



February, 2020

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

The Bell Ringer

Online at www.stmaryskinston.com

FOOD
Read about
Shrove Tuesday
Pancake Supper
on page 3.

FAITH
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upcoming "Prayer
Course" on page 5.

FUNDRAISING
Read about the 2020
Chili & Cornbread Cook-
Off to benefit the EYC
Glory Ridge Mission Trip
on page 7.

FELLOWSHIP
Read about the
fun fellowship
that is sure to be
enjoyed at the
Heart & Soul
Dinner and Raffle
on page 6.

**JOIN US
THIS
FEBRUARY
AT
ST. MARY'S**

FOR GOD

so **lo**ved the world
that He **g**ave His
only
begotten
Son
that **wh**osoever
believeth
in Him shall not perish
but have **ev**erlasting life.

John 3:16



From the Rector

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

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!



All of the organizational statements may be read on our website:

www.stmaryskinston.com/about-us/

Long Range Planning Committee Members

Stephen Mazingo,
Chair

Jo Parrott
Jimmy Ballard
Jon Sargeant
Walter Poole
Jess Edwards

Outdoor Task Group

Walter Poole, Chair

Indoor Task Group

Skip Greene, Chair

Come and See: An Invitation to Lent

Recently on a Sunday morning in church, we read together from John’s Gospel and were reminded that “come and see” is the Christian invitation par excellence. God “came and saw” His creation when Jesus was born and He lived right here among us (and continues to be present with us through the Holy Spirit). Jesus invites us to “come and see” for ourselves how He is transforming lives, reconciling us and the rest of creation to God the Father. We, also, are called to invite others to “come and see” the amazing work and grace of God where He has promised to be and where we have experienced Him.

I believe that Lent is a season, ripe with ‘come and see’ potential. Far from a dreary season, the true heart of Lent is merely to draw close to God - to come near - with our true and honest selves with an openness to being transformed by His mercy and grace. And in so doing, we will see clearly God’s love for us that transcends any brokenness that we experience. I invite you, therefore, to come and see for yourself everything that God has for you at St. Mary’s this Lent. Every time the church doors are open for worship, there is blessing for you to receive and to share. And invite others to come and see with you, for what better invitation can we offer?

God bless you,

Tom +

News at St. Mary’s



GOD BLESS YOU, ACOLYTES!

St. Mary’s Church is blessed to have so many people serving in particular ways that help us offer our gifts of praise and thanksgiving to God each time we gather. The acolytes are one such group for whom we give thanks! On Sunday, February 16, in addition to a brief training and conversation about how and why we serve as acolytes, Fr. Tom would like

to also treat the acolytes to a pizza lunch. The training will begin shortly after the 10:30am liturgy. Anyone in the 5th grade or older is welcome to serve as an acolyte (there is NO upper age limit... adults are welcome too!). Please see Fr. Tom, Christina Zoltek (ckzoltek@gmail.com), or Terah Archie (archiet15@ecu.edu) with any questions about this life-giving ministry of service to Christ and His church!

SING!: An Interlude with Will & Melissa Oliver

The Adult Christian Formation time continues its study of the book “Sing!: How Worship Transforms Your Life, Family, and Church” by Kristyn & Keith Getty. As we’re

about half way through the book, we are really looking forward to an ‘Interlude’ on February 9 when we’ll be visited by musicians Will Oliver (Althea Holton’s nephew) and his wife, Melissa. Please warmly welcome them back to St. Mary’s as they join us during the Christian Formation hour as well as at the 10:30 liturgy.



The Episcopal Church

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In the Anglican Communion

A global community of 80 million Anglicans in 38 member provinces/churches.

α

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 | Jo Parrott |
| Jr. Warden | 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

Baptisms:

Aryn Crawford Bridwell
01-12-20

Piper Anniston Franklin
01-12-20



Pastoral Announcement

Congratulations to Amber & Isaac Wentz of Kingsport, Tennessee on the birth of their son, Bruce Isaiah Wentz, on 01-20-20. Proud grandparents are Carol & Hugh Wentz.

Cherished Member Luncheon

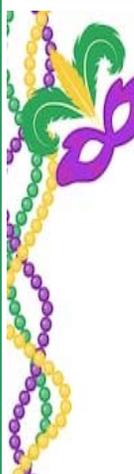
Senior members of St. Mary's and their friends are invited to the next luncheon to be held on **Thursday, February 6th, at 11:30am.** The luncheon gets underway at 11:30am in Moseley Hall. This is a wonderful time to get together with friends and enjoy a delicious meal. Those planning to attend are asked to sign up in the Narthex or contact the Parish Office by Tuesday, February 4th. The luncheons are a ministry of St. Mary's Episcopal Church Women. Many thanks to Anne Lindley and all who make these meals possible!

Pancake Supper

Join us **Tuesday, February 25th**, for our annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper in Moseley Hall from 5-7 pm. The celebration will consist of more sausage and pancakes than you can handle! (Yes, that is a challenge!)

The cost of the meal is \$8, or \$6 for children under 10. Proceeds from the dinner will be used for youth scholarships.

Shrove Tuesday is the last day before the beginning of Lent. Though the word "shrove" itself derives from the word *shrive* (i.e. to repent), Shrove Tuesday is actually a day for great celebrations that use up cooking ingredients which many will forgo during Lenten fasts. Join us and invite a friend!



Worship

The Season of Lent begins February 26, 2020



Ash Wednesday

The imposition of ashes is often a central part of Ash Wednesday worship. Ashes have a long history in biblical and church traditions. In scripture, ashes or dust symbolize frailty or death (Gen. 18:27), sadness or mourning (Esther 4:3), judgment (Lam. 3:16), and repentance (Jon. 3:6). Some traditions also have considered ash to be a purifying or cleansing agent. All these images are caught up in the church's use of ashes as a symbol appropriate for the beginning of Lent. In Christ's passion we see God's judgment on evil; in our penitence we express sorrow and repentance for our sins; in our rededication we show that we are purified and renewed. The ashes we use at St. Mary's, on Ash Wednesday are made by burning the previous year's palms from Palm Sunday. Worshippers at the Ash Wednesday liturgy are invited to come forward to have the clergy make the sign of

the cross on his or her forehead, saying "*Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return.*"

Ash Wednesday is one of only two fast days for Episcopalians on the church calendar and the Prayer Book calls it a Day of Obligation for all Episcopalians to make a proper beginning of Lent by attending an Ash Wednesday liturgy. The following liturgies including the Imposition of Ashes and celebration of the Holy Eucharist on **Wednesday, February 26th** are available to all:

7:00 a.m. ~ St. Mary's Chapel

12:00 noon ~ St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 707 E. Lenoir Ave., Kinston

7:00 p.m. ~ St. Mary's Church (*with music*)

The Merton Prayer

MY LORD GOD,

I have no idea where I am going.

I do not see the road ahead of me.

I cannot know for certain where it will end.

NOR do I really know myself, and the fact that I think I am following YOUR WILL does not mean that I am actually doing so.

But I believe that the desire to please YOU does in fact please YOU.

And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing.

I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire.

And I know that if I do this, YOU will lead me by the right road, though I may know nothing about it.

Therefore, I will trust YOU always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death.

I will not fear, for YOU are ever with me, and YOU will never leave me to face my perishes alone.

THOMAS MERTON, "THOUGHTS IN SOLITUDE"
© ABBEY OF GETHSEMANI



*You are invited to join in a
Lenten Quiet Day
Saturday, March 28th, 9:30am - 3:30 pm*

Lent is an invitation to enter into a deeper relationship with God through prayer and reflection. During the Lenten Quiet Day at St. Mary's, you can expect Morning Prayer, quiet Lenten reflections from Merton, questions to help shape your Lenten experience, stillness, laughter, sacred conversation, and the Holy Eucharist. A light lunch will be provided as well.

Lisa Richey, ObJN, will lead this gathering. Lisa is an Episcopal layperson who lives at Lake Waccamaw, NC. She is a recovering banker, current paper maker, spiritual director, retreat leader, and housekeeper to (the almost 16 year-old) Blossom the Diva Dawg.

We hope you will join us at St. Mary's for our Lenten Quiet Morning, where we hope to pause... to be still... and to be in the presence of our Lord.

For more information or to register, contact the church office at 252-523-6146 or email tomwarren@stmaryskinston.com.

Christian Education

the
prayer
course

prayercourse.org

#prayercourse

This month, we hope you will join us in a new 8-week series that explores the Lord's Prayer called "**The Prayer Course**". Beginning Feb. 5th, The Prayer Course will meet every Wednesday evening until Holy Week, except on Ash Wednesday (February 26th). Similar to ALPHA and Life Shared, **The Prayer Course** will begin with a shared meal at 6pm, followed by the program and small groups at 6:30pm. There will be an \$8 charge for the meal - if this poses a challenge for you, please join us anyway. Please also contact the church office if you plan to come so we can make fitting arrangements for food and small groups. As the church calendar moves towards the Lent, this is a wonderful time to invite someone to join you as we consider *prayer* in a deeper, more meaningful way.

JOURNEY IN
FAITH

- ◆ February 9th at 2pm
- ◆ February 16th at 2pm
- ◆ February 23rd at 2pm



THE
GOOD BOOK
CLUB

The Gospel Of John | Epiphany 2020

Join the ECW ladies Bible Study **each Tuesday at 4pm** in the parlor. Invite a friend and bring your Bible as "The Good Book Club" continues its journey through the Gospel of John!

EfM

EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY

Are you curious about EfM - Education for Ministry? EfM is a four-year program focused on Bible reading and theological reflection. St. Mary's EfM group meets regularly on Tuesday evenings in the Vestry Room from 6:30-8:30pm. We invite you to "Come and See" what we are all about on **Tuesday, February 4th, at 6:30pm**. Join us as we share an EfM class with you. Our new class year officially begins **Tuesday, February 11th**, but it's not too late to join the class. If you have any questions or would like to give this group a try, feel free to contact Jon Sargeant, Jo Parrott, or Father Tom Warren.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC MISSION TRIP

Sunday, August 9 - Saturday, August 15

- ◇ \$1500 per person
- ◇ Commitment deadline is March 1, 2020 with \$500 deposit
- ◇ Contact Laury Sargeant
- ◇ Email: jsarg4@suddenlink.net
- ◇ Phone: 252-268-6521

*all you need is
love
& a passport*



ECW News

How will you WINE and DINE your VALENTINE this year? What if you could enjoy a marvelous meal, delectable desserts, and wonderful wines with your beloved sweetheart and beloved friends?

Join us for the
Episcopal Church Women's
Valentine's Heart & Soul Dinner and Fundraiser
Sunday, February 16, 2020
6:30pm in Moseley Hall

Dinner tickets are \$50 for this Benefit Dinner. Reservations may be made each Sunday in the Narthex or by calling the church office at 252-523-6146. The reservation deadline is **Monday, February 10th** or when tickets sell out (whichever comes first), so call today! Don't miss this amazing evening offered by the ECW in support of its outreach missions.

\$500 RAFFLE

\$5 raffle tickets may be purchased each Sunday in the Narthex - you do not have to be present to win.

SILENT AUCTION

Be sure to make a bid that evening at the Silent Auction for a Juliet Barrus painting!

ORCHIDS FOR SALE

Preorder a beautiful orchid for your Valentine by contacting Juliet Barrus @ 252-361-7001 by February 9th. Your love lasts longer than a day. Shouldn't your flowers?

Thank you for supporting St. Mary's ECW Outreach

Looking Ahead ~

The ECW has the pleasure of helping provide hospitality for Wednesday Night Suppers during Lent. Help will be needed to:

- set up
- provide salad and dessert
- clean up
- provide flowers/ table décor

It can be very simple and sweet! There is a sign up sheet on the ECW bulletin board next to the parlor with dates available. We hope you will consider sharing your gift of hospitality for the glory of our Lord during this season.



In Other News



Join us for a FUN, YUMMY event to kick off a weekend of fundraising for Glory Ridge!!! St. Mary's is excited to offer **The Cocoa Exchange** on **Saturday, February 1st from 3-5pm in Moseley Hall**. The Cocoa Exchange is a unique gourmet food company that creates surprising chocolate and cocoa-infused products as well as baking products, sauces, smoothies, and food prep kits that you will sample at the event. And lucky for us, we will enjoy a new product unveiling that day! Best part (besides the *chocolate*) is that a percentage of the sales is given to the ministry of Glory Ridge! So

bring a friend and do your Valentine's shopping (order that day and items will be available in 5 days) to benefit Glory Ridge ministries. For more information, text Marylindley Moore at 704-437-8473. RSVP to Kelli Stroud at kbarefoots1200@gmail.com.

CONGRATULATIONS



Mr. Adrian King was the recipient of the 2019 Citizen of the Year Award at the Kinston-Lenoir County Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards ceremony on January 23.



Mrs. Beatriz Irizarry-Marquez was the recipient of the Teacher of the Year award at Southeast Elementary School where she is a Pre-K Educator.

Both of you are such blessings to our parish family and our community!
 May you always let the light of Christ shine out into this world through you!

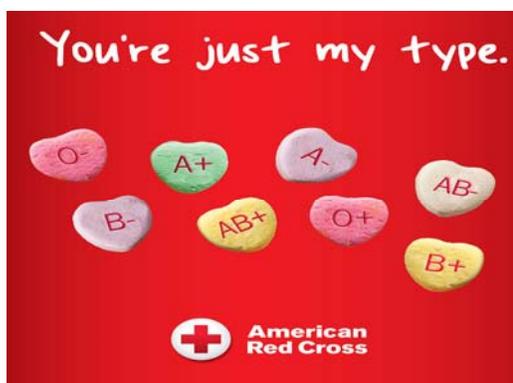
Youth at St. Mary's

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|---|--|--|---------------------|----------------------------|--|---------|--|--|
| New Beginnings #55 | |  EYC | | Common Ground | | | Worship | | Happenings #75 |
| | | <div style="display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; transform: rotate(-30deg); font-size: 2em;">Community</div> <div style="font-size: 4em; font-weight: bold; margin: 10px 0;">St. Mary's Church EYC-OPOLY</div> <div style="display: flex; gap: 20px;">   </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; transform: rotate(30deg); font-size: 2em;">St. Mary's Parish</div> </div> | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | Worship |
| | | The Cocoa Exchange | | | | | | | Teach the Faith with children of St. Mary's! |
| | | Glory Ridge | | | | | | | EYC  |
| | | | | | | | | | Make Work Worship! |
| | | Worship | | | | | | | |
| Mary's |  | | EYC  | Sealed & Sent Forth | Chili & Cornbread Cook-off | | Worship | | ↑Go |
| | Kitchen | | | | | | | | |



Brush up those chili recipes and INVITE a friend to the 2020 Chili & Cornbread Cook-Off Extravaganza in Moseley Hall on Super Bowl Sunday, February 2nd, following the 10:30am liturgy! The judges panel will be: Warren Brothers of Brothers Farms, Genell Pridgen of Whiskey Pig Craft Butchery & Deli and Rainbow Meadow Farm, and Jennifer Reda, Executive Director for Glory Ridge. There will also be a People's Choice award to the chili that raises the most \$\$\$ so come one and all! Everyone is invited to enter a chili and/or cornbread into the competition. Extra crock pots will be on hand to keep the chili warm - just let us know if you need one. This is THE main fundraiser for the EYC Mission Trip to Glory Ridge, so come out to support that effort all while enjoying great food and fellowship and stocking up on extra chili for your Super Bowl gathering later in the evening!

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



American Red Cross Blood Drive

The next St. Mary's Blood Drives will be on **Monday, February 24** from **12-4pm** in Moseley Hall.

To make your time go more smoothly, make an appointment at www.redcross.org. Show your love by giving the gift of life!



Thank you to everyone who contributed to our 30th Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival at St. Mary's. Once again, you made the parish look beautiful, added your voices to make our worship joyous, gave willingly of your talents, offered your time, and served in ways that have been a blessing to so many!

SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP SERVICES

Sundays 8:00 am – Holy Eucharist: Rite I
9:00 am. – Parish Breakfast
9:30 am Christian Formation for All Ages
10:30 a.m. – Holy Eucharist: Rite II
Tues. & Thurs. 8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

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

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

CHOIR DIRECTOR'S OFFICE HOURS

Sundays: 9am-12:30pm
Wednesdays: 6pm-8:30pm
*other times by appointment
(Call 910-548-6836)