



St. Boniface
Episcopal Church

SAINT BONIFACE REFLECTION

JANUARY 5, 2024

All the GOOD News That Is Fit to Print



Wayne continued:

- **2** Turtle Doves = The Old and New Testaments;
- **3** French Hens = Faith, Hope and Love, (the Christian virtues);
- **4** Calling Birds = The Gospels and/or the Evangelists;
- **5** Golden Rings = The Pentateuch (first five Books of the Old Testament);
- **6** Geese = The days of creation;
- **7** Swans = The sacraments or the gifts of the Holy Spirit;
- **8** Maids = The beatitudes;
- **9** Ladies = The fruit of the Holy Spirit;
- **10** Lords = The commandments;
- **11** Pipers = The faithful apostles; and finally
- **12** Drummers = The points in the Apostle's Creed.

The Rector's Retrospection

Here is an excerpt from Wayne's sermon on the 1st Sunday after Christmas. He preached: Tradition holds that "The Twelve Days of Christmas" was written to help English children learn their faith through hidden meanings. In the song, the **"true love"** is **God**; the **"me"** is **every baptized person**; and the **"Partridge in a Pear Tree"** is **Jesus Christ** because a mother partridge will sacrifice herself to protect her helpless chicks.



Source: "Twelve Days of Christmas. A Celebration and History" by Leigh Grant © 1995

Two more notes: According to Forbes, buying all the items in the Twelve Days of Christmas would cost close to \$200,000. And your "true love" would be stuck with 178 birds!

View from the Pew

A parishioner, randomly selected, is featured in this section each week. They are asked to answer a set of questions so that we get to know their "view" from their pew.

Featured this week is:

Cope Garrett

Questions asked include:

- Name:
- Where Do You Sit at St B?
- Why Have You Chosen That Seat?
- Do You Attend 8 am or 10 am? In-Person or On-line?
- What Is Your Favorite Hymn?
- What Is Your Favorite Part of Worship?
- What Is Your Favorite Holiday?
- Other Ministries or Interests at St B?
- Hometown Listed on Your St B Nametag.
- When Did You First Start Attending St B?
- Who First Made You Feel Welcomed at St B?
- Are You Seasonal or Year-Round?
- Are You Retired or Working?
- Name a Favorite Hobby?
- Do You Prefer Sitting on the Beach, the Lanai, or in a Tiki Bar?
- What Question Haven't We Asked That You Wish We Had?



I sit in the last pew in the section next to where the clergy and vested servers sit -- that way I can keep my eye on them! Visually, I can see a lot of the rest of the church and that is comforting. Also, in this spot, people can come greet me and pat me on the back. I like being touched!

I attend the 10 am service yet I get there about an hour ahead of time to watch the church "wake up" and listen to the choir practice. My favorite hymn is "I bind unto myself today" (Hymn 370).

As much as I love the music, the most significant part of the service for me is holy communion. I discovered this after I got divorced. I went up to the altar and felt a great sense of comfort thinking, "I'll always have a home at the altar."

My favorite church holiday is easy -- every Sunday is important!

Some 60-odd years ago, I had a back injury playing tennis and went to the Healing Mission for prayer. I became conscious of how powerful and important that experience can be. On another occasion, I experienced "at-one-ment" during a healing session where I felt a powerful connection with the whole world -- with eternity. So I now am part of the Healing Mission prayer team. I also find community in the Wednesday night evening prayer and potluck. I've been on vestry and other committees but I'm done with those ministries now.

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View from the Pew (cont.): Cope Garrett

My original hometown is Philadelphia -- left there at 15 years old. I spent many years in my seasonal home of Mt Washington, Massachusetts; however, now Sarasota is my full-time home. I began attending St Boniface in 1957-58. My mother's family were longtime Episcopalians, but my dad's family were Quakers.

I served in the US Coast Guard. The GI Bill helped me finish out my degree at Rollins College where I later worked in Admissions. I also was employed by New College before going into real estate brokerage -- commercial properties.

I love to read. I'm currently reading a book by Heather Cox Richardson (Democracy Awakening) while also reading The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich. Given the choice of tiki bar, lanai, or beach, you'll find me on the sand (or at the Field Club).

I thought you might ask me about my relationship with the clergy at St Boniface. I have a special connection with Fr. Fred Mann going back to my Winter Haven period. I am also fond of the Piovanes. Rita grew up in South Philly, and Michael is from coal country of PA. I admire those roots.



Philosophical comment from Cope: *"Getting old is something that you can't go to school for ... you just have to go day, by day, by day, by day. And you find surprises along the way. Both highs and lows."*

Weekly Services

Sunday Eucharist
8:00 & 10:00 a.m.

Tuesdays 10 a.m.
Holy Eucharist

Wednesdays 5:30 p.m.
Evening Prayer
(Eucharist first Wednesdays)

Thursdays 12 p.m.
Holy Eucharist Healing Service

Music Events

Sunday, Jan 15 5 pm
Evensong & Recital
Cole Laudenslager, flute
Choir singing Ayleward,
Stanford & Elgar

Christmas Services

*Remember that Christmas lasts for
twelve days!*

Saturday, Jan 6, 6 pm
Taize Epiphany Service

Save the Date

Sunday, Jan 21 11:30 am
Festival of Service Ministries
Come be inspired by the many
ministries opportunities of St
Boniface and in our
community. *We are all called
to serve!*

Celebrating Christmas with Pictures ... Pictures ... Pictures



And go to our website to see more in our [Photo Gallery](#).