



# THE BETHLEHEM

Hebrew for "House of Bread"

Epiphany, Jan & Feb 2025 Edition

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

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

Phone: (714) 528-2995 Fax (714) 528-2997

Published  
21Feb2025

## The Light of Christ is being revealed now!



Everyone is starting to notice that in all of our Scripture lessons during this Epiphany season, there is an increased mention of the "Holy Spirit". There is good reason for it: it is the power of the Holy Spirit alive and well in all of us that can bring about the continued Epiphanies and spiritual gifts in our lives, today. the Holy Spirit is manifested within Jesus AND within The Church for us all to see and believe with clear spiritual lenses upon us now, if we decide to wear them.

WE are identified through the Spirit of the living God just as Jesus shared His identity through the Word of God in various ways. It is also during this period of time of January-February that we celebrate the allotted spiritual gifts that St. Paul described to the Church in Corinth, so that we can also proclaim like Jesus that "The Spirit of the Lord is upon us, because God has anointed us to bring good news to the poor. God has sent us to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." The constant appearances of the reign of God take shape within us by demonstrating Christ in thought, word and deed.

Blessed Sacrament has demonstrated these gifts as the Body of Christ in numerous ways, and within our over 12 various ministries, has illuminated so many through **compassion and mercy for the other**. These are the two words that Jesus has described from the ancient Hebrew texts of how the Messiah would lead all God's people to knowing that "The Spirit of the Lord is upon us all".

It's a scriptural imperative and part of our mission in the world as Christians to follow such a proclamation from our Lord.

From the Hebrew texts to the New Testament, we all are called to “defend the weak and the fatherless; uphold the cause of the poor and the oppressed. To rescue the weak and the needy and deliver them all from the hand of the wicked. All people are made in God’s image and have inherent dignity; that our Lord God commands that we express love, compassion and mercy on all God’s children.

As the previous Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry shared, “Our commitment to be an inclusive church is not based on a social theory of the ways of the culture, but on our belief in the Word of God that the outstretched arms of Jesus on the cross are a sign of the very love of God reaching out to us all.”

In our short time on our earthly pilgrimage, If we do not make a difference in society to follow the teachings of Jesus, to share our faith and to be inspired by the Word of God to manifest Christ, then what does it mean to be a Christian?

If we denounce being Instruments of the Holy Spirit at work in our lives to gladden the hearts of those who journey with us, to communicate fully what God desires, to be swift to love, to make haste to show mercy, to be kind and compassionate to all people, and to go in peace to love and serve the Lord, then we have truly missed the message of what Jesus did for us. As Thomas Merton stated, “For without love and compassion for others, our own apparent love for Christ is a fiction.”

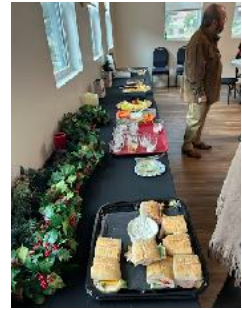
Continued blessings during this wonderful season of Epiphany.

Barrett+

## Advent 4 Love



Last procession of Advent as we begin the service of Love with the Blessing the children before going off to Childcare, Readings, Reading of the Gospel, Sermon and the Peace and Special blessings.

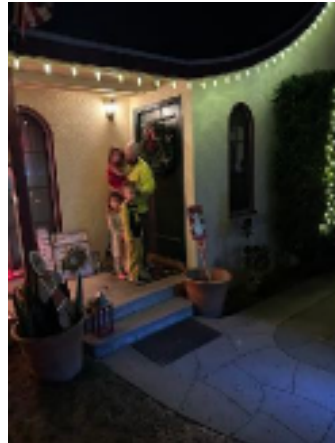


Our Parish community prepares for Holy Communion with Song, oblations, blessings and gifts to God that includes time, talent and treasure. Afterwards, a wonderful coffee hour takes place for continued fellowship. “All things come from Thee, O Lord, and of thine own have we given Thee.”

## Cocoa & Caroling

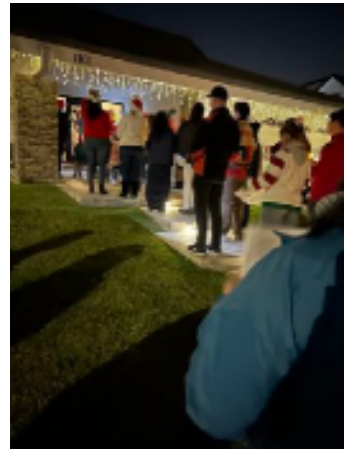
On December 22, 2024, a group of us gathered at the church and, led by Brigitte Bellavoine and Ashley Mangino, proceeded to the side streets off Morse Ave for our first experience of caroling around the neighborhood. Carolers usually get tips, but we were giving out packages of cocoa mix instead. We started with some of the traditional songs using either a lyrics booklet or a sheet music booklet, and the CLC children had some songs that they knew as well. A lot of the houses were decked out with brilliant displays of many colors. The following pictures will give some idea of the extent some went through to present a spectacular seasonal show. The planet Venus was prominent in the southwestern sky and guided us for the evening. You will see her in some of the pictures where we were facing west. The reaction was very positive and some were also in the midst of their own festivities.





Brigitte donated the cocoa packets and created the booklets with assistance from Patty Bell, who also made little labels for each packet that showed our Christmas Eve and Christmas Day service times, so we could invite our neighbors to worship with us for those special services. Together Brigitte and Patty put all the little labels on the cocoa packets, one to be given out to each resident of each house. Ashley Mangino created the setlist, as she was already working with a group of children to prepare familiar Christmas tunes for them to sing on Christmas Eve. Brigitte and Ashley created practice tracks for the children to sing to while they were preparing for both the Christmas Eve service and the night of caroling. Ashley also scheduled several rehearsals in advance with the children. We would like to thank Tracie Donaldson for her personal





participation and advertisement to the CLC children. We would also like to honor the labor of Tom Johnson, who prepared and managed the bonfire and the hot water for our singers who wished to have a cup of cocoa themselves. Finally, Brigitte had the honor of taste-testing the cocoa, an important step in quality control for our beloved neighbors.

One of the most moving parts of the evening was watching the children and the residents process the experience. The children delighted in being the ones to give out the cocoa packets, a true testament to the loving and generous nature of our young ones, and many of the people whom we visited were moved to tears by the sounds of the music praising our Lord, and the sights of the children singing joyfully together. We look forward to making this an annual event, so come join us next year! ***Ed Note: Many thanks to Brigitte Bellavione for greatly enhancing this article!***

## Christmas Eve



As Hanukkah and Christmas interconnect this year at the same time, our two masses for Christmas Eve celebrates Christ in our lives. The Baby Jesus is brought to the Creche in a special procession with incense, led by our fine Thurifer, Matthew Clark. Doug Lee is our Cross Bearer. During Fr. Barrett's absence, we were delighted to have Fr. Rick Byrum as our Guest Celebrant..





Our Eloquent Reader, David Freeman, made the inspired Word of God come alive with the rest of the Altar team, including Dcn. Dominique Piper proclaiming the Gospel, Fr. Rick preaching and the beautiful sacred music performed by our Bethlehem Choir and our Guest Solist, Hannah Kim.



In preparation for Holy Eucharist, incense was used to remind us of our prayers going up to heaven with the angelic announcement of the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem.



After Holy Communion, our Sanctuary lights are dimmed for the passing of the Light to the world.



This final picture gives a glimpse of the sacred moment when the whole congregation has lit their individual candles, with the Light of Christ illuminating every part of our church with everyone knowing they are also a part of the light and the incarnational presence of Christ in the world this night and always.



## Christmas 2024



Christmas Morning was a joyous occasion tempered by the continued illness of Fr. Barrett with Fr. Rick filling in as Supply Priest, Aimee with the Reading and with Ned Bergert giving the Homily. Dcn Dominique reads the Gospel.





Above, during the Peace, many with Christmas finery on, Carol Morris with a sweater from her granddaughter(?) and Aimee and Roxanne ready for the Anthem. Preparing for Communion, Mike and Beverly bearing the Oblation and Tom bearing the Offering.



Communion at the Rail and in the pews followed by the Recessional hymn. Many thanks for Ned Bergert, Dcn Dominique and Fr. Rick for their service and support for today. Postlude: “Go Tell it on the Mountain” performed by Brigitte, piano and Aimee, flute.



A really nice spread awaited us at Scully Hall with mimosas poured at the counter and an assortment of treats awaited us.. Our intrepid kitchen crew packs up left

## The Presentation of our Lord/Candlemas 2025

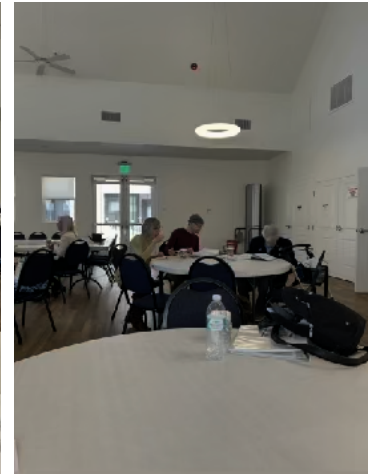






Gathering in front with lighting of the candles, procession enters, candles set up in front, Amy does the Readings, Dcn Dominique censes the Gospel Book before reading the lesson followed by the Sermon by Fr. Barrett, then the Peace and birthday greeting and blessing for Ned.





Anthem: “*Arise, Shine*” Bethlehem Choir sung. Oblations and Offerings, including the wine & Host, The Offertory and bags of donated food were presented by Sandra Bergert, Patti Emery, Ned Bergert, Mueni Musembi and Tom Johnson. Communion was up front and in the pews. Afterwards a great breakfast set up in Scully Hall by our Coffee Hour Hosts, Roxanne Young and James Blackburn.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR A HOLY EPIPHANY & LENTEN SCHEDULE

Tuesday, March 4th Shrove Tuesday at Emmanuel, Fullerton. This is for our “triad” community of St. Andrews, Emmanuel and Blessed Sacrament. 5:30 PM.

- Wednesday, March 5th Ash Wednesday Drive Thru in the Parking lot at BSC from 7:00 AM-9:00 AM.
- CLC Chapel on Ash Wednesday 9:10 AM-9:40 AM with parents. Ash Wednesday Mass 7:00 PM
- Sunday, March 9th Adult Education - Stations of the Cross from 11:30 AM-12:15 PM. (Will continue every Sunday up until Palm Sunday)
- Saturday, March 15th St. Patrick’s Weekend Dinner & Trivia Night @ our Parish Hall from 5:00 PM-8:00 PM. Fundraiser for CLC painting project.
- Saturday, March 29th Movie Mania & Meal @ Parish Hall at 4:00 PM. Movie: “Bonhoeffer”
- Sunday, March 30th Luminaria Chamber Singers concert - Music and Poems
- Saturday, April 12th Movie Mania & Meal @ Parish Hall at 4:00 PM. Movie: TBA
- Sunday, April 13th Palm Sunday Mass & Palm procession (meet on the patio)
- Sunday, April 13th Evensong at St. Andrews with BSC singers - Mendelssohn Cantata 5:00 p.m.
- Thursday, April 17th Maundy Thursday @ 5:00 PM-8:00 PM. Includes Dinner, washing stations, Holy Communion, Stripping of altar and silent prayer.
- Friday, April 18th Good Friday Service @ Noon-2:00 PM. Evening Good Friday service: Candlelight Stations of the Cross with Instrumental music @ 7:00 PM.
- Saturday, April 19th Easter Vigil @ 6:00 PM in our Sanctuary with our “triad” community of St. Andrews, Emmanuel and Blessed Sacrament



NEVER MISS OUR NEWSLETTER!

**SUBSCRIBE**

Have our  
newsletter  
emailed  
to you.



Visit [www.mycommunityonline.com](http://www.mycommunityonline.com)

## Norton's Green Cleaners

Taking care of you & your  
clothes since 1965

- Delivery Service
- Drive-up Service
- 24 Hr. Drop Box
- Superior Cleaning and Finishing
- Laundry Fluff & Fold Service
- Couture Clothing
- Household Linens & Bedding
- Alterations & Tailoring

204 E. Yorba Linda Blvd.  
Placentia, CA 92870

714-524-7130

[nortonscleaners@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nortonscleaners@sbcglobal.net)  
[nortonscleaners.com](http://nortonscleaners.com)

## Margo's Flowers

1280 N. Kraemer  
Placentia, CA 92870  
[www.margosflowers.net](http://www.margosflowers.net)

(714) 572-8878

**10% OFF**  
with coupon



**ADVERTISE HERE**  
to reach your community



Call 800-950-9952

**Place Your Ad Here and  
Support our Community!**

Instantly create and  
purchase an ad with

**AD CREATOR STUDIO**



[lpicommunities.com/adcreator](http://lpicommunities.com/adcreator)

**SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!**



**FREE**  
AD DESIGN  
with purchase  
of this space

**CALL 800-950-9952**

**LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS**  
Advertise in our Newsletter!

**CONTACT ME Tommy Davis**

[tdavis@4LPi.com](mailto:tdavis@4LPi.com) • (800) 477-4574 x2117



For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • [www.lpicommunities.com](http://www.lpicommunities.com)  
Page 11

Blessed Sacrament Episcopal, Placentia, CA A B/W 05-1833

# **THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

1314 North Angelina Drive

Placentia CA 92870

P.O. Box 1449, Placentia CA 92871

## **THE BETHLEHEM**

