



THE BETHLEHEM

Hebrew for "House of Bread"

February, 2022

E-Mail: office@bscplacentia.com

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

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

Season of Epiphany, continuing...



In this continued Season of Epiphany, we adorn the Spirit of the living God within us and alter our perspective to align with the truth that we are all called to build the reign of God; even during the harshest of times and that no matter who we were or what we have done in the past. We have discovered what Epiphany is all about during this last month and are continuing during February to fully comprehend through the Scriptures how we as The Church are the continuing Epiphany of Christ in this hurting world.

This is the month that we focus on the Love of Christ being demonstrated by us. We are learning at this time that WE are blessed to be a blessing to all people with God's help. WE are forgiven and set free by the Lord of our lives, our ministries, our families, our entire being. WE are called to be the Light of the World-- Now. We are called to be the Salt of the Earth--Now. WE are called to be agents of compassion, healing and reconciliation for all people, no matter who they are, right this moment.

It is so powerful how the Transfiguration of Jesus is the last Sunday of the Season of Epiphany, which is the culmination of everything that has been revealed since the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ. Once we have understood how we have truly been transfigured by the salvation of our Lord Jesus, the next Season

brings us to a time of the wilderness, a time of being in the desert for 40 days. On March 2nd, begins Holy Lent on Ash Wednesday. The Season of Lent is a time we set aside each year to remember the love of God that is poured out through Christ Jesus through His sufferings, His passion, His death on the cross; and His victory over death through His resurrection that brings Eternal Life for all of us. During the upcoming six -weeks of self-examination and reflection this Lent, let us all repent and turn our lives around to humble ourselves before the sight of the Lord and He shall raise us up, higher and higher to become an Easter People.

A blessed Epiphanytide and a holy Lenten journey to you and yours,

Fr. Barrett+

Season of Epiphany, The Catching...



Fishermen - Let Down Your Nets by John August Swanson
Jesus says to Simon Peter: "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.". Luke 5:11

We continue this Epiphany season with how the manifestation of the immanence of Christ was seen not only in Jesus, but how the appearance of God in the physical sense was also found in the disciples through the teachings of Christ and the miracles that were witnessed. In this painting above we reflect on how we dive deep into what Jesus said to Simon Peter the Fisherman: "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people."

Some questions to ponder in our reflection, is why would the disciples be afraid by the awesome miracle that they had just observed by obeying Jesus? What does Jesus mean that they will all be catching people? Catching people for what? What does the word "catching" really mean? And what does this all mean to us as Christians today in following the teachings of Jesus and being servants of our Lord to "catch people" for Christ?

In our reflection with the scripture above, let us come with expectant hearts, ready to receive the Holy Word of God to be inwardly digested and for us to come and know the truth, and that the truth will set us free to live abundant lives like never before through the Holy Spirit that is within each of us. May we all listen to Jesus--to become Fishers of all God's people through Christ who strengthens us right at this moment.

God's peace,
Barrett+



**But before we go on to Lent,
some additional inspiring
words and deeds...**

Sermon on the Mount by:
Henrik Olrik

"They had come to hear Him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch Him, for power came out of Him and healed all of them."
Luke 6:17-19

OUTREACH UPDATE — GIVE FROM YOUR HEART

FOCUS FOR FEBRUARY - LAUNDRY LOVE

If you do not already do so,
please consider making a

Thank
You

JANUARY
LAUNDRY
LOVE 447
LOADS
FOR 52
PEOPLE

SOLES 4 SOULS UPDATE

FINAL COUNT
104 PAIRS
OF SHOES
DELIVERED

ONGOING PROJECTS:

Please continue to save the **fronts of your Greeting Cards** for St. Jude's Ranch for Children in Boulder City, Nevada for their Recycled Card Program. In addition, please continue to bring in **Campbell's Soup Labels** also for St. Jude's Ranch for Children, because for every 1,500,000 UPC label points they receive a free Dodge Caravan to transport their precious children. We also collect cancelled postage stamps for the Sisters at the Community of St. Mary in Peekskill, New York, where they sell them on to collectors for funding to purchase small wooden crosses that are given out to children by the Sisters residing in Luwingu, Malawi, Africa.



If you have any questions or need more information please call or email Marion Hetherington, our Outreach Coordinator, at 714-595-4219 or

cssquared@roadrunner.com

ANNUAL MEETING WAS A WONDERFUL GATHERING AND TRIBUTE

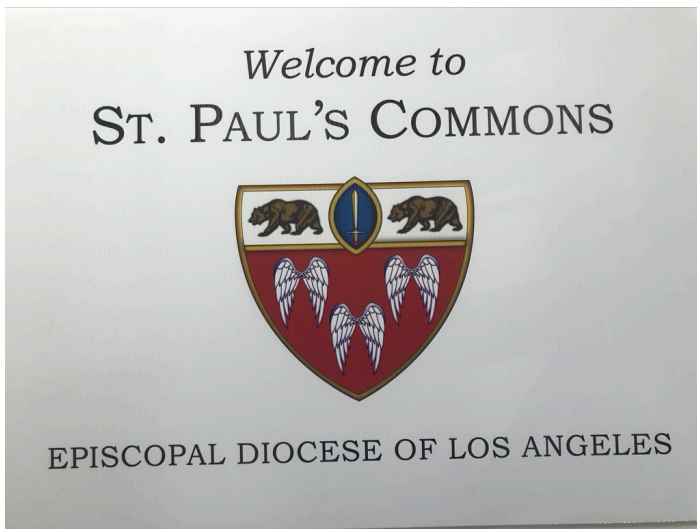
We wish to thank so much all of the members of our parish that joined our 66th Parish Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 30, 2022. We had a quorum plus and while our meeting was a little longer than last year, it was a success in so many ways. The 2022 budget was approved, and we voted by acclamation our slate of three new Vestry members: Tom Johnson, Kathy Dagestino and David Freeman. Ned and Sandy Bergert were nominated to serve as Lay Delegates to our 2022 Diocesan Convention and Ruth Govorchin was nominated to serve as our Alternate Delegate. We also included special recognition awards for Volunteers who had gone above and beyond in various ways to serve and minister at Blessed Sacrament in recent years. Two couples who have demonstrated continuous on-going service to our community were awarded special recognition by the parish: The first couple is Carol Ann Miller and Tom Johnson, and the second couple is Rudy and Ruth Govorchin. Plaques engraved with their names on them will go on the Sacred Wall of Recognition.

Special thanks goes out to all who have made the Annual Meeting possible and went above and beyond in various ways for the meeting's success: Michael & Beverly Cardwell, Patty Bell, Chris and Deacon Dominique Piper, Penny Van Buren, Allyn Lean, Joe Arnold, Adrien Gonzalez and David Freeman. We were also very appreciated of everyone's contributions sharing in the preparation of such an important meeting.

Continuous Blessings,
Barrett+

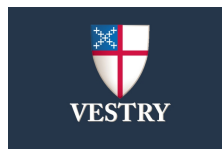


Vestry Retreat @ St. Paul's Commons, Echo Park, CA, 12 Feb 2022

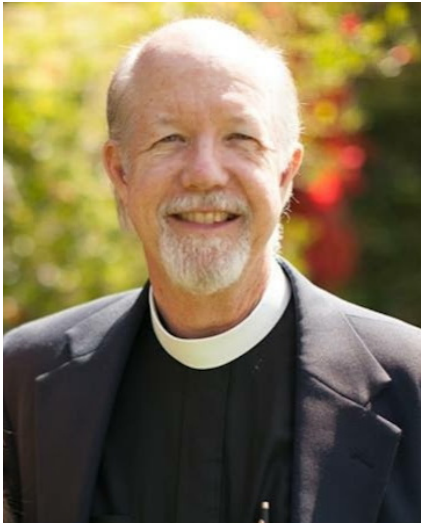


On behalf of the Vestry Members of our parish, we wish to thank so much The Rev. Canon Robert Bethancourt as our facilitator for our wonderful Vestry Retreat at St. Paul's Commons in Los Angeles and for Fr. Barrett's planning and coordination. What a joyful bonding we had in our time together and being able to have great open dialog and discussion on the vision and mission of our parish now and in the future. From the spiritual process we participated in to the delicious food and the sacredness of the whole day was a true delight. We will continue the discussion and look at what we heard God say to all of us at our Vestry gathering at our next Vestry Meeting and upcoming meeting during the Spring.

Just for your information, we have the Bio of Father Rob that we would like to share with you, so you can see the wonderful Spiritual leader he is and how our Father Barrett and he have known each other for over 35 years. Father Barrett prayerfully selected him to be our Facilitator because of his great leadership from Emmanuel, Fullerton-- the parish that sponsored Fr. Barrett for ordination into the Priesthood. Fr. Barrett shared how he would have never continued the process for Holy Orders if it was not for the role models of both Fr. Robert Bethancourt and Fr. Paul Edwards, both now retired. We thank Fr. Barrett very much for his leadership and planning to make our Vestry Retreat so special. --Allyn Lean, Sr. Warden



Bio for The Rev. Canon A. Robert Bethancourt, Facilitator



Fr. Rob Bethancourt is a native of Arizona. He completed his bachelor degree at Arizona State University and a Master of Divinity at the Church Divinity School of the Pacific in Berkeley. Ordained originally in the diocese of Northern California, he has been canonically resident in the Diocese of Los Angeles since 1983. Fr. Rob is Rector Emeritus of Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Fullerton. He is married with two adult children. In addition to his work as an Episcopal priest, Fr. Rob is also a musician, composer, and recording engineer. He has written and produced several albums of music including "He is the Light", "Mr. Noah's Fabulous Floating Zoo", "Let the

Children Come", and "Emmanuel: God With Us"--a musical setting for the Eucharist. Fr. Rob frequently leads retreats and conferences and is particularly interested in teaching practical ways of helping people deepen their spiritual lives. He was Dean of Deanery 9 for 12 years, a priest at Emmanuel for 34 years and involved in ordained ministry for 44 years. His other interests include art, music, tennis, hiking, scuba diving, and flying. Not too long ago he hiked the Camino de Santiago as a pilgrimage and is looking forward to the next camino of life during this season of retirement



**Selfie by Bishop John Taylor
with Fr. Rob at our lunch**



**Lunchtime at our retreat with
great food for the journey**



Calendar of Coming Events

March 1 - Shrove Tuesday 5:00 p.m. Pancake Dinner and Marti Gras

March 2 - Ash Wednesday Drive Through in our church parking lot for imposition of the ashes starting at 7 a.m. (no service)

Reconciliation of a Penitent (Confession) will be heard anytime that day
(Reconciliation of a Penitent - can be scheduled anytime with Fr. Barrett during Lenten Season)

Ash Wednesday Evening Service - 7:00 p.m. - With Choir

March 3 Healing Service every Thursday at Noon

Sunday, March 6 - Preaching and Teaching of Linda Allport* regarding Episcopal Relief Development and the Great Litany will be Said at 8:00 a.m. and Chanted at 10:30 a.m. This is the first Sunday of Lent.

*Linda Allport Bio

Linda Allport became the Diocesan Ministry Partner for Episcopal Relief & Development in January 2020, tasked with raising awareness of their domestic and worldwide aid work. She has been a long time supporter of Episcopal Relief &

Development, and led a successful Nets for Life campaign at her home church, St. John Chrysostom, in Rancho Santa Margarita. She has been an active lay minister in the Episcopal church for over 30 years, focused on teaching adult formation classes, outreach, and instruction in contemplative practices. In addition to her Diocesan work for Episcopal Relief & Development, she recently was elected to the Diocesan Commission on Ministry. She and her husband, Jeff, and their two sons, Miguel and Jenpop, moved from Jackson, Wyoming to Orange County in 2001.

Sundays (March 13-April 10):

For our adult education class from 9:15-10:15 a.m., we will be utilizing the Book called Walk In Love and discover or rediscover everything you wanted to know about the Episcopal Church and were afraid to ask. This will be preparing those that are considering getting Baptized this year or wish to be confirmed by the Bishop at the Cathedral in Los Angeles in May this year. This Adult Sunday School class is also for those who just wish to explore and better understand the Episcopal Church and the inner workings of the Church. This class would be required for anyone seriously considering getting baptized or confirmed this year.

Tuesdays: The first three Tuesdays of March we reflect on the Bible Lessons during the first three weeks of Lent. We will continue April 5th and April 12th with our Bible Study preparing us for Holy Week and Easter.

Thursdays: Beginning March 3rd-April 2nd, we will be doing a holy season of Lent book study. The Book is called: A Practical Christianity: Meditations for the Season of Lent by Dr. Jane Shaw. All books referenced are strongly encouraged to purchase for the courses through Amazon, Forward Movement or your choice of resource, wherever you buy your books.

Be sure to check ETidings emails every week for changes and updates



TRANSFIGURATION

OF THE LORD

©LPi

Feast of the Transfiguration is on the last Sunday before the start of Lent based on the Revised Common Lectionary (1974) which celebrates the Transfiguration of Christ before the eyes of three witnesses, Peter, James and John with Moses and Elijah appearing as set forth in Mark 9:2-13; Matthew 17:1-13; Luke 9:28-36 described thusly, "Jesus Christ took three of his disciples, Peter, James, and John, up on a mountain, where Moses and Elijah appeared and Jesus was transfigured, his face and clothes becoming dazzlingly bright", giving us a glimpse of His heavenly glory. How does this inspire and move you? Reflect on this as we move towards Lent.

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Spring Equinox on Sunday, 20
MARCH 2022@0732PST/1532UT

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE
BLESSED SACRAMENT
1314 NORTH ANGELINA DRIVE
PO BOX 1449
PLACENTIA CA 92871

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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The Episcopal Church of the Blessed Sacrament
Worship Schedule

Sunday	
8:00 am	Altar 1 Said
10:15 am	Altar 1 Sung
Wednesday	
10:00 am	Eucharist with anointing

Blessed Sacrament Children's Learning Center
(Preschool)
Monday through Friday 7:00 am to 8:00pm

1314 N. Angelina Street Placentia, CA 92870 714.529.2010 www.blessedsacrament.org