



Twenty-First Sunday after Trinity

Sunday Report



Today was the Twenty-First Sunday after Trinity Sunday. Sunrise bright blue skies and cool weather with a temperature of 43°F; which rose to a toasty 63°F by the end of church under those same clear skies. Hap back from travel to Seattle, the East Coast, and Texas, thus we had all of our three normal members present in Descanso for the service.

Gathering Song

Jack Arnold played *Just a closer walk with Thee* for the gathering song.

Just a closer walk with Thee

I am weak, but Thou art strong;
Jesus, keep me from all wrong;
I'll be satisfied as long
As I walk, let me walk close to Thee.

Just a closer walk with Thee,
Grant it, Jesus, is my plea,
Daily walking close to Thee,
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

Take my hand, Lord Jesus, take my hand;
Take my hand, Lord Jesus, take my hand;
There's a race to be run, There's a victory to be won;
Every hour, give me power to go through.

Just a closer walk with Thee,
Grant it, Jesus, is my plea,
Daily walking close to Thee,
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

When my feeble life is o'er,
Time for me will be no more;
Guide me gently, safely o'er
To Thy kingdom shore, to Thy shore.

Just a closer walk with Thee,
Grant it, Jesus, is my plea,
Daily walking close to Thee,
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.



We try to pick our gathering songs to have a wonderful message, be easy to sing and suitable for guitar accompaniment.

On Point

Someone asked, where do the quotes come from? The answer is from the people who uttered them. But, how did you find them? Oh, that. Some from Bishop Jerry, many from Rev Bryan Dabney, a few from other places, some from Rev Geordie Menzies-Grierson, but overall mostly from Bryan. He always has a few great ones to share. On to the On Point quotes –

I have heard some people complain that if Jesus was God as well as man, then His sufferings and death lose all value in their eyes, ‘because it must have been so easy for Him’. Others may (very rightly) rebuke the ingratitude and ungraciousness of this objection; what staggers me is the misunderstanding it betrays. In one sense, of course, those who make it are right. They have even understated their own case. The perfect submission, the perfect suffering, the perfect death were not only easier to Jesus because He was God, but were possible only because He was God. But surely that is a very odd reason for not accepting them? The teacher is able to form the letters for the child because the teacher is grown-up and knows how to write. That, of course, makes it easier for the teacher; and only because it is easier for him can he help the child. If it rejected him because ‘it’s easy for grown-ups’ and waited to learn writing from another child who could not write itself (and so had no ‘unfair’ advantage), it would not get on very quickly. If I am drowning in a rapid river, a man who still has one foot on the bank may give me a hand which saves my life. Ought I to shout back (between my gasps) ‘No, it’s not fair! You have an advantage! You’re keeping one foot on the bank’? That advantage—call it ‘unfair’ if you like—is the only reason why he can be of any use to me. To what will you look for help if you will not look to that which is stronger than yourself?

CS Lewis
Mere Christianity

Tirian, with his head against Jewel’s flank, slept as soundly as if he were in his royal bed at Cair Paravel, till the sound of a gong beating awoke him and he sat up and saw that there was firelight on the far side of the stable and knew that the hour had come. “Kiss me, Jewel,” he said. “For certainly this is our last night on earth. And if ever I offended against you in any matter great or small, forgive me now.”

“Dear King,” said the Unicorn, “I could almost wish you had, so that I might forgive it. Farewell. We have known great joys together. If Aslan gave me my choice I would choose no other life than the life I have had and no other death than the one we go to.”

CS Lewis
The Last Battle

‘Niceness’—wholesome, integrated personality—is an excellent thing. We must try by every medical, educational, economic, and political means in our power to produce a world where as many people as possible grow up ‘nice’; just as we must try to produce a world where all have plenty to eat. But we must not suppose that even if we succeeded in making everyone nice we should have saved their souls. A world of nice people, content in their own niceness, looking no further, turned away from God, would be just as desperately in need of salvation as a miserable world—and might even be more difficult to save.

For mere improvement is not redemption, though redemption always improves people even here and now and will, in the end, improve them to a degree we cannot yet imagine. God became man to turn creatures into sons: not simply to produce better men

of the old kind but to produce a new kind of man. It is not like teaching a horse to jump better and better but like turning a horse into a winged creature. Of course, once it has got its wings, it will soar over fences which could never have been jumped and thus beat the natural horse at its own game. But there may be a period, while the wings are just beginning to grow, when it cannot do so: and at that stage the lumps on the shoulders—no one could tell by looking at them that they are going to be wings—may even give it an awkward appearance.

CS Lewis
Mere Christianity

TO GENIA GOELZ: *On the reality of our individuality in the body of Christ; and on the meditation.*

20 June 1952

Thanks for yours of the 10th. I would prefer to combat the 'I'm special' feeling not by the thought 'I'm no more special than anyone else' but by the feeling 'Everyone is as special as me.' In one way there is no difference, I grant, for both remove the speciality. But there is a difference in another way. The first might lead you to think, 'I'm only one of the crowd like anyone else'. But the second leads to the truth that there isn't any crowd. No one is like anyone else. All are 'members' (organs) in the Body of Christ [[I Corinthians 12:27](#)]. All different and all necessary to the whole and to one another: each loved by God individually, as if it were the only creature in existence. Otherwise you might get the idea that God is like the government which can only deal with the people as the mass.

About confession, I take it that the view of our Church is that everyone may use it but none is obliged to. I don't doubt that the Holy Spirit guides your decisions from within when you make them with the intention of pleasing God. The error would be to think that He speaks *only* within whereas, in reality, He speaks also through Scripture, the Church, Christian friends, books *et cetera*.

Jack Lewis
[The Collected Letters of C.S. Lewis, Volume III](#)
Compiled in [Yours, Jack](#)

Where an excess of power prevails, property of no sort is duly respected. No man is safe in his opinions, his person, his faculties, or his possessions.

James Madison
Essay in the National Gazette, 1792

If ye love wealth better than liberty, the tranquility of servitude than the animated contest of freedom, go from us in peace. We ask not your counsels or arms. Crouch down and lick the hands which feed you. May your chains sit lightly upon you, and may posterity forget that you were our countrymen!

Samuel Adams
Speech to the State House in Philadelphia, 1776

They who voluntarily put themselves under the power of a tyrant deserve whatever fate they receive.

Aesop
6th century BC Greek philosopher and author

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 normally 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 Feast, so called because in the Altar Prayerbooks the titles are in red, are special days. Most of the Red Letter Feasts are dedicated to early saints instrumental in the development of the church, others to special events. Some days are particularly special and the Collect for that day is to be used for an octave (eight days) or an entire season, like Advent or Lent.

The Propers for today are found on Page 218-220, with the Collect first:

Twenty-First Sunday after Trinity

The Collect.

GRANT, we beseech thee, merciful Lord, to thy faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Dru Arnold read the Epistle for this morning which came from Saint Paul's Letter to the



Ephesians, the Sixth Chapter, beginning at the Tenth Verse. In these passages, Paul gives his clearest definition of the spiritual war between the forces of Satan and those who would follow God. It not only assures us that there is a spiritual war, but it warns us that apart from utilizing the weapons which God has provided for us, we are hopelessly underpowered. This passage tells us what our divine weapons are. Beyond this, these weapons imply the nature of the struggle which we are in. The weapons which God has provided for us are those weapons which best repel the attacks of Satan, and thus we can learn a great deal about the nature of Satan's opposition from simply considering each of the weapons at our disposal.

After a consideration of the war in general, we will then proceed to examine in more detail each of the weapons Paul mentions, and the offensive strategy of Satan which they imply. May God give us

open hearts and minds to understand the spiritual war, and the means which He has provided for our defense.

MY brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; and your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; and for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

Rev Jack Arnold read the Holy Gospel which came from the Fourth Chapter of the



Gospel according to St. John beginning at the Forty-Sixth Verse. This is a telling of the story of the healing of a Jewish nobleman's son Capernaum through the faith of his father. When the man came to him asking for help, he responded as he often did to Jews, "Except ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe." The man persisted and because Jesus saw faith in him, he said, focusing his attention on faith in God, "Go thy way; thy son liveth" or "Be on your way. Your son is alive." In other words: "Do not worry. My Word can heal your son at a distance." The boy was healed in the very instant when Jesus spoke the Word. The father believed this Word. So did his household, wife, children and servants. More than one person was healed on that occasion.

This miracle shares characteristics with the previous healing of the Centurion's son:

- Jesus has just come back to Galilee.
- Someone comes to him with a request.
- Indirectly Jesus seems to refuse at first.
- The person persists.
- Jesus grants the request.
- This leads another group of people (his disciples, the nobleman's household) to believe in him.

Note the necessity of trusting in Jesus as the giver of life. Of the text, Luther wrote: "Although the Lord performed miracles and signs to make Himself known and to lead people to faith in Him, the underlying purpose was to focus their attention on the Word rather than on the signs which served merely to attest the truth of His testimony. Faith must rest on the Word of God." Another Lutheran theologian wrote: "In affliction faith is practiced and chastened. If a person does not see, taste and experience the help and grace of the Lord, then that person learns to trust the Word and nothing but the Word. That is the true faith, trusting the Lord for its own sake. Such faith comes not from flesh and blood. It's the Lord to which faith clings. That almighty Word works faith."

Jesus led this nobleman from a "miracle" faith to a true faith in His Word. He does this to us also.

"Be on your way. Your son lives." This Word of Jesus was not only a prophecy. It had the power to heal the sick boy. And this Word took the nobleman's worries away.

THERE was a certain nobleman, whose son was sick at Capernaum. When he heard that Jesus was come out of Judæa into Galilee, he went unto him, and besought him that he would come down, and heal his son: for he was at the point of death. Then said Jesus unto him, Except ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe. The nobleman saith unto him, Sir, come down ere my child die. Jesus saith unto him, Go thy way; thy son liveth. And the man believed the word that Jesus had spoken unto him, and he went his way. And as he was now going down, his servants met him, and told him, saying, Thy son liveth. Then enquired he of them the hour when he began to amend. And they said unto him, Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him. So the father knew that it was at the same hour, in the which Jesus said unto him, Thy son liveth: and himself believed, and his whole house. This is again the second miracle that Jesus did, when he was come out of Judæa into Galilee.

Sermon – Reverend Jack Arnold - Time and Action

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



As is oft the case, today's propers are all tied together. As is usual, they call for action not just thoughts. Consider these words from the Collect:

... Grant ... thy faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind ...

We ask Got to pardon our sins that we might serve Him with peace of mind. That we might do His Work without having to worry about our fate. It is good to have a clear mind when you go into battle, to be free of worry that you might do your best. You do not want to have a foggy mind when you are doing an action that requires your best concentration, so that is what we are asking from Him. To give us clarity of mind that we might do what is right.

Paul gives his clearest definition of the spiritual war between the forces of Satan and those who would follow God. It not only assures us that there is a spiritual war, but it warns us that apart from utilizing the weapons which God has provided for us, we are hopelessly underpowered. This passage tells us what our divine weapons are. Beyond this, these weapons imply the nature of the struggle which we are in. The weapons which God has provided for us are those weapons which best repel the attacks of Satan, and thus we can learn a great deal about the nature of Satan's opposition from simply considering each of the weapons at our disposal:

Clothing	Truth; this our cloak, as well as our cover;
Breastplate or Armored Vest	Righteousness; being at one with the One True and Triune God;
Boots	The Gospel; the Word of God will get you there;
Shield	Faith; able to not only ward off blows of evil, but quench the fiery darts hurled at us;
Helmet	Salvation; we are saved already, thus we cannot be harmed by any of the forces of this world, the armored helmet of the gift of salvation given to us by our Lord will protect us in the end, the only time that counts;
Weapon	Up to now, the equipment has been defensive or at least supporting; but to win a war, you need to be on the offense, our offensive weapon is the sword of the Holy Ghost, the Word of God!

Now, what to do? Clearly we are commanded to take the offensive, to "ride towards the sound of gunfire." Where the fight is, that is where we must go. With the help of the Holy Ghost, we should open our "mouth boldly", to make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak." You don't play the defensive in this spiritual battle, as in tactical warfare, nobody ever won a battle by being stuck on the offensive. You must go out and preach boldly and speak the truth and not worry about the consequences of doing so.

The Word spreads "by word of mouth" and by action. Your mouth, your actions!

Speaking of actions, Winston Churchill said, "Never give in--never, never, never, never, in nothing great or small, large or petty, never give in except to convictions of honour and good sense. Never yield to force; never yield to the apparently overwhelming might of the enemy."²

Churchill was not the first. God wants us to persist. Consider the case of the nobleman of Capernaum. The man asked Jesus for help for his son. Jesus did not immediately grant the request as He needed the man to persist to make a point for those around him. He responded as he often did to Jews, "Except ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe." The man persisted and because Jesus saw faith in him, he said, focusing his attention on faith in God, "Go thy way; thy son liveth" or "Be on your way. Your son is alive." In other words: "Do not worry. My Word can heal your son at a distance." The boy was healed in the very instant when Jesus spoke the Word. The father believed this

¹ Note the word is boldly, not cruelly or thoughtlessly or superciliously.

² Sir Winston Churchill, Speech, 1941, Harrow School

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"Be on your way. Your son lives." This Word of Jesus was not only a prophecy. It had the power to heal the sick boy. And this Word took the nobleman's worries away. As it will take ours away if we will let it.

We are asked to let God forgive us our sins and go to battle in this world with His armor. With Him all things are possible; when we depend on our own pitiful resources, the outcome is in doubt and the result unlikely to be favorable in the end. When you believe in our Lord and act on that belief, victory is certain in the end. Understand, the result here on earth may not be the one you want, but it is the one God wants for you. God expects you to accept His help and act with His help to gain victory over the prince of this world.

Consider also that God, through our Lord, offers forgiveness. Forgiveness lets you restart your life, regain your foothold, strengthen your soul. If you accept the forgiveness and go forward you can do great things. If you will not, and likewise you will not forgive, you will be bound by the prince of this world and doomed to failure. You will never attain the greatness of which you are capable with God's grace and help.

Do what is right, I would say no matter if there is no one looking; but He is always looking. It is not that hard. Believe, take His help, act on the belief you profess, never ever give up.

Heaven is at the end of an uphill trail. The easy downhill trail does not lead to the summit.

The time is now, not tomorrow. The time has come, indeed. How will you ACT?

It is by our actions we are known.

Be of God - Live of God - Act of God

Bishop Ogles' Sermon

We are off fortunate to get copies of Bishop Jerry's sermon notes. Today is one of those Sundays. Today's sermon starts off with the collect, and like always, it will give you a lot to consider in your heart.

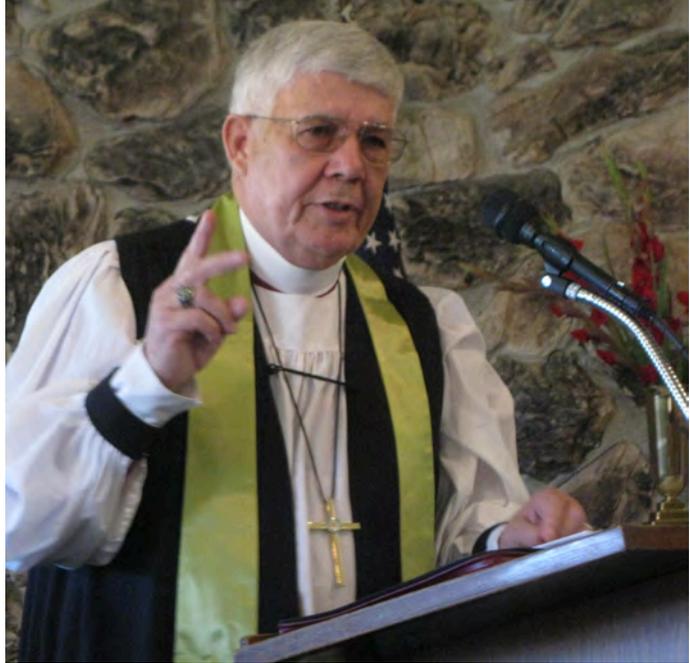
Sermon Notes

Twenty-First Sunday after Trinity
20 October 2013, Anno Domini

Twenty-First Sunday after Trinity

The Collect.

GRANT, we beseech thee, merciful Lord, to thy faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*



As this biblically-based prayer of Collect clearly reveals, forgiveness and comfort can only come to those who are faithful to the Lord. We must know and believe that the Blood of Christ is sufficient to cover our sins, and that He is ready and willing to grant pardon according to our faith. It is through this means of faith and pardon that our minds can be still and stayed on Him during every turbulent storm on the seas of life.

The Epistle Ephesians vi. 10.

MY brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; and your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; and for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

If we were to cringe and withdraw into our desert dugouts, we would need no armor. A non-belligerent needs no armor. But we are soldiers of the cross locked in mortal combat with the very enemy of the soul of man – the Devil and his legions. Our battle must be more of offense than of defense since we bear the advantage of the higher terrain and every resource of heaven. So our armor is to protect ourselves, but also to inflict devastating blows to the enemy in the field. He has attempted to misappropriate

and corrupt the Creation of our Lord. But the decisive victory has already been won by the Captain of our souls at Calvary. We must now occupy the land and eliminate his pockets of resistance and silence his vedettes and lines of pickets. Truth is our strength and support. Our hearts are covered with the imputed righteousness of Him who has commissioned us to His Army. The Gospel of Peace, having been instilled in our hearts through study and preparation, is the liberty of movement and maneuver which we enjoy on the field. Our main protection against the blows of the enemy is our Faith. The helmet of our salvation is the strength of our learning and belief. Our Sword of the Spirit is the Word of God which is a Two-Edged Sword to either condemn, or convict of sin. Prayer is our communications network whereby we are in constant supplication for the entire army and for each other. This, and the Prayer of Collect, join together as a hand to the glove the Imperative of Faith as our most treasured possession of victory!

The Holy Gospel - (John 4:46-54)

THERE was a certain nobleman, whose son was sick at Capernaum. When he heard that Jesus was come out of Judæa into Galilee, he went unto him, and besought him that he would come down, and heal his son: for he was at the point of death. Then said Jesus unto him, Except ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe. The nobleman saith unto him, Sir, come down ere my child die. Jesus saith unto him, Go thy way; thy son liveth. And the man believed the word that Jesus had spoken unto him, and he went his way. And as he was now going down, his servants met him, and told him, saying, Thy son liveth. Then enquired he of them the hour when he began to amend. And they said unto him, Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him. So the father knew that it was at the same hour, in the which Jesus said unto him, Thy son liveth: and himself believed, and his whole house. This is again the second miracle that Jesus did, when he was come out of Judæa into Galilee.

The Gospel text provides an example of victorious faith over the curse of Eden. Faith is the crown jewel of our religion and, without it, there can be no reconciliation to God. Our souls would remain in the dark abyss and our bodies wracked with every sore and boil without the Balm of the Faith of Gilead. The Gospel is a fitting benediction to that overcoming faith described in both the Collect and the epistle for today.

God would have us, I believe, to learn 1) that 'believing faith' is a faith that will draw down the miraculous powers of heaven; 2) Faith believes where evidence does not appear. *"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For by it the elders obtained a good report. Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear."* (Heb 11:1-3); 3) Faith must have a vehicle upon which to move – hearing; 4) Faith compels us, in our dire need, to draw on the smallest morsel of faith to satisfy that need; and 5) Our proper response to faith is immediate and without delay or procrastination. Its urgency is compelled by love.

Cana has been blessed with the first miracle of Christ, and a land that lends itself, by faith, to one miracle shall receive more. *"So Jesus came again into Cana of Galilee, where he made the water wine."* This is the city at which Jesus, in due regard for the high esteem in which He holds the first institution of God at Eden, honored the same estate by turning six large, stone vessels full of water into wine. It was a divine tribute to Marriage as an institution. Now, Christ, in His second miracle, will pay tribute to the blessed fruit of marriage – the child! The miracle would issue from Christ at Cana, and find its fulfillment in Capernaum, in the healing of a young boy.

There was a nobleman with connections to the power of the ruler whose son was deathly ill at the point of death. There was no earthly hope for the son so insidiously had the fever possessed his small frame. *“And there was a certain nobleman, whose son was sick at Capernaum.”* Capernaum was some sixteen miles from Cana; however, that was a good day’s travel in the time of Jesus. The nobleman had, without doubt, sought after every remedy, treatment, and physician at close hand who might improve his son to no avail. He had, most likely, expended every resort. When hope faded as a distant star on the horizon, suddenly, there came news of the coming of the man called Jesus coming out of Samaria into Cana of Galilee. He may have been present at the first miracle of Jesus at Cana, but not likely in my thinking. Certainly, he had heard of the miracle for it was voiced abroad in the area. Suddenly, that fading star of hope became, to our nobleman and loving father, the Bright and Morning Star! Hope often gives birth to the primitive germination of faith, and so it was for this nobleman.

47 “When he heard that Jesus was come out of Judaea into Galilee, he went unto him, and besought him that he would come down, and heal his son: for he was at the point of death.” He had not seen Jesus previously in all likelihood, yet, when he heard that Jesus was coming, hope gave over to the early yearnings of faith – there was Light breaking over the distant landscape! *“So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”* (Romans 10:17) Perhaps the nobleman had heard at the lips of a single, or many, witnesses. But SOMEONE had told him of Jesus and His coming. How sad that many have not had the benefit of hearing that Jesus has come, and will come again! I might add that ALL are at the very point of death without Christ. The need is great to carry the Gospel into every dark corner.

It was the elemental tug of faith that impelled action on the part of the distraught nobleman and father. Such a faith crosses all lines of class and stature – the poor as well as the rich and powerful. There comes a moment in the lives of great men such as General Naaman of Assyria whose leprosy made wreckage of his life, to the poor blind Bartemaeus whose hope hinged on the miracle he besought from a man he could not see outside the gates of Jericho. When all hope is abandoned, there remains only faith to rekindle its warm light. So, desponding of all possibility of an earthly cure, the nobleman now latched onto the Fountainhead of all Hope and Healing in that early touch of faith that suddenly penetrated the fortress walls of his heart. Here we see a man of great influence begging a favor of a poor itinerant carpenter! Does this make sense? No, it doesn’t make a bit of worldly sense, but the actions of heaven are not dictated by worldly intelligence. Life and death matters (which are the concern of Heaven) breach all lines of royal propriety and academia. No time for role-playing when his son is at the very point of death! So he begs mercy from an unlikely source, but the only Source of life and miracles. What may seem unlikely to the world may make perfect sense with God.

How would the itinerant Master receive the nobleman of stature? He makes a very telling statement of fact. He is not questioning the nobleman’s faith, but EXPOSING it as a contrast to the lack of faith that abounded among common men. *48 Then said Jesus unto him, Except ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe.”* This man had not seen signs and wonders as many of the latter multitudes had seen, yet still did not believe. This man had not seen, yet believed still! That is the faith that begets miracles and the favor of God! This approach is very like a father telling his precious little daughter, with tongue in cheek, “Surely you do not want this candy treat – you are just pretending!” Jesus already knew the heart of this nobleman. He would have those who listened to his pleas to know his heart of faith as well. There is no discouragement

or rebuff that will quench the light of earnest faith.

The gentle rebuff of Christ in no way diminishes either the faith, or its kindred, perseverance, of the nobleman. His nobility of character comes to light in his manner of responding to Christ. It is as if he knows that Christ will not deny him. His faith has told him this. **49** *"The nobleman saith unto him, Sir, come down ere my child die."* "Please, Lord, let us not mince words – my son will die if you do not come down!" He knows Jesus well enough in his heart of faith that He will not slam the gates of mercy on a child – and He never has done so! He spoke out of faith but not out of mature spiritual knowledge. He believed that Jesus must personally come to where his son was to heal him, but faith and divine power knows no distance.

Having exposed the child-like faith of this nobleman to the multitude gathered, Jesus speaks again, **50** *"Jesus saith unto him, Go thy way; thy son liveth. And the man believed the word that Jesus had spoken unto him, and he went his way."* If the man did not understand before that Jesus need only say the Word, and not come personally to heal his son, he knew it now from the lips of Jesus whom he believed explicitly. The nobleman had no need of pressing his point further....mission accomplished! He immediately believed the word of Jesus and went on the trip back to his son at Capernaum. God will give this man CONFIRMATION of his faith is a most delightful way. Faith of the believer is ALWAYS confirmed in due time. We may be facing challenges that appear to have no end other than tragedy, but clinging to that morsel of faith that has been planted in our hearts; we believe the impossible....and the impossible comes to pass!

The servants of the nobleman have been standing a sorrowful watch over the man's son whom they most likely loved more than even the nobleman himself. Suddenly, they noted his perilous fever had broken and the boy was well – as well as he had ever been! In amazement, they ran along the road to Cana to tell the nobleman. **51** *"And as he was now going down, his servants met him, and told him, saying, Thy son liveth. Then enquired he of them the hour when he began to amend. And they said unto him, Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him. So the father knew that it was at the same hour, in the which Jesus said unto him, Thy son liveth: and himself believed, and his whole house."* Note here, again, the direction the man was traveling. He had experienced a mountain-top experience with the Savior. Any direction we take after being with Christ in either presence or prayer is down again to the valleys in which we must move and labor. When told that his son lived, he inquired of the time of his improvement for the sake of confirmation of his faith. The journey from Cana to Capernaum was at least a day's travel. When told that the son recovered the previous day at the 7th hours (1 P.M.), the nobleman was not surprised but rejoiced in the confirmation of that small kernel of faith that had brought him face-to-face with Jesus. I hope you, too, have had that kernel of faith that has brought you face-to-face with Jesus. After that encounter, that kernel will grow into a hundredfold, an even untold harvests of souls.

We must not dismiss the results of the faith of the fathers for the children. Remember Zaccheus whose was saved with his whole household at his faith in Christ. See here how the noblemen believed AND HID WHOLE HOUSE (including servants). We have the promise of God that our children shall not depart in old age from that righteous path wherein the fathers walked if they are trained up in the nurture of the Word of God. One of the imperatives of baptism is to raise the child according to the promises of God, and that child shall confirm the faith of the parents in due time. What a glorious and loving Lord we have in Christ!

Bishop Dennis Campbell's Sermon

Bishop Dennis is a brilliant speaker. He is able to take biblical precepts and make them perfectly understandable, even to me. Oft he provides the text of his sermons and I take the utmost pleasure in passing them on:



Christians Rest

Psalm 91, Exodus 33:7-17, Hebrews 4:1-16

Twenty-First Sunday after Trinity

October 20, 2013

“There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God.”

This, the ninth verse of Hebrews 4 is the focal verse of the sermon today, which is titled, “Christians Rest.” That may sound odd, since I have been preaching about what Christians do, and the sermons have often been about activity, about actions. I said, on the Third Sunday after Trinity, that Christians pray. That’s an action. Yes, there is an attitude of prayer that should characterize all of us every day, but there must also be times when we put other things aside and consciously and intentionally pray to God. So prayer, in this sense, is an action, an activity. I have also talked about such things as following Christ, love, and repentance, each of which, like prayer, is an attitude or frame of mind, and an activity. So how do we do these activities and rest too? How can we do all these things and still find “There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God?”

First, we must understand that the great rest of the people of God happens in the New Heaven and Earth at the end of time. The day is coming when this fallen world will end. And all the troubles and trials of life in this world will end with it. When I call the world “fallen,” I mean it is influenced by sin, for that is the condition of people and the world today. The word “influence” means to exert control or have an effect. It comes from a Latin word, *influentia*, meaning, to flow into and cause changes. “Influence” is similar to another word, “influenza,” which comes from the same Latin word, *influentia*, and we all know influenza causes changes. So I am saying the world, its people, and its institutions all have sin influenza. Sin has flowed into them and caused changes. Sin exerts control and has an effect on everything and everyone. Every person, every nation, every institution from Church to state is in some way heavily influenced by sin and sinners. That’s why Christians argue about the Bible. That’s why the Church is divided into denominations and factions. That’s why governments are corrupt, and charities spend more on their directors’ salaries than on helping the poor and needy. But that will all end one day. One day everything will be openly gathered together in Christ, as Ephesians 1:10 states. Sin will be put away. So will sickness and death and ignorance and sorrow and selfishness and strife. All will live under the perfect rule of Christ, and all who are in Christ will have rest from the sorrows that plaque us now.

Second, we must understand that the great rest for God’s people is the rest from trying to earn a place in God’s Kingdom by our own efforts. This rest is resting in what God has done in Christ to give us a place in His Kingdom. Please understand this; you cannot earn Heaven by your good works, because in God’s eyes, your works aren’t good. There is a pollution that exists in you. You have sin influenza and it taints everything you do. So, not only are your good deeds unable to make up for your sins, your good deeds aren’t even good, not when compared to the absolute perfection of God. Nothing you can do will ever measure up to God’s perfection and perfect

standards. But God wants to give you a place in Heaven anyway. He wants you to have it as a free gift from Him. Jesus died on the cross to purchase that place for you. But He also died to give His righteousness, His Godly perfection to you. Because of that, God no longer “sees” your sins when He looks at you. He sees only Christ’s holiness. Therefore, the door of Heaven is open for you. All you have to do is step in. Of course this is only true for you if you honestly trust Jesus’ death to make you right with God. Trust Him to be who He says He is, and to do what He says He does, make your peace with God by the blood of His cross.

Third, the great rest for the people of God is rest for your spirit, even though you live in this sin-troubled world. We often call this rest, “peace of mind.” Like many of you, I believe these United States are doing many things that are counter productive to the peace and security of this country, and of other nations around the world. I believe this has been happening for generations, and I don’t see any signs of it stopping soon. But I am not in despair about it. My hope is in God, not government, not even the people. I know God can pull us out of our self-dug pit any time. He has done it before, and things have been this bad before. For example, on Sunday, February 24th 1811 a young man was ordained a deacon in Bruton Parish Church in Williamsburg, Virginia. The religious and moral decay of that time parallels our own. Hear what that young man wrote of it.

On our way to the old church the Bishop and myself met a number of students with guns on their shoulders and dogs at their sides, attracted by the frosty morning, which was favourable to the chase; and at the same time one of the citizens was filling his ice house. On arriving at the church we found it in a wretched condition, with broken windows and a gloomy, comfortless aspect. The congregation which assembled consisted of two ladies and about fifteen gentlemen, nearly all of whom were relatives or acquaintances. The morning service being over, the ordination and communion were administered, and then I was put into the pulpit to preach, there being no ordination sermon. The religious condition of the College [William and Mary], and of the place may easily and justly be inferred from the above. I was informed that not long before this two questions were discussed in a literary society of the College:- First, Whether there be a God? Secondly, Whether the Christian religion had been injurious or beneficial to mankind? Infidelity was rife in the state... and for some years after, in every educated young man of Virginia whom I met, I expected to find a skeptic, if not an avowed unbeliever.”

These words were written by William Meade, who later became bishop of Virginia. In later years he wrote of a great change in Virginia. Daily family prayer and Bible reading had become common. Church attendance was normal, and Gospel preaching ministers filled the pulpits of many of the leading churches in the Commonwealth. Vice had decreased and godliness had increased. The duties of church, family, and community, rather than vice and amusements occupied the time and energy of the people.

I read accounts like this, and I read of revivals in Israel in the Old Testament, and I am encouraged about the future. For God still lives, and can do today what He did then. Believing this, I can be at peace about my country and my world. And even if God

allows America to decline away, my spirit can be at rest.

In other words, the Christian's rest is based on the knowledge that God is, and that He is in control. He has not forsaken us, nor has he been overcome by evil. Instead He is "able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think." This same God loves me and gave Himself for me. He promises that all things work together for my good. He promised me a place in His Mansion of Mansions. One day I will see Him face to face in that land where sorrow and death are but dim memories. That knowledge gives me rest here and now. I think King David expressed this whole idea of rest for the people of God very well in the Twenty-third Psalm; "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for ever."

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+Dennis Campbell

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Roy Morales-Kuhn, Pastor - Covenant of Grace Anglican Chapel - Anglican Orthodox Church, USA Sermon for Passion Sunday

A real treat today, a sermon from Pastor Roy, one of the Western Ministers of the AOC, West of the Mississippi by ten miles. Roy is a great speaker, I am confident you will enjoy this!

The Book of Isaiah Chapter 59, verses 15-21:

Yea, truth faileth; and he that departeth from evil maketh himself a prey: and the LORD saw it, and it displeased him that there was no judgment.

And he saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no intercessor: therefore his arm brought salvation unto him; and his righteousness, it sustained him.

For he put on righteousness as a breastplate, and an helmet of salvation upon his head; and he put on the garments of vengeance for clothing, and was clad with zeal as a cloak. recompence to his enemies; to the islands he will repay recompence.

So shall they fear the name of the LORD from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun. When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him.

And the Redeemer shall come to Zion, and unto them that turn from transgression in Jacob, saith the LORD.

As for me, this is my covenant with them, saith the LORD; My spirit that is upon thee,



and my words which I have put in thy mouth, shall not depart out of thy mouth, nor out of the mouth of thy seed, nor out of the mouth of thy seed's seed, saith the LORD, from henceforth and for ever.

There are so many lessons from today's Old Testament reading. Foreshadowing the coming Savior, a redeemer, an advocate, a protector. He will be known worldwide. His name will cause fear for those who live and work in evil, He will protect, He will bring salvation, His righteousness will sustain those who He has come to protect. Notice the phrases in verse 17, St. Paul will paraphrase and expand this illustration on how we are to address the "slings and fiery darts" of the Evil One, Satan. Just as Christ showed us in the wilderness temptation, you address the issue of evil with the WORD of God.

We really aren't even supposed to directly confront Satan, he is after all an angel, yes a fallen angel. We see examples of this from the letter St. Jude who wrote "... (9) Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee...". A reference to St. Michael contending with the soul of Moses gives rise to the idea that those fights should be left to the 'professional'. Those who are in the heavenly realm, after all we are not fighting a physical foe, Satan is an evil spirit, so the Holy Spirit will fight those battles for us.

In the meantime, we are not defenseless, we have the whole armor of God as illustrated here in the verse in Isaiah and more fully explained by Paul in Ephesians 6:11-18. The last part of the Ephesians passage give the full explanation "...and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. (18) Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints..." So essentially we are not to go into battle unarmored and unprepared. We are to pray, use the Word and rely on the Holy Spirit to fight for us in the great spiritual battles we face everyday. In other words as I state earlier, leave the fight to the spiritual professional, the Holy Spirit.

Another aspect that Isaiah points out is the universal nature of God's work. After all He created the world and in a real sense once the world knows that this world is His creation, they fear God. Now fear of God can be the beginning of understanding and salvation. You understand that He who is greater than you, He being the creator, we being the created now understand, through the light given us by the Holy Spirit, a discerning spirit, know that He is our salvation. But this sense we find in the 19th verse is of those who oppose God, the lost, the followers of the prince of the air, Satan. They first off they fear the name of the Lord coming from the west and his glory coming from the rising of the sun, (the east) in other words the whole earth fears him. Isaiah further illustrates that as a flood the enemy shall come. But the Spirit and the Lord shall lift up a standard against him (Satan). The standard symbolizes the great power and might of God that will prevail against all evil, most especially Satan.

And now the promise of the future, especially those who follow Christ and his Kingdom, is two-fold. First, one must turn from evil and live. "...And the Redeemer shall come to Zion, and unto them that turn from transgression in Jacob, saith the Lord." One must turn from their transgressions and turn to the Lord. The second part of this promise is expressed in verse 21. "...this is my covenant with them, saith the Lord; My spirit that is upon thee and my words which I have put in thy mouth, shall not depart out of thy mouth..." The rest of the verse teaches us that the faith once

delivered and the words of such given by the Spirit of the Lord shall not depart from those whom He has put that word there. In an awkward way of telling this, what I am trying to say is that if the Lord has called and sanctified you, then you will not in any way be turned away. That is a promise. He whom God has given Him(Jesus) no one can take away from Jesus. As the verse ends with these words, "...from henceforth and for ever." to which I would like to add...amen and amen.

Let us pray:

O MOST loving Father, who willest us to give thanks for all things, to dread nothing but the loss of thee, and to cast all our care on thee, who carest for us; Preserve us from faithless fears and worldly anxieties, and grant that no clouds of this mortal life may hide from us the light of that love which is immortal, and which thou hast manifested unto us in thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

O HEAVENLY Father, who hast filled the world with beauty; Open, we beseech thee, our eyes to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works; that rejoicing in thy whole creation, we may learn to serve thee with gladness; for the sake of him by whom all things were made, thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

THE grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. *Amen*

Rev Bryan Dabney of Saint John's Sunday Sermon

We are fortunate to have Bryan's Sunday Sermon. If you want people to come to The Truth, you have to speak the truth, expound the truth and live the truth. This is really a good piece and I commend it to your careful reading.



Twenty-First Sunday after Trinity

In today's Epistle, St. Paul admonished the Christians at Ephesus (6:1-18) to properly arm and armour themselves against the wiles of the devil and those who would do his bidding. The apostle was very knowledgeable concerning the Roman soldier and his equipment. He well knew that the Roman soldier of the first century A.D. tended to be faithful in his duties. St. Paul likely observed firsthand that he was careful with his weapons and armour because they afforded him protection against injury or death while in combat. The apostle recognized that, just like those Roman soldiers of his day, we who are true and faithful Christians possess a type of armour— a spiritual armour— which provides us with a greater level of protection against our most dangerous and powerful adversary. No one should doubt that Satan has worked indefatigably in tempting us to set aside our spiritual armour for he knows that without it we would be helpless before his assaults. Only by keeping our armour on and in good condition will we be able to fight the good fight in our Lord's service. With that in mind, let us examine the apostle's prescription for arming and armouring ourselves in this great cause.

To begin with, the apostle informed us with whom we are wrestling: For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places (v.12) While the devil's human agents are visibly a threat, they are only the physical representatives of our real enemies. We need only look behind our earthly enemies to see who is pulling their strings. The dark forces of satanic power have had control over the mass of unregenerated humanity since the fall of man in the Garden. These unseen puppet

masters insinuate and instill in their unsuspecting earthly minions those things which their master would have them think, say, and do. Some will attack us with anger and malicious words; while others will subtly seek to overthrow us by appealing to our desires for goods, gain, and entertainment. And while some of those items may not be wrong or sinful in and of themselves; still, we ought to exercise a proper level of discernment so that we might avoid the evil and choose the good which dovetails with our next point.

We should stand as a soldier on guard girt about the loins with truth (v.14). In order to do this, it is incumbent on each of us to familiarize ourselves with the Scriptures. The Bible says, My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge... (Hosea 4:6a) and such accurately sums up the devil's intention for us as he has diligently sought to keep us from having a daily regime of prayer and Bible study. The Devil knows well that ignorant Christians are an easy mark for him as they have no protection from his program of lies and deceit.

Satan also knows that God's word is the truth (St. John 17:17), and that it has great power. St. Paul tells us in his second epistle to St. Timothy that, All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be thoroughly furnished unto all good works (vv.16-17). The person who cannot accept what God has said in his word written — particularly on account of his or her doubts about its authenticity — is a perfect candidate for deception. Blunt, but true. We are commanded to be obedient to God's word, so it stands to reason that we must know it and accept it as the living truth; but not in the same sense that some would say about our Constitution being a living document — one being subject to interpretive change by those in power for their own purposes. No, the word of God is the living truth as Jesus Christ is alive and at the right of the Father (see St. John 1:1-2). It has a fixed meaning and understanding which transcends time. It cannot be changed because it was given by him who does not change. If we believe it, then we have a powerful and sure defense as well as the strength to go forward. Imagine: an armor that can infuse its wearer with zeal!

We are to put on the breastplate of righteousness (v.14b). A breastplate was designed to protect the upper chest and mid-section of the body. In this case, righteousness is a protection against wickedness. If we seek the righteousness of God we will humble ourselves before him. In recognition of our weakness to do nothing on our own, we are lifted up by our Lord to stand for all that is holy, just and pure (Philippians 4:8).

We should be shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace (v.15). The apostle wrote in his epistle to the Romans (12:18) that we should live peaceably with all men. The gospel we have been entrusted with is a gospel of peace. It is not an earthly panacea or cure-all which can be employed by the profane and the godless. It is spiritual in nature and will one day result in everlasting joy for those of the household of faith. Being within God's peace means being satisfied within oneself that God will do as he has promised. And that settled nature will be communicated to others around us in more ways than just through our words. Through our living the Christian witness, others will both hear and see, and perhaps will also receive the blessing of God's grace.

We need to take up the shield of faith which quenches all the fiery darts of the wicked one (v.16). Satan's minions are constantly battering at our defenses. If subterfuge does not work, then they will attack us directly and in some cases, unexpectedly. But if we have our shield of faith in the atoning work of Christ, we will quench their malicious missiles. Faith is not based on the things we see, but on a trust in him that we cannot

now see but will one day be known to us as we are known to him (I Corinthians 13:12; Hebrews 11:1). Faith protects and faith projects. Your standing with God and your eternal destiny is wrapped up in your faith. If you have not that shield of faith, you will be injured by the adversary rather quickly.

It is also important that we put on the helmet of salvation (v.17a). Being knocked senseless is something the devil would love to inflict on every true believer. Our heads are synonymous with our mental faculties. If our minds have been turned away from perceiving the evil devices of our adversary, then we will not develop a proper plan of action to counter them. Thus a true and faithful Christian will protect himself or herself at all times, which includes covering every part of his body, soul and spirit. God has issued the regenerated Christian a helmet so there is little excuse for our going into battle against the forces of darkness without it. The unregenerate may attempt to defeat our mutual adversary using his or her own faulty equipment; but such will not cover every vital area, and in the end, he or she is doomed to fail (St. Matthew 12:43-45).

We are also called to take up the sword of the Spirit which is the word of God (v.17b). A sword is a weapon with both offensive and defensive capabilities. But the essential difference between God's sword and one of earthly origin is that God's weapon is far sharper than any sword of man's invention. For it is by the workings of the Holy Ghost that he brings to us both the will and the word of God (see St. John 16:7-11; Hebrews 4:12). The evil one will seek to use his weapons of lies and deceit against us, but he is powerless against the Sword of the Spirit. St. James (4:7) tells us in his epistle to resist the devil and he will flee from us. Through our proper use of God's word and the empowerment of the Holy Ghost, we are able to not only withstand the powers of darkness, but to strike them as well. The truth of the word through the power of the Spirit spells defeat for Satan. His task has been from the beginning to diminish the use of this weapon by taking away godly zeal from the various Christian churches, rendering them more worldly and less faithful to God's word. Without the word being taught authoritatively as truth, the Holy Ghost is quenched and the people are weakened and ripe for being overcome by the god of this world (II Corinthians 4:4).

We must avoid faithlessness and the quenching of God's fire in our hearts by embracing the many and varied false doctrines and fables of man's invention which have been popping up like tares among the wheat since the beginning of our Lord's earthly ministry. The new bible versions — which began appearing in the early 1880's— have been the vehicles for every sort of heretical belief and aberrant doctrine. When you compare the new versions with the Authorized Version, you will find them potholed with deletions, brackets and footnotes. God expects his whole counsel to be revealed; but the new version editors have amended him in a host of places. If you have to spend time comparing and contrasting your new version with the Authorized Version then you need to get rid of it and learn anew the wonderful words of God in the English language. You cannot hope to successfully fight the good fight using a half-baked bible which has much of its truth removed, bracketed or edited to mean something else.

Finally, we are able to bring to full utility our spiritual amour through the power of prayer. The effectual and fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much or so penned St. James in his epistle (5:16). As we are temples of the Holy Spirit, our prayers directed heaven-ward are heard all the more as we have God's abiding Spirit operating within us. Prayer said kneeling in humble recognition that God is our Sovereign Lord and lover of our souls creates within us a state of being whereby we confess our sins and

seek his divine forgiveness for them. In this manner we are cleansed and purged of those things which the devil would use to corrupt us and put us at variance with God.

Once we have been spiritually purged, we are then ready to don our armor and do battle. That is our duty, our mission, our labor, our calling. The first line of our sermon hymn today sums up today's message, "Fight the good fight with all thy might, Christ is thy strength and Christ thy right; lay hold on life, and it shall be thy joy and crown eternally." May it be your desire to fight the good fight wearing the whole armor of God and keeping to his standard always.

Let us pray,

FATHER, you have given to us thy word written as a lamp to our feet and light to our path; give us also hearts and bodies that are willing to do as thou hast commanded: to put on thine whole armour, that we might ever live in obedience to thee; for this we ask in the name of him who is the captain of our souls, even Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Have a blessed week, Bryan+

After Church Hospitality

Sadly, no after church snacks. The same story every week, is it not? The fact is that we are supposed to be on a low carb diet and there really aren't any low carb snacks that appeal to us. So, with no fatted dog nut in sight, we were out of luck! Please someone, between now and next Sunday invent some no-carb dog nuts.

After church goodies providers as currently signed up:

Date	Name
27 October 2013	Opportunity Available – Twenty-Second Sunday after Trinity
3 November 2013	Opportunity Available - Twenty-Third Sunday after Trinity
10 November 2013	Opportunity Available – Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Trinity
17 November 2013	Opportunity Available – Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Trinity
24 November 2013	Opportunity Available – Sunday Next before Advent
1 December 2013	Opportunity Available – First Sunday in Advent

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 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!

Marriage

Brian and Mel Smith were married on 25 August 2013. Please pray that they might be brought together as one in God that their marriage might prosper.

Travel

No known travel this week.

Birthday

Betty Hoffman celebrated her 80th Birthday on 18 October 2013.

Doug Lambert celebrated his 67th birthday on 28 September 2013.

Gayle Charlesworth celebrated her birthday on 18 September 2013.

Shamim Gray celebrated her 46th birthday 4 September 2013.

Anniversary

Doug and Veronica Lambert celebrated their 7th Anniversary on 22 September 2013.

Loss of Home

Sarah who lost her home and all the contents when her house caught fire and burned to the ground near the end of January 2013. Her beloved dog was taken in the fire.

Please pray for Sarah as she has many decisions at this time and help her to know Jesus will be with her to help to make the "crooked road straight."

Move

Jason Naylor and his lovely wife Marla are currently stationed in Southwest Asia, probably through the end of 2013. Pray for their continued safety and a reasonably tolerable stay in that part of the world.

Ryan Hopkins has moved to Dillsburg, Pennsylvania, to study Dressage Riding through June 2014. Please pray for God's guidance in his life as he works and studies. Help him to see where God would like him to go from here and how he should get there.

The Thomas Family is now in Okinawa for a second short tour. Please pray for this new assignment 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 schoolmates there so as to further their development as both Christians and citizens. Give thanks the safe move and ask for continued good developments.

Departed

Ronnie had a massive heart attack on 17 October 2013 and is now at home with his Lord. Please pray for his wife Suzanne and all his family as they adjust to the temporary separation.

Colonel Drue McMillan passed away 27 September 2013. Please pray for peace of mind for Drue's family, in particular his son David.

Thorsten Uekerman lost his father on 22 September 2013. Please give thanks for his time here on earth and pray for his family who remain behind, in particular his son Thorsten.

Gene passed on 20 September 2013, after a difficult last few days with lung problems. been so infected he has to be told when to breathe. Please give thanks for his time here on earth and pray for his family who remain behind.

Iva passed away 19 September 2013, after painful last days. Her family and friends are grateful for your prayers, thankful for her time here on earth and even more that she is at peace with our Lord.

Nearing the end of their time here on earth

Ester Whidett (Wilson), Mark Wilson's mother, has congestive heart failure and appears to be near the end of her time here on earth. Please pray for a peaceful transition from this world to home, for trust in the Lord, a vision of things to come, as well as peace of mind for Ester and her family, in particular her son Mark.

Colonel Drue McMillan is nearing the end of his time here on earth. Please pray for a peaceful transition from this world to home, for trust in the Lord, a vision of things to come, as well as peace of mind for Drue and his family, in particular his son David.

Saundra is in ICU with congestive heart failure after a heart operation. She is aged and frail. Saundra is near the end of her time here on earth. Please pray for comfort, understanding, strength and guidance for Saundra and her family who will of necessity remain behind. Pray for the love of God to stay foremost in their hearts.

Polly is in hospice care with dementia and spinal stenosis. Please pray for her as she prepares to go home to be with her family who have gone before her. Pray for

the faith of her family to build and the transition to be good.

Homebound or Infirm

Marian has moved to a nursing home in Fresno where her niece Cathy can keep an eye on her and visit more often. She is weak and tires easily. Marian seems to not be interested in this world. Cathy would like her to stay with us and enjoy here time here on earth. Pray that the Holy Ghost might be able to enter into Marian's heart and bring light to her; pray also she might gain strength. Pray that Cathy might be given inspiration on how to help and the strength to do so.

Joan has had serious medical problems that have kept her confined. On 26 September 2013, she took a fall and fall and after test and time in the hospital she does not have any broken bones. Please pray that in the weeks ahead her health will remain stable

Lou has aspiration pneumonia. Please pray for the infection to be knocked down and for her continued recovery.

Frank has been coping with various ailments from older age. He is in his 90s and it has been a difficult year. Pray he will find comfort in God, that those who provide care to him will pay attention to him, do their best and give him the love we all desire. Pray that the coming year will provide relief to him.

Norma, Sara's mother is in a state of deteriorating health, both physically and mentally, with both dementia and Alzheimer's. She is slowly drifting away, though she still recognizes Sara and prayer gives her a sense of peace. Please pray 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

Ray Daley is a member of the Royal Canadian Legion and served his country during the Korean War era. Ray is taking chemotherapy treatments for cancer. Meanwhile his son Trevor is in the hospital in a coma and seems to have lost the will to live. As volunteer chaplain, I have been asked to visit this family and offer prayers and encouragement. Thanks for your prayers in advance.

Pat has been under treatment for colon cancer for sometime. He has had major complications the last few days and your prayers will be appreciated by family and friends.

Sasha a young lady with a husband and two children had diagnosed with breast cancer whose cells have spread. They are going to attempt a bilateral mastectomy in November 2013. Sasha has completed radiation and it was very difficult on her. She has surgery sent for November and has they have discovered new tumors and the possibility of chemo again. She seems to be taking backward steps with her health. Her spirit is still strong and ask you continue to keep her in your prayers. Please pray for a miraculous remission; that her remaining time here on earth might be good. Help Sasha and her family, particularly her husband, put their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their worry. Sasha is grateful for all who pray for her and asks you continue to pray for her remaining time here on earth.

Dorothy had pneumonia, on checking her lungs they found tumors which permeated the lung area. Further investigation found a primary site in the colon, with the lung being secondary. It would appear there is no viable treatment at this time. Please pray for a miraculous remission; that her remaining time here on earth might be good. Help Dorothy and her family put their trust in the Lord and let

Him carry their worry.

Scott, one of our Lord's ministers who collapsed a week ago and is in the ICU of a Medical Center since he had a pulmonary embolism, with a concurrent infection of several bacterial agents. He has stopped breathing on several occasions, and may have undergone brain damage. He currently is on DNR. Please pray for recovery so that he will continue to do his Lord's calling.

Becky has fourth stage metastasized lung cancer and is not doing well with chemotherapy treatments. Please pray for Becky and her husband as they are together during this difficult time in their lives.

Larry Howes suffered a fairly severe stroke. 4 December 2012, doctors replaced a valve in a shunt that had been put in about two weeks before, and Larry responded very well. He was able to go home.

Pray also for confidence in our Lord for Larry and his family. Larry needs a miracle, pray for one. Please.

Colleen has been battling pancreatic cancer over the last year and it has now spread to one of her lungs. Please keep her and her family in your prayers.

Christine has cancer of the colon, which spread to her liver; she is receiving chemotherapy and is having difficulty eating. Please pray for the medical team treating her to pay attention and do their very best; pray also for confidence in our Lord for Christine and her family.

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.

Surgery

Mario has early-diagnosed prostate cancer and will have surgery next week. Let us offering thanks for this early diagnosis. Please pray for the surgical team to pay attention and to their best and for a good outcome. Pray also Mario and his family will be able to put their worry on God's shoulders.

Priscilla was released from the hospital and is now walking and without pain. She is waiting for doctors to come from the USA and will then have an operation. Pricilla and her family thank you for your prayers. Please pray for the surgical team to pay attention and to their best and for a good outcome. Pray also Pricilla and her family will be able to put their worry on God's shoulders.

Dustin who was injured in a work accident when stainless steel sheet metal fell on his right hand. His thumb was severely injured as some of the bones were crushed. Dustin will have surgery on Thursday 22 August 2013, to reconstruct and reset his thumb. They do not expect him to lose his thumb. Please pray for the surgical team to pay attention and to their best and for a good outcome. Pray also that Dustin and family will be able to put their worry on God's shoulders.

Jamil was injured in a car accident. His nose was fractured and he will be operated on Thursday 22 August 2013.

John will have a Vitrectomy; to address what seems a macular pucker, suck out some "gel" and thereby to marginally improve his vision in his left eye. This will be done on Friday 21 June 2013. He and his family will appreciate your prayers.

John will undergo surgery on Friday 31 May 2013. It is anticipated he will spend an additional 10-12 days at the hospital and then 6 weeks in recovery at home. Please pray for the surgical team to pay attention and to their best and for a good outcome. Pray also that *John* and family will be able to put their worry on God's shoulders.

Dave Pressey, a bishop with the Anglican Episcopal Church, one of our close fellow jurisdictions, had cataract surgery; his retina tore and he had emergency surgery on Memorial Day. He still has only very blurred in his eye and has headaches. Please pray for healing for his retina and for peace of mind for *Dave* and his family.

Eddie has upcoming bladder surgery. Please pray for the surgical team to pay attention and to their best and for a good outcome. Pray also that *Eddie* and family will be able to put their worry on God's shoulders.

Testing and Treatment

Mark is hospitalized with swelling and fluid buildup in his lungs. It appears that things may be getting under control. He needs to use a Bi-Pap mask to breathe until his lungs clear and he hates it. Pray that he will be able to adapt so his lungs can clear. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for *Mark*, as well as for his family, and for God's guidance for the medical people treating him that they might find the best course of treatment.

Mackenzie is a young girl with leukemia. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for *Mackenzie*, as well as for her family, and for God's guidance for the medical people treating her that they might find the best course of treatment.

Anita was operated on for an Adenoid Cystic Carcinoma tumors and has been in remission for sometime. After a biopsy of her left lung, three nodules were located in one lung and two in the other. She and her husband are traveling a long distance on 25 September 2013, with hopes of being admitted to a research study at a major hospital for Genome Mapping of Adenoid Cystic Carcinoma. Furthermore, *Anita* is scheduled for surgery on 30 September 2013. Please keep *Anita* and her family in prayer as they travel tomorrow and the week ahead.

Mack has had diabetes most of his adult life. Circulation in his legs is very bad and doctors are considering amputation. Please pray his medication will help and he will not face amputation. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for *Mack* and for God's guidance for the medical people treating him that they might find the best course of treatment.

Michael has been diagnosed with lung cancer recently after making it through gastro intestinal cancer last year. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for *Michael* and his wife *Gayle*; as well as for God's guidance for the medical people treating him that they might find the best course of treatment.

Liz Strauch just got over a pineal cyst removal and now they have found a mass in one of her breasts. She has undergone a biopsy and is waiting for word. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for *Liz* and for God's guidance for the medical people treating her that they might find the best course of treatment.

Ken Strauch has been tired and is anemic, he had a colonoscopy which found a pair of polyps which were removed and are being tested. Just for good measure they found he has a hiatal hernia with ulcers, basically part of his stomach is pushed up into his esophagus and is bleeding from there. Sounds there may be surgery involved. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for Ken and for God's guidance for the medical people treating him that they might find the best course of treatment.

Jo Ann has been hospitalized for overstress, she was in the hospital with severe pancreatic pain. They found a blockage and medication has helped. Jo Ann has had some recent medical issues; appendicitis, a blood disease and more. It really seems like she has had about all she can deal with on her own now. Please pray that she might find a way to let God carry her worry and open her heart to Him and to her family; give her family the strength to help her in a manner which will be effective. Pray also for a complete and rapid recovery from her pancreas problem.

Adriano is in the hospital due to high sugar and high blood pressure. He is very weak and will appreciate your prayers.

Heather recently found out she has cancer. Please pray for peace of mind for her and for the medical team treating her will be guided to the right solution.

Jim has had an aneurism and blood clots. Pray that healing will come.

Bob has experienced several Transient Ischemic Attacks³ (TIA) recently. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for Bob and for God's guidance for the medical people treating him that they might find out the source of the problem and best course of treatment.

Laurie has been ill for two years and was admitted to the Emergency Room the night of 23 July 2013, for dehydration. She received a CAT scan, which turned up a spot on her lung. Laurie is an oncology nurse and fears the worst. She has had numerous tests and the Physicians think it would be too risky to operate. Some other problems have been discovered and it is hopeful that new medicine will give her healing. Please continue Laurie in Prayer. Please pray for peace of mind for Laurie and for God's guidance for the medical people treating her that they might find out the source of the problem and best course of treatment

Mark Wilson was hospitalized with stomach problems. They turned out to be a set of very bad ulcers, for which he is grateful as they are eminently treatable. He is out of the hospital and recovering. Please give thanks for the good result and pray he will be able to follow the medical advice.

³ A transient ischemic attack (TIA) is a transient episode of neurologic dysfunction caused by ischemia (loss of blood flow) – either focal brain, spinal cord or retinal – without acute infarction (tissue death).

TIAs have the same underlying cause as strokes: a disruption of cerebral blood flow (CBF), and are frequently referred to as mini-strokes. TIAs and strokes cause the same symptoms, such as contralateral paralysis (opposite side of body from affected brain hemisphere) or sudden weakness or numbness. A TIA may cause sudden dimming or loss of vision (amaurosis fugax), aphasia, slurred speech (dysarthria) and mental confusion. But unlike a stroke, the symptoms of a TIA can resolve within a few minutes or 24 hours. Brain injury may still occur in a TIA lasting only a few minutes. Having a TIA is a risk factor for eventually having a stroke or a silent stroke.

Georgia has liver and pancreatic cancer. The doctors are evaluating whether to do surgery and how to tackle the disease. Georgia is a faithful Christian and she will appreciate your prayers. Pray for God's guidance for the medical people treating her that they might find out the source of the problem and best course of treatment. Pray also for peace of mind and trust in God for Georgia and her family.

Lana's doctor found something on her lymph nodes and ovaries. Pray for God's guidance for the medical people treating her that they might find out the source of the problem and best course of treatment. Pray also for peace of mind and trust in God for Lana and her family.

Sarah wife of Rev Geordie (AOC – UK) has been treating for ovarian cancer. The chemotherapy drugs she has been taking do not seem to be reducing the cancer cells the way it was hoped. She is going to stop taking them until January 2014; when they will start with new drugs. It is hoped that will shock the cancer into remission. In the meantime, she will be taking Avocet should keep the cells from increasing or multiplying. She will continue building fluid in her abdominal area which will have to be drained. This is turning into a lifetime of treatment kind of thing, rather than a one shot deal. This has been a difficult surprise for Sarah, but she is adjusting very well with God's help. There are a number of drug combinations to try, but she has hard road ahead. Please pray this new plan for chemotherapy will work and Sarah can tolerate the treatment. Sarah and Geordie both trust all will work out in the end and ask God's help for the interim. They ask He guide them and the medical team treating Sarah and that the team pay attention and do their very best. They both ask you pray they will be able to let God carry all their worry.

Healing

Brian finished the chemotherapy and final radiation treatment for his upper lung and bronchial area cancer. A biopsy and CAT Scan the week of 9 September 2013, turned out to be a re-occurrence of the cancer in a slightly different location. He cannot have any more radiation, but is on a course of a different chemotherapy, one week on, three weeks off and repeat. He made it through the second week of treatment, one on, two off; Brian asks we pray for strength to undergo the new process. He is weak and tired; his spirit remains high. Please also pray Brian will rest and not over extend himself. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in God for Brian and his new wife Mel, so he can rest and gain strength; pray for the medical team treating him to continue to pay close attention and do their very best; pray also he can quit smoking NOW.

Sylvia Lee, Sandra Lee's mother, had been suffering from undiagnosed kidney failure; doctors finally figured out what the problem was and offered her "hospice care", a second opinion suggested dialysis. She is now starting dialysis. Please pray for strength and vitality to return to her and for peace of mind for Sylvia and her family, as well as their 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.

Carolyn has Multiple Sclerosis with complications. Pray Carolyn and her children will be close to our Lord Jesus Christ as they and family members help to ease the problems.

Jeong was in an auto accident and sustained a serious back injury. Please pray for a full and rapid recovery.

Dale was hospitalized Sunday 25 August 2013, after a heart attack. Please pray for guidance for the medical team treating him and for peace of mind for Dale and his family.

Gil Garcia developed a bed sore which precludes sitting and is now confined to his bed. Gil has very smooth and delicate skin, please pray for a rapid healing of the sore so he can get out of bed and move around in his chair. Gil spent almost a year in the hospital the last time this happened. His faith and his attitude are almost beyond belief, he is an example to us all. But, we pray this time he will heal quickly. Pray also for his lovely wife Mary who takes care of him. Pray for both of them also for strength to deal with the loss of their son Bernie.

Bill had malignant growth removed from a lip last month and seems to be experiencing a re-growth of the cancer. He asks your prayer for the medical team treating him and for peace of mind for himself.

Sarah has been released after several days in the hospital because of her low sodium. Pray she will continue to heal.

Hank has osteoporosis, which has caused him a great deal of pain and inconvenience in the past few years. Pray for his healing and that his medical bills will be met.

Evelyn is an elderly woman who has had problems with her eyes and is now blind. It appears some sight will return shortly, pray for that to happen!

Joanne has begun kidney dialysis as a result of kidney failure due to extensive chemotherapy. Additionally she cares for an adopted drug addicted baby who is now nine years old. Please pray for her to keep her faith, to let the Lord carry her worry and concern and to give her strength. Pray also for those treating her that they might pay attention and do their best.

Mr. N. Anand is in the hospital and is seriously ill. He is being encouraged to pray for repentance of his sins and to depend upon our dependable God for a cure and recovery of his health. Pray that he will be a strong witness for Christ.

Jacob has been going through some dental procedures and has some pain and aggravation with the numbness. Please pray for comfort and strength for him, as well as for guidance for the medical team treating him that they might pay attention and do their best.

Jean fell and broke her ankle in three places. She will be in the hospital for rehabilitation for the next 6 weeks. Please pray for comfort and strength for her, as well as for guidance for the medical team treating her that they might pay attention and do their best.

Bud and his wife for their continued welfare and enthusiasm. Bud has been advised of an aneurism in his heart of a size not mandating immediate surgery. This comes at a time when he has sole care of his wife who recently broke two vertebrae and thereafter sustained pneumonia.

Virginia has Sinus and Allergy problems giving her severe problems. Pray that the Doctor will discover why it continues and find a cure.

Steve Thornell had a brain aneurysm which was found before it burst. He is home from the hospital and working hard on recovery. He lacks energy from seven days in the hospital. His doctor told him he has to make serious life changes. One of the two main arteries in the back of the head is now completely closed. He must take blood thinners, he has thick blood and recent chemotherapy made it worse. Steve has always operated at 110 percent, he needs help to slow down. Please pray for trust in the Lord and a full and rapid recovery. Pray for peace of mind for Steve and his family.

Arlen is receiving treatment for lung cancer and recently experienced a ruptured colon during treatment. She is alone in Oregon but does have a friend who has traveled a great distance to be at her side. Please pray for guidance for the medical team treating her and for strength and trust for Arlen.

Oscar discovered some time ago he had blood clots in his leg and lung. He has been treated for them and has not been cured. He now will be facing surgery. Please keep him in your prayers.

Angela had an ischemic stroke (clot). Please pray for guidance for the medical team treating her and for strength and trust for Angela. Please pray also that she and her family might put their worries on our Lord's back so she can work hard towards recovery.

Nora had a stroke mid February 2013. Please pray for guidance for the medical team treating her and for strength and trust for Nora. Please pray also that she and her family might put their worries on our Lord's back so she can work hard towards recovery.

Linda has been hospitalized for several days with a gastrointestinal problem. Please pray for guidance for the medical team treating her and for strength and trust for Linda.

Dester is suffering from unknown skin and diseases. Please guide the medical team treating him to find out what the problem is and cure it. Pray also for Dester to trust in the Lord.

Lee has Arterial Fibrillation; the medical people are not sure how to help her. Please pray for guidance for the team treating her and for Lee and her family to make the right decisions regarding treatment..

Nell recently adopted two children and has just been diagnosed with multiple myeloma.

Sarah is recovering from a stroke, but fell and broke bones. Please pray for her peace of mind and rapid and full recovery. Pray for trust in God for her and her family.

Mary Lou has been suffering with seizures. She was in the hospital with a 24 hour monitor and is being sent home from the hospital with two medications and orders to return in 2 months for another MRI to review whatever is going on in her brain. Please pray for guidance for the medical people treating her, as well as peace of mind and trust in God for her and her family.

Kathleen has spent the last two weeks in the hospital. She has been diagnosed with colitis, shingles and possibly colon cancer. Pray she will be comfortable and begin to heal.

Rachel has Mitochondrial Myopathy. This is a hereditary disease of the muscles and they do not have a cure for it. Part of her pain is her family does not believe she

is indeed ill, as she appears to be just fine. Please pray her family will learn the truth and be supportive of her; pray also the medical people treating her will find the right measures to minimize the disease. Most particularly pray for Rachel's trust in God.

Nicolas is in the hospital with serious symptoms of a heart disorder. Please pray for peace of mind for him and guidance for the medical team looking for the cause and cure.

Mrs. Baek an elderly women fell and injured her spine. Doctors cannot repair the spinal injury due to her age. She fell again the morning of 12 December 2012, breaking her collar bone which is also untreatable. Mrs. Baek is in severe pain and will appreciate your prayers.

Juanita is a young girl who was in a coma because of a blood disease. She has not come out and is gaining strength. They are awaiting results from blood samples. Her family thanks you for your prayers and asks that you continue.

Barbara had a accident while cooking and the pressure cooker blew up in her face, causing second and third degree burns over her face and upper body. Because of this she has incurred kidney problems and may need a transplant.

George had foot surgery. Please give thanks for the surgery and pray for a full and rapid recovery.

Nellie is in the emergency room of a hospital in a great deal of pain. Please pray for peace of mind for her and guidance for the medical team looking for the cause and cure.

Lauralee Meade 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.

Kevin Gerhart discovered cancer on his neck. He underwent radiation and chemotherapy. Please pray for the medical team treating Kevin that they might pay attention, do their very best and find the source; that the treatment might be successful and he might live a long and healthy life to His honor and glory. Pray also for trust in God and peace of mind for Kevin, his wife and family.

Bill, Sara's husband, had a third abdominal surgery on 22 November 2011, to remove a tumor. Bill is doing better keeping the doctor's instructions, for which we are all grateful, including taking chemotherapy once a day for two more years. He has radically decreased the consumption of alcohol and eating at least mostly properly. Please pray for help for him to continue do all this. Please pray also that Bill might turn his heart outward to help those around him, as well as 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.

Kay Denton (Mrs. Kay) has had a chest infection, perhaps viral, but seems to be getting better. She actually sent an iMessage last week, but did not hang around for a response a minute later! Please pray for continued peace of mind for Mrs. Kay and her family. Give thanks for her trust in the Lord and her positive attitude.

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! Please also give thanks 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 has worsened recently. 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.

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.

Thanksgiving and Continued Healing

Rev Rick Reid had surgery to remove a kidney stone the morning of 10 October 2013. He gives thanks for a great result and asks that you pray for his continued recovery.

Otto had massive blood clots in both lungs and a smaller one in one of his legs, treatment worked and he is recovering at home, he tires and is still on medication, but able to sleep and be free from hospital routines. His family and friends thank you for your prayers. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for Otto, as well as for his family, and for continued recovery.

Please join together in thanking the Lord for strengthening *Christopher*, a young man with psychological problems who departed meds to a bad effect, for his maintaining healthy discipline the last six months, and join together in praying that he continue to be infused with strength and rationality.

Pat underwent successful major heart surgery on 25 September 2013. Please give thanks for the successful outcome and pray for continued healing and a complete recovery for Pat.

Jane, US Army Korea, had a tumor. She returned to the CONUS, underwent five hours of surgery which went exceedingly well. The tumor came out completely, on the surface it appears non-malignant, testing will be done to confirm. Please give thanks for the surgical team doing a great job and the great result. Pray for a complete recovery for Jane.

Kathy Cardin had successful surgery on 2 August 2013, to remove a cyst on her liver; now she has chest fluid pooling. Please give thanks for the great result and pray for the chest issue to clear up and continued healing.

Dennis has heart problems; now the medical people treating him discovered a large mass on his liver which turned out to be a cyst, just like Kathy above! Please give thanks for this great development and pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for Dennis and for God's guidance for the medical people treating him that the contemplated surgery might go well.

Dwight had major oral surgery, for which he gives thanks. He is recovering slowly and asks your prayers to speed the process.

Joyce broke her left leg and sprained her right foot in a fall and had surgery the morning of 24 July 2013. She asks you to give thanks for the surgery having gone well and asks you also pray for her continued healing, she will be spending several weeks her right leg in a walking boot and several months with her left leg in a cast.

Mike was very ill in hospital. He is doing much better now and his family asks you to give thanks for the miraculous recovery. Mike is a veteran who has served his country when she called. Please pray he will open his heart to God so He can make Mike's crooked road straight and pull him towards the summit rather than to the pit.

James had surgery the morning of 4 April 2013 at Cancer Treatment Centers of America which appears to have gone well. The pathology report found the high grade carcinoma cancer was confined to the bladder. There was no sign of cancer in surrounding areas, tissues, organs, etc. The Sovereign King of heaven and earth has blessed Jim immensely; he will not have to endure chemo or radiation, he will continue with various tests and see the physicians. Please give thanks for the good result and the work of the surgical team paying attention and doing their very best. Pray for James' continued recovery and for him and his wife Dawn to be able to put their worry and concern on His Back.

Jeff had successful surgery on Monday 4 March 2013, at Vanderbilt Medical Center to remove his esophagus as the doctors felt this is the only remedy for pre-cancerous and cancerous cells in his esophagus and stomach. Please give thanks for the successful surgery and pray that his pain level will go down and he will recover quickly. Pray for Jeff and his family to keep their faith in God and let him carry their worries.

Rick is recovering from hip replacement surgery in the middle of February 2013.

Buzz Baron had C5-6 surgery the morning of 3 March 2013, which went well. Please give thanks for the surgical team paying attention and doing their best and for a good result; pray also for a full and rapid recovery.

Karen had surgery the afternoon of 1 March 2013 to remove a spot on her lung; the surgery went well and the spot was benign. Please give thanks for the great result. Pray also for continued trust in God and peace of mind for Karen, as well as a rapid recovery.

Dick's left arm was amputated after treating for Merkel Cell carcinoma over a year. He is now believed to be cancer free and is waiting to be fitted with an artificial arm. Please join Dick and his family in giving thanks to Our Lord Jesus Christ for his recovery as well as for their trust in God.

Traci had surgery colon cancer on 27 December 2012. The surgery went very well and she appears to be cancer free. But, she had a pulmonary embolism and another clot in the artery to the spleen which will keep her in the hospital for at least several days. Traci is beginning to be weary of her medical situation. Please pray that she will not become despondent. Pray that she will open her heart to God's Grace that He might enter in to her heart and strengthen her.

Bob Smouse had shoulder surgery on 28 November 2012. He would appreciate your thanksgiving prayers. While the surgery apparently went well, he is still in pain and would also appreciate prayers for continued healing and the pain to subside. He promises to work very hard on recovery therapy.

Carol Stone, the sweet wife of Mike Stone, recovered far better than expected from a severe brain bleed, but fell recently and broke her hip.

Please pray for peace of mind and trust in God for Mike, guidance for the medical team treating Carol and strength for Carol as well as faith and trust. No one can ever understand the why of these things here on earth. Sara who passed this request on asks that you pray in both faith and hope.

Business

Mark's business is in difficulty. He works in a shrinking field, of which he is one of the country's true masters, but there is little work available. He asks that you pray that he can find a way to survive in his industry, which he loves and needs his talents. Pray he can find new sources of business and new ways of doing things, perhaps someone to partner with to better use his talents. Pray also for those who work for and with him that they might do their best to help.

Employment

Chris and several others at his firm were let go after many years of faithful service. Please pray that they might find a company that can use their considerable skills and dedication to their mutual benefit. Pray also for those who remain behind that they might find peace in the confusion caused by the departures.

Doug recently became unemployed from his job of 18 years. He has been applying for jobs, but unable to get one at this time. His wife is working; this is not enough for the family. Please pray he will find employment with a firm that will be able to use his considerable skill and hard work to benefit both the firm and the family.

Catherine and Lewis are at a low ebb due to a struggle for employment. Your fervent prayers will be appreciated.

Lori is considering a potential change in her employment. Please pray for God's guidance in considering all aspect of her potential work.

Rodriguez Family are looking for work. It seems many obstacles have been put in their way of finding employment. Please pray they will find employment with a firm that will be able to use their considerable skill and hard work to benefit both the firm and the family.

Sarah is concerned about the future with her company. She would appreciate prayers for her continued employment and that her firm might find more and better ways to use her considerable skills.

Financial Guidance and Healing

David and Lorna are having financial problems. They are trying to find a smaller home which may be more affordable. *Lorna* has had an ongoing battle with brain cancer, her trips back and forth to the hospital have drained their finances to the point they sometimes struggle to have enough food in the house. Please pray for *Lorna's* healing and guidance on how they might handle the financial difficulties in which they have found themselves.

Guidance

Nathaniel is in spiritual turmoil. His family and friends will appreciate it if you will keep him in your prayers for him to find the root of his trouble and accept God's help to heal his heart.

Sam and her *two children* that have been living in a shelter and are to lose their place there. Please pray a place will be found they can stay in and recover.

Please pray *Darlene* will surrender her life to Christ.

Norrie is facing daily exams in the weeks ahead. Pray for calmness and concentration and to do the best possible.

Jonathan is addicted to drugs. He is now in jail awaiting trial. His parents and friends will appreciate it if you will keep him in your prayers for him to find the root of his trouble and accept God's help to heal addiction.

Beth is suffering from ungodly treatment in her marriage. Please pray God will guide her in her behavior, actions and thoughts that she might be able to lead her husband to God so her marriage might prosper to the benefit of them.

Brandon a young man from a Christian family who married a year ago and almost immediately became estranged from his family. As a result he has had a serious problem with keeping the civil law. Please pray for Brandon that he will return to the Lord and the many problems will be eventually settled. Pray the hurt he has caused so many will be helped with our Lord's care and love.

Dennis has some decisions to make and will appreciate our Lord's guidance.

Earl to read and understand Scriptures he has been given.

Jeanette has had many members of her family die from diabetes and several are near death now. Jeanette does not know the Lord and is despondent and perplexed about her family and herself. Please pray she can open her heart to allow the Holy Ghost in to bring her knowledge and understanding.

Christy just lost her sister in an automobile accident; this follows closely the loss of two family. Please pray she can let our Lord Jesus Christ carry all her sorrow, worry and care at this extremely difficult and stressful time.

Dr. Elizabeth Raj is teaching a biblical approach to the psychological problems facing many in our society today. She is battling against the growing influence of worldly psychology adopted by the churches themselves. Elizabeth constantly stresses answers are found between the covers of that precious Book, the Holy Bible. Please pray for encouragement, strength, fortitude and courage for her.

Daniel and Danielle are experiencing family strife as a result of custodial issues with a daughter. Please pray they and those they strive with might look to the child's best interests in their time of difficulty and disagreement; to work for her best interests and not use her as a weapon amongst themselves.

Abigail is a teenager who has behavior problems. She feels she is in an area of mental darkness. Please pray that she might look to God for help and not within herself.

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. She asks for God's help to grow her business while keeping up with the needs of her mother and husband and healing her own problems.

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

Hap asks you to pray he might be able to trust God will help him make the right decisions at the right time and not to worry uselessly, to change those things he

can change, accept those things he cannot change, sleep well to be able to do the correct things with a clear head and that he will open his heart to the Holy Ghost.

Thanksgiving

Hap gives thanks for safe travel last week.

New Ministers

On 20 October 2013, *Anthony Pangsiw*, Bishop of the Anglican Orthodox Church in the Philippines was at All Saints' Anglican Orthodox Church in Tulodan Atok, Benquet Philippines, to ordain the following to the ministry in the AOC:

Reverend Deacon Sherwin Talasyong Banao to be Priest

Mr. Fabian M. Matda to be Deacon

Mr. Emanuel T. Banao to be Deacon

Please give thanksgiving for these men stepping forward to serve the Lord and pray for them to be able to fulfill the responsibility they have accepted:

Reverend Sherwin Talasyong Banao

Reverend Deacon Fabian M. Matda

Reverend Deacon Emanuel T. Banao

Ken Howes was ordained Tuesday 13 October 2013. Rev. Howes, a good friend of The Anglican Orthodox Church, was ordained into the Augsburg Lutheran Church in White South Dakota. He will be preaching and ministering in German and English in North Carolina and Manitoba. Pray for God's guidance in his ministry.

AOC Congregations

Nathan in Wake Forest, North Carolina needs God's Help to find others who are interested in having a Bible believing Church in the Anglican tradition. He would like to develop a congregation to associate with the Anglican Orthodox Church.

Saint Joseph of Arimathea Anglican Orthodox Church is under a lot of stress. We all are, but they need even more prayer. Rev Roger Jessup, their wonderful minister, is pressed by the duties of a primary care giver, in addition to all the worries of this world. They have one of their family's primary breadwinners who will be soon unemployed, absent His intervention. Roger's niece will lose her job at the end of the year when her tech center shuts down. As Rev Roger said so eloquently, "We must pray for those who mean us harm and deprive us of our property are our enemies: Our LORD has so commanded us." We must pray they will see light and cleave to it while turning their backs on the Prince of this World. Equally important, we must pray that the Lord will raise up a political leader from among us as He has done in the past. Pray also for trust in God for each member of the parish and for them to find economic relief.

Rev Rick Reid is the minister of the new AOC congregation in Newton, North Carolina, Saint Andrews Anglican Church. Their first Sunday was 5 May 2013. Please pray Rick will be able to bring God's Word to the people in and near Newton.

Armed Forces & Contractors

Airman Donny Patton (Kadena AB, Okinawa), Jordan (USMC – Fleet Marine Force - Pacific), Trevor (USAF - KC-10 Boom Operator – New Jersey), Trevor (USN – Whidbey Island, EF-18 Pilot), Kurt Thomas (USN – Camp Foster, Okinawa)

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.

Various Special Requests

This is a horrible time for the *people of India, Christians in particular*; they are having problems with Hunger, Bank Closings, Transportation and Schools not functioning. Pray for the Leaders and Members of our Church in Eluru Andhra Pradesh. Pray their basic needs will be met and God will be close to them in this time of need.

Lisa discovered her 9 year old daughter *Mariah* had been raped. This is in the court system now and we know that prayers are needed for this family. "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much" James 5:16 *Lisa* says she feels the power of your prayer in God’s hand on her heart.

Please pray for *all the people of Egypt*; Bishop Mouneer Anis of Egypt is asking your prayer as the supporters of the deposed Mursi government, with the support of the United States government, have been attacking Christian churches--Anglican, Catholic and Orthodox. They destroyed the car of Anglican priest Rev. Ehab Ayoub. The people of Egypt, the people of the United States need our prayers, even more so the people of the Muslim Brotherhood that they might repent of their evil and know God so the rest of the people may live in peace.

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.

From Bishop Jerry

This article by the best authority on Anglican Worship is a critique of Romish ritual that has crept into Reformed Anglicanism such as reserved Sacrament, ornate statuary, elaborate vestments, excessive bowing, elevation of not only the host, but even the offering. I believe you will find this article meaningful and useful:

Comment – It is nice to see Bishop Ryle affirming the practice of both Saint Andrews and Faithful Centurion of using matzo bread rather than wafers. 😊

The Teaching of the Ritualists not the Teaching of the Church of England
Church Association Tract 4
Revd. John Charles Ryle, DD

The Ritualists have two devices which it is well to notice.

First, they represent themselves as Catholics, and say they are eager to revive the traditions and worship of the Primitive Church. This representation is contrary to the fact. The Church of England took that course at her Reformation; all that was pure, primitive, and Catholic, both in worship, faith, and order, she retained. She cast off only the fictions, idolatry, and error by which Roman Priest-craft and Italian ambition had disfigured the Apostolic faith.

But the Reformation and the works of our Reformed Church is denounced by Ritualists as mutilated, Antichristian, and a pestilent heresy, while, in fact, the Ritualists are merely reintroducing the ceremonies and dogmas which our fathers cast off as idolatrous and superstitious. When therefore they call themselves Catholics, they mean Romanists.

Their second device, when they meet their countrymen, is to disguise and cloak their opinions.

They appeal to that just sentiment which prevails, the desire to reclaim and instruct the masses.

They represent themselves as devoted to this duty. Whereas, when you watch their acts and visit their churches, you find them doing the work of Roman priests, endeavouring by appeals to remorse, by demands for confession, by offers of absolution, by sacrifices of masses, by urging of prayers to Saints and the Virgin, by appeals to the senses, music, incense, shows and dresses, to allure to Church the frivolous, careless, and dissipated. The result of this is, what it is in all European countries where Rome prevails, to bring power, repute, and gifts to the priest; to leave unchanged the vices and appetites of the people.

Ritualism then is in its faith and forms Romanism; and, in order not to misrepresent it, we shall take its own organs to describe its practices, and learn its words and ways from its tracts, magazines, catechisms, manuals of devotion, and the newspapers, which the Ritualists publish.

They declare that the doctrine of Rome and England is the same, they attend the Roman mass, and recommend others to do the same and they pray for union with the corrupt Church of Rome.

1 "The breach between us and Rome is not so wide as is commonly thought."—Dr. Pusey's Eirenicon, p. 207.

"What I have said to the Gallican [i.e. Romish] Bishops, and what they have clearly understood, is this, 'that I believe the Council of Trent, whatever its look may be, and our Articles, whatever their look may be, each could be so explained as to be reconcilable one with the other.'" Speech by Dr. Pusey, at Annual Meeting of the English Church Union, 1866. See E. C. U. Circular, for July, 1866, p. 197.

“None but those who have reduced ignorance to a system, now deny that the differences between the authoritative documents of Rome and England are Infinitesimal—that the priesthood is the same, the Liturgy virtually the same, and the doctrine the same.”—Church Times, June 18, 1869.

2 “We have attended mass in a hundred great cities of the continent, and found out that there is not of necessity an idol in every foreign Church; but that it is very possible to worship with a Roman priest, and not only to receive no harm, but some good.”—Rev. W. J. E. Bennett’s Essay on “Some Results of the Tractarian Movement of 1833,” in the Church and the World, p. 19. 1867.

3 “If the traveller should assist at Protestant worship, he is aiding and abetting that the doctrine, heresy, and schism from which he prays in the Litany to be delivered. If he does go to the Anglican Church Association chapel, he is nevertheless bound to be present at an early Mass in the Roman parish church.”—Church News, July 7, 1889

4 “It is the distinct duty of all who pray for the peace of Jerusalem to repudiate foreign Lutheranism, Calvinism, &c., and to do their utmost to show that the English Church of which they are members, is really one with the Church of Rome in faith, orders, and sacraments; whilst the Protestant bodies are branches cut off from the True Vine of which the Roman and Anglican and Eastern Communions are living boughs.”—Church News, July 7, 1869.

“We had been chosen by God to be the colonists of all newly discovered lands, and we stood, like Aaron, between the living and the dead—between the living Church and the dead and decaying forms of a corrupt Protestantism. We were bound to come forward with our message to both—to the living, that they be not high-minded, but fear; to the dead, that they arise and return to the pure bosom of their mother the Catholic Church.”—From Notice of Sermon by Rev. Dr. Littledale on the Anniversary of the A. P. U. C. in the Church Times, Sept. 10, 1869.

2. They revile Protestantism. They call it heresy,⁵ a pest,⁶ a cancer,⁷ a monstrous figment,⁸ and they vilify the Reformation and the Reformers⁹ in terms equally coarse;¹⁰ and yet they quietly remit in incumbencies and curacies within the Church of the Reformation.

5 A writer in The Church and the World (Ed. 1866, p. 237) says, “Our place is appointed among us Protestants, and in a communion deeply tainted in its practical system by Protestant heresy, but our duty is the expulsion of the evil, and not flight from it.”

“They (the ministers) carry on a school, and are indefatigable in visiting the poor, and in infusing into the veins of an ignorant and unsuspecting populace the poison of Protestant heresy.” “Pest of Protestantism.”—Church News, May 5th, 1869.

But we should much prefer seeing attention centred on theological matters and questions of discipline, and extirpating that ulcerous cancer of Protestantism, which must be fatal, sooner or later, to any Church that does not use moral steel and fire upon it.”—Church Times, Sept. 3, 1869.

8 “By way of protest against the monstrous figment of Protestantism.”—Ibid.

“We are bound to correct one of the speakers [at the Islington Clerical Meeting] who remarked that the Tractarian School, whatever its good points may be, loses sight of the distinctive doctrines of the Reformation. We do not lose sight of them at all. We are busy in hunting them down, and have no intention of foregoing the chase till we have

extirpated them. That is plain speaking enough, we trust.”—Church Times, Jan. 28th, 1870. “Anathema to the Principle of Protestantism.”—Palmer’s Letter to Golightly.

10 Dr. Littledale, in his Lecture on Innovations, calls the Reformers a set of miscreants, all utterly unredeemed villains.

3. They propose to abandon, and labour for the abolition of, the xxxix Articles of Religion, which “contain the true doctrine of the Church of England agreeable to God’s Word.”

“First of all come the xxxix Articles, those Protestant Articles, tacked on to Catholic Liturgy, those forty-stripes-save-one, as some have called them, laid on the back of the Anglican priesthood—How are they to be got over?”—Essay by Rev. L. Blenkinsopp on “Reunion of the Church,” in the Church and the World, 1866, p. 202.

See proposal of Dr. Pusey that the Universities should abandon subscription to the xxxix Articles as the practical qualification for orthodox Church of England Protestant teaching, in Letter to the President of the Wesleyan conference, 1868.

“It will soon become the duty of Churchmen to labour actively for the abolition of the Articles, which have long ago done their work and are really of extremely little use now, discrediting us (as they do) in the eyes of foreign Catholics.”—Church News, July 29, 1868.

“We have never seen the use of retaining the Thirty-nine Articles at all.”—Church Times, March 12th, 1869.

“The abolition of the Thirty-nine Articles, the adoption of Edward VI. First Communion Office...would win for the Disestablished Church the respect of Christendom.”—Church Times, Sep. 3rd. 1869.

4, They hold with the Church of Rome that there are seven Sacraments,12 whereas our xxvth Article declares that there are two Sacraments ordained of Christ in the Gospel—Baptism and the Lord’s Supper.

See Article on “The Seven Sacraments,” in Tracts for the Day, edited by Rev. O. Shipley. In the Prayer Book for the Young, or complete Guide to Public and Private Devotion for youthful members of the English Church, “Confirmation,” “Confession,” “Visitation of the Sick,” “Holy Orders” and “Matrimony” are enumerated among Sacraments, p. 10.

Rev. Orby Shipley states in his “Sermons on Sin,” that “there are seven Sacraments and personal extensions of the incarnation of God”—“Baptism,” “Confirmation,” “Eucharist,” “Marriage,” “Orders,” “Extreme Unction,” “Penance.” And he adds, “The seventh and last sacramental extension of the Incarnation of our God, I need not tell you, my brethren, in theological language, is termed the “Sacrament of Penance.”—pp. 43 to 50.

5. They pray to the Virgin Mary and elevate her to a throne in heaven;13 and our Church declares such adoration to be superstitious and idolatrous.

“Blessed Mary, Mother of God, ever Virgin, pray for us.”—Litany of the Blessed Virgin, in Invocation of Saints and Angels, by Rev. O. Shipley p. 66.

“Hail Queen of heaven; hail Mistress of the Angels, hail root, hail gate, wherefrom the light of the world is sprung! Rejoice, O Glorious Virgin, pre-eminently fair, and very lovely, hail! Mayst thou pray Christ for us.”—Monastic Breviary, used at Rev. J. L.

Lyne's Monastery at Laleham Covent at London, &c. p. 80.

See *The Female Glory*, edited by Rev. Orby Shipley, M.A., 1869.

6. They pray to saints and invoke their intercession. Our Church terms such prayers "repugnant to the Word of God." (Art. xxii.) St. Paul says there is "one Mediator between God and man."—1 Tim. ii. 5.

"O holy Michael, Prince of the Heavenly Host pray for us." "O Raphael, pray for us"—*Invocation of Saints and Angels* edited by Rev. O. Shipley pp. 45, 46.

"Of our patron saint. Most Holy Confessor of the Lord () mayst thou intercede to Christ for us."—*Little Office book*. p. 17.

"I pray that Blessed Mary, ever a Virgin, Blessed Michael the Archangel, blessed John Baptist, the holy apostles Peter and Paul, our Blessed Father Benedict, all the Saints (and you, my brothers) may pray for me to the Lord our God.—*Monastic Breviary*, used at Rev. J. L. Lyne's Monastery at Laleham, &c., p. 7

7. They set up images of the Virgin and of the saints; and introduce into their churches the Romish pictures of 'the Twelve Stations of the Cross' and publish forms of prayer to be said at each Station,¹⁵ as in the Roman Catholic Church; whereas our Church warns us that images "if they be publicly suffered in churches will lead to idolatry." (Art. xxxv, and Homily against Peril of Idolatry)

¹⁵ See *Decorations in Ritualistic Churches*—St. Michael's and All Angels, Shoreditch, and others.

See the 'Way of the Cross' in the *Treasury of Devotion*, pp. 191 to 200.

8. They pervert the Communion Table into an Altar, the Communion into a Mass, and the Clergyman into a sacrificing Priest, who elevates material elements incorporating the Deity, and direct these to be adored by the worshipper with genuflection and prostration; whereas our Church declares that the Mass "overthroweth the nature of a Sacrament" (Art. xxviii), and that such worship is "idolatry, to be abhorred of all faithful Christians." (Communion Service.)

"This prayer we say (to use the word common to us all) in the Mass which we now offer in many places daily on our altars."—Rev. W. J. E. Bennett's *Essay*. "Some Results of the Tractarian Movement of 1833" in the *Church and the World*. p. 19. 1867.

"Grant that the Sacrifice, which I a miserable sinner have offered before Thy Divine Majesty may be acceptable unto Thee, and through thy mercy maybe a propitiation for me, and all for whom I have offered It."—*Priest's Prayer Book*, p. 13.

Evidence before the Royal Ritual Commission. Question 2608.—Do you consider yourself a Sacrificing Priest? Answer by Rev. W. J. E. Bennett.—"Yes."

"THE PRIEST AT THE ALTAR IS VIRTUALLY CHRIST HIMSELF."—*Catechism of Theology*, p. 58

"Q.—Is not the Holy Eucharist also a Sacrifice?—A.—Yes"—*Catechism*, p. 35. Oxford. 1863. "May the Lord receive this Sacrifice, etc."—*Little Prayer Book*, p. 18.

"Now kneel upright, your hands clasped upon your breast; follow the Priest in silent awe, for Jesus thy God is very nigh thee, he is about to descend upon the altar, surrounded by the Fire of the Holy Ghost, and attended by the angels. At the

Consecration and Elevation prostrate yourself to the dust and say, 'Hail Body of my God hail Body of my Redeemer—I adore—I adore—I adore thee.'— Manual of Devotions and Directions Members of the Church of England, intended especially the Young.

9. They enjoin the reservation of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, whereas our xxxviiiith Article says:—"The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was not by Christ's ordinance reserved, carried about, lifted up, or worshipped.

"Celebration in private rooms should be avoided as much as possible. For this purpose it is well to have the Blessed Sacrament reserved in the church (where this may be done), but especially in collegiate and monastic chapels, where it should always be reserved. The priest should, on due notice being given, carry it from thence in the pyx (in both kinds of course), to the sick man's house..... The priest carries the blessed Sacrament in a monstrance (as described in appendix for reservation in both kinds), or he will convey it in the chalice, the Holy Body being placed previously therein by him, soaked in a few drops of the precious Blood, the chalice being covered with a white veil, and burse, with a corporal folded inside."—The Ritual of the Anglican Clergy, p. 23.

10. They pray for the souls of the Dead, and they declare their belief in Purgatory, and in the power of the priest to relieve from its penalties;¹⁷ whereas our Church declares purgatory to be "a fond thing, vainly invented, and grounded on no warranty of Scripture, but rather repugnant to the Word of God." (Art. xxii.)

¹⁷ "What seems to be agreed upon is :—That, meantime, the souls of those persons are benefited by the prayers and Offerings of the Church, and by Alms given in their behalf; that those who have not died beyond the pale of salvation receive mitigation of their sufferings and ultimate release; and that, possibly, those who are lost also gain a mitigation of their sufferings, which mitigation may last through Eternity." —Article on Purgatory in Tracts for the Day edited by Rev. O. Shipley, p. 29.

"We beseech thee, O Lord God Almighty, for the souls of the faithful departed" —Altar Manual, edited by a Committee of Clergy, p 34.

The souls of the departed thus abiding in their place of rest may be the subjects of prayer to those who are still alive upon the earth," because "the souls that are departed are not in their perfection."—Church's Broken Unity, by Rev. W. J. E. Bennett, p. 122.

"Accept this Sacrifice, which, to the honour of thy Name, we have offered for the faithful, both living and departed, and for all is our sins and offences."—Altar Meal. p.36.

"The state of the departed souls, whether in pain or pleasure, is not yet final. The truth is that they are in custody, easy or harsh, awaiting "Trial."

"The best and holiest men (and much more the average believers) leave this world bearing the stains of earthly sins and error, which must be cleansed somewhere before they can be fitted for heaven."—Prayer for the Dead, by Rev. Dr. Littledale, p. 2.

See Dr. Pusey's Address, headed, "The prayers for departed Companions of the Society of the Love of Jesus."—p. 127, 8.

Also notices at the doors of Ritualistic Churches, "Of your Charity pray for—," and then follow the names of persons sick and dead.

11. They omit the Prayers for the Queen, the Royal Family and Parliament,¹⁸ and are

agitating for a separation of Church and State.19

18 In Ritualistic Churches the State Prayers are generally omitted.

“There does not seem to be any great reason for retaining the prayer for the Queen, bearing in mind the very full and emphatic terms in which her Majesty is mentioned in the Canon. Most people, we suspect, would be exceedingly glad if this prayer, as well as the Comfortable Words and the Addresses were dropped.”— Church Times, Jan. 20, 1866.

19 “I referred to an extreme faction in the Church of very modern date that does not conceal its ambition to destroy the connection between Church and State.”—Letter from the late Premier to Rev. A. Baker, dated 9th April, 1863.

See Rev. W. J. E. Bennett’s Sermon at Bristol, on May 2, 1869 advocating the separation of Church and State, and speaking of their connection as an adulterous love between the kingdom of the world and the kingdom of God. —Ch. Times, May 7, 1869.

12. They also introduce the Romish practices of Extreme Unction,—Incensing persons and things,— Substituting wafers for bread at the Communion Service,—Using Holy Water,—Consecrating and censing Palm branches on Palm Sunday, —Consecrating ashes, and rubbing them on persons’ foreheads on Ash Wednesday,—Censing candles and sprinkling them with Holy Water on Candlemas day.

See Essay on “ Unction of the Sick “ in Tracts for the day edited by Rev. O. Shipley, where the writer speaks of “the Sacrament of Unction” p. 342, and adds (p. 359) “The principal effect then of Unction is the removal of the relics of Sin; its consequential effect, the remission of the guilt of any Sin it may find in the soul.”

“The recognized consecration of chrism and holy oil for various rites cannot be much longer postponed. It will certainly come in somehow”—Dr. Littlerdale’s Letter to the Archbishop on “Catholic Revision.” p. 28. Liturgy of Church of Sarum dedicated by permission to Bp. of Salisbury.

13. They advocate the Procession and Veneration of Relics.

See instructions for Procession and Veneration of Relics in Oratory Worship.

“It is well, when the relics are to be exposed, to erect a resting-place for them just within the chancel, or in some place calculated to facilitate the veneration of the faithful,” p. 32.

Then follow details of the service, and it concludes by saying, “After the Te Deum the officiant and his ministers should proceed to the chancel gates, and there hold the inner relic-case to be kissed by the faithful, wiping the glass after each osculation with a piece of cotton wool”.—p. 34.

14. They encourage and enjoin habitual auricular confession to a priest, and seek to restore Judicial Absolution by a Priest, and the Romish Sacrament of Penance;20 whereas our Church says, “to maintain their auricular confession withal they greatly deceive themselves and do shamefully deceive others.” “It is most evident and plain that this auricular confession hath not the warrant of God’s word.”—Second part of homily on Repentance.

20 Mr. Dodsworth, writing to Dr. Pusey, eighteen years ago, says :—” Both by precept and example you have been amongst the most earnest to maintain Catholic principles. By your constant and common practice of administering the Sacrament of Penance; by

encouraging everywhere, if not enjoining, auricular confession, and giving special priestly absolution, &c. Mr. Maskell, addressing Dr. Pusey about the same time, wrote, "He (Mr. Dodsworth) knew that you have done more than encourage Confession in very many cases; that you have warned people of the danger of deferring it, have insisted on it as the only remedy, have pointed out the inevitable dangers of the neglect of it, and have promised the highest blessings in the observance, until you had brought penitents in fear and trembling upon their knees before you." Dr. Pusey, in a Letter to the Times Nov. 29th, 1866, says: "During the twenty-eight years in which I have received Confession, I never had once to refuse absolution."

In the "Ordinance of Confession" the Rev. W. Gresley, MA., Prebendary of Lichfield, has given very minute directions both to penitent and confessor. He also says that the priest when he hears confessions, should wear his robes of office and then at p. 96 he speaks thus about absolution:

"The giving Absolution is not a matter of course, but is dependent on the judgment of the priest.

He has power to retain as well as remit sins—to give absolution or refuse it." Awful thought!

"Listen carefully to all the Priest says to you, be sure to remember the penance he gives you, and receive the Absolution thankfully."—Little Prayer Book, p. 83.

"The essential form of Absolution is not to be put forth after the manner of a prayer, but as by authority, being a judicial act."—The Priest in Absolution, p. 50.

"Confession is one of the lesser Sacraments, instituted by our Lord Jesus Christ by means of which those sins which we commit after Baptism are forgiven," &c.—Prayer Book for the Young, p. 71.

15. They are restoring Monasteries and Convents.

The Rev. J. T. Lyne (Father Ignatius) has established a Monastery at Laleham, a Convent of Sisters of St. Benedict in London; and there are convents of Benedictines in London, Newcastle, and Norwich, and a Priory of Benedictine nuns at Feltham.

"The Rev. R. M. Benson, MA., Incumbent of St. John the Evangelist, Oxford, and a prominent member of the High Church party (Ritualistic?) in that city, has been holding a 'Retreat' at his Monastery in Marston-street, Oxford, which has been attended by a large number of clergymen from all parts of the United Kingdom. During its continuance the brethren, as they are called, give themselves up to fasting and prayer, maintaining the strictest silence and reserve. The Services in the chapel attached to the Monastery are incessant, the members of the Brotherhood appearing to spend the whole of their time between prayers in the chapel and meditations in their cells. The whole of the brethren are clothed in long black cassocks, confined at the waist by a cord, and wear large black felt hats."—Morning Advertiser, Oct. 1869,

See account of service at what is called the Feltham Nunnery, quoted in the Guardian, September 9th, 1868 in which it is stated that—"The Priest commenced with the Communion Service of the Church of England, the young lady who was to receive the veil was dressed as a bride. The novice's habit, scapular, girdle, and sandals, wimple and cloak, were solemnly blessed, her long black hair was all cut off, her white dress changed for a Benedictine frock, the white veil solemnly blessed and incensed, and then placed over her head, and she took the three vows for one year. The nuns are entirely enclosed, never go out, only see visitors at a grating in the Convent parlour, and then

their faces are covered, and they obey the strict Benedictine rule.”

In the same account it is stated that in a previous week a nun took the black veil in the house with ceremonies still more striking and solemn.

16. They recommend the celibacy of Priests.

“All Catholics who seriously desire the spiritual well-being of our Church ought earnestly to long to see some such discipline as that which prevails in the Holy Eastern Church established among ourselves—to have some stringent law or Canon enacted making the reception of at least Priest’s Orders a bar to subsequent marriage on pain of perpetual irregularity.”—Church News Oct. 13th, 1869.

The Rev. W. Humphrey in an essay, “The Three Vows” in *The Church and the World*, enjoins the necessity of the three vows of Chastity, Obedience, and Poverty, and says, “Perpetual continence is requisite in order to the perfection of Religion.”—p. 517.

“We are perfectly convinced that until the celibate life for men, and especially for priests, is very widely recognized and practised among us, we shall be lacking in an important feature necessary to the perfection of a Christian Church.”—Church News, April 7th, 1869.

17. They deny the sole authority of God’s Word. For its supremacy, they substitute the traditions of the dark ages, introduced by an ambitious priesthood, to enrich and aggrandize their order.

With a clear note, our Church rebukes those views, declaring that “Holy Scripture containeth all things necessary to salvation” (Art. vi.); and that “while each Church has the right and the power to decree ceremonies”—(Art. xx.)—“it is not lawful for the Church to ordain anything that is contrary to God’s Word written;” and “whatsoever is not read therein, nor may be proved thereby, is not to be required of any man, that it should be believed as in article of the Faith, or be thought requisite or necessary to salvation.” (Art. vi.)

19 “If all the Bibles in the world could be gathered together tomorrow into one place and cast into the sea, I see nothing to hinder the Christian mission spreading in the world, in the same way as it spread between the years 33 and 80 AD. (or whatever date may be assigned for the completion of the New Testament Canon). Neither, to take a practical case, which involves no such extravagant hypothesis, do I think that a Christian Priest, sent to a heathen land to win converts to the Faith, has any need to take a Bible with him, or any call to use it with the heathen previous to their baptism, or in any sense to treat it as a necessary element in the work of conviction.”—*Kiss of Peace*. Sequel 59.

“In the sense in which it is commonly understood at this day, Scripture, it is plain, is not, on Anglican principles, the Rule of Faith.”—*Tracts for the Times*, No. 90, p. 11, republished with Preface

by Dr. Pusey, 1865.

“I most firmly believe, O my God, whatever thy Holy Catholic Church believes and teaches.”—*Little Prayer Book*, pp. 13, 14.

“There are a great many persons who are under the impression that the Bible is intended to teach

us our religion. Let me say most distinctly and definitely that this is a thorough mistake.”—*An Open*

Bible. Lecture by Rev. J. E. Vaux, p. 18.

“If we would decide between conflicting opinions on fundamental doctrines, we must

appeal to the

Universal Church. Her voice will tell us 'What is Truth.'"—Ib. p. 17.

The Church is not the Church of the Rome, but the Bible is the Book of the Church."—
Ibid. p. 15.

18. Even on the Primacy of the Pope, which by acts of Parliament and by the Order of our Reformed Church was rejected, these men are now approaching Popery with their entreaties. They set up Associations to promote reunion with Rome: they desecrate public worship by prayers for it; they hail the Papal Council; they declare the identity of our Articles with the Papal Creed; and the language, in which some of their leaders have lately expressed themselves, leaves no doubt as to their design. In St. Alban's, Holborn, Dr. Littledale, accompanied by three other Priests, asked all present to pray.

"That Pentecostal fires might descend upon that great Council which was about to assemble under the chief Bishop of the Church, so that some of the scandals of the last 300 years might be removed."

One of their organs expressed plainly the sentiments of the party:

The cry of the earnest and devout in our Communion to the successor of St. Peter is 'Come over and help us.' Will he stop his ears and beat back the hands stretched towards him, or will he advance half way and fall on our neck and kiss us? We are quite content to allow that we have been, as a Church, separate, degraded by the State to keep swine, and famished on the husks it has cast to us, but we do not forget that we are sons."—Church News, Sept. 15, 1869.

We cannot wonder that in a Roman Catholic newspaper, a letter from an Ecclesiastic of high position is given, which states:—

"It is notably impossible for the Holy Father and the Council to ignore the reunion with the Holy See expressed by so many pious Anglicans." From information "received from Catholics in England, from Archbishop Manning downwards,"— "the present spirit of the more advanced Anglicans is all that could be desired."— Weekly Register, Sept. 4.

Therefore, it is no exaggeration to describe the Ritualistic party as Romanists, who have reached already with bold advance the worst errors and idolatries of the Church of Rome.

The conspiracy now is organized, its practice open, its purpose avowed. To unprotestantize our Church and to overthrow our reformed faith is their deliberate and unconcealed design. Nor is the evil or the danger small; in some cases the laity have been corrupted by their teaching and have imbibed Romish errors, but the great majority of our laity are shocked and startled to find such heresies suffered within our Church, and they ask, with wonder and impatience, why is nothing done? what are the heads of our Church doing?

One conclusion is, that the faithful members of our Protestant Church must look for a remedy under God, not to others but to themselves.

Union is as necessary as Action. If the faithful members of our Church are, through God's blessing, permitted to resist the two great dangers of Ritualistic and Romish superstition on the one hand, and Unbelief on the other, they must learn to think, to deliberate and act together, but above all to be earnest in prayer. This course was pursued by the members of the early Church; and ended by God's blessing in harmonious agreement. This should be our course. That which we must look for, which alone will serve us, is the cordial union of Clergy and Laity, and their united prayer to Him who ordereth all things according to his good pleasure.

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
27 October 2013	Dru Arnold – Twenty-Second Sunday after Trinity
3 November 2013	Dru Arnold - Twenty-Third Sunday after Trinity
10 November 2013	Dru Arnold – Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Trinity
17 November 2013	Dru Arnold – Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Trinity
24 November 2013	Dru Arnold – Sunday Next before Advent
1 December 2013	Dru Arnold – First Sunday in Advent

The near future, as well as Next Sunday

27 October 2013 – Twenty-Second Sunday after Trinity – Morning Prayer - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945; **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**

3 November 2013 – Twenty-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**

10 November 2013 – Twenty-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**

17 November 2013 – Twenty-Fifth 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**

24 November 2013 – Sunday Next before Advent – 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 December 2013– First Sunday in Advent – 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**