



Third Sunday after Easter

Sunday Report



Today was the Third Sunday after Easter, the central event of the Christian year, the celebration of our Lord, "Christ the Lord is Risen!" Sunrise temperature on Mount Olympus was a lovely 47°F under blue skies. The lovely weather brought four to worship our Lord.

We have quite a few new prayer requests, so if you have the time, please spend a little of it on the prayer list.

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* seems to be the parish favorite.



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 173-174, with the Collect first:

The Third Sunday after Easter.

The Collect.

ALMIGHTY God, who shonest to them that are in error the light of thy truth, to the intent that they may return into the way of righteousness; Grant unto all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's Religion, that they may avoid those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Ryan Hopkins read the Epistle which came from the Second Chapter of the First Epistle of Saint Peter beginning at the Eleventh Verse. Peter tells us to live a good life, to follow the directions Jesus left us, to make ourselves positive examples of citizen to others, to be leaders of our community, drawing people towards God. To live out the life Jesus commanded, to do nothing to draw ill repute on the Word of God. To be truly free and follow freedom to where God wants us to be, not to Donkey Island, where false freedom takes so many.

DEARLY beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul; having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation. Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well. For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men: as free, and not using your liberty for a cloke of maliciousness, but as the servants of God. Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king.



Deacon Striker Jack Arnold read today's Gospel which came from the in the Sixteenth Chapter of the Gospel according to Saint John beginning at the Sixteenth Verse.

Jesus warns his disciples of the events about to unfold. He is to be taken from them shortly by the painful death on the Cross for our redemption. He will not be with them here on earth. Yet, after three days time He will Rise from death, having overcome death for us. When He is gone from us we are sorrowful, just like the disciples. He came back from death for us. And yet He was to leave again, yet not be gone from us as the Father would send the Holy Ghost to make His abode in our hearts and bring Jesus to us.

JESUS said to his disciples, A little while, and ye shall not see me: and again, a little while, and ye shall see me, because I go to the Father. Then said some of his disciples among themselves, What is this that he saith unto us, A little while, and ye shall not see me: and again, a little while, and ye shall see me: and, Because I go to the Father? They said therefore, What is this that he saith, A little while? we cannot tell what he saith. Now Jesus knew that they were desirous to ask him, and said unto them, Do ye enquire among yourselves of that I said, A little while, and ye shall not see me: and again, a little while, and ye shall see me? Verily, verily, I say unto you, That ye shall weep and lament, but the world shall rejoice: and ye shall be sorrowful, but your sorrow shall be turned into joy. A woman when she is in travail hath sorrow, because her hour is come: but as soon as she is delivered of the child, she remembereth no more the anguish, for joy that a man is born into the world. And ye now therefore have sorrow: but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you.

Sermon – Time and Action

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



We are in the Easter Season which consists of Easter and the following four Sundays, until we get to Rogation Sunday. This is a time we should work on centering our lives on the central figure in our religion, Jesus Christ.

Consider these words from the Collect:

... who showest to them that are in error the light of thy truth, to the intent that they may return into the way of righteousness; Grant unto all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's Religion, that they may avoid those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same...

If we will listen to Him, God will always provide the light to show us where "We have erred, and strayed from *His* ways like lost sheep. *Where* we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. *Where* we have offended against *His* holy laws. *Where* we have left undone those things which we ought to have done; And we have done those things which we ought not to have done¹..." He does this so that we might return to His Path. He does not show us where we have erred for no reason, but rather that we might use His Light to return to the path that brings us to His World.

Paul tells us that if we follow Christ's example, we will live lives like His to the extent we can. We will do good, be law abiding, work hard, be generous to our fellow human beings, help where we can, pray for help when we can find no physical way to help. Be good citizens, be good neighbors, take particular care of our Christian family. In short, do what Christ would do as far as it is in us. God does not ask us to be perfect; He does ask us to do our best to try to be perfect, to follow Jesus' lead to the extent we have it in us. Each of us is different, some are in truth better than others. God holds us each to the same standard, that is to do our best. Not to be better than any other particular person, but to do our best to follow His Instructions. Being better than someone else is of no account, what is of account is following His Instructions to the best of YOUR ability.

Don't think of trying to be better than your neighbor, think of being better than you are.

In the Gospel according to Saint John, Jesus tells of His impending bodily death and resurrection. He reminds us that if we have eternal life, sorrow, even the sorrow of death is transient, for He has conquered death. His One Sacrifice, made One Time, for All Mankind, for All Time is that joy that no man can take from us. But, if we want to share in that eternal life, we need to see the error of our ways in the Light of His Light and take actions to follow Him.

Often it seems much easier to take the path of least resistance, to quit our work at the first sign of effort, to goof off when "no one" is looking. But in the end, the right thing to do is always the easiest. The most profitable. The one that will result in happiness. It might seem hard, but it will not be as hard as doing the "easy" thing.

God • Honor • Country • Family for all eternity

As we go off on our business, please recall this quote from GK Chesterton:

**"Christianity has not been tried and found wanting;
it has been found difficult and not tried."**

Bishop Ogles' Sermon

We are oft fortunate to get copies of Bishop Jerry's sermon notes. Today is not one of those Sundays. Bishop Jerry was on travel all week in California. On the other hand, our entire congregation got to visit with him in Ventura, CA on Thursday. So, truly your loss is our gain!

¹ General Confession – BCP Page 6

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 a special sermon for the Third Sunday after Easter:



God before the gods
Psalm 138, 1 Peter 2:11-17, John 16:16-22
Third Sunday after Easter
April 29, 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.

The message of the third Sunday after Easter is perseverance in Godliness. The Collect, based on First Peter 2, leads us to seek God's help for those who go astray and to pray that all who are admitted into Christ will avoid that which is contrary to our faith, and follow, as the direction and orientation of life, all that is agreeable to it. First Peter 2 makes this point by beseeching us to "abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul." John 16 reminds us that the sorrows of this life are but for a little while, and even they will be turned to joy when we see Jesus. Psalm 138 is about remaining faithful to Christ in a world that is unfaithful and hostile to faith.

Since the end of Eden, this world has never been a friend of the Church. There have been times of renewal. There have been times of righteousness, when people turned to God and began to live for Him and put the teachings of the Bible into practice in personal life, business, and even government. But these eras have been brief, though, thanks be to God, their influence has been persistent. This was as true in David's time as it is today. David ruled the Old Testament Church, Israel, when it was surrounded by nations steeped in paganism, superstition, and open wickedness. And there was a tendency for the Israelites to drift into the ideas and practices of their pagan neighbors. Often, their adoption of pagan ways was so complete they almost completely lost their identity as the people of God. The surrounding nations were not passive in this. They waged an active and aggressive military and ideological war against Israel, and it often appeared that the pagans were winning.

I am sure the parallels between then and now are evident to the thinking Christian, for the world continues to aggressively oppose God and His Church. Sometimes the opposition comes in formal actions and policies of governments and agencies charged by God to defend the rights and freedoms of their people. Often it comes in formal actions and policies of Churches and religious leaders claiming to be doing the will of God, like those who burned dissenters and crucified Christ. But, mostly it comes in a general attitude of hostility toward the ways of God, and an equally general hostility toward those who attempt to follow God in Biblical faith.

David, king of Israel, king of this tiny, weak nation of shepherds, surrounded by stronger nations, dwelling on land wanted by the super powers of the era, and called by

God to lead a people who were themselves often unfaithful and rebellious toward God, made a profound statement in this Psalm; "before the gods will I sing praise unto thee." This is the theme of this Psalm. It is a bold statement of steadfast faith when the whole world appears to have gone faithless. It is a statement of the intention to stand fast in the Biblical faith, even while the world chases after idols and false gods, and even while his own countrymen waffle and vacillate between God and the gods.

But there is even more in these words. David is saying he will stand for God in the face of a hostile world. Even before the gods, the very symbols of those who seek to eliminate the Church and her faith, David will stand with God.

One of the ways he will stand for God is by worshiping God in the Temple. This is one of the primary points of this Psalm, for it is in the Temple and the public worship of God that David gives thanks unto God and sings praises unto Him before the gods. It is as though David is saying, let the world and its idols look upon this scene, for in their very presence and in their plain sight I will worship the Living God. Every Sunday you pass cars filled with people on their way to worship. Most of them aren't going to Church. They are going to worship the god of the horse, the god of the lake and beach, or the god of materialism whose temple is the mall. Many are so dedicated to their gods they don't have to travel to worship them. Their houses and lands are their gods, and they live where their gods are. They literally dwell in the house of their gods.

I cannot help wondering how many of those at the horse trails, lakes, beaches, malls, and watering their azaleas claim to be Christians, yet habitually forsake the assembly of the Church for worship. And why? Not because there is not ample encouragement in the Scriptures. The Bible everywhere proceeds on the principle, the assumption that Christians are active members of the local church. The Bible was written to the Church. Romans was not written to individual Christians who happened to live in Rome. It was written to the Church in Rome. Revelation 3:14-22 was not written to individual Christians in Laodicea; it was written to the Church in Laodicea. We err when we think we don't need to be a part of the Church. We err if we think we have done all that God requires if we spend a few minutes alone with the Bible and prayer. The Church is His body and we are members of it. Thus, when Paul wrote in Hebrews 10:25 that we are not to forsake the worship assemblies of the Church, he meant the visible, local body of believers, not an intangible feeling of togetherness. It does not work to attempt to excuse forsaking the local church by saying you worship as part of the invisible Church which is that mystical body of all believers. It doesn't work because the invisible Church is manifested in the world, and participated in by the believer, through the local, visible church. My beloved in Christ, we need more than a Bible and a "quiet time." We need the worship and fellowship of the visible, organized Church.

If this world were a Christian world, we would still need the Church, and we would still need to be a part of the worship and services of it. But the world is not Christian, and that means we need the Church even more. And we need the discipline of standing firm for God in a faithless world. I beg and encourage you to sing God's praises and forsake the false gods and idols of this world. Stand fast for God, even before the gods sing your praise unto Him and worship toward His holy Temple.

ALMIGHTY God, who shonest to them that are in error the light of thy truth, to the intent that they may return into the way of righteousness; Grant unto all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's Religion, that they may avoid those things

that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

New Nametags

We had no new nametags today.

After Church Hospitality

Because we had Evening Prayer today due to scheduling issues, snacks consisted of a wonderful pork chop dinner! Next week is Ryan's going away party, so perhaps the fatted dog nut the week after!

After church goodies providers as currently signed up:

Date	Name
6 May 2012	Fourth Sunday after Easter - Going away party for Ryan Hopkins at 1400
13 May 2012	Opportunity Available – Rogation Sunday
20 May 2012	Opportunity Available – Sunday after the Ascension
27 May 2012	Opportunity Available – Whitsunday or Pentecost – Memorial Day Weekend
3 June 2012	Opportunity Available – Trinity Sunday
10 June 2012	Opportunity Available – First Sunday after Trinity
17 June 2012	Opportunity Available – Second Sunday after Trinity
24 June 2012	Opportunity Available – Third Sunday after Trinity
1 July 2012	Opportunity Available – Fourth Sunday after Trinity

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 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

Mona Mukerji traveled from England to Pakistan recently, in order to commemorate the opening of a church she and her extended family had built in the town of Stunzabad, Pakistan, a very volatile area. Also, Mona's brother was a very, very renowned priest or bishop, in Lahore until he passed away. This family is heavily involved in uplifting Christians in Pakistan; as we know, they have their work cut out for them. God bless them and keep them safe.

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

Laurel Bessesen celebrates her 89th birthday on 26 April 2012.

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.

Larry Moison passed away on 9 February 2012. Larry was a staunch American patriot and Christian. He was always willing to provide Bishop Ogles with excellent advice and counsel at any time the church faced challenges. He was to be ordained to the diaconate at Bishop Ogles' first opportunity to visit northern Virginia and always stood firm on faith even when those around him faltered. May God comfort and strengthen the family during this loss.

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. Pray in particular for Kathy as she is having a very bad time dealing with the loss of her husband.

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

Sylvia Lee, Sandra Lee's mother, has progressive lumbar stenosis and sciatica, which is causing increasing pain in her back and weakness in her legs. Sylvia has already had mobility issues because of the strokes she had almost 20 years ago. She uses a wheelchair and walker as it is. Various pain pills and injections have not helped, so now it is time for a consultation with a surgeon. If this continues and Sylvia gets to the point where she can't walk or even stand, they will have to face moving out of the house they've lived in for 45 years. Please pray for strength, healing and easing of pain for Sylvia and her family's continued faith and in God as the Great Physician. They pray for help to listen to God's voice and guidance through this journey together.

Sara Simmons sustained fractured right knee as the result of a fall on a slate patio. It was only a four inch drop, but it resulted in her being in a splint from hip to lower calf. Her knee will immobilized for 4-6 weeks with no weight bearing, though she has crutches. Please pray for patience for Sara and her husband Bill, as well as rapid and complete healing.

Kristyna Thomas sustained a cervical strain in a boating accident in Guam. Please pray for a quick and complete resolution.

Kay Denton (Mrs. Kay) got a blood clot, which affected two of her fingers. She underwent an angiogram which seemingly had the desired result and the Eveready Bunny rebounded once again. Please pray a prayer of thanksgiving for the positive outcome and pray for continued peace of mind for Mrs. Kay and her family. Give thanks for her trust in the Lord and her positive attitude

Izaiah Uriza (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.

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 os out, along with a few lymph nodes and fatty tissue. The tumor is an intermediary (risk) sarcoma, but should not come back. 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 had successful surgery for a shoulder ligament problem on 28 February 2012. Physical therapy seems to be working, but is painful. 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 is getting over a cold which migrated to his lungs. He hopes to attend church and sing at the local hospital. Pray for a completed recovery.

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. Morris was back in the hospital over Easter as the result of an inadvertent aspiration. He is back in the nursing home and gaining strength. He has a great attitude and trust in God. Pray for continued gain of 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 just came back from his what is now every four month bone scan – 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!

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, fell and cracked her hip. The surgeons were able to put a pin in the hip. She made it home after a week of rehabilitation, which is a good sign. She is now walking with the aid of a walker around the house and wheelchair when out side of house. Tim says she is tough and hanging in there, considering she will be 92 in June. Tim will be heading up to see her for a few days in April. Please pray for her rapid recovery and for a good attitude and most important for trust in God to keep her moving while she is here.

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.

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), 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

Hap, Dru, Jack and Ryan give thanks for safe travel this week.
Bishop Jerry gives thanksgiving for safe travel this week.

Ruby June Hauf, young daughter of Jerod and Amy (grandson of Lew and Dotty Valkenaar) had successful surgery for a large growth on her liver. All seems well. Please give thanks for the successful result and quick recovery.

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.

Point to Ponder – The Voice

The start of this came to me from one of my very good friends, a lovely lady.

It is easy to underestimate the impact that our words, facial expressions, and body language have on others. Some men, for example, may not be fully aware of how deeply their words affect women. One sister said, "It frightens me when my husband angrily raises his voice at me." Strong words may exert greater force on a woman than on a man and may stay with her for a long time. This is especially true of words spoken by someone a woman loves and wants to respect. An experienced married brother illustrated why a husband should treat his wife gently, as "a weaker vessel." "When you hold a precious and delicate vase, you must not grasp it too firmly, or it may crack. Even if repaired, the crack may remain visible," he said. "If a husband uses words that are too strong with his wife, he may hurt her. This might cause a lasting crack in their relationship."

The relationship of husband and wife is complex in many respects and yet simple as the two become one.

God intended the husband to be the protector and provider, the wife to be the caregiving, home keeping, child raising one. He outfitted us well for those roles, with men having far more upper body strength and a mentality fitting one whose job is to provide and protect. God gave women far more insight, far more sensitivity and concern for others' welfare. The two work together very well to be a single unit with far more capability than the sum of the two.

On the other hand, as husbands, men need to understand their role, their limitations and how they can be more effective. As protectors and providers, we are necessarily less concerned with what people think and say than what they do. But, if we carry that attitude over to our homes and our wives, we can create huge problems where there should be great peace and harmony.

Wives are to view their husbands as their protectors, the ones who keep the evil of the world at bay. Can you imagine the effect on a wife when her protector attacks her? But, you say, I would never attack my wife. Consider the effect of what might be called

sharp words. Jesus loves us. He is our ultimate protector. The church is spoken of as His bride. Do you hear him using sharp words? The answer is NO.

Your wife should be the woman you most respect in this world, your partner and best friend. If she is not, blame only yourself and change the way you think before it is too late. She must be treated with the respect due a person of that position. She must be accorded the honor due her.

Think before you speak, think longer before you act. If, after thinking you decide to use sharp words, or heaven forbid, yell; think again. Words can never be retracted. Once launched they are fire and forget². Except your target likely will not forget.

These words are applicable to not only marriage but any interpersonal relationship between men and women. The two are different, as God intended. Do not consider one better than the other, all things considered. But, fully understand that in any one aspect they may have completely different approaches, outlooks, capabilities and views.

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
6 May 2012	Ryan Hopkins – Fourth Sunday After Easter
13 May 2012	Ryan Hopkins – Rogation Sunday
17 May 2012	Ryan Hopkins – Ascension Day
20 May 2012	Dru Arnold – Sunday after the Ascension
27 May 2012	Dru Arnold – Whitsunday – Pentecost
3 June 2012	Dru Arnold – Trinity Sunday

The near future, as well as Next Sunday

6 May 2012 – Fourth 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**

6 May 2012 – **Going away party for Ryan Hopkins at 1400 (2:00pm) - Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**

² *Fire and Forget* is a term used for missiles that are self guiding once fired and require no more input from the aircraft or pilot. This concept does not work with harsh words.

13 May 2012 – Rogation Sunday– 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**

17 May 2012 – Ascension Day– Evening Prayer - **Service start time 1830 (6:30 pm); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**

20 May 2012 – Sunday after the Ascension – 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**

27 May 2012 – Whitsunday - Pentecost – 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**

3 June 2012 – Trinity Sunday – 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**

10 June 2012 – First 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**

17 June 2012 – Second 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**

23 June 2012 – Third 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**

30 June 2012 – Fourth 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**