



February 2021

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

The Bell Ringer

Online at www.stmaryskinston.com



The Season of Lent begins Wednesday, February 17, 2021

Ash Wednesday Liturgies at St. Mary's

Online Pre-Recorded Liturgy Posted to Facebook & YouTube at 7am

In-Person Liturgies at 7am (Chapel) & 7pm (Church)

From the Rector

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



The Vestry has commissioned a Long Range Planning Committee to recommend future priorities as a church and neighborhood parish based on these 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

Steve Mazingo - Chair
Stuart Stroud
Jimmy Ballard
Jess Edwards
Dee Warner
Jo Parrott

Outdoor Task Group
Walter Poole, Chair

Indoor Task Group
Skip Greene, Chair

Music Task Group
Bonnie Holton & Pam Mazingo, Co-Chairs

“I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God’s holy Word.”

-From the Ash Wednesday Liturgy (BCP, pg. 265)

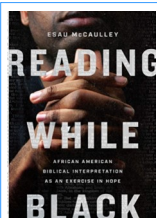
How are you doing? Essentially, this is the question that begins the season of Lent for those who worship with the Ash Wednesday Liturgy. It isn't a rhetorical question! The observance of a holy Lent begins with self-examination - a probing of our hearts, our minds, our habits and practices. And in this prayerful assessment, we ask that God will speak to us about what we find that is pleasing to God and what is displeasing, to guide us towards whatever would honor His current call on our lives, and to empower us to do the same. The church tells us what the Bible has made clear and what we know within ourselves: prayer, fasting, self-denial, and engaging with God's holy Word are all life-giving things that will be means of God's blessings in our lives.

Monthly Outdoor Worship

Our next Outdoor Worship experience will be on **Sunday, February 21st at 5pm**. At this time, we will journey through and meditate on the prayer stations for Lent. Hope to see you there!



Rector's Forum Book Study



The Rector's Forum continues its study on “Reading While Black: African American Biblical Interpretation as an Exercise in Hope” by the Rev. Canon Dr. Esau McCaulley, an Anglican priest and New Testament scholar at Wheaton College. **The Rector's Forum meets via Zoom on Tuesdays at noon.** Contact Fr. Tom at tomwarren@stmaryskinston.com if you would like to receive the Zoom link.

At the time of publishing, Lent is just around the corner. Hopefully you're reading these words with a couple weeks before the season begins. But regardless of the day or time, take the opportunity now to pray about and commit to certain practices that will encourage self-examination and draw you closer in intentional relationship with God and those whom God has placed in your life. Remember, there is no “right” answer about how to “do” Lent, and what seems fitting for you may not be what God is calling any other person into.

So, how are you doing? The question is asked because you are loved: by me, by the Church, by God. May God richly bless you this Lent.

Tom +

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

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	Mr. Stuart Stroud
Jr. Warden	Mr. Jimmy Ballard
Parish Administrator	Mrs. Lori Kelly
Ministry Coordinator (Youth/Families)	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 Burials:

Richard Adrian King

January 10, 2021

Merril "Jay" Lehman Schaffer, Jr.

January 15, 2021



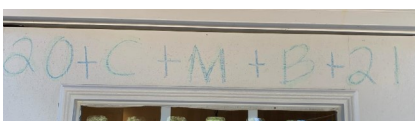
A Pastoral Announcement

We also extend our sympathies to Canon Mollie Roberts on the death of her father. Let us pray:

Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding: Deal graciously with the Roberts family in their grief. Surround them with your love, that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss, but have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



The 2021 Annual Convention of the Diocese of East Carolina will be held virtually on **Saturday, February 13, 2021**, in response to COVID safety guidelines. We give thanks to our St. Mary's delegates for their ministry: **PC Barwick, Barbara Crumbacker, Richard Crumbacker, & Jo Parrott** (*Lay Delegates*), **David Brown** (*Alternate Lay Delegate*), & **Anna Haddad** (*Youth Representative*). Please keep this group and the work of convention in your prayers!



Frances, Mark, Jane & Jack Herring
1201 Worthington Place
Kinston, NC 28501

Andrea and Tripper Parham
133 Pirates Rd.
New Bern, NC 28562

Bonnie & Seraphim Smith
904 Carey Rd.
Kinston, NC 28501



Camp Trinity Summer 2021 registration is going on now. Download your brochure and application from the Trinity Center website (www.trinityctr.com) under the downloads/forms section. For any registration questions, contact the Trinity Center Registrar, Nancy, by email at registrar@trinityctr.com or by phone (252-247-5600 ext. 17).

News at St. Mary's

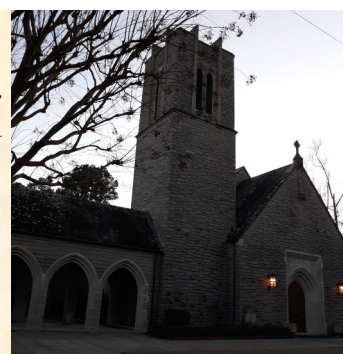


At 5:30pm on Tuesday, January 19th, St. Mary's Episcopal Church participated in a nationwide call of remembrance for the 400,000+ Americans who have died from COVID-19. During our ceremony, Father Tom offered prayers for the deceased, especially those lives lost in Lenoir County, as well as those who mourn, those who are still in recovery from the virus, and all the care-providers who support our community. Everette Haddad (*pictured left*), son of Audra and Mike Haddad and Boy Scout 2nd Class with Troop 41, rang the bells of St. Mary's 40 times, once for each 10,000 COVID-19 deaths. If you were unable to view this moving remembrance, you may find it on our [Facebook page](#) or [YouTube Channel](#).

The Origin of the Bells at St. Mary's

Have you ever wondered from whence our church bells came (*pictured right, St. Mary's bell tower*)? Vicki Kennedy recently spent some time investigating and found the following on a plaque in the Narthex:

*The chimes in this church are installed
to the glory of God and in loving memory of
Eleanor Kirby Wooten and Lloyd LaRoque Wooten
Presented by their mother
Mrs. Anna Jones Wooten.*



Thank you, Vicki, for highlighting this special piece of our church's history, especially one that is so instrumental in our community's call to prayer & worship.



St. Mary's
Book + Gift Store

Our Library: A Treasure ~ From Randy Spaugh

Margaret and I began visiting here about two years ago. There were compelling reasons to make St Mary's our church home, which primarily consisted of the people we met and the meaningfulness of worship. But there were also treasures here. The Boar's Head Festival and the St. Barnabas Church

come to mind. There is at least one treasure that is seldom a topic of conversation. There is a bookstore located in the Vestry Room just across the hall from Tom's Study. That in itself is hardly what we would call a treasure. Many Churches have bookstores. Yet, not everybody has the selection of books you find here. I would be willing to guess that there is not another bookstore between Raleigh and the beach with a selection of books on Spirituality and the history of Spirituality that is any better. Even commercial bookstores have abandoned this area of interest. Since this has been my area of focus, I can tell you that these are excellent titles by well known authors on the subject (such as Henri Nouwen, Thomas Merton, Barbara Brown Taylor, and Kathleen Norris) as well as ancient figures (such as Teresa of Avila, John of the Cross, and Benedict of Nursia) and many, many more. Whoever picked these books gave us this treasure. Stop by the bookstore and see if there is not something that peaks your interest.

HOURS OF OPERATION: The St. Mary's Church Bookstore is open during office business hours, **Monday-Thursday 8:30am-4:30pm and Fridays 8:30am-1:30pm.** Stop by and browse the selections of books, stationary, jewelry, and accessories that our bookstore has to offer for you or as a gift for someone special. Purchases may be made directly at the store by cash or check (no credit cards accepted at this time).

Worship



"We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood."

- The Peoples' Response at the Baptismal Liturgy (BCP, Pg. 308)

We are thrilled to have a baptism planned for Leighton Mitchell, daughter of Kendall & Courtney Mitchell. Due to pandemic-related considerations, Leighton will be baptized in a private liturgy the afternoon of **Sunday, Feb 7**. We will renew our Baptismal vows at both in-person liturgies earlier that day. Her baptism will be recorded and included for all to participate in during our online liturgy on **Sunday, Feb 14**. Please keep Leighton, her baptismal sponsors, and her family in your prayers as we welcome the newest member of the household of God!

Praying the Daily Office on Tuesdays and Thursdays

You are invited
to join Father
Tom for a
"Teaching
Morning Prayer"



liturgy at **8:30am on Thursday, February 4, 2021**. During this time, you will learn about serving as the officiant during this liturgy, discuss some of the particular ways we pray through this liturgy at St. Mary's, and answer any questions that you may have. You will probably want to bring your Prayer Book and pen/pencil/highlighter that morning. We will also be praying the liturgy throughout, so please join us!

Welcome Gregory Smith!



Beginning in February, St. Mary's will serve as a Field Education church for Gregory Smith, a Postulant who is in formation to become a priest. Greg lives in Goldsboro, and his sponsoring church is St. Andrew's. His first Sunday at St. Mary's will be Sunday, February 7.

Greg Smith was born 68 years ago in Williamston, North Carolina, where he attended E.J. Hayes School for grades 1-8. His family moved to Alexandria, Virginia where he attended T.C. Williams High School (of "Remember the Titans" fame) for two years and graduated from George Washington High School in 1970. Following high school he served in the United States Air Force for twenty years during which he trained as an Independent Duty Medical Technician and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management from Golden Gate University, San Francisco, California. After retirement from the military, he returned to North Carolina, earned his teaching certification at East Carolina University, taught middle school science and social studies in the Wayne County Public Schools System, and retired from his second career in 2013.

Due to his calling to the ministry, with God's help, he is now embarking on a third career, having completed the two-year Alternative Clerical Training at Sewanee's School of Theology (ACTS) in June 2020. This time at St. Mary's will provide Greg with formative practical parish experience, and we look forward to partnering in ministry with him during this time and in the future. Be sure to meet Greg and extend him a warm St. Mary's welcome!

The Bells of St. Mary's continue to rehearse **each Thursday at 5pm**. We are excited to enjoy the music of a hand bell choir at St. Mary's!



Adult Christian Formation

where are you on your spiritual journey?

During Lent, St. Mary's Adult Christian Formation will host a series of "Sunday Morning Stories" from members, leaders, and friends of the St. Mary's church family. As you prayerfully examine your daily life during Lent, you are invited to join the "Sunday Morning Stories" and hear from many who will be sharing some of their spiritual

journey of living out their call from God, as well as the experiences that have brought them to where they are now. We will be hearing in their own words how they have perceived and answered God's call. Our time together should allow for conversation and thought-provoking questions. As we listen to the stories of others, all participants will be encouraged throughout the season of Lent to consider their own "Spiritual Autobiography" as a way to help their discernment of God's call on their lives.

Adult Christian Formation gathers on **Sunday mornings from 10:45-11:45am using a hybrid method of in-person in Moseley Hall or online via Zoom.** All are invited to attend this special time of fellowship and formation on the Sunday mornings throughout this series: **February 14 through March 21.**

PHILIPPIANS

The Adult Forum will conclude its focus on the letter of St. Paul to the church in Philippi on February 7th.

ECW

Heart & Soul Auction

This year our Heart and Soul auction will be a beautiful 12"x16" stained glass cross window (see left) designed & created by Bonnie Smith, Seraphim's mom, and owner of Bonnie's Art Glass Studio in Downtown Kinston. **The online auction is live now thru Sunday, February 14th at 6pm.** The bidding is easy, safe, and [online at this link](#) (link is also included in weekly

emails). Registration to bid is a quick process....simply create your account (**no financial information has to be given**). We hope you will take a peek at this beautiful piece, consider making a bid, and share this information ... & the **LOVE** ... with others! Contact the church office with any questions.



Heart & Soul
Dinner for 2 Drive-Thru
February 14th 4-6 pm
St. Mary's Episcopal Church

Cupid's Special

\$60 Valentine's Meal for Two includes:
Two hors d'oeuvre-style meals
paired with a bottle of red or white wine

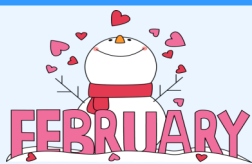
How To Place Your Order

*Register/pay on the attached link
or
*Stop by /call the church office
252-523-6146

The Heart and Soul fundraiser is all about LOVE
and enables the Episcopal Church Women to continue
their ministries within the church as well as community outreach.

Thank you and remember...
YOU ARE SO LOVED!

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



**please remember face coverings for all in-person gatherings*

Sunday, February 7

Chili Cook-Off! (see details below)

10:45am Sunday School
(pre-k – 5th grade)

3-4:30pm EYC

Saturday, February 13

9:00am Diocesan Convention

Sunday, February 14

10:45am Sunday School
(pre-k – 5th grade)

3-4:30pm EYC

Tuesday, February 16

4-6pm Pancake Supper Drive Thru

Wednesday, February 17

6:30pm Ash Wednesday Story

7:00pm Ash Wednesday Liturgy

Sunday, February 21

10:45am Sunday School
(pre-k – 5th grade)

3-4:30pm EYC

Saturday, February 27

TBA EYC Service Project

Sunday, February 28

10:45am Sunday School
(pre-k – 5th grade)

3-4:30pm EYC

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper



While the pandemic makes it impossible for us to fill Moseley Hall for our usual Shrove Tuesday festivities, the EYC offers a new, fun way to still celebrate with the following choices:

OPTION 1 - "Shrove Tuesday at Home" Kits

- Pre-order a Shrove Tuesday kit [online at Realm under events](#) or in-person (**pre-order by Feb. 12th**).
- Kit includes pancake mix, Nooherooka Natural sausage, fruit, syrup, and orange juice! Everything you need for a delicious Shrove Tuesday meal (with the exception of water and butter)!
- Feeds either **2 people for \$10 or 5 people for \$20**.
- Kits can be picked up **Sunday, Feb. 14th from 8am-1pm outside the church or Monday, Feb. 14th-Tuesday, Feb. 16th from the parish office (8:30am-4:30pm)**.

OPTION 2 - "Shrove Tuesday To-Go" Plates

- Pre-Order by February 12th for your Shrove Tuesday prepared to-go plates [online at Realm under events](#) or in-person.
- One plate will include 3 pancakes, Nooherooka Natural sausage, fruit, syrup, and orange juice! Gluten free and/or vegan options are available upon request.
- To-Go Plates are donation only. All monetary profits will benefit EYC or you may make a food donation to benefit Mary's Kitchen (current needs include hotdogs and buns).
- Plates can be picked up **Tuesday, Feb. 16th from 4-6pm at St. Mary's "Pancake Alley."**



We will have our Chili Cook-Off this year on Sunday, February 7th! For a donation of any amount, you will get a chili sample pack. Each sample pack will have a small sample of each contestant's chili and a full bowl of one of the entries. After tasting, vote for your favorite at any of the St. Mary's social media pages before kick-off of the Super Bowl Game. If you are *really* hungry (and let's be honest...isn't everyone during the Super Bowl?) you can pick-up a meal for \$20. A meal includes 32oz of chili and cornbread. Let's EAT!!! Pick up chili in person when you come to church that morning, or drive through "Chili Alley" from 10:45am-1pm



Ash Wednesday and Lent... From the Desk of Liz ~

On Ash Wednesday, we invite everyone (not just our kids and youth) to join us for a reading of "Star Beneath Your Bed," and we can wonder together about Ash Wednesday. We will share this wonderful time together at **6:30pm in the Chapel (and on Instagram Live)**, which will lead immediately into the **7pm Ash Wednesday Service**.

Then, **each Sunday during Lent**, our St. Mary's kids, youth, and families will be reading stories by Kobi Yamada (read more about him at www.thestoriesweweread.com) and talking about how we prepare for what God has for us. Preparing is sometimes a difficult task when we don't know what God has waiting for us down the road. The stories and scripture we have chosen will help us explore how we can be ready for all the big and small things we encounter on our daily journeys.

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

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 or Audra Haddad by email at 5haddad@suddenlink.net to be paired with your friend today!

WORSHIP WITH ST. MARY'S

8:00 am

Online Liturgy of Holy Eucharist: Rite 2 (Spiritual Communion)

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

8:00 am

Indoor Liturgy of Holy Eucharist: Rite 1 in the All Saints' Chapel

9:30 am

Indoor Liturgy of Holy Eucharist: Rite 2 in the Church

Face coverings required. Social distancing will be practiced - overflow seating available in Moseley Hall. The indoor services are offered following the guidelines described in Fr. Tom's [Pastoral Letter to the Church](#) from Oct 21.

ST. MARY'S VESTRY

2021

Jimmy Ballard
 Sam Gilmore
 Jessica Shimer
 Stuart Stroud

2022

John John
 Scott Turik
 Dee Warner
 Harry Wooten

2023

Skip Greene
 Audra Haddad
 Vicki Kennedy
 Pam Mozingo

Senior Warden – Stuart Stroud

Junior Warden – Jimmy Ballard

Clerk – Audra Haddad

Treasurer – Jon Sargeant