

Church of the Nativity

The Weekly Newsletter

Thursday Email and USPS Mailing

April 10, 2025



In this email/newsletter:

- Latest News
- Upcoming Calendar
- Episcopal Prayer
- Opportunities to Serve & Other Announcements
- Parish Prayer List, April Birthdays, Prayer Cycles

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The Rev. Dr. Kathy Kelly, Rector
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April 13, 2025 Holy Eucharist 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

The Liturgy of the Word:

Isaiah 50:4-9a, Psalm 31:9-16, Philippians 2:5-11, Luke 23:1-49

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist and 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist with music. There is a downloadable service leaflet on our website. Live Streaming Link:

<https://www.youtube.com/@nativityepiscopal4996/featured>

Preparing for Holy Week

Gracious God, 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. ~ proper preface for Lent BCP p. 379

Holy Week is upon us once again. I invite you to reflect on the journey we are mid-way through, the journey of Lent. It began on Ash Wednesday (or perhaps at our wonderful Pancake Supper on Shrove Tuesday). We took on the commitment to pray more, study more and give more - of ourselves, our service and our alms. We have offered extra opportunities for study and prayer through the weekly small groups, the Stations of the Cross on Fridays and joining the outreach work of our food ministries. And now we are ready for the final leg of preparing our hearts for the glorious Day of Resurrection. And we are better for taking this journey.

If you feel you have missed out on some of this, it's not too late. We are, as I said, only mid-way there. Next week we will offer daily services and our usual outreach efforts. Just check the calendar and join where you feel called.

I read an interesting article this week arguing that Holy Week should be "retired". The reasons given were that these rites and traditions are not in the Bible, that the church created all of this ritual long after Jesus rode that donkey into Jerusalem and that we ought not need to go to church everyday and fast and reflect on our sins but simply live into the workings of the Holy Spirit. No Holy Week? I can't imagine it.

Well, I can't disagree with living into the workings of the Holy Spirit, but Holy Week is valuable - and it *is* in the Bible, it *is* a retelling of the passion story. And we gain so much from our full participation.

I hope you feel the same way and will attend every day as is our tradition.

We will simply meet in the sanctuary each day and wait and pray and ponder together until Sunday morning when our full expression of our joy in Christ comes forth as a new dawning.

Please enter into this journey at your own pace. Listen, sigh, open your heart. You do not *have* to attend every service (at least, you should not feel guilty if you don't). You do not have to sing and shout and raise your hands in praise, though some of us will express our joy that loudly. You do not have to come forward for the foot washing - it is perfectly acceptable to watch this rite from the pew - but please come and do just that. Some of us will wash each others' feet. Some of us will observe. All of us will be touched - if we just show up and allow the Spirit to work in us, among us, in spite of us.

So, as we enter Holy Week this year, brace yourself for the challenge and open your heart and soul for the possibilities of transformation.

Peace and blessings,

Kathy

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday: 8:00AM and 10:30AM

Monday in Holy Week: 4:00 Evening Prayer

Tuesday in Holy Week: 4:00 Evening Prayer

Wednesday in Holy Week: 7:00 Tenebrae

Maundy Thursday (with Foot Washing): 7:00PM

Good Friday: Noon and 7:00PM

Holy Saturday: Easter Vigil: 7:00PM

Easter Sunday: 8:00AM and 10:30AM

Stations of the Cross are Fridays during Lent are at 12:15PM.

Gather Round a Table:

At a recent all-day gathering several of us noticed some real advantages to round tables in Somerville Hall. They invite conversations and a sense of togetherness. They conserve space and are easy to move around. Adding 4 round tables would give us more options in the parish hall. That doesn't mean we would get rid of the rectangular tables which we could easily store in the closet in the parish hall. We need those for Food Pantry, the PEO rummage sale, our auction display for Shrove Tuesday, etc. They can easily be combined with round tables.

What do you think? Add 4 round tables – yay or nay? Weigh in by adding your responses to the box on the parish hall table. By April 24th

There will be an Altar Guild workshop on Friday, April 11, at 2PM in the parish hall to make palm crosses. Everyone please come and help.

The funeral service for Phyl Lacy will be on Saturday, May 3rd at 1:30 PM here at Nativity.



From Sarah-The ground is cleared for the garden. But one little rhubarb plant is coming up through the gravel. This is from a rhubarb plant that came from Phyl Lacy.

Easter Lily Donation deadline to be in the bulletin is April 17th.



Donations are being accepted for Easter lilies. Donation forms are on the table in the parish hall. If you would like your lily to be in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving, please fill out one of these forms and put with your check. Checks may be put into the offering plate on Sunday, or dropped off at the office. Please write "Easter Lilies" on the memo line of your check.

Pause in calendar—

Taizé is taking a pause until Fall.

Adult Forum is taking a pause until May 4th

Lectionary Bible Study will pause until May 1st.

Altar Guild

Altar Guild will meet to prepare for Holy Week on Thursday, April 10th, at 11:00AM in the sanctuary.

Pastoral Care

If for any reason you are unable to attend church and would like to have someone bring you communion, please let us know and the pastoral care team would be happy to oblige. You can call the church office 208 743-9121 or Nancy Rosch 208 743-4346. If you would like a visit, but not communion that is also available. It is part of what we do as a pastoral care team.

Aging Fruitfully

ON Tuesday April 29, Nan Palmer, a Certified Yoga Therapist, will meet with our new small group-- Aging Fruitfully. Aging with Grace... She will lead a short session in chair yoga at 12:30 in Sommerville Hall.

Everyone is invited...eat lunch together-- bring something to share-- eat about 12: 15-- start gathering and we will start around 12:30. Bring one bath sized towel...

Come and MOVE TOGETHER! And grow old gracefully with wisdom and a smile on your face! See you on April 29, 2025.

Our regular meetings are the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month(not on April 15) from 12:30-2PM in the John & Raydene Room (Vestry room). Since few of us took Aging 101 in school, we will dip into our collective wisdom and explore the one commonality we share, mortality, and navigate this territory together. It is a spiritual journey, this stage of life, one that requires creativity, letting go, a lotta laughter and joy. You don't have to be old to attend. We are all in this together. Everyone is welcome!

Nativity Garden Ministry

As part of Nativity's Outreach ministry, the Nativity Garden Ministry is gearing up to produce fresh vegetables for the Tuesday Food Distribution and flowers for the Nativity altar. Everyone is invited to our scheduled work parties in the garden this summer.

There have been questions folks are asking: To answer directly:

Financially, the Nativity Garden Ministry operates as a Restricted Fund. We do not get any money from the Nativity Budget passed at the yearly meeting in January. Please refer to the Restricted Funds account on the church Balance Sheet which lists the Garden Ministry Fund #302.451.

The Garden Ministry operates under the aegis of Nativity Vestry. In the Nativity Garden Ministry, a covenanted (chartered) small group, officers allocate money and make decisions using the consensus decision making process.

You will see our workers out in the garden area planning for bed installation, a possible gazebo for shade and hospitality, planting, maintaining, harvesting and cleanup.. You are invited to dedicate a garden bed to a loved one and attend scheduled work parties in the garden this summer and fall..

We appreciate everyone's support and interest. And please come out and sit, walk, meditate, pray or just watch the bees and butterflies this summer. The west end will feature a pollinator garden with wildflowers and hopefully no Trees of Heaven.

If anyone has further questions, please speak directly to a member currently holding a position on the Garden Ministry Working Group. Our covenant and organization description is available on the display table in Somerville Hall. Thanks for your continued support.

Respectfully submitted, Deloris Davisson, Planner for the Nativity Garden Ministry

Grief Group

The Grief Group will be offered again in the fall. There were no registrants for the spring cycle. All are welcome: parishioners, friends, neighbors, relatives-ALL. Should you have any questions, please contact either Fran Caradine (208-305-1317) or Nikki Nordstrom (425-949-9744).

Volunteer Jobs at Nativity

NEW jobs have been added! Please check out the sign-up sheet.

Several church maintenance tasks are now waiting for volunteers who would like to take them on! Some require more skill than others. Some simply need your time, commitment and loving care. Some of these volunteer tasks are short-term and some are on-going. Some require more than one person. Not only does such participation save us money, but it also helps keep our church running smoothly. Vestry will need to know which designated jobs on that sheet you are volunteering for. Be sure to sign-up in the parish hall so Cheryl can keep tabs on jobs being volunteered for. And then please indicate on the sign-up sheet if you got that job done. You can text Cheryl when you have questions or email her. This volunteer list will keep changing and evolving as we go along. Cheryl Johnson, Junior Warden
208.413.0736; chedjohnson23@gmail.com

Centering Prayer

Turn over a new leaf in 2025 and join us on Wednesdays, 12:30 to 2 PM, Vestry room. All are welcome!

Nativity's Food Pantry



Food Pantry Celebration:

At a recent North Central Annual Partner Conference (Building Healthy Communities Together) our Food Pantry was awarded one of five awards

given from the Idaho Foodbank. Thanks to our amazing volunteers and their faithful, positive and enthusiastic service, this program serves our neighbors well. And our neighbors turn around and bless us. Each and every week. Thank you for saying yes to volunteering in this successful program. Bravo! Mary Lou Gruber, Cheryl Johnson and Pam Johnson attended the Idaho food bank awards banquet.

Food Pantry bears witness to Benedictine monk Brother David Steindl-Rast's invitation *to look at all the faces of people whom you meet. Each one has an incredible story behind their face, a story that you could never fully fathom, not only their own story, but the story of their ancestors . . . open your hearts to all these blessings, and let them flow through you, that everyone whom you will meet on this day will be blessed by you, just by your eyes, by your smile, by your touch, just by your presence. Let the gratefulness overflow into blessing all around you.*

This past Tuesday, April 8th, we served 87 families for a total of 201 people. We invite you to volunteer in this food ministry on Mondays and Tuesdays. See the sign-up sheet in the parish hall. All are welcome to serve! Work as Prayer. Together! Call Cheryl Johnson (208-413-0736), Volunteer Coordinator, and/or Aaron Loudonback (253-218-7091), Food Pantry manager.

Tuesday Book Club News

We are reading the New York Times best selling author Y. N. Harari's book Nexus -- A read about what is happening with Artificial Intelligence-- "how information networks have made and unmade our world". Join us in this conversation on Tuesdays at 10:00 AM.

Contact **Deloris Davisson** at seiggev@gmail.com for more information.

New Displays in the Parish Hall

Take a minute to check out the *Outreach Tables* in Sommerville Hall: *Garden and Food Pantry/Saturday Suppers* information, announcements, cook books, growing and eating with Nativity outreach ministries. These two display tables will be a constant in the hall, with a changing array of information and ideas. If you have ideas or other items that you would like to share, please contact Rosemary Daubert for Saturday Suppers or Nikki Nordstrom for Garden Ministry.

Nativity Sunday Leadership For April 13 – April 20, 2025

DATE	April 13, 2025 Palm Sunday	April 20, 2025 Easter	
Service	HE II	HE II	
	8:00AM	8:00AM	
Celebrant	Rev Kathy Kelly	Rev Kathy Kelly	
EM	Jerry Pierce	Pete Ruppel	
Ushers	Maxine & Don Hubbell	Maxine & Don Hubbell	
Lector	Pete Ruppel	Jerry Pierce	
Intercessor	Maxine Hubbell	Frances Hedrick	
	10:30AM	10:30AM	
Celebrant	Rev Kathy Kelly	Rev Kathy Kelly	
EM	Bob Wicks	Ray Rosch	
Ushers	Dennis Babineau Kevin Gray	Dennis Babineau Kevin Gray	
Lector	Rosemary Daubert	Aaron Loudenback	
Intercessor	Aaron Loudenback	Nancy Rosch	
Altar Guild	Karen Parkman Debbie Riedle	Maxine Hubbell Fran Caradine	
Coffee Hour 10:30AM	Ray & Nancy Rosch	Terri & Bob Morse	
Adult Forum	Rev Kathy Kelly	Rev Kathy Kelly	
Flowers & Memorials			
Streaming Tech	Harold Crook	Harold Crook	



CALENDAR FOR Apr 10-Apr 30

Thursday, Apr 10

Knitting Group 10-Noon
Altar Guild Mtg 11:00AM

Saturday, Apr 12

Saturday Supper-Aaron
Women's AA 8PM

Monday, Apr 14

Book Club 10AM
Women's NA 5-7PM
Evening Prayer 4PM

Wednesday, Apr 16

Holy Eucharist 8AM
Pastoral Care Mtg 10AM
Tenebrae 7PM

Friday, Apr 18

Morning Prayer 9AM
Good Friday Service Noon & 7PM

Sunday, Apr 20-Easter

Holy Eucharist 8 & 10:30AM
AA Group 7PM

Tuesday, Apr 22

Food Pantry 8:30-Noon
Book Club 10-11:30AM
Al-Anon 7-8PM

Thursday, Apr 24

Knitting Group 10-Noon

Friday, Apr 11

Morning Prayer 9AM
Stations of the Cross 12:15PM

Sunday, Apr 13

Holy Eucharist 8 & 10:30AM
AA Group 7PM

Tuesday, Apr 15

Food Pantry 8:30-Noon
Book Club 10-11:30AM
Al-Anon 7-8PM
Evening Prayer 4PM

Thursday, Apr 17

Knitting Group 10-Noon
Centering Prayer 12:30-2PM
Maundy Thursday 7PM
(with Foot Washing)

Saturday, Apr 19

Women's AA 8PM
Easter Vigil 7PM

Monday, Apr 21

Rev. Kathy on Vacation til 30th
Women's NA 5-7PM

Wednesday, Apr 23

Holy Eucharist 8AM
Centering Prayer 12:30-2PM
Salvation Army Meal

Friday, Apr 25

Morning Prayer 9AM

Saturday, Apr 26
Saturday Supper-Leslie's team
Women's AA 8PM

Sunday, Apr 27
Holy Communion/Res. Sacrament
8 & 10:30AM
Potluck
Movie Matinee 1PM
AA Group 7PM

Monday, Apr 28
Women's NA 5-7PM

Tuesday, Apr 29
Food Pantry 8:30-Noon
Book Club 10-11:30AM
Al-Anon 7-8PM

Wednesday, Apr 30
Holy Eucharist 8AM
Centering Prayer 12:30-2PM

Episcopal Prayer

Liturgy of the Palms

Palm Sunday

**Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.
*Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.***

BCP Page 270

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
*Hosannah in the highest.***

BCP Page 271

OPPORTUNITIES TO GROW AND SERVE AT NATIVITY

Vestry Members

If you want a copy of the financials and/or minutes, please let the office know. The members of the Church of the Nativity Vestry 2025 are: Rev. Kathy Kelly (Rector), Diana Hughes, Rachel Walsh, Roberta Coats, Becky

Clark, Kevin Gray, Dick McMillen, and Cheryl Johnson. Steve Holmes is serving as treasurer pro tempore.

Saturday Supper

The next Saturday Supper is this Saturday, April 12th, with Aaron's team providing. They will be serving Lasagne, Salad, Bread & Dessert. The New team schedule for 2025 is on the parish hall information table. Rosemary Daubert, Saturday Supper Coordinator

Coffee Hour Hosts Needed!

The **2025** list is on the table in the parish hall. Please sign up! Nancy & Ray will host on April 13th, Bob & Terri Morse on April 20th, and Aaron & Luella on April 27th. The Vestry wants to remind the Parish that signing up for hosting Coffee Hour should not be a financial burden for anyone. Some may want to provide treats as part of their contribution to Nativity, but everyone may also submit receipts to Barb Jones in the office for reimbursement. Rosemary is no longer coordinating coffee hour, so please just sign up if you see a blank date. Thank you!

Ushers/Greeters Needed for the Sunday services. Please call Ray Rosch at 208-791-5062 or call the office if you are willing to serve.



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### **PARISH PRAYER LIST**

**Please join in daily prayer:** Vonnie and Bill Kinney, Ingrid, Terry, Nancy Aldrich, Joseph LaPietra, Whitney, Kay Jennings, Amy Rosch, Melissa Parkman, Bridgette, Becky Clark's daughter-in-law, Max Hastain, Sandra Cash's brother-in-law, Billy Rosch (Ray's brother), Joanne Cook (sister of Roberta Coats), Ron, Roberta Albi, Jackie, Leslie, Gretchen Rehberg, Alexis Hnatiak, Henry Hnatiak, Vicki & Traci, Meg, Finn, & Mike, Rob Lacy, Rachel Walsh, Joan Stevens, Wally Pierce, John Caradine, John, Carol, Gary Kashefska, Heidi Mitchell, Bridgette Lawhead, Matthew Stolberg (Nan's son), Sean, Pat, Paul (Pat's son), Terry, Nick, Becky Clark, Raydene, Joe Lillard, Corbin (John's grandson), Mary Lou Amidei, Beryl, Paul Simon, Pat Paasch, Shaun Dixon, Sue Johnson, Mary Lou Gregory, Sandy Davison, Cheryl Johnson, Joanie, Noah (Bill & Cheryl's grandson), Jane Abbott, Rho Vidal (Lois' Lois Charbonneau's sister), Emma Parker (Kailey's cousin), Pamela Flowers Dixon, Betty Ell, Steve & Debbie Winchester.

**Help us update the Prayer List.** Please let the office know if there is anyone who should be taken off the prayer list now, or if there are others you want to add. We would like to leave them on for 1 month unless you want them on longer. We like to acknowledge thanksgivings for answered prayer too.



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Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

Environmental Sustainability-Earth Ministry

We give thanks for the gift of Creation, the diversity and beauty God’s systems created to regenerate, heal and sustain. Pray with us as we continue to discover and lift up the ways in which we are able to explore, teach and model Creation Care and Life. We also give thanks for the birthday of The Rev. Nathan Empsall (4/9).

Anglican Cycle of Prayer

We pray for the Church of England.

April Birthdays: Ray Rosch 4/1, John Willows 4/1, Lisa Martin 4/3, Dick McMillen 4/8, Peggy Flowers 4/9, Karen Parkman 4/11, Liam Schmidt 4/13, Bob Wicks 4/20, Russell Storey 4/24, Etta Wicks 4/28.

If you would like your birthday, anniversary or other celebration in the newsletter, please let the office know.

Bulletins/Worship Booklets/Church Directory

Bulletins for the Sunday services are available in the office Friday mornings for those wishing to pick one up. If you want a copy of the Church Directory, please let the office know if there are no copies left on the table in the parish hall.

Our Nativity Parish Covenant

As members of the Episcopal Church of the Nativity we covenant with God and each other to:

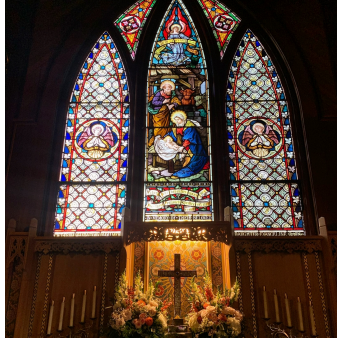
- Faithfully come together to worship God.
- Encourage ourselves and others to regularly participate in all the church has to offer.
- Actively use our gifts of time, talent and treasure to support and participate in the work of God in the Church and community.
- Listen to each other in discernment of God’s gifts for service, and support others in their service
- Pray with and for each other, offering care and support in joy and sorrow.
- Study, explore and incorporate Christ’s teaching in our lives.
- Welcome, respect and include all people as beloved children of God.



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**Submissions for the Thursday email are due on Wednesday by 10 AM**

Anyone may **submit articles and photos** for the weekly email. We welcome all types of news items pertinent to the life of the parish.



**A land acknowledgment:** *We remember and honor the indigenous people of this land, in particular the Nimiipuu nation who were the original stewards of this land. And they are our neighbors today, living, loving, and working in this region still. We give thanks for them and commit to living as good neighbors with them. May we always remember that the Earth does not belong to us, it belongs to God, and we are all relatives in this life, called to be stewards together of God's creation. Help us learn from past mistakes, and be instruments of justice and peace for all nations and tribes and people in the world. - The Rt. Rev. Gretchen Rehberg*