

The Episcopal Church of the Nativity

Announcements

30 August 2026

Welcome! This morning, we welcome as our preacher the Rev. Canon Nurya Love Parish, Director for Mission and Community Engagement of the Episcopal Diocese of the Great Lakes. Our Priest-in-Charge presides, and our musician is Sally Page.

Members of the Vestry are invited to remain after the service for an informal conversation facilitated by Canon Nurya.

Nativity is participating in the Church Ecology Project of the University of the South, and they want as many of us as we can to take a survey. “The more folks from your congregation who take the inventory, the clearer picture we may have of how worship is functioning,” they tell us. There is a link on the home page of our web site, episcopalboyne.org, or scan the QR code above.



Spotlight on Hymnody: Hymn 443, which we sing today, may prove somewhat challenging for us—but it is a favorite of Father Barrie’s, both because he wrote his M.A. thesis on the hymns of Ephrem the Syrian and because he sang in the choir at Trinity Church, Boston, under Ronald Arnatt in the late ’70s and early ’80s. Ephrem wrote the text, which was translated by F. Bland Tucker, and Arnatt the tune, called SALEM HARBOR. Writing in the fourth century, the deacon Ephrem left a large volume of hymns—some of which have 20 or 30 stanzas and one of which refers to “God’s womb” giving birth to the universe. He was a really interesting fellow! And Arnatt was a boy chorister at Westminster Abbey during the Second World War; he recounted stories of the boys’ cots jumping up and down as the Nazis bombed London in the blitz. In addition to serving as a church musician and organist, he was a prolific composer of instrumental works and choral anthems.

Who Knew? Ever heard of the Episcopal News Service? You can read stories online at episcopalnewsservice.org, and you can subscribe—for free—to daily or weekly updates. Current stories include: “Wisconsin church supports storm-weary neighbors,” “Arizona bishop joins effort to protect marriage equality,” and “Communion Forest marks fourth anniversary as global Anglican creation care movement grows.”

On the reverse, you will find a statement issued by the primates of the seven Anglican churches in the Americas; it’s interesting!

Grace and Peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We, as primates serving God’s people in the Anglican Communion provinces of the Americas, met in São Paulo from 10 to 12 August 2026, at the invitation of our regional primate, the Most Rev. Marinez Rosa dos Santos Bassotto. We prayed together, learned from one another and discerned how we are called to participate in God’s mission. For the first time, we gathered alongside the secretaries of our respective provinces, and we are grateful for their ministry and companionship.

We give thanks to God for the gift of our communion, which we receive as the Body of Christ. At this meeting, we strove to embody that gift as we spoke honestly and with hope about the realities of ministry in our contexts and sought to enter one another’s realities. Meeting in Brazil, where Indigenous peoples are stewards of the Amazon and faithful voices in the struggle for climate justice, we affirmed the dignity and rights of Indigenous peoples whose ancestral lands span the Americas.

Although we are from richly diverse provinces, we share the experiences of living in cultures shaped by forces that call us to action, including colonialism, secularism, polarization, migration concerns, economic and social insecurity, corruption and climate change.

Our Anglican tradition teaches us to find unity in service to God’s mission, and we pledge to work together with mutual accountability and hope for the people of our provinces. We leave this gathering with the conviction that we have begun a new chapter in our life together in Christ. We return home with joy and thanks for what we have shared, which has been profoundly good, and for the fruit that it will bear across the Americas.

São Paulo, Brazil, August 12, 2026

Primate Marinez Rosa dos Santos Bassotto, Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil
and Regional Primate

Primate Shane Parker, Anglican Church of Canada

Primate Juan David Alvarado Melgar, Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de
America

Primate Alba Sally Sue Hernández García, La Iglesia Anglicana de Mexico

Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe, The Episcopal Church

Primate Brian Williams, Iglesia Anglicana de Sudamerica

Primate Phillip Wright, The Church in the Province of the West Indies

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