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CHOOSING OUR FRAGRANCE

It's been a week of fragrances and odors – some inspiring, some less than uplifting. For example, we recycle as much as we possibly can, so opening the compost bucket first thing in the morning leaves much to be desired if the semi-weekly task of emptying it was overlooked. On the other hand, the aroma of last evening's meal brought drools of delight.

It's been nearly a year now since Mom passed away; I mourn not only her death but the delicate, lingering remainders of the perfume she wore are leaving as well. I inherited her lovely winter coat as well as a bottle of the extremely expensive fragrance she loved but the problem is that I'm effectively banned from applying the latter to the former by the many "no perfumes or other scented products" notices I encounter.

Saturday morning was a Scent and Fragrance extravaganza, though! For the first time in far too many weeks, the sun was brilliant, the wind had softened to a breeze and I chose to honour my day off by tackling the laundry. It was wonderful. By noon the clothes had dried and I inhaled with delight as I removed clothes pegs, folded each freshly-laundered item and placed it neatly in a basket. The bouquet of ocean breeze and cherry-blossom laden fresh air teased my nostrils. Even the return of pelting rain and wind today failed to overshadow the delicate fragrance of sun-soaked bed linens and freshly ironed shirts.

We can choose the finest perfumes or revel in the benefits of air dried laundry but to have ones life graced with the essence of godly living demands that we spend time with Him. Our choice.

"Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place."