



Church of the Faithful Centurion Anglican Orthodox Church

# Ascension Day

and

## The Sunday after Ascension Day

Sunday Report



This is the second edition of the Sunday Report. You will get three of these reports, but no more unless you let me know you want to be on the mailing list. You can be taken off at any time. If you don't want anymore after this one, please let me know.

### Ascension Day

On Ascension Day, we had three members present for the service. Ascension Day commemorates the return to heaven, the ascending of our Lord. This is a day filled with joy, one where we get to recall fulfillment of promises.

The Ascension Day service always brings a lot of happiness and fun, being one of those days.<sup>1</sup>



If you did not make it, resolve to come next year. The parish will buy your dinner afterwards if it is your first time to the service<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> One can imagine the apostles on the line, "5, 4, 3, 2, 1 IGNITION, Houston, we have liftoff here at Cape Bethany."

<sup>2</sup> Maybe it will, maybe it won't. On the other hand, what do you have to lose? You have to eat and the parish might buy. It certainly will, if you remind Hap!

## *The Ascension Day Propers<sup>3</sup>*

### *The Collect*

**G**RANT, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that like as we do believe thy only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into the heavens; so we may also in heart and mind thither ascend, and with him continually dwell, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen. ¶ This Collect is to be said daily throughout the Octave.

### *For the Epistle. Acts i. 1.*

**T**HE former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen: to whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God: and, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence. When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judæa, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

### *The Gospel. St. Luke xxiv. 49.*

**J**ESUS said, Behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high. And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them. And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy: and were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God.

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<sup>3</sup> The *propers* are the Collect (prayer) for the day and the Bible readings appointed for the day. They are selections based on the Christian Year and make a particular point. Their selection is important. The propers have been more or less the same since the beginning of the Church of England and a large portion precede the founding of the Church of England.

## The Sunday after Ascension Day

Today was the Sunday after Ascension Day. We were slightly warmer than usual for this time of year. Sunrise temperature on Mount Olympus was 44°F, by the time church ended the mercury had climbed to 82°F, all under bright blue and clear skies. We ended up with 4 people present for the service.

### *Gathering Song*

Jack Arnold *played I sing a song of the saints of God* for the gathering song.

### **I sing a song of the saints of God**

I sing a song of the saints of God,  
Patient and brave and true,  
Who toiled and fought and lived and died  
For the Lord they loved and knew.  
And one was a doctor, and one was a queen,  
And one was a shepherdess on the green;  
They were all of them saints of God, and I mean,  
God helping, to be one too.

They loved their Lord so dear, so dear,  
And his love made them strong;  
And they followed the right for Jesus' sake  
The whole of their good lives long.  
And one was a soldier, and one was a beast,  
And one was slain by a fierce wild priest;  
And there's not any reason, no, not the least,  
Why I shouldn't be one too.

They lived not only in ages past,  
There are hundreds of thousands still.  
The world is bright with the joyous saints  
Who love to do Jesus' will.  
You can meet them in school, or in planes, or at  
sea,  
In church, or in trains, or in shops, or at tea;  
For the saints of God are just folk like me,  
And I mean to be one too.



Today's gathering song did wonders! We went from three at the start to four at the finish!

### *Propers*

Each Sunday there are Propers: special prayers and readings from the Bible. There is a Collect for the Day; that is a single thought prayer, most written either before the re-founding of the Church of England in the 1540s or written by Bishop Thomas Cranmer, the first Archbishop of Canterbury after the re-founding.

The Collect for the Day is to be read on Sunday and during Morning and Evening Prayer until the next Sunday. If you have a hard time remembering, "Do I read the Collect from last Sunday or next Sunday during the week?" Remember Sunday is the first day of the week. There are also two Bible readings, the Epistle and the Gospel. While they are "lessons", they are not the First Lesson and the Second Lesson, they are the Epistle and the Gospel. The Epistle is normally a reading from one of the various Epistles, or letters, in the New Testament. The Gospel is a reading from one of the Holy Gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. The Collect is said by the priest as a prayer, the Epistle can be read by either a designated reader (as we do in our church) or by one of the priests and the Holy Gospel, which during the service in our church is read by an ordained priest.

The propers are the same each year, except if a Red Letter Feast, that is one with propers in the prayerbook, falls on a Sunday, then those propers are to be read instead, except in a White Season, where it is put off. Red Letter Feast, so called because in the Altar Prayerbooks the titles are in red, are special days. Most of the Red Letter Feasts are dedicated to early saints instrumental in the development of the church, others to special events. Some days are particularly special and the Collect for that day is to be used for an octave (eight days) or an entire season, like Advent or Lent.

The Propers for today are found on Page 179-180, with the Collect first:

**The Sunday after Ascension Day.**

*The Collect.*

**O** GOD, the King of glory, who hast exalted thine only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph unto thy kingdom in heaven; We beseech thee, leave us not comfortless; but send to us thine Holy Ghost to comfort us, and exalt us un-to the same place whither our Saviour Christ is gone before, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

The Collect for Ascension Day, found on Page 177, is also read due to the rubric:

**The Collect for The Ascension Day.**

*The Collect.*

**G**RANT, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that like as we do believe thy only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into the heavens; so we may also in heart and mind thither ascend, and with him continually dwell, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

¶ **This Collect is to be said daily throughout the Octave.**

Jack Arnold read this morning's Epistle, which is written in the Fourth Chapter of the First Epistle of Saint Peter beginning at the Seventh Verse:

**T**HE end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer. And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins. Use hospitality one to another without grudging. As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. If any man speak, let him speak as the



oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Today's Holy Gospel was written in the Fifteenth Chapter of the Gospel according to Saint John beginning at the Twenty-Sixth Verse:

**W**HEN the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me: and ye also shall bear witness, because ye have been with me from the beginning. These things have I spoken unto you, that ye should not be offended. They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service. And these things will they do unto you, because they have not known the Father, nor me. But these things have I told you, that when the time shall come, ye may remember that I told you of them.

### *Sermon – The end of all things is at hand*

Today's Gospel starts out, *the end of all things is at hand*. Whoa! Harold Camping said the world would end on 21 May 2011. Now we found out the end was at hand back around the year 90 or so when Peter was writing. What's the story?

First, about the end:

#### **Matthew Chapter 13:**

Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away. But of that day and [that] hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father. Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is.

So, if even Jesus does not know, how do we square that with *the end of all things is at hand*?

Consider this, for roughly 280,000 people 21 May 2011 was the end of their time here on earth. Any given day, about that many people are born and about that many die. If you are one of them, the end is at hand. And, for most of us it is pretty clear you do not know the hour.

So, while you are here, live the life God has asked and leave happy. We often think of God as just keeping us from doing things. Indeed, He often does. But, the things He wants us not to do are harmful for us in the end. Just like the person whose warning of, "The stove is hot," is met with either a grateful "Thanks!" or a doubtful "It is?" which is followed by the loud, "AAAAAGGGGGGHHHHH!"

Be considerate of others and use the talent God gave you. Do not feel you are special, but rather that God gave you special talent that you should use. You are special to God, but that does not call for you to feel superior to others. Rather you should use the talent God gave you and be grateful for whatever privilege it gains you here on earth.

God asks that you do your best, if you do, with Jesus' making up for the shortfall, you will be fine. Actually, accounted as perfect.

### *New Nametags*

We had no new nametags today.

### *Birthdays and Anniversaries*

We had no reported anniversaries or birthdays today.

### *After Church Hospitality*

Dru Arnold brought snacks today. Sadly, they were low carb, so no Fatted DogNut, but many kinds of nuts were offered up. Oh, and some Nutzittle snuck its way in! Thank you very very much.

After church goodies providers as currently signed up:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>
12 June 2011	Dru Arnold
19 June 2011	Dru Arnold
26 June 2011	Dru Arnold
3 July 2011	Dru Arnold
10 July 2011	Dru Arnold
17 July 2011	Dru Arnold
24 July 2011	Dru Arnold
31 July 2011	<b>Opportunity Available</b>

*People in our Prayers* - <http://faithfulcenturionprayerteam.blogspot.com/>

### **Why? Prayer is an extremely important activity.**

It is not that God knows not our needs, for He surely does. Yet, Jesus commanded us to ask God for those same needs. In addition to the obvious of asking God for help, offering thanksgiving and the like, prayer helps us focus our thoughts on how we might do God's work.

The Prayer Team of the Church of the Faithful Centurion was established to help our members and fellow Christians pray for those in need and to give thanks as well for the blessings we have been granted.

### **Who can be on the list? Do I have to be a member of the Church of the Faithful Centurion to be prayed for?**

No! The only qualification to be on the list is that you want our prayer team to pray for you. We are Christians and are happy to pray for you, no matter who you are. If you want help from God, you are our kind of people.

### **What is the commitment from the prayer team?**

Each member of the team will pray for the desired outcome at last once per day.

### **How do I get myself or someone else on the prayer list?**

You can email one of the prayer team leaders: Jack - [jack@faithfulcenturion.org](mailto:jack@faithfulcenturion.org) or Dru - [dru@faithfulcenturion.org](mailto:dru@faithfulcenturion.org), or call the church office at (619) 659-3608 or fill out a prayer card at church.

### **What should I ask for?**

Depends on what you want. Some people merely want God to be asked to heal their ills and be mentioned by their first name, others want a specific outcome and / or have more of their personal information known to the team. Ask for what you want. It is your desire and need for prayer the team is attempting to meet. For typical examples,

see the list below.

### **Updating the Team**

If you are on our prayer list, or if you have submitted a person that you have asked us to pray for, please update one of the team members or Hap in person, by telephone or email. It helps to be able to pray specifically for these individuals including their specific needs; plus if they get better, it is nice to give thanks!

Please note that on the yellow (maybe green or orange if you get an old one) cards at church, you can ask that those to be prayed for have their names disseminated to the prayer team. Those names will be said in church and appear here. Or, you can ask that their names and purpose be kept confidential, then only Hap will know to pray for them.

*Prayer List Notice – If you have someone on the prayer list and their needs have changed, please let us know. We'd like to update our prayers to the need and most important to give thanks!*

### ***In need of a miracle or understanding of God's Plan***

*Todd and Kenny* have both been fighting osteocarcinoma for over five years and have been told their time here on earth is nearing its end, absent a miracle from God. Both are ready to go home and leave the pain, but would like to stay. Please pray for them and their families.

### ***Departed***

*Mary Parker* passed away surrounded by her family the afternoon of 25 May 2011 after a brief hospice stay. Please pray for the repose of her soul and peace of mind through trust in our Lord for her family and friends as they adjust to her loss.

### ***Peaceful Transition***

*Otis* is in hospice care.

*Beatrice*

### ***Healing***

*Won King* underwent surgery the week after Memorial Day. She has been in surgical ICU, but is doing well. Won is expected to be out of ICU on 6 June 2011, then hopefully home soon thereafter. Please give thanks for the successful surgery and pray for a rapid and complete recovery for her, pray also for both her peace of mind and that of her husband Hank as she works towards recovery.

*Andrew Scally* is hospitalized with pneumonia he is out of ICU. Please pray the medical team treating him will be able to keep the infection headed downhill so he can recover. He is up and walking for that we are all thankful. Please pray for peace of mind for Andrew and his family, in particular his son Keith who is there to help him. Pray for his trust in our Lord and for both him and his family to let God carry their worries while he recovers.

*Bill Aitken* had a full knee replacement on 18 April 2011. He had an infection which now seems under control and he seems to be healing and gaining strength. Please give thanks for the progress and pray for guidance for the team treating Bill and for his recovery. Pray also for guidance for him and his wife Sara.

*Steve Sundberg* had a heart attack after Easter. Please pray for his complete recovery and for his three children and family who are very worried about him, pray also for his trust in our Lord and for both him and his family to let God carry their worries while he recovers.

*Melanie Zimmers* has what appears to be a badly bulged disc at C5-C-6 which is causing radiating pain down her right arm and numbness in her thumb and forefinger. Please pray for resolution of her problem and a good attitude while a means to solve the problem is found.

*Hal Campbell* underwent apparently successful surgery for a cancerous lesion on the inside of his cheek and the associated lymph node on 7 March 2011, at the VA hospital in Seattle where he will undergo six weeks of follow up Chemo and Radiation treatment to hopefully eradicate and cancerous cells that may remain. Please pray for a successful result and for his acceptance of Christ.

*Kyle Thompson, CPL USMC* was injured was seriously wounded while on foot patrol in Helmand Province of Afghanistan on 25 October 2010. He has been released to Camp Pendleton on casual status until his medical condition is clear. Likely he will be medically discharged.

You can reach out to him by emailing his father, Mike Thompson, at [miket4k@yahoo.com](mailto:miket4k@yahoo.com). We may have a new address soon.

*Todd Love, CPL USMC* was seriously wounded while on foot patrol in Helmand Province of Afghanistan on 25 October 2010. Todd and his squad leader, *Kyle Thompson*, were hit by an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) during a routine patrol. The IED took both of Todd's legs and part of his left arm. Pray for peace of mind, courage and healing for Todd. Pray for the medical teams treating him.

Send Todd a note or log on to <http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/toddlove>.

*Shamim Gray* underwent a lumpectomy on Saturday 6 November 2010 at Bethesda Naval Hospital, with apparent great result. Please pray for a complete remission of the cancer. Pray also Shamim will maintain her great attitude and trust in God.

*Judith Clingwall*, afflicted with Multiple Sclerosis (MS), suffered a major setback in her coping with the disease. She is currently in a extended care facility. Please pray for her strength, peace of mind, trust in God and remission of the disease so she might return home to her family. Pray also for strength for her husband Martin as he deals with all the problems and stress of Judith's situation.

*Becky Madden* is paralyzed from the neck down as the result of a tragic shooting accident. She has made it home and to church in a new donated magic wheelchair. Please pray for further recovery for Becky, as well as strength and guidance for each of those involved.

*Betty Macauley*, Tim's mom, is currently in a state of failing health. Please pray she will gain interest in life around her and actively pursue life here on earth. Please pray for her family, in particular her son Tim, as they try to help her.

*Lauralee* underwent a lumpectomy on Friday after Thanksgiving. A further anomaly has been discovered and she had additional preventative radiation treatment. Please pray for a complete remission of the cancer. Pray also Lauralee will maintain her great attitude and trust in God.

*Luca*, 5 years old, from our church family in Perth, Western Australia, who has just been diagnosed with leukemia. And for his Mum and Dad and extended family.

*Jere Wolfe*, Melanie Zimmers' dad, has cardiomyopathy, a weakening of the heart muscle. The pacemaker installation helped a lot, but he lost ¼ of his weight, so he has to fight his way back. Keep praying for his continued recovery and for

him Jere to maintain his trust in the Lord.

*Greg Chase asks that you pray for his family:*

*Diane, Greg's wife, to see some positive physical signs for the ongoing treatment of her ulcerative colitis, now she is suffering the effects of shingles*

*Phyllis, Greg's mom, to gain physical strength to overcome her frailties after her recent "small" stroke.*

*Wilma - Healing*

*Vince (age 13), reoccurrence of cancer, recent testing found a nickel sized tumor in his lungs. The doctors are consulting with a specialist in Houston. Please pray for guidance for the medical team and for peace of mind for Vince and his family.*

*Obra Gray continues to take day by day. Please continue to keep Obra in your prayers, and give him the strength of knowing the Lord is with him and will never forsake him. Obra needs security of what lies ahead of him, and only the Lord can grant the solace to answer his prayer.*

*Bashir Ahmed, father of Shamim Gray, has been blessed with the Lord's breath of life to stay on this earth for the time being. But, things are hard for him and his loving wife, who cares for him. They have two young nieces living with them who see no real need to help, pray for God to enter their hearts. Above all, pray for his entire family to open their hearts to accept all God's love will bring them.*

*Kay Denton (Mrs. Kay) is still home and doing pretty well considering the bones in her neck and hands are degenerating as a side effect of her kidney failure. Her thumbs are not particularly useful any more. Mrs. Kay asks everyone who is praying for her know how grateful she is for their prayers. As always, she retains her trust in the Lord and her positive attitude*

### **Guidance**

*Steve asks that you pray for difficulties he is having with his family. Please pray that the Holy Ghost will enter into his heart and provide him with the heaven sent inspiration that he needs to see clearly and deal with problems and the courage to do what needs to be done in the manner it should be done.*

*Jacquie to open her heart to God and accept His Love and Grace.*

*Hap asks you to pray that he might be able to trust God will help him make the right decisions at the right time and not to worry uselessly and that he will open his heart to the Holy Ghost.*

### **Armed Forces & Contractors**

*Airman Donny Patton (RAF Mildenhall, UK), Josh (USCG), Julian (USMC), Jordan (USMC – AIT), Neal (USN-Afghanistan), Trevor (USAF - KC-10 Boom Operator), Trevor (USN – Pilot Training),*

### **Persecuted**

*Around the world, Christians are under attack, not only in the Muslim world, but from Hindus and others in India. Also, they are under continual attack in the name of "Separation of Church and State" in the western world, as it becomes actively atheist or pro-devil buddy. Please pray for God's guidance and protection for all persecuted Christians and those around them.*

## Thanksgiving

Bill who has battled a drinking problem which has adversely impacted his life and the lives of those around him has not had a drink in three weeks. For that he and his family give particular thanks.

Kay, age 90, who had a stroke in March 2011 has completely recovered and only now has residual tiredness so she is only out and about for ½ of each day rather than all day. She thanks everyone who kept her in their prayers. She is very special to Sara.

## Various Special Requests

We ask that you pray, please ask God that the Holy Ghost might give you insight into how you might make the lives of your friends and family better. Remember helping others is not just those who you don't know!

Please join us in praying that the *Free Teen Guitar Class* will be continue to be an opportunity for God to work in the lives of the kids and their families. Please ask God to guide the class to new opportunities to make Him known to others. Help us to let the love of our Lord shine through us into their lives, putting Him first, so that He might enter in to their hearts and lives.

## Question that only you can ask

What would you like to know about our history, what we believe, what we do or how we operate? Hap is looking for material for the continuing education class and *Thought for the Day* material. Help us help you. Please send your question to Hap so we all can get an answer. Just because you don't know the answer to your question doesn't mean you are the only one who doesn't know. But, if you don't ask, no one will know.

## Question – What, pray tell, is a Cherubim?

In the *Benedictus*, said during morning prayer, there is something called a Cherubim. What in the world is it?

Well, the first thing is – It is not in this world! Cherubim are winged creatures who support the Throne of God, or act as guardian spirits. They appear in the Bible (the book of Ezekiel) as bearing the throne and chariot of God, and hence later conceived as a type of angels. They are also mentioned in Genesis 3:24 as guardians (or protectors) of the Garden of Eden. They were placed at the gates of the Garden to prevent humans from re-entering and thus gaining access to the Tree of Life. They also formed the mercy seat on the Ark of the covenant (Exodus 25:18-20).



In Jewish and Christian religion they are second in the order of angels, directly after the seraphim. They were usually depicted as angels with four wings and four faces (human, lion, bull and eagle). Artists in later times made them appear as the chubby, rosy-faced, winged infants of which they are known today. They are usually clothed in blue, while the seraphim are clothed in red. They seem related to the winged and human-headed bulls of Babylon (also named cherubim), a lesser order of deities, which guarded the gates of the royal palace.

*I'd like to get a different point across or announce something*

If you have a different point of view, I would be happy to give you room to get your point across. While this publication is my perspective on events, I recognize not everyone may agree and that some people would like to express their own opinion. If you want to write something, please forward your item to Hap (with a note as to whether or not you would like editing help) to: hap@faithfulcenturion.org.

*D-Day – 6 June 1944*

Tomorrow is the 67<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day, the landing operations of the Allied invasion of Normandy, France, in Operation Overlord, during World War II.

The operation was the largest amphibious invasion in world history, with over 160,000 troops landing on 6 June 1944. 195,700 Allied naval and merchant navy personnel in over 5,000 ships were involved. The invasion required the transport of soldiers and material from the United Kingdom by troop-laden aircraft and ships, the assault landings, air support, naval interdiction of the English Channel and naval fire-support. The landings took place along a 50 mile stretch of the Normandy coast divided into five sectors: Utah, Omaha, Gold, Juno and Sword. There were over 11,000 casualties on our side. Some of the early assault wave sustained casualty rates over 80 percent.



We are free today because so many gave their future for ours. Remember them tomorrow.

*Epistle Readers*

We post the list of Epistle Readers in the Beadle's Report each week so you can either plan your attendance or your pre-reading as the spirit so moves you.

Date	Reader
12 June 2011	Dru Arnold
19 June 2011	Jack Arnold
26 June 2011	Dru Arnold

*The near future, as well as Next Sunday*

**Sunday**

12 June 2011 – Pentecost or Whitsunday – Morning Prayer - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**

**Sunday**

19 June 2011 – Trinity Sunday – Holy Communion - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**