



Faithful Centurion Anglican Orthodox Church

## Twenty-Third Sunday *after* Trinity

Sunday Report



Today was the Twenty-Third Sunday after Trinity Sunday. We are in to fall now! Sunrise again brought the very bright sunny skies of a fleeting Santa Ana typical of this time of year. Sunrise temperature was 33°F, which rose to about 63°F by the end of church under those same bright skies. The exceedingly beautiful weather brought the usual 3 people to worship!

### *Gathering Song*

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

### **Amazing Grace**

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

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

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

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

As everyone knows, we love *Amazing Grace*!  
It is a favorite among sinners.

### *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 –

### *On The Fall*

The doctrine of the Fall (both of man and of some “gods,” “eldils” or “angels”) is the only satisfactory explanation. Evil begins, in a universe where all was good, from free will, which was permitted because it makes possible the greatest good of all. The corruption of the first sinner consists not in choosing some evil thing (there are no evil things for him to choose) but in preferring a lesser good (himself) before a greater (God). The Fall is, in fact, Pride. The possibility of this wrong preference is inherent in the v. fact of having, or being, a self at all. But though freedom is real it is not infinite. Every choice reduces a little one’s freedom to choose the next time. There therefore comes a time when the creature is fully built, irrevocably attached either to God or to itself. This irrevocableness is what we call Heaven or Hell. Every conscious agent is finally committed in the long run: i.e., it rises above freedom into willed, but henceforth unalterable, union with God, or else sinks below freedom into the black fire of self-imprisonment. That is why the universe (as even the physicists now admit) has a real history, a fifth act with a finale in which the good characters “live happily ever after” and the bad ones are cast out. At least that is how I see it.

*Jack Lewis*

### The Collected Letters of C.S. Lewis, Volume II

"Liberty regards religion, or Christianity, as its companion in all its battles and its triumphs, as the cradle of its infancy and the divine source of its claims. It considers religion as the safeguard of morality, and morality as the best security of law and the surest pledge of the duration of freedom. Religion in America takes no direct part in the government of society, but it must be regarded as the first of their political institutions; for if it does not impart a taste for freedom, it facilitates the use of it."

*Alexis De Tocqueville*

Society expected each man to aspire constantly to Chivalric Behavior; in return, they gave him an honorable place in the union of men . . .

*Arno Borst*

### Medieval Worlds

The institution of chivalry forms one of the most remarkable features in the history of the Middle Ages.

*Horatio Alger*

More than a code of manners in war and love, Chivalry was a moral system, governing the whole of noble life . . .

*Barbara W. Tuchman*

### A Distant Mirror

An armed society is a polite society. Manners are good when one may have to back up his acts with his life.

*Robert A. Heinlein*

It is better to hear the rebuke of the wise, than for a man to hear the song of fools.

*Ecclesiastes 7:5*

Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that the plowman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him that soweth seed; and the mountains shall drop sweet wine, and all the hills shall melt. And I will bring again the captivity of my people of Israel, and they shall build the waste cities, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and drink the wine thereof; they shall also make gardens, and eat the fruit of them. And I will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled out of their land which I have given them, saith the LORD thy God.

Amos 9:13-15

Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the power of the heavens shall be shaken: and then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

*St. Matthew 24:29-30*

Be ye therefore ready also: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not.

*St. Luke 12:40*

Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

*I Corinthians 3:13*

And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

*Revelation 21:6*

Death is... a return from exile, a going home to the many mansions where the loved ones already dwell. The distance between glorified spirits in heaven and militant saints on earth seems great; but it is not so. We are not far from home— a moment will bring us there... When the eyes close on earth they open in heaven.

*Charles H. Spurgeon*

19<sup>th</sup> century English pastor and author  
(Morning and Evening, p. 222)

Government is the great fiction, through which everybody endeavors to live at the expense of everybody else.

*Frederic Bastiat*

19<sup>th</sup> century French economist and author

The exercise of force without the restraint of law is terror. Clarence Carson— 20<sup>th</sup> century American historian.

The very word "secrecy" is repugnant in a free and open society; and we are as a people inherently and historically opposed to secret societies, to secret oaths and to secret proceedings. We decided long ago that the dangers of excessive and unwarranted concealment of pertinent facts far outweighed the dangers, which are cited to justify it.

*John F. Kennedy*

20<sup>th</sup> century American president

## 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 the Twenty-Third Sunday after Trinity can be found on Page 222-223:

### The Twenty-Third Sunday after Trinity *The Collect.*

**O** GOD, our refuge and strength, who art the author of all godliness; Be ready, we beseech thee, to hear the devout prayers of thy Church; and grant that those things which we ask faithfully we may obtain effectually; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Dru Arnold read the Epistle for today, which came from Saint Paul's letter to the

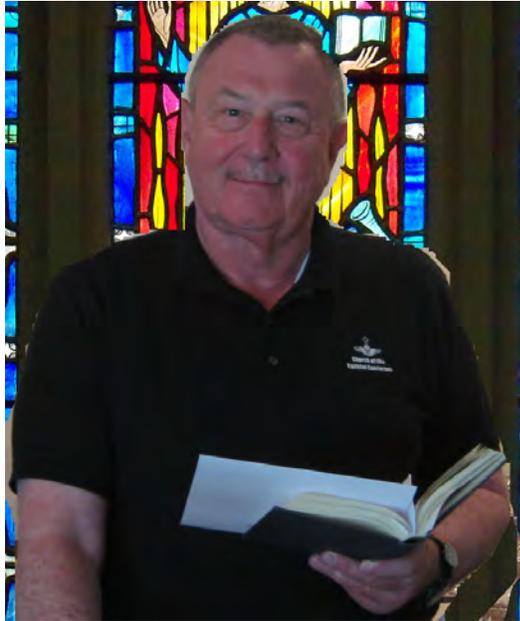


Philippians beginning at the Seventeenth Verse of the Third Chapter. Writing to the church in Philippia, Paul asks them to watch whom they follow, "For many walk, of whom I have told you often, ... that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things." He reminds us of our ultimate goal, of that which for us should have the principal place in our minds, "For our citizenship is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: who shall change the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed unto the body of his glory, according to the working whereby he is able even

to subject all things unto himself.”

**B**rethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample. (For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things.) For our citizenship is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: who shall change the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed unto the body of his glory, according to the working whereby he is able even to subject all things unto himself.

Hap Arnold read the Holy Gospel which came from the Twenty-Second Chapter of the



Gospel according to St. Matthew beginning at the Fifteenth Verse. Like many people today, the Pharisees took much comfort in the fact that they followed The Law to The Letter. Not looking to what the law was trying to get them to do and to think, but rather following The Law to The Letter. Jesus presented a threat to their very existence, because he asked the people to do what God willed, not to simply cook their food a certain way, or turn down an invitation to a luau because they served roast pig and drank Bud. Being good followers of The Law to The Letter, they sought to trip Him up. “...they sent out unto Him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, ‘Master, we know that thou art true, and teachest the way of God in truth, neither carest thou for any man: for thou regardest not the person of men. Tell us therefore, What thinkest thou? Is it lawful to give tribute unto Caesar, or

not?” Having for so long lived The Law to The Letter, believing The Kingdom of God would be of this world, they could not see the obvious response. They were absolutely floored when Jesus said, “Shew me the tribute money.” With no thought of the answer, “they brought unto him a penny.” Jesus asked them, “Whose is this image and superscription?” Again playing the straight man, walking into the trap they had set for themselves, they answered, “Caesar’s.” Driving his point straight into their hearts, he told them, “Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar’s; and unto God the things that are God’s.”

This ended the encounter, “they marvelled, and left him, and went their way.”

**T**hen went the Pharisees, and took counsel how they might entangle him in his talk. And they sent out unto him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, Master, we know that thou art true, and teachest the way of God in truth, neither carest thou for any man: for thou regardest not the person of men. Tell us therefore, What thinkest thou? Is it lawful to give tribute unto Cæsar, or not? But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, Why tempt ye me, ye hypocrites? Shew me the tribute money. And they brought unto him a penny. And he saith unto them, Whose is this image and superscription? They say unto him, Cæsar’s. Then saith he unto them, Render therefore unto Cæsar the things which are Cæsar’s; and unto God the things that are God’s. When they had heard these words, they marvelled, and left him, and went their way.

## *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.

### **The Twenty-Third Sunday after Trinity**

*The Collect.*

**O** God, our refuge and strength, who art the author of all godliness; Be ready we beseech thee to hear the devout prayers of thy Church; and grant that those things which we ask faithfully we may obtain; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Collect says Our God is the author of all perfection; we ask him to be ready, to hear our sincere prayers: He may answer those things which are good for the Church and the world that we ask and that from His Grace we may receive those things which are good for us.

In the Epistle, St. Paul tells the Philippians to follow God and not be dependent on man, as so many in this country are now. The problem he explains with many, who claim they are followers of Christ, but don't walk the walk, is they are selfish and only think of themselves. He warns them will lead them onto a path of doom and destruction. And also, he talks about how the enemies of Christ glory in our shame, but this will be their undoing in the end also. We are not to worry, but rather lean on Our Lord, even in these times of trials and tribulations, some of which we have yet to face. We realize that our citizenship is in heaven, from which we look to Our Saviour. If we are on the side of righteousness, of the Lord, of godliness, then who are we to fear?

Nobody; save a respectful fear of Our God.

We will not bow before the forces of darkness, but rather stand tall, equipped with the armor of light, the shield of truth, and the helmet of faith. We will give those in authority the respect that they are due as tradition, but we will not be dependent upon them for our every need and whim. We are to turn to God, if we are to be dependant on anything, it must be God upon whom we are dependant, and not Man. Being dependant on man only leads to eternal death for us, but being dependant on God leads to eternal life for us. So must we put our trust in God as our Eternal Navigator, our Guide throughout the rocky path of life. Returning to him when we are lost, he will always guide us back to the straight and narrow path.

Which brings us to the point of the Gospel, in which Christ tells the Pharisees of how they are to deal with the problem of tribute to Caesar. They have no love for the Roman Government, as we have very little love for ours, I might confess at this moment in time. However, Christ reminds them to separate their hatred of the government, and do the right thing. As we must give God his due (our prayers), we must give the government their due (taxes, etc.), but this does not mean that we treat the government as demi-gods, to put it one way, like politicians often think of themselves. But rather that, we give them what they are owed, no more and no less. The Pharisees were trying



to trick Christ to say that you must honor one or the other, when you can do both. We should be serving God and not man, however, that does not mean that we do not have to pay our dues to the government that rules us. It is only through God's grace that he allows government to rule over man. The government we have was established with recognition that it serves at His pleasure. Its constitution establishes that people have rights endued them by their Creator, not the government. It is with the authority of the people that the government serves. It must exist to serve the people and God. It is not to be a self-licking ice cream cone. Jesus told us to feed the poor people, not create laws that took money from other people to do that purpose, of which he commanded us to do.

The Collect, Epistle and Gospel tie together, laying out, detailing and reinforcing the same message, ultimately. We have to respect the authorities that govern us, no matter how we disagree or dislike them, and conduct ourselves like Christians. However, that does not mean that we replace the rule of God with the rule of Man. Man's laws should merely be a restatement of God's laws, not to replace God's laws.

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*

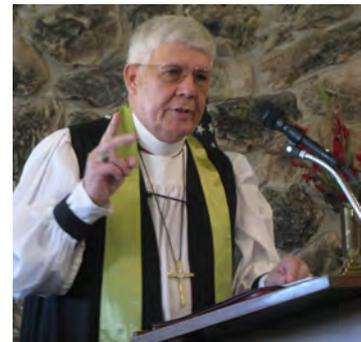
We are off fortunate to get copies of Bishop Jerry's sermon notes. Today is one of those Sundays. Today's sermon starts off with the collect, and like always, it will give you a lot to consider in your heart.

Sermon Notes

Twenty-Third Sunday after Trinity  
3 November 2013, Anno Domini

#### **The Twenty-Third Sunday after Trinity**

*The Collect.*



**O** God, our refuge and strength, who art the author of all godliness; Be ready we beseech thee to hear the devout prayers of they Church; and grant that those things which we ask faithfully we may obtain; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*The Epistle Philippians 3: 17-21*

**B**rethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample. (For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things.) For our citizenship is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: who shall change the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed unto the body of his glory, according to the working whereby he is able even to subject all things unto himself.

**T**hen went the Pharisees, and took counsel how they might entangle him in his talk. And they sent out unto him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, Master, we know that thou art true, and teachest the way of God in truth, neither carest thou for any man: for thou regardest not the person of men. Tell us therefore, What thinkest thou? Is it lawful to give tribute unto Cæsar, or not? But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, **Why tempt ye me, ye hypocrites? Shew me the tribute money.** And they brought unto him a penny. And he saith unto them, **Whose is this image and superscription?** They say unto him, Cæsar's. Then saith he unto them, **Render therefore unto Cæsar the things which are Cæsar's; and unto God the things that are God's.** When they had heard these words, they marvelled, and left him, and went their way.

The Collect prays that we ask out of faith that such petitions might be granted. But is it possible to ask out of greed or jealousy as did the Pharisees and Herodians in our Gospel today. Whether they knew it or not, their prayers of deception were made to God (God the Son). The Herodians were those who supported the Roman puppet king, Herod. But the Pharisees were vehemently opposed to Roman rule. How could these two be allied against Christ. I believe it is because both considered Christ a greater threat to the Roman rule (Herodians), or the religious life (Pharisees) of Israel. Both wanted, above all else to preserve their power over the people. But Christ came as the great Liberator. This, they could not bear - and neither can the larger religious institutions, or governmental powers, tolerate Christ today.

As our Epistle so well points out, we have our citizenship in heaven, not in the dirty and political premises of this world. Our motives should never be centered on material prosperity, but spiritual enlightenment.

We read how those wicked men of the Pharisees conspire with their mortal enemies, the Herodians, to entangle Christ in His words and ministry.

Strange how enemies can unite against One they consider of greater threat. They fear that One who speaks truth cannot be bested by those whose works are fleshly.

They fear their little positions of authority and seek to murder Him to whom ALL truth and authority belongs.

It is a deaf EAR they turn to the Gospel of Christ. They only seek something of which to charge Him or of which to complain. They have witnessed more of His miracles of healing, restoration to life, and acts of mercy than most of His own disciples, yet, they fail to believe – WHY?

It is because they refuse to believe!

Such contentious ones have not the Mind and love of Christ in their hearts.

True love and mercy are not divisible. That Love of Christ which we have received is authenticated by that same love and compassion we show to one another.

*Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus (Phil 2:5)*

Where the love of Christ is, there can be no division. Christ is not divided against Himself! His Mind is also constant – the same yesterday, today, and forever.

They cunningly say to Jesus: *Master, we know that thou art true, and teachest the way of God in truth, neither carest thou for any man: for thou regardest not the person of men. Tell us therefore, What thinkest thou? Is it lawful to give tribute unto Caesar, or not?*

Like good politicians, these men will use deception, or even flattery, to ensnare a good man.

We pay tribute today in the form of taxes. Taxes are essential to provide those limited government services necessary to ensure defense, order and a suitable environment for trade. It is something we owe Caesar if we are to live within the borders of his dominion.

If Christ insists that we pay tribute to Caesar, He will have lost the support of the people. But if He says that we should NOT, He incurs the wrath of Rome.

So how does Christ respond to these scoundrels?

*But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, Why tempt ye me, ye hypocrites?*

Christ never hesitated to call a spade a spade.

He was not very politically correct was He?

He then says: **19 *Shew me the tribute money. And they brought unto him a penny. 20 And he saith unto them, Whose is this image and superscription?*** In Rome, Caesar money, inscribed with his image, was the coin of the realm. But are we not citizens of another kingdom.? Do we not bear a dual citizenship? Though we must remain IN the world, we are not to be part and party to it.

Ships are wonderful vessels constructed for the purpose of bearing great burdens of merchandise across the sea. They are, in fact, made to be in the sea. As long as they travel in the sea, all is well. But when the sea gets into the ship, tragedy stands at the door. Ships are like the church. The Church is made to season the world and to be a sweet savor to it; but when the world gets into the Church, it will lose its savor.

**21 *They say unto him, Caesar's. Then saith he unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's.***

The image and superscription of God: The Christian disciple is as silver, purified seven times by the Refiner. He assume the image and likeness of His Lord. The silver coin, once tamped by the authority of government, assumes the value that the authority assigns by his stamp. So, too, does the Christian assume the authority to teach the Word to all who will listen. The authoirity does not reside in the coin, or in the disciple, but the authorizing power.

American coinage is the only in the world that has consistently appealed to the trust of God in its mintage. **In God We Trust!** In America, we the people are Caesar.

We set our rulers up, and we take them down by our exercise of the franchise. We can

blame no one for the ungodliness of our rulers.... but ourselves. We will always get precisely the kind of ruler we deserve!

**22 When they had heard these words, they marvelled, and left him, and went their way**  
The Words of God confuse the learned and the deceitful. In His mouth there is no deceit nor shadow of turning.

Are we citizens of God's Kingdom?

Are we stamped with His image of ownership and authority?

What must we render unto God to receive that title of coinage of the realm? All of ourselves – our being and our daily currency should reflect His Image just as the coin of the nation represents the image and authority of that nation.

When men know you, may they also know Christ through you. I pray that the stamp of Christ is apparent upon all who are within range of my voice today.

### ***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, expose the truth and live the truth. This is really a good piece and I commend it to your careful reading.



### **Twenty-Third Sunday after Trinity**

In today's Holy Gospel lesson today (St. Matthew 22:15-22), our Lord was put upon by the Pharisees who tried to coax him into making a seditious comment against the authority of Rome saying, Master... we know that thou art true, and teachest the way of God in truth, neither carest thou for any man: for thou regardest not the person of men. Tell us therefore, What thinkest thou? Is it lawful to give tribute unto Caesar, or not? This tactic is called damning with faint praise. If they had really believed any of what they had said, they would have become disciples as well. Instead, they sought trick him into making some pronouncement which they could, in turn, use as the basis for his arrest by the Roman authorities.

Knowing their thoughts, he simply responded to their query with the now famous remark of, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's (St. Matthew 22:15-21). Such was not the answer they had hoped to hear. John the Baptist had once referred to them a generation of vipers (St. Matthew 3:6-7). They troubled the people of God then, and their successors are with us today, engaging in the same sort of behavior, but this time within the very body of the Church. As regenerate people in Christ, we are to resist them and their master, the Devil (St. John 8:44; St. James 4:7). We are involved in a great spiritual war that has been in progress for millennia. While our Lord has won for us the victory at the cross, there still remain many battles for us to fight as Christian soldiers. So, before going into combat, all good soldiers need a lesson in enemy identification.

Throughout his earthly ministry, our Lord had to deal with a cadre of so-to- speak "righteous men" called the scribes, Pharisees, Sadducees and the Herodians. Said men were not interested in seeking the truth of God as per his word written. They were only concerned with that portion which had been edited and revised to suit their understanding.

As to their righteousness, our Lord advised his listeners in St. Matthew's gospel, to possess a level of such which exceeded that of the scribes and Pharisees (5:20). Later on in that gospel account (23:2-3), our Lord described their true nature saying, The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat: all therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not.

It should be understood that in the time of our Lord's earthly ministry the scribes were those who knew the Scriptures and could interpret them. In our time, such would correspond to those well-heeled seminarian scholars and clergy of the modernist camp who believe that only their understandings of the Scriptures are correct. They often hold such views in spite of the actual truth which is found within the Holy Bible, and they do not mind twisting the words of Scripture to suit their pet positions (II St. Peter 3:15-16).

Over the past century and a half, these modern-day scribes have developed new translations of the Bible which have clouded men's minds as they have crafted the sacred into something that possesses but a hint of the divine as opposed to the pungent odor of heretical apostasy contained therein. Their godless editing has clearly violated the very words of our Lord who said, For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book. And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book (Revelation 22:18-19).

The Rev. Matthew Henry once noted concerning the previous passage, "This sanction is like a flaming sword, to guard the canon of the scripture from profane hands. Such a fence as this God set about the law and the whole Old Testament and now in the most solemn manner about the whole Bible, assuring us that it is a book of the most sacred nature, divine authority, and of lasting importance." But to the devil's pawns, no godly boundary will be held inviolate. Thus ever have we had among us those wicked scribes who would misrepresent the word of God much as their father, Satan, did unto Eve in the Garden as well as those who sought to denigrate our Lord and his message.

The Pharisees were those Jews who outwardly observed the law but did not do so from the heart. This led our Lord to condemn their externalism in religion as the leaven of the Pharisees (St. Matthew 16:6). When we speak of Pharisees in today's world we are referring to anyone who says one thing about the Christian life but does not live it. The contemporary Pharisee will show up for church on Sunday. He or she may even teach Sunday school or sing in the choir. They may be active in church leadership, serving on boards and vestries or even in the office of a deacon, priest or bishop. Nevertheless, their hearts are not truly turned toward God. Even though they know the Scriptures, they do not apply them in their own lives. Our Lord's admonition in St. Matthew 23:3 still rings true, ... but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not.

The Sadducees were a party of the Jews who expressed skepticism of the supernatural and taught that only the Pentateuch should be observed. In our world, such persons would be the equivalent of those in the church who operate within its confines and enjoy its benefits, all the while denying the truth of God's power. These modern skeptics are found in both the clergy and the laity. Their apostasy ranges from simple denial of certain acts or occurrences as found in the Bible, to a blanket rejection of all that is supernatural. They make a mock of God in their supposed worship of him all the while denying that God has any real power in their lives. They believe that the church is

supposed to serve the social needs of its members as well as advance a social gospel, as opposed to the biblical gospel of our Lord.

The Herodians were worldly Jews who supported King Herod and his father because of all the temporal benefits they had procured from being favorites of the caesars. In today's world, they may or may not be connected with the religious order of the church. They are found amongst the faithful much as tares are found among the wheat. They have no time for the spiritual (St. Matthew 13:38). They are only interested in worldly pursuits (St. Matthew 22:16-21 and St. Mark 3:6) which they try to incorporate into the life of the church .

E.M. Bounds once observed in his important work *Spiritual Warfare* (which I will paraphrase) that we should not be surprised that Satan would mobilize against believing Christians and faithful churches using his elite cadre of modern-day Herodians. And those churches that fall under their influence will face the distinct possibility of spiritual ruin on account of , 1) activities such as greed for gain: wherein the people are trained to be "money-getters and money-keepers;" 2) hypocritical Christian education: wherein the Word of God is treated with skepticism and Christian faith is diminished thereby; 3) luring with lusts: wherein Christians are tempted to satisfy their passions through a twisting of God's word so that they call good evil and evil good; and 4) spiritual grand larceny: where the Devil is permitted to snatch from men's minds any truth of Christ which had been superficially received due to a watering down of biblical truth.

Our Lord knew that we would face these pawns of the wicked one when he advised us to beware of:

- 1) false prophets: who are actually wolves in sheep's clothing (St. Matthew 7:15);
- 2) the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees: which is their destructive doctrines and traditions that have corrupted the Christian faith (St. Matthew 16:6);
- 3) the scribes: whose outward dress and demeanor afforded them prominence and access to power over the property of others (St. Luke 20:46).

The apostles also warned us to watch out for:

- 1) those who are enemies of the cross of Christ: who are of the flesh and mind earthly things (Philippians 3:17-19);
- 2) those who are out to convert as many as they can through human philosophy and vain deceit: inducing them to follow the traditions of men and the rudiments of this world, and not after Christ (Colossians 2:8); and
- 3) those who will attempt lead away true believers into the error of the wicked and from their steadfastness in Christ (II St. Peter 3:17).

And so, when we are confronted with these modern-day versions of the scribes, Pharisees, Sadducees and Herodians, we should resist them using those weapons which God has provided us in his word written. We have been supplied for our protection the armor of truth and righteousness, the grieves and boots of the gospel of peace, the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit which is the very word of God. Our armor is bolstered by our fervent prayers and supplications in the Holy Ghost and our perseverance in the faith (Ephesians 6:10-18). As St. Jude once advised us, ...ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints. For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this

condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ (St. Jude 3b-4).

Unfortunately, a cursory survey of mainline Christianity will reveal that there is little interest in following the apostle's advice. There has been no real effort by any of those churches to return to the truth of God's word. Quite the contrary, there has been an astronomical red-shift away from biblical Christianity. We are thus witnessing the truth of St. Paul's prophetic pronouncement in II Thessalonians wherein he penned the following: Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day [the return of the Lord] shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed... (2:3).

This falling away is a reference to the period of apostasy that will precede the second coming of our Lord. And such is confirmed by our Lord when he said, ... Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth? (St. Luke 18:8b). Matthew Henry noted concerning that verse, "The question implies a strong negation. NO, he will not find [faith on the earth]... When Christ comes, he will find but little faith in comparison with what one might expect. He will find but few good people. Many will have a form and fashion of godliness, but few who will possess a faith that is sincere and honest. In particular, he will find few who will have faith concerning his coming."

The apostle St. John observed in Revelation 3:17 what the members of the Laodicean church will say, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked. Think on that verse for a moment. Those denominations of apostate /Laodicean Christianity have been influenced by the modern-day scribes, Pharisees, Sadducees and Herodians to believe that all is well with them. They have not been taught the truth of God's word written concerning their need for repentance. And such is largely on account of the fact that they have been schooled to accept a false universalism. For them, no biblically proscribed behavior is truly abominable as they are merely personal lifestyle choices which must be respected and accepted within the body of the church. You cannot say then that a personal choice with regard to a particular lifestyle is, after all, sinful because that would be mean-spirited and offensive.

Note the words of our Lord concerning the religious and cultural elites (St. Matthew 23:4), For they bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers. And in the same chapter at verse 13 we read, But woe onto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in. And, finally in verse 16, he calls them ...blind guides. Of truth, they have been blinded by Satan as St. Paul noted in II Corinthians 4:3, 4, But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost; in whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel should shine unto them.

Our duty as regenerated believers in Christ Jesus is to proclaim the gospel truth to all who are about us as God gives us leave to do. We can do nothing with the apostates around us much as our Lord made no attempt to do anything about the scribes, Pharisees, Sadducees and Herodians apart from rebuking them. We can and should witness to them as the occasion permits, but we are not to pursue them apart from a divine turning of themselves (II St. Timothy 2:24-26). That would be as our Lord said, casting your pearls before swine (St. Matthew 7:6). And so beware of these folk who hold the truth in unrighteousness (Romans 1:18), who have a form of godliness but deny the

power thereof, from such turn away (II St. Timothy 3:5). The sad picture of our Lord's place in the apostate/Laodicean church is found in Revelation 3:20a wherein he said, Behold, I stand at the door and knock. Let that not be said of us in this church, therefore let us earnestly contend for the faith by rejecting all false doctrine and teaching and by avoiding the unequal yoke with those who feign to be true and faithful Christians but live in disobedience to the Christian ethos (II Corinthians 6:14-18).

Let us pray:

**F**ATHER, assist us in our daily efforts to resist the wiles of our adversary and maintain ourselves as faithful servants unto thee: unashamed of our walk and work; and grant that we might not fall prey to those who use the name of Christ as a mask all the while denying him before men; and this we ask in the name of him who is truly our Saviour, Redeemer and friend, even Jesus Christ. *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:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>
10 November 2013	<b>DALLAS – Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Trinity</b>
17 November 2013	<b>Opportunity Available – Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Trinity</b>
24 November 2013	<b>Opportunity Available – Sunday Next before Advent</b>
1 December 2013	<b>Opportunity Available – First Sunday in Advent</b>

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Each member of the team will pray for the desired outcome at 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](mailto:jack@faithfulcenturion.org) or Dru - [dru@faithfulcenturion.org](mailto:dru@faithfulcenturion.org), or call the church office at (619) 659-3608 or fill out a prayer

card at church.

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

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

### **Updating the Team**

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

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

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

### **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**

*Hap, Dru, Jack, Tricia, Hope, Ken, Carol, Rob, John, Maureen, Bill, Bill, Lynn, Paul, Woody* and various other members of the Organization of Flying Adjusters are on travel this week to the annual conference in Wichita. Pray for safe travel and a useful week to God's honor and glory.

### **Birthday**

*Jack Arnold* celebrated his 21<sup>st</sup> birthday on 26 October 2013.

*Betty Hoffman* celebrated her 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday on 18 October 2013.

*Doug Lambert* celebrated his 67<sup>th</sup> birthday on 28 September 2013.

*Gayle Charlesworth* celebrated her birthday on 18 September 2013.

*Shamim Gray* celebrated her 46<sup>th</sup> birthday 4 September 2013.

### **Anniversary**

*Doug and Veronica Lambert* celebrated their 7<sup>th</sup> 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**

*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*

*Ken "Grasshopper" Jennings* passed away in his sleep the morning of 2 November 2013. He leaves behind his wonderful wife Terri, son Trevor and daughters Tessa and Tawnya. Ken was Hap's primary WSO for the ten years they flew F-4s together at the 196<sup>th</sup> Tactical Fighter Squadron at March Field, California. Ken was a wonderful husband and father. Please pray for his family and friends who remain behind.



*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 this 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. Priscilla 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 Priscilla 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* had swelling and fluid buildup in his lungs. It appears 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.

*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 Attacks<sup>1</sup> (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.

*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

---

<sup>1</sup> 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).

TIA's have the same underlying cause as strokes: a disruption of cerebral blood flow (CBF), and are frequently referred to as mini-strokes. TIA's 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.

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.

*Luis Martinez* had a heart attack on 1 November 2013. It appears there may be valve or blockage issues, so they ask that you pray for guidance for the medical team treating him. Please pray for proper treatment, full recovery and peace of mind for Luis, as well as for trust in the Lord for him and his wife Selma, and the rest of the family.

*Jere Wolf*, Melanie Zimmer's dad had bacterial pneumonia, which him to go into congestive heart failure. An echocardiogram indicates his aortic valve is narrowed and needs replaced as they say a 1mm narrowing is cause for replacement and he is at 8mm and if it does not get replaced (in California) the vicious cycle of congestive heart failure (CHF) will repeat itself. The doctor also said that the CHF could have made it look as though he had a heart attack, but they think he just went into CHF. His heart function is at 30% down 10% from a few months back. An ultrasound of his remaining kidney shows a cyst. The greatest news is that all the doctors agree that he can fly home, as at first they

were saying we would need to drive back and with the stops needed to prevent blood clots it would have taken at least 6 days so the news is good. Thanks again for sharing your prayers with us.

*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***

*Mary Thornell* came down with a stomach problem the weekend of 26-27 October 2013, that turned out to be a large mass on her colon. She had emergency surgery on 30 October 2013, at the Riverside Community Hospital. The surgeon was able to remove the huge mass along with about ½ her colon and part of her lower bowel. She did very well and asks you give thanks for the excellent work by Surgeon Nurick and the surgical team and those taking care of her. The masses appear to have been malignant, so that will have to be taken into account. There is a lot of treatment and recovery ahead. She is home now where she can rest and gain strength, so that is wonderful. Pray for strength and guidance for Mary as she works hard at recovery. Pray for peace of mind for Mary and her husband Jim, as well as daughter Janice and son Jimmy, she begins her recovery. Please pray also for a full and rapid recovery.

*Hap Arnold* experienced sudden and complete hearing loss in his right ear on 18 October 2013. He received appropriate and timely treatment. His hearing has returned and he gives thanks!

*Liz Strauch* just got over a pineal cyst removal and then they have found a mass in one of her breasts. She has undergone a biopsy and it came back okay. Please give

thanks for the good result, for Liz' peace of mind and trust in the Lord and for God's guidance for the medical people treating her.

*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's* 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***

*Caitlin* is in the grip of the Prince of Darkness; she thinks there is escape from reality in drugs. The saddest part is that reality is not as she sees it. Her family is despairing as they can do nothing to help her and ask that you pray for the Holy Ghost to enter into heart and show her the need for change before it is too late.

*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 and Dru Arnold* give thanks for Rev Jack Arnold's 21<sup>st</sup> birthday and the wonderful son with whom God has entrusted them.

### **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.

### ***Ministry***

Elizabeth has taken on Missionary responsibilities in teaching unbelievers, women, children and in music. Pray that God will guide her to complete the responsibilities she has taken on.

### ***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.

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

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

## Retirement

DATE: 31 October 2013 (Reformation Day)  
TO: Friends and Family The Anglican Orthodox Communion Worldwide  
SUBJECT: Retirement of Mrs. Paulette Ratcliff

Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord. (Matt 25:21)

It falls my lot today, as your Bishop, to announce the bittersweet news of the retirement of a most devoted, loyal, and fervent servant of the Lord from the National Staff of our Church – Mrs. Paulette Ratcliff. Today will mark the end of many long years of service during which Paulette worked for wages far below that for which she was accustomed before her previous retirement as Secretary to the CEO of Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan. Her labors were of love and not compensation of any sort. In that respect, she followed in the footsteps of her blessed mother, Mrs. Betty Thomas, who likewise contributed long hours of labor to the National Office of the AOC free gratis.



As all of you who receive the periodical photo journals of the AOC will attest, Paulette's work is unsurpassed for technical, and more importantly, spiritual, merit. Such a friend, sister, and professional as Paulette cannot be replaced. She has endeared herself into the hearts of all who are associated with the AOC.

The scripture verse appended below the subject line above seems a bit too final to ascribe to Paulette, for she continues, and ever will continue, in the service of the Lord. The burning lights of love cannot be extinguished by any change of lamp stand, and Paulette will continue to burn brightly that Light of Jesus wherever she may be found in future years. We love Paulette and will miss her daily smile and help, but she will not go far away. We will yet see her at church gatherings, along with our good friend, Johnie (Paulette's devoted husband) over coming years.

I have been personally assured by Paulette that she will be available to lend her support and counsel for any extraordinary challenges which the Church may face in future years.

Thank you, Sister Paulette Ratcliff, for continuing to be the friend and sister with whom God has so graciously blessed us in the AOC.

In Christ,

Jerry L. Ogles  
Presiding Bishop & Metropolitan  
The Anglican Orthodox Church Worldwide

The doctrines of baptism, baptismal regeneration, infant baptism, and related subjects are one of the divisive factors between many good Christian people who otherwise would be much closer together. Our doctrine of baptism is one that we think is biblical and meaningful and true and, when participated in in faith, is productive of spiritual regeneration.

We recognize that probably there are some people in some churches who hold to the concept that going through the outward form of baptism is sufficient to procure one's soul's salvation eternally. We do not. We believe unequivocally in the biblical doctrine of salvation which is given by the grace of God as we receive His Holy Spirit which He gives to us on account of our faith in Him and in His dear Son, Christ our Lord. Jesus' blood shed on the cross for our redemption effects the regeneration of the natural man from the fallen world into the realm of the Kingdom of God . Our Lord said, "Except a man be born again he cannot see the Kingdom of God ," and "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the Kingdom of God ." We hold fast to this and to the great Pauline and Augustinian and Lutheran doctrine of salvation by faith alone, justification sola fide. The outward act of baptism does not procure one's regeneration and justification, but it is an outward evidence of the faith resident in the inner man which is acceptable with God, and which God is pleased to bless with His Spirit which brings with it regeneration.

In the Old Testament, circumcision was the sign of the covenantal union between God and His people. By virtue of the parents' faith, their male children were circumcised at the age of eight days. It is obvious that at this age the child was unable to express any faith, and thus, they were included in the covenant mercies of God by virtue of the parents' faith. Under the new covenant, baptism represents this union. A great number of the early Christians came from a Jewish background. It is inconceivable that there would not have been considerable turmoil if the sign of the new covenant relationship had excluded the youngest and very special members of their families. The fact that there is no record of contention regarding this issue is evidence by its absence that early Christian baptism included infants.

In addition, there are several incidents in the New Testament in which we are told that an individual was baptized along with his whole house. Cornelius, the Philippian jailor, and Lydia are examples. It is a reasonable assumption that children were included in the household. There are also scriptural examples of divine intervention in the lives of children on the basis of the faith of their parents; the daughter of the Syro-Phoenician woman, the nobleman's son, and the lunatic son being examples.

On Pentecost at the end of his sermon, St. Peter said, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children" (Acts 2:38,39).

If we believe in the value or efficacy of intercessory prayer in other circumstances, there is no logical reason to exclude it in the case of infant baptism. We believe that God hears and answers the prayers of Christian parents by giving His Holy

Spirit in a special way to the child who is baptized. It is then the obligation of the parents and godparents to bring up the child in a Christian context with a view toward coming to Christ through faith. The child must later accept or ratify this faith for himself, and he indicates this outwardly at confirmation when he takes upon himself the promises made on his behalf at his baptism.

### *The Church in North Korea - Angela Lu*

Persecution - Freedom in the world's darkest corner

As Western believers pray for the persecuted church, North Korean Christians pray for their 'free' brothers and sisters to realize God is all they need |

One of the first things Eric Foley, the co-founder of Seoul USA, learned about the North Korean underground church is that it is not a group to be pitied. About 10 years ago Foley asked a member of the underground church how he could pray for them. He recalls the North Korean's response, "You, pray for us? We pray for you ... because South Korean and American churches believe challenges in the Christian faith are solved by money, freedom, and politics. It's only when all you have is God do you realize God is all you need."

Foley estimates about 100,000 Christians live in North Korea, with about a third of them in concentration camps. Unlike the Chinese underground church, North Korean Christians can't risk gathering together because spies are everywhere. Instead, they worship in their own household or in the common areas, like while walking down the road out of earshot.

As North Korea fell under Communist rule after World War II, Christians realized they would soon face intense persecution. Some escaped to South Korea, where they could worship freely, but those who stayed chose four foundational pillars of Christianity they could pass on to future generations: theology through the Apostle's Creed, prayer through the Lord's Prayer, ethics through the Ten Commandments, and worship through the Lord's supper. At least one of these elements is present in each of the North Korean underground churches.

### *Epistleers*

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

<b>Date</b>	<b>Reader</b>
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*

10 November 2013 – Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Trinity – Morning Prayer - Service start time 0800 (8:00 am); **Time 0800 (8:00 am); Location – Dallas, Texas**

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**