



# THE BETHLEHEM

Hebrew for "House of Bread"

January, 2021

E-Mail: [office@bscplacentia.com](mailto:office@bscplacentia.com)

Website: <http://www.BlessedSacramentPlacentia.org>



## A Purpose-Driven Life within the Season!!

*"When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone, when the kings and princes are home, when the shepherds are back with their flock, the work of Christmas begins; to find the lost, to heal the broken, to feed the hungry, to release the prisoner, to rebuild the nations, to bring peace among people, to make music in the heart." --Howard Thurman (The Mood of Christmas)*

As we leave the Season of Christmas and enter the Season of Epiphany, we come to an awareness of how the incarnation of Christ in our lives means a powerful manifestation and revelation of God fully connected with humanity, today. Epiphany is the season we celebrate the current and active Sacrament; the witness of Jesus' outward and visible expressions of divine love and grace for us now, and how we are the continuing manifestation and ministry of Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit within us. **This is the Season when we are called to be empowered; to demonstrate Christ's manifestation through us.**

It all begins on January 6th with the Magi (The Gentiles) visiting the young baby Jesus at the house where the new Holy Family lived in Bethlehem, bringing gifts to our Lord and Savior. Through heavenly signs and by listening to God through the Angels and dreams, we see how Jesus at the age of 1-2 years old would be protected by God's divine hand from the evil King Herod's killing of the Holy Innocents, by Joseph and Mary fleeing to Egypt with the Christ child, and then the Holy Family returning to live eventually in Nazareth. **God is at work in us to protect, ground and establish us; to demonstrate Christ's manifestation through us.**

*(Continued on page 2)*

*(Continued from page 1)*

In the following week, we celebrate the Baptism of our Lord, Jesus Christ on January 10th with our own planned baptisms and confirmations at our parish. We see firsthand the manifestation of the Holy Trinity and the importance of an outward and visible expression of divine love and grace for us, and how we as baptized Christians are all the continuing manifestation and ministry of Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit within us. **God is at work in us to heal, equip and strengthen us; to demonstrate Christ's manifestation through us.**

It is during the rest of Epiphany that the light of Christ is revealed through the various blessings, miracles, healings, teachings, salvation and the Transfiguration; a theophany that make it all concrete of who Jesus is to us and what Christ has done for all of us. During this New Year of 2021, let us all focus on what God is revealing on doing in our lives to make all things new. During this Epiphanytide, as we rediscover the purpose of Jesus in our lives, let us also reflect on our divine purpose and how Jesus is the Lord right now in our homes, our ministries, our work, our parish, our very being. **Truly, let us get ready for big plans that God has for each of us to bring the Good News to such a hurting world; to demonstrate Christ's manifestation through us.**

A blessed Epiphanytide,

Fr. Barrett+



## OUTREACH UPDATE

**Thank you!** Thank you to all those who donated a gift (or gifts) and helped put a smile on a child's face this Christmas!



Teri Niebuhr and Marion Hetherington loaded up the Niebuhr truck on the morning

of Tuesday, December 22 with generous donations received from parishioners and parents of the Children's Learning Center. We delivered EIGHTY FIVE (85) gifts to the Friendly Center in Orange, to be distributed to local children in need. Your caring and sharing is greatly appreciated!



**SOCK IT TO THEM!**  
**33 PAIRS OF SOCKS** were given out at Laundry Love on **December 17, 2020.** Thanks to those who donated!



On Thursday, December 17, 2020 Blessed Sacrament Laundry Love served 24 people, doing 272 loads of wash, spending \$269.25.

The Busy Bee attendants, Maria and Beatrice, did all the work, with no one from Blessed Sacrament there, due to Covid 19 restrictions. Dryer sheets and facemasks were available. Individual packets of fabric freshener and stain remover were available for immediate use or take away. Thanks very much to all supporters.

## JANUARY FOCUS

Please donate to our Deacon's Pantry at church so we can assist those who come by the church hungry and cold.

At this time we would appreciate the following:

- ♥ Cans of hearty soups, chili and stews (with pop tops).
- ♥ New and gently used blankets.



**The Outreach Committee thanks you for your amazing support of all our Projects!** If you need further information please contact Outreach Coordinator, Marion Hetherington at 714-595-4219 or send her an email at [cssquared@roadrunner.com](mailto:cssquared@roadrunner.com)



## WHOSE RUNNING FOR VESTRY?



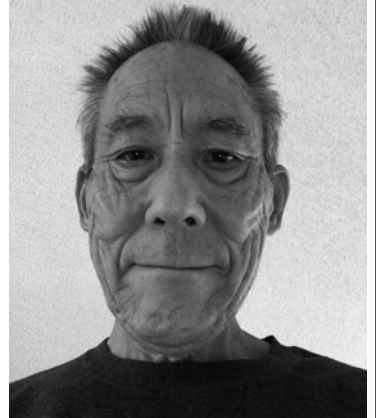
**Maureen Burton**



**Nancy Doman**



**Carol Morris**



**Leo C. Song Jr.**

The four parishioners shown have been nominated for the Episcopal Church of the Blessed Sacrament Placentia Vestry 2021. Their personal bios are available via the weekly E-tidings. If, for some reason, you do not receive the weekly E-tidings and would like to read their bios, please contact Patty Bell in the church office.

**Mark your calendars for the Annual Meeting to be held on Sunday, January 31st 2021 via ZOOM.** Arrangements are being processed to enable voting via ZOOM and regular mail.

**VOTE!**

## STUDY WITH FR. BARRETT



The new **Epiphany Bible Study** begins on Tuesday, January 5, 6:30—8:00 p.m.

Thursday Evening Book Study "**Love is the Way**" by Bishop Curry begins January 7, 6:30—8:00 p.m.

Links are available from weekly E-tidings or contact Fr. Barrett at

[Frbarrett@gmail.com](mailto:Frbarrett@gmail.com)

**MORNING DEVOTIONS**

Join Fr. Barrett and the Rev. Deacon Dominique Piper on FaceBooklive each **week-day morning at 8:00 a.m.**



## CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER UPDATE

Happy New Year!! What a wonderful December we had here at Blessed Sacrament C.L.C. despite everything going on!!

We had our angels sing for our recorded Christmas program (movie) and each family received a CD of the program. We also had a special visit from none other than Santa Clause! The children were able to bring a letter filled out by them for Santa to read and get some socially distanced pictures with him. We finished off the year with pajama parties in our classes with lots of fun had by all.

I want to thank all of you who participated in our Sees Candy fundraiser, we brought in \$2,628 with your help.

All of us at Blessed Sacrament Children's Learning Center wish you a happy 2021!!!

Tracie Donaldson, Director.



Answers to last month's FunDrive questions.

How many Bags?  
300+ (3,354 Pounds)

How much money did they receive from Savers? \$699.08



## The Episcopal Church of the Blessed Sacrament, Placentia.



### *Mission Statement*

*Answering the call of Jesus to follow the gospel, we honor the dignity of all God's children and strive to grow together in prayer and spirituality.*

### *Vision Statement*

Making our Lord Jesus Christ visible to the world through our word and service.

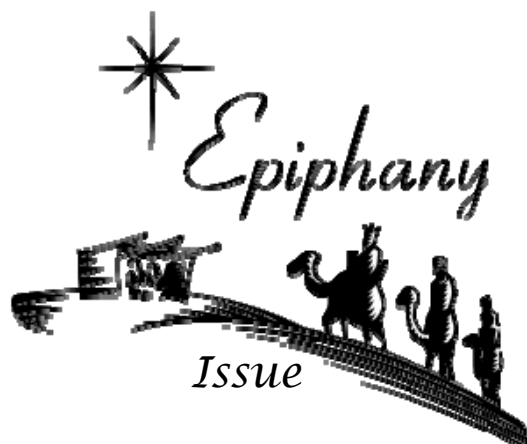
**REV. BARRETT VAN BUREN, PRIEST**  
**ALLYN LEAN, SENIOR WARDEN**  
**DARLENE REIMERS, JUNIOR WARDEN**  
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**NEXT BETHLEHEM DEADLINE for FEBRUARY 2021 ISSUE will be  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2020**



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