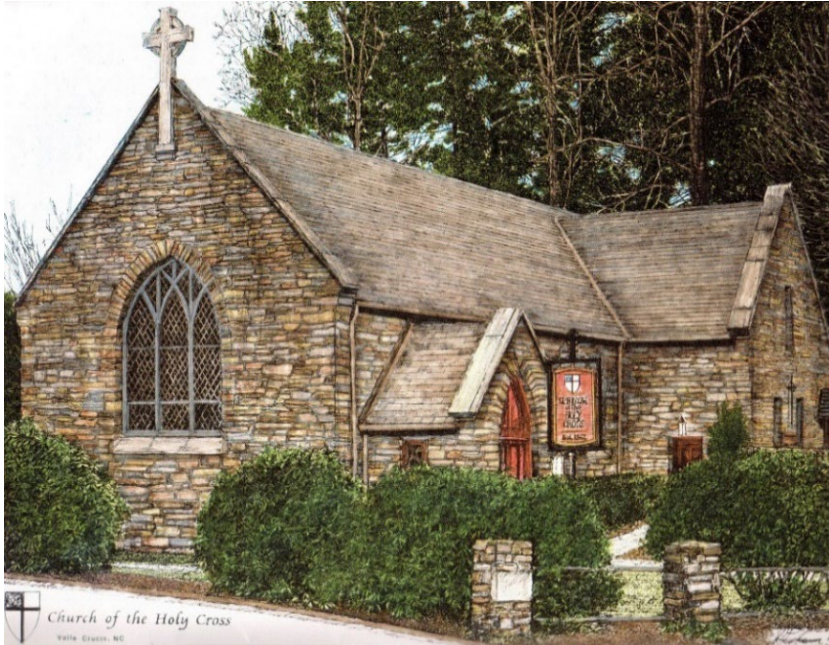


# The Church of the Holy Cross Valle Crucis, North Carolina



The Episcopal Church in the Vale of the Cross Since 1842

## *The Second Sunday in Lent*

**March 1, 2026**

Holy Eucharist, Rite II  
**8:00 & 11:00 AM**

*(The Hymnody and Music noted in this leaflet is offered at the 11 AM service only.)*

## *Welcome Home to Holy Cross!*

It is our privilege to worship with you this morning! Please know that all baptized Christians regardless of Church denomination, and all who seek a deeper knowledge and love of God in Christ are most welcome to receive the bread and wine of the Holy Eucharist.

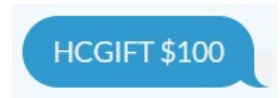
Children are most welcome and encouraged to participate in all services at Holy Cross. Rocking chairs have been provided for caregivers with infants.

If this is your first time at Holy Cross, please complete a *Visitor Card* and let us know about your visit, especially if you have a specific need or prayer request. Visitor Cards are found in the pew racks. If you would like additional information about our many ministries and activities, speak to one of our Ushers or Greeters, or stop by Skiles Hall during the fellowship hour that follows each service. We would be happy to speak with you in person.

If you would like to make a financial offering or contribution, you can do so by scanning this QR Code or via our website at [www.holycrossvallecrucis.net](http://www.holycrossvallecrucis.net)



You can also give through online text by sending **HCGIFT** to **73256**, followed by the gift amount  
*Messages and data rates may apply*



It is the custom in The Episcopal Church to prepare for worship by gathering in reverent silence and prayer, and during the worship service, stand for praise, sit for instruction, and, as you are able, kneel for prayer. Please respect the devotional needs of others by turning off cellular telephones and electronic devices, and by speaking with hushed voices.

*Again, Welcome Home to Holy Cross! And may God's peace enfold you.*

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**“O Lord, Hear My Prayer” Tune: Jacques Berthier, © 1982, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. Text: Taizé Community, © 1982, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. Reprinted/Podcast/Streamed with permission under OneLicense.net #A-718736. All rights reserved.**

## Holy Eucharist, Rite II

### The Word of God

**The Prelude:** “Stay with Me” *Taizé Community*

**The Announcements:** *(Pages 14-18)* **The Rev. Dr. Scott A. Oxford**

**The Prayer for the Care of Children:** *(11:00 service only)* BCP 829

Priest: Let us pray.

**People:** Almighty God, heavenly Father, you have blessed us with the joy and care of children: Give us calm strength and patient wisdom as we bring them up, that we may teach them to love whatever is just and true and good, following the example of our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

*All stand.*

*On this day, the Choir and Altar Ministers enter in silence.*

**The Opening Acclamation:** BCP 355

Priest: Bless (†) the Lord who forgives all our sins;

**People:** God’s mercy endures forever.

**The Collect for Purity:** BCP 355

Priest: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

**People:** Amen.

**The Kyrie:** *#S-91*

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

## The Collect of the Day:

Priest: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Priest: Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever.

**People: Amen.**

*All are now seated for the readings from Scripture.*

## The First Lesson:

**Genesis 12:1-4a**

The LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*A time for silent reflection follows.*

## The Response:

*(Prayed responsively as noted in bold type)*

**Psalm 121**

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?
- 2 **My help comes from the LORD, \***  
**the maker of heaven and earth.**
- 3 He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.
- 4 **Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \***  
**shall neither slumber nor sleep;**
- 5 The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

- 6        **So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.**
- 7        The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.
- 8        **The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*  
from this time forth for evermore.**

*A time for silent reflection follows.*

**The Second Lesson:**

**Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”) — in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Reader:    The Word of the Lord.

*People:*    **Thanks be to God.**

**The Gradual Hymn: #699        “Jesus, Lover of My Soul”**

*Aberystwyth*

**The Holy Gospel:**

**John 3:1-17**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

*People:*    **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.”

*Continued...*

Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?"

"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Sermon:**

**The Rev. Dr. Scott A. Oxford**

*A time of silence follows the Sermon. Please remain seated until the Altar Ministers stand.*

**The Nicene Creed:**

BCP 358

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
    he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
    he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
    and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
    he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
    in accordance with the Scriptures;  
    he ascended into heaven  
    and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
    and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
    who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
    and the life of the world to come.

**Amen.**

*All stand or kneel for the prayers as they are able.*

**The Prayers of the People:**

**Form II**

BCP 385

*In the course of the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.*

Leader: I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishop, José;  
for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

*A time of silence is kept.*

Leader: I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being  
of all people. Pray for justice and peace.

*A time of silence is kept.*

Leader: I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble.

*A time of silence is kept.*

Leader: I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of God. Pray that they may find and be found by God.

*A time of silence is kept.*

Leader: I ask your prayers for the departed. Pray for those who have died.

*A time of silence is kept.*

Leader: Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

*A time of silence is kept.*

*The Priest offers a concluding Collect saying,*

BCP 394

Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask: Help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

**The Confession of Sin:** *(Prayed by all present)*

BCP 360

**Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

**The Absolution:**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive (†) you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, keep you in eternal life.

**People: Amen.**

*All stand as they are able.*

## **The Peace:**

**Priest:** The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

*All greet one another in the Name of the Lord.*

## **The Birthday and Anniversary Prayer:**

**Watch over your child(ren) O Lord, as *their* days increase.**

**Bless and guide *them* wherever *they* may be.**

**Strengthen *them* when *they* stand.**

**Comfort *them* when discouraged or sorrowful.**

**Raise *them* up if *they* fall.**

**And in *their* heart(s) may your peace**

**which passes understanding,**

**abide with *them* all the days of *their* lives;**

**through Jesus Christ, Our Lord, Amen.**

## ***Concerning The Holy Communion***

*A reminder that all present are welcome to the Communion regardless of Christian denomination.*

*We consider it an honor and privilege to commune with all present as one united body of Christ.*

*To receive the bread, extend your hands towards the priest. To receive the wine, guide the bottom of the chalice with both hands. To receive the bread and wine together via intinction, place your right hand over your left shoulder. To receive a blessing instead of the bread and wine, cross your arms across your chest.*

*If you have a gluten allergy, simply inform the priest when you come to the rail.*

*When at the Altar Rail, move toward either wall so that those in the center will kneel last.*

*Please wait to be dismissed; those in the center depart first.*

## **The Holy Communion**

**The Offertory:**

*Offered by Niki Craig*

**The Presentation Hymn: #439 “What Wondrous Love is This”**

*Wondrous Love*

**When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,  
when I was sinking down, O my soul!**

**When I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,  
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul, for my soul,  
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.**

**The Great Thanksgiving**  
*Eucharistic Prayer A*

BCP 361

**The Sursum Corda:**

Priest: The Lord be with you.

***People:* And also with you.**

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

***People:* We lift them to the Lord.**

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

***People:* It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; you bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**The Sanctus:**

***#S-124***

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*All kneel or stand as they are able.*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Priest and People:*   **Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify (†) them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify (†) us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By (†) him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

*People: AMEN.*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**The Lord's Prayer:**

*Traditional Version*

BCP 364

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

## The Breaking of the Bread: (The Fraction)

*The Priest breaks the consecrated bread.*

*A period of silence is kept.*

## The Fraction Anthem:

*#S-156*

**Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
therefore let us keep the feast.**

## The Invitation:

*The Priest invites the people to Communion saying,*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

## Hymns during the Communion:

**#304 “I Come with Joy to Meet My Lord”**

**#314 “Humbly I Adore Thee”**

*An extended time for silent prayer and reflection precedes and follows each communion hymn.  
When all have communed, the following hymn is sung.*

## Kneeling Hymn:

## “O Lord, Hear My Prayer”

Taizé 20

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call an - swer me. O  
The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: All my hope comes from God. The

Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me. O  
Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: God, the well - spring of life. The

*An additional time for silent prayer and reflection precedes the prayer on the following page.*

**The Post-communion Prayer:**

BCP 365

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*All stand as they are able.*

**The Blessing:**

BCP 503

Priest: The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant: Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the Blessing of Almighty God: (†) the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be among you this day and remain with you always.

**People: Amen.**

**The Closing Hymn: #152 (vss. 1-3) “Kind Maker of the World”** *A la venue de Noël*

**The Dismissal:**

Priest: Let us go forth in peace to love God, love our neighbor, and change the world.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*Please depart in silence.*

*We thank Niki Craig for sharing her musical gifts with us today!*

*We also thank those who served this morning*

*8:00 am*

*11:00 am*

*Musician:*

Niki Craig

*Greeters & Ushers:*

Karla Prudhomme

Jim & Darby Logan

*Lectors:*

Jane Blackburn

Dawn Harris

*Prayers of the People:*

Jane Blackburn

Dawn Harris

*Chalice Bearers:*

Sis Kinney

John Goodrich & Andrea McDonough

*Acolytes:*

Sis Kinney

Randy McDonough

*Healing Ministers:*

The Daughters of the King

*Linen Fairy:*

Mary Jane Major

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Holy Cross Episcopal Church joyfully announces the calling of  
**The Rev. Jonathan Chesney** as its new Rector.

Fr. Chesney will be joining us from the parish of the Holy Communion  
in Memphis, TN where he serves as Senior Associate Rector.

The Chesneys plan to join us on **June 1**, with Fr. Chesney's first Sunday celebrating with us  
being **June 7**. Please make plans to join us. More details about his first Sunday and  
opportunities to greet them will be shared soon.

**Welcome Home to Holy Cross, Chesney family!** We're so glad you're joining us!

***TODAY, SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2026***

***The Second Sunday in Lent***

- 8:00 am** Holy Eucharist, Rite II, at Holy Cross (*quiet service with no music*)
- 8:45 am** Fellowship time in Skiles Hall
- 9:00 am** Valle Crucis United Methodist Church Service
- 10:00 am** **Lenten Adult Christian Education** in Skiles Hall (*details below*)
- 11:00 am** Holy Eucharist, Rite II, at Holy Cross (*with music and Children's Prayer*)  
(*Sunday School is available during this service*)  
(*This service is Live-Streamed via our YouTube Channel*)
- 12:15 pm** Fellowship time in Skiles Hall

***SUNDAYS, FEBRUARY 22 – MARCH 22, 2026***

***10:00 am in Skiles Hall***

***Lenten Adult Christian Education Series***

***Maturing in the Spirit: Spiritual Formation for Daily Life***

Father Scott+ will be our guide.

This series will provide an introduction to the Spiritual Life with teachings, reflections and conversations. We will use examples from Scripture, the writing of the saints, and our own stories to find the many ways in which God calls us to grow and to mature, in our individual and community journeys.

Come join, fellow sojourners!

*It's Time for ECW's "MARCH" for Diapers!*

We will be collecting all sizes of new, unopened packages of diapers (both adult **and** child!) through the entire month of March. Please leave your donations in the labeled boxes in Skiles Hall.

***NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2026***

***The Third Sunday in Lent***

- 8:00 am** Holy Eucharist, Rite II, at Holy Cross (*quiet service with no music*)
- 8:45 am** Fellowship time in Skiles Hall
- 9:00 am** Valle Crucis United Methodist Church Service
- 10:00 am** **Lenten Adult Christian Education** in Skiles Hall (*details below*)
- 11:00 am** Holy Eucharist, Rite II, at Holy Cross (*with music and Children's Prayer*)  
(*Sunday School is available during this service*)  
(*This service is Live-Streamed via our YouTube Channel*)
- 12:15 pm** Fellowship time in Skiles Hall

***SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2026***

***ECW Monthly Meeting in Skiles Hall***

ECW will meet on March 8th in Skiles Hall after the 11:00 service. Please join us as we will be discussing plans for this year's Easter Brunch.

***Will you help with this year's Valle Country Fair?***

The VCF team has a few vacancies this year. We are searching for a **Volunteer Coordinator**, an **Outside Vendor Coordinator**, and a **Road Sign team**. Can you help? These roles do not take much time, most are physically low impact AND are critically important to the success of the fair. (*More information on all roles can be found on the church website.*)

Please contact Tracey Heiss (703) 919-9767 and Julie Gates (704) 906-2269 by emailing them at [vcf.chairs@gmail.com](mailto:vcf.chairs@gmail.com) or by calling directly. Thank you for your consideration!

***SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2026***  
***Lent & the Gift of Imagination with Katerina Whitley***  
***Valle Crucis Conference Center***

Come join us for an experience that will give new meaning to the sacred and challenging season of Lent. This Lenten Retreat will have a different focus than others you may have attended.

We will spend our time considering how the gift of Imagination can help us read the Bible with intelligence and a renewed understanding. We will learn about how the prophets imagined God's purpose for God's creation.

Enter more fully into the stories and emotions of the Passion with master teacher Katerina Whitley. The program will be in the beautiful, light-filled Johnson Hall, with lunch provided. \$65 covers an amazing facilitator, lunch, snacks, and program materials.

Please contact the Valle Crucis Conference Center to register for this workshop, or follow this link to sign up: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/lent-and-the-gift-of-imagination>.

***TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2026***  
***Men's Night Out at the Zellner Party Barn***

After a two month mid-winter hiatus, the **Men's Night Out** (MNO) group begins its TENTH year of brethren fellowship **from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 19** in the Party Barn at the home of Jim Zellner, located at 3664 Winkler's Creek Road in Blowing Rock, NC 28605. Parking is available, but carpooling is strongly encouraged. In honor of St. Patrick's Day, our meal will consist of beef and lamb shepherd's pie -- along with a poultry alternative, both infused with Guinness! -- with a fresh green salad, Irish soda bread, and dessert. As always, bring your favorite beverage to enjoy and share (think Irish whisky and beer). The suggested donation is \$10 per person and your RSVP is due **no later than 5:30 p.m on Sunday, March 15** to [KeithTMartin@gmail.com](mailto:KeithTMartin@gmail.com).

**MNO** is a monthly opportunity for brethren from within our parishes and throughout our community to enjoy an evening of fellowship together. Remember to bring your beverage of choice, but PLEASE RSVP by the due date. If you do not drive at night, need a ride to and/or from MNO, or are without reliable transportation for whatever reason, please let us know. We have participants from all over the High Country who would welcome your company and be happy to pick you up and deliver you safely home. **Come join us!**

*THURSDAY – SATURDAY, MARCH 19-21, 2026*  
*March Women Writers Workshop with Katerina Whitley*  
*Valle Crucis Conference Center*

Writing is often a lonely pursuit. You may find that it's much easier to write in the company of like-minded people and with the guidance of a professional who loves to encourage others in the craft of writing. The March Women Writers Workshop invites women of all backgrounds to step away from daily noise and into a quiet mountain setting. Over several days, you'll write, listen, and share in a small, supportive circle. Join this group of women writers to capture memories, define thoughts, express emotions, and bring order out of chaos. New writers are most welcome!

Join master author Katerina Whitley as we explore ways to express ourselves in writing. This is a full two-day retreat, with options for commuter and one-day pricing. The program will be held in Crab Orchard Hall, with lodging in the Mission House. The program begins with an afternoon gathering and potluck on Thursday March 19 and concludes the afternoon of Saturday March 21. All meals are included.

A native of Thessaloniki, Greece, Katerina Whitley has worked as a church journalist on the diocesan and national levels, taught at universities, and is the author of eight books and hundreds of articles, including a stunning new memoir, *Myth and Memory: My Childhood in WWII Greece*.

Please contact the Valle Crucis Conference Center to register for this workshop, or follow this link to sign up: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/women-writers-2026-march-workshop>.

## The Parish Prayer List: March 1, 2026

*Please keep the following in your prayers this week:*

**For Healing:** Our injured and disabled military personnel, our veterans, all civilians harmed in conflict, and for Dayton C., Wendell S., Noyes L., Marilyn W., Gerry P., Rebecca M., Sam, Bill B., Julia M., Randy M., Shane B., Claire M., Tav G., Andrea M., Charles III, Kate M., Floyd T., Ray L., Leslie S., Suzie L., Pam C., Ann G., Rosalie G., Stuart T., Michael H., Laura B., Mike L., Ann I., Mike M., Susan M., Jacquie M., Arthur L., Coleman B., James C., Dylan C., David, Michael T., Nicole B., Steve S., Wayne W.,

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**For those in Harm's Way:** All who serve with the armed forces at home & abroad, all who serve in the Peace Corps, and all health & relief workers throughout the world.



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# **The Church of the Holy Cross**

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## **Diocese of Western North Carolina**

The Rt. Rev. José McLoughlin, Bishop

### **Clergy & Staff**

The Rev. Dr. Scott A. Oxford, Interim Priest-in-Charge

Shane Watson, Director of Music

Ahren Koenig, Parish Administrator

### **Vestry**

Nina-Jo Moore (2028), Senior Warden

Randy McDonough (2028), Junior Warden

Doris Boulton (2026)

Catherine Morton (2026 – completing term)

Angela Williams (2026)

Radie Armstrong (2027)

Derek Eggers (2027)

Sis Kinney (2027)

John Goodrich (2028)

### **Officers**

Jan Skopecek, Treasurer

Dedy Traver, Clerk

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