

The Episcopal Church of the Nativity

# Announcements

8 March 2026

**Welcome!** We are so glad you are here! This morning, the Rev. Barrie Bates presides at the Holy Eucharist. Our musician is Sal Page.

**The Vestry meets** this Thursday, March 12, at 9:30 a.m.

**Spotlight on Hymnody:** “There is a green hill far away” (Hymn 167) is one of a series of hymns for children by Cecil Francis Alexander, published in 1848. This text forms a commentary on the four articles of the Apostles’ Creed, “suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried.” The text originally read “without a city wall,” but the author changed it to “outside a city wall” after a small child asked her why a green hill would have a city wall anyways. Mrs. Alexander never visited the Holy Land, and admitted that the “green hill” she had in mind was actually in Londonderry, Ireland.

**Have we got your information?** Dave Penniman established a parish register for us, since we previously had none. This is where we record basic information, including birth, baptismal, and confirmation dates—most of which is, however, missing from our records. Barrie will have your page copied for you; please take it home and bring it back with the information completed, so our records will be complete and up-to-date.

**Who Knew? Q.** Who are the ministers of the Church? **A.** The ministers of the Church are lay persons, bishops, priest, and deacons.  
— From the Catechism in the Book of Common Prayer (p. 855)

Do you know what the ministry of the laity is? Why not take a look in the prayer book and find out? Note also the duty of all Christians (p.856), and then let’s all work, pray, and give for the spread of the kingdom!

**Looking Ahead:** Palm Sunday is March 29 this year, and Easter Day is April 5. We will celebrate the Holy Eucharist on both days at our usual 10 a.m. time. We will not, however, have a worship service on either Maundy Thursday or Good Friday.

**Congratulations** to Fr. Barrie: a chapter he authored has been published in *The Oxford Handbook of the Book of Common Prayer*, just published by the Oxford University Press.

Church of the Nativity, Post Office Box 228, Boyne City, Michigan 49712  
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The Rev. Dr. J. Barrington Bates, *Priest-in-Charge*

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