



MARCH 2024 NEWSLETTER

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The Episcopal Church  
of the Holy Nativity  
828 W. Cherry Lane  
Meridian, Idaho 83642-1619  
(208) 888-4342  
Sunday Services 10:00am



## Monthly Message from Father Shibu

My dear friends in Christ, it brings me great joy to write my first newsletter and express my gratitude for being a part of the Holy Nativity family. After a long journey, we arrived at the church on January 30th at 11 am. It was a journey filled with lifelong memories. Amritha, the kids, and I thoroughly enjoyed it, except for the occasional question

from the kids, “Are we there yet?” However, yesterday (February 19th), they remarked, “We can’t believe it took 10 days to get here; it felt like only a 4-day journey.” I’m confident they truly enjoyed the experience. Up until the week before we began the journey, the weather posed significant challenges in most states, including those in the Northwest. However, with divine intervention, we reached Idaho effortlessly, despite encountering strong winds in Illinois and Missouri. Gratitude to everyone who patiently waited for us with prayers.

Upon entering the rectory, we were greeted by truly wonderful arrangements. A heartfelt thank you goes to the Vestry members who spearheaded the setup of the rectory, with special acknowledgment to Senior Warden Mary Buchanan and every contributor of home appliances. Tears of joy welled up as we felt the love from all of you.

We have entered another Lenten period. Let us utilize Lent to cultivate self-sacrifice and mutual love. From Ash Wednesday to Easter, let us journey together with Christ, acknowledging that there is no crown without the cross and no resurrection without it. I pray, may this Lent bring blessings to all.

*Continued on pg. 2*

## Monthly Message from Father Shibu

*(continued)*

Sincere thanks to Bishop Jos Tharakan for guiding and advising me in various ways as I begin my ministry as Priest-in-Charge at Holy Nativity. I appreciate Rev. Jennifer Anttonen and Rev. Alice Farquhar-Mayes for providing excellent orientation in these initial days. May God bless their ministry.

Parishioners, feel free to contact me anytime for your spiritual matters. I aspire to serve as your accessible priest. Kindly keep me and my family in your prayers.

*Fr. Shibu*

Fr. Shibu Pananchikkal  
(754) 303-3312  
priest@episcopalholynativity.org

### “Weavings”

In the Blue room on a shelf are some journals on, **The Christian Spiritual Life**, called “WEAVINGS”. There is an index on a yellow sheet of paper with the different titles. They are in order by date. Please take one or borrow one that looks interesting to you. They are wonderful!



## Join us for Seder Supper

Thursday, March 28 at 6PM  
followed by the

## Maundy Thursday

Service at 7:30PM

**A sign-up sheet is in the  
Parish Hall for the Seder Supper**



## Easter Egg Help!

Would you be willing to help organize our Easter Egg Hunt for the children? We need someone to organize a group to fill the eggs (we have loads of eggs in storage) and then help to hide the eggs so the hunt can begin as soon as the Easter service concludes.

**If you are willing to help, please  
contact Mary Buchanan (208) 371-  
0590 or mkbdesigninc@gmail.com**



## Renewal of Ordination Vows Service

**Saturday, March 16th • 11AM**

St. Michael’s Cathedral  
518 N 8th St.  
Boise, ID 83702

Everyone is invited to attend this special service where clergy members renew their Ordination vows. This will be held at St. Michael’s Cathedral in Boise beginning at 11AM. All are welcome.







Episcopal Church of the  
**Holy Nativity**



Please Join Us For

# Holy Week Services

.....

## Wednesday, March 27

Tenebrae | 7:30 PM

*in the Sanctuary*

## Thursday, March 28

Seder Supper | 6:00 PM

*in the Parish Hall*

Maundy Thursday | 7:30 PM

*in the Sanctuary*

## Friday, March 29

Stations of the Cross | 6:00 PM

*in the Sanctuary*

Good Friday Eucharist | 7:30 PM

*in the Sanctuary*

## Saturday, March 30

The Great Vigil

of Easter | 7:30 PM

*in the Sanctuary*

## Sunday, March 31

Easter Eucharist | 10:00 AM

*in the Sanctuary*

# Celebrating Easter • Wonderful Traditions



## EASTER LILIES

If you would like to purchase an Easter Lily in remembrance of someone, in celebration of something special, or simply to add to the beauty of our sanctuary, then please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall. Suggested donation is \$10.00



## EASTER EGG HUNT & Little Candies

We will have an Easter Egg Hunt for the children immediately following the Easter service. If you would be willing **help provide different little candies** for the Easter Eggs, that would be great. A basket will be in the Parish Hall for these donations. There will also be an opportunity to help stuff the eggs.....stay tuned!



## COFFEE HOUR GOODIES • Please help

We anticipate a larger than usual attendance on Easter Sunday. This is more than one Coffee Hour team of 4 people can handle. So we're asking all members of the Coffee Hour Team to please help by bringing an item for Coffee Hour that day. Your assistance in making our visitors feel welcome will be greatly appreciated.



## FLOWERING THE CROSS

As is our tradition, the children of the congregation will be flowering the cross on Easter Sunday. If you have flowers in your yard that you could contribute or if you would be willing to purchase flowers to help fill our cross, it would be greatly appreciated. This is always a wonderful part of our Easter morning service tradition.



# Investing For Growth

## 2024 Capital Campaign

*A message from the Vestry*



It's hard to happily worship together if we're all sweltering in the heat or having a hard time hearing what is said at the lectern. Those are truly enthusiasm killers!

The current heating, cooling, and ventilation systems in the sanctuary were installed 50 years ago and are beyond their useful life, requiring a complete replacement.

Unfortunately, this is not something you can simply purchase at Home Depot or Lowe's and have it installed. These massive units must be engineered specifically for our system. Suffice to say, this is not an inexpensive project. Numerous HVAC companies were called in for bids. After careful consideration of the various options presented, it was decided to go with two new gas furnaces, evaporator coils and a 10 ton air conditioner for a total of **\$24,831**.

We have been awarded a grant from the Diocese for \$10,000 toward this project which leaves us to pay the balance of \$14,831.

Also discussed was the need to update our sound system. Numerous people have expressed frustrations over not being able to hear what is being said at the lectern. This is something we have struggled with for years and the Vestry feels it is time to look into a better sound system. We are anticipating this expense to be around \$6K.

We need to collectively work together on this effort. When everyone stretches and gives something, no matter the amount, the result can far exceed what we may think is possible. We really can do more together. If we share in the giving then we will also share in the joy and the accomplishment.

We are planning to do these updates during the spring months of 2024 before the true summer heat is upon us. Please prayerfully consider what you can do to help support this need. Holy Nativity must do what is necessary to maintain our church buildings and thus, invest in our continued church growth.



### JANUARY TREASURER'S REPORT

Operating Reserve Fund	10,512.71
Be Our Guest	5,328.85
Caring Closet	2,162.83
Children's Ministry	645.08
2 Cents-a-Meal	1,235.85
Building Fund	-1,074.76
Memorial Fund	2,915.84
Paradise Point	4,231.38
Kitchen: New Dishwasher	300.00
Youth Ministry	1,373.00
Altar Guild Donation	1,090.73
Music	95.00
Landscaping	1,050.00
Sound System	2,300.00
Discretionary Fund	4,999.60
Full Time Priest Fund	87,203.19
Thanksgiving Baskets	130.00
Nampa and Meridian Irrigation	200.00
Christmas Families	0.00
Convention Donation	1,500.00
<b>Balance</b>	<b>\$135,007.86</b>



### MARCH Birthdays

- Gladys Clymens . . . . . 3/1
- Diana Bush . . . . . 3/6
- Sophia Horn . . . . . 3/6
- Marian Hendrix . . . . . 3/10
- Lucy Gray . . . . . 3/18
- Scott Erickson . . . . . 3/19
- Connie Donaldson . . . . . 3/20
- Michelle Smith . . . . . 3/20
- Jordon Myers . . . . . 3/21
- George Beres . . . . . 3/24
- Jerry Lofton . . . . . 3/29
- Stephany Galbreath . . . . . 3/30



- Max and Sandra Long . . . . . 3/17
- Rob and Melissa Burnz . . . . . 3/25

Episcopal Church of the Holy Nativity

## FEBRUARY VESTRY MEETING

February 21, 2024 | 7pm | St. Francis Room



Meeting called to order at 6:58 with Richard Jones reading the Prayer for Vestries.

### FINANCE:

Jarrold reported that the church income was \$7,200 over budget, but we had a few one-time expenses. As Father Shibu is residing in the Rectory and it is no longer an office, the property insurance was decreased by \$126.00.

The net income for the month of January was \$226. The mortgage was paid twice due to a mix up in getting that payment on autopay.

The interest on our MoneyMarket account was \$193.00. Vestry needs to decide if we should add more money to that fund. Richard asked if we should consider opening an account with IEF. Jarrold reminded us that the stock market is uncertain. No action was taken.

Jarrold has been in contact with Fisher's about the copier fees. He has scheduled a meeting with their representative, Sarah. They were unaware that we had insurance and were charging us for their insurance. Other issues will be discussed concerning charges for printing. Meeting on Friday at 1:00pm in the blue meeting room.

For future meetings, Jarrold will e-mail the financial statements to the Vestry and then hook up his laptop to the flat-panel TV to review documents instead of printing them.

### SENIOR WARDEN:

Mary reminded us of the Leap Year Bingo on the 1st of March. It was decided that bingo cards would be \$10.00 each. Donations of prizes are still needed. A donation jar will also be set out.

The office now has internet service thanks to Mary and her "Hot Spot". The large printer has been moved to the new office.

The lectern microphone in the Sanctuary has not been working. Repairs have been made, but the problem persists. Amplifiers keep failing. Valiant Enterprises has been contacted to come by and see what can be done to rectify the sound system in the Sanctuary. This company did the work for the Convention. They have not gotten back to us yet.

### HVAC PROJECT:

Jarrold has brainstorming ideas on how to raise money for our portion of the HVAC replacement. The Diocese has pledged \$10,000 in matching funds, which leaves our portion about \$15,000. Jarrold suggested a three-month Capitol Improvement Campaign, ending in May. The goal would be set at \$20,000, hopefully to cover the cost of repairing the sound system.

Parishioners should be reminded that they can use their RMDs as tax free gifts to the church.

Phil is in contact with DML and told them to go ahead and order the necessary equipment. There is about a 3-month lead time to receive the equipment. The Vestry voted to adopt Jarrold's plan.

### TREASURER:

Sue reported that she is using her own printer for church documents as the Church's LaserJet printer requires WIFI, which she does not have at her home. She was asked to put in for reimbursement for expenses.

### FELLOWSHIP DINNERS:

Carl and Judy Pierce have scheduled a dinner in their home on March 23rd.

### BISHOP'S VISIT:

Bishop Jos is scheduled to visit on March 10th. We will have a potluck after the service. The church will provide the chicken.

**JUNIOR WARDEN:**

Phil thinks it has been at least three years since the gutters were cleaned. The bid we got was \$1,900 for two buildings. The main problem is the trees on the northwest side of the church. We have previously discussed removing the three trees. The last bid we received was \$1,800.

Richard made a motion to remove the trees, saving us the continuing cost of cleaning the gutters. Barbara seconded. Passed by unanimous vote of Vestry. Phil will negotiate for gutter cleaning with Boise Gutter for cleaning what is necessary on the church building.

As the meeting room in the Parish Hall is being used for more meetings, Bible Study and EFM, the electronic equipment stored there, needs to be removed soon. The equipment is not suitable for our needs.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 8:19 with the recitation of the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Karen*  
Karen Ryker

**Ladies Time Out**

# POOL PARTY

**Mark your calendar for  
Monday, March 18th at 9:30AM**

**Sue Pahlas has reserved a time for the March Ladies Time Out at the Springs in Idaho City**

**Cost is \$25.00 plus tax**



**A sign-up sheet will be in the Parish Hall for all who want to join in the fun.**

**We will meet at the church at 9:30 a.m. and carpool up to Idaho City. Please indicate if you are willing to drive.**

**Questions?**  
Contact Sue Pahlas at (208) 891-3258  
or [suepy4747@hotmail.com](mailto:suepy4747@hotmail.com)



**LEADERSHIP TEAM**

<p>Bishop of Idaho: The Rt. Rev. Jos Tharakan                  Priest-in-Charge: Rev. Shibu Pananchikkal                  Church Musician: Heidi Roberts                  Senior Warden: Mary Buchanan                  Junior Warden: Phil Street                  Finance Chairman: Jerrod Horn                  Sextant: Richard Jones                  Treasurer: Sue Pahlas                  Office Manager: Cindy Wolfenbarger</p>	<p>Fellowship: Sandra Koerner                  Ministry Schedule: Mary Buchanan                  Sunday School: Carrie Magette                  Altar Guild: Clare Barrett                  Food Bank: Richard Jones                  Women’s Group: Sue Pahlas                  Worship: Rev. Shibu Pananchikkal                  Newsletter: Mary Buchanan                  Website: Mary Buchanan</p>
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