Reflection...

Reflection is a powerful and profound idea. For a reflection is a real imitation of something tangible. We have reflections in the mirror and in windows and we can identify something by what we see. We know it is not the authentic but we can see it and interpret its meaning by what we behold.

Reflection is also a place of epiphany and discovery as we reflect on moments and circumstances and try to discern the what they mean beyond the physical and into the mystical and eternal. A friend of mine took this picture of a chalice on the altar during a service of Holy Communion and you can see reflected in the wine an image of a stained glass. Ponder it, contemplate and study this image and you might see something more.

For me it is that all my life, all I am is reflected in the redemption I experience as a follower of Christ. The sacrament of His blood washes me, cleanses me and makes me whole. His blood poured out on my behalf brings to me salvation.

One of the real joys of Canterbury Retreat and Conference Center is that it is a place of reflection. We can sit, be still and enter a quiet solitude where we gain understanding. Reflection brings with it discovery and knowledge; connection and revelation as we see more.

I Corinthians 13:12 we have this verse... “For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.” Through the art of reflection we see a deeper reality beyond the physical leading to the a comprehension of an ultimate reality in eternity.

So come to Canterbury take some time, be still, reflect, contemplate and discover there is more to this life than our senses tell us.

The Rev. Jon Davis PhD
Executive Director
I am truly blessed - my wife, Sandra, and I live on the Canterbury campus and I serve as the Resident Deacon. Each weekday I lead Morning Prayer in the Oratory and we lift Canterbury in prayers for its mission and ministry and we pray for each of the groups and people who cross our portals that day. It gets the day off to a great start and we have seen Almighty God answer the prayers we have prayed.

I am retired from the telephone business and have lived in Florida since 1995. In my later working years we had the opportunity to live and work for a short time in the West African country of Ghana where we lived amongst people who love the Lord mightily and then for a longer time in Saudi Arabia where we had to worship in the safety of the American Embassy. Living in those communities was quite a different experience and eye opening. In many ways we are living in a new community now as a part of the Canterbury Family.

People spend their retirements in many ways. I have been retired now 15 years and church, family even though spread from north to south and east to west, and friends are our focus. I love the many moments at Canterbury where I can study, reflect pray and mostly grow in faith and service. Canterbury is important to us, the church, the community and to all who in the confines of these 48 blessed acres have discovered something meaningful and eternal. We love the almost daily interaction with people at Canterbury, staff, guests, pilgrims and more (even some of our furry residents in the many deer that meander across the campus each day.

It is this presence with people and serving the church that is our retirement. And to be able to do this on the Canterbury campus, this special, beautiful and sacred space is a gift from God.

A Prayer for the Mission and Ministry of Canterbury Retreat and Conference Center:

Almighty God, bless Canterbury Retreat and Conference Center; make it a lively center for sound learning and in the course of this busy life, a place of spiritual renewal, refreshment and peace. Give wisdom to the Board and Staff; to make wise decisions, to be good stewards of all resources. Lead us pray to strength and stability. Inspire us by your Holy Spirit with a vision for greater mission and effectiveness for the expansion of your Kingdom in this diocese and beyond; that people would come to know you as Lord and Savior; grow in their knowledge of you by the work done here. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ who modeled for us the need for retreat to be strengthened and renewed. Amen.

1601 Alafaya Trail / Oviedo, Florida 32765
Ph. 407-365-5571 / Web. www.canterburyretreat.org

(Is a designated 501-C3 non-profit corporation and all contributions are tax deductible)