



Chaplain Message
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From Our Chaplain (July 2004)

Dear Friends,

"It is for freedom that Christ has set us free."
- Galatians 5:1

For many years visitors and immigrants to our great country have been welcomed by the Statue of Liberty. She stands as a glorious tribute to freedom. The statue was given to the United States as a symbol of friendship and liberty by the French government. Our nation has opened its doors to people from around the world. Since 1884, the statue has towered above Bedlow Island near the entrance to New York Harbor with the welcoming words:

Give me your tired, your poor
Your huddled masses yearning to be free
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me

I lift my lamp beside the golden door. The Statue of Liberty is a symbol of freedom. The United States has long been a land of unparalleled opportunity. Life long goals and dreams can be pursued and no one is denied the pursuit of happiness.

For Christians the cross is our statue of liberty. It was there that our souls were set free and we came to know true freedom. The cross is our opportunity for a new beginning and new life.

We enjoy many freedoms in this country. But the freedom that is found in Jesus Christ is what the world so desperately longs to know. It is a freedom that is found only as we kneel at the foot of the cross and respond to the invitation to come.

Oh yes, we celebrate our freedom as Americans, but most importantly we celebrate that the cross is our statute of liberty.

Chaplain Sandy Anenson
