. If you choose to make your contribution via the St. Mary's website, designate "miscellaneous... concert series." Any amount you choose to give will be greatly appreciated! In order to reach our goal for the Ciampi concert and for future concerts for the 2026-2027 year, please consider giving at one of the following levels:

"Prelude"	\$100.00 or less	"Patron"	\$250.00
"Partner"	\$500.00	"Sustainer"	\$1000.00 or more

The success of this series or anything we choose to do at St. Mary's depends on your support, not only through your financial contributions but also through the work you do by inviting friends and neighbors and by other ways you help to get the word out in the community.

Sincerely,
Sam



Join the Kinston-Lenoir Community Chorus & North Carolina Baroque Orchestra HANDEL'S MESSIAH

The chorus is open to all singers high school age and older, experienced or inexperienced, without an audition. There are four Sunday rehearsals with attendance required for only two: November 16th/23rd/30th and December 7th from 2-3:30pm. Dress rehearsal is **December 8th from 3:30-5:30pm with the performance at 7pm**. All rehearsals as well as the concert will be at First Presbyterian Church (2101 N. Heritage St., Kinston). To join the choir, become a sponsor, or for more information, email messiah@fpckinston.org or 252-939-2265. Follow us on Facebook at KinstonLenoir-County-Messiah.



WORSHIP THE LORD
IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS
-PS. 29:2

Second Sunday
All Saints' Choral Evensong
led by the Chancel Choir

Sunday, November 9th at 5pm

Join us for a beautifully sung All Saints' Choral Evensong service to that will include prayers for those who have died in the last year as well as all who have been laid to rest in the St. Francis' Garden. Candles may be lit during this service in remembrance of departed loved ones.

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

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT
FAMILY Game Night**
NOVEMBER 5 AT 6:30 PM
**CHURCH
WIDE EVENT**
**ALL AGES
WELCOME**
**ALL ARE
INVITED**

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT
family hymn sing**

Join your church family for a fun, family-friendly night! Adults AND kids! Come ready to belt out your favorite hymns from the Hymnal. Special kid-friendly songs will be prepared, and percussion instruments will be available.

NOVEMBER 19, 2025
SUPPER AT 6PM ~ HYMN SING AT 6:30PM

Music Jam Sessions
OPEN TO ALL!!!! JOIN US!
Moseley Hall
November 6th and 20th
at 6:30pm
Hosted by the EYC

**EYC PRE-THANKSGIVING
SERVICE DAY AT MARY'S KITCHEN**
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26TH ~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.

Boar's Head News

Get ready for Boar's Head 2026!
Banquet Tickets (\$50 per ticket) go on sale November 3rd



If you are interested in being in the Boar's Head Festival, please swing by the costume closet (*upstairs, above the 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 calling 252-253-0726.

Costume Fittings:

Sunday, December 7, 2025 11:30am-3pm
Wednesday, December 10, 2025 3-7pm
Sunday, December 14, 2025 11:30am-3pm
Wednesday, December 17, 2025 3-7pm

*More information on choir rehearsals, spot rehearsals, and dress rehearsal schedules will be coming soon. Be on the lookout! We hope you will mark your calendars and make plans to join us **Sunday, January 11th, 2026** with performances at 3pm and 5pm. Don't miss this beautiful event!*

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



Advent begins Sunday, November 30th, and AdventWord (a global online advent calendar and community) will begin offering daily meditations and images inspired based on the 2025 list of reflection words. Participants are invited to follow along on social media (AdventWord) or sign up at www.adventword.org to receive daily emailed messages. Enhance your Advent journey with this worldwide community!

SUNDAYS

(Staffed childcare available 8:45am-Noon)

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 in Facebook)

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS

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

WEDNESDAYS

(Staffed childcare available 5:45pm-8pm)

7:00 am - Men's Prayer & Bible Group in Moseley Hall
 5:00 pm - Handbell Choir Rehearsal
 6:00 pm - Supper & Programming for all ages
 7:30 pm—Chancel Choir Rehearsal

ST. MARY'S VESTRY

2025
 Andrew Duppstadt
 Bonnie Holton
 Anne Lindley
 Jim Purnell

2026
 Richard Crumbacker
 Corey Fader
 Randy Spaugh
 Kay Turner

2027
 Rob Bizzell
 Frances Herring
 Sarah Warner
 Harry Wooten

Senior Warden – Bonnie Holton
 Junior Warden – Richard Crumbacker

Clerk – Andrew Duppstadt
 Treasurer – Jess Edwards