



Faithful Centurion Anglican Orthodox Church

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Rose Sunday

Sunday Report



Today was the Fourth Sunday in Lent, otherwise known as Rose Sunday. Sunrise temperature on Mount Olympus was just below freezing at 31°F under snowy skies. We awoke to about three inches of snow and by the time church started we had about four or so! Quite a change from last week's Santa Ana wind and 72°F! The snow kept our normal Epistleer Ryan Hopkins from making the trip up the mountain, as he has not the four wheel drive, thus we ended up with three people at church.

Gathering Song

Jack Arnold played *Amazing Grace* for the gathering song.

Amazing Grace

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

Thro' many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far
And grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we've first begun.

We try to pick our gathering songs to have a wonderful message, be easy to sing and suitable for guitar accompaniment. *Amazing Grace* is one of Hap's absolute favorites.

Rose Sunday

We are halfway through Lent, or close to it, 22 days down, 18 to go. Many people do not realize that Lent has 40 days, as Sundays are not



counted. Sundays are not fast days, as we celebrate every Sunday in remembrance of the glorious resurrection of our Lord. Situated halfway through Lent, this Sunday is often called Refreshment Sunday after the Gospel, with the loaves and fishes. The liturgical color lightens from purple to rose as a break in our fasting. It is also the time when English children traditionally came home from boarding schools for Easter. It also is observed as Mother's Day in England for that very reason and also referred to as Mothering Sunday.

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. 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 or our Deacon Striker.

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 130-132, with the Collect first:

The Fourth Sunday in Lent.

The Collect.

GRANT, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that we, who for our evil deeds do worthily deserve to be punished, by the comfort of thy grace may mercifully be relieved; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

And due to the rubric, the Collect for the Day is followed by the Collect for Ash Wednesday, which is found on Page 124:

The first day of Lent, commonly called Ash Wednesday.

The Collect.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who hatest nothing that thou hast made, and dost forgive the sins of all those who are penitent; Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

¶ This Collect is to be said every day in Lent, after the Collect appointed for the day, until Palm Sunday.

As Ryan Hopkins could not make it to church because of the snow, the ever lovely Dru Arnold read the Epistle for today, which came from the Fourth Chapter of Paul's letter to the Galatians beginning at the Twenty-First Verse.



Paul talks about the two sons of Abraham, one of the bond, one of the free. These two, the bond under The Law and the free under The New Covenant. The people of old are the people of The Law, 613 laws by which they must abide. Perhaps more properly said in practice that they must work around or evade those 613. Yet, they cannot comply with all the laws nor even work around them. They are doomed to failure with no help from God. As people of The New Covenant, the original and real New Deal, we have only to comply

with two laws or rules; To love the Lord with all our hearts and to love our neighbor. Actually, those two are much harder to fully comply with than avoiding the 613 laws of The Law. But, we have the key – Jesus Christ. He came to earth not only to lead us to heaven, from the front; but to be a propitiation for our sins, to make us account as perfect to God to allow us to come into His Land.

TELL me, ye that desire to be under the law, do ye not hear the law? For it is written, that Abraham had two sons, the one by a bondmaid, the other by a freewoman. But he who was of the bondwoman was born after the flesh; but he of the freewoman was by promise. Which things are an allegory: for these are the two covenants; the one from the mount Sinai, which gendereth to bondage, which is Agar. For this Agar is mount Sinai in Arabia, and answereth to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children. But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all. For it is written, Rejoice, thou barren that bearest not: break forth and cry, thou that travailest not: for the desolate hath many more children than she which hath an husband. Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are the children of promise. But as then he that was born after the flesh persecuted him that was born after the Spirit, even so it is now. Nevertheless what saith the scripture? Cast out the bondwoman and her son: for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman. So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman, but of the free.

Deacon Striker Jack Arnold read this morning's Gospel which comes from the Sixth Chapter of the Gospel of St. John beginning at the First Verse.

JESUS went over the sea of Galilee, which is the sea of Tiberias. And a great multitude followed him, because they saw his miracles which he did on them that were diseased. And Jesus went up into a mountain, and there he sat with his disciples. And the passover, a feast of the Jews, was nigh. When Jesus then lifted up his eyes, and saw a great company come unto him, he saith unto Philip, Whence shall we buy bread, that these may eat? And this he said to prove him: for he himself knew what he would do. Philip answered him, Two



hundred pennyworth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may take a little. One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, saith unto him, There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes: but what are they among so many? And Jesus said, Make the men sit down. Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand. And Jesus took the loaves; and when he had given thanks, he distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to them that were set down; and likewise of the fishes as much as they would. When they were filled, he said unto his disciples, Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost. Therefore they gathered them together, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves, which remained over and above unto them that had eaten. Then those men, when they had seen the miracle that Jesus did, said, This is of a truth that prophet that should come into the world.

Sermon – Time and Action

Today's sermon brought the Collect, Epistle and Gospel together and is partly contained in the forewords above.



Consider these words from the Collect:

... we, who for our evil deeds do worthily deserve to be punished, by the comfort of thy grace may mercifully be relieved ...

In the Collect, as is oft the case, we acknowledge to God our sad state, our evil nature, and then ask God to grant us His Grace to be relieved of being accounted as evil, rather accounted as perfect even though we are so far from perfect.

Inasmuch as we are imperfect and can only be accounted as perfect through God's Grace of His Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ, Paul is right on point when he talks about the two sons of Abraham, one of the bond, one of the free.

These two are representative of the two covenants with God, the bond under The Law and the free under The New Covenant.

The people of old are the people of The Law, 613 laws by which they must abide. Perhaps more properly said in practice that they must work around or evade those 613. Yet, they cannot comply with all the laws nor even work around them. They are doomed to failure with no help from God. As people of The New Covenant, the original and **real** New Deal, we have only to comply with two laws or rules; To love the Lord with all our hearts and to love our neighbor. Actually, those two are much harder to fully comply with than avoiding the 613 laws of The Law. But, we have the key – Jesus Christ. He came to earth not only to lead us to heaven, from the front; but to be a propitiation for our sins, to make us account as perfect to God to allow us to come into His Land.

Now, think about the Gospel. When we need help, how about instead of worry, we

substitute trust and action? Trust that God will give us what we need. And, acting based on what we can and should do, not what we want to do? Acting on what we should do gets results. Perhaps not what we want, but certainly what we need. In the middle of nowhere, two thousand years from the nearest McDonalds, the disciples looked to Jesus to fill the needs of their congregation. Jesus took what they had and gave them what they needed; "for he himself knew what he would do." He acted to help them. Do ye likewise:

ACT

It is by our actions we are known.

Bishop Dennis Campbell's Sunday Sermon

As is oft the case, we are honored to present Bishop Dennis' Sunday sermon presented to his parish. Dennis has an excellent command of scripture and is able to present it in a manner which is completely understandable to the rest of us. This year's sermons are being drawn from the book of Psalms, or, as it is known by Anglicans, "The Psalter" which begins on page 343 of the Book of Common Prayer. But, today he moved to drawing the propers together in a far different sermon than Hap's and adding in the psalm for this Sunday, Psalm 147. We think you will really enjoy it!



The God Who Makes Us New Again
Psalm 147, Galatians 4:21-31, John 6:1-14
Fourth Sunday in Lent
18 March 2012

GRANT, O Lord, that by thy holy Word read and preached in this place, and by thy Holy Spirit grafting it inwardly in the heart, the hearers thereof may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and may have power and strength to fulfill the same.

Psalm 147. *Laudate Dominum.*

O PRAISE the Lord, for it is a good thing to sing praises unto our God; * yea, a joyful and pleasant thing it is to be thankful.

2 The Lord doth build up Jerusalem, * and gather together the outcasts of Israel.

3 He healeth those that are broken in heart, * and giveth medicine to heal their sickness.

4 He telleth the number of the stars, * and calleth them all by their names.

5 Great is our Lord, and great is his power; * yea, and his wisdom is infinite.

6 The Lord setteth up the meek, * and bringeth the ungodly down to the ground.

7 O sing unto the Lord with thanksgiving; * sing praises upon the harp unto our God:

8 Who covereth the heaven with clouds, and prepareth rain for the earth; * and maketh the grass to grow upon the mountains, and herb for the use of men;

9 Who giveth fodder unto the cattle, * and feedeth the young ravens that call upon him.

10 He hath no pleasure in the strength of an horse; * neither delighteth he in any man's legs.

11 But the Lord's delight is in them that fear him, * and put their trust in his mercy.

12 Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem; * praise thy God, O Sion.

13 For he hath made fast the bars of thy gates, * and hath blessed thy children within thee.

14 He maketh peace in thy borders, * and filleth thee with the flour of wheat.

15 He sendeth forth his commandment upon earth, * and his word runneth very swiftly.

16 He giveth snow like wool, * and scattereth the hoar-frost like ashes.

17 He casteth forth his ice like morsels: * who is able to abide his frost?

18 He sendeth out his word, and melteth them: * he bloweth with his wind, and the waters flow.

19 He showeth his word unto Jacob, * his statutes and ordinances unto Israel.

20 He hath not dealt so with any nation; * neither have the heathen knowledge of his laws.

Our liturgical calendar leads us to spend the first half of the year emphasizing what we are to believe about God, nature, and ourselves. So we have been looking at what the Bible says about God as the God of Grace, God our Saviour, God the Law Giver, and God who is Faithful. Today we are looking at "The God Who Makes Us New Again." In the Collect for the Fourth Sunday in Lent we ask God to relieve us by His comfort and grace through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. The Collect is an ancient prayer which has carried this petition to the throne of grace for at least 1,700, and, probably for more than 1,900 years. The earliest copies I know of are in the collection of prayers and liturgies known as the Gregorian Sacramentary and are written in Latin. Our English version of it uses the word, "relieve," which means to free, help, and release from an obligation. Its strongest meaning is to raise a person up and out of troubles and sorrows, to elevate him to a new level of life. The Latin word used is *respiremus*, from which we draw our English word, "respire." And guess what "respire" really means; it means to re-inspire, to breathe life into again, or to make alive again. Picture an ancient caravan traversing a hot, dry desert. After many weary days of travel it finally reaches an oasis rich with palm trees, grass and water. Man and beast rest themselves in the cool shade and drink their fill of the water. They remain at the oasis for several days, and when they leave they are relieved of their weariness and re-inspired for the journey

ahead. Or picture a military troop that has been on the front line for many long months of hard battle. The soldiers are weak and tired, but, finally the orders come for them to move to the rear. There, away from the battle, they rest, eat hot meals, take hot showers, and sleep in beds. After a while they begin to regain their strength and courage. They are freed and released from the obligations of the war, and they are helped and elevated to a new level of life and health. It is as though they are re-made and become new people.

Psalm 147 is about God freeing and helping His people by raising us up to a new level of life. Verse 6 tells us the Lord "setteth up" the meek. He elevates them; He raises them up to a new level of life. The Psalm uses the ancient city of Jerusalem as an object lesson, and verses 2 and 3 form a key passage to those who wish to understand the Psalm's meaning and application; "The Lord doth build up Jerusalem, and gather together the outcasts of Israel. He healeth those that are broken in heart, and giveth medicine to heal their sickness."

From the very beginning enemies have besieged and scattered the Israel of God. From the death of Abel to persecutions on this very day we have been attacked and scattered like sheep. In Biblical times, Babylon, Greece, and Rome each attacked and destroyed Jerusalem, and forced the Jews to flee to the ends of the earth. In Psalm 147 God is rebuilding Jerusalem as He did under the leadership of Nehemiah. He is regathering the outcasts of Israel as He did when He brought them back from captivity in Babylon in 536 B.C. It is as though Israel had died like the soldiers in the valley of dry bones. And, just as God raised up and renewed the dry bones, He is raising up and renewing Israel. He is making Israel new again and alive again.

We need to remember that the real emphasis of this Psalm is not what God does for the physical city of Jerusalem. It was nice that God brought the Jews back to Jerusalem, and that He made the gates of the city fast so enemies could not break in, and that He gave them flour and wheat so that, in a land where people often did not have enough to eat, His people had food. Yet these physical blessings were not the heart of what it meant for God to relieve His people. It is the spiritual Jerusalem, the Jerusalem which is from above, which is the mother of us all, as we read a few minutes ago in Galatians 4:26, which is the real focus of this Psalm. This heavenly Jerusalem is the Church, which is the company of all faithful people, the company of those who have trusted in Jesus Christ to forgive their sins and make them fit for the fellowship and love of God. This makes the Church as an institution very important. It is ordained of God. It is He who sent Apostles and pastors to it, and calls ministers to preach and teach the word and calls people to come into His community of faith and worship Him. Yes, the Church as an organization has its problems, but we are not allowed by God to give up on the organization. Rather than giving up we are to seek out a church that is a real Church, founded on the Bible and striving to live by the faith and practice revealed in Scripture.

How does God refresh and relieve His people? He does it primarily through the everyday things of prayer, Scripture reading, public and private worship, and the Lord's Supper. Most of the TV and radio preachers teach that God works miracles, according to the measure of your faith, and it is through these miracles that He refreshes and relieves you. But the truth is that such miracles are extremely rare. For example, God seldom comforts and relieves us apart from His teaching and promises revealed in the Scriptures. And He seldom gives great understanding of Scripture's comfort and promises unless we spend time reading and studying them. It is the Scriptures that teach us the things we need to know about God and enable us to grow in grace. In other words, God uses the Scriptures to relieve and refresh us. He also uses the

other things I mentioned, prayer, worship, the Lord's Supper, Christian fellowship, and baptism. Through these things God strengthens you and enables you to face the trials and stand fast against the enemies that attempt to scatter and destroy you. Through these things He encourages you, comforts, and relieves you. That's why I am always pestering you about daily prayer and daily Scripture reading, and coming to Church. These things help you, that's why I want you to do them.

But we cannot forget our primary means of relief from God, which is the sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ for our sins. If God were to miraculously end war, crime, poverty and sickness, yet allow us to die in our sins He would do us no good. Our sins make us unfit to be in God's presence. Our sins make us fit only to be cast out of His presence forever. And if Jesus had not gone to the cross to pay the price for our sins, we would have to pay that price ourselves. We would have to be cast into that place of outer darkness forever.

But God in mercy sent His Son into the world to save sinners. He came to release you from the power and penalty of sin. He came to raise you up, to elevate you to a new life, a different life, and a better life. And this life is only possible for those who come to Him in faith through Christ."

GRANT, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that we, who for our evil deeds do worthily deserve to be punished, by the comfort of thy grace may mercifully be relieved; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

--

+Dennis Campbell

Bishop, Anglican Orthodox Church Diocese of Virginia
Rector, Holy Trinity Anglican Orthodox Church
Powhatan, Virginia
www.HolyTrinityAnglicanOrthodoxChurch.org
www.lifeinthescrptures.blogspot.com

New Nametags

We had no new nametags today.

After Church Hospitality

Today we had no snacks as Jack took the day off from snacks having decided we should stick to our low carb regime. The snow ruled out going down the hill for lunch, we have four wheel drive, but there are so many people with lifted trucks who think that looking like four wheel drive from a distance helps them negotiate the roads. We just gave up and had Snowed-In Chicken! Maybe next week the fatted dog nut! I keep hoping!

After church goodies providers as currently signed up:

Date	Name
25 March 2012	Jack Arnold – Lent 05
1 April 2012	Opportunity Available – Palm Sunday
8 April 2012	Opportunity Available – Easter Sunday
15 April 2012	Opportunity Available – First Sunday after Easter
22 April 2012	Opportunity Available – Second Sunday after Easter
29 April 2012	Opportunity Available – Third Sunday after Easter

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 least 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 or Dru - 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

No reported travel this week.

Move

The Thomas Family is on a short tour assignment in Guam for the next 18 months. Please pray for the assignment to continue to go well for Kurt and for Mary and the

kids to make new friends. In particular pray that Kristyna and Mitchell will develop good friends and school mates there so as to further their development as both Christians and citizens. Things seem to be going well where the sun rises on the United States, so keep praying! Give thanks and ask for continued good developments.

Birthday

Dru Arnold celebrated her 57th birthday 2 February 2012. It should be noted while it was sunny, when she went outside first thing in the morning, she did not see her shadow; thus there will not be six more weeks of winter. Being snowed in three times since then, we are wondering about the prognosticatory power of that legend!

Homebound or Infirm

Sara's mother is in a state of deteriorating health, both physically and mentally. On 30 January 2012, she broke her hip and had a partial hip replacement. Please pray for a rapid recovery for her, as well as 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.

Departed

Arthur Gregr, father of Brett Gregr, passed away on 16 March 2012. Please give thanks for his life here and pray for peace of mind and trust in God for his family who remain behind, in particular his son Brett.

Jackson Babcock, father of Hope DeLong, passed away on 14 March 2012. Please give thanks for his life here and pray for peace of mind and trust in God for his family who remain behind, in particular his daughters Lisa, Faith and Hope.

Claranell passed away the morning of 16 February 2012, after a stroke on top of her pre-existing heart problems. Please give thanks for her life here and pray for peace of mind and trust in God for her family who remain behind.

Hal Campbell (Lew and Dotty's Son In Law see below) passed away on 7 February 2012 at the Seattle Veteran's Hospital as the result of a head injury apparently sustained in a fall in his room there. Please pray for his wife Kathy and their two sons as they deal with the loss of their husband and father..

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.

Healing

Kay Denton (Mrs. Kay) got a blood clot, which affected two of her fingers. She underwent an angiogram on Friday and we are awaiting word. Please pray for a positive outcome and peace of mind for Mrs. Hay and her family. Give thanks for her trust in the Lord and her positive attitude

Greg Chase has kidney stones and asks that you pray for them to pass quickly.

Izaiah Urista (4) has a brain tumor. He was playing with his older sister, Jade, at McDonald's when she noticed he wasn't using his right side to climb, etc. Jade took her brother to their mother after which they realized he couldn't lift his arm. They took him to the hospital where it was discovered he has a brain tumor. He

will undergo about 18 months of chemo to see if the tumor will shrink. At this point they do not think they can do anything else for him. Please pray for strength and guidance for Izaiah and his entire family, as well as provide guidance for medical treatment team.

James L. Cavanah had surgery the afternoon of 10 February 2012, to remove two small but cancerous tumors. James is a minister with the AOC in Savannah, Georgia. Please pray for his recovery and remission from the cancer. Give thanks for the surgery and pray for both him and his family to allow God to carry their worries while he recovers.

Ron Bergman underwent his first cataract surgery on 6 February 2012, and his second on 13 February 2012, both went very well. Give thanks for the great result and pray for internal pressure to continue downward.

Ruby June Hauf, now 8 month old daughter of Jerod and Amy (grandson of Lew and Dotty Valkenaar) had a large growth on her liver. Surgery on 16 January 2012 resulted in the removal of a large tumor surrounding one kidney and is recovering well. She and her family are awaiting a decision on chemotherapy. Lew and Dotty ask that you continue to pray for God's help in healing and appreciate all who have done so. Lew will report again once the decision on further treatment is made. Please give thanks for the apparently successful result, a quick recovery and peace of mind for her family.

Bashir Ahmed, father of Shamim Gray, fell whilst getting out of bed, and gashed his head badly. He has been admitted to the Mayday University Hospital, Croydon, UK. The CAT scan revealed no serious damage, however doctors diagnosed him as having pneumonia, and also a heart defect, which they only just found. Please pray for the medical team treating Bashir and for trust in God and peace of mind for Bashir and his loving wife, who cares for him. Pray also for their two young nieces living with them who see no real need to help, that God might enter their hearts. Above all, pray for his entire family to open their hearts to accept all God's love will bring them.

Bill Aitken had a third abdominal surgery on 22 November 2011. This time the tumor was removed. The surgeon said pathology indicates the tumor with all margins out, along with a few lymph nodes and fatty tissue. The tumor is an intermediary (risk) sarcoma, but should not come back. There is a new chemotherapy pill Bill can take for extra precaution; he recommends Bill see an oncologist. Bill has an appointment on 13 December 2011, with the surgeon for follow-up and recommendations going forward. Please give thanks for the surgical team doing their very best, a successful surgery and pray for a good end result. Please pray that Bill might live a long and healthy life to the honor and glory of God. Pray also for peace of mind for Bill and his wife Sara.

Gil Garcia is back in the VA hospital trying to get a grip on his skin. Give him a call at (909) 499-3665. Please pray for peace of mind for Gil and his wife Mary.

Dotty Valkenaar appears to have completely eliminated the reoccurrence of breast cancer with surgery and pills. She is going to have surgery for a shoulder ligament problem on 28 February 2012. Please pray for continued recovery and peace of mind through trust in God for Dotty and Lew, her husband, as well as their entire family.

Lew Valkenaar developed ankle and leg pain and swelling in his lower right leg due to a blood clot. All is going well and he should be done with blood thinning later this

spring.

Morris Martin, 91, has had multiple bouts of pneumonia and lost his ability to swallow; he is still trying to regain his ability to swallow. He has a great attitude and trust in God. What he needs is strength. 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 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 is set up for bone scans at the end of December. Please pray for a good outcome. 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!

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, is afflicted with Multiple Sclerosis (MS). She is currently in Laurel Place, an extended care facility in Surrey, British Columbia. Judith's condition seems stable a present, although the medication levels have been increased. Please pray for her to take an active part in her own life, 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.

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.

Vince (age 15), reoccurrence of Osteosarcoma, 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.

Guidance

Sara asks that you pray for guidance for her as she deals with the stresses of her family and life. Pray that she can separate those things which she can affect from those things which she cannot and give her grace to accept that she cannot do everything and can only change those things within her control.

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

Hap and *Ryan* both ask you to pray they might be able to trust God will help them make the right decisions at the right time and not to worry uselessly, to change those things they can change, accept those things they cannot change, sleep well to be able to do the correct things with a clear head and that they will open their hearts to the Holy Ghost.

Armed Forces & Contractors

Airman Donny Patton (Kadena AB, Japan), Jordan (USMC – 29 Palms), Neal (USN-Afghanistan), Trevor (USAF - KC-10 Boom Operator), Trevor (USN – Whidbey Island, EF-18 Pilot), Kurt Thomas (USN – Guam),

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

Bishop Jerry and Betty Hoffman both give thanks for safe travel.

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.

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.

Date	Reader
25 March 2012	Ryan Hopkins – Lent 05
1 April 2012	Ryan Hopkins – Palm Sunday
8 April 2012	Ryan Hopkins – Easter Sunday
15 April 2012	Ryan Hopkins – First Sunday after Easter
22 April 2012	Ryan Hopkins – Second Sunday after Easter
29 April 2012	Ryan Hopkins – Third Sunday after Easter

The near future, as well as Next Sunday

25 March 2012 – Fifth Sunday in Lent – 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**

1 April 2012 – Palm 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**

8 April 2012 – Easter Sunday – Holy Communion – Mite Box Collection – What will we have? 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**

15 April 2012 – First Sunday After Easter – 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**

22 April 2012 – Second Sunday After Easter – 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**

29 April 2012 – Third Sunday After Easter – 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**