



March 2026

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

The Bell Ringer

Online at www.stmaryskinston.com

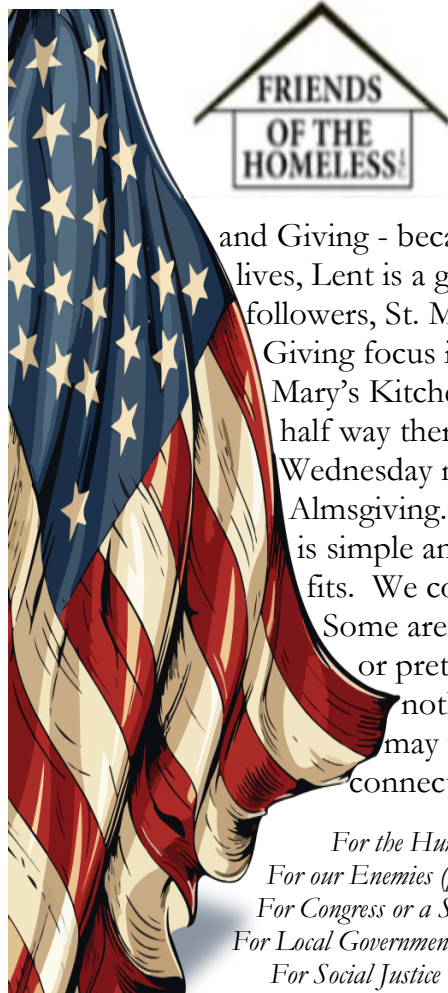
Ciampi Quartet Concert at St. Mary's

Sunday, March 22, 2026
at 4:00 pm
(reception to follow)



Since its founding in 1965 by the renowned Italian violinist Giorgio Ciampi, the Ciampi Quartet of Duke University has delighted audiences and impressed critics around the world. In a career that spans five continents and includes many hundreds of concerts, the Ciampi Quartet has developed a reputation for performances of real intelligence and musical sophistication, with a warm, unified sound that allows each player's individual voice to emerge. This concert will be free to the public, made possible by love offerings and sponsorships at St. Mary's. Be sure to Invite your friends and neighbors and join us for this wonderful evening!

From the Rector



The Three Pillars of Lent

Dear Reader, as we prepare to celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus at Easter, the season of Lent is a sacred time to focus especially on three spiritual practices that Jesus assumes of His followers (Matthew 6:1-18).

They have come to be called the Three Pillars of Lent - Prayer, Fasting, and Giving - because, while all Christians ought to practice these regularly throughout our lives, Lent is a great time for a new beginning or reset. As a community of Jesus followers, St. Mary's has identified a Prayer and a Giving focus to engage together. Our Giving focus is "Friends of the Homeless" - our partners in ministry next door to Mary's Kitchen. Our goal is to raise \$1600 during Lent and we are already more than half way there. Donations may be given at gatherings on Sunday mornings, Wednesday nights, or anytime during office hours. Please designate gifts "Lenten Almsgiving." Our Prayer focus is for the United States of America. This invitation is simple and non-partisan: **pray for the nation.** Prayer from your heart certainly fits. We commend prayers from the riches of the Book of Common Prayer as well. Some are listed below. Friends, Lent is not a time to prove spiritual heroism or pretend that anyone can earn God's favor. The Gospel is that there is nothing that you could ever do to make God love you any less or more! So may your observance of this season simply open your heart to more connection to the presence of God in your life. God bless you,

For the Human Family (pg. 815), For Peace (pg. 815), For Peace Among the Nations (pg. 816), For our Enemies (pg. 816), For our Country (pg. 820), For the President and all in Civil Authority (pg. 820), For Congress or a State Legislature (pg. 821), For Courts of Justice (pg. 821), For Sound Government (pg. 821), For Local Government (pg. 822), For an Election (pg. 822), For those in the Armed Forces of our Country (pg. 823), For Social Justice (pg. 823), In Times of Conflict (pg. 824), For those who Influence Public Opinion (pg. 827), For the Nation (pg. 838), For the Diversity of Races and Cultures (pg. 840)

You May Notice...

The church calendar helps us mark time and make spiritual preparations for significant times in our lives of faith. Lent is our time of preparation for the celebration of Christ's victory over death and the season of Easter. In anticipation of the Easter season of exuberance and feasting, Christians in the Anglican tradition observe Lent by "self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word." Elements of our liturgies change during the season as well. Some things you may notice include our services beginning with "A Penitential Order," fewer candles, the more solemn purple color of vestments and paraments, our restraint from saying "Alleluia," and the "Kyrie Eleison" rather than the more festive "Gloria." You will also notice changes in the bulletins as we fast by intentionally cutting back on paper usage and open our Prayer Books!


**LENT
MADNESS**

Can you have fun in Lent? Yes, if you play along with Lent Madness – a basketball-inspired holy competition to see which of 32 saints earns the coveted Golden Halo. While it all seems very frivolous, you'll learn about the saints along the way. By the time Holy Week comes along, you'll see how God works in the lives of ordinary people to shine the light of Christ's love in a world in need of hope. Bloggers provide biographies to help fans choose which saint they'll vote for each day throughout Lent. Sixteen saints make it to the Round of the Saintly Sixteen; eight advance to the Round of the Elate Eight; four make it to the Faithful Four; two to the Championship; and the winner is awarded the coveted Golden Halo! ... Lent Madness helps us to get to know some amazing people who have come before us in the faith and reminds us that there's no reason for a dreary Lenten discipline (Source: www.forwardmovement.org). Join the movement at www.lentmadness.org.

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, Bishop

The Rev. Sarah Fisher, Bishop-elect

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

News at St. Mary's



From the Parish Register



Baptisms

Kya Mae Campbell

Margaret "Margot" Tyndall Davis

January 11, 2026

With Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the families of:



- Mike Braswell, father of Jeff Braswell, who died on February 2nd at 78 years old after a season of declining health battling cancer. His funeral was held on Sunday, February 8th, 2026, at 2pm in the Edwards Funeral Chapel, and his obituary may be read at: www.edwardsfbc.com/obituaries/Michael-Jean-Braswell?obId=47180190#/obituaryInfo.
- Ann Keffer, a Kinston native and long-time member of St. Mary's until she moved later in life, who died on December 31, 2025 at the age of 90. Her funeral was held on Thursday, January 8th, 2026 at Westview Cemetery, and her obituary may be read at: www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/name/ann-keffer-obituary?id=60458895.
- Tacoma Reda, son of Adam and Jennifer Reda (the Executive Director of Glory Ridge for many years) and member of our youth group family at Glory Ridge trips (2015-2019). Tacoma died on February 18th at 22 years old following a motorcycle accident. His funeral will be held on Saturday, March 7th at 1pm (visitation at 11am) at the Blue Ridge Funeral Home in Mars Hill, NC, and his obituary may be read at: www.blueridge-funeral-service.com/memorials/tacoma-reda/5689287/.

Let us pray:

Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding: Deal graciously with the Braswell, Keffer, and Reda families in their grief. Surround them with your love, that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss, but have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



More News at St. Mary's

ST. MARY'S
Cherished Members' Luncheon
Thursday, March 5th
11:30am
Moseley Hall
 Sign up in the Narthex or call the parish office

Upcoming Dates: April 2nd & May 7th

If you would like to help us cook, serve, decorate or clean-up then please call/text Anne Lindley @ 252-521-6404.

ANNUAL SINCE 2019

MARY'S KITCHEN **BINGO NIGHT**

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2026 AT 6PM

Join us for Bingo Night in Moseley Hall of St. Mary's Church for food (hot dogs, chips, & drinks), fellowship with friends and family, and door prizes and game prizes!

\$25 FOR 12 GAME CARDS/\$5 PER EXTRA GAME CARD
WEAR GREEN TO RECEIVE 1 FREE GAME CARD!

For reservations, email Richard Crumbacker (maryskitchen@stmaryskinston.com)
 For prize donations, contact Sarah Warner (252) 521-2494

Do you love to....

01 COOK?

02 BE IN THE KITCHEN WITH FRIENDS?

03 LAUGH?

04 HELP TO SERVE OTHERS?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, then this invitation is especially for **you!** Please join us in the kitchen of St. Mary's on Monday, March 16th at 9:30am to help prepare meals for our ECW's Casseroles & Caring. What to expect.....a lot of fun, laughter and yummys, including baking delicious desserts that everyone loves! Mark your calendars for Monday, March 16th, invite a friends, and join us in the kitchen at St. Mary's! This day will be sure to minister to your soul as we prepare casseroles to minister to others.



Our partner school, Northwest Elementary School, is participating in Read Across America Day on Friday, March 6th from 9:00-11:00am. Guest readers are invited to read and discuss a story to a classroom. You may read a favorite book of your choosing, or a book will be provided for you. This is another way to instill a love for reading in the youth of Northwest. If you are interested in serving in this way, please contact Becky Darst at 252-521-9800.

ECW



Lenten Wednesday Hospitality

During Lent, there will be Wednesday evening programming that begins with a simple Lenten meal of Soup and Sandwiches. Please consider providing a meat soup, vegetarian soup, meat sandwiches, or non-meat sandwiches during any of the Wednesdays from February 25th-April 1st. Review the schedule below and contact Audra Haddad for any questions. God bless your Lenten hospitality!

www.signupgenius.com/go/4090945ADA62EA2FE3-54696279-lenten

Holy Week Schedule



PALM SUNDAY

Palm Sunday, March 29th, begins with the Holy Eucharist Rite 1 at 8am. Breakfast will be served in Moseley Hall at 9am, and throughout the morning, palm crosses will be made. At 10:30, we'll gather outdoors near the playground for the Liturgy of the Palms and a procession into the church that recalls Jesus' entry into Jerusalem before his Passion. We will even be joined again by Lulu the mule! In the event of inclement weather, we will begin our procession in Moseley Hall. Staffed childcare will be available.

MONDAY & TUESDAY IN HOLY WEEK

There will be liturgies offered on **Monday, March 30th at 5:30pm** and **Tuesday, March 31st at 5:30pm**. On Monday, our worship will be a "Teaching Eucharist" during which there will be instruction about the different parts of our Eucharistic liturgies. Both liturgies will be held in the All Saints' Chapel and there is not staffed childcare available.

WEDNESDAY IN HOLY WEEK

On **Wednesday, April 1st**, we will begin with a community meal at **6:30pm** followed by a service of Tenebrae (Latin for "Darkness" or "Shadows"). At **7:30pm**, Tenebrae features music from Taize & readings from the Psalms and other passages that foretell Jesus' Passion. This beautiful service, held 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. Staffed childcare will be available.

THE PASCHAL TRIDUUM

(Maundy Thursday - Easter Sunday)

MAUNDY THURSDAY

On **Thursday, April 2nd, at 7:30pm**, our Maundy Thursday liturgy held in the Nave 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 in the Chapel. The Chapel prayer vigil begins at the conclusion of the Maundy Thursday liturgy and ends with communion at the Good Friday liturgy. 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?" All are invited to sign up for a 1-hour time slot during the vigil on the door to the Chapel. Staffed childcare will be available for the 7:30pm liturgy.

GOOD FRIDAY

This service in the Nave, on **Friday, April 3rd 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. Staffed childcare will be available.

THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER

Taking place in the Nave, the Lenten observance officially ends, and Easter celebration begins on **Saturday evening at 7:30pm** 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 lasts about an hour. It begins with the lighting of the New Fire at the entrance to the church and includes hymns & spiritual songs, accompanied by City Lights Jazz, renewal of baptismal vows, and the first Eucharist of Easter! Staffed childcare will be available.

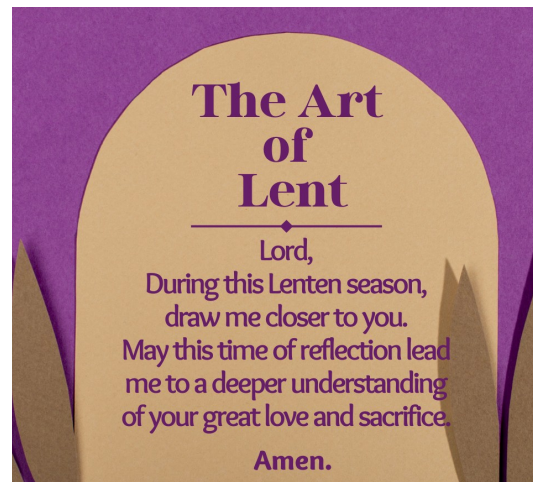
EASTER DAY

On **Sunday, April 5th**, 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 handbells, full choir, flowering of the cross, and all the glory of Easter Morning! There is also an Easter Egg Hunt for children following the service, so be sure to bring their Easter baskets! Staffed childcare will be available.

Christian Formation

ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION

This Lenten season, the Adult Christian Formation group will embark on a 5-week study on the Art of Lent. The schedule, topics, and leaders are as follows: **February 22nd** ~ Art and Lent with Scriptural Overview of Matthew, Mark, and Luke, facilitated by Elizabeth Maxwell and Dennis Tracz; **March 1st** ~ Lenten Practices and Overview of Church History and Lent, facilitated by Vicki Kennedy; **March 8th** ~ Temptations (Being Human), facilitated by Vicki Kennedy; **March 15th** ~ The Psychology of Lent, facilitated by Dr. Greg Gridley; and **March 22nd** ~ Renewal Resurrection, facilitated by Fr. Tom. Adult Christian Formation meets Sunday mornings at 9:30am in the Parlor, and all are welcome!



Wednesday Worship & Lenten Series



Wednesdays in Lent begin at 5:30pm in the church with Healing Prayers/Evensong. Then, at 6pm, you are invited to Moseley Hall for supper (*see page 4 about the meal and ways to serve*). At 6:30pm, Fr. Tom continues our Wednesday Lenten Series for adults called "Ordering Our Lives: A Lenten Journey toward a Rule of Life." Each Wednesday evening in Lent, Join us as we explore how the financial, physical, psychological, spiritual, and vocational parts of our lives can be shaped by living as disciples of Jesus. Each session will draw on Scripture, wisdom from the Christian tradition, and practical tools for everyday living, and ultimately these topics may end up being components of your personal Rule of Life - a sacred framework for living the life of faith with intention.

The Way of the Cross

St. Mary's offers the Way of the Cross in the Nave of the Church on Friday evenings at 5:45pm. 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. This liturgy is designed to be led by one of the members of the parish. Leading a session involves: arriving at the church by 5:30pm, ensuring the worship booklets are on the center table in the Narthex, welcoming and gathering the people, explaining the service, giving the "Opening Devotion," guiding participants to each station, inviting volunteers to read, returning the books, and closing the church. Please contact Kay Turner by phone/text at 252-933-1624 if you would like to minister in this way during the Lenten season.



Lent with St. Mary's Resource Guide

In the weekly email from St. Mary's, you will find a link to the "Lent with St. Mary's" resource guide for easy, quick reference throughout the season. Print it off, or pick up a copy located on the Narthex tables, and place it near your family calendar. We pray this guide enhances your journey in this Holy Lenten season.

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

Wednesdays for Kids and Youth

Wednesday nights begin with a shared meal for all at 6pm followed by activities in the Junior Faith, Senior Faith, and EYC rooms at 6:30pm.

Each Wednesday this Spring, children of the Junior and Senior Faith Academies will engage with the wonderful [Little Way Chapel Lent Guide](#). Families may also find the Lent Guide and their [Monthly Guides](#) helpful at home.



St. Mary's Youth continue their Lenten journey each Wednesday with the Youth will enjoy activities related Jesus' Sermon on the Mount.

New Beginnings #59 is planned for **April 17th-19th, 2026** at Trinity Center. [Register online and learn more information through the Diocesan Website!](#)



EVERY OTHER THURSDAY

6:30PM IN MOSELEY HALL

to *GLORY RIDGE:*
147 Days!!

We're SO excited about our time on the Ridge July 26-31, 2026. The total cost is \$300 per person. Registration and \$100 deposit are due to the church office by Friday, March 20th. The balance and all other forms will be due by Sunday, May 10th. Be on the lookout for an email with registration and medical forms. We can't wait to MAKE WORK WORSHIP with you!

YOUTH FUNDRAISER



Join us March 1st after church in Moseley Hall for the 2026 Chili & Cornbread Cook Off!!! Our Judges Panel will include Deb & Matt

Shoemake of Glory Ridge and Kenny Collins of 222 Chophouse! After a blind tasting, they will award Best in Show, 2nd place, 3rd place, and Most Original chilis as well as Best Cornbread. **But this is also a fundraiser for the EYC's Summer Glory Ridge mission trip**, so the People's Choice awards are unashamedly given to the chili & cornbread that get the most MONEY into their donation boxes. Please come and put some cash (or checks) to support your chili (and our work in Western NC)! THANK YOU for your generosity!

Congratulations

We offer our prayers of thanksgiving for the birth of Leo Williams Miles, born on Thursday, February 26, 2026 to proud parents, Claire (Hill) and Charlton Miles!

Blessings
on the birth of your
baby boy



Let us pray:

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 blessings you have bestowed upon the Miles, Hill, Mooring, and Means families in giving them Leo. 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 him 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.

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



PICKLEBALL
TOURNAMENT
2026

MARCH 14TH

• HOPE RESTORATION'S •
2ND ANNUAL
PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT
Kinston Community Center
Lunch Provided
pickleballiden.com
Trophies for each Division



**TUESDAYS
AT
ST. MARY'S**

**5:30pm
in the Parlor**

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
- 5:30 pm—Lenten Worship in the Church
- 6:00 pm - Supper & Programming for all ages (begins in Moseley Hall)
- 7:30 pm - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

ST. MARY'S VESTRY

2026	2027	2028
Richard Crumbacker	Rob Bizzell	Judy Johnson
Corey Fader	Frances Herring	Heather Mintz
Randy Spaugh	Sarah Warner	Mark Moore
Kay Turner	Harry Wooten	Sarah Weeks
Senior Warden – Corey Fader	Clerk – Judy Johnson	
Junior Warden – Richard Crumbacker	Treasurer – Jess Edwards	