



March, 2015

*St. Mary's Episcopal Church*

# The Bell Ringer

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

## **PALM SUNDAY SERVICES**

**Sunday, March 29, at 8:00 am and 9:45 am**

Palm Sunday begins at 8:00 am with the Holy Eucharist. At 9:15 a.m. in Moseley Hall will be a gathering for the making of palm crosses. In Moseley Hall you'll be able to enjoy cross bus, juice and coffee. Maggie, the donkey, will be located outside Moseley Hall to greet the children. Maggie will lead us into worship this morning.

The "10:00 am" service will begin EARLY at 9:45 am with the Blessing of the Palms and a procession of the congregation into the church. This procession recalls Jesus' entry into Jerusalem before his Passion. We will gather on the front lawn, near the stone sign. In the event of inclement weather, we will gather in Moseley Hall.

At 6:00 pm we will be hosting a community Lenten Meditations service combining choirs from the community. The scriptures for this service tell the story of Holy Week from Christ in the Garden through his Crucifixion and Burial of Christ. Hymns will be sung between each reading.

## **HOLY MONDAY AND TUESDAY**

A Eucharist will be offered on Monday & Tuesday (March 30 and 31) at 5:30 pm in the Chapel.

## **TENEBRAE**

**Wednesday, April 1, at 7:30 pm**

For centuries Tenebrae (Latin for "Darkness" or "Shadows") has been a name for night and early morning services of the last three days of Holy Week. By drawing from portions of each of these three offices and through music from Taize and spoken word, our service of Tenebrae will offer a meditation upon, and a prelude to, the events of our Lord's life between the Last Supper and His Resurrection.

## **PRIVATE CONFESSIONS**

**Friday, April 3, 4:00 - 5:00 pm in the church**

**Saturday, April 4, 1:00 - 2:00 pm in the church**

**Or anytime by appointment with the clergy**

## **MAUNDY THURSDAY**

**Thursday, April 2, at 7:00 pm**

This service recalls the institution of the Last Supper and Jesus' humble act of washing his disciples' feet. It ends with the stripping of the altar and the beginning of a vigil throughout the night. Join us for a special time of prayer and meditation, inspired by the question asked of all of us by Jesus - "Could you not watch with me one hour?" This prayer vigil in the Chapel follows the Maundy Thursday liturgy and ends with communion at the 12:15 pm service on Good Friday. Parishioners are invited to sign up for the vigil.



## **GOOD FRIDAY**

**Friday, April 3, 12:15 pm**

This service begins with silent prayer, homily, Solemn Collects, Veneration of the Cross and the Mass of the Pre-Sanctified gifts.

The Stations of the Cross will be offered in the church at 5:30 pm. This will end our Good Friday observance.

## **EASTER DAY**

**Sunday, April 5, at 8:00 am and 10:00 am**

Easter morning begins at 8:00 am with a celebration of Holy Eucharist in the Chapel. The 10:00 am service is a Festal Holy Communion with full choir and all the glory of Easter Morning!

There is also an Easter Egg Hunt for children through the Third Grade following the 10:00 a.m. service. Children are asked to bring their Easter baskets for the hunt.

## 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 2 million members in 118 dioceses in the Americas and abroad.

Established in 1788.

Presiding Bishop

The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori

Episcopal Church Center

815 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue

New York, N.Y. 10017 212-716-6000

[www.dfms.org/](http://www.dfms.org/)

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### In the Diocese of East Carolina

A community of more than 15,000 communicants in 71 churches.

Founded in 1883.

Bishop

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

Website: [www.diocese-eastcarolina.org](http://www.diocese-eastcarolina.org)

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### St. Mary's Episcopal Church

A church of 405 baptized members whose mission is to worship and serve God joyfully, to nurture each other in faith and wholeness, to minister to others, and to manifest the "good news" of Christ.

800 Rountree Street

Kinston, NC 28501-3655

Tel: 252-523-6146

Fax: 252-523-5134

Website: [www.stmaryskinston.com](http://www.stmaryskinston.com)

Rector	The Rev'd A. Michael Singer
Assistant	The Rev'd Thomas P.H. Warren
Director of Music	Mr. Nick Voermans
Parish Administrator	Mrs. LaTonya Smith
Director of Children's Ministries	
	Mrs. Shelly L. Yarbrough
Sr. Warden	Mr. Scott Newton
Jr. Warden	Mr. Mark Herring

## News at St. Mary's

### Flowers at Easter

Included with this newsletter and in the Narthex you will find flower offering envelopes for Easter flowers. These donations will be used by the altar guild to decorate the church for Easter. Your gift can be used to honor someone or remember a departed loved one. **Please return your envelope by March 31, 2015**, so names will appear in the Easter bulletin. Your generosity is appreciated.



### What will you quit for Lent?

Often when someone thinks of Lent, they think of giving up bad habits like smoking, alcohol, chocolate, desserts, etc. Have you ever thought of quitting: being cynical, sarcastic, gossiping, fear, self-righteousness, false humility, etc.

The reason for giving up something for Lent is to focus more on Christ than our own comforts or desires. **What will you quit this Lent?**

### St. Mary's offers sympathy

St. Mary's offers sympathy to the family of **Jo Parrott** upon the death of her father, **Fletcher Roberts**, **Eleanor Beasley** upon the death of her father, **Harry Cummings**, and **Jan Adams** upon the death of her brother, **Robert Glenn**. Please keep Jo, Eleanor, and Jan, and their families in your prayers.

### Congratulations graduates

St. Mary's congratulates our December college graduates:

**Wes Hazelgrove** - M.A. North Carolina State University  
Master of Arts in English  
with a Concentration in Rhetoric and Composition

**Colleen Jones** - B.S. North Carolina State University  
Agriculture Business Management

**Danny Sale** - B.A. University of North Carolina  
Political Science and Political Studies

## From the Rector - Father Michael Singer

It's hard to believe that more often than not, the clean water a developing community desperately needs is right underneath them. And it's amazing how a relatively small investment to get to it can make such a dramatic difference in so many lives.

Every day in rural communities and poor urban centers throughout sub-Saharan Africa, and other parts of the world, hundreds of millions of people suffer from a lack of access to clean, safe water.

Women and girls especially bear the burden of walking miles at a time to gather water from streams and ponds - full of water-borne disease that is making them and their families sick.

Illness from drinking dirty water and the time lost fetching it robs entire communities of their futures.

Hope is put on hold in over half of the developing world's primary schools without access to water and sanitation.

**Education** is critical for breaking the cycle of poverty and yet over half of the world's schools lack access to safe water and sanitation facilities.

Lack of clean water has serious effects on student's academic performance and attendance rates. The lack of safe water can cause even the best students to lose momentum as they deal with stomach pains and diarrhea from disease and hunger.

For girls, the situation is especially troublesome. If schools do not have proper toilets, girls drop out once they reach puberty. Further, it is typically the responsibility of the women to fetch water thus limiting their access to both education and business opportunities. Think about it: everyday, women and young girls carry more than 40 pounds of dirty water from sources over 4 miles away from their homes. This leaves little time for education which is critical to changing the long term prospects of developing nations.

Relieving **hunger** in Africa has to begin with access to clean water. It may seem simple, but we forget that without access to a reliable source of water, food is hard to grow and even more difficult to preserve and prepare.

It takes huge amounts of water to grow food. Just think, globally we use 70% of our water sources for

agriculture and irrigation, and only 10% on domestic uses.

A small investment in a clean, safe source of water can have a huge impact on both crop production and the nutrition of a community. In fact, one of the most encouraging things when new wells, with clean safe water are established is the many small gardens that have popped up.

Good **health** begins with access to clean water. Every day, nearly 1,600 children die from diarrhea caused by contaminated water, poor sanitation, and improper hygiene -more than AIDS and malaria combined.

Did you know that half of the world's hospital beds are filled with people suffering from a water related disease? In developing countries, about 80% of illnesses are linked to poor water and sanitation conditions. 1 out of every 5 deaths under the age of 5 worldwide is due to a water-related disease. Clean and safe water is essential to healthy living.

Tiny worms and bacteria live in water naturally. Most of the bacteria are pretty harmless. But some of them can cause devastating disease in humans.

And since they can't be seen, they can't be avoided. Every glass of dirty water is a potential killer.

There are a number of reasons why **poverty** has become an epidemic in Africa. Poverty can be the result of political instability, ethnic conflicts, climate change and other man-made causes.

But one of the greatest causes of poverty in Africa is also the most overlooked...the lack of access to clean drinking water.

Nearly one billion people do not have access to clean, safe water - that's the equivalent of 1 in 8 people on the planet!

For these people, poverty is a fact of life. The good news... This is a *solvable* problem. During the season of Lent we will be collecting coins (*along with bills and checks*) in a bucket in the Narthex. All churches in the diocese will be partnering with Episcopal Relief and Development and participating in a joint effort to bring safe, clean water to parts of the world where currently there is none. Please empty your pockets of coins on Sundays so that someone may have safe, clean water to drink.



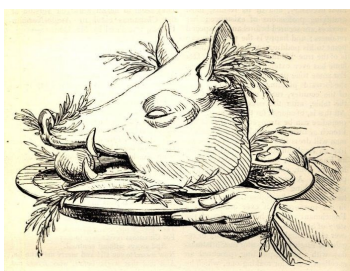


## Worship



A significant moment of Palm Sunday liturgy is the reading of the Passion Gospel, the Gospel appointed for Palm Sunday. It is the re-telling of the Gospel according to St. Mark regarding the tragic events of Jesus' suffering and how he was tragically rejected, unfairly condemned, viciously beaten, horribly insulted, and cruelly mistreated by multiple groups. At St. Mary's it is the tradition to read the Gospel in many parts, of those who were there. If you would be willing to read a part on Palm Sunday, March 29th, please contact Linda in the Parish Office.

### The Boar's Head Festival



Last month we thanked everyone who played a part in this year's Boar's Head Festival. Festival 2016 will be on January 10th with rehearsal schedules published at a later time.

The Boar's Head is part of the identity of St. Mary's as we all, young and not-as-young, have a role to play as we offer a unique celebration of the Christmas season.

This year's Boar's Head banquet featured a superior quality of food prepared by Khymi Harrell, chef of Ginger 108. We sold roughly 70 tickets to the banquet and hope to increase that number in 2016. Next year, we will be lowering ticket prices from \$40 to \$30.

The St. Mary's community has been gracious to provide volunteers to participate in the Boar's Head and we could not do what we do without help from volunteers. Throughout the new year, we would like to encourage volunteers to take the role of door marshals for 2016. Door marshals are a critical in production as they assist with cues during the performance. If you are interested in taking a role as a door marshal, please contact Frances Herring at 252-559-8338.

### Choir and Psalm

As we head into Lent, our liturgies change. For starters, the Gloria is not sung during Lent. In its place, we will sing a setting of the Trisagion composed by Fernando Ortega. During Lent, we also bring back the Agnus Dei, better known as the Lamb of God. We generally omit this part of the liturgy during the year.

We will also be offering a short Evensong service on Wednesday nights beginning at 5:30 p.m. and will be moving our Adult Choir rehearsals to 7:15 p.m. on Wednesday nights.

At our Sunday morning Eucharist, we will reintroduce Psalm singing through various styles from the familiar hymn tune antiphon we used during Advent to Gregorian Psalm tones.

### Mission trip to the Dominican Republic

Ever thought of going on a mission trip? Again this year members of St. Mary's will return to the village of Mosovi in the Dominican Republic to continue of relationship with the people of this small



village. While there we will offer Vacation Bible School, paint the church, repair the roof, and work to get clean drinking water to the village.

The group leaves July 14th and returns July 22nd. The cost is \$1,500, which pays for transportation and most meals in the DR. Should you have questions, please contact Father Michael or Laury Sargeant soon. This may be the place where God is calling you?

# Christian Formation

## Lent 2015

On behalf of the *RenewalWorks* Committee, we are excited to announce this year's series for Lent! Our committee will provide a brief overview of the Episcopal Renewal Works program, the prescribed format our group went through, and the results of our parish-wide survey from last summer. What better time than Lent to examine our Spiritual Life - individually and collectively!

The format will be videos, entertaining & informative presentations, and an outside speaker on the last night, the Rev. Jay Sidebotham. Jay was involved from the beginning when *RenewalWorks* launched in Chicago. Jay now lives in Wilmington, NC.

March 4 - **PROCESS FOR INTERPRETING PARISH SURVEYS** - Purpose of the **first two** Workshops and what they taught us

March 11 - **PROCESS FOR INTERPRETING PARISH SURVEYS** - Purpose of the **last two** Workshops and what they taught us

March 18 - **ST. MARY'S DATA FROM FIRST SURVEY**

March 25 - **NEXT STEPS IN OUR GROWTH** - The Rev. Jay Sidebotham speaking

If you wish to learn more please go to

[www.renewalworks.org](http://www.renewalworks.org)

*RenewalWorks is a catalyst for refocusing parishes (and the individuals in them) on spiritual vitality. It has been tailored to the Episcopal tradition, adapting 10 years of research that has uncovered key characteristics of flourishing congregations. It will inspire your congregation and leadership to rediscover who Jesus is, and what it means to follow him. Through a guided methodology of self-reflection, sharing and workshop discussion, RenewalWorks challenges parishes to refocus on spiritual growth and to identify ways that God is calling them to grow.*

We have everything we need for Spiritual Growth: God, the Bible, the BCP and each other! Our community hungers for spiritual growth. We look forward to learning and sharing together how we can better do this. Mark your calendars for **you and your family** to join us! Program for children is provided, as well as simple meals at \$8/person, \$27/family. **The evening begins at 5:30 with evensong followed by the meal at 6:00 p.m. and program from 6:25-7:10 p.m.**

RenewalWorks Committee - Amy Albritton, Andrew Dupstadt, Bill Ferguson, Carl Younger, Dacie Edwards, Diane Poole, Elizabeth Maxwell, Gary Hamm, Mark Herring, Mike Ling, Sarah Turner, Vicki Kennedy, and Steve Mazingo, Facilitator

## ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION

*This winter and spring we will be using lessons from "Whole Christianity", a book of instruction in the Teaching and Worship of the Episcopal Church, by The Rev. Hugh Edsall.*

*We will attempt to adhere to the following schedule but lessons may last longer than one week, based on discussion of the participants. If you would be willing to teach a session this spring, please speak to Father Michael*

**March 1st** - "Covered Dish Dinner"- Join us in Moseley Hall at 11:20 a.m. and bring a large dish to share.

**March 8th** - "Getting a Handle on the Church's Wonderful Book" - How we got *The Book of Common Prayer* and how we use it.

**March 15th** - "The Seasons of the Church Year" - How to find the prayers and readings

**March 22nd**- "The Creed and God's Plan of Salvation" - The gift of free will and the problem of evil

**March 29th** - "We're Packing Shoes" - Plan to join us in Moseley Hall at 11:20 a.m. as we pack shoes and send to *Soles4Soules*.

*Adult Christian Formation Classes take place Sunday morning from 11:15 a.m. until 12:00 noon in Moseley Hall, unless directed elsewhere.*

## Journey in Faith

Anyone interested in being a part of a small group class and discussion on the basics of the Christian faith and the Anglican tradition is welcome to join the Journey in Faith and Youth Journey in Faith classes. Upcoming meeting dates are:

- Sunday, Feb 22 - Journey in Faith
- Sunday, March 8 - Youth Journey in Faith
- Sunday, March 22 - Journey in Faith
- Sunday, March 29 - Youth Journey in Faith

*Lenten Season*

A time for Prayer, Penance, & Alms Giving



# Youth Community News

## Mark Your Calendars!!

February 27–March 1

*Happening #65 @ Trinity Center*

Sunday, March 1

*Jr. & Sr. EYC @ Church*

*Jr. EYC 5:30-6:15pm*

*Sr. EYC 6:15-8:00pm*

*Both groups eat together from  
6:15-7:00pm*

Wed. March 4 6:45–8pm

*EYC Jam Session! (in sanctuary)*

Sunday, March 8

*Jr. & Sr. EYC @ Church*

*Same schedule as March 1*

Sunday, March 15

*Jr. & Sr. EYC @ Church*

*Same schedule as March 1*

March 20–March 22

*New Beginnings #49*

Sunday, March 22

*Jr. & Sr. EYC @ Church*

*Same schedule as March 1*

Sunday, March 29

*Jr. & Sr. EYC @ Church*

*Same schedule as March 1*

*Please come and  
bring a friend!!!!*

## HOW DO YOU DEAL WITH QUESTIONS?

Since the Fall, the members of the EYC have brought up some of their questions about life and faith. I must say that I am so grateful for their honesty and openness in asking and wrestling with some fantastic questions! In February alone, we addressed the following questions: "As an **Episcopalian, can we believe in evolution and dinosaurs, but also the Bible?**"



"What is a soul, really?" and "How do you know if you're in love?" The



job of the youth leader is not to hand out "answers" to these questions, but to open up space for conversation and in the process teach *how* Christians should look to



our sources of **SCRIPTURE, TRADITION, and REASON** (rather than the loudest voices of today's culture and media) to wrestle with these questions, and EVERY question that comes up. I pray that that is indeed the lesson that the young people have learned and I look forward to the next series of questions that we'll take on!

Peace in Christ,

Tom+



THANK YOU!!!!

Thank you so much to Cathy & JP Walters, Audra & Mike Haddad, and Anne & Stuart Lindley whose gifts of hospitality have allowed the EYC to enjoy food and fellowship together in February 2015!!!





## Our church

### “Soup, salad and more . . .”



On Tuesday, July 14th, members of St. Mary's will return to the church Divni Graci in Mosovi, Dominican Republic. This is the third year a group from St. Mary's will travel to our companion parish in the DR.

This year the group will once again offer Vacation Bible School to more than 80 children in the church, power was the church, paint the church, seal the roof and work at getting a sustainable fresh water supply to the community.

Members going on the mission team pay for their own expenses (travel, room and meals). To raise

the necessary funds for the work at the church, the mission team will offer “Soup, salad, and more” on Wednesday, March 11th. There will be a collection of soups, salads and desserts offered by members of St. Mary's. If you would be willing to make a soup, salad or dessert, please contact Teresa Singer or Laury Sargeant.

Because this meal is being offered during a Wednesday night Lenten Program, the meal will only be available from 6:00 - 6:30 p.m. Come one, come all and enjoy delectable delights as prepared by members of St. Mary's

### Young people serving at St. Mary's

One of the ways young people at St. Mary's serve in ministry is as acolytes. In the near future we will be holding an acolyte training session for young people who will enter the 5th Grade next Fall. Adults may serve as acolytes as well!



At St. Mary's young people begin serving by lighting the candles on the altar and carrying torches. 9th and 10th Grade students will carry the Gospel Book and 11th and 12th Graders will carry the Processional Cross and serve at communion.

Young people who are interested should give their names to Linda Johnson in the Parish Office. Young people with questions should speak to Father Michael or Father Tom.

### “CHANGING THE WORLD ONE PAIR AT A TIME”

St. Mary's is collecting shoes for *Soles4Souls* which facilitates the donations of shoes, to be used to aid the hurting worldwide. They have distributed products to people in need in over 120 countries on 5 continents and help provide people's feet with crucial protection against disease. Over 1.5 billion pairs of shoes lay idle in American closets. Over 300 million children around the world are without shoes.

It is so easy for anyone to help give hope, simply by giving a pair of **new or gently used shoes!** We are collecting all types of footwear, from sleek running shoes to stylish pumps, from rugged work boots to the coolest sandals on the beach.



Through March 29th, you will find drop-off containers in the office wing entrance way and in the Narthex. On Sunday, March 29th, volunteers are needed at 11:25 a.m. to box the shoes and send them off to Soles4Souls. We'll need your help. If you have any questions, please contact Rachel Singer at 252-521-7997.

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

## Mid - Lent covered dish dinner



The Fellowship Committee invites you to attend a covered dish dinner on Sunday, March 1, 2015. The dinner will get underway in Moseley Hall, at 11:20 a.m.

Paper products, eating utensils and drinks will be provided. All are invited to the meal and we ask that you bring a LARGE dish to pass. Bring a friend to church and ask them to stay for the meal.

We hope to see you at Sunday dinner!

## Congratulations!

The St. Mary's Church family offers congratulations to Sam and Kathy Gilmore on the birth of a granddaughter, Claire Kelley Gilmore, born February 14, 2015, to Joel and Theresa Gilmore.

### SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP SERVICES

Sundays 8:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist, Rite I

10:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist, Rite II

11:15 a.m. – Sunday School

Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:30 a.m. - Morning Prayer

### ST. MARY'S VESTRY

2015	2016	2016
W. Scott Newton, II	Stephen B. Hill	H. Earl Harper
Cyndi L. Rafferty	Isaac C. Hines	J. Mark Herring
Joseph V. Stark	Barbara A. LaRoque	John John
Stuart L. Stroud	Kevin M. Zoltek	John "Sandy" Shimer Jr.

Senior Warden – W. Scott Newton, II

Junior Warden – J. Mark Herring

Clerk – Cyndi L. Rafferty

Treasurer – D. Stuart Lindley