

# The Bethlehem Hebrew for "House of Bread"

## September, 2022 Fall Issue

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#### **Construction Requires Edification Within the Reign of God**

Our Groundbreaking ceremony for our compassionate outreach ministry of Santa Angelina Senior Low-cost Housing was awesome. Over 80 people attended to "build-up" the beginning of our construction project that will take approximately 20 months to complete. As a result, new ministries will be forming and new members will be attending. We are meeting the needs of those less fortunate through Christ. Our congregation was so blessed that day with such edification.

Now that the construction has begun, what is our responsibility as members to continue such edification? In Holy Scriptures, the word edify comes from the Latin verb aedificare, meaning "to instruct or improve spiritually"; it is based on aedes, the word for "temple." Edify shares the spiritual meaning of its Latin root, but it is also used in general contexts to refer to the act of instructing in a way that improves the mind or character overall; to build-up and strengthen. St. Paul makes it very clear that we are to "build-up" the body of Christ through divinely positive reinforcement of each member and all the ministries that are offered within the Church.

To the Churches of Corinth and Ephesus, Paul is telling us that there should be sacred words of strengthening, encouragement, and comfort. We are all called to spiritually uplift each member and the ministries associated within our Church community. "We

are to equip the saints, to edify the body of Christ, until we all come to the unity of faith..." From the Epistle of Paul to the Church of Rome, he stated, "Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification."

So, in essence, we are also mandated to be "construction workers" ourselves, to build-up and edify our parish now and in the future. What this essentially means is that as members of Christ, we're all involved in a huge and essential building and renovation project for the reign of God that encompasses everything that we believe in and strive to become through Christ. God is the great Architect and Master Builder, yet we are called to be the servants of the Lord to make it happen through the power of the Holy Spirit within us.

Even in the early Church, there were differences of opinion about various ministries, doctrine, worship, dietary laws, etc. Yet Paul stated that nevertheless we need to build-up one another and our ministries in love. If there are any around us that do not edify and build-up in love and encouragement, they are basically being destructive with spreading such negative gossip and bombing terminology that causes division, disruption, disassociation, and destruction. The church is truly a manufacturing and developing venture with mighty laborers and dedicated ministries for the Lord- not a demolition crew that takes a wrecking ball to new ministries, new people, and new ideas. Indeed, it is God's construction project-- our gracious and loving God's building permit. And we dare not attempt to destroy what God's perfect will has authorized, joined together, and made new.

God's incredible construction project for Santa Angelina and for us all will proceed, as surely as Jesus Christ is risen. Christ's building of the Church will advance, no matter who tries to prevent it or demolish it. Let us all put away the mental and verbal weapons and wrecking equipment within and inform others to do so as well, and let's get working on constructing and building-up together what God has ordained— as one Body, one Spirit. "All things work together for good for those that love God and are called to Christ's purpose." Let us ascertain that we're using the right building material— the greatest of these is love— from the right supplier, who is our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Through love, let us edify and build up one another in the reign of God now and forever more. AMEN.



To my wonderful friends at Blessed Sacrament: It is with all my love and gratitude that I thank all of you who sent me love, prayers, flowers, candy and best wishes during my recuperation from shoulder surgery. I am still mending, but look forward to resuming my attendance and participation at my beloved Blessed Sacrament. You are all so kind and I am looking forward to seeing you all very soon.

Blessings to you all, Beverly Cardwell

#### Outreach for June, July, and August 2022

We wanted to extend our deepest thanks to Marion and Theo Hetherington for their many years of service as Chairs of the Outreach Committee at Blessed Sacrament. It is time for them to pass the torch and the very able Teri Niebuhr has stepped up to take their place. We look forward to hearing from Teri regarding the Outreach Ministry in the months to come.

In June, 2022, 44 Men's Shaving Kits were delivered for the HUB (formerly Pathways of Hope). Caring Crafters provided crocheted and knitted washcloths.

The July Focus "Christmas in July" was on Vets and Active Military. There was an overwhelming response and items such as underwear, socks, toothpaste, hand sanitizer, etc. were delivered to the American Legion #277 in Placentia. Caring Crafters provided crocheted and knitted beanies.

In August 2022, 14 filled backpacks were delivered to the Friendly Center in Orange.

On behalf of the Outreach Committee,

#### Guess Who????

The Bethlehem is initiating a new game called "Guess Who?" In this game we will be asking parishioners to guess "who is in the picture?"

It may be current or past members of Blessed Sacrament or members of their families.



Please email or call Patty Bell at <a href="mailto:pbell@bscplacentia.org">pbell@bscplacentia.org</a> or (714)-528-2995 with your guess. The lucky winner will receive a \$10 Starbucks gift card. The winner will be drawn from all the correct answers submitted by October 15, 2022 and announced at the following Sunday service.

Mary Dalessi's message introduces the next pages....Thank you Mary!

#### Sharing Some Thoughts

A month or so ago, I was at Blessed Sacrament on a Saturday morning to set up for Sunday with my Altar Guild team members. Tom Johnson had some questions for me about the landscaping and needed changes as construction on Santa Angelina begins. As Tom and I walked around the church buildings, I shared with him my thoughts about the project.

I think I am probably the only person still around that was here when the church began. As a new mission, we spent a number of years in a converted stable and a local community building on Bagnall Ranch before the stable. I recall how excited everyone was when it became possible to purchase the land that our buildings sit on today. I remember my parents and others talking about the plan. Father Scully was adamant that the church would be built first. Later we could add a parish hall and classrooms as money allowed. Since we had so much land, we would eventually build a school to serve our community. Obviously some of those plans never came to pass. As I walked with Tom that Saturday, I was so pleased at the idea that our land was finally going to be of use to our community. Providing housing and support to seniors is a real need in Orange County. I look forward to the creation of Santa Angelina. I am thankful, that our empty land will be used to help others. I think my parents and other founding members of Blessed Sacrament would be pleased with our progress.

Mary Dalessi

## Santa Angelina Groundbreaking



National CORE and the Hope through Housing Foundation invite you to attend the groundbreaking ceremony for

## Santa Angelina

Tuesday, August 16, 2022 1314 North Angelina Drive

Placentia, CA 92870 10:00 a.m.

Refreshments will be served

Please RSVP at https://santaangelinagroundbreaking.eventbrite.com or call (909) 204-3447















in Placentia, California. The new community will provide 65 affordable apartment homes to seniors, 62 or better, who earn less than 60% of the area median income (AMI). Twenty-one apartment homes will be reserved as permanent supportive housing for unhoused seniors or seniors at-risk of becoming unhoused. Residents of Santa Angelina will belong to an engaged, service-enriched village linked to the adjacent church and

surrounding community through a network of paseos, plazas, and courtyards. A 1,500 square-foot community center will serve as a hub for events, supportive services, and programs. Other onsite amenities include laundry facilities and outdoor recreation space.

Santa Angelina will be a vibrant senior community developed by National CORE, the Episcopal Church of the Blessed

Sacrament, and Episcopal Communities & Services for Seniors







## Gathering for the opening ceremony





The Venue



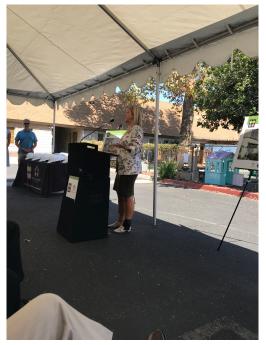
## Starting the beginning of a significant moment in BSC history...



Left to right: Alexa Washburn, Sr VP P&A CORE, welcomes; the Pledge of Allegiance; Invocation by Bishop John Harvey Taylor, Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles







Left to right: Fr. Barrett, BSC Rector; James Rothrock, CEO Episcopal Communities & Services; Rhonda Shader, Mayor of Placentia, all offer comments.





Left to right: Rhonda Shader presents Certificate of Recognition to Fr. Barrett; Alexa Washburn acknowledges Ward Smith who was Placentia Mayor when project was approved.







Left to right: Dr Veronica Kelley, Chief Mental Health and Recovery Services, OC Health Care Agency; US Representative Young Kim, Steve PonTell, CEO Core and Alexa with Fr. Barrett.

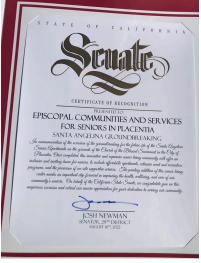






Left to right: Fr. Barrett & James Rothrock with Certificates from Rep. Kim; OC BOS Doug Chaffee also commented but, waiting in next venue where we go now..







Left to right: Certificate of Recognition, cover and certificate from our CA State Senator, Josh Newman; bottom from our US and State Representatives and top from the City of Placentia all presented earlier.

With the close of the opening ceremony, group adjoined to the construction site at the fenced area in front of the church where the actual groundbreaking will occur...

#### Continuity







Old & New

From the beginning, a handful of soil, from the base of the cornerstone, was then scattered at the two ground breaking sites. Later, after the ground breaking, soil was collected and bagged to be a memento for later use.



CLC assisting



Ready...



Let the dirt fly!



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Participants at Ground Breaking for the Santa Angelina affordable senior housing community at Blessed Sacrament Church, Placentia.

Left to right: Damien Arrula, Placentia City Administrator; Alexa Washburn, Sr VP Planning and Acquisitions CORE; Bishop John Harvey Taylor, Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles; Ward Smith, council member district 1, Placentia (mayor when initial project approval went through); Rhonda Shader, Mayor Placentia; Dr Veronica Kelley, Chief Mental Health and Recovery Services, OC Health Care Agency; Representative Young Kim, US House of Representatives, California 39th District; Doug Chaffee, Chair, OC Board of Sup, rep of 4th district OC; Fr. Barrett Van Buren, Rector, Blessed Sacrament Church (BSC), Placentia; Rev. Dcn. Dominique Piper, BSC; James Rothrock, CEO Episcopal Communities and Services; Front Group children from BSC Children's Learning Center. ED: thanks to JoAnne Powers for help with names!

Oh, one more thing...

#### Blessing of the Stained Glass Window Plaque and the Frankincense Tree









Clockwise from upper left: Fr. Barrett with Dcn. Piper & David Freeman, presents plaque; Stained Glass Dedication Plaque; Bishop John Taylor examines and blesses plaque and Frankincense Tree and final before gathering for group photo below.

Left to right: Patty Bell, David Freeman, Bishop John Taylor, Fr. Barrett Van Buren, Dcn. Dominique Piper, Beverly Cardwell (Back Row), Kathy Dagestino, Allyn Lean (Back Row - Sr. Warden), Barry Dagestino, Carol Morris, Leo Song with Frankincense Tree in front.



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## Baptism of Sylvi Charlotte Justus, August 28, 2022 Blessed Sacrament Church, Placentia CA







Left to right: Presentation and prayers; Blessing of the Water; Baptism







Left to right: Chrism anointing as Christ's own forever; Happy family with baptism candle to carry the Light out into the World; Ready for the journey..

Autumnal Equinox: 22Sep2022@1702:00 PDT/23Sep2022@0102:00 UT

#### A Note from Joe Arnold, our Treasurer

For the past couple of years, our September issue of <u>The Bethlehem</u> has become, in part, our "stewardship" issue. As such, it has become an appropriate time not only to share both where we have come so far this year, but also to reflect briefly on our upcoming Stewardship Campaign.

Stewardship, as we know, is not just financial support. We are all familiar with the "three-legged stool" of stewardship—Time, Talent and Treasure. This year's stewardship campaign uses an interesting variation on that and refers to "Works, Wisdom, and Wealth." Whichever you prefer, the stewardship our congregation continues to provide has been both impressive and inspiring.

When you start to list the various ministries at Blessed Sacrament--the impact of Laundry Love, the dedication of our wonderful Altar Guild, our vibrant Music Ministry, the tremendous contribution the Children's Learning Center makes on our community, and the efforts of our Tuesday Task Force, to name just a few—you are only beginning to list the many ministries that are visible signs of our commitment to the mission of our church and our care for the community. We are also very thankful for the contributions of time and the invaluable expertise that so many of our members have made as we embark on our Santa Angelina Senior Housing Ministry.

At our Vestry meeting this past July, we had a chance to review the status of our finances for the first half of our fiscal year. As you may be aware, the fiscal year for our church extends from January through December. Our financial picture so far appears to be stable and we continue to be hopeful as we move forward into the second half of the year.

As you may recall, 2020 was a very challenging year with the onset of Covid, both financially for the church and personally for us all. And even last year, 2021, we were still holding services on the Rose Patio for the first few months. We had seen a decline in shared facilities revenue from Clay Jars, AA, and other groups.

This year, however, is starting to approach a more "normal" year financially. This is particularly gratifying since the Federal PPP Forgivable Loan Program that provided much-needed assistance to the church and the CLC the past two years is no longer available. While we are cautiously optimistic as we move into the second half of the year, we are aware there may still be challenges before us. While the situation with the pandemic has improved it still remains unpredictable. Also, the economic conditions of the country are creating financial concerns for many families within our Diocese. In addition, as we embark upon the construction of the Santa Angelina Project we may encounter some challenges this year and the next that we cannot predict.

Yet despite these uncertainties we have to be impressed by the generosity of our congregation. We had two special opportunities arise this year. There was a distinct need for the restoration and reinforcement of our church's stained glass windows before the Santa Angelina construction began. Several members came forward to underwrite this need. Our congregation also came forward in support of Ukraine Relief and donated \$5,400 to the Episcopal Relief and Development Fund.

In closing, I would like to share some thoughts about our upcoming stewardship pledge campaign. Early this coming October, we will begin our pledge campaign for 2023. The theme that The Episcopal Network for Stewardship has chosen this year is "More Than Enough." It is based on the moment of the miracle of the loaves and fishes and the feeding of the five thousand described in Saint Luke's Gospel.

And taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke them, and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd. And all ate and were filled. What was left over was gathered up, twelve baskets of broken pieces. Luke 9:16-17, NRSV

In responding to Jesus' call, the gathered crowd realizes that through the miracle of faith and through the action of Love there was more than enough to take care of the needs of the community. We are hoping that this coming year we will be able to secure a budget that will allow us to be able to support fully the on-going activities to which we have committed and allow us to keep doing God's work by nurturing live-giving, joyful ministries both inside and outside our parish walls.

Please accept my sincere thanks for all that you continue to do for Blessed Sacrament. Although there are always elements of uncertainty before us, we remain confident in the assurance of God's abiding and steadfast love. We invite you to begin to prayerfully consider how you will share with God and God's church from what you have received. We know that so many of you contribute to worthy causes doing good works in the community and the world. But it is our hope that Blessed Sacrament will be foremost in your thoughts this coming year.

A lovely duo for the Anthem "Come Down, O Love Divine"



#### Friends of Music

A fund for the expanding the ability of the Choir within the Music Ministry to worship God with His gift of music. More details from ETidings and by contacting Ashley Mangino and Brigitte Bellavoine by phone or email. Please prayerfully consider supporting this effort.



## If you can no longer speak for yourself, who will know what you want?

Join in this 2-part webinar where we will hear from Legal, Health, and Spiritual advisors to learn what questions/decisions are essential to consider NOW.

Whether you are 35 or 95, don't leave this to chance - for yourself, your parents or your

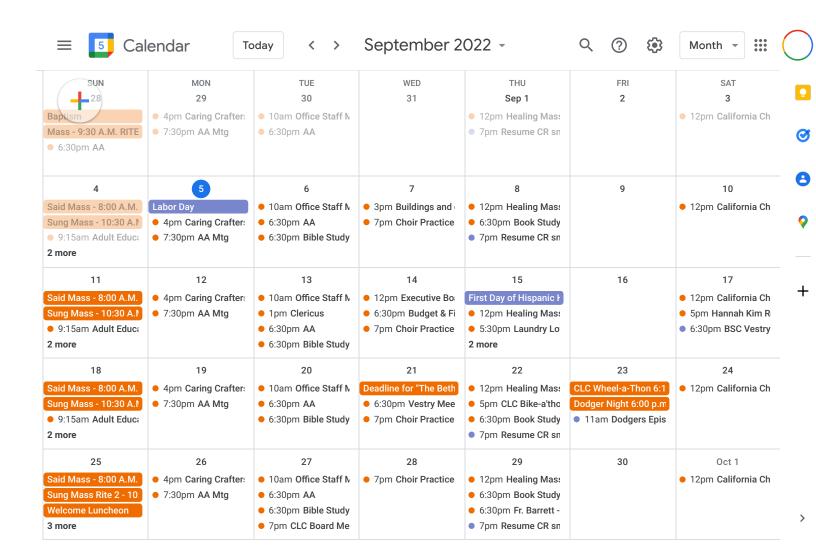
- What should my Healthcare Directive cover?
- How do I leave my money and things to the people I want?
- · When and why is palliative or hospice care the right choice?
- What do my parents want for their funerals?
- How do I talk to my kids or partner about this?
- How do I make my wishes known?

WHEN: Saturday, September 24, and Saturday, October 1, 8:30-10:30 am

WHERE: on ZOOM (Zoom link included in your confirmation email)

RSVP: by Monday September 19 to <a href="https://hatvoor.com/hatvo

Provided for the congregations of Blessed Sacrament Episcopal Church, Placentia, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Fullerton, and Emmanuel Episcopal, Fullerton.



#### Coming Special Events

Sunday, October 2, 2022 Blessing of the Animals both services Sunday, October 9, 2022 Dcn. Dominique preaches both services



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## THE BETHLEHEM

