



January 2022

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

# The Bell Ringer

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

WISE MEN

*Still*

SEEK

*Him*



## From the Rector



It makes me sad that Christmas has now been put in the rear-view mirror and is being ignored by so many people that I speak with. What's the hurry?! Have you sensed that you really catch people off-guard when you wish them a Merry Christmas only a few days after December 25, much less towards the 12th day?! Here at St. Mary's, I'm glad that we continue to celebrate the birth of Jesus into this world and into our lives through all twelve days, leading right into the Feast of the Epiphany on January 6. It's yet another opportunity that we have to spread joy!

Epiphany is often referred to as a festival of light. On this occasion, we remember the light of the Star of Bethlehem that led the Magi to the Christ Child. And in our many ways of celebrating the Epiphany, light is featured... perhaps none more precious to members of St. Mary's Church than the Christ Candle being carried out into the world at the conclusion of the Boar's Head

Festival. While we will again not be hosting the Festival this year due to the pandemic, the significance of this light-bearing moment is still of the utmost importance for our lives and for this world. How wonderful is it that you, dear friend, are beginning 2022 with opportunities to live out your life of faith and serve as a beacon of God's light wherever you are and for whomever God has placed in your life?!

Throughout this January edition of the BellRinger, you will find news about some opportunities just like this. Opportunities to nourish and cultivate the faith that has been given you. Opportunities to get to know one another and serve others in Jesus' name. Opportunities to be a reflection of the light of God around you. There are, of course, countless other opportunities that the Lord may be placing on your heart too. I encourage you to ask God where you might be blessed (and be a blessing) by joining in. May we all welcome Jesus into our hearts and lives as He comes to us afresh in this time, and may we seek to know Him and to make Him known in this new year.

Yours in Christ,

*Tom +*



### An Update on Greg Smith

For nearly a year, Greg Smith has been serving among us at St. Mary's for his field education placement during his preparation for Holy Orders. He has served faithfully in the Altar Party, led us in the reading of Scripture & prayer, preached the Gospel, and served regularly as the

Officiant at Morning Prayer, among many other things. We have been blessed by God through Greg's ministry! While Greg's official time of formation at St. Mary's ended on December 31, until he is given a new placement for Sunday morning worship & formation, we can expect to continue to share time and ministry with him here. When you see him, please share your thanks for his service at St. Mary's. God bless you, Greg!



"Journey in Faith" is a small group series of interactive sessions with Fr. Tom through which we explore the fundamentals of Christianity, Anglicanism, and the Episcopal Church. All are welcome to participate in Journey in Faith even if they have already been confirmed or if they are not sure if they desire to be. Journey in Faith is also ideal for anyone curious about baptism or joining St. Mary's. An informational session which covers the course outline and schedule will take place on Sunday, Feb. 6 after church. Please join us!



## 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. Stuart Stroud</a>
Jr. Warden	<a href="#">Mr. Jimmy Ballard</a>
Parish Administrator	<a href="#">Mrs. Lori Kelly</a>
Family Ministry Coordinator	<a href="#">Mrs. Liz Hengst</a>
Organist & Choirmaster	<a href="#">Mrs. Sharon Veitch</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

#### Burial:

Sam Gilmore

(December 4, 2021)

#### Wedding:

Emma & Drew Colvin

(December 4, 2021)

### Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to Advent observances & Christmas celebrations here at St. Mary's. You made the parish look beautiful and served in ways that have been a blessing to so many. May God grant you a joyous Christmas season and may you and those you hold dear have a happy New Year!



### Boar's Head & Yule Log Festival

It is with deep sadness that pandemic circumstances are keeping us from hosting the Boar's Head Festival this year. We pray that it will be possible to fill the church again to celebrate this great Epiphany celebration next year. Please join us in this prayer and keep an ear open for familiar Boar's Head Festival tunes in our worship during the Christmas season (especially January 9!).

### Mary's Kitchen Bread Drive & Quarterly Service Date



Our next loaf bread drive for Mary's Kitchen will be **Sunday, January 9th**. As before, our goal is to raise 75 loaves of bread (enough for one week at the Kitchen), and we want to challenge everyone to participate!!! Donate as an individual, family, or pick a ministry group -- such as ECW, EYC, Men's Prayer Breakfast, Parish Staff, etc -- and let's see who can raise THE MOST loaves on behalf of St. Mary's!!! Our previous "Golden Jelly Jar" recipients for the most bread collected have been the music ministry and the St. Mary's parish office staff, but we all know the real the "winner" will be Mary's Kitchen with an abundance of bread to serve for a week (or even more!!!). Please drop off your bread to the church during business hours during the week of January 3rd - January 7th, or bring it on Sun., January 9th at the morning liturgy. The bread will be taken to the kitchen that week to coincide with our next quarterly service date on Sat., January 15th. The Outreach Committee group is scheduled to serve. Please contact Jessica Shimer if you would like to volunteer for this date.

## News at St. Mary's

### Cookie Walk



The Drive-Thru Cookie Walk was a great success again this year! Cookie Alley was fun and festive, the day was full of joy and laughs, and we felt the support of many. Much love was shared which is the main goal of the event. Thank you to all the cookie bakers, Cookie Alley decorators, and volunteers - you are the true Cookie HEROES!

### Pastoral Announcements

We offer thanksgiving for the births of:

- Stephen August "Gus" Mazingo, born on November 29th to Stephen & Abigail Mazingo and big sister Emma. The joyful grandparents are Pam & Steve Mazingo.
- Michael "Warren" Howard, born on December 3rd to Marissa and Dylan Howard.
- Matthew Fearing Sermons, born on December 3rd to Lauren (Sale) and Wayland Sermons. The joyful grandparents are Cathy & Dan Sale.
- Randall "Craft" Avram, born on December 8th to Myers (Hazelgrove) and Andrew Avram. The joyful grandparents are Kim & Doug Hazelgrove.
- Zoe Ann Cain, born on December 3rd, to Katherine (Ferguson) and Jordan Cain. The joyful grandparents are Judy & Bill Ferguson.



## New Vestry Class of 2024



The Annual Parish Meeting was held on December 5th, 2021, at the 9:30am liturgy at which time the Vestry Class of 2024 was elected: **Clifton Carey, Jess Edwards, Jo Parrott, and Ginny Wade.** As you get the opportunity, please thank them for their discernment to serve St. Mary's and keep them (with the rest of our vestry and leadership) in your prayers. We continue to mourn the loss of **Sam Gilmore** who served as the Chair of the Pastoral Care Committee during his time on Vestry, and we are grateful for the other members of the outgoing Vestry Class (**Jimmy Ballard - Jr. Warden, Jessica Shimer - Outreach Committee Chair, and Stuart Stroud - Sr. Warden**). We are grateful for their faithful service for their work as the Vestry Nominating Committee and SO MUCH more throughout their remarkable three year term! The Vestry will hold its annual **Vestry Retreat Weekend on January 14th - 15th**, at which time the new Wardens, Clerk, & Treasurer will be selected. Then, on **Sunday, January 16th, 2022** the new Vestry class and Officers will be commissioned. May God bless the upcoming seasons of ministry for these leaders of our church family.



139th Convention of the  
Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina

Saturday, February 11th, 2022

The 2022 Annual Convention of the Diocese of East Carolina will be held February 11th - 12th at the Hotel Ballast in Wilmington, NC this year. During our Annual Parish Meeting, the following members of our church were elected to represent St. Mary's at the upcoming Diocesan Convention:

Lay Delegates: *Terah Archie, Richard Crumbacker, & Jo Parrott*

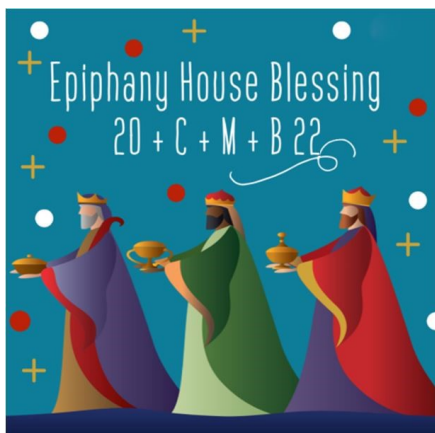
Alternate Lay Delegate: *Barbara Crumbacker*

Youth Representative: *David Brown*

We give thanks for your ministry and keep you in our prayers!



# Worship

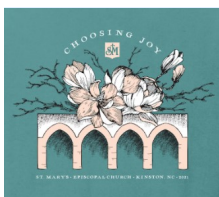


## Blessing of the Homes at Epiphany

The Church has a custom of blessing homes on the Feast of the Epiphany (January 6th) and the season which follows, ending on Shrove Tuesday (March 1st). Historically, family and friends would gather to ask God's blessing on their homes and those who live in or visit the home. It is an invitation for Jesus to be a daily guest in our home, our comings and goings, our conversations, our work and play, our joys and sorrows. A traditional way of doing this is to invite the clergy of the church to visit your home for the blessing. During this liturgy, "20 + C + M + B + 22" may be written with chalk above the home's entryway. The letters C, M, B have two meanings. They are the initials of the traditional names of the three magi who bear gifts to the Christ Child at Epiphany: Caspar,

Melchior, and Balthazar. They also abbreviate the Latin words *Christus mansionem benedicat*, "May Christ bless this house." The "+" signs represent the cross of Christ and the numbers "2022" indicate the year of the blessing.

Fr. Tom would be glad to offer prayers of blessing for your home if requested. It is a blessing to your clergy to share in your lives! Being invited to offer this gift of the church to your home would be a great joy, so please don't hesitate.



## Breakfast Suspension Continues

With the Omicron variant now in North Carolina and COVID transmission in Lenoir County as "high," the St. Mary's Vestry reached consensus to continue the suspension of our Sunday morning breakfast for the time-being. The Vestry will reassess this situation at its next meeting. Read our current COVID-related gathering guidelines on our website, or [by clicking here](#).

## Minute MINISTRY

The Altar Guild is under the Worship Commission of St. Mary's. Men and women prep the altar before and clean up after worship in the sanctuary and the chapel. Candles are replenished with oil, wine and wafers are prepared, and service hangings are changed according to the church year so that colors match the church season. Additionally, some participants are devoted to the task of cleaning and pressing linens. There are numerous tasks, and many hands make work light. There are a number of teams who provide these prayerful services for our worship, and currently each team serves about once a month. Your knowledge of the worship service will be expanded and enriched through the altar guild! For more information or to join a team, contact Susan Fox (Altar Guild Chair) at 252-526-6874.

## Music Notes

Rehearsal for the Chancel Choir and Handbells will return on Thursdays beginning January 13th.



Do you know someone who would love to make a joyful sound with us? This would be a great time to invite someone! For any questions or more information, please email Sharon Veitch at [sveitch@stmaryskinston.com](mailto:sveitch@stmaryskinston.com) or call/text her at 910-548-6836.

## NEW MEMBERS WELCOME!

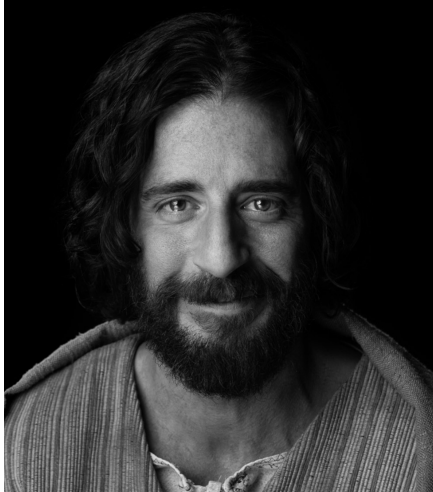
## Monthly Outdoor Worship

Our next Outdoor Worship experience will be a liturgy of Compline on the West Lawn of St. Mary's Church on **Sunday, January 9th at 5pm**. At this time, we'll also enjoy the annual "2nd Lighting of the Warren Family Christmas Tree." Hope to see you there!



## Adult Christian Formation

"A charismatic fisherman drowning in debt. A troubled woman wrestling with real demons. A gifted publican ostracized by his family and his people. A religious leader struggling with his beliefs. See Jesus through the eyes of those that met Him."



# The CHOSEN

### Adult Christian Formation: THE CHOSEN

The Adult Christian Formation series on The Chosen returns each **Sunday morning at 10:45am in Moseley Hall and via Zoom beginning January 9th.**

All are invited to join us as we view and discuss this critically acclaimed, fascinating film series about Jesus and his disciples. For those meeting in person, the Adult Forum will view the video in small viewing groups in the Parlor or Vestry Room at 10:45, then gather in Moseley Hall for group discussion from 11:25-11:45am. If you would prefer to join virtually, go to <https://watch.angelstudios.com/thechosen> and follow the instructions to view the episodes at any time from your home. Then join us each Sunday at 11:25-11:45am for group discussion via zoom (a link will be shared via email on Friday, January 7.)

## ECW

### ECW Meeting

As we close out our 2021 calendar year, and begin 2022, we will hold our ECW Annual Business Meeting on **Sunday, Jan 9th at 3pm in Moseley Hall.** We'll have some light refreshments and look forward to reflecting on the last year of fellowship with you all and begin planning for 2022.



*Save the date* for the upcoming **ECW Valentine's Heart & Soul Drive-Thru Event at "Heart Alley" planned for Saturday, February 12th.** This year, our

event will maintain COVID-safety guidelines all while continuing the fundraising efforts to support the ministries of the Episcopal Church Women of St. Mary's. There will be many opportunities to be involved in the fun. . . just contact Audra Haddad (252-526-8537) or Laury Sargeant (252-268-6521) to help share the LOVE!



Start the new year with a renewed spiritual practice of reading God's Word. The ECW, led by Pam Mazingo, will study the Book of Exodus **each Tuesday at 4pm beginning January 18th in Moseley Hall.** Utilizing Forward

Movement and the Good Book Club, we will look at the first twenty chapters of Exodus.

The second book of the Bible, Exodus, recounts the journey of the Israelites from slavery to freedom. We hear the great stories of Moses, from his discovery by Pharaoh's daughter on the bank of the river to the burning bush to his presentation of the Ten Commandments. Along the way, we encounter God's covenant and explore the grand theme of redemption. For those who want to keep reading, the Good Book Club offers a reading schedule for that as well. You may view the full schedule, including the list of daily readings, at [www.goodbookclub.org](http://www.goodbookclub.org). Joining the Good Book Club is easy: Open your Bible and start reading. St. Mary's offers you a place for fellowship and conversation with others as you read. For more information, email Pam Mazingo at [pmazingo@mac.com](mailto:pmazingo@mac.com).

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

## JANUARY



### Kids' Sunday School

Sunday, January 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th  
10:45am

*All kids pre-K to 5th grade are invited to join us for prayer, activities, Bible stories, and fun*

### EYC Sunday Gathering

Sunday, January 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th  
3-4:30pm

*All 6th-12th graders are invited to join us for discussion, formation, service, and fun*

### Compline and Annual 2nd Lighting of the Warren Family Christmas Tree

Sunday, January 9th  
5-7pm

*All ages are welcome to join!*

### Coffee with Liz (All EYC)

Thursday, January 13th and 27th  
4-5:15pm

*Middle Grounds*

### EYC Service Day and Lunch

Monday, January 17th - MLK Day  
8:30am-2pm

*Meet at Mary's Kitchen*

*Students can be picked up at Pearson Park*

### EYC Work Day

Saturday, January 22nd  
1-4pm

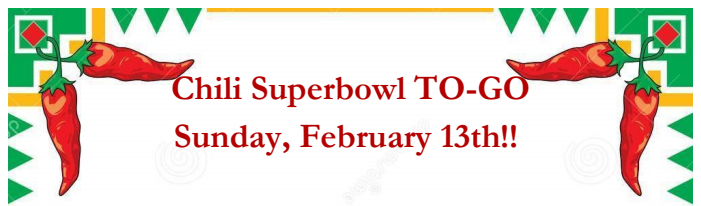
*All EYC students are invited to join us at St. Mary's for organizing, cleaning, decorating, and preparing for the year ahead.*

## FROM THE DESK OF LIZ ~

As we live into the Christmas season and begin the new calendar year, I hope we all can hold onto the blessings we found during Advent and look forward to change and growth. Our children (pre-K-5th grade) will work on the Gospel lessons each Sunday and think about how they help us grow. Our EYC students will continue on their year of change with focus on how we use the past and what God teaches us on our journey to growth.

Please note that Kids' Sunday School and EYC Sunday Gathering will remain at the current times while our Sunday Service times remain the same. If, and when, we bring back breakfast on Sunday mornings, those Kids Sunday School and EYC Sunday Gathering times will change accordingly as well.

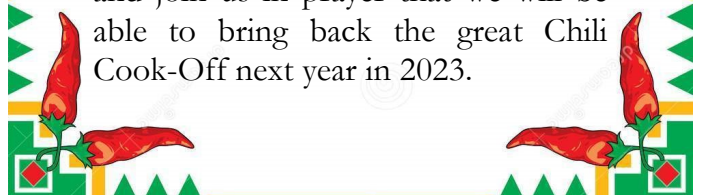
IN PEACE, LIZ



### Chili Superbowl TO-GO

Sunday, February 13th!!

Let us do the cooking so you can enjoy the Superbowl (with a "super bowl" of St. Mary's chili)! **For any donation amount**, you will receive one quart (32 oz) of beef, chicken, or vegan/vegetarian chili and 6 cornbread muffins to take home with you. Enjoy great food while supporting our youth mission trip to Glory Ridge this upcoming summer. Stay tuned for more details to follow, and join us in prayer that we will be able to bring back the great Chili Cook-Off next year in 2023.





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

## STEWARDSHIP

Final year-end statements for 2021 will be mailed in mid-January of 2022.

CONNECTING  
**faith**  
and  
**friends**

Join a group of ECW women who are willing to make intentional personal connections by checking in on an assigned church member via short chats, doorstep visits, letters, and/or surprise gifts. Please contact Laury Sargeant by email at [jsarg4@suddenlink.net](mailto:jsarg4@suddenlink.net) or Audra Haddad by email at [5haddad@suddenlink.net](mailto:5haddad@suddenlink.net) to be paired with your friend today!

### REGULAR SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**8:00 am (Online) - Holy Eucharist: Rite 2 (Spiritual Communion)**

posted to [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#)

**8:00 am - Holy Eucharist: Rite 1 in the All Saints' Chapel**

**9:30 am - Holy Eucharist: Rite 2 in the large sanctuary**

**Morning Prayer Tuesdays & Thursdays at 8:30am in Chapel**

*Regarding wearing face coverings at St. Mary's, we recognize that the pandemic situation is evolving. At the time of publishing, the familiar Anglican phrase applies: All may, some should, none must. While all are welcome to wear a face covering at any time, we affirm the CDC recommendation that all persons over age 2, especially all who are not vaccinated, should wear a face covering indoors when other people are present. Following the Governor's most recent Executive Order and Bishop Skirving's guidance, no one is required to wear a face covering at St. Mary's. Recognizing that individuals will have varying comfort levels about gathering in public, please be mindful and respectful of one another.*

### ST. MARY'S VESTRY

2021	2022	2023
Jimmy Ballard	John John	Skip Greene
Jessica Shimer	Scott Turik	Audra Haddad
Stuart Stroud	Dee Warner	Vicki Kennedy
	Harry Wooten	Pam Mazingo
Senior Warden – Stuart Stroud	Clerk – Audra Haddad	
Junior Warden – Jimmy Ballard	Treasurer – Jon Sargeant	