



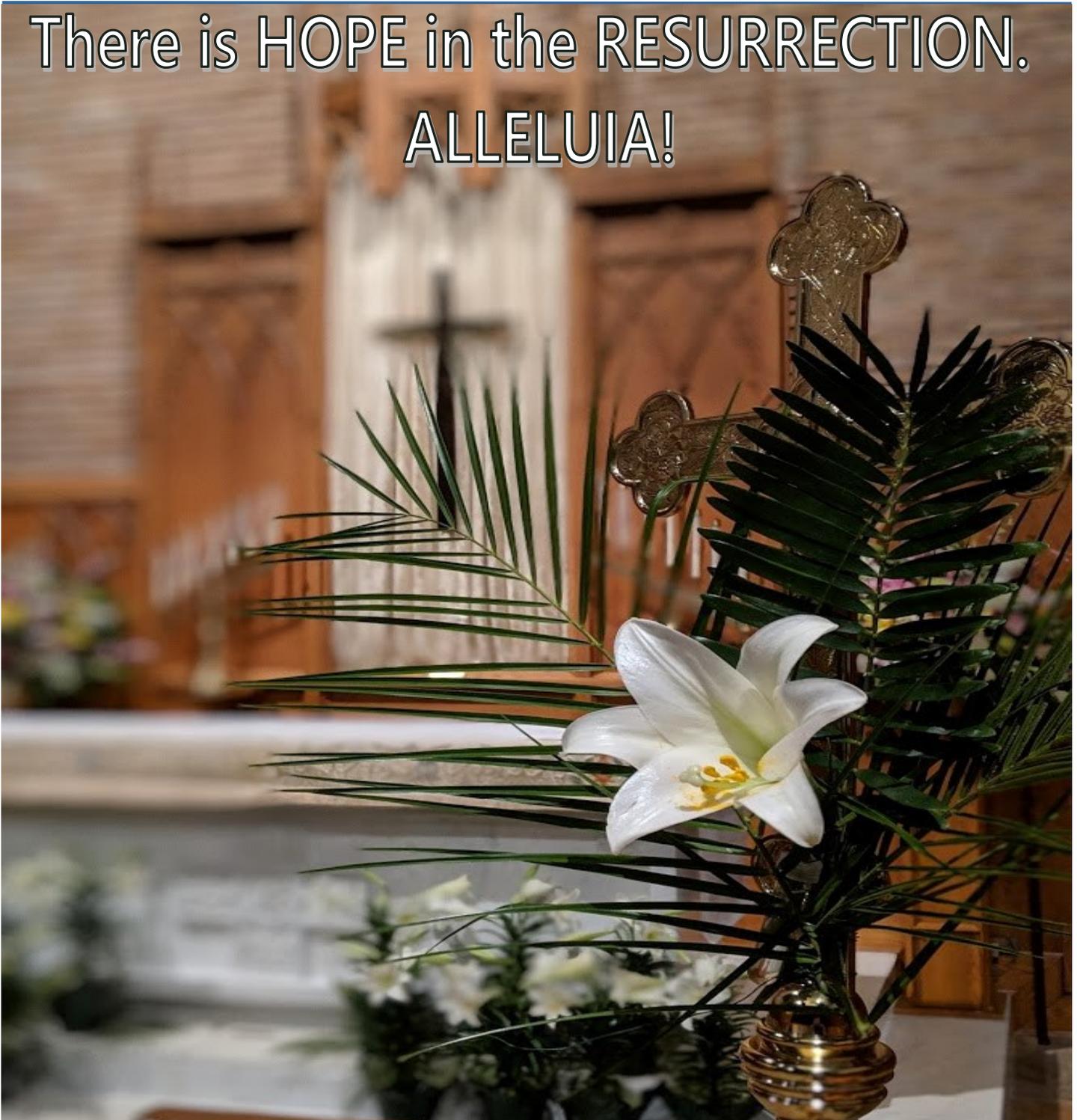
April 2020

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

The Bell Ringer

Online at www.stmaryskinston.com

There is HOPE in the RESURRECTION.
ALLELUIA!



From the Rector

This “word-cloud” cross is made up of many of the key words contained in our organizational statements.

All of the organizational statements may be read on our website: www.starmaryskinston.com/about-us.

Statement
Christ-Centered
Episcopal teaching
intentional
Kingdom-Oriented special
neighboring feeds
Anglican
resources
mission work

In late 2019, the Vestry determined that the Long Range Planning Committee would be a standing committee of the vestry to recommend priorities as a church and neighborhood parish based on our organizational statements and in consultation with the Rector. Please keep this group’s faithful ministry in your prayers!

Church worship
compassionate
teaching
needs
Mary
relationships
tradition

Long Range Planning Committee Members

Steve Mazingo - Chair
Jo Parrott
Jimmy Ballard
Jon Sargeant
Walter Poole
Jess Edwards

Outdoor Task Group

Walter Poole, Chair

Indoor Task Group

Skip Greene, Chair

Music Task Group

Susan Fox & Pam

Mazingo, Co-Chairs

faithful active neighborly aged
Holy purpose towards mind
presence toward theology
faithful active neighborly aged
Kingdom-Oriented special
neighboring feeds
Anglican
resources
mission work
teaching
needs
Mary
relationships
tradition
honoring Theotokos
God-bearer
Kingdom efforts
Others

Dear Friends in Christ,

My goodness, a lot has changed since the edition of the BellRinger. In the midst of all that has unfolded in the world as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is appropriate that Christians have taken seriously the situation and, out of compassion for the most vulnerable among the human family, changed its ways of meeting. Loving neighbor is, after all, a crucial part of how we love God. In this time, it seems that every person, organization, and community has needed to engage in the creative task of determining how to faithfully carry out what truly is important. It is impossible for me to fully express how grateful I am to serve with the St. Mary’s family and staff as we have adapted our usual ways of being church together in this time. Though it has looked *different*, the church has continued its mission: to bear God’s Good News through joyful worship, Christ-centered teaching, compassionate care, and intentional relationships. Opportunities for us to pray and offer God our gifts of praise and thanksgiving have been made available - even for Holy Week ([click here for our home worship guide](#)). We’ve explored ways of creating sacred space and time in new ways from home. Bible studies, confirmation classes, EfM, and other groups have met in new ways through digital methods. Condolences and prayers have been offered while proclaiming Christ’s victory over

death as we’ve accompanied families in their mourning. Pastoral care calls, notes, and gifts continue to be extended as we connect with one another ([click here for our online directory](#)). Mary’s Kitchen still serves meals daily, but in new ways. Indeed, *different* is a word that is used frequently to describe life in this time. The truth is, God’s call for us to BE CHURCH remains! The task for us in this (and every) time is to faithfully and intentionally answer the call to follow Jesus where and as He leads. God bless you all as you continue to be the church!

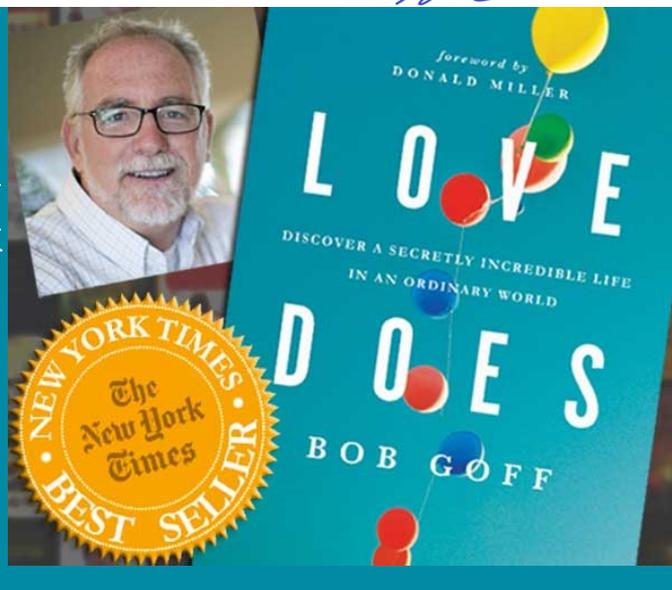
Yours in Christ,

Tom Warren, Rector

Tom +

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS AT ST. MARY’S

Are you missing our Wednesday night small groups? Join our new Wednesday evening book club group hosted by Pam Mazingo! We will be reading Love Does: Discover a Secretly Incredible Life In An Ordinary World by Bob Goff during the weeks of Easter. We will read about 4 chapters each week and meet on Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm, beginning April 22 through Zoom for discussion of those chapters. Links to the Zoom meetings will be shared in upcoming Wednesday emails. Love Does is light and fun, yet unique and profound with lessons on how to live an incredible Jesus-centered life.



The Episcopal Church

α

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

α

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. Jo Parrott
Jr. Warden	Mr. Jimmy Ballard
Parish Administrator	Mrs. Lori Kelly
Organist & Choirmaster	Mrs. Sharon Veitch
Communications Director	Mrs. Sherry Tanner
Mary's Kitchen Executive Director	Mr. Jim Godfrey

News at St. Mary's



From the Parish Register Transfers In

Margaret & Randy Spaugh

Mara & Bill Moye, Jake (13yo) and Jamie (7yo)

March 3, 2020

Connie Hull

March 10, 2020

Burials

James Clyde Bardon

March 17, 2020

Carol Elizabeth Rock Wentz

March 21, 2020



Pastoral Announcements

Congratulations to proud grandparents, Vicki & Claude Kennedy on the birth of their new grandson, Soren Oakes Hallberg, born on February 25th, 2020. Joyful parents Elise & Garth Hallberg of Montclair, New Jersey.

In an effort to keep St. Mary's Episcopal Church staff safe and to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19, the parish office staff began working remotely on **Monday, March 30th**. Though not at their desks, you may continue to reach them by phoning the church office at 252-523-6146. Please continue to use email communication as well:

- Tom Warren, Rector tomwarren@stmaryskinston.com
- Lori Kelly, Parish Administrator lkelly@stmaryskinston.com
- Sherry Tanner, Communications stanner@stmaryskinston.com
- Jim Godfrey, Mary's Kitchen Director maryskitchen@stmaryskinston.com
- Sharon Veitch, Choirmaster/Organist sveitch@stmaryskinston.com

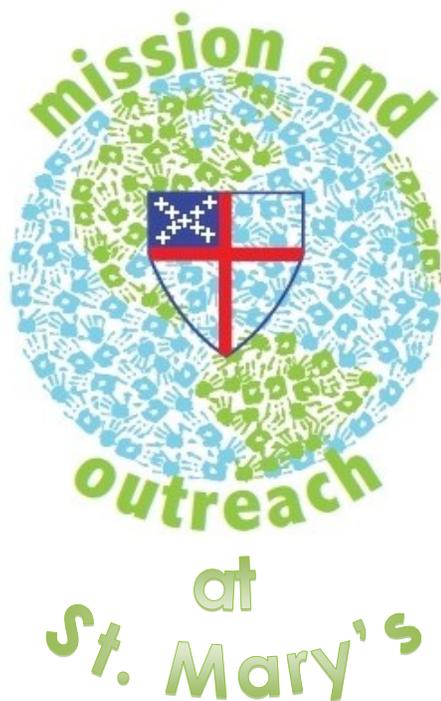
Please know our thoughts and prayers continue to be with each of you during this time. We cherish our work at this parish community and all the other communities we serve, and we are filled with hope for the day we are physically reunited with you in work, worship, and ministry.

A Note of Thanksgiving

Thank you for your ongoing support of [African Team Ministries](#). With your help, we were able to raise close to \$1000 to provide irrigation kits to families in drought-stricken areas of Africa.



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



Mary's Kitchen & St. Mary's Missions Trips

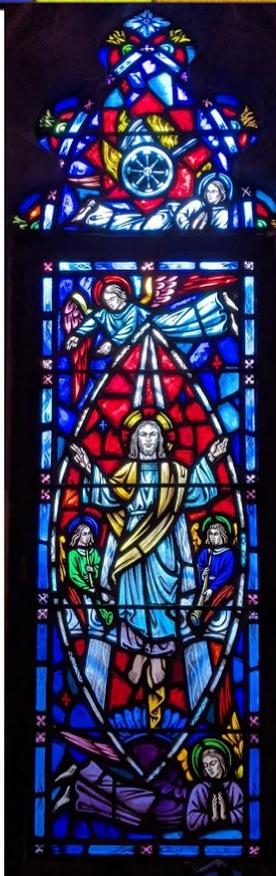
The COVID-19 pandemic has forced everyone to make changes in plans. At Mary's Kitchen, Executive Director Jim Godfrey has been diligent in implementing procedural changes to protect volunteers and guests while also continuing to provide food for all in need. The kitchen is still operating daily, but has shifted to a take-out only system. Accordingly, donations of individually wrapped cookies and packages of chips are needed. If you can help volunteer, please call Jim at 252-523-6146.

Regarding our planned mission trips, after much discernment, consideration, and prayer, the following decisions have been made: The St. Mary's 2020 Dominican Republic Mission Trip as well as the EYC Girls' trip to Seattle, Washington have been cancelled. The Glory Ridge trip planned for this summer has not been altered at this time, but we will continue to monitor the COVID-19 restrictions accordingly as the date approaches. We remain committed to our outreach missions both locally and globally and will persevere together, united by our service to God through service to others.

St. Mary's Stained Glass Project

St. Mary's church is known for its beautiful stained glass, and the light of Christ shines through it and reminds us all of God's glory. During Holy Week and the Easter season, we invite you to share the reminder of God's glory by displaying "stained glass" from your homes – there are several ways to do this! If you do any of these, please email us a picture at photos@stmaryskinst.com.

- Sidewalk Chalk: Dress your driveway, neighborhood sidewalk, or street with your own version of stained glass! There are many ideas you may "google" and try. Here is just one sample: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eGhgIysnrbg>
- Window Hangings: Hang stained glass in a window of your home – perhaps you already have one. There are also several ways to make these as fun family crafts at home! There are many ideas you may "google" and try. Here are some samples: <https://www.momontimeout.com/stained-glass-cross-easter-craft/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/190558627961901750/>
- Luminaries: Share the light of Christ on your front porch or along the walk leading to your home! There are many ideas you may "google" and try. Here is just one sample: <http://blog.consumercrafts.com/decor-home/diy-mason-jar-luminary/>



Worship

PALMS were blessed and available as a part of the observance of Palm Sunday. On **Friday, April 3rd & Saturday, April 4th**, palms were located on a table under the arch of the breezeway in front of the St. Francis Garden, and parishioners were invited to stop by and pick up a palm and palm cross.

EASTER LILIES will once again be a part of Easter at St. Mary's Church this year! Contributions in honorarium or memoriam of someone will be used by the Altar Guild to decorate the church for Easter before the flowers are shared with members of our community as a sign of God's love. You may make a [contribution online \(indicating the special purpose in the memo section\)](#) or send a check by mail. Any questions? Please email Sherry Tanner at stanner@stmaryskinston.com. To ensure your honorarium or memoriam is included in the Easter Sunday message, please submit your information by **4:30pm on Wednesday, April 8th**.



CONVERSATIONS ON HOLY WEEK

Fr. Tom was joined by Whitney Grady (Chair of the committee for Christian Formation for Children & Youth) on **Sunday, April 5th (Palm Sunday)** for a Facebook Live conversation about ways to worship with St. Mary's from home during Holy Week. This included the [walk through guide](#) specially put together and shared with our parish family to help us worship through each day of Holy Week including Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil. We also discussed some ideas for creating sacred spaces in our homes as well. If you weren't able to tune into the live broadcast, be sure to watch the video [on our YouTube channel](#) where all of our videos are archived.

Here are a few "worship at home" images seen around St. Mary's. Do you have a picture you would like to share? We invite you to send your pictures to us at photos@stmaryskinston.com



Photo credit:
Whitney Grady



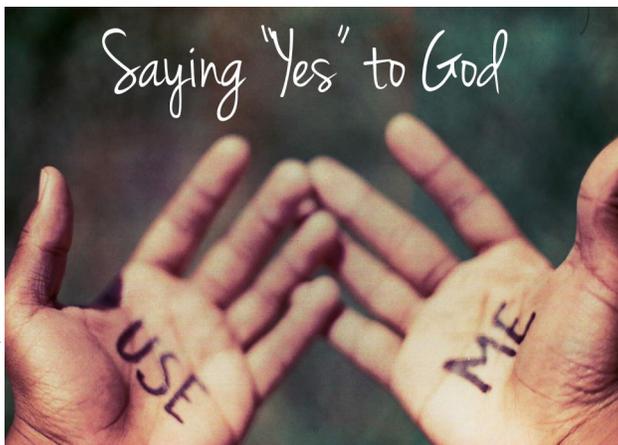
Photo credit:
Cyndi Rafferty



Photo credit:
Sherry Tanner

Christian Formation

During Lent, the **ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION** group was joined by community members who are representatives in ways of service to and with others in the manner of Christian discipleship. Because of social distance requirements, St. Mary's Church embarked on new, creative ways to continue learning together in the Adult Forum series through the use of Facebook live videos. On March 15th, Fr. Tom was [joined by the Rev. Chris Jenkins](#) (Executive Director of [Hope Restorations](#)) and on March 22nd he was [joined by Erin Passailaigue and Jennifer Mervin](#) of [SAFE of Lenoir County](#). If you were unable to tune in during that time, you can always access those conversation through the above links. In addition to [Facebook](#), you may also access those videos directly from our [website](#) as well as our [Youtube channel](#).



HOW CAN YOU SERVE DURING COVID-19? During this time of social distancing, look for the areas of need in our community and consider how to safely serve. Is there a parishioner you miss seeing? Access our membership directly [here](#) and call or write a fellow parishioner. Do you have neighbors in need? Check on them and make sure they have essential items to “shelter in place.” Are you healthy and desire to serve in preparing meals at [Mary's Kitchen](#)? Email [Jim Godfrey, Director](#) for ways that you can help during this time. (*Travel to volunteer at or contribute to the kitchen is legal under the current Executive Order.*) As we move deeper into Holy Week, we invite you to discern your spiritual gifts, find creative ways to use them for Christian discipleship, and continue serving God by serving others.

ECW

Dear St. Mary's Ladies,

Are you finding that now that all your cabinets are decluttered and your closets are cleaned that you still have more time on your hands? Maybe you hunger to fellowship with church friends in this season of social distancing? Have you ever desired to delve deeper into the Word? Please join us as we celebrate the Easter season with an ECW Bible study of the Book of Acts. We will read a small segment each day of the Easter season and meet through Zoom once a week to discuss what we have read. The reading homework is VERY light and you do NOT have to be an expert to be in a Bible Study. Just come and join the conversation! Our Zoom meetings will take place on **Tuesdays at 4PM beginning April 14th**. While we can't meet in person, this is a perfect way for us to stay connected as church women. We will learn and grow together this Easter season!

Never tried Zoom? Don't let that scare you. Zoom is a digital video conferencing application that is EASY to connect with via your computer, iPad, smart phone, or even a regular phone. If you are still uncertain of your Zoom abilities, please contact us. Pam and I would be happy to walk you through the process ahead of time doing a trial Zoom meeting with just you to help you feel comfortable.

ACTION NEEDED:

If you are interested in joining the Bible Study fun, please contact Pam Mazingo at pmazingo@mac.com or 252-939-6350 so she knows to email you the Zoom invite with the link and phone numbers.

Peace be with you,

Laury Sargeant jsarg4@suddenlink.net or 252-268-6521 & Pam Mazingo pmazingo@mac.com or 252-939-6350

From the Choirmaster



We missed the opportunity to gather on March 22nd for those interested in the Hand Bell Choir. As soon as we can gather together again, we will plan a meeting after the 10:30am liturgy (date to be determined) to discuss music, rehearsal times, and opportunities to perform. You may ask, "What if I do not read music, but this sounds like it might be a lot of fun to join?" By asking this question, you already have the motivation to become a reader of music by simply wanting to become part of the group! It is said, "One step at a time." I say, "One note, one count, one breath at a time." Please consider joining a wonderful group of people who have a great deal of fun, like to play music together, and love to serve the Lord with a joyful heart. Come *ring* a joyful sound with us! Have no worries, concerns, or doubts. We do all things through Christ who strengthens us.



During this time of being "separate but together," I certainly will miss hearing the congregation sing on Sundays, the choir rehearsing on Wednesday evenings, and practicing on the organ for our services. Whether you are a part of the choir or the congregation, we *all* have the ability through on-line resources to enjoy the talents of others throughout the world make a beautiful music. Here are some of the resources to enjoy and investigate for further study:

[Ave Maria - sung by Matthew Curtis \(Franz Biebl\)](#)

[Agnus Dei \(Adagio for Strings, Op 11\) - Samuel Barber \(all parts sung by Matthew Curtis\)](#)

[Pie Jesu \(Fauré\) | boy soprano Aksel Rykkvin \(13y\), Oslofjord Kammerfilharmoni & Kåre Nordstoga](#)

[Let the bright Seraphim | Aksel Rykkvin \(13y boy soprano\) | Mark Bennett | KORK](#)

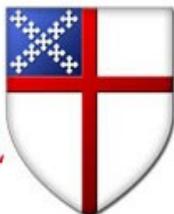
For those who are not already involved in the choir but have an interest, or you would just like information on how to become a singer, click [here](#) for a wonderful online resource to help you.

"Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song." (Psalm 95:1-2)

Blessings & Prayers,
Sharon



THE
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH



The Episcopal Church is creating a mass [Easter Virtual Choir](#) video to be released on Easter Sunday. The choir will be singing a familiar Easter hymn - "*The Strife is O'er*". Submissions for the choir are now closed, but you are invited to witness this joyous celebration of the resurrection - a coming together to declare the Glory of God in the face of the grief of coronavirus and physical distancing. Be sure to follow this and other events on the Episcopal Church website [here](#).

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

Be sure to access all the St. Mary's digital library during the COVID-19 Coronavirus quarantine through our various sources:

[St. Mary's website](#)

[St. Mary's Facebook Page](#)

[St. Mary's YouTube Channel](#)

By the way, if you haven't already, please subscribe to our YouTube channel - it will help us out... thanks!

While we are continuing to social distance, we are still active as a parish and want to connect with you!

**The joy of the Lord
 is your strength.**
 Nehemiah 8:10

SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP SERVICES

FIND US ONLINE FOR SERVICES:

Wednesday morning children's chapel
 Sunday morning worship
 Sunday morning Christian Education
 Holy Week daily music & liturgy offerings

ST. MARY'S VESTRY

2020	2021	2022
Jess Edwards	Jimmy Ballard	Bill Connolly
Gerry Fox	Sam Gilmore	John John
Whitney Grady	Jessica Shimer	Scott Turik
Jo Parrott	Stuart Stroud	Dee Warner

Senior Warden – Jo Parrott
 Junior Warden – Jimmy Ballard
 Clerk – Whitney Grady
 Treasurer – Billy Page



RECTOR'S OFFICE HOURS

(currently in the Nave)

Tuesdays: 9am-Noon
 Wednesdays: 9am-Noon
 Thursdays: 2pm-4:30pm
 Fridays: 9am-Noon
 *other times by appointment