



December 2022

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

The Bell Ringer

Online at www.stmaryskinston.com



Christmas Eve

Saturday, December 24th

5:00pm - Holy Eucharist Rite 2 with Nativity Pageant
in the Sanctuary
Staffed Nursery Open

11:00pm - Midnight Mass:
Festal Holy Eucharist Rite 2
No Staffed Nursery

Christmas Day

Sunday, December 25th

10:30am Pajama-Friendly Worship Service
in the All Saints' Chapel

*No Staffed Nursery
but "kids" of all ages in pajamas are most welcome!*

From the Rector

Advent is a season that invites us to look, both, backwards at the birth of Jesus and forwards towards His promised return at a time yet to come. It is a time of cherished tradition and hope for the future.

Interestingly, a year ago, Advent marked our congregation's first time sharing wine at communion since the pandemic had begun. This Advent marks another significant return to once-familiar traditions as we return to offering wine at communion via the shared "Common Cup" as an option. Recognizing that many will continue to feel uncomfortable drinking from the chalice, especially during seasons of heightened communicable illness, we are committed to also offering an alternative way of receiving the consecrated wine at communion. While it will be new to us at St. Mary's, liturgical spoons have long been used to share the wine of communion in circumstances when it was unwise, undesired, or impossible for a person to drink from the Common Cup. Worshippers who desire to receive wine at communion *without* drinking from the Common Cup will simply hold the wafer of bread in their hands. A Eucharistic Minister will then use a spoon to place a small amount of wine from a separate chalice onto the wafer which can then be consumed. This ancient (yet new to us) way of sharing the Eucharist will take the place of our use of individual cups. As we make this change, we give thanks for the beautiful work that allowed us to enjoy communion with the cups over the last year. I know my family will cherish our cups as precious reminders of God's provision and creativity through an immensely challenging time.

May we come to know the nourishment of God, through Word and Sacrament, be the richest blessing of this and every season! Faithfully, 



A Note from Fr. Greg Smith

I would like to thank my St. Mary's family for your support for me by hosting my ordination to the priesthood. Words alone cannot express my appreciation to you for your many gifts, prayers, and well wishes. May God continue to bless you all.

Sincerely, Fr. Greg

Fr. Greg's sense of vocation is to serve the smaller congregations in our diocese as supply clergy as needed. He will be based here at St. Mary's as an assisting clergy on a regular basis whenever he is not serving elsewhere. Congratulations, Fr. Greg!

Join us for the **31st Annual Boar's Head & Pule Log Festival** on Sunday, January 8th at the traditional 3p.m. and 5p.m. times. There is no cost to attend the festival itself. A ticketed banquet follows the 5pm performance. Tickets for the banquet are \$40 per person and are on sale now! Tickets may be purchased in the church office or online at www.stmaryskinston.com. Be sure to include your telephone number and email address for any online purchase.

What, even, is the Boar's Head Festival?!

Have you heard of the Boar's Head festival, but never seen or experienced one? Are you curious about the Festival's origins and how we came to celebrate it at St. Mary's? Have you ever struggled to describe the Boar's Head Festival to others? As we make preparations to host the festival for the first time since the pandemic, Fr. Tom is offering a Sunday morning Christian Formation series during Advent to discuss these things that will help everyone, from the newcomer to the seasoned Beefeater, appreciate even more about this celebration of the Lord of Light! Join Sundays at 9:30am in Moseley Hall!

BOAR'S HEAD EVENTS

Choir Practice:

Sunday, December 4th, 2:00-3:30pm

Sunday, December 11th, 2:00-3:30pm

Sunday, December 18th, 2:00-3:30pm

Tuesday, January 3rd, 6:30-8:00pm

Costume Fittings:

Sunday, Dec. 4th, 11:45am-3:00pm

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

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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

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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. Vicki Kennedy
Jr. Warden	Mr. Harry Wooten
Parish Administrator	Mrs. Lori Kelly
Family Ministry Coordinator	Mrs. Liz Hengst
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:

Brent Campbell

Kathy Hyler

Bethany McKissick

Jamie Moye

(November 6, 2022)

Transfer In:

Erin Stover - from Saint Matthew's (RC) in Tyrone, PA

(November 28, 2022)

Winston & Xavier McKissick

from St. Paul (RC) in New Orleans, LA (November 6, 2022)



The prayers of the church are requested for the repose of the soul of Frances Bridwell and for all those who loved and cared for her. Frances died on the evening of November 17, and plans for a celebration in thanksgiving of God's good work in Frances' life have not yet been finalized. Let us pray:

"Rest eternal grant to her, O Lord. And let light perpetual shine upon her. May her soul, and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace." (BCP, p. 502)



Join Us! We're Hiring!

St. Mary's is now receiving applications for several part-time Nursery Staff positions. The ideal applicant will have experience working with and caring for children, ages birth-5th grade. CPR Certified is a plus, but training would be provided. Hours will be 9:00am - noon on Sundays, Wednesdays 5:30-8pm, and occasional other hours for seasonal events. Interested applicants should contact Liz Hengst, Family Ministry Coordinator, at lhengst@stmaryskinston.com with your resume or letter of experience.

The Parish Office will be closed for the Christmas Holiday:

Friday, December 23

Monday, December 26

Tuesday, December 27



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



Join us for our annual St. Mary's Cookie Walk on Saturday, December 10th in its original, pre-Covid format!!! Hand-select and fill your boxes with beautiful and delicious holiday treats for \$8 per pound. A home-made soup lunch is also served for \$6, so come hungry! Church members are asked to bake any kind of cookie for the sale and invite all of your friends. Please drop off cookies to the church office from December 5th-8th during business hours or bring them to the parlor on Friday, December 9th from 9 am-7 pm. COOKIES ARE LOVE! Bake up some LOVE and share some LOVE this holiday season! Thank you for your support! If you are interested in helping, please contact Laury Sargeant at jsarg4@suddenlink.net.



An afternoon of Christmas caroling is planned for **Sunday, December 18th. We will meet at 4pm in the church parking lot.** Bells & festive clothing are welcome! This is sure to be a time of fun and fellowship as we spread good news and cheer to many of our *cherished members*. This is a church-wide event - ALL are welcome to join in this festive afternoon!



Poinsettias for Christmas

At the Christmas liturgies, the altars and chancel are decorated with a sea of poinsettias in celebration of Christ's birth and given in memory or honor of loved ones. Contributions of any amount are welcome. If you would like to remember a loved one or offer flowers in thanksgiving for someone, please contact the church office. Special offering envelopes may also be found on the Narthex tables. Checks should be made out to St. Mary's Church. **Monday, December 19th is the deadline** to ensure that names will appear in the Christmas bulletins.

Please join our merry group of St. Mary's members as we beautify the church for Christmas!

**Monday, December 19th
(9am... lunch provided!)**

*Contact Susan Fox
for details or questions.*



#AdventWord a global advent calendar

Sign up by email to receive daily meditations and images inspired by a prompt word selected from the daily lectionary or follow [AdventWord on social media](#). Gathering a worldwide community, AdventWord (offered by Forward Movement) invites you via social media to share your own Advent journey and reflections. Find out more at adventword.org.



Jane Wynne
504B Village Green Drive
Morehead City, NC 28557

Worship

Annual Parish Meeting

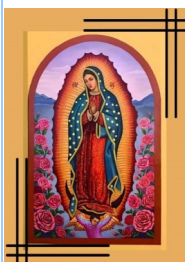


Again this year, the Annual Parish Meeting will be held **during the 10:30am liturgy on Sunday, December 4th**. We do not anticipate the service to last much longer than usual that day. After the Peace and before the Offertory that morning, we will have an uncontested election by voice for the next 4-person Vestry class prepared by the Vestry's Nominating Committee reflecting the nominating ballots received last month (*read more about those nominees on page 6*).

We will also elect lay delegates and alternates for the Diocesan Convention to be held in Greenville February 10-11. Delegates to Diocesan Convention are Richard Crumbacker, Jo Parrott, & Morgan Wade. Alternate Delegates are Barbara Crumbacker & Terah Archie. Our Youth Representative will be Madi Hengst. The Annual Report will be available online and in hard copy that Sunday morning. The Vestry, Wardens, & Rector are grateful for all who serve Christ and His church here at St. Mary's!



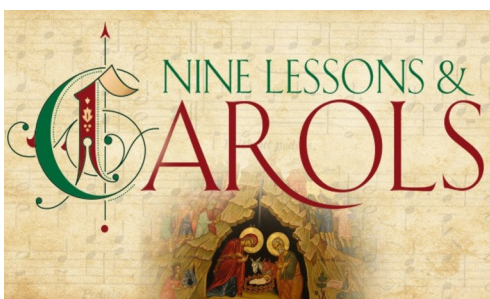
Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe Service



Join us on **Sunday, December 11th** for the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. According to legend, a man named Juan Diego encountered the Virgin Mary twice in Mexico City, on December 9 and December 12 in 1531. Mary told Juan to ask the bishop to build a church on Tepeyac Hill. The bishop however, asked Juan to provide evidence of his encounter with Mary. When Juan returned to the hill, there were roses in a spot where cacti previously grew. He showed the roses to the archbishop and revealed an image of Mary that had appeared on his cloak, which is now known as the image of "Our Lady of Guadalupe." The bishop was convinced of the miracle and built a church in honor of the event. Parts of our liturgy that day will be in Spanish and our bulletin will be printed in both languages. We are glad that the Archdeacon of our Diocese, the Venerable Janet Rodman, will be preaching this day!



During this service, we will also pray God's blessing on the gifts that have been collected for the Foster Children Program. We are excited to report we were able to sponsor 18 children, and we are thankful for your continued yearly support!



Celebrate the First Sunday in the Christmas Season with The Lessons & Carols on **Sunday, January 1st at 10:30am**. Come, lift up your voices, and let us rejoice and share in song together. (*There will not be an 8am service that day.*)

SHARE THE GIFT OF
rightnow MEDIA



From Christmas devotionals and Bible studies to Christmas worship videos for the whole family, RightNow Media has something for everyone. RightNow Media is a gift from St. Mary's Episcopal Church to you and your family. You are just a few clicks away from gaining access to a huge library of discipleship content for pastors, leaders, small groups, adults, students and kids. To serve you with content that meets your needs in the best possible way, please complete your profile below (*this information will not be displayed publicly*). To access your invitation to the biggest video Bible study library in the world, [click here](#).

Your Next Vestry Class



ANDREW DUPPSTADT - Andrew has been a member of St. Mary's since 2013. Though raised as a Presbyterian, he began his Episcopalian journey around 2005. Prior to moving to Kinston, he was a member of St. Anne's, Jacksonville. After graduating from Swansboro High School, he received a BA and MA in History from UNC-Wilmington and has worked for 22 years for the NC Division of State Historic Sites. Formerly the assistant site manager at the Gov. Richard Caswell Memorial site on Vernon Avenue, he now works as a training and professional development specialist in the Historic Sites East Region Office, which is housed in the CSS Neuse Museum on Queen Street. Andrew attends the 8:00 a.m. service and serves as Lector, Eucharistic Minister, and Usher. This will be his first time serving on the vestry. He and his wife of seven years, Laura Jackson, live in Kinston.



WHITNEY GRADY - Whitney has been a member of St. Mary's for many years. Her children were baptized here, and it is an important part of her life. Whitney has taught Sunday School, participated in the Boar's Head Festival, cherished the annual Cookie Walk, and has been a part of the Vestry previously. She looks forward to spending time helping St. Mary's grow and thrive in JOY!



ANNE LINDLEY - Anne has been attending St. Mary's since she and her husband, Stuart, moved to Kinston in 1999. Their daughter, Anne Grayson, was baptized in the church, and the family is honored to all have been confirmed at St. Mary's as well. Currently she serves as a dutiful member of the Altar Guild, is past president of the ECW, and has enjoyed teaching 2 and 3 year old children in Sunday School. As much as she finds joy in many aspects of worship, her heart lies in the faithful fellowship of all who gather in the kitchen to prepare food for many occasions. Through the years, it has been these grateful memories shared in feeding others that continue to provide a source of spiritual renewal. Anne feels blessed and fortunate to call St. Mary's her parish home and privileged to be a member of its steadfast and devoted congregation.



JIM PURNELL - Jim was born in Charlotte, NC and grew up attending Christ Church. He graduated from North Carolina State University in 2004 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management. He attended North Carolina Central University School of Law and received his law degree in 2012. Jim received his Master of Laws (LL.M.) in taxation from New York University School of Law in May, 2013. Jim and his wife, Carrie Dale, moved to Kinston in 2013 and have two wonderful sons, Bo (8) and Yates (almost 6). Jim is an attorney with White & Allen, P.A. where his practice is concentrated in the areas of estate planning and administration, corporate law, and tax planning. In 2014, Jim and his family joined St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Since that time, Jim has served as an Usher, a Greeter, and a Vestry member. Jim enjoys being outdoors or at the beach, boating, fishing, hunting, playing tennis, and spending time with his family.

Christian Formation

DECEMBER

Advent Coffee with Liz

Thursdays in December ~ 4-5:30pm
Join us at Middle Grounds for discussion, fellowship, and writing Christmas cards for St. Mary's families and our Prison Ministry Family Members.

Christmas Card Writing

Tuesdays in December (6th, 13th, 20th) ~ 3pm
All adults, teens, and kids are invited to join us at Middle Grounds to help write Christmas cards for St. Mary's families and our Prison Ministry Family Members.

Wednesday Dinner and Advent Activities

December 7th, 14th, 21st ~ 6pm
All kids and EYC are invited to join us for soup and sandwich dinner, followed by learning about and creating Chrismon ornaments.

Nativity Pageant Assignments

Sunday, December 11th ~ 11:30am
Speaking rolls will be assigned immediately following the 10:30am service.

EYC Sunday Dinner

Sunday, December 11th ~ 6-7:30pm
All EYC students are invited to join us for dinner, fellowship, and discussion.
Location TBD.

Blessing Bag Packaging

Friday, December 16th ~ 4-5pm
Join us as we pack Blessing Bags for Mary's Kitchen friends.

Blessing Bag Delivery

Saturdays, December 17th & 24th ~ 10-11am
Join us as we hand out Blessing Bags at Mary's Kitchen.

Nativity Pageant Practice

Sunday, December 18th ~ 9:30am

EYC at Mary's Kitchen

Friday, December 23rd ~ 8:30am
All EYC students are invited to help cook and serve a meal at Mary's Kitchen.

EYC Christmas/New Year's Eve Party

Wednesday, December 28th ~ dinnertime
Join us for games, fun, and fellowship, remembering the past year and looking ahead to the next year.



From the Desk of Liz:

Hi families!

December is such a special time. The new church year has begun, and we are awaiting the birth of Jesus and anticipating so much joy. While you are trying to remain focused through the business of this season, I hope you all can slow down and enjoy some moments of reflection, fun, and worship with us this month. If you have not yet picked up your Advent-At-Home packet, please let me know so I can get one for you.

In Peace, Liz



Sundays in Advent

9:30-10:15am

Kids' Sunday School

Birth-5th Grade

EYC Formation 6th-12th Grade

Youth Confirmation Class

Confirmation Students

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



ST. MARY'S BLOOD DRIVE

St. Mary's will host a blood drive on **Tuesday, December 20th** from **2:30-6:00pm** in Moseley Hall. To help your time go more smoothly, make a reservation at www.redcross.org.

Give a give that counts this year...give **LIFE.**

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](#))

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS

8:30 am - Morning Prayer in the All Saints' Chapel

WEDNESDAYS

7:00 am - Men's Prayer & Bible Breakfast in Moseley Hall
 6:00 pm - Life Shared (Meal & Discussions for all ages) in Moseley Hall

Regarding face coverings at St. Mary's, the familiar Anglican phrase (usually referring to private confession) applies: All may, some should, none must. While all are welcome to wear a face covering at any time, we affirm the CDC recommendations regarding when it is advised that face coverings are to be worn indoors while other people are present. No one is required to wear a face covering at St. Mary's.

ST. MARY'S VESTRY

2022
 John John
 Scott Turik
 Dee Warner
 Harry Wooten

2023
 Skip Greene
 Audra Haddad
 Vicki Kennedy
 Pam Mazingo

2024
 Clifton Carey
 Jess Edwards
 Jo Parrott
 Ginny Wade

Senior Warden – Vicki Kennedy
 Junior Warden – Harry Wooten

Clerk – Audra Haddad
 Treasurer – Jon Sargeant