



THE BETHLEHEM

Hebrew for "House of Bread"

June/July 2023 Summer Edition

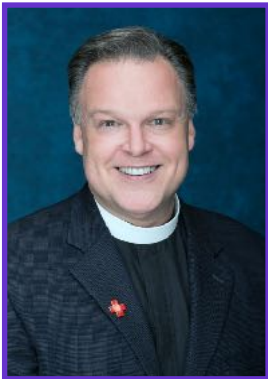
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THANK GOD THAT WE ARE FREE!

John 8:36 (NIV): "So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."



We celebrate in the month of July the first holiday that comes up for the summer vacation: Independence Day for the US. July 4th is such an important date for the birth of our great nation. Is it possible though that we take freedom for granted and do not realize the sacrifice that made it possible to have an Independence Day for our country and an Independence Day for ourselves spiritually in realizing our rebirth through Christ?

While many have died for the freedoms we enjoy in our Constitution and our Declaration of Independence, Jesus died for us on the cross as the ultimate sacrifice that brought independence on our earthly pilgrimage and a new life of true liberty.

Galatians 5:1: "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free."

We need to pause for a moment and think about the awesome responsibilities we are given as a result of freedom and for us to be freely all that God wants us to be for our families, our Church, our local community, our State, our Nation, and our world. To be free indeed all begins with coming to Christ first and foremost. When Jesus is the complete focus of our lives, we have freedom that rings loud and clear.

What Christ did for us in His teachings, the healings, the Crucifixion, Resurrection and Ascension, all bring us to the understanding of sanctification. Sanctification involves a transformation of one's life, aligning it with God's will and holiness. It involves the work of the Holy Spirit within each of us, enabling us to grow in holiness and become more like Christ. This is being free indeed.

If we all truly operated in thoughts, words, and deeds in the free evolving gift of Sanctification that brings true freedom and wholeness, there would be no doubt of the love and joy of Christ spewing out in every action we take that would demonstrate the power of God within us. This is incarnational theology.

Romans 6:18: "You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness."

We truly have become authorized ministers by our Baptism. We have the free agency to become servants that are dedicated to being Christ in this hurting world. We are called to be Ambassadors for Christ in everything we do and how we connect with the people of God. As a prime example, one of our newest members of our parish stated that "The reason why I returned to this great parish is because of the feeling of God's love within the community and I appreciated the welcoming Spirit in the Sanctuary during Worship and beyond." This is what the practice of Christianity is all about. Such a generous and hospitable presence of Christ is foundational.

2 Corinthians 3:17: "Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom."

If we believe that God is all in all, let us then all be guided by the Spirit of the living God in all our thoughts, words, and actions; let the Spirit be made manifest each day in our hearts and minds. Even with all that can transpire daily in our outer circumstances that is opposite, remember that Greater is He in us than he that is in world. We must align ourselves and live with full freedom and justice through Christ; we must live knowing that our God is an awesome God and that nothing can ever separate us from the love of our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer of our lives now and forevermore.

AMEN.

Canon to the Ordinary Melissa McCarthy Visits Blessed Sacrament

Canon Melissa McCarthy was named Canon to the Ordinary in May, 2017 with the appointment of John Taylor as Bishop. As Canon to the Ordinary, she is the Bishop's right-hand person who works closely with the Bishop on almost every aspect of the Diocese.



On Sunday, May 21, Blessed Sacrament had a very special visit from Canon Melissa McCarthy. The parish had a beautiful sung mass with incense at 9:15 a.m. Canon Melissa's sermon was inspirational.

A wonderful brunch followed organized by Bev Caldwell that included vegan and non-vegan options. (Canon Melissa is a vegan).



New members were welcomed and blessed and anointed by Canon Melissa.



The Peace is shared...



Postlude:
How
Great
Thou Art
duet by
Enrique
Ortega &
Andrea
Decker;

Brigitte Bellavoine, piano.



Then Tom Johnson took a group, including the Canon, on a tour of the new parish hall!!! It is going to be spectacular! Finally, Vestry members were able to meet with the Canon to introduce themselves, share a summary of their responsibilities and ministries at Blessed Sacrament and say what they enjoyed most about Blessed Sacrament. Some Vestry members had questions for the Canon including questions about the Anglican community and her personal goals. Senior Warden Ned Bergert was able to join the meeting via Zoom from Iowa.



Children's Learning Center

The Blessed Sacrament Children's Learning Center has celebrated both Graduation and Teacher Appreciation Day. Aren't those kids the cutest graduates you've ever seen?



Teacher Appreciation Day,
June 9, 2023



Graduation 2023, June 4, 2023

Children's Learning Center Director's Report 15Jun2023

Tuition as of May 31st - \$45,304.70

Enrollment - Full at 60

Summer - M/55 T/60 W/57 Th/59 F/46

Fall - M/48 T/56 W/48 Th/ 54 F/44

Ouch Reports - 19 total - Nothing serious.

New News

Today is our last official day of our fall program. We only have 3 that are not continuing for our summer program. It's always hard to say goodbye to the children, some who we have had for many many years. The staff enjoyed a wonderful and deserved teacher

appreciation week from the parents. We were spoiled with treats during the week. Most parents also donated \$ for our staff to go out to brunch at Reunion followed by a wonderful if not slightly competitive game of bowling. Thank you so much Karin for setting it all up.

Nammy Jammy music (Lindsay) has officially retired from our program, I am in talks with Ashley Mangino about taking it over. If she is not able to I will be trying to find someone else as music is so important to our program.

Our graduating class had a wonderful graduation ceremony, we had a wonderful turn out with families. The picture background we purchased for the auction will come in very useful for these events. I am proud to announce that our school has been nominated for Best Preschool in the OC again. Voting will be going from June 19-July 9th. Please go on and vote for us.

Mrs. Alissa has given notice and will not be continuing in the fall as our snack/floater but will go to sub status. I have reached out to Anvar to come back and work part time so am waiting for her answer.

Altar Guild Looking for a Few Good Men and Women

The Altar Guild is responsible for setting up the church for the Sunday services and cleaning up afterwards. Altar Guild Members also sign up to cover major holy days such as Christmas, Ash Wednesday, and Holy Week. In addition, they are responsible for baptisms, weddings, and funerals.

The Altar Guild currently has nine members: Deacon Dominique Piper, Sandra and Ned Bergert, Maureen Burton, Mary Dalessi, Susan Dolliver, Marion Lee, Richard Reyes, and Rose Valdez.

The Altar Guild has three teams. Each team is responsible for every **third week** and the team usually meets each Saturday morning to set up for the Sunday Service(s) and then cleans up after the service(s). In the summer when the Ned and Sandy Bergert are out-of-town, the teams are responsible for every other week.

At this time, the Altar Guild needs a few more members, particularly since the Bergerts are out-of-town during the summer months. **Please let Father Barrett know if you would like to join our group. Not only is this a very rewarding ministry, but it is also a lot of fun and a way to develop and deepen friendships.**

Our 67th Anniversary Celebration & Patronal Feast

Sunday, June 11, 2023, 9:15 AM



Prelude: Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring by J.S. Bach performed by Dean Crabb, guitar.



Readings by Joanne Powers.



Dcn. Dominique censes then reads the Gospel.



The Sermon by Fr. Barrett

Offertory Anthem: The True and Living Bread Timothy Dudley-Smith & Dave Blackwell with Bethlehem Choir with Hannah Kim, piano.



Communion Anthems, Miles Rojo: Panis Angelicus by Cesar Franck and Bethlehem Choir: Verily, Verily.

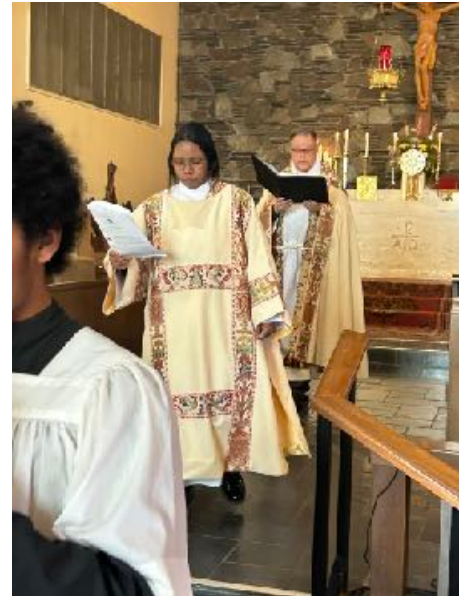
The Solemnity of Corpus Christi

The Blessed Sacrament is exposed and censed



After donning "the humeral veil, Fr. Barrett processes the Monstrance, as the body and blood of Christ, passes the congregants, with the thurifer censing the entire way and also pausing to offer the Mostrance before St. Mary and St. Joseph, then returning to the altar (below).

The inspirational service truly recognizes Corpus Christi as our patronal feast.



Dismissal takes place with the procession led by The Thurfer and the Choir and the Clergy. Our Patronal Feast then was held in the Temporary Parish Hall.

Thanks be to God for a most moving and spiritual celebration with Jesus!

Guess Who?



Thanks to all who voted for last month's "Guess Who". The correct answer is our own David Juergens. The lucky winner of the \$10 Starbuck's gift certificate is Carol Morris.

This month's Guess Who is a beloved member of our congregation. Please Email or call Patty Bell at pbell@bscplacentia.org or 714-528-2995 with your guess. The lucky winner will receive a \$10 Starbucks gift card and be announced in the next Bethlehem. Good Luck???

Editor's Note

For our readers who are reading the printed hard copy with grey scale pictures, I would like to inform you that this publication is available in full color from the Placentia Blessed Sacrament website or from the link in your E-Tidings email as a pdf download. Link to BSC Home Page: <https://blessedsacramentplacentia.org/>. On the home page, click on The "Bethlehem Newsletter" link in upper right corner. Click on desired issue archived back to April, 2022 with the scale moving later with each new month. Once it come up on your screen, look under File and choose appropriate action you want to use.

Another option is to use the Share button, which will be in the header bar as a box with an upward pointing arrow. Click on it and other options come up, for example, on my Mac, the icon for iBooks comes up and I use that to store these newsletters. If on another platform, ask Master Google where you can archive PDF's. The arrow box also brings up emailing it, storing it in Notes or equivalent app on Windows or Air Dropping it and more.

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