



# Anglican Orthodox Church Worldwide Communion



## First Sunday after Easter

Sunday Report



This is the very first issue of the AOC Sunday Report. At the request of Bishop Jerry Ogles, the Faithful Centurion's Sunday Report has morphed into the AOC Worldwide Sunday Report. Bishop Jerry asks each of the parishes to contribute to the report, some as they have in the past others for the first time. If you have any suggestions for change, please send them to Bishop Jerry or me, [rev\\_hap@faithfulcenturion.org](mailto:rev_hap@faithfulcenturion.org).

### First Sunday after Easter

Today was the First Sunday after Easter, the central event of the Christian year, the celebration of our Lord, "Christ the Lord is Risen!"

### 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 some great ones to share. On to the On Point quotes –

I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep: for thou, LORD, only makest me dwell in safety.

*Psalm 4:8*

Hatred stirreth up strifes: but love covereth all sins.

*Proverbs 10:12*

Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.

*St. John 15:14*

I exhort you to watch against everything which might interfere with a readiness for Christ's appearing. Search your own hearts. Find out the things which most frequently interrupt your communion with Christ, and causes fogs to rise between you and the sun. Mark these things, and know them, and against them ever be on your guard.

*JC Ryle*

19<sup>th</sup> century Anglican bishop and author  
([Are You Ready For The End Of Time](#), p. 40)

Do not begin telling me that there is a metaphorical fire in hell. Who worries about that? If a man were to threaten to give me a metaphorical blow on the head, I should worry very little about it. He would be welcome to give me as many as he pleased. And what

do the wicked say? 'We do not worry about metaphorical fires.' But they are real, sir, yes, as real as yourself.

*Charles H. Spurgeon*  
19<sup>th</sup> century English pastor and author

What can we learn from citizen disarmament programs?

- Any government which seeks to disarm its citizens is doing so not so much for citizen protection, but to smooth the way for their plundering of them.
- Without personal protection, the citizenry will be subject to predation by not only the government, but of those elements that were not disarmed.
- Resistance to tyranny is a forlorn hope without the access to arms.
- Any nation which engages in citizen disarmament has joined a special club that may rightly be called "Tyrants Are Us".

*Rev Bryan Dabney*

You can't conquer a free man; the most you can do is kill him.

*Robert Heinlein*  
20<sup>th</sup> century American author

Liberal critics... contend that capitalism encourages monopolies. The real source of monopolies, however, is not the free market but governmental intervention with the market. The only monopolies that have ever lasted did so in partnership with government support through decree and regulation.

*James Gills, MD and Ronald Nash, PhD*  
20<sup>th</sup> century American economic commentators  
(*Government Is Too Big And It's Costing You*, p. 39)

### *Propers*

Each Sunday there are Propers: special prayers and readings from the Bible. There is a Collect for the Day; that is a single thought prayer, most written either before the re-founding of the Church of England in the 1540s or written by Bishop Thomas Cranmer, the first Archbishop of Canterbury after the re-founding.

The Collect for the Day is to be read on Sunday and during Morning and Evening Prayer until the next Sunday. The Epistle is normally a reading from one of the various Epistles, or letters, in the New Testament. The Gospel is a reading from one of the Holy Gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. The Collect is said by the minister as a prayer, the Epistle can be read by either a designated reader (as we do in our church) or by one of the ministers and the Holy Gospel, which during the service in our church is read by an ordained minister.

The propers are the same each year, except if a Red Letter Feast, that is one with propers in the prayerbook, falls on a Sunday, then those propers are to be read instead, except in a White Season, where it is put off. Red Letter Feasts, so called because in the Altar Prayerbooks the titles are in red, are special days. Most of the Red Letter Feasts are dedicated to early saints instrumental in the development of the church, others to special events. Some days are particularly special and the Collect for that day is to be used for an octave (eight days) or an entire season, like Advent or Lent.

The Propers for today are found on Page 170-171, with the Collect first:

## The First Sunday after Easter.

*The Collect.*

**A**LMIGHTY Father, who hast given thine only Son to die for our sins, and to rise again for our justification; Grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness, that we may always serve thee in pureness of living and truth; through the merits of the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Today's Epistle came from the First General Epistle of Saint John, the Fifth Chapter beginning at the Fourth Verse:

**W**HATSOEVER is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God? This is he that came by water and blood, even Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth. For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one. And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one. If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son. He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son. And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

The Holy Gospel for this Sunday comes from the Twentieth Chapter of the Gospel of Saint John beginning at the Nineteenth verse:

**T**he same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you. And when he had so said, he shewed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad when they saw the Lord. Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you. And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost: whosoever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whosoever sins ye retain, they are retained.

### *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**

First Sunday after Easter

St Andrew's Anglican Orthodox Church

27 April 2014, Anno Domini (In the Year of our Lord)

### The First Sunday after Easter.

*The Collect.*

**A**LMIGHTY Father, who hast given thine only Son to die for our sins, and to rise again for our justification; Grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness, that we may always serve thee in pureness of living and truth; through the merits of the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*



19 Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, **Peace be unto you.** 20 And when he had so said, he shewed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord. 21 Then said Jesus to them again, **Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you.** 22 And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, **Receive ye the Holy Ghost:** <sup>23</sup> **Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained.** (John 20:19-23)

This passage should prosper our love and understanding of the fear the disciples experienced following the crucifixion, and bolster our confidence in our security in Christ. Only having heard, through a veil of ignorance, the Words of Christ that after the third day He would arise, the disciples were not expecting the Words of Christ to become a literal fact. So they hid and cowered behind closed doors.

While He was yet with them, their courage never failed, but when separated from the physical presence of Christ – they were mere cowards.

You will note that Christ rose from the Tomb with a living body though different in some respects than His pre-crucifixion body. He was recognizable in appearance, but He could also pass through material barriers without any impediment.

He came to His disciples in Peace as He always comes to us. *“Peace be unto you!”*

His glorified body still retained the scars of His sacrifice. Did you know that when we all get to heaven, we will have perfect bodies? There shall be only One whose body is marred from suffering – the Lord Jesus Christ.

Christ sends us into the World as His Father had sent Him. Let us stop to contemplate on how the Father sent the Son into the World?

- 1) He came under humble circumstances having been born of a humble mother, and laid in a wooden manger used for feeding sheep. That was appropriate for Christ is our Bread of Life and we are the Sheep of His Pasture.
- 2) Christ lived a normal life for His time and was a carpenter for his surrogate father, Joseph. We must, likewise, labor for our daily bread.
- 3) He was notable in His innocence of life. When we are notoriously wicked, the whole world notices. But when we are humble and righteous, the world makes no mention of it. We, too, must live lives that are righteous and above the contempt of men.
- 4) He came to set the captives free, but who are the captives? Those who are burdened with their heavy sins – all of us. He preached and taught. Our true testimony of Christ will likewise set the captives free. Before we can teach others of the means of coming to Christ to lift their burdens, we must first allow Him to lift our own unbecoming yoke and burden.
- 5) He showed compassion to all, but greatest of all to sinners who KNEW they were sinners. We must show compassion to ALL men and, especially, those who are hopelessly drowning in a sea of sin. A drowning man flails helpless in the briny foam, unable to save himself. That burden of throwing out the life raft falls to us.
- 6) Christ proved Himself by His works. So must we. Though we cannot perform

miracles, we have a Master who can, indeed.

7) He changed the requirements of obedience from that of strictly adhering to Commandments written on Stone Tables to that of the Commandment of Love written in the soft sinews of our hearts. That which we love warrants that we commit no sin against.

8) He was the only Man ever born without sin, and the only One who lived a sinless life. Thereby He was worthy to die in our stead for our sins. "For all have sinned and fallen short of the righteousness of God" and "The wages of sin is death." If we all have sinned, we deserved to go to the cross instead of Christ. But He went in our stead so that we may have the privileges of son ship with the Father as sons and daughters of God.

9) He bore all of our sins on the cross when, at any moment, He could have come down from the cross. He was WILLING to go all the way for us. We must be WILLING to go all the way for Him and those He loves.

10) He arose from the Tomb on the third day as He had promised. That gives us the privilege to rise from our own graves if we are in Him and He in us. He is our Ark of Salvation that shall insure our living above the floods and terrors of this world.

11) He ascended to the Father and there intercedes for us with Him. He has left us as keepers of the Vineyard to labor in His stead. The teaching of the Apostles persists today though many have waxed cold and passionless in our day. Our task is to press on to the mark set in Christ by living a pure and clean life and telling others about the hope that is in us in Christ Jesus.

Have you lived the kind of life that causes men to know you belong to Christ?

On another note:

Today marks the 11<sup>th</sup> day since the sinking of the Korean cruise ship, SEWOL, on April 16<sup>th</sup> on which some 300 high school students perished. Some died of drowning, some of exhaustion, some of suffocation – but all died because the man who had the responsibility of directing them to safety was the first to abandon ship (her captain – aged 69). One young lady, PARK Ji Young, aged 22 years, remained on board to help rescue as many souls as possible. She even gave a student her own life vest. Her body was later found floating in the frigid waters of the sea.

We have a Captain of our Souls who will neither leave nor forsake us – that Captain is the Master of the Seas and His name is the Lord Jesus Christ!

One of my favorite passages from Scripture is of the perils of the Sea and reads:

*23 They that go down to the sea in ships, that do business in great waters; 24 These see the works of the LORD, and his wonders in the deep. 25 For he commandeth, and raiseth the stormy wind, which lifteth up the waves thereof. 26 They mount up to the heaven, they go down again to the depths: their soul is melted because of trouble. 27 They reel to and fro, and stagger like a drunken man, and are at their wits' end. 28 Then they cry unto the LORD in their trouble, and he bringeth them out of their distresses. 29 He maketh the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still. 30 Then are they glad because they be quiet; so he bringeth them unto their desired haven. 31 Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men! (Psalms 107:23-31)*

Personal character and conviction have changed immensely since the sinking of the

Titanic when men charitably and chivalrously gave up their seats on life rafts to women and children. Men's hearts, since the abandonment of the Christian faith by the greater society in America, have waxed more and more cold and wicked.

A survey was recently conducted in universities across America asking the young men if they, too, would have given their seats in a lifeboat to the women and children. Amazingly, 95% said they would not even consider such a foolish act. They would take their places of safety in the boats and let the women and children perish before surrendering their own lives.

To me, this is an astonishing sign of the great depths of depravity of soul to which mankind has sunk over the past one hundred years. Why? Because, though we may profess Christ with our lips, our hearts are far from Him.

How close is YOUR Heart to Christ this First Sunday after Easter? Would you lay down your life to save a child or its mother?

*Sermon – Reverend Jack Arnold - Time and Action  
Church of the Faithful Centurion - Descanso, California*

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



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

Consider these words from the Collect:

... Son to die for our sins, and to rise again for our justification; Grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness, that we may always serve thee in pureness of living and truth ...

God sent Jesus to be The Christ, The Messiah, The Savior, The Lamb to be sacrificed for our sin. He gave His earthly Life, He went down into

Hell, that we might be justified before God at our accounting. Not that we might be perfect, but that we might be accounted perfect at our judgment day. Yet we are not made perfect. Just because we are going to be accounted as perfect does not mean we are. Thus we must ask God's help that we can put away the infection, or leaven, of evil in our hearts so that we can serve the Living God here. Without His Help, we cannot remove the hate and evil from our hearts. We need His Help so we can move forward.

Paul continually tells us we must be reborn as a new person in God. We must put on the New Man and put the Old Man behind us. We must endeavor to leave our old habits behind as we strive to make new practices into habits. We cannot follow the direction of Jesus towards God without the help of the Holy Ghost. The Trinity in practice. If you believe in Jesus, you must believe in God and you can do neither without the help of the Holy Ghost. Without the Holy Ghost, we are like men who desperately need glasses to see. Without the Holy Ghost as our correcting lens, we cannot see what He wants us to see in order to act.

When Jesus came to the disciples on Sunday evening, He breathed the Holy Ghost into their hearts. He gave the disciples the power to pass His Forgiveness on to their followers. As ministers of God, we follow the disciples, but we have not the power to forgive, except as we find in the Lord's Prayer, "forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." We do have the ability to tell you that if you repent, that is "to turn from sin and dedicate oneself to the amendment of one's life," then God will forgive you. Through our Lord, if you repent, He has forgiven you.

The key word here is repent! We must "go and sin no more!", as Christ told the lady who was an adulteress. We repent not only in word, but we must repent in our deeds also, so that we can truly show the world that we have faith. If we do not repent, then we do not have faith in Him. We must have faith in Him, so therefore, we must truly and earnestly repent of our sins and do our utmost best to "go and sin no more." That is all that He asks, is us to actually DO our best, not just say that we are doing our best.

So what to take from all this?

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3.16

If you get that, you have the Holy Ghost in your heart. If you open your heart, He will breathe the breath that sends The Comforter to you. Then you shall have the knowledge to act the way He wants you to act. You will have surefire knowledge of the course that He wants you to take.

When the time comes, how will you ACT?

It is by our actions we are known.

### **Be of God - Live of God - Act of God**

#### *Bishop Dennis Campbell's Sermon*

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



#### **Witnesses**

Psalm 103, Isaiah 43:1-12, Luke 24:36-49

First Sunday after Easter

April 27, 2014

This morning's Scripture Lessons have the common theme of witnessing the mighty acts of God. Psalm 103:7 says God "showed His ways unto Moses, His works unto the children of Israel." "Ye are my witnesses," God says to Israel in Isaiah 43:10, "that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me. I, even I am the Lord; and beside me there is no saviour." Luke 24:48 records the words of Christ to the men who would soon become the Apostles, "ye are witnesses of these things," meaning His death and resurrection.

I want to concentrate on Christ's words in Luke 24, because they address the men who would become the foundation of Christ's Church. It is they who preached the

Gospel of Christ, they who wrote the Scriptures, they who formed the faith and practice we still believe and practice today in the Anglican Orthodox Church. It is important to us to know that these men were witnesses to the things they spoke and wrote about, and for which they eventually suffered and died. They saw "these things." Thus, John wrote that the Apostles declare "that... which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands handled" (1 Jn. 1:1). "That which we have seen declare we unto you" (1 Jn. 1:3). Peter, in Acts 2:32 was speaking of the resurrection of Christ when he said of himself and the other Apostles, "we are all witnesses."

These men saw, heard and touched Jesus. They were there when He turned the water into wine. They were there when He stilled the sea and walked on the water. They saw Him restore the sight of blind Bartimaeus. They saw Him cast out the demon they could not exorcise, the one Jesus said only comes out by much prayer and fasting. They saw Lazarus walk out of the tomb, still reeking of death and decay, but whole and well and alive again. They saw Christ betrayed, arrested, "crucified, dead, and buried." They saw Him die. They probably helped Joseph of Arimathaea remove His body from the cross and lay it in the tomb. They touched His cold, lifeless flesh. There was no doubt about His death. The Romans knew how to kill, and nobody ever came down from the cross alive. In *A Christmas Carol*, Charles Dickens wrote, "Marley was dead. This must be distinctly understood, or nothing wonderful can come of the story I am about to relate." The rest of the story will make no sense if that fact is not grasped. The same is true of the Bible. Christ was dead, and none of the Bible will make any sense to you until you really grasp and accept that fact in your soul. He was truly "crucified, dead, and buried." But, just as they saw Him dead and buried, they also saw Him alive again. They saw the risen Christ. They saw the empty tomb, the angelic messengers. They saw Him in the upper room which we read about in Luke 24 this morning. They saw Him ascend into Heaven. They were witnesses to these things.

But they didn't just see what He did, they also saw what He was. They saw His compassion, generosity, power, and His genuine and complete goodness. They saw that He is the Light, and the Life, and the Power and the Glory. They saw that He is God. They saw that in Him God was present with them. He truly was, is, and ever shall be Emmanuel, God with us. They saw that He is the Truth. When He spoke, God spoke. What He said, God said. What He was, God is. They saw Him give Himself on the cross to save us, to bring us back to God, and they knew that by His blood their souls were made clean.

The Apostles saw all of these things, and they bear witness of what they saw. But, as John reminds us, they also heard Christ. They declare what they have heard. And what words they heard from the lips of Christ. Words like:

"I am the Good Shepherd; the Good Shepherd giveth His life for the sheep." "I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand." "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness."

And, some of my favourite words, from John 14:

Let not you heart be troubled; ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know. Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how

can we know the way? Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father but by me.”

One day soldiers were sent to arrest Jesus, but they heard His words and let Him go free. Questioned by their superiors, they said, “Never man spake like this man (Jn. 7:46). One day when many turned away from Christ, He challenged the disciples, saying, “Will ye also go away?” Simon Peter answered for all of them, and I hope, all of us, “Lord, to whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life” (Jn. 6:68). “Did not our hearts burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?” said the disciples when Christ spoke to them on the Emmaus Road. The Apostles heard these words, and declare them unto us.

When Christ told the Apostles that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name, He was implying that they were the ones who would preach it. In fact it is implicit in Luke 24:48 that, as His witnesses, they would tell others what they saw and heard in Christ. If we look back at 1 John 1:3 again we see this clearly stated, for John wrote, “That which we have seen and heard **declare** we unto you. To a great extent, the New Testament is their declaration. In it the Apostles declare “all that Jesus began both to do and to teach” (Acts 1:1). And so we have in the New Testament the testimony of these witnesses. They are telling us what they saw and heard and touched in Jesus. And this is the purpose of their testimony; that we may believe and be saved. They wrote, as Isaiah said, “that ye may know and believe [God].” This is what the testimony of Scripture and the witnesses want from you; see, and believe. Believe and be reconciled to God.

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### *Rev Rick Reid of Saint Peter's Sunday Sermon*

We are happy to have a sermon from Reverend Rick Reid, minister of Saint Peter's, whose congregation is right at the Worldwide Headquarters of the Anglican Orthodox Church. Rev Rick has all the resources and challenges right at hand. This sermon is not in the usual expository style common to the Sunday Report and the AOC, but I think you will enjoy it.



### **What the Cross Should Mean to Us**

Christ is Risen, The Lord is risen indeed! Did you know the cross is the most widely known religious symbol in the world? You see the cross on churches, you see people wearing cross necklaces, pins, and all kinds of jewelry. We sometimes see athletes make the sign of the cross during sporting events. The cross has many different meanings to many different people. But what does the cross mean to you? History and more importantly, the Bible, tell us the cross wasn't always such a popular symbol. During the days of Jesus, the cross was a symbol of shame and embarrassment, a symbol of warning and terror to the occupied people of Israel. The Roman Empire used the cross

as a means of execution, and it was considered to be an extremely shameful and painful way to die.

The Roman emperor Constantine<sup>1</sup> is credited with allowing Christianity to exist as a recognized religion. Christian sources record Constantine experienced a dramatic event in 312 AD, at the Battle of Milvian Bridge after which he claimed the emperorship in the West. According to these sources, Constantine looked up to the sun before the battle and saw a cross of light and written in Greek "*Ἐν Τούτῳ Νίκα*" ("by this, win!"). Constantine commanded his troops to adorn their shields with a Christian symbol (the Chi-Rho), Kie-Row, and thereafter they were victorious. The cross was not common in religious art until the fourth century, when everyone who had ever seen a live crucifixion had died.

But what does the cross symbolize to you? For one man in the early first century, the cross began as a symbol of death, but then became a symbol of life, and forgiveness. Jesus was led out to be crucified along with two criminals. When they came to a place called "the Skull," the Roman soldiers crucified Jesus, with one criminal on his left, and one on his right. Here a prophecy is fulfilled: Isaiah had foretold that Jesus would be numbered with the transgressors. When Jesus was hung on the cross, he was lowered to the level of a criminal. He was brought down to the same level as those other two criminals, and everyone else who had ever been crucified.

Many people were mocking Christ, including these two criminals. (I paraphrase now from St Luke's Gospel), one of the criminals said: aren't you the Christ? Save yourself, and us!" "If you're the Messiah, the Son of God, like you say you are, why don't you get out of this situation?, and get us out of here too! This criminal blasphemes Christ, mocking his claim to be the Son of God.

The way this criminal blasphemes the Messiah reminds us of how many in our world today blaspheme Christ. Jesus is the Son of God? I don't think so. Why doesn't he prove it? Why doesn't he do something to prove that he is the Son of God, someone I should worship? Prove it!"

Some people today mock the idea of Jesus being the Saviour of the world, just like that criminal hanging next to Jesus. Unfortunately, we sometimes have more in common with that criminal who mocked Christ than we would like to admit. In the eyes of God, all of us really, are criminals. All of us have led lives of disobedience and rebellion against God. Do things this way, God says. And we say, No, I'll do things my way instead. We live lives that violate God's will, over and over again. You and I are criminals in the eyes of God. When things don't go our way, we begin to have fears and doubts.

We are sinners, and ultimately, it is because of our sin that Jesus suffered and died on the cross. It wasn't the Jews. It wasn't the Romans. But it was us, our rebellion against Him, our sin... that's what put Christ on the cross. That's why he suffered, taking the punishment that we deserve for our sin.

But listen to this, one of the criminals has a change of heart. Instead of continuing to mock Christ, he grows silent, and then he rebukes his fellow criminal: *"Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation?" And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss."* And he said unto Jesus, Lord,

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<sup>1</sup> Constantine, credited with bringing Christianity into the governmental mainstream was also the first Briton to be emperor, having been called to the position from the English town of York, then the most significant city in the island nation.

*remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom.*<sup>43</sup> And Jesus said unto him, *Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me in paradise*

A change of heart takes place in this criminal. He starts to defend Christ. He confesses his sinful life; we are getting what our deeds deserve. He even acknowledges that Jesus is innocent.

What was happening in the heart of this criminal? He was repenting. The Holy Spirit was working in him. Perhaps, as he hung from the cross, he realized the depth of his sin.

Perhaps he remembered all the things he had learned about the Messiah when he was younger, the idea of a suffering Messiah, a Messiah that would be mocked. As he hung from the cross, the Holy Spirit led him to repent, to believe that Jesus was the Messiah.

He defends Christ. He confesses his sin. And then, he turns to Christ, and says, *Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom.* In other words, I repent of my life as a criminal. I repent of my mockery. I believe that you are a king, the Messiah who was to come. I believe that you have fulfilled the Old Testament prophesy. I believe that you are a King who shows mercy. Forgive me for the life I have led. Forgive me for the way I mocked you. When you come into your kingdom, have mercy on me. Lord, remember me.

These words of repentance are also our words, aren't they? As we see Jesus die on the cross, we also pray, "O Lord, forgive me for my life of rebelling against you. Forgive me for doubting you and questioning you. Forgive me. Have mercy on me. Remember me, when you come into your kingdom.

And Jesus, even though he was being shown no mercy... showed mercy to that criminal. *Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me in paradise.*

Crucifixion was often a two or three day process. But Jesus tells this man, today, this very day, you will be in paradise, heaven that wonderful place where those in Christ go. This very day, you will be there, and you'll be there with me, your Messiah, your King. Jesus gives to this man an unconditional pardon; he completely and totally forgives him, and gives him the hope of eternal life.

Why?, because, at that very moment, Jesus was dying for that criminal's sins on the cross. At that very moment, Jesus was dying for all that man's criminal acts against society and against God. Jesus was paying for that. All that mockery, Jesus was paying for that too. What amazing love, that as Jesus suffers for this man, he offers him forgiveness, an unconditional pardon, the sure hope of eternal life.

Jesus does the same thing for us. How is it that Jesus can say to us, Without a doubt, you are forgiven? I am with you always, and someday, you will be with me in paradise." Jesus says that to you, how?

Because on the cross, Jesus took all of our sins away, past, present, and future. All the different ways we have rebelled against God, Jesus, paid for those sins. Jesus offers to us an unconditional pardon, a clean slate, the sure hope of eternal life with him.

What did the cross mean for this criminal? At first, I'm sure; it was a symbol of shame, terror and death. It meant that he was found guilty and was paying the price for his sins. But now, because of what Jesus said to him there, the cross takes on a new meaning for him. Here is where he meets his Saviour. Here is where he confesses his

sin. Here is where he receives a wonderful pardon from the Son of God. The cross is where he receives his salvation.

What should the cross mean to you? All kinds of things should come to mind. You see, we are all that criminal at Calvary. And as we consider the sins in our lives and wonder, can God really forgive us? Then, remember the cross. There Jesus calls out to us, and assures us that we are forgiven, that we will be with him in paradise.

Every Sunday morning, you hear God forgives you. It's because of the cross. The Sacrament of Holy Baptism, the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, these are God's gifts to you, made possible only by the cross. Why is it, that God hears our prayers? How can we be so confident that God really does love us, and that there is a place in heaven for us? It's because of the cross.

May the cross always remind us of Jesus Christ, and of his death, and passion. But most of all, the salvation that is ours because of His mighty resurrection on that Easter Sunday. *Amen.*

### *Rev Bryan Dabney of Saint John's Sunday Sermon*

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



#### **First Sunday after Easter**

In Revelation 1:4-20 we read of the apostle John's commission to the seven churches which are in Asia (v. 4) wherein he was instructed by our Lord to, Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter (v. 19). From the beginning, God has utilized both the prophets and the apostles to communicate to mankind his firm intention to bring an end to the wicked powers which now hold sway over our world. In the Old Testament, he gave the prophet Amos to write: Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets (3:7). To the prophet Isaiah he said, Fear ye not, neither be afraid: have not I told thee from that time and have declared it? ye are even my witnesses... (44:8). And to Zechariah, he posited the query: Should ye not hear the words which the LORD hath cried by the former prophets, when Jerusalem was inhabited and in prosperity... ? (7:7).

In St. Matthew's gospel, our Lord prophesied concerning the end of days (24:1-24), wherein he explained the course of events that would transpire prior to his glorious appearing; after which, he reminded the disciples, Behold, I have told you before (v. 25) signifying that he had discussed this with them earlier in his ministry. St. Paul noted that believers should not be soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand... for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed... (II Thessalonians 2:2-3). St. Peter noted in his first epistle that, the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer (4:7). St. Jude admonished all to, remember ye the words which were spoken before of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ: how that they told you there should be mockers in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly lusts (vv. 17-18). The Bible tells us that, All scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works (II St. Timothy 3:16-17). And so it follows, that the Book of Revelation— like every

other book of the Bible— has been given to us for our edification and enlightenment. Unlike the Old Testament book of Daniel, it is not a sealed book (22:10) as our Lord would have us to read it for our eternal good (Revelation 1:3).

With that in mind, let us examine the messages he gave to the beloved apostle concerning the seven churches of Asia Minor. We will also see how they apply to the churches of today.

To the church at Ephesus, our Lord applauded their works and their patience and how they had rejected the false and deceptive among them. He also chided them for their turning away from their love for the gospel. As Matthew Henry noted, “Those who have much good in them may have something much amiss in them, and our Lord Jesus, as an impartial Master and Judge, takes notice of both.” It would seem that in their zeal, the Christians at Ephesus had lost sight of the purpose for their zeal. This is something every believing church body must keep ever before them: that the object of our worship is God through Christ Jesus. Our works will be meaningless without the imprimatur of Christ upon them as we are not working for ourselves but for him.

The church at Smyrna was recognized by our Lord to be a faithful body of believers who were under persecution. He advised them to Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer (2:10). Those who face persecution are often burdened with fearfulness, and fear can diminish faith if it is allowed to grow within the body. Our Lord’s victory at the cross vanquished the fear of sin and death, and so it is fitting that all who are born again in his name are also victors with him and co-heirs of God’s kingdom. Therefore, our Lord expects us to live that victory which he has won for us on Calvary’s cross.

The church at Pergamos was chided by our Lord for its embrace of the doctrines of Balaam, and the Nicolaitanes. The former involved the worship of idols and included many false teachings relative to worship and church order. The latter speaks of the formalizing of a priestly hierarchy that lorded over the laity. Our Lord desires that we reject those human traditions which violate his moral and ethical laws. We must therefore worship the Godhead with reverence. We must adhere to the established order for the administration of the word through the offices of the bishop, the priest or presbyter, and the deacon. Consider the admonition of Bishop Ryle: “We must be careful that we do not give ministers a place and honour which does not belong to them. We must never allow them to come between us and Christ. The very best are not infallible. They are not priests who can atone for us. They are not mediators who can undertake to manage our soul’s affairs with God. They are men like us, needing the same cleansing blood, the same renewing Spirit, men set apart to a high and holy calling, but still, after all, only men. Human nature, alas, always prefers a visible minister to an invisible Christ. Nor must the minister, or any Christian, desire to be great in the eyes of men, but rather great in the eyes of Christ. His aim must be not so much to rule the church as to serve it, not a master but a servant.”

The church at Thyatira was a mix of the profane and the godly. Our Lord recognized their good qualities, but he rebuked them for permitting their faith and practice to become linked to harlotry and idolatry. There is no substitute for offering God what he expects. Denying our Lord the proper worship he desires will not bring us a blessing but a something far less. The introduction of women priests, and other persons with sordid and licentious beliefs can only mark a church body as being more akin to Sodom than to Christ.

The church at Sardis was referred to as partly dead and partly alive. Our Lord advised them to be watchful and strengthen the things which remain. A dead church will not

listen to our Lord Jesus Christ because Satan has gotten a foothold there, while those that are alive will heed his calling. The dead church is likened unto the whited sepulchres that outwardly appear pleasant, but are inwardly filled with dead men's bones. These churches contain many spiritually dead souls who are pretending to be spiritually alive. Their lack of a proper biblical understanding and their acceptance of those godless tenets of Modernism reveal them to be more akin to a mausoleum rather than a fold of the living Christ.

The church at Philadelphia was blessed of our Lord on account of their true and abiding faith in him. All who worship the Godhead in Spirit and in Truth, who heed his warnings and trust in his word will one day receive his reward of an open door and his divine preservation from the hour of temptation which shall come upon all the world to try them that dwell upon the earth. Our Lord has said that evil shall not prevail against his church, and in that we should take much comfort. Keeping ourselves in the word and remaining faithful will open the door of God's blessings to us, but we have the added benefit of being kept from the terrible time to come when the whole world will fall under Satan's great deceiver—the Antichrist.

The last church mentioned was Laodicea. It was rich in the things of this world and believed it needed nothing else; but to our Lord, it was a church that was wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked. Those of Laodicea were—as their name is interpreted—judges unto themselves concerning the things of God. The current version of Laodicea is no different. Nevertheless, if Laodicean Christians think that they can manipulate Scripture to suit their jaded opinions and earthy desires, it will not be long before they fall completely away from their standing as a godly church, and thus be transformed into a synagogue of Satan.

The seven churches are also seven witnesses. They are witnesses on behalf of our Lord in either the positive or the negative. As to the former, they proclaim the gospel of peace to a sin darkened world. As to the latter, they are objects of warning as our Lord will judge all unconfessed offenses with severity. Today, we have a choice to take to ourselves those godly characteristics of the seven churches of Asia and live by them, or else succumb to their several evils. God has given us his word, so there is no excuse on our part for not following it. Purpose then in your heart today to be obedient to God's will and commandment so that you might have life and have it in abundance.

Let us pray,

**F**ATHER, assist us as we walk the pilgrim's path of this mortal life; that in all things we might stand for the truth of thy word written and reach out to others that they too might do the same; for this we ask in the name of our Lord and Saviour, 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:

**Date**  
27 April 2013

**Name**  
**Opportunity Available –First Sunday after Easter**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Each member of the team will pray for the desired outcome at last once per day.

**How do I get myself or someone else on the prayer list?**

You can email one of the prayer team leaders: Jack - [jack@faithfulcenturion.org](mailto:jack@faithfulcenturion.org) or Dru - [dru@faithfulcenturion.org](mailto:dru@faithfulcenturion.org), or call the church office at (619) 659-3608 or fill out a prayer card at church.

**What should I ask for?**

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

**Updating the Team**

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

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

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

**Travel**

Hap, Dru and Jack Arnold are on travel this week to Phoenix.

Members of the 196<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron are on travel from their reunion, please give thanks

for the successful reunion and pray they may all return to their homes in peace.

### ***Birthday***

*Terri Jennings* celebrated her 58<sup>th</sup> Birthday on 26 April 2014.

### ***Anniversary***

*Rev Rick and Virginia Reid* celebrated their 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on 7 April 2014.

### ***Move***

*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***

*Brian Smith* left for home on 21 April 2014, after a long battle with lung cancer; it cannot be said the cancer won, he is with the Lord in victory. He was able to do what he wanted and needed to do until two days before his death, for that we are all grateful. His only concern about leaving was for his wonderful wife Melany who of necessity remains behind. Please give thanks for his safe passage and pray that Mel will keep her trust in the Lord and let Him carry her worry.

*Three hundred Korean high school students* perished in the sinking of Korean passenger vessel, SEWOL, on 16 April 2014. Please pray for peace of mind, soul and heart for the families of those who perished. Please give thanks for the bravery and compassion of PARK Ji Young, aged 22 years, who remained on board to help rescue as many souls as possible. She even gave a student her own life vest. Her body was later found floating in the frigid waters of the sea. Ask God to help the families deal with their grief.

*Andrew Scally* passed away after a difficult time on 10 April 2014. Please pray for peace of mind for Andrew's family, in particular his son Keith who has been there to help him. Pray for his family to put their trust in our Lord and let God carry their worries as they adjust to his absence.

*Selma Martinez* passed away on 12 April 2014. Please pray for peace of mind for her husband Luis, as well as for trust in the Lord for him and the rest of the family, in particular her daughter Andrea.

### ***Nearing the end of their time here on earth***

*Alan* is a victim of metastasized colon cancer already destroying his liver. His youngest sister has put aside her hard-earned career to care for her brother in these days on earth. Please pray for him as he prepares to go home to be with his family who have gone before him. Please pray for comfort, understanding, strength and guidance for Alan and his family who will of necessity remain behind.

*Paul* has dementia and does not remember to eat. He has been in the hospital the last few days and will return to the Nursing Home today. Pray he will eat and that his family will be together in one accord as they take care of him. He is being moved from one hospital to a larger one this morning because of blood issues.

*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***

*Martha and Irene* both have Alzheimer's Disease. Pray that their hearts will stay close to Jesus.

*Walter* has many health issues and is growing weaker and weaker. Pray *Walter* will learn to be able to swallow correctly.

*Joan* has had serious medical problems that have kept her confined. On 26 September 2013, she took a fall. 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***

*Sarah*, wife of Rev *Geordie* (AOC – UK), has been treating for ovarian cancer. The treatment has not worked and she has been advised her time here on earth is short. Please pray for a miraculous remission; that *Sarah's* remaining time here on earth might be good. Help *Sarah, Geordie* and their family put their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their worry.

*Rev. Thomas Brooks* is not improving and being kept alive by artificial machines. Please pray for a miraculous recovery and if that not be God's Will, a rapid passing to home. Help *Thomas' family* put their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their worry

*Ronnie* has kidney cancer that has spread and the surgeons are very concerned. Please pray the medical team to formulate a successful treatment plan and for a miraculous remission; that *Ronnie's* remaining time here on earth might be good. Help *Ronnie* and family put their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their worry.

*Levi* was cancer free for 4 years and just discovered he has kidney cancer. *Levi* has a great deal of faith and said whether he is healed or God takes him home he will be fine. Please pray for the medical team to pay attention and to their best and for a good outcome. Pray also that *Levi* and family will be able to put their worry on God's shoulders. In particular, please pray for pain relief; *Levi* is 22 years old.

*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.

*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 now in the bone marrow, without a miracle from God she will be leaving soon. Right now she is in the hospital. Her spirit is still strong and asks 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*

*Weir* is a survivor of two malignancies (prostate and colon). Recently *Weir* underwent further tests and he will have to have almost all of his large intestine removed. His surgery will be Friday 28 March 2014. All will appreciate your prayer.

*Timothy Howes*, age 90, is expected to undergo resection surgery for a twisted bowel on 16 March 2014, due to his age and other complications this is an extremely tense surgery. Please pray for the surgical team to pay attention and to their best and for a good outcome. Pray also *Timothy* and his family, in particular his son *Rev Ken*, to put their worry on God's shoulders.

*Melody Summers* of Gold Creek, Montana has been diagnosed with a brain tumor. She is a very special person in the *Gregr* family's lives. Please pray for the surgical team to pay attention and to their best and for a good outcome. Pray also *Melody* and her family will be able to put their worry on God's shoulders. Pray for a special miracle for her and her family.

*Mario* has early-diagnosed prostate cancer and had surgery. Pray for complete remission and that *Mario* and his family will be able to put their worry on God's shoulders.

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

*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***

*Liz Strauch* had a pineal cyst, which in the end responded well to a surgical draining last year. Since November 2013, similar symptoms have returned. A CT Scan turned up what is thought to be either a new cyst or an enlarged pineal gland. More testing, including an EEG is in the works. She can no longer work. Pray for strength, courage and understanding for *Liz* and her family, in particular her husband *Ken* and sons *Caleb* and *Nathan*; as well as for God's guidance for the medical people treating her that they might find the best course of treatment and allow *Liz* to heal completely.

*Steve* fell from a roof Saturday, 5 April 2014. His injuries were multiple, extensive, severe, and life threatening. He is slowly making improvements. He still has a long road to travel and is still in great need of prayers. Yours are very much

appreciated. Pray for strength, courage and understanding for Steve and his family; as well as for God's guidance for the medical people treating him that they might find the best course of treatment and allow Steve to heal completely.

*Diane* was hospitalized 25 March 2014, with a serious gastrointestinal related. Pray for strength, courage and understanding for Diane and her family; as well as for God's guidance for the medical people treating her that they might find the best course of treatment and allow Diane to heal completely.

*Faye* is in the hospital because she is weak has been receiving blood transfusions. Pray for strength, courage and understanding for Faye and her family; as well as for God's guidance for the medical people treating her that they might find the best course of treatment and allow Faye to heal completely.

*Tom* has heart and kidney problems. Pray for strength, courage and understanding for Tom and his family; as well as for God's guidance for the medical people treating him that they might find the best course of treatment and allow Tom to heal completely.

*Harold* has had a severe stroke. He is now home, but his family is looking for a rehabilitation facility to help him recuperate. Pray for strength, courage and understanding for Harold and his family; as well as for God's guidance for the medical people caring for him that they might find the best treatment facility to allow Harold to heal completely.

*Amos* was in the hospital a few months ago because of severe eye problems and is back there with the doctors examining him. Pray for strength, courage and understanding for Amos and his family; as well as for God's guidance for the medical people treating him that they might find the best course of treatment.

*Nathan* has a tumor near his heart and had unsuccessful surgery. He is undergoing chemotherapy in an effort to shrink the tumor, the pain is great and he is on morphine. Please pray for strength, courage and understanding for Nathan and his family; as well as for God's guidance for the medical people treating him that they might find the best course of treatment.

*Joe* has had a preliminary ALS diagnosis. Pray the final diagnosis will something that will allow him to continue taking care of his devoted young family. Pray for strength, courage and understanding for Joe and his family; as well as for God's guidance for the medical people treating him that they might find the best course of 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.

*Preston* is reacting poorly to recent neck surgery and now has problems with his liver count; Physicians feel that dialysis will help. There may be a blockage in the bowel and an operation might be necessary. Please pray for the medical team to pay attention and to their best to determine how to help Preston and for a good outcome. Pray also that Preston and family will be able to put their worry on God's shoulders while Preston does his best to facilitate a return to good health.

*Marianne* is hospitalized with a perforated colon. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for Marianne, 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.

*Erica* has a non-malignant Brain Tumor which cannot be surgically removed due to the size and location. They are going to attempt chemotherapy. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for Erica, 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.

*Penny's Mom* is having an MRI on 18 November 2013, to explore a knot in her upper leg that appeared after a procedure last week. An MRI gives her stress and claustrophobia and your prayers will be appreciated.

*Brenda* is in the hospital because of bleeding on her brain. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for Brenda, 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.

*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.

*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.

*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* has been having great difficulty breathing. Some days he can barely move, other days he feels almost perfect, he would like to know why and how to avoid the bad. Please pray doctors will find the problem and a solution. Pray he will be able to follow the medical advice. Pray that Mark and his family will be able to put their worry on God's back.

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

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

### **Healing**

*Jere Wolf* (Melanie Zimmer's dad) was put into ICU the afternoon of 20 April 2014 (Easter). Mel writes , he first came in by ambulance with a pulse ox of only 81. With oxygen it is only up to 91-93. He has fluid both in his lungs and somewhere in his chest cavity. They put a central line in his heart to check it but does have congestive heart failure. There are other issues, and this is the first time in all of these hospitalizations that he has spoken about not making it this time and telling me what needs to be done financially as I have been his Back-up, so my concern is greater than ever before as he is the most optimistic person you could ever meet. Their pastor has been here for them so that is a blessing. Please pray for him and my mom for strength during this time.

*Donald* is in the hospital and had his leg amputated on 14 April 2014. Pray he will adjust and healing will begin.

*Dallmus* has lost 40 to 50 percent of his sight. Pray he will learn to cope with the situation and that he will trust in God to heal as He will.

*Lucius Dabney* (father of Rev Bryan Dabney) is now at home recovering from an infection. Please pray for a complete healing of the infection and return to health.

*David* has many concussions and unable to go to school, read books, watch TV and has headaches and migraines. He has trouble sleeping and his family will appreciate your prayers for this 10 year old young man.

*Barbara Apple* fell the week of 11 January 2014, in her home, breaking her right humerus (the large upper arm bone) in a spiral fracture, which cannot be set. Movement is very painful and due to a total lack of energy, she is more or less bedridden. Healing is going well at this point, but there is still some to go. Please pray for Barbara to put her trust in the Lord, look to Him for strength and for her to gain energy so she does not lose the mobility she has; pray for a full and rapid recovery. Please pray also for her husband Bob who is taking care of her that he might be comforted and strengthened in this time of stress.

*Mary Thornell* had surgery on 30 October 2013, at the Riverside Community Hospital to remove a huge mass along with about ½ her colon and part of her lower bowel. Mary starts chemotherapy this week and it will go for six months, every other week. 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.

*Gladys* has breast cancer and has had a lumpectomy. She needs to take a year off of her work to have chemo treatments.

*Alwin Jack* has had a stroke and recently has had a relapse. Please pray for those who treat Alwin that they might chose the best possible treatment and pray for peace of mind for Alwin during the recovery phase.

*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 on 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.

*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 one more year. He has 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, came back with ZERO SCANS again in December 2013! Matt 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***

*Jane*, US Army Fort Riley, KS, had a tumor, it was removed, it was thought that another had appeared; the pain is very great. She saw her new consulting surgeon and

he determined the tumor has NOT returned and her pain is the result of the interior wounds from last year's surgery not being allowed to heal. Long story short...she was on a long-term Army medical profile from the surgical team that performed the surgery last year. The Army docs in Korea and Ft. Riley did not honor that profile and she was on normal unrestricted duty and this did not allow complete healing. She is now on restricted physical duty so she should be just fine in good time. Jane and her family ask that you give thanks for the healing and pray for a full recovery.

*Jim* has been hospitalized and had several operations for cancer the last few years. The physicians discovered a number of spots; but his exam was better than expected—prayer changes things and he thanks you for your prayers. Please continue him in prayer for he will have another scan in April.

*Al* had an abscess found on his liver for which he was hospitalized, it turned out to be benign and will not require surgery, he has been released from the hospital. Please give thanks for this good result and pray for continued healing.

*Elma* is suffering from cancer. She was taken home from the hospital on the advice of her Doctor. We were asked to pray that Elma's remaining time here on earth might be good and that Elma and family might put their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their worry. Since then, Elma's Bishop told us a great Miracle of the Lord is working over Elma. Doctors sent her home to die, but now she seems to be doing all right. On behalf of her, thank you for all of your prayers. Please continue praying for her complete healing.

*Ian Allen* had back surgery on 5 February 2014, which went very very well. He is home and pain free. There is a recovery process ahead, but he has his daughter with him for the next week to help with that. Please give thanks for the surgical team paying close attention, doing their very best and for a good outcome. Pray for peace of mind for Ian and his family as healing continues.

*Erica* had surgery on 7 January 2014, for a non-malignant brain tumor. They got most, but not all of the tumor, things seem good for now. Please give thanks for the surgical team doing their very best and for a good outcome. Pray for peace of mind for Erica's family as healing and treatment continues.

*Jim Curl* had a stroke November 2013; he has recovered pretty well, but still has memory issues. Jim asks that you give thanks for his great recovery and pray that his memory will continue to improve.

*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.

*Dennis* has heart problems; now the medical people treating him discovered a large mass on his liver which turned out to be a cyst! 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.

*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. While the surgery 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. She still requires 24 hour care, which Mike provides with little help

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.

### ***Financial Guidance and Employment***

*Charlie* is in need of both financial guidance and employment. Charlie feels that he has no skills, which is clearly incorrect, but nonetheless he feels that way. While on

the one hand, he knows that is not right, on the other hand, he cannot shake that belief. Ask that God send the Holy Ghost into his heart for guidance. In addition, Charlie needs God's guidance as to how to handle his life from this point forward. After many years in the aerospace industry, he is looking for a place to employ his talents to the mutual benefit of a company. He asks that you pray for God to guide him to a new place to allow him to gain an even financial keel.

*Tracey* is out of employment and has not received her unemployment compensation or found a new position; please pray these problems will be resolved.

*Carmine* is looking for employment. Pray God will guide her and she will accept his guidance; something she has not always done, so your prayers will be especially appreciated.

*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***

*Timothy and Sharon* had their home foreclosed the morning of 15 April 2014. They are experiencing spiritual, emotional and financial crisis at the current time. Please pray for God's guidance as to how they might handle the financial difficulties in which they have found themselves and more importantly have them draw closer to God and each other.

*Linda, Rick, Christian and Sawyer* are a family experiencing spiritual, emotional and financial crisis at the current time. Please pray for God's guidance as to how they might handle the financial difficulties in which they have found themselves and more importantly have them draw closer to God and each other.

*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**

*Mitten* has a Christian talking to him about Christ. Mitten does not believe and does not seem to care. Please pray Mitten will see the light.

*Luis Martinez* had a heart attack on 1 November 2013, and seems to have recovered fairly well. His wife Selma passed away on 12 April 2014. Please pray for peace of mind for Luis, as well as for trust in the Lord for him and the rest of the family.

*Kristen, Rickey and their two children* ask you to pray for grace, wisdom and understanding as they attempt to cope with infidelity, separation and possibly divorce as a result of backsliding from the Lord into the World.

*Erica* is having school exams for the next several weeks. Please pray her mind will be open to what she has learned and her heart opened more and more as the years go by to Jesus.

*Aaron* has a problem seeing is where his life should be leading him. Please pray that he can listen to his father Paul and those around him who want him to work hard and obtain a real education now rather than just coast towards oblivion.

*Danielle* has accepted Christ as her Saviour. Pray she will read the Bible and meditate on His Word so she can grow in him.

*Laurie* is going through very trying personal problems right now. Please help her to open her heart to God's solutions to her problems.

*Helene and her family* ask your prayers for them as they deal with the loss of Alan, husband and father.

*Stephanie* seems to be very deeply into post partum depression after her baby was born prematurely. Please pray for her Mother in Law who is going a great distance to help Stephanie and her new Grandson. Pray that Stephanie will be able to direct her attention outward, rather than inward.

*William* is an elderly man living with his Son and Daughter in-law. William is causing trouble in the family because of his demanding ways and continually using bad language. The family is at wit's end to know how to handle him and will appreciate your guidance and prayers.

*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.

*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 for her business so that she might remain gainfully employed 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.

### ***Anglican Orthodox Church***

*Christians in the Central African Republic* are experiencing the ravages of a war between

the Muslim and Christians. We have both ministers and members of the Anglican Orthodox Church in Central African Republic. Please pray for God's guidance and protection for all persecuted Christians and those around them.

On 21 March 2014, *Faith Theological Seminary* in Gujranwala, Pakistan graduated a class. Please pray the Holy Ghost will fill the hearts of the graduates as they go forth to spread The Word of Jesus Christ our Saviour

*Rev Paul Thompson*, pastor of Christ Anglican Church (AOC) in Oakland, Iowa, asks you pray for the Holy Ghost to enter the hearts of their congregation that they might find better ways to serve our Lord and bring the Word to those around them.

*Rev Rick Reid* asks that you pray for Saint Andrews Anglican Church in Newton, North Carolina. They would like to see their congregation grow to the point is it self-sustaining and vibrant. The congregation asks that you pray for the Holy Ghost to enter into their hearts and inspire them to do their best to further His Will.

*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. 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.

### ***Armed Forces & Contractors***

Airman Donny Patton (Hulbert Field, Florida), 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***

*Nathalie* is teaching English in a small western Ukrainian town where they are having so many problems. Pray for Nathalie and others around the world who are standing up for Christian principles in their countries.

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.

### *Thanksgiving*

Hap, Dru and Jack Arnold givr thanks for safe travel twice this week this week to Dallas and once to March Field.

### *Question that only you can ask*

What would you like to know about our history, what we believe, what we do or how we operate? Hap is looking for material for the continuing education class and *Thought for the Day* material. Help us help you. Please send your question to Hap so we all can get an answer. Just because you don't know the answer to your question doesn't mean you are the only one who doesn't know. But, if you don't ask, no one will know.

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

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

### *Epistleers*

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

<b>Date</b>	<b>Reader</b>
4 May 2013	Dru Arnold – Second Sunday after Easter
11 May 2013	Dru Arnold – Third Sunday after Easter
18 May 2013	Dru Arnold – Fourth Sunday after Easter

### *The near future, as well as Next Sunday*

4 May 2013 – Second Sunday After Easter – Morning Prayer - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**

11 May 2013 – Third Sunday After Easter – Mothers Day – 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**

18 May 2013 – Fourth Sunday After Easter – 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**

