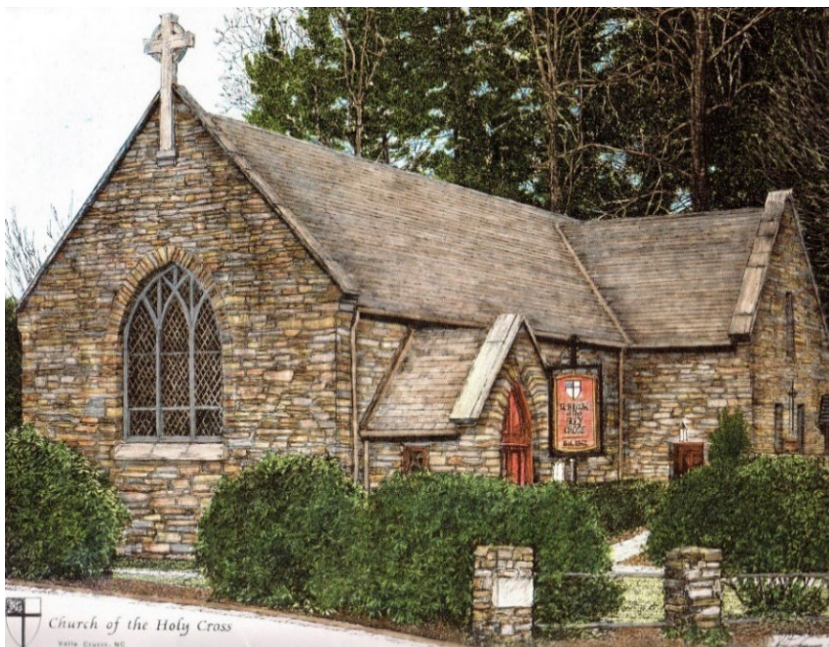


# The Church of the Holy Cross Valle Crucis, North Carolina



The Episcopal Church in the Vale of the Cross Since 1842

***The Second Sunday in Lent***

**March 16, 2025**

Holy Eucharist, Rite II  
11:00 AM

## *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.

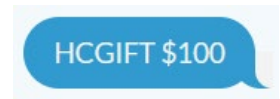
Children are most welcome and encouraged to participate in all services at Holy Cross. Rocking chairs have been provided for caregivers with infants.

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:

*Offered by Shane Watson*

*All kneel or stand at the sound of the bell as they are able.*

#### A Penitential Order for Lent:

Iona Community

Priest: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;

**All: God's mercy endures forever.**

Priest: The world belongs to God;

**All: The earth and all its people.**

Priest: How good it is, how wonderful;

**All: To live together in unity.**

Priest: Love and justice come together;

**All: Justice and peace join hands.**

Priest: Open our lips, O God;

**All: And our mouths shall proclaim your praise.**

Priest: Holy God, maker of all,

**All: Have mercy on us.**

Priest: Jesus Christ, servant of the poor,

**All: Have mercy on us.**

Priest: Holy Spirit, breath of life,

**All: Have mercy on us.**

Priest: Let us in silence confess our faults and admit our frailty.

*A time of silence is now observed.*

Priest: Before God and with the people of God I confess to my brokenness:  
to the ways I wound my life, the lives of others, and the life of the world;

**All: May God forgive you, Christ renew you, and the Spirit enable you  
to grow in love.**

Priest: Amen.

**All: Before God, with the people of God, we confess to our brokenness:  
to the ways we wound our lives, the lives of others, and the life of the  
world.**

*Continued...*

Priest: May God forgive you, Christ renew you, and the Spirit enable you to grow  
in love.

All: Amen.

**The Kyrie: WLP #837 (*Green Hymnal*) “Kyrie Eleison”**

*Hymn Tunes Mass*

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.

Chris - te e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.

*All stand as they are able.*

**The Collect of the Day:**

The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

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 Lesson from the Old Testament:**

**Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18**

The word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” But Abram said, “O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” But the word of the LORD came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.” He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Then he said to him, “I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.” But he said, “O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?” He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.”

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

*A time for silent reflection follows.*

## **The Children’s Homily: “Faces of Easter II: Vignettes in the Life of Jesus”**

**The Rev. Robert G. Hartmans**

*All children are most welcome to come forward for the children’s homily.*

*After the story all are invited to rejoin their parents or to join Patty and Mary for activities in Skiles Hall.*

*Children will return at the Passing of the Peace.*

***The Lesson from the New Testament follows as printed on the next page***

## **The Lesson from the New Testament:**

**Philippians 3:17-4:1**

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

## **The Gradual Hymn: #699**

**“Jesus, Lover of My Soul”**

*Aberystwyth*

## **The Holy Gospel:**

**Luke 13:31-35**

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

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

Some Pharisees came and said to Jesus, “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’ Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## **The Sermon:**

**The Rev. Robert G. Hartmans**

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

### **The Prayers of the People:**

Priest: We kneel before the redeeming Christ as we are led into the wilderness of Lent  
and offer our prayers, with hope and repentance.

*Continued...*

Leader: We pray for the Church: especially for the Holy Cross Vestry, outreach ministries, discernment team, and all who serve Christ here. We also pray for Sean, our Presiding Bishop; José, our Bishop; and all clergy; that the church be a movement to guide people through deserts, inspiring hope and motivating repentance. God of mercy;

**All: Renew your Church.**

Leader: We pray for the World: may we turn away from violence, exploitation, and alienation. God of mercy;

**All: Turn our hearts.**

Leader: We pray for this Nation: that derision turns to discourse, mistrust turns to relationship, and self-righteousness turns to humility. We pray for Donald, our President, for the Congress, and the Supreme Court. God of mercy;

**All: Make us new.**

Leader: We pray for those in trouble, need, or sickness, especially those whom we name aloud at this time:

**The people speak the names of those on their hearts.**

*When you arrived at the service, you received a stick with a name on it. That is the name of someone who has requested our prayers. Please call out the name of the person on that stick as well as anyone else on your heart, and keep them in your daily prayers through the coming week. At the Offertory, simply drop the sticks in the plate. This is a wonderful way for all of us to share in the prayer ministry of our Parish.*

The Leader concludes saying,

Leader: God of mercy;

**All: Restore our lives.**

Leader: We pray for our community: that our children learn and play in peace; we pray for laborers, for immigrants, for people who inhabit the inner city and rural places; that our leaders be wise. We pray for Josh, our Governor, and for our local officials. We pray for the concerns that you now name:

*The people are invited to offer prayers and hopes either in their heart or by saying out loud:*

*“My prayer is: \_\_\_\_\_. This is my prayer.”*

*The people will respond:*

**All: This is our prayer.**



The Leader concludes saying,

Leader: God of mercy;  
**All: Give us grace.**

Leader: We pray for the departed: for those who died in the faith and for those whose faith was known to you alone. May they share in your peace. God of mercy;  
**All: Resurrect us.**

Priest: God of mercy, make us new, change our hearts, and mend our lives.  
**All: Amen.**

All stand.

**The Peace:**

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 Welcome and Announcements:** (Pages 14-16)      **The Rev. Robert G. Hartmans**

**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.*

## The Holy Communion

The Offertory Anthem:      “Prayer of St. Patrick”      Mark Schweizer

The Presentation Hymn:      “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-129**

**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

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

*The Priest breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.*

## The Fraction Anthem:

#S-164

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:  
give us your peace, give us your peace.

## The Invitation:

*The Priest invites the people to Communion.*

*Please come to the Altar to receive Communion. 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.*

## Hymns during the Communion:

#662 “Abide with Me”

#321 “My God, Thy Table Now is Spread”

*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 Song #20)

The musical score is written for a choir or congregation in G major (one sharp) and common time (C). It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first system ends with a double bar line and repeat dots. The second system ends with a 'fine' marking and a fermata. The lyrics are: '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'.

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 extended time for silent thanksgiving 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.*

## The Blessing:

*The Priest offers a blessing concluding with,*

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 Processional Hymn: #488      “Be Thou My Vision”**

*Shane*

## The Dismissal:

Priest: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## The Postlude:

*Offered by Shane Watson*

***We thank those who served this morning***

<i>Organist:</i>	Shane Watson
<i>Greeters/Oblationers:</i>	Katie Hall & Sis Kinney
<i>Ushers:</i>	Katie Hall & Sis Kinney
<i>Lector:</i>	Edie Tugman
<i>Prayers of the People:</i>	Edie Tugman
<i>Chalice:</i>	Ann Iles
<i>Acolytes:</i>	Nina-Jo Moore
<i>Healing Ministers:</i>	Scott Oxford
<i>Linen Fairies:</i>	Ann Iles

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*TODAY, SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 2025*

*The Second Sunday in Lent*

- 9:00 am** Valle Crucis United Methodist Church Service  
**9:45 am** Christian Formation in Skiles Hall  
**11:00 am** Holy Eucharist, Rite II, at Holy Cross *with sacred music and hymnody*  
(*This service is Live-Streamed via our YouTube Channel*)  
**12:30 pm** **Parish Forum** in Skiles Hall

*March Christian Formation – Discussions on Faith*  
*Sundays at 9:45 am in Skiles Hall*

We will continue our inquirers series on Sunday Mornings in March, meeting at 9:45 am in upper Skiles Hall. Our format is discussion style, and we are focused on how the hallmarks of our tradition: Bible, theology, liturgy... is relevant to our lives. Each session is standalone and all are welcome.

*SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 2025*

*Parish Forum – Skiles Hall*

Please plan to join the parish forum after the 11:00 am service on Sunday March 16. We will gather in Skiles Hall for food, an update on the Rector search, a hosted conversation with the Vestry, and information on opportunities to join ministry engagements at Holy Cross. The forum will end by 2:00 pm. Childcare will be provided.

*TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2025*

*Men's Night Out – 5:30-7:30 pm*

After a two-month mid-winter hiatus, the **Men's Night Out** (MNO) group begins its NINTH year of fellowship **from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 18** at the home of Jim Zellner, 127 Saddle Way Drive, Blowing Rock, NC 28605. Limited parking is available at the house with overflow space down the hill near the Zellner Party Barn, but carpooling is strongly encouraged. The meal will consist of Southern fried chicken, ham biscuits, mashed potatoes with gravy, green beans, and coleslaw with baked cinnamon apples and ice cream for dessert. The suggested donation is \$10 per person and your RSVP is due **no later than 5:30 p.m., Sunday, March 16** to [KeithTMartin@gmail.com](mailto:KeithTMartin@gmail.com). **ALSO, WE NEED HOSTS FOR OUR FUTURE MNO GATHERINGS... PLEASE HELP!**

***THURSDAY – SATURDAY, MARCH 20-22, 2025***  
***Women Writers March Workshop with Katerina Whitley***  
***Valle Crucis Conference Center***

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.

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. Join this group of women writers to capture memories, define thoughts, express emotions, and bring order out of chaos. New writers are most welcome, for one or more workshops.

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://form.jotform.com/250345829238159>.

***NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 23, 2025***  
***The Third Sunday in Lent***

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| <b>9:00 am</b>  | Valle Crucis United Methodist Church Service  |
| <b>9:45 am</b>  | Christian Formation in Skiles Hall  |
| <b>11:00 am</b> | Holy Eucharist, Rite II, at Holy Cross <i>with sacred music and hymnody</i><br>( <i>This service is Live-Streamed via our YouTube Channel</i> ) |
| <b>12:30 pm</b> | Fellowship time in Skiles Hall  |
| <b>12:45 pm</b> | <b>First Meeting for 2025 VCF</b> <u>in VCCC Dining Room</u>  |

***SUNDAY, MARCH 23, 2025***  
***The Third Sunday in Lent***

The 11:00 service on Sunday, March 23 will include a presentation on the Stations of the Cross by Noyes Capehart Long and Katerina Whitley. Noyes will also offer a presentation on the wood cut printing process during the fellowship time in Skiles Hall following the service.

**THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 2025**  
***Women Writers One-Day Workshop with Katerina Whitley***  
***Valle Crucis Conference Center***

Can't make it to the Thursday-Saturday workshop the previous week? Join Katerina for a short and sweet but intensive one-day workshop. \$60 covers a marvelous facilitator, lunch, snacks, materials, and a delightful crowd of like-minded writers.

Please contact the Valle Crucis Conference Center to register for this workshop, or follow this link to sign up: <https://form.jotform.com/250544877243159>.

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

We will be collecting all sizes of new, unopened packages of diapers the entire month of March. Beginning March 1<sup>st</sup>, you can bring your donations to the labeled box in Skiles Hall, and we'll make sure we get them to the Children's Council. Last year we collected over 1,600 diapers, this year let's make it 2,000! THANKS!

**The Parish Prayer List: March 16, 2025**

***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 Y., Bill B., Gail T., Julia M., Walter B., Randy M., Shane B., Claire M., Sara P., Tav G., Andrea M., Charles III, Kate M., John N., Floyd T., Ray L., Leslie S., Terry & Jean M., Suzie L., Pam C., Ann G., Jan H., Joe U., Rosalie G., Stuart T., Joe V., Jocelyn, Edie T., Gini H., Michael H., Bob C., Mary B., Caroline F., \_\_\_\_\_.

**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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website: [www.holycrossvallecrucis.net](http://www.holycrossvallecrucis.net)