



St. Boniface Episcopal Church

5615 Midnight Pass Road • Siesta Key • Sarasota, Florida 34242
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The Rt. Rev. Dabney T. Smith, DMin., Bishop
The Rev. Wayne Farrell, Rector
The Rev. Elisa Hansen, Deacon
Dr. James W. Guyer, Organist/Choirmaster

September 19, 2021 8:00 & 10:00 a.m. ~ Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude

Prelude in G minor *Johannes Brahms*

The Word of God

Hymn 473 Lift high the cross (omit v. 3)

Descant

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

till all the world a - dore _____ his sa - cred Name.

till all the world _____ a - dore _____ his sa - cred Name.

Led on their way by this tri - um - phant sign,
Each new - born ser - vant of the Cru - ci - fied
O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Repeat Refrain

the hosts of God in con - quering ranks com - bine.
bears on the brow the seal of him who died.
as thou hast prom - ised, draw the world to thee.
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry.

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Celebrant: Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Song of Praise S-202

Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men.

We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,

O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant Grant us, O Lord, not to mind earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to cleave to those that shall abide; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

Proverbs 31:10-31 A capable wife who can find? She is far more precious than jewels. The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he will have no lack of gain. She does him good, and not harm, all the days of her life. She seeks wool and flax, and works with willing hands. She is like the ships of the merchant, she brings her food from far away. She rises while it is still night and provides food for her household and tasks for her servant-girls. She considers a field and buys it; with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard. She girds herself with strength, and makes her arms strong. She perceives that her merchandise is profitable. Her lamp does not go out at night. She puts her hands to the distaff, and her hands hold the spindle. She opens her hand to the poor, and reaches out her hands to the needy. She is not afraid for her household when it snows, for all her household are clothed in crimson. She makes herself coverings; her clothing is fine linen and purple. Her husband is known in the city gates, taking his seat among the elders of the land. She makes linen garments and sells them; she supplies the merchant with sashes. Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at the time to come. She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue. She looks well to the ways of her household, and does not eat the bread of idleness. Her children rise up and call her happy; her husband too, and he praises her: "Many women have done excellently, but you surpass them all." Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. Give her a share in the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her in the city gates. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 1 *8:00 all say 10:00 sung by the choir*

- 1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, *
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
- 2 Their delight is in the law of the Lord, *
and they meditate on his law day and night.
- 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; *
everything they do shall prosper.

- 4 It is not so with the wicked; *
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.
- 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, *
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
- 6 For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, *
but the way of the wicked is doomed.
- 5 The Lord watches over the innocent; *
I was brought very low, and he helped me.
- 6 Turn again to your rest, O my soul, *
for the Lord has treated you well.
- 7 For you have rescued my life from death, *
my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling.
- 8 I will walk in the presence of the Lord *
in the land of the living.

James 3:13 – 4:3, 7-8a

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace. Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

10:00 Hymn 659 O Master, let me walk with thee

Calvin Hampton



1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with thee in low - ly
2 (Help me the slow of heart to) move by some clear,
3 (Teach me thy pa - tience; still with) thee in clos - er,
4 (in hope that sends a shin - ing) ray far down the



paths of ser - vice free; tell me thy sec - ret; help me
win - ning word of love; teach me the way - ward feet to
dear - er com - pa - ny, in work that keeps faith sweet and
fu - ture's broad - ening way, in peace that on - ly thou canst



bear the strain of toil, the fret of
stay, and guide them in the home - ward
strong, in trust that tri - umphs o - ver
give, with thee, O Mas - ter, let me



care. 2 Help me the slow of heart to
way. 3 Teach me thy pa - tience; still with
wrong, 4 in hope that sends a shin - ing
live.

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Mark 9:30-37

Jesus and his disciples passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.” But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?” But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.” Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, “Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.” The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev. Canon Edward Copland

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ’s Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, especially Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Dabney, our Bishop, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially Joseph our President and Ronald our Governor, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

Celebrant Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Silence may be kept.

Celebrant and People **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the perfect offering for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you. *People* **And with thy spirit.**

Greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Welcome

The Holy Communion

Celebrant Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good thy vows unto the Most High.

8:00 Offertory **Hymn 390 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty** (*see page*)

10:00 Offertory Anthem

Sing ye faithful, sing with gladness *Richard Wayne Dirksen*

Sing, ye faithful, sing with gladness, wake your noblest, sweetest strain, with the praises of your Savior let his house resound again; him let all your music honor, and your songs exalt his reign.

Sing how he came forth from heaven, bowed himself to Bethlehem's cave, stooped to wear the servant's vesture, bore the pain, the cross, the grave, passed within the gates of darkness, thence his banished ones to save.

So, he tasted death for mortals, he, of humankind the head, sinless one, among the sinful, Prince of life, among the dead; thus he wrought the full redemption, and the captor captive led.

Now on high, yet ever with us, from his Father's throne the Son rules and guides the world he ransomed, till the appointed work be done, till he see, renewed and perfect, all things gathered into one.

10:00 Presentation Hymn 390 vs. 4

*Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him! All that hath life and breath come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again; gladly for ever adore him.*

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer II

Prayer Book page 340

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People **It is meet and right so to do.**

Celebrant It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,:

Sanctus S-114 *8:00 a.m. all say 10:00 a.m. all sing*

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of hosts: Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.*

Celebrant All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

People **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Fraction Anthem *8:00 a.m. all say 10:00 a.m. all sing Hymnal S-158*

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -
way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -
on us. O Lamb of God, that
ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have
mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of
God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the
world, grant us thy peace.

The people may join the Celebrant in saying

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Celebrant The gifts of God for the People of God. To those who, due to this pandemic, are unable to eat and drink the Bread and Wine; I assure you that all of the benefits of this Holy Communion are received spiritually, even though the Sacrament is not received physically.

People may pray **A Prayer for Spiritual Communion**

Lord Jesus Christ, since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I offer my praise and thanksgiving in communion with those who are receiving the blessed bread and cup at this Holy Eucharist. As I embrace you with all of my affections, send your body and blood to dwell spiritually in my life. Amen.

10:00 a.m. Communion music:

Choir

Jesu, the very thought of thee *Richard Bairstow*

Jesu, the very thought of thee, with sweetness fills the breast; But sweeter far thy face to see, and in thy presence rest.

No voice can sing, no heart can frame, nor can the mem'ry find a sweeter sound than Jesus' name, the saviour of mankind.

O hope of ev'ry contrite heart, O joy of all the meek, to those who ask how kind thou art, how good to those who seek.

But what to those who find? Ah! This nor tongue nor pen can show; the love of Jesus, what it is none but his loved ones know.

Jesu, our only joy be thou, as thou our prize wilt be; In thee be all our glory now, and through eternity.

Hymn 602 Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love

Chorus



Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show



us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.



- 1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their
- 2 Neigh-bors are rich and poor, neigh-bors are black and
- 3 These are the ones we should serve, these are the ones we should
- 4 Lov - ing puts us on our knees, serv - ing as though we were



- feet, Mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.
- white, neigh-bors are near - by and far a - way.
- love. All are neigh-bors to us and you.
- slaves; this is the way we should live with you.

Repeat Chorus

The people stand or kneel as the Celebrant says Let us pray.

Celebrant and People **Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.**

Blessing

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People Thanks be to God.

Closing Hymn 637 vs 1, 3, 5 How firm a foundation

Descant

5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,
2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,
4 "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,
5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!
2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;
4 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;
5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

5 soul, _____ to shake, no,

1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,
2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,
4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign
5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,

5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake.”

1 to you that for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
 2 up - held by my right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.
 3 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.
 4 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.
 5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake.”

Postlude

Allegro Vivace From Symphony No. 5 C. M. Widor

St. Boniface Episcopal Church continues in Christ's love to invite, welcome, and include all in worship, healing, teaching, fellowship, and service in our diverse, inclusive Christian community.

Announcements

COVID PROTOCOL UPDATE Bishop Smith, supporting the CDC guidelines, is requiring everyone to wear masks for all indoor church gatherings. This includes worship, visits to the office, and class or small group meetings indoors on campus. Masks are available at the Welcome Table. In addition, at the 10 am Communion is received at the Baptismal Font. Please remain masked to line up and receive the Bread. Then, as your return to your seat, unmask and consume your wafer. Fellowship after worship is outside, masks are not required. Thank you for understanding.

Fellowship

- ❖ Blessings and best wishes to those celebrating **birthdays and anniversaries** this week: Cindy Auchter, Pamela Beard, John Berteau, Judy Collins, Ted Copland, Christina Coston, Charlie Farrell, Kay Goodman, Erskine Hopkins, Joy McIntyre, Ken McManus, Bruce Mihalick, Pamela Moore, Rik Morris, Cindy Peterson, Bob Simpson, Sheila Smith, Donna & Jack Chrisman.
- ❖ Join us after the 10:00 service today for **Betsie Danner's retirement reception** in the Outdoor Chapel, hosted by the vestry. We will celebrate and thank Betsie for her 20+ years of outstanding work on our parish staff.
- ❖ Join us for **virtual coffee hour** at 10:00 a.m. on Thursdays, contact Lisa Wolf for the Zoom link, lwolf@bonifacechurch.org.
- ❖ **Men of Boniface** gather Fridays at 8:00 a.m. by Zoom, contact Reg Irvine for information and invite, reg.irvine@verizon.net.
- ❖ The **Watercolor Group's Summer Show** is on display in the Parish Hall. Most paintings are for sale, with a portion of the proceeds benefitting our parish ministries.

Worship

- ❖ We welcome today **guest organist**, Ann Stephenson-Moe, while James Guyer is away for continuing education.
- ❖ **10:00 a.m. Tuesday**, Holy Eucharist in the Chapel.
- ❖ **Contemplative Prayer** meets via Zoom bi-monthly at 10:30 am on the first and third Wednesdays of the month (**October 6 & 20** ID: 886 9678 4674 Passcode: 077733).
- ❖ Wednesday **worship and potluck** gathers in the Parish Hall at 5:30 pm for Evening Prayer (Eucharist first Wednesdays of the month) followed by a Pot Luck supper outside. Please bring a salad, main dish, drink or dessert to share. Contact Katherine Johnson for info, 941-927-2066.
- ❖ The funeral service for **Margot Dickie** is Wednesday, September 22 at 11:00 a.m. in the Church (and live-streamed).

Healing

- ❖ **Prayer Shawl Ministry** meets on Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. to knit prayers together into shawls for those needing to be wrapped in God's healing love. Contact Meg Larrabee by email meglarrabee@hotmail.com.
- ❖ **Beyond the Broken Heart** Everyone must deal with the issues of loss at some point in life. People we care about die. People we care about stop caring about us. Jobs disappear. Health diminishes. Security is lost. The Grief and Loss support group can help navigate such difficult times. We meet twice a month, gathering on the second and fourth Sundays (next on **September 26**) in the Healing Mission at 11:30. For more information contact Rita Piovane 610-442-0984 or drritav@gmail.com.
- ❖ The **Healing Mission** is suspending in-person appointments at this time. A prayer session is available over the phone. Call 941-349-5616 x335 and leave a message.

Teaching

- ❖ **Nursery care** is provided for our youngest parishioners. The Nursery, located along the Courtyard, is staffed with our licensed, professional caregivers, and with COVID safety protocols in place.
- ❖ **Church School** *Weaving God's Promises* Children in Pre-K4 to 5th grade gather Sundays at 10:00 a.m, then return to their parents in church just before Communion. The first Sunday of the month is Family Sunday, and children and our teachers are invited to participate in the full worship experience by joining their families for the entire service.
- ❖ **Sunday** morning 9:00 a.m. **Bible Study** with Fr. Jeff Hamblin (jlh@jeffreyhamblin-md.com) meets in the Library and on Zoom.
- ❖ **Sunday Book Discussion** resumes **October 3**, gathering in the St. Francis Room at 9:00, and on Zoom to discuss *Life of the Beloved* by Henri J.M. Nouwen. For more information contact Vince Brennan vhbrennan43@gmail.com.

Service

- ❖ **Giving Tree** Our parish outreach this month supports **Second Heart Homes**, providing housing and critical support services to homeless adult members of our community with mental health issues. Their high-touch, tailored-service approach revives dignity, establishes stability, and teaches independence. Clients come to their programs based on their commitment to address their health, remain sober and achieve personal goals toward self-sufficiency. You can help with your purchase of any of the basic necessities on this wish list. If you are shopping on line, consider having your items sent to the church office (5615 Midnight Pass Road, Sarasota, FL 34242) Attn: Giving Tree. Please drop off your items by Sunday, September 26.
- ❖ **Church Office** summer hours 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., or by appointment.
- ❖ **St. Nicholas Fair**—Your help is needed for our December 4th event! Look for the green *Sign Up Helpers Needed* poster outside and volunteer at one of the many tables, publicity, or set-up/take down opportunities.
- ❖ **September's Special Giving** supports our **Center for Spiritual Transformation** at St. Boniface Church, now entering its third year. Long-standing and newly emerging ministries are combining to create a center where parishioners and community members can further explore and deepen their spirituality. In times that can seem increasingly troubled and fractured, we give thanks for the Center, offering pathways to draw closer to our Creator's love. To learn more, visit <http://www.bonifacechurch.org/cst>. Your gift may be made in thanksgiving or memory.
- ❖ **All Faiths Food Bank** Later this year we hope to have the food bank's familiar bright yellow barrels out again. In the meantime you may donate non-perishable items at the food bank (941-379-6333), Salvation Army of Sarasota (941-952-0349), Meals on Wheels of Sarasota (941-366-6693), or any Sarasota County Goodwill location. *We cannot accept items at the church at this time.*
- ❖ **Covid vaccinations**—no appointment needed at the Sarasota County Health Department (2200 Ringling Blvd), offered daily 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Also available at Publix, Walgreens and CVS pharmacies.
- ❖ **The Disaster Relief Fund** of Episcopal Relief & Development helps people in vulnerable communities devastated by recent catastrophes. Your gift enables ERD to respond immediately, and aid in long-term recovery. **To double your kindness, up to \$5,000 from the St. Boniface Discretionary Aid Fund will match your gifts, dollar for dollar.** \$4,600 has been given to date. Thank you. *You may make your gift via St. Boniface Church (make your check payable to the church, with ERD-Haiti on the memo line) or directly to Episcopal Relief & Development (episcopalrelief.org/haiti-relief). If you give directly to ERD, contact the church office to let us know your gift amount, so it will be included in the challenge.*



Every Act of Giving

September 19: The Gift of Praise

It wasn't the stereotypical relationship between a daughter-in-law and mother-in-law. When we met, I was 17. Today she is 100. "She is far more precious than jewels," although she wouldn't say so.

She not only taught Sunday School, she created a girls club to develop relationships when their peers were competing. She sewed outfits for them, "working with willing hands," and created musical programs to present to the congregation to develop their self-confidence.

I can't count how many nieces, nephews, family friends and unknown others she housed. Not just housed but mothered during their time of isolation. Talk about "opening her hand to the poor and reaching out to the needy."

She was a gymnast at the famous Venice Beach in Southern California where she "girded herself with strength and made her arms strong." Her husband was a state legislator, "known in the city gates," and had "a seat among the elders" in their church.

Ironically, she was ultimately abandoned by the very people who saw her righteousness "up close and personal." Her children did not "rise up and call her happy," and her husband did not "praise her."

Sadly, not all righteous women are as revered as the woman of Proverbs 31.

"Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. Give her a share in the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her in the city gates."

My former mother-in-law, who I believe will ultimately be among the first, in life was the servant of all. Are we striving to be the greatest, or are we content, as Jesus told his disciples in Mark 9, 'to be first by being last of all and servant of all'?

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- ◆ Who has inspired you to serve others?
- ◆ Tell the story of someone in your life who mentored or taught you to serve the world.
- ◆ What are the characteristics of servant leadership? Why is this model different from other forms of leadership with which we might be familiar?

Cathy Clement is the Past President of the TENS Board of Directors, a retired nonprofit fundraiser, and a member of All Saints in Pasadena, California. |



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