

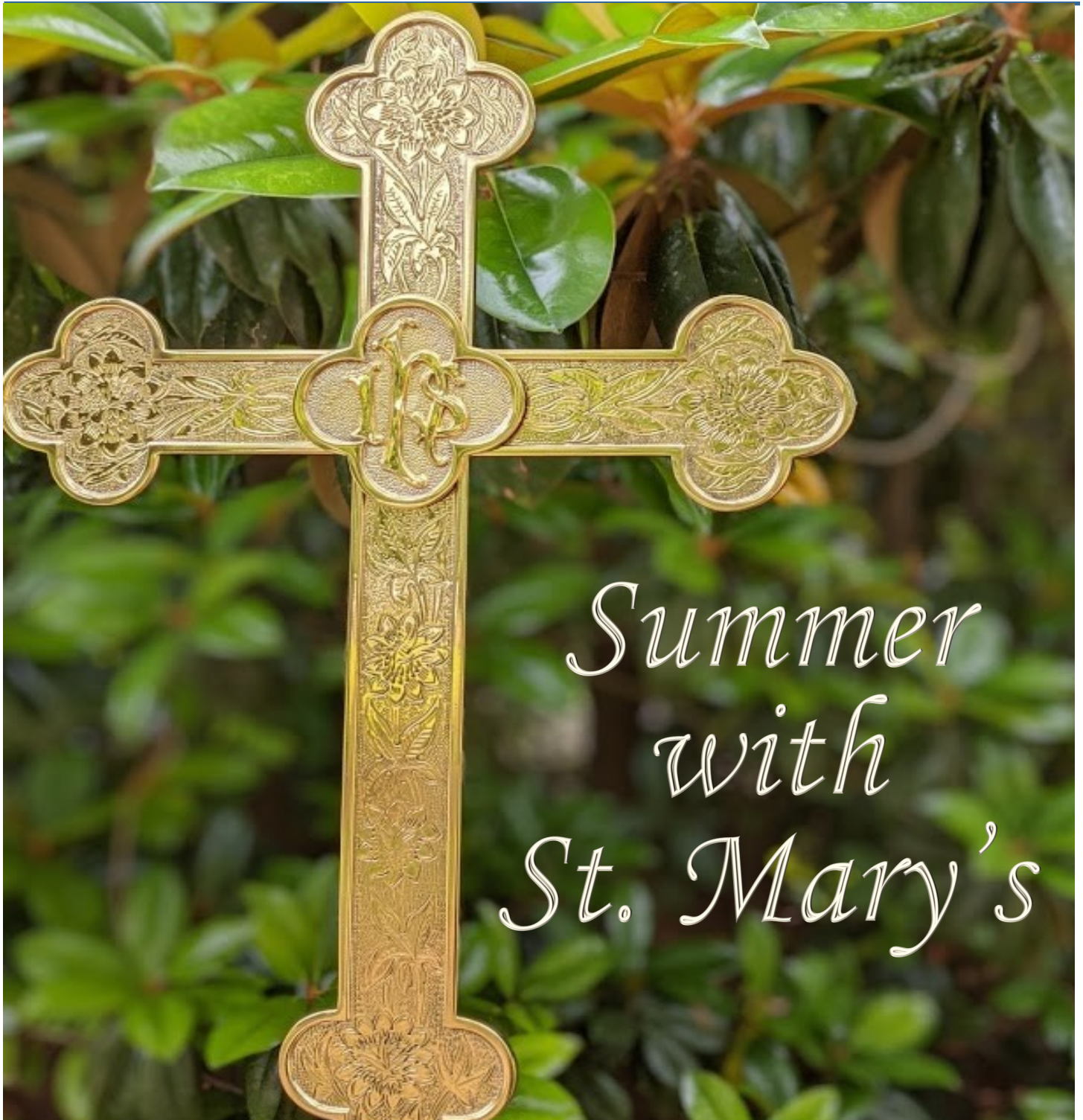


June & July 2020

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

The Bell Ringer

Online at www.stmaryskinston.com



*Summer
with
St. Mary's*

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.starmaryskinston.com/about-us.

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

Bonnie Holton &
Pam Mazingo

Dear Friends in Christ,

Recent weeks have proven to be difficult. The COVID-19 pandemic continues to take lives at an alarming rate (114k nationwide, 1k in NC, & 9 in Lenoir County as of June 10) and the infection rates for NC are not currently trending in the right direction. Preventive measures to protect the spread of the virus disrupts our preferred patterns of living. At St. Mary's, our plan is to continue outdoor and online worship at least through June. THANK YOU to all who are making such worship opportunities possible! Our Vestry and COVID-19 Planning Team are making plans for how a return to indoor worship can be done as safely as possible. These plans will be shared promptly as we determine what our "return indoor" date will be, but right now, your guess is as good as mine about when that will be. In the meantime, I encourage you to [make the safest decisions for yourselves and your neighbors](#) (stay home if feeling ill, wear a face covering when near others, wait 6-ft apart, and wash hands frequently), and pray fervently for healing, safety, & the development of a vaccine.

Also, the “pandemic of racism,” as our Presiding Bishop has called it, has returned to the surface of our social conscience after the killings of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, & Ahmaud Arbery. As we have learned about these events and witnessed varied responses across the nation and world, many of us feel a spiritual conviction that this is indeed a

time for prayerful listening to God and one another about how healing in racial relations might take place. [My sermons on May 31 and June 7 touched on these topics and I hope you'll listen to them if you haven't yet.](#) It seems to me that starting places include regular prayer about racial healing as well as reading and watching titles that speak to the issue. Accordingly, I offer two invitations:

Join me in reading “[Living into God's Dream: Dismantling Racism in America.](#)” It is a compilation of essays curated by Dr. Catherine Meeks, the Director of the [Absalom Jones Center for Racial Healing](#). A weekly Lunchtime “Rector’s Forum” discussion of the book will be held Tuesdays at Noon beginning June 23 via Zoom.

The second invitation is to watch the film [“Just Mercy” which is available to “rent” on digital platforms for free in June.](#) The ECW is hosting a conversation about this movie on Wednesday, June 24 at 7pm, also via Zoom. All members of the church are welcome to both of these events and links to them will be shared through our weekly emails. I hope that you

In the midst of these times, I am certain that you have felt and will continue to feel a range of emotions. My prayer for us all as a church is that we will truly be gracious with each other as we truly listen to each other and the neighbors with whom God has seen fitting for us to share life. In these and all times, God's work for us is towards reconciliation - between humanity and God, as well as among the human family. May we find God's grace in pursuing this work.

Yours in Christ, Tom Warren, Rector

Yours in Christ, Tom Warren, Rector



The Episcopal Church

α

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

α

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

Ginger Dixon

Robin & Carl Simms

May 27, 2020

Burials

John Jenkins III

May 16, 2020

ST. MARY'S SUMMER BLOOD + DRIVE Monday, June 29; Noon-4pm in Moseley Hall



Read about special COVID-19 [precautions that will be in place here](#). Make your reservation online at www.redcrossblood.org.
Thank you!



CHURCH MINISTRIES

Lectors, ushers, and altar guild have been a great blessing during this time of adapting our liturgical practices. Please know that all members are encouraged to consider joining one (or more) of these ministries if you feel led by the Holy Spirit to do so. There are opportunities for two lectors at each recorded liturgy; and one lector and two ushers for our outdoor liturgies. The altar guild also continues to prepare worship spaces and would gladly welcome you! If you feel led to serve in any of these ministries, please contact Gerry Fox at gfoxie@gmail.com.



Do you have an interest in audio and visual technology? Contact Fr. Tom at tomwarren@stmaryskinston.com to join a Digital Ministry Team for our recorded indoor and live outdoor worship.

Pentecost Sunday at St. Mary's



Pentecost is a Principle Feast Day of the church calendar, celebrated on the seventh Sunday after Easter. This year, Pentecost was **Sunday, May 31st**. Pentecost commemorates the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Apostles and other followers of Jesus Christ while they were in Jerusalem. Because the Holy Spirit is a gift that provides comfort, encouragement, and guidance and spreads the Good News of Jesus to the world, Pentecost is often understood to be the birthday of the Church. Happy Birthday!!!



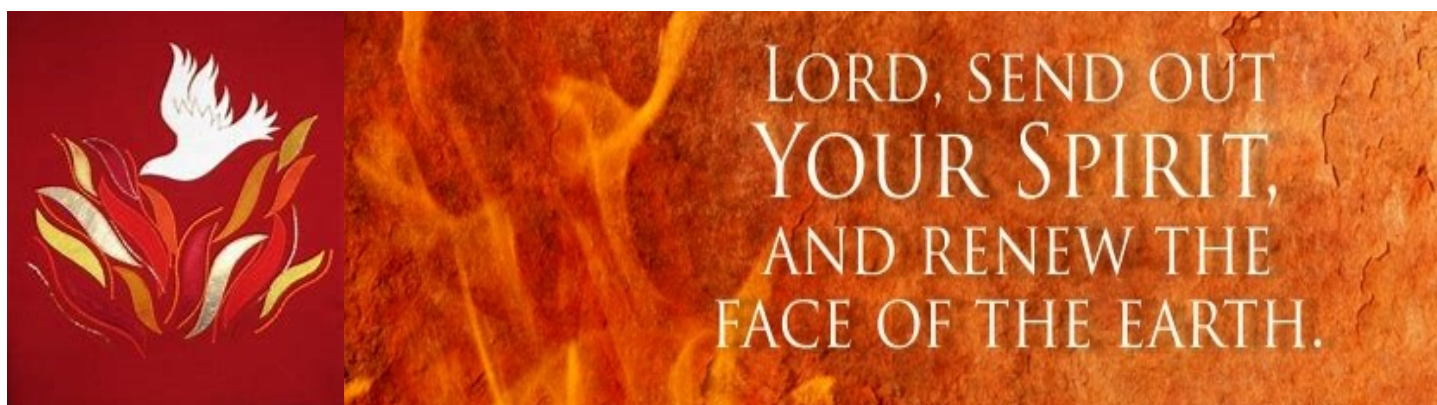
From the early days of the faith, Pentecost became one of the days set aside to celebrate baptisms. In the waters of baptism, we are adopted by God as His children and made members of Christ's Body, the Church, and inheritors of the kingdom of God. In the Episcopal Church, Pentecost remains one of the days that is "especially appropriate" for baptism. It is also a day for the renewal of baptismal vows that re-orient our lives towards following the Holy Spirit.

Red is a traditional color of the day, and it is very fitting to wear red as you worship on Pentecost. At St. Mary's, the altar is adorned with red linens, and you may see streamers or doves as well (*as viewed in the photo to the right*). Our outdoor worship reflected the day with red flowers, streamers, and candles.



We hope you were able to join us for this special liturgy and celebration day in the life of the Church. You may access that service, and all other recorded services, from our [YouTube channel](#).

If you would like more information on baptism, confirmation, and all other matters of faith, please reach out to Fr. Tom by phone at 252-523-6145 or by email at tomwarren@stmaryskinston.com. You are invited to visit him in person during his office hours as well. Let's walk in faith together!



Worship



As we move through the liturgical calendar, we continue to share seasonal anthems and scores with you through the weekly Wednesday emails. You are invited to include these selections as a part of your daily walk with Christ. Whether it is during a Bible study, in private prayer time, or as a prelude to The Daily Office, use these anthems to fill your soul, delight your senses, and bring you joy as you worship our Lord!



If you are a member of the choir, we hope you have enjoyed learning new scores. If you are not a member of the choir but have an interest to join, we invite you to explore choir music. If you have not already done so, we remind you to utilize the initiative offered through St. James Music Press called "Quires in Quarantine" to help church musicians through this challenging time. (Watch [this video](#) to hear what SJMP has to say about this collection of over 40 pieces (and growing!) to help serve music ministry in this time. Check out the collection [here](#).)



The Bells of St. Mary's

During the pandemic, it seems to be that instrumental music will be safer than vocal offerings. Starting a Hand Bell Choir, observing physical distancing, is a real possibility for us! Would you be interested in joining this new 'choir?' Contact Sharon Veitch by email at sveitch@stmaryskinston for more info. In time, we will decide music, rehearsal times, and opportunities to perform. Reading music is **NOT** required and **ALL** are welcome to *ring* a joyful sound!

Episcopal Church Women



The ECW would like to express our appreciation for your response to the Cookie Drive for Mary's Kitchen! We filled the Kitchen with much sweetness during the month of May.

We also want to give a big thank you to Pam Mazingo who provided leadership for the ECW Bible Study & Book Club groups this spring. Through the use of Zoom and the guidance of Pam, we were able to "be together" in fellowship each week while learning about the biblical books of John and Acts, as well as Love Does by Bob Goff. What a great time we had!

This summer, in addition to the book and movie conversations mentioned in Fr. Tom's letter, the ECW is invited to read the fiction book The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas. A Zoom get-together to discuss this book will be on Wednesday, July 22 at 7pm. Stay tuned for an ECW email with more information on this and an ECW Outreach opportunity for this summer. We hope you will invite a friend or neighbor and join us!

New Ministry Coordinator Position @ St. Mary's

Ministry Coordinator for Children, Youth, & Their Families

We are in a discernment process for a new staff position at St. Mary's. Read the position description below and please share with anyone whom you believe might be called to enter into discernment with us! This position description may also be found at our homepage: www.stmaryskinston.com

Job Description: St. Mary's seeks a ministry coordinator who believes that children and youth are not only the "future of the church," but full members now, with spiritual gifts to nurture and develop as well as to celebrate and share. St. Mary's has embraced the motto "Serving with JOY!" and we sense that God is calling someone here who will joyfully guide young people in faith development and Christ-centered relationships.

This person will collaborate with the Rector and lay leaders of the church to coordinate Christian formation opportunities for children from preschool through grade 12 as well as supporting their families in their lives of faith, following Jesus. We seek a passionate and responsible Christian disciple who will be a positive role model, who will intentionally seek out opportunities to build relationships with our families, and who will actively engage in the Christian formation of young people in the St. Mary's community. This leader will need to be a good communicator with youth as well as their parents, and work well in developing other lay ministers in this area of ministry. St. Mary's has many established children and youth ministries, but we are open to explore new, well-constructed programming. We are excited to learn how God has gifted YOU with skills of creativity and vision!

As we serve with JOY, it is important to us that our children and youth truly enjoy their experiences with the Gospel. After all, Jesus' message brings joy in its fullest!

Requirements for this full-time position will include:

- Worship at St. Mary's
- Be present and available to engage with the children, youth, & their families in the community outside of 'business hours'
- Complete "Safeguarding God's Children" sexual ethics training (provided by the church)
- Agree to a full background check conducted by the Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina
- A degree in youth ministry, Christian education, or similar is desired, but not a requirement
- Lay or ordained applicants are welcome to apply for this position

Benefits of this full-time position include:

- Enrollment in the Church Pension Fund of the Episcopal Church
- Rent-free housing in a beautiful 4-bedroom house near St. Mary's Church
- Salary and other benefits negotiable

Be sure to check out www.stmaryskinston.com and www.visitkinston.com as you consider this possibility!

Interested applicants should submit a cover letter, resume, and three references who can speak to the applicant's ability to serve in this position to lkelly@stmaryskinston.com.

In Other News

Around the Diocese



The Rev. Nathan Finnin has been called to serve as the Rector at St. Andrew's by the Sea in Nag's Head. Rev. Nathan was ordained in the Diocese of East Carolina and previously served here at St. Mary's as the Assistant Rector. He is married to Kaitlin (the daughter of St. Mary's members Vicki & Jay Barker). We send our warmest "Welcome Back to Eastern Carolina" to Nathan, Kaitlin, and their two sons Beckett and Oliver!

EVENING PRAYER IN "EXTRA-ORDINARY TIME"

Please join us for this
Facebook "Live" Event

Hosted by
The Diocese of East Carolina
WEDNESDAYS AT 7PM

To join, click [here](#)



rightnow MEDIA
over 10,000 discipleship videos for kids, youth & adults

discover this exciting
new ministry resource!

Be sure to accept your invitation to **free** access to RightNow Media! As a St. Mary's member, you and your family can enjoy over 10,000 videos of discipleship content for adults, students, children, and small groups. You will find movies, workshops, Bible studies, family/marriage/parenting/financial programs, and so much more to enhance your Christian walk! Signing up is simple - [click on this link to accept your invitation and create your account!](#)



SUBSCRIBE

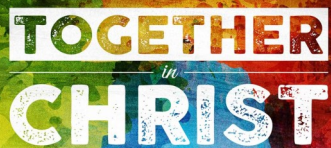
Search for our [St. Mary's YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/stmaryskinston](#) (see our logo above) and be sure to subscribe. This is free to you, so be sure to share with your friends and family! The more subscribers we reach, the more our videos will be published towards the top of suggested video lists. Help us to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ to a world in need!

Stay Connected!

[Access our membership directory here](#) to find someone's phone number, email, or mailing address (and while you're there, check your info to make sure it's up to date!). Spread joy and hope by writing to or calling a fellow parishioner.



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



TOGETHER in CHRIST

MID-WEEK SUMMER EVENTS

Tuesdays @ Noon (beg. 6/23)

Rector's Forum: "Living Into
God's Dream" Book Discussion

Wednesdays @ 7AM

Men's Prayer Group

Wednesdays @ 7PM

Evening Prayer on Diocesan
Facebook Page

Wed. June 24 @ 7PM

"Just Mercy" Film Discussion

Wed. July 22 @ 7PM

"The Hate U Give" ECW Book
Discussion

**All gatherings are via Zoom
unless otherwise noted.
Zoom links will be shared via
email.

WORSHIP WITH ST. MARY'S

8:00 am

Video Service of Spiritual Communion

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

9:30 am

Outdoor Service of Spiritual Communion

West Lawn, Weather Permitting

*This service is offered following the guidelines described in Fr.
Tom's [Pastoral Letter to the Church](#) from May 14. Please read
it, especially if you plan to attend outdoor liturgy.)*

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

(held in the Nave)

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