



THE BETHLEHEM

Hebrew for "House of Bread"

May, 2021

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Easter is not just a one day affair!

A neighbor across the street waved at me during this Eastertide and asked me from a distance (due of COVID-19 and not wearing masks at that moment), "So how is your family and how *was* your Easter?" And I yelled back that the family is doing well and Easter is *still* going great! She looked at me with such a puzzled face, wondering what I meant. She exclaimed, "Still going??" I said, "Yes! Easter is not just one day, but a season!" And in fact, if I had made the time to discuss it further and being closer to her, I would have gone on with explaining

that in reality Easter is also not just a season, but a new way of life!

This Eastertide has certainly been like no other in our lifetime and we all have realized the challenges and chaotic episodes that we have witnessed personally or on the news and social media, regarding everything from our pandemic reality to violence, protests and social justice issues. Yet in all the moments of craziness during this season, we have also started to see a transformation take place. Like spring flowers, businesses are beginning to open up, new job opportunities and salary increases are flourishing, blossoming crowds are beginning to increase in the local shops and restaurants, the Covid-19 tiers are changing colors of great improvement and the number of Covid-19 infected individuals is dropping faster in California than when the wide-spread infection began over one year ago in our state.

The most wonderful moment of this Easter is when, many being now fully vaccinated, were able to return back to indoor worship services in our sanctuary. This resurrective event couldn't have been more well-orchestrated in such a timely manner of celebrating a new Creation; Holy Week and Eastertide brought us together in the physical presence too,

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along with many other churches in our region. It is important to note that such new life and new beginnings is what Easter is all about for Christians. During the rest of this month and Season, let us move forward in God's amazing grace with wonder and delight.

Within a resurrective paradigm and living our baptismal covenant, let us ask Almighty God to eliminate the fear, the uncertainty and the anxiety of temporary outer circumstances and truly live life through our resurrected Christ within us-- through confidence, faith, assurance and peace. May we all take the stories of the resurrection and connect them with OUR stories of resurrection and healing; that we live a new life and live it abundantly within the power of Christ raising from the dead. Even during the season after Pentecost, may we be holy seekers to continually explore resurrective life in all of God's Creation. For it is possible for each of us as faith-filled Christians, to tie the Gospel narrative to our personal and corporate lives as followers of our risen Lord. Let us all uncover the tomb of darkness and live enthusiastically in the dawn of a transforming guidance of the Holy Spirit for our lives and the body of Christ as a whole. Christ's resurrection is OUR resurrection, this day and always.

In our risen Christ,
Barrett+



Eastertide Expressions in our Worship

Below are questions from parishioners and answers from Fr. Barrett, regarding worship during this Season of Easter. It is hoped that such clarification or a better understanding of the various symbols and elements of our worship will enhance all of our faith, and for us to truly appreciate our dignified worship, the traditions of our Anglican roots and the theological mindset within the Body of Christ.

"What is that big candle up in front suppose to represent and why is it always lit when we enter the sanctuary and not extinguished at the end of the Mass?"

Answer: That big candle is called the Paschal Candle. The Paschal candle is the first candle to be lit with a flame from the sacred fire at the Easter Vigil Mass, representing the light of Christ coming into the world. This represents the risen Christ, as a symbol of light and life, dispelling darkness and death. The word *Paschal* is from Greek, which refers to the great festival of Christ's resurrection in the Church. The word originated from the Jewish word, *Pesach*, meaning Passover. The candle remains lit at all worship services throughout the 50 days of Easter, which ends on Pentecost Sunday. It is tradition in the early church that the candle was kept lit for the 50 days of Easter and never extinguished. This is why

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the Paschal Candle is already lit when people enter the Sanctuary and not extinguished at the end of the Mass, until everyone has departed. The Paschal Candle is located in the sanctuary close to the altar or can be near the Baptismal font. It is displayed during various times of the year, particularly for Baptisms, weddings, funerals and ordinations. The Candle reminds all of us that the sacraments are an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace instituted by our risen Christ as sure and certain means by which we receive that grace.

"Why is the Baptismal Font uncovered with water inside the font during the 50 days of Easter--when no one is being baptized?"

Answer: The Sacrament of Baptism is central to our faith and the prime example of Christ's resurrection for us! It signifies new life and a new beginning within our relationship with Christ. The inward and spiritual grace in Baptism is union with Christ in his death and resurrection, birth into God's family the Church, forgiveness of sins, and new life of abundance in the Holy Spirit. Every Sunday of the Easter Season, our baptismal font is uncovered to remind each and everyone of us these important truths of our own Baptismal covenant and how Christ's resurrection is paramount to our eternal lives. It is absolutely appropriate to make the sign of the cross with the blessed water inside the baptismal font, as a reminder of each of our own covenant with Christ through our baptism. It is common in most liturgical communities to have the Baptismal font open and available all year round for congregants to be reminded every week of their Baptism being central to their faith. Some churches have what is called "Living Water" running through the Baptismal font 24 hours per day. This is why Easter is not just a one day occurrence to celebrate, but a daily observance of how Christ's resurrection is truly OUR resurrection. We are an Easter People!! Please note that Baptisms are able to be done most anytime of our liturgical seasons, except usually Lent as a penitential season. There are exceptions and emergency baptisms are always able to be done at anytime by clergy or laity.

"What is the white cloth up on the Crucifix above the Altar symbolizing? Why did it change from red to white?"

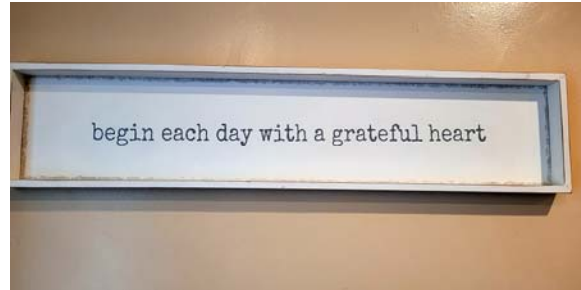
Answer: During the 50 days of Easter, the white cloth on the cross is the symbol of Jesus' burial cloth-- called the shroud. Jesus is no longer dead but alive and risen from the dead for all of us. The empty burial cloth reminds us that death and darkness do not have the final word. Jesus was victorious over death and provided that victory for everyone of us. During Holy Week, the red cloth symbolizes the robe that he wore as Jesus was mocked for being a "so-called King" and eventually striped him without any garment when crucified. The color of red is the liturgical color for Holy Week, indicating the blood that Jesus shed for all of us for the forgiveness of sins. The red color expresses the passion and death of our Lord and is the liturgical color for all of the saints recognized that have been martyred during certain feasts and fasts each year. On Good Friday, the liturgical color is also usually red, but clergy are also known to wear black, depending on the parish culture.

Barrett+

AN OUTREACH THANK-YOU AND REQUEST

H.I.S. HOUSE ADOPT-A-ROOM

Thank you so much to all who donated items to enable us to refurbish/refresh one of our rooms at H.I.S. House. Anita Cruz and Marion Hetherington prepared the room for a new family.



LAUNDRY LOVE—An update from Doug Lee, coordinator.

On April 14, Blessed Sacrament Laundry Love served 36 people, washing 420 loads, spending \$519.25. Thanksgiving to Maria, the Busy Bee Laundry attendant, and her husband, who handled everything without Blessed Sacrament volunteers, due to the pandemic.

Thanks very much to all Laundry Love generous supporters!

MOTHER'S DAY GIFTS REQUEST



We are requesting donations of \$20 Target Gift Cards to donate to Mary's Path, where they change lives, two at a time.

Mary's Path, formerly known as Mary's shelter, is a safe home for pregnant and parenting teenagers. It is our goal to have eighteen (18) gift cards to donate in celebration of Mother's Day! (In addition to the gift cards the Caring Crafters are busy making baby blankets

for each mother or mother-to-be.)

Please bring your gifts to church on a Sunday, or leave them in the church office,
no later than Wednesday, May 5th.

If you need further information please contact
Outreach Coordinator, Marion Hetherington at
714-595-4219 or send her an email at cssquared@roadrunner.com

MEET OUR ORGANIST, HANNAH KIM



As a lyric soprano, Hannah Kim embraces a wide variety of musical genres such as opera, musical theater, oratorio, recital, and concert works. Selected as one of the singers to accompany Andrea Bocelli in his west coast tour, she had the privilege of performing in some of the largest and most prestigious performing venues in the U.S. She made her international debut in the title

role in *La Belle Hélène in Périgueux*, France in 2009. Since, she has performed as a featured soloist in concerts and gave a recital in Seoul, Korea. Her operatic repertoire includes *Little Women*, *L'incoronazione di Poppea*, *Die Zauberflöte*, *Candide*, *Yeoman of the Guard*, *Suor Angelica* and *Madama Butterfly*.

In 2014, she was interviewed in a cable talk show called, "Asian Voices"

The job that Blessed Sacrament offered her was her saving grace and kept the small ember of passion for music alive until she slowly began to regain her confidence and love for music. She feels eternally grateful and indebted to Blessed Sacrament for saving her and her musical career.

God has given each of you some special abilities; be sure to use them to help each other, passing on to others God's many kinds of blessings. *1 Peter 4:10*

Our new Eastertide Book Study begins on Thursday, May 6 at 6:30 p.m.



The Study is called "**Living a Resurrected Life**". Our study will be focused on discipleship during May-June and will include various resources to guide our Eastertide and after Pentecost journey. The one main book that will be utilized during this study is called "*Living the Resurrection*" by C. Franklin Brookhart. The special discounted book is only \$13.00 and has already been purchased by the parish. To receive your copy, please contact Fr. Barrett at frbarrett1314@gmail.com. The Zoom Invitation & Link will be posted soon on the E-Tidings for the first class in May.

EASTER SUNDAY MASS



FROM THE DESK OF TRACIE DONALDSON, CLC DIRECTOR

Wow! This year seems to be flying by for us here at Blessed Sacrament C.L.C. We are always so busy with so many fun and exciting activities going no wonder it is going quickly. April was a fun month for us as we celebrated Easter and even had a special visit from the Easter Bunny himself/herself. The grass was so bright and colorful with over 400 Easter eggs for our Easter egg hunts.

We are prepping for our annual school auction coming up starting on May 12th and going to May 14th. More info will be coming so keep an eye out on the E-Tidings for how it will all be working this year. Also keep an eye out for info to win a weekend in Big Bear through our opportunity drawing. *(See more news from Teri Niebuhr on page 8.)*

Speaking of fundraisers, I want to thank everyone who donated and or helped with our Savers Fundraiser. We delivered over 3000 pounds of clothing and profited over \$645. A huge thank you goes to all who helped make this such a success but especially Gary & Teri Niebuhr, from getting everything organized, picking up the rental truck and unloading all that clothing. You two are the best! *(See more news from Teri Niebuhr on page 8.)*

We have opened registration for our enrollment in our summer and/or fall program. If you are interested or know of someone who is looking for a preschool family, please contact the school office at 714-528-3070.

Blessings,

Tracie Donaldson, Director



CLC FUNDRAISER UPDATES

Thank you for the Successful Savers Fundraiser benefiting Blessed Sacrament Children's Learning Center

How many kitchen and lawn and leaf trash bags equal 3,229 pound of clothing? 264 bags!



That's right, thanks to many donors we managed to earn \$645.00, just by collecting a literal mountain of clothing. Thanks to all of our parishioners, CLC parents and board members, as well as community members who donated clothing. Thanks to Sheila Jordan of the Placentia Buzz, also an aide in our Children's Learning Center, for publicizing the fundraiser, Anita Cruz for helping sort and count the 264 bags of clothing. Marion Hetherington for bringing overflow clothing from Charity's

Closet on a regular basis, board member, Jackie Rodriguez, Paige Donaldson, Bill Donaldson, and Gary Niebuhr for their help loading the truck. Lastly, Tracie and her staff for monitoring and storing donations.

CLC Fundraiser and Auction Set for May 14, 2021 6:30 PM

Please join the Board, Staff and Parents of CLC students at the 22nd Annual Fundraiser and Auction. This year we will enjoy dessert, play the head/tails game and witness the excitement of a live auction of five adorable classroom quilts. These quilts are created by students and their teachers and sewn by various seamstresses. Each year the parents and grandparents bid on these one-of-a-kind priceless quilts. Of course, only the highest bidder gets to take one home!

This year the silent auction items will be displayed for three days prior to the Friday evening event. Feel free to come by the church from **7:30 AM - 5:30 PM Wednesday, Thursday and Friday** and bid on baskets. The bidding closes promptly on the day of the event, **Friday, May 14 at 5:30 PM**. Opportunity drawing items will also be available.

GRAND PRIZE DRAWING! For just \$5.00 per ticket, you can win a two- night, three day stay in one of Cienaga Creek Ranch's four cabins (in Big Bear), which sleeps two-four. A \$600 value (excludes Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year) donated by our own Alissa Stout, Assistant Director. If you wish to purchase a ticket(s) please do so before May 7, via cash, credit card or Venmo Tracie (@ Tracie-Donaldson. Tracie will send pictures to you of the tickets. If you have any additional questions, please contact Tracie Donaldson at BSCLC123@yahoo.com.

We look forward to seeing all of our church family members.

The Easter Bunny visits with our Tuesday Task Force and Staff



Below: 31 Easter Baskets loaded up for delivery to the Friendly Center

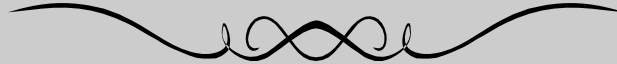


The Episcopal Church of the Blessed Sacrament, Placentia.



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
SANDY BERGERT, JUNIOR WARDEN
DIANE COMPTON, DEPUTY JR. WARDEN
PATTY BELL, OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

**NEXT BETHLEHEM DEADLINE for the JUNE 2021 ISSUE will be
THURSDAY, MAY 20, 2021**

Please send your articles to our Editors

Marion and Theo Hetherington at:

cssquared@roadrunner.com

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