



Faithful Centurion Anglican Orthodox Church

# Ninth Sunday after Trinity

Sunday Report



Today was the Ninth Sunday after Trinity Sunday. The weather was once again picture perfect, clear, dry and 50°F at sunrise, rising to 77°F by the end of church under those same blue skies! Although there was much horse training and pipe fixing before church, we ended up with the usual 4 people present.

## 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 minister as a prayer, the Epistle can be read by either a designated reader (as we do in our church) or by one of the ministers and the Holy Gospel, which during the service in our church is read by an ordained minister.

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 Feasts, 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 200-203, with the Collect first:

### The Ninth Sunday after Trinity.

#### *The Collect.*

**G**RANT to us, Lord, we beseech thee, the spirit to think and do always such things as are right; that we, who cannot do any thing that is good without thee, may by thee be enabled to live according to thy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Ryan Hopkins read the Epistle, which came from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians, the Tenth Chapter beginning at the First Verse. Paul reminds us we have a common past, regardless of our actual lineage. Spiritually, we are descended from the Jews of the Exodus. Their God is our God, their actions were directed by our God, the same God. He was a Trinity then as He is today. Their reality is our reality, whether we choose to understand or accept it. Our forefathers drank of "the same spiritual drink; for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ." Those who have gone before provide examples, both good and bad. In this letter Paul addresses the bad and suggest we should see what their ill behavior gained them before we set our course and not after. And, let us think ourselves ever so special, he reminds us that we are subjected to no special temptations, only those "as is common to man."



This is another example of the adage, Those who are ignorant of history are doomed to repeat it.

**B**RETHERN, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; and were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; and did all eat the same spiritual meat; and did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ. But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness. Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted. Neither be ye idolaters, as were some of them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play. Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day three and twenty thousand. Neither let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents. Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer. Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come. Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall. There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

Deacon Striker Jack Arnold read today's Holy Gospel which started in the Fifteenth



Chapter of the Gospel according to St. Luke, beginning at the Eleventh Verse and recounts the story of the prodigal son. A man has two sons, the older is a wonderful young man who strives to please his father in everything he does. The younger son asks for his inheritance, now rather than later, and sets off to spend it wastefully in a far off land. In dire straits, he decides to go home to his father and beg to be allowed to live as one of his servants. He decides to tell his father, "Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy son..." Before he can get the words out of his mouth, his father welcomes him, gives him new clothing and calls the servants to prepare a fatted calf for a big party. The elder son is very angry and hurt. He asks his father what he did wrong; he followed

his instructions every day to the best of his ability, worked hard, and yet his father had never even given a small party for him. The father answered, saying, "Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine." It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost and is found." This story, like that of the workers in the vineyard has a number of meanings. Like the father in the story, God wants us to be His faithful child, but rejoices when we return to Him. Like the prodigal son, we should be grateful to live long enough to return to Him. If we are like the oldest son, let us learn from his mistake and be joyful when our brothers and sisters come home to our family. Let us join in the celebration and not begrudge the fatted calf.

**J**ESUS said, A certain man had two sons: and the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living. And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living. And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want. And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him. And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants. And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him. And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son. But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet: and bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry: for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry. Now his elder son was in the field: and as he came and drew nigh to the house, he heard musick and dancing. And he called one of the servants, and asked what these things meant. And he said unto him, Thy brother is come; and thy father hath killed the fatted calf, because he hath received him safe and sound. And he was angry, and would not go in: therefore came his father out, and intreated him. And he answering said to his father, Lo, these many years do I serve thee, neither transgressed I at any time thy commandment: and yet thou never gavest me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends: but as soon as this thy son was come, which hath devoured thy living with harlots, thou hast killed for him the fatted calf. And he said unto him, Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine. It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found.



### *Sermon – Time and Action*

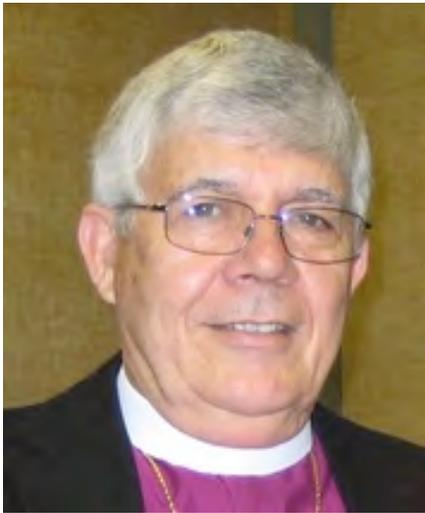
Today's sermon tied the Epistle and Gospel together and is mainly contained in the forewords above. All that has gone before is for our edification, but if we will not learn of those things, we will repeat the bad and miss the good. Do what God asks and do not worry about the actions of others. If they are rewarded, accepted or admonished, that is not your concern. Your concern should be that you do your very best to do God's will. It is important that you try your best to take the Father's view of things. Work as hard as you can, do the best you can, trust in the Lord.

## *Bishop Ogles message for today*

### **Devotion for 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity 21 August 2011 Anno Domini**

"*And every man went unto his own house.*" (John 7:53)

*"1 Jesus went unto the mount of Olives. 2 And early in the morning he came again into the temple, and all the people came unto him; and he sat down, and taught them. 3 And the scribes and Pharisees brought unto him a woman taken in adultery; and when they had set her in the midst, 4 They say unto him, Master, this woman was taken in adultery, in the very act. 5 Now Moses in the law commanded us, that such should be stoned: but what sayest thou? 6 This they said, tempting him, that they might have to accuse him. But Jesus stooped down, and with his finger wrote on the ground, as though he heard them not. 7 So when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them, **He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her.** 8 And again he stooped down, and wrote on the ground. 9 And they which heard it, being convicted by their own conscience, went out one by*



*one, beginning at the eldest, even unto the last: and Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst. 10 When Jesus had lifted up himself, and saw none but the woman, he said unto her, **Woman, where are those thine accusers? hath no man condemned thee?** 11 She said, No man, Lord. And Jesus said unto her, **Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more.** (John 8:1-11)*

Here is one of the most grace-filled passages in the entire New Testament; yet, most modern versions attempt to dismiss its authenticity by falsely claiming that it is not included in the more ancient and more reliable manuscripts. The manuscript evidence which they prefer is so flawed and incomplete that any man of common intelligence could recognize its total fabrications if he studied the issue thoroughly. Thank God that the Received Text of Scripture (comprised of the overwhelming majority of all available manuscript evidence) includes the true and beautiful encounter of Christ with a disreputable and ill-fated woman! It grieves me that I find it necessary to point out that there are those who challenge even the Word of God whose duty it is to protect it.

Who is this woman? She is every one of us who read this devotion. She was caught red-handed in the act of committing adultery. Her sin is not subject to question or defense; she is therefore silent before Christ. We, too, have been caught red-handed in our sins. We have no words of extenuation or justification. WE ARE GUILTY! Beyond the obvious sin of adultery, when were you guilty of such a sin?

Most of us will agree that adultery is the act of engaging in sex with a party to whom we are not married. But there is also an even deeper spiritual dimension that we may

have not considered: As members of the Church (the Bride of Christ), we commit spiritual adultery anytime we engage in idolatry. When we turn from our espoused Bridegroom to other gods of money, sex, power, and pride, we have committed that adultery which makes us unfaithful to our Bridegroom – the Lord Jesus Christ.

Note the last verse of the preceding chapter: "*And every man went unto his own house.*" Every man went unto his own house, because they had houses into which to go! But the Lord of Glory had no such luxury. "*Jesus went unto the mount of Olives.*" What a dear Friend and Savior is our Lord! We are oblivious to our great failures of righteousness. We enjoy our homes in comfort, but the One who came to die for us has not even a place to lay His precious Head. He resorts, as He often does, to the Mount to pray and to rest. The best place to pray is always a place apart from the noise and commotion of the public square – a place of solitude! High above the madding crowd!

*"And early in the morning he came again into the temple, and all the people came unto him; and he sat down, and taught them"* Jesus is never failing in satisfying His every spiritual responsibility. Even God will go early, at its very opening, to the Temple. All the people came unto Him and He sat down and taught them (as One having authority). The Pharisees come early as well, but not to satisfy a spiritual obligation, but to seek the death of a helpless woman, and to trap Jesus and entangle Him that they might destroy Him.

*"And the scribes and Pharisees brought unto him a woman taken in adultery; and when they had set her in the midst."* These ruthless religious leaders prove hereby that religion may take an entirely different course from that which is right. These brigands did not bring the man! Why not? Does it not take two to tango? They were too politically correct for the time. Men were privileged with political power and social prominence over women ere Christ came. So these devils bring only the woman. They care not a whit for her feelings – her shame, her terror. Their only object is to place Christ in a compromising position in determining her fate. Hear what the Law sayeth: "*And the man that committeth adultery with another man's wife, even he that committeth adultery with his neighbour's wife, the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death.*" (Lev 20:10) They roughly cast this humiliated and terrified woman before Christ in the public square! It is quite more than coincidental that the men who meant this woman the greatest harm brought her to the One who was able to grant her the most good. Without these wicked Pharisees, this woman may never have come to Christ!

*"They say unto him, Master, this woman was taken in adultery, in the very act. Now Moses in the law commanded us, that such should be stoned: but what sayest thou?"* Perhaps they had not read ALL the Law of Moses, especially Lev 20:10? Being bloodthirsty beyond measure, these men would have loved to take up sharp-cornered stones and repeatedly cast them at the woman until she was dead. I observed such evil happen while living in Iran after the Islamic Revolution in Iran. Why did these Pharisees bring this woman? You do not need my explanation for the Holy Bible clearly tells us in the next verse: "*This they said, tempting him, that they might have to accuse*

*him.*" If Christ had violated the law of Rome by condemning the woman to stoning, He would have been guilty of violating Caesar's law. On the contrary, had He frankly forgiven her and spared her the sentence of the Law of Moses, He would have been guilty of violating the Law of Moses as expressed in Leviticus 20:10. This, the Pharisees considered, their Catch 22!

*"But Jesus stooped down, and with his finger wrote on the ground, as though he heard them not."* I have observed this act of `writing on the ground a number of times in Iran. There is a cultural tendency among the Persians (and the wider Middle East) to avoid telling you something to your face that may displease, or embarrass, you. They say that they do not want to "*disturb the water of your face.*" So if you ask a question whose answer may be embarrassing or displeasing to either you or the listener, they will often kneel down and diddle in the sand as if distracted. The Holy sensitivity of Christ was surely embarrassed at the situation – not only for Himself and the gathering, but also for the woman. He wrote with the Finger of God for the fourth time mentioned in Scripture. The first two times was in the graving of the Law on tables of stone, the third was in the court of Belshazzar, the Babylonian king who drank from the Holy vessels of the Temple. The Hand of God appeared and wrote upon the wall. Now the Finger of God writes upon the shifting sands. What He wrote is not revealed to us, however, we do have some suggestive reasons provided by Scripture: "*O LORD, the hope of Israel, all that forsake thee shall be ashamed, and they that depart from me shall be written in the earth, because they have forsaken the LORD, the fountain of living waters.*" (Jeremiah 17:13) These Pharisees had not only forsaken the Lord, but were attempting to destroy him by cunning and craftiness. Perhaps, though we do not know with certainty, this was what Christ had written!

Please bear in mind that the terrified woman is in the midst. She dares not even look up at Christ. Her face is burning with shame, and her heart is racing in terror. But she only listens to the dialogue unable to say a word in her defense. She hears the cruel Pharisees calling for her stoning, but she also hears the very limited responses of Christ. Perhaps she gains a glance of His kindly features when He stoops to her level and writes upon the ground?

*"So when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself,"* The wicked must be full of fear whenever Christ arises. He will not forever write upon the earth. The day will come when He shall take upon Himself the vesture of the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, and grasp the Sword of His Word in Power and Thunder. The woman is in much better stead of perspective to have Christ come to her level than are the Pharisees when He stands to theirs. "*and said unto them, **He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her.***" What a kind and loving Advocate this woman has found in Christ. He may be our Advocate as well if we shall come before Him in repentance and love. These are the first words the woman has heard Jesus utter. "*Surely these Pharisees,*" she thinks, "*must be worthy and without sin for all the show they make of righteousness?"* "*Anyone of them must be worthy to cast the first stone. Why would Christ, if He is my helper, ask them such a thing?"* But Christ sees something the woman does not see. He sees into the dark

and ugly chambers of the hearts of these men. He knows their sins and guilt.

*"And again he stooped down, and wrote on the ground."* Christ does nothing in vain. He wrote twice upon the ground for a real cause. This is the fifth recorded time of the Finger of God writing. When God writes, it is no small issue. What did He write THIS time? We are not told. Perhaps it was the name of one or all of the Pharisees, and beside those names, there may have been a woman's name written with whom they had, themselves, committed adultery. Whatever it was, it had a grave and sobering impact on them!

*"And they which heard it, being convicted by their own conscience, went out one by one, beginning at the eldest, even unto the last: and Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst."* The wicked men left without a benedictory word! They began leaving by the eldest to the younger. Why? Perhaps the older a man is, the more opportunity to sin he has. Now, Jesus is left alone with the woman. The day will come, dear friend, when you, too, will be left alone to face your Lord. Neither will your Accuser be present for we are told in Revelations 20:10-11 that Satan and his followers will first be cast in the Lake of Fire, and then the White Throne Judgment. So your prosecuting attorney will not be present at that judgment, but your defense attorney (Christ) will be so present! This woman does not know what to think. She has only come to love this Voice she has heard – the same which Mary Magdalene heard through her profuse tears at the Garden Tomb!

For the first time, this Voice speaks to her! What a lovely Voice it is: "**Woman, where are those thine accusers? hath no man condemned thee?**" Only God has the authority to condemn. Those guilty men who brought the woman and the charges are gone having been found at least as guilty as the woman. The term 'woman' as used here by Christ was a term of respect, and should be today! "*What has happened, Woman? Has NO man condemned thee?*" It is doubtful that the woman understands the tremendous events that have transpired in her salvation, but she knows the One who granted it! That is ENOUGH! The guilty men left still guilty, but only the woman remains for the great forgiveness of Christ.

Perhaps lifting her tear-filled eyes for the first time to behold this Great Presence before her (for she knew who He was), she responded timidly, "**No man, Lord.**" The next words of Jesus thunder across the eons of time and Eternity having the authenticity of a Heavenly Decree. They pierced the hidden chambers of the heart of the woman and gave more comfort and hope than any she had heard before: "**Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more.**" It will be a great privilege for her now to be forgiven, and also to avoid falling into the same pit of sin that was most nearly her ruin. She will "*go and sin no more*" with a forgiven heart. Can you say as much? Have you faced Christ with your filthy rags and burden of sin and heard His loving Voice of forgiveness? See to it, friend!

### **New Nametags**

We had no new nametags today.

### *Birthdays and Anniversaries*

We had no birthdays or anniversaries today.

### *After Church Hospitality*

Because there is a going away party for the Thomas family, who are headed to Guam with the Navy for a two year tour, there was no snacking and no Burrito Ministry, but next week!

After church goodies providers as currently signed up:

Date	Name
28 August 2011	Dru Arnold
4 September 2011	<b>Opportunity Available</b>
11 September 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 reflect the need and most important to give thanks!***

### ***Travel***

*Whitney* is on travel this week.

*The Thomas Family* is on travel this week to their new assignment in Guam.

### ***Birthday***

*Sandra Lee* celebrated her birthday 14 August 2011.

*Ryan Hopkins* celebrated his 21<sup>st</sup> birthday 14 July 2011.

*Bucky Starlin* celebrated his 63<sup>rd</sup> birthday 8 July 2011.

### ***Homebound or Infirm***

*Sara's mother* is in a state of deteriorating health. Please pray for peace of mind for her and the ability for both Sara and her mother to put their cares and worries on God's shoulders so they can deal with the many problems involved.

### ***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***

*Tibo* passed away in the Philippines. Please see the note from Archdeacon Anthony Pangsiw of the Philippines:

Greeting you in the name of our Lord Jesus. Just now I arrived from Ducot, Tublay for a prayer request by an old man who is known to be a popular pagan religious leader. According to his sister, when he felt that he was getting weak, he instructed his sisters and children not to allow pagan services to be conducted when he died. Instead, he requested them for a Christian service and denounce in front of them all the ritual activities and belief he performed during wake when he was strong including the putting of traditional blanket and clothes for pagan religious leader requesting them for plain white instead.

Today is my second time to go for prayer upon his request. When I arrived at 11:00am, he extended his to me and asked for a prayer with a clear and loud enough voice. Before we started our service, I instructed him to denounce all his pagan faith and belief, repent them and accepting Jesus as his Lord and Savior in which all he positively responded. 30 minutes after we concluded our prayer service, he blow his last breath and gave up his spirit. The name of the old pagan religious leader is Tibo, the elder brother of our member Ella Kellasi at ST. Paul Mission at Ducot, Tublay. The power of the Holy Spirit.

In Christ Jesus; +Anthony

*Mahmud* (age 6) died on 7 June 2011, after heart surgery in the Philippines. Mahmud was born with a hole in one of his heart valves and was nearing the end of his time here on earth when Michael Harrington came across him on vacation. Michael funded the needed surgery. The surgery was apparently successful, but

Mahmud died shortly thereafter. Please pray for Mahmud, an only child, and his family and give thanks for the action by Michael.

### *Healing*

*Gil Garcia* had heart problems on 10 August 2011. It turns out he has Congestive Heart Failure. The medical team is trying to work out medications to get a good fluid level in his blood stream, yet not allow pooling in the chest area, while getting his rapid heartbeat under control. He is home from Kaiser Fontana, not far from where worked when he was the comptroller at Kaiser Steel! Please pray for guidance for the team treating Gil to get his medication levels right. Pray also for peace of mind for Gil and his wife Mary.

*Dotty Valkenaar* has been diagnosed with a reoccurrence of breast cancer. After consulting with her surgeon she has decided on a double mastectomy and no reconstruction, this is scheduled to take place 23 August 2011 in Seattle. Please pray for the surgical team to do their best, for a good result and peace of mind through trust in God for Dotty and Lew, her husband, as well as their entire family.

*Bill Aitken* had a full knee replacement on 18 April 2011. He had an infection which set things back, then needed an additional operation the week of 25 July 2011. Now a mass has been found in the abdominal area and he underwent explorative surgery on 4 August 2011. It seems things are going okay, but the mass has yet to be indentified. Please pray for guidance for the team treating Bill and for his recovery. Pray also for peace of mind for Bill and his wife Sara.

*Ryan Hopkins* managed to injure his back somehow. Please pray for the medical people treating him to pay attention and figure out what the problem is, then come up with a workable solution. Give Ryan patience while all this happens.

*Loretta Walker* underwent gall bladder surgery on Friday, 1 July 2011. The surgery was expected to go fairly smoothly, but there was more to it than expected. She required a second surgical attempt, which did not solve the problem. She is home recovering and gaining strength. It looks like she has beaten down the infection she had which is excellent. Please pray for her to keep a good attitude, trust in the Lord, as well as eat and drink at home. Pray for her family, in particular her daughters Patty and Jenny and granddaughters Whitney and Cayenne who are taking care of her. Please give thanks for her successful surgery and pray for a complete return to health. Please pray for peace of mind for Loretta and his family, in particular her daughters who are there to help her. Pray for her trust in our Lord and for both her and her family to let God carry their worries while she recovers.

*Morris Martin, 91*, was hospitalized with pneumonia, he in rehab now and doing well, he has been irritated by having a feeding tube in until his throat can heal and be retrained, but he has responded with renewed effort when he failed the swallow test on 21 July 2011. He had a bit of a fever from which he seems to have recovered; it is hard, but he is strong. Give thanks for his great attitude and trust in God. Pray for strength and peace of mind for Morris and his family, in particular his son Paul. Pray for his trust in our Lord and for both him and his family to let God carry their worries while he recovers.

*Steve Sundberg* had a heart attack after Easter. After some time, the medical team treating him decided he was not a candidate for stents and a five-way heart bypass was performed the week of 6 June 2011. Please give thanks for an apparently very successful surgery and also 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.

*Matt Alcantara*, age 15, has Osteosarcoma (bone cancer), a very rare and often lethal form of cancer with limited treatment options. This is a disease that is about 90 percent fatal in a couple of years. He has no hip joint on one side, but he walks and swims! Courage? Guts? You bet! Matt's scans on 20 June 2011, were CLEAN! Thanks be to God for the way things have gone. Thanks also for the great faith of Matt and his entire family. Their faith and trust is a wonderful example for each and every one of us. But, now is not the time to stop praying. Actually, it never is the time to stop praying!

*Andrew Scally* was hospitalized with pneumonia, he is home now and doing very well, spending more and more time off the supplemental oxygen. Please give thanks for his recovery and pray for a complete return to health. Please pray for peace of mind for Andrew and his family, in particular his son Keith who has been 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.

*Won King* underwent surgery the week after Memorial Day. She is now home, but doctors had difficulty stabilizing her blood thinning medication levels; but all seems fine now. Please give thanks for the successful surgery and medication setting.

*Melanie Zimmers* has what appears to be a badly bulged disc at C5-C6 which is causing radiating pain down her right arm and numbness in her thumb and forefinger. She has been in physical therapy and is set to undergo epidural injections in July 2011. 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. Friday, 17 June 2011, his 62<sup>nd</sup> birthday, he started his first food by mouth since he finished six weeks of follow up Chemo and Radiation treatment to hopefully eradicate and cancerous cells that might have remained. Please pray for him to be able to eat so that he can have the feeding tube removed, for remission of the cancer and most of all 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 an 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. He is getting stronger, but not gaining weight. He now has a bladder infection and is concerned because of the significantly adverse reaction he had to the antibiotics last time. Keep praying for his continued recovery and for him Jere to maintain his trust in the Lord.

*Doreen Wolf*, mother of Melanie Zimmers, is recovering from Bell's Palsy and still has a bit of difficulty with her foot, but she is mobile, for which she gives thanks.

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

*Diane*, Greg's wife, has a positive attitude dealing with the ongoing treatment of her ulcerative colitis. They are grateful for a positive attitude and would be pleased to see physical progress.

*Phyllis*, Greg's mom, has stabilized as the result of the good home care she is receiving and looks forward to her 89<sup>th</sup> birthday in a couple of weeks.

*Wilma* is at home after three weeks in the hospital and is working on building strength for a planned hip replacement in early August 2011.

*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), 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**

*Baby Thomas Ellis* born the afternoon of 12 July 2011, to Katie and Andrew in the UK with complications, is home and doing well. Please give thanks for the good result and pray that he will live a long and healthy life to the honor and glory of God.

### **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.

*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](mailto:hap@faithfulcenturion.org).

*Epistleers*

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

<b>Date</b>	<b>Reader</b>
28 August 2011	Dru Arnold
4 September 2011	Ryan Hopkins
11 September 2011	Dru Arnold
18 September 2011	Ryan Hopkins
25 September 2011	Dru Arnold

*The near future, as well as Next Sunday*

**Sunday**

28 August 2011 – Tenth Sunday after Trinity – 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**

4 September 2011 – Eleventh Sunday after Trinity – 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**

11 September 2011 – Twelfth Sunday after Trinity – 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**

18 September 2011 – Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity – 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**

**Sunday**

25 September 2011 – Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity – 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**