



May 2024

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

# The Bell Ringer

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



**PENTECOST SUNDAY**

*May 19, 2024*

*(see Page 5 for more information)*

We will worship outdoors  
at the 10:30am liturgy on  
Pentecost Sunday,  
weather permitting!

## From the Rector



### ...AND ALSO WITH YOU!!!!

Did you know that May the Fourth is "Star Wars Day?" Now, it's not on the church calendar, but if you decide to celebrate anyways, I'd love to hear about it! I have always really enjoyed the Star Wars movies, and as a dad, I've especially enjoyed watching more and more of the growing Star Wars 'canon' with my family. There are so many interesting storylines and characters, not to mention the imagination behind the worlds and cultures that have been created. But it is "The Force" that is on my mind as I write today: that invisible, but living, powerful, and mysterious entity that is as important a "character" in Star Wars as any other.

Every analogy eventually breaks down, so please, **please** resist the temptation to take this one too far! But, as the Easter Season nears its end and the Church celebrates Pentecost and the giving of the Holy Spirit to the people of God, I invite you, dear reader, to consider the Gospel truth that God's Holy Spirit is present in your life today: invisible, but living, powerful, and mysterious. A good way to prepare for Pentecost Sunday, and to discern how the Holy Spirit's guiding presence is alive in your life, would be to spend some time with this section of our Catechism about the Holy Spirit. May we all cherish God's presence in our lives and be faithful in discerning and following God's call each day! Peace,

#### The Holy Spirit is

*...the Third Person of the Trinity, God at work in the world and in the Church even now.*

*...revealed in the Old Covenant as the giver of life, the One who spoke through the prophets.*

*...revealed as the Lord who leads us into all truth and enables us to grow in the likeness of Christ.*

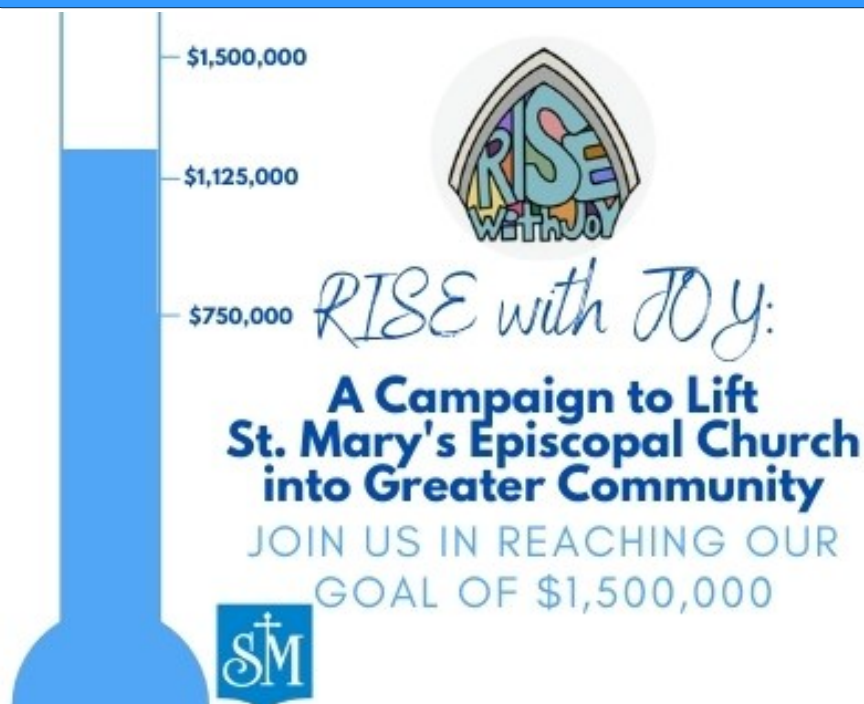
#### We recognize

*...the presence of the Holy Spirit when we confess Jesus Christ as Lord and are brought into love and harmony with God, with ourselves, with our neighbors, and with all creation.*

*...truths to be taught by the Holy Spirit when they are in accord with the Scriptures.*

*Tom +*

## RISE with JOY Capital Campaign



From the start of our discernment process about indoor accessibility and outdoor playspace projects, we've known that it would take the participation of a significant part of the St. Mary's community to make these things become a reality. We're now more than 80% towards our fundraising goal and we'd love to hear from you! Visit the [RISE with JOY page of our www.stmaryskinston.com website](http://www.stmaryskinston.com) to learn more about the projects and send an online pledge, or pick up hard copies at the church office. Above all, please hold these projects and all in involved in your prayers.

## 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="#">Mr. Jess Edwards</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>
Interim Organist & Choirmaster	<a href="#">Ms Sylvia Wall</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



### From the Parish Register



#### Baptism:

Victor Mariano Perez ~ April 21, 2024

#### Burial:

Susan Fort Fox ~ April 21, 2024

#### Wedding:

Kirby Ballard and Tyler Belcastro ~ April 20, 2024



We offer our prayers to the Fox family as they mourn the loss of Susan, who passed away on April 13th. Please pray for all who love and miss her, especially her husband of 47 years, Gerry Fox; her daughter, Tracy Atilla, husband Aydin and children Neslo, Leyla, Beyza, and Kuzey; son, Marty Fox, wife Heather and children Bennett, Brody, and Mackinsey. Susan was a faithful member of St. Mary's, serving in many roles of ministry in the life of our parish, and she will be missed by many.

Let us pray:

*Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Susan. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive her into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. Amen.*



*please join us for*

### CHERISHED MEMBERS' LUNCHEON

*Thursday, May 9th*

*11:30am in Moseley Hall*

RSVP by calling the Parish Office



The Parish Office will be closed on **Monday, May 27, 2024** in observance of Memorial Day. The staff of St. Mary's join you in honoring those who have lost their lives in service of this nation.



## News at St. Mary's



### Lemonade on the Lawn

One of the joys of our summertime gatherings is sharing light refreshments after church. Lemonade on the Lawn provides a relaxed, refreshing, time to catch up and share life together. Beginning Sunday, June 2nd, join us each Sunday immediately following the 10:30am liturgy to share this special time together before the rest of the week begins.

Individuals or families are encouraged to join together to host the refreshments. Hosts are asked to provide lemonade and something light to eat. Paper products will be provided. The sign up sheet will be located in the Narthex. Sherry Tanner will coordinate this ministry, and you may email her

stanner@stmaryskinston.com with any questions.

## CHRISTIAN FORMATION FOR ADULTS

### Pray, Discern, & Plan for Fall 2024

Sunday, June 16  
at 9:30 AM  
in the Parlor

Breakfast Included!

*Mary's Kitchen  
Needs You!*

Mary's Kitchen needs Thursday volunteers! Please contact Jim Godfrey at 252-523-6146 to sign up.

## ECW

### Caring Cards Ministry



Sign up to send cards to home bound parishioners using this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090945ADA62EA2FE3-47181120-caring>. Names and addresses can be found in a notebook outside the library located in the church office wing. Cards can be found in that same area. You may also find names and addresses of Pastoral Care recipients in REALM using this link: <https://onrealm.org/stmaryskinston/Groups/Rosters/3252657c-0b00-4c89-8797-b13000d9a7ab?returnUrl=%2Fstmaryskinston%2FGroups>.

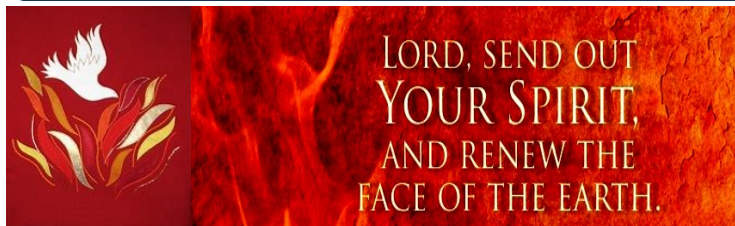
### Caring Casseroles



Thanks for feeding so many in body and soul. You may sign up for making a casserole using this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090945ADA62EA2FE3-47180838-caring>.

***YOU LOVE BIG! Thank you. Be on the lookout for spring and summer activities where we can come together for fellowship, fun, and usually fantastic food.***

# Worship



**P**entecost is a Principle Feast Day of the church, celebrated on the seventh Sunday after Easter. This year, **Pentecost Sunday is May 19th**. While there is an ancient Jewish holiday of the same name, for Christians, Pentecost commemorates the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Apostles and other followers of Jesus while they were in Jerusalem observing the Jewish custom. Because the Holy Spirit has inspired the spread of the Good News of Jesus to the world, Pentecost is often understood to be the birthday of the Church. Happy Birthday!!! On this day, the clergy wear **RED** vestments, and the altar will be adorned with red hangings. It is even customary for the people of the congregation to wear **RED** as well. We look forward to celebrating this Feast Day with you!



By the Grace of God and with the consent of the People, The Right Reverend Robert Stuart Skirving, Bishop of the Diocese of East Carolina, will ordain St. Mary's own Jon Sargeant, as well as Matthew Overturf, to the Sacred Order of Deacons in Christ's One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church on Saturday, May 25th at 10:30am at St. John's Episcopal Church in Fayetteville. Your prayers and presence are requested. Reception to follow.



**CONGRATULATIONS** to those who have been formed in the Christian faith at St. Mary's as they celebrate graduation milestones in their lives! We celebrate all the ways God has blessed the Class of 2024 with their accomplishments as they graduate from high school and institutions of higher learning. Our community is strengthened by them, and we look forward to how God calls them in the days to come. Please join us on **Sunday, May 19th**, when we will honor our graduates during the 10:30am service.

## **ARENDELL PARROTT ACADEMY**

Lucy Abbott Fader ~ (will attend University of Mississippi "Ole Miss" in the fall)  
Everette Haddad ~ (will attend North Carolina State University in the fall)

## **WAYNE COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL**

Martison Sharp ~ (will attend University of North Carolina Greensboro in the fall)

## **SACRED HOLLY GROVE HOME SCHOOL**

David Brown ~ (will attend Pitt Community College with plans to transfer to NC State University)

## **LENOIR COUNTY EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL LENOIR COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Amanda Glen ~ Associate of Science Degree (will attend Appalachian State University in the fall)

## **NC State University**

Rebecca Brown ~ Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting (will continue at NC State in pursuit of a Masters Degree in Accounting)

## **UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA at CHAPEL HILL**

Lillian Warner ~ Bachelor of Arts in Media & Journalism with a minor in Philosophy, Politics and Economics (moving to New York City to work in the Public Relations & Marketing field)



## Worship

WELCOME  
TO  
ST. MARY'S

We are grateful for  
your ministry with us  
beginning June 9th!



**SAM HOLT**  
MINISTER OF MUSIC

We are thrilled to share that Mr. Sam Holt has accepted a call to serve as the next Minister of Music at St. Mary's Episcopal Church! Sam's first Sunday at St. Mary's will be June 9. As we look forward to celebrating the beginning of Sam's ministry among us, we are also grateful for Sylvia Wall's ministry this program year. Sylvia's last Sunday as our Interim Organist & Choirmaster will be Pentecost Sunday, May 19. Please see the note below from Sam and hold all involved in this transition in your prayers.

*I am so excited about my new role as Minister of Music at St. Mary's and becoming a part of its rich music tradition! My wife Debbie and I were confirmed as Episcopalians at Christ Church in Raleigh in 1978, and other than a brief time in the Moravian and Lutheran churches, I have served Episcopal churches for the past twenty years. I love our Anglican heritage and celebrating those elements that are quintessentially Episcopalian! I look forward to meeting each of you and learning how I can serve you as your new Minister of Music. Please feel free to reach out to me. My email address is [sholt@stmaryskinston.com](mailto:sholt@stmaryskinston.com). My phone number is 704-438-1252. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve you!*

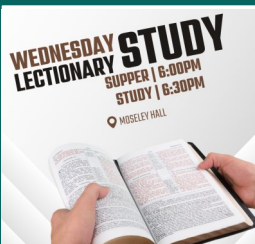


With Thanks and Blessings

GO IN PEACE TO  
LOVE AND SERVE THE Lord

From Sunday, October 29th, 2023 to the present, Ms. Sylvia Wall has blessed St. Mary's with her ministry as Interim Organist and Choirmaster. Sylvia had served many times in the past as guest organist, so she was able to jump right in and share ministry and life with us. In this short time period, Sylvia has celebrated holidays with us; she has provided joyful music at weddings and baptisms, and she has mourned beside us as she provided the ministry of music during the loss of parish members. Her last day in her staff role with St. Mary's will be Pentecost Sunday (May 19th). Sylvia, we are thankful for you, and we pray for your next season of ministry to the Lord. God bless you!

## Christian Formation



**Wednesday  
Night Dinner  
& Program**

Wednesday Night Dinner & Program continues to ready and reflect on lessons from the weekly lectionary. Join us each **Wednesday for dinner at 6:00pm followed by Bible Study at 6:30pm**. If you have always wanted to attend a Bible study but don't have time to read and prepare, then this is your chance to take a break from your weekly demands.



ACTS 2:1-21

**Adult Christian  
Formation**

With Pentecost coming up in May, join us beginning Sunday, May 5th, May 12th, and May 19th at 9:30am as Adult Christian Formation concludes the program year by learning about

the "birthday" of the church as well as the history and meaning of "church." These sessions will be led by Vicki Kennedy. Adult Christian Formation meets each Sunday at 9:30am in the Parlor. All are welcome to join us!

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



## EYC Downtown Days

May 2nd and 16th - 4-5:30pm  
Come explore downtown with us!

## EYC Sunday Dinner at Sugar Hill

Sunday, May 5th ~ 5:30-7:00pm  
Come ready to share about summer - \$5 contribution per person please.

## Family Park Afternoon

Thursday May 9th ~ 4-5:30pm  
Join us at Pearson Park (Dragon Park) for treats, games, fellowship, and play time. ALL ages welcome!

## End of Curriculum Year Party

Sunday May 12th ~ 9-10:15am  
Join us for a special breakfast, crafts, and games to celebrate a wonderful year!

## Family Movie Night

Friday May 17th ~ Time/Movie TBD

## EYC May Best Day Ever

Saturday May 18th  
Plan on hanging with us ALL day - more details to come.

## Graduation Sunday and Pentecost!!

Sunday May 19th  
Join us for lots of celebrating!

## EYC Best Downtown Day Ever

Thursday May 23rd  
More details to come.

### From the Desk of Liz:

*May is here! Lots to celebrate and lots of change. May always brings a shift in schedules, temperature, and flow of daily life. We move into "summer mode". Join us for time together as we enjoy all the beauty and all the change May will bring us as we get ready for the wonderful season of "summer mode".*

*In Peace,  
Liz*



## THANK YOU, LIZ!

Liz Hengst has served as the Family Ministry Coordinator at St. Mary's for over 3 years, bringing much joy and energy to our community. Please join us on Pentecost Sunday, May 19, her last Sunday with us in this role, to share in our thanksgiving for her ministry, her family, and our time together.



## Community Vacation Bible School

**June 23 - 26, 2024**  
**5:00-7:30 PM**  
PreK-5th

.....ed @ Westminster United Methodist Church

Registration Open: <https://bit.ly/KinstonVBS2024>  
Adults and High School Youth Wanted for Leadership and Assistance








**Breakfast Provided!**

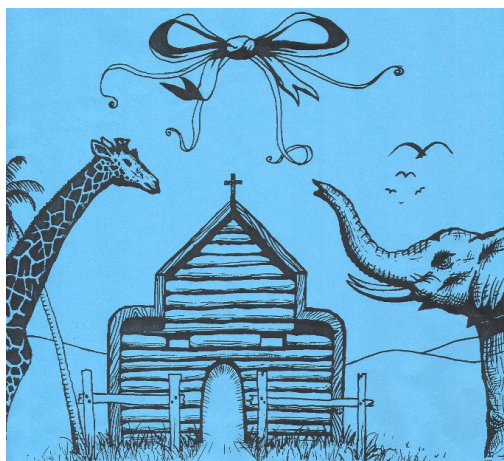
**Nursery Provided!**

## Children, Youth, & Family Summer & Fall Ministry Planning!

Sunday, June 9 at 9:30 in the Parlor



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



### **African Team Ministries**

Thank you for your continued support. We have raised enough money for 20 Drip Irrigation Kits. The crafts will be on display through May 6th. Please contact Becky Darst at 252-521-9800 for assistance.

### **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  
 10:30 am - Holy Eucharist: Rite 2 in the Church  
 (livestreamed to [YouTube](#) and shared in [Facebook](#))  
 Staffed nursery available 9am-Noon.

### **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 Evening Meal & Programming for all ages. Staffed nursery available 6-8pm.

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

2024	2025	2026
Rob Bizzell	Andrew Duppstadt	Richard Crumbacker
Jess Edwards	Bonnie Holton	Corey Fader
Jo Parrott	Anne Lindley	Randy Spaugh
Ginny Wade	Jim Purnell	Kay Turner
Senior Warden – Jess Edwards	Clerk – Andrew Duppstadt	
Junior Warden – Jim Purnell	Treasurer – Corey Fader	