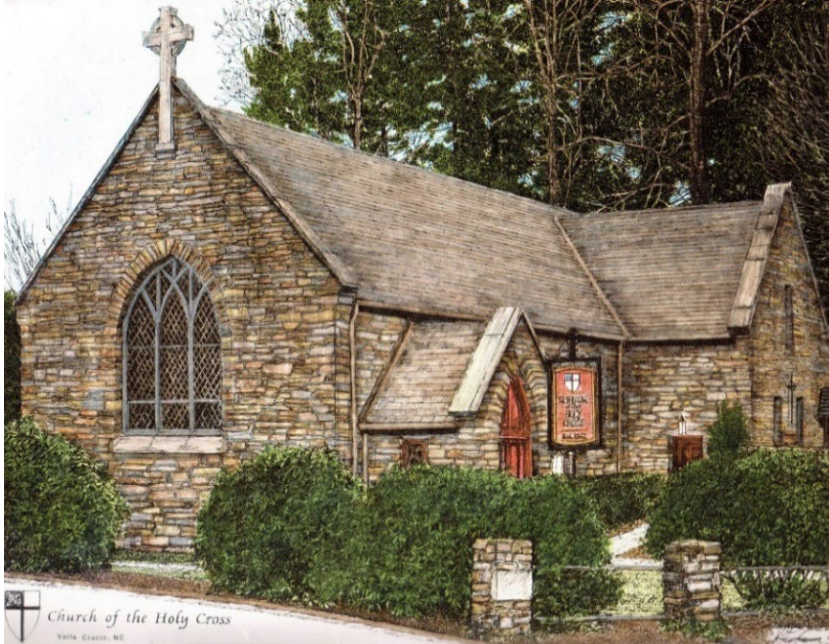


The Church of the Holy Cross Valle Crucis, North Carolina



The Episcopal Church in the Vale of the Cross Since 1842

The Third Sunday of Easter

May 4, 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.

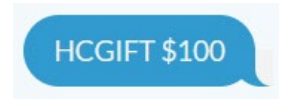
Children are most welcome and encouraged to participate in all services at Holy Cross. Rocking chairs have been provided for caregivers with infants.

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



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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Kneeling Hymn: "Jesus, Remember Me" Text & Tune: Jacques Berthier, © 1981 Les Presses de Taizé, North America. 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 stand at the sound of the bell.

The Processional Hymn: #450 “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name!” *Coronation*

The Opening Acclamation: BCP 355

Priest: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The Collect for Purity: BCP 355

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. **Amen.**

The Hymn of Praise: #414 (vs. 1) “God, My King, Thy Might Confessing” *Stuttgart*

**God, my King, thy might confessing,
ever will I bless thy Name;
day by day thy throne addressing,
still will I thy praise proclaim.**

The Collect of the Day:

The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

All are now seated for the readings from Scripture.

The First Lesson: **Acts 9:1-20**

Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.

Continued...

Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?” He asked, “Who are you, Lord?” The reply came, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.” The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias.” He answered, “Here I am, Lord.” The Lord said to him, “Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.” But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.” But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

A time for silent reflection follows.

The Children’s Homily: “Knowing Jesus in a New Way, Part II”

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 Second Lesson:

Revelation 5:11-14

I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, singing with full voice, “Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!”

Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing, “To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!”

And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” And the elders fell down and worshiped.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Gradual Hymn: #550

“Jesus Calls Us O’er the Tumult”

Restoration

The Holy Gospel:

John 21:1-19

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.” They said to him, “We will go with you.” They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, “Children, you have no fish, have you?” They answered him, “No.” He said to them, “Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.” So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.” So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.”

Continued...

Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, “Who are you?” because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.” A second time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Tend my sheep.” He said to him the third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” And he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.” (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, “Follow me.”

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:

Tune: Hyfrydol (Hymn #460/#657)

**We believe in God almighty, Author of all things that be,
Maker of the earth and heavens, Keeper of the sky and sea.
We believe in God’s Son, Jesus, now for us both Lord and Christ,
of the Spirit and of Mary born to bring abundant life.**

**We believe that Jesus suffered, scourged and scorned and crucified;
taken from the cross, was buried, True Life there had truly died.
We believe that on the third day Christ was raised up from the grave,
then ascended to God’s right hand. He will come to judge and save.**

**We believe in God’s own Spirit, bonding all the saints within
one church catholic, one church holy, where forgiveness frees from sin;
in the body resurrection, for the breaking of death’s chain
gives the life that’s everlasting. This the faith that we have claimed.**

The Prayers of the People:

Priest: United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

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

Leader: God of rebirth, the good news of your resurrection brings refreshment to a weary world. Following the women at the tomb, empower us and your whole church to boldly share your radical love through our words and our work.

Hear us, O God.

All: For your mercy is great.

Leader: Your resurrected Christ showed his wounds to the disciples and breathed your Spirit into them, breathe your spirit of healing upon all creation. Help us to breathe your spirit of hope to war torn places, your spirit of abundance to those in need, and your spirit of resurrection to those who have endured grief and loss. Hear us, O God.

All: For your mercy is great.

Leader: You prepared the disciples for the work of ministry by calming their fears and granting them your peace. Equip our communities' leaders. Give them a spirit of peace and hearts that burn for justice, that their leadership and work reflects your love. Hear us, O God.

All: For your mercy is great.

Leader: You revealed yourself to Mary Magdalene in the garden. Help us to see your face in those we encounter. Send us to those who hide in fear or question your love. Be a healing presence for any isolated by addiction, incarceration, mental illness, chronic pain, sickness, or grief especially those we now name out loud:

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: Hear us, O God.

All: For your mercy is great.

Continued...

Leader: As you met the disciples on the road to Emmaus, show us your presence along our journeys. Bless our doubts and questions. Bless us with new companions for the journey, nurture our connection to you and one another. Bless the joys and concerns now raised by this congregation:

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: Hear us, O God.

All: For your mercy is great.

Leader: Resurrecting God, you bring us to new life every day. Thank you for blessing us with companions on our faith journey, especially those who now rest in your love. Strengthen us with the eternal peace of your promises. Hear us, O God.

All: For your mercy is great.

Priest: Rejoicing in the victory of Christ’s resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

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 13-15) 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: “Christ Indeed is Risen Today!” Andre Kopyloff

The Presentation Hymn: #380 (vs. 3) “The Doxology” Old 100th

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him all creatures here below.

Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer 2

EOW 60

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 our thanks and praise.**

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

The Sanctus follows as printed on the next page.

**Santo, santo, santo, mi corazón te adora!
 Mi corazón te sabe decir: santo eres Señor.
 Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you!
 My heart is glad to say the words: you are holy, Lord.**

All stand or kneel as they are able.

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with the Mother Mary, Brother Skiles, and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.

People: AMEN.

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

The Breaking of the Bread: (The Fraction)

The Priest breaks the consecrated bread.

A period of silence is kept.

The Fraction Anthem:

#S-169

The Invitation:

The Priest invites the people to Communion.

Please come to the Altar to receive Communion. As you come forward, make one line to receive the host from the priest, then turn left or right to receive the chalice.

Hymns during the Communion:

#343 “Shepherd of Souls, Refresh and Bless”

#517 “How Lovely is Thy Dwelling Place”

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:

“Jesus, Remember Me”

(Taizé Song #152)

(sung two times)

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the hymn "Jesus, Remember Me". Each staff consists of a treble clef and a bass clef, with a 3/4 time signature and a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff has the lyrics: "Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your King - dom." The second staff has the lyrics: "Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your King - dom." The music is a simple, rhythmic melody with a steady accompaniment in the bass line.

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

The Post-communion Prayer:

EOW 69

**God of abundance,
you have fed us
with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us
with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one
with all your people in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior.
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: #544 “Jesus Shall Reign Where’er the Sun” *Duke Street*

The Dismissal:

Priest: Alleluia, alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

The Postlude:

Offered by Shane Watson

We thank those who served this morning

<i>Organist:</i>	Shane Watson
<i>Greeters/Oblationers:</i>	Jim & Darby Logan
<i>Ushers:</i>	Jim & Darby Logan
<i>Lector:</i>	Katerina Whitley
<i>Prayers of the People:</i>	Katerina Whitley
<i>Chalice:</i>	Dawn Harris & Karla Prudhomme
<i>Acolytes:</i>	Randy McDonough
<i>Healing Ministers:</i>	Scott Oxford
<i>Linen Fairies:</i>	Mary Jane Major

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LAST STOP! HEAR THE WHISTLE BLOWING?

We are coming to the end of the first step in shaping our future together. Today is the **last** day available to take the survey. The window of opportunity to join us on this journey will close. You are probably one of many who have already shared their experiences and perspectives. But, if you have *not* taken the survey, this is your **last** chance. Although our response rate has been great, if we don't have *your* input, we are still missing an important piece of the puzzle. PLEASE: share your opinions with us using this highly confidential assessment instrument.

If you need a paper copy, please stop by the office, and we will provide one for you. This must be returned to the office no later than noon on Monday, May 5th in order to be counted. To show our appreciation for taking the survey, we are giving away a two-night stay at one of the Valle Crucis Conference Center's Hermitages. If you are filling out a paper copy, there will be a small piece of paper attached to it on which you can put the information for the drawing; that small attachment will be entered into the drawing.

Please remember that if you are taking the survey online, you can just click on the link at the end of the survey to be entered into the drawing.

If you have questions, please contact either: Mary Pietan: 904-234-4915, mfpietan@gmail.com; or Sis Kinney: 828-260-0485, kinivan06@gmail.com. But you ***must*** do that today!

A very special thank you to everyone who has participated in this process.

Many thanks,

Jane Blackburn,

Discernment Committee Chair



TODAY, SUNDAY, MAY 4, 2025
The Third Sunday of Easter

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

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

We will continue our inquirers series this coming Sunda, meeting at 9:45 am in upper Skiles Hall. Our topic this coming Sunday May 4 will be Apocalypticism and the Revelation to John. Next Sunday we will start on the topic of theology.

May 4: Apocalypse in the Bible: The Book of Revelation

May 11: Theology: Classical vs Process models for the doctrine of God

May 18: Theology: Competing ideas of Atonement

SATURDAY, MAY 10, 2025
Eucharistic Minister & Lay Reader Training – 10:00 am

Have you ever thought about serving at the Altar or becoming a Lay Reader, or are you currently serving in this important ministry and feel like it's time for a refresher? If so, don't miss the upcoming training opportunity on Saturday, May 10 at 10:00 am in the Holy Cross Sanctuary, led by Nina-Jo Moore! For additional information and to sign up for training, please contact Karla Prudhomme by email at krprudhomme@skybest.com or phone at 423-202-4386.

NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 11, 2025

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

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

Coffee Hour Update

The first quarter of the year was covered admirably each Sunday with coffee and snacks. Thanks for that! Now, summer is upon us and 12:15 calls for a simple repast for May through September. Please sign up in the book at the kitchen pass-through for cheese, crackers, fruit and/or a sweet. Just enough to tide folks over as they chat and head out for lunch somewhere. Store-bought is fine!

TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2025

THIRD ANNUAL MNO BEACH PARTY!

Men's Night Out is getting a head start on the Memorial Day festivities by gathering at the beach (pavilion) of Grandfather Golf and Country Club (near the home of host Paul Kroening) from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 20, 2025. The address is 2120 NC-105, Linville, NC 28646, That's on the left just south of Highway 184 on Highway 105, on the way to Linville from Valle Crucis. Please check in at the entrance gate and the guards will direct you to the beach. While there is ample room for parking, carpooling is encouraged.

The menu includes smoked pork tenderloin and smoked salmon with appropriate side dishes at a suggested contribution of \$10 per person. So that Paul may provide enough for everyone in attendance, please RSVP **no later than 5:30 p.m on Sunday, May 18** to KeithTMartin@gmail.com and let him know of any food allergies or preferences. As always, remember to bring your favorite beverage to enjoy... and share.

MNO is a monthly opportunity for brethren from within our parishes and throughout our community to enjoy an evening of fellowship together. If you do not drive at night, need a ride to and/or from MNO, or are without reliable transportation for whatever reason, kindly 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.

The Parish Prayer List: May 4, 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., Laura B., Carol S., _____.

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.

The Church of the Holy Cross

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Website: www.holycrossvallecrucis.net

Diocese of Western North Carolina

The Rt. Rev. José McLoughlin, Bishop

Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Robert G. Hartmans, Interim Rector

Shane Watson, Director of Music

Ahren Koenig, Parish Administrator
