

IN CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF



Dr. Barbara Fields

FEBRUARY 8, 1952 - FEBRUARY 21, 2025

SUNDAY, JUNE 1, 2025
2:30PM

REV. MICHAEL BERNARD BECKWITH
FOUNDER & SENIOR MINISTER

 **AGAPE**
INTERNATIONAL SPIRITUAL CENTER



SACRIFICE

by Barbara Fields (September, 2024)

I might preface this by saying it “came through” after an intense staring session with Kai (our cat) few nights back while Stephen was out. She was the vehicle that prompted the higher thought, hence the reference to an opening portal. Seems to always work through that process for me: a prompt in the material world seeking an opening to the upper realms of mind.

In her eye I see the sacrifice of God
putting forth such effort to inhabit that body and sustain that Being;
Struggling to be contained in creature form,
though no doubt more at rest as a tree in its sentient stillness.

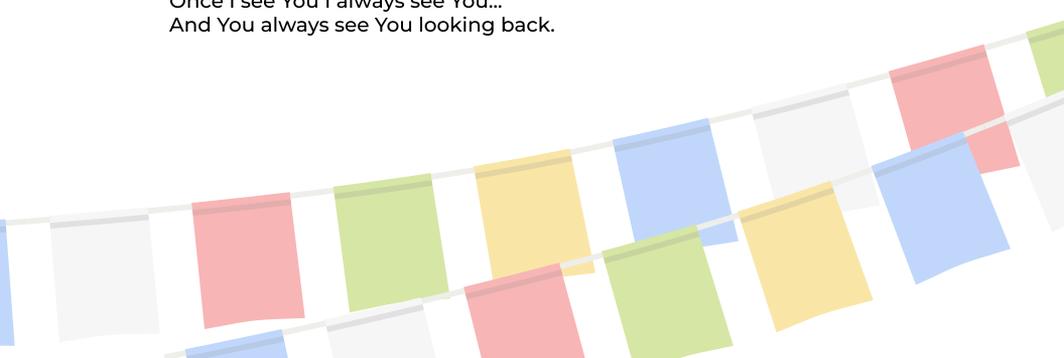
This is the gift the Divine brings to every embodiment:
Its own Herculean consent to be conformed,
articulated, individuated, personalized,
Defying the unbroken primacy of infinity.

Maya?

So that Being can experience
so that awareness dawns
so that cognizance will evolve...
Evolve and return.

The agony of containment, the antithesis of freedom,
is the sacrifice of God, through Life, to God.

Once I see You I always see You...
And You always see You looking back.



CELEBRATION OF LIFE SERVICE DR. BARBARA FIELDS

Musical Prelude: *Om Namó* Agape International Choir

Welcome & Opening Prayer Rev. Michael Bernard Beckwith

Musical Inspiration Agape International Choir

**Spiritual Reading: *Sacrifice*
by Barbara Fields** Hilary Carr

Life Story Wendy Craig-Purcell

Video Presentation

Remembrances

Christian Sorensen & Kathy Hearn

Wendy Craig-Purcell

Thepo Tulku

The “Fab Femme” with Hilary, Inga, Lizanne & Leigh

Kenneth Fields & Nico Yu Fields

Stephen Travis Pope

Musical Inspiration Agape International Choir

Final Sharing Rev. Michael Bernard Beckwith

Musical Inspiration Faith Rivera & Harold Payne

**Poem Reading: *Death Speaks*
by Barbara Fields** Rev. Michael Bernard Beckwith

Benediction

Musical Postlude Agape International Choir

SIGNS AND SIGNALS

by Barbara Fields (2020)

Everything is a sign
Once you learn the language.
Twice today I am sweeping leaves
That clatter like brittle snowflakes
To the wooden porch below
From a tree which owns a thousand more, dying.
By sunset as many and more will drop,
Fulfilling with impassive precision
Their role in the natural order of things.

Should I sweep?

Who feels the subtle suffering of children
Or speechless creatures and is not compelled?
Who sees the scorched earth gasping for breath
Or a man, hunted, gasping for breath
And is not outraged?
Multiplied, writ large,
Embedded in history delusional with failed ideals
As if this is the natural order of things.

Do I act or pass?

Cycles are signals.
Fish eats the insect, bird the fish,
Mammal the bird, insect the mammal.
Nation eats nation
For power which means wealth.
Patriarch oppresses weakness
Which might mean compassion, therefore justice.
Supremacy dominates sanity
But what governs the demise of destiny
In the natural order of things?

Do I resist or accept?

Love is a signal
Once you find its birthplace.
It honors not exclusive alliances,
Identity, desire or even singularity.
Elusive as a koan if we grasp,
Free as the sky and everywhere,
Living not between us
But IS us living within itself
As the natural order of things.

Do I control or surrender?

The world and its manifestations are not things,
But icons - all signs and signals
Sparkling at me,
Numinous and beckoning,
Breaking my shell,
Leading and lighting the way
To the only One I ever wanted to be.