



Anglican Orthodox Church
Worldwide Communion
Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity
Sunday Report



Today we celebrated the Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity.

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 –

Determine never to be idle. No person will have occasion to complain of the want of time, who never loses any. It is wonderful how much may be done, if we are always doing. And that you may be always doing good, my dear, is the ardent prayer of yours affectionately.

Thomas Jefferson
letter to Martha Jefferson, 1787

Good things as well as bad, you know, are caught by a kind of infection. If you want to get warm you must stand near the fire: if you want to be wet you must get into the water. If you want joy, power, peace, eternal life, you must get close to, or even into, the thing that has them. They are not a sort of prize which God could, if He chose, just hand out to anyone. They are a great fountain of energy and beauty spurting up at the very centre of reality. If you are close to it, the spray will wet you: if you are not, you will remain dry. Once a man is united to God, how could he not live forever?

Jack Lewis
Mere Christianity

In the End

I believe, to be sure, that any man who reaches Heaven will find that what he abandoned (even in plucking out his right eye) has not been lost: that the kernel of what he was really seeking even in his most depraved wishes will be there, beyond expectation, waiting for him in 'the High Countries'. In that sense it will be true for those who have completed the journey (and for no others) to say that good is everything and Heaven everywhere. But we, at this end of the road, must not try to anticipate that retrospective vision. If we do, we are likely to embrace the false and disastrous converse and fancy that everything is good and everywhere is Heaven.

But what, you ask, of earth? Earth, I think, will not be found by anyone to be in the end a very distinct place. I think earth, if chosen instead of Heaven, will turn out to have been, all along, only a region in Hell: and earth, if put second to Heaven, to have been from the beginning a part of Heaven itself.

Jack Lewis
The Great Divorce

Light where it can be seen

On the north coast of Cornwall and Devon is a lighthouse, which was first placed high up upon the cliffs, where the mists and the fogs often obscured and hid its brightness from the passing mariner. So they took it down and built it on the rock out at sea, amid the waves of that dangerous coast, there to shine where it was most necessary. A virtue should shine in cities, not in solitudes. The Christian's duty is here among men, and the nearer he draws to his fellowmen, so that his Christianity be real and true, the more good he is likely to do them.

Unknown

The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.

Psalm 19:8

The wicked is snared by the transgression of his lips: but the just shall come out of trouble.

Proverbs 12:13

For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

St. Mark 8:36

For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience. Be not ye therefore partakers with them.

Ephesians 5:5-7

Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that passed into the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession.

Hebrews 4:14

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 207-209, with the Collect first:

The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity.

The Collect.

ALMIGHTY and merciful God, of whose only gift it cometh that thy faithful people do unto thee true and laudable service; Grant, we beseech thee, that we may so faithfully serve thee in this life, that we fail not finally to attain thy heavenly promises; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle came from Paul's Letter to the Galatians, the Third Chapter beginning at the Sixteenth Verse. Paul reminds us, "To Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ." The Law, which came 430 years after this covenant, did not supersede the covenant. The Law was "added because of transgressions, til the seed (Jesus) should come to whom the promise was made ... Is the law then against the promises of God?" No. "... for is there had been a law given which could have given life, ... righteousness should have been by the law." For the wages of sin are death, all sin and only those whose sins are set aside by the sacrifice of Jesus are freed from their debt.

To Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ. And this I say, that the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect. For if the inheritance be of the law, it is no more of promise: but God gave it to Abraham by promise. Wherefore then serveth the law? It was added because of transgressions, till the seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator. Now a mediator is not a mediator of one, but God is one. Is the law then against the promises of God? God forbid: for if there had been a law given which could have given life, verily righteousness should have been by the law. But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.

Today's Holy Gospel started in the Tenth Chapter of the Gospel according to St. Luke, beginning at the Twenty-Third Verse. Jesus tells one of the New Testament's most widely spread stories, that of the Good Samaritan^{1,2}.

Jesus was talking to the people, "And, behold, a certain lawyer stood up, and tempted him, saying, Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" The lawyer was about to learn the first lesson of lawyering, 'Never ask a question you don't to which know the answer.' As was often the case, Jesus let the man answer his own question in response to a question from Him, "What is written in the law? How readest thou?"

¹ Samaritan - Of or pertaining to Samaria, in Palestine. -- n. A native or inhabitant of Samaria; also, the language of Samaria. [1913 Webster]

Samaritans were descendants of those who had stayed behind during the Captivity and had been separated for many years from the body of Judaism. They had not developed, nor did they subscribe to them, all the rules the Jews managed to invent during their separation. The main body of Jews viewed them as lesser peoples, not really Jews.

² Good Samaritan n : a person who voluntarily offers help or sympathy in times of trouble [syn: Samaritan]

The man answered well, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself."

Jesus confirmed his answer, "Thou hast answered right: this do, and thou shalt live."

But, the man wanted more and asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbour?"

Among the Jews, it was clear they were to "Love thy neighbor as thy self;" but their view of their neighborhood was not too wide. From Jesus' story and question come a clear answer as to how big our neighborhood might be.

And Jesus answering said, A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead. And by chance there came down a certain priest that way: and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked on him, and passed by on the other side. But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him, and went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee. Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbor unto him that fell among the thieves?

To this question, the man answered, "He that shewed mercy on him."

Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise.

Blessed are the eyes which see the things that ye see: for I tell you, that many prophets and kings have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them. And, behold, a certain lawyer stood up, and tempted him, saying, Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life? He said unto him, What is written in the law? how readest thou? And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself. And he said unto him, Thou hast answered right: this do, and thou shalt live. But he, willing to justify himself, said unto Jesus, And who is my neighbour? And Jesus answering said, A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead. And by chance there came down a certain priest that way: and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked on him, and passed by on the other side. But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him, and went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee. Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbour unto him that fell among the thieves? And he said, He that shewed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise.

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

Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity
Saint Andrew's
Anglican Orthodox Church
14 September 2014, Anno Domini

The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity.

The Collect.

ALMIGHTY and merciful God, of whose only gift it cometh that thy faithful people do unto thee true and laudable service; Grant, we beseech thee, that we may so faithfully serve thee in this life, that we fail not finally to attain thy heavenly promises; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



The Epistle

To Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ. And this I say, that the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect. For if the inheritance be of the law, it is no more of promise: but God gave it to Abraham by promise. Wherefore then serveth the law? It was added because of transgressions, till the seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator. Now a mediator is not a mediator of one, but God is one. Is the law then against the promises of God? God forbid: for if there had been a law given which could have given life, verily righteousness should have been by the law. But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe. (Galatians 3:16-22)

23 And he turned him unto his disciples, and said privately,

The Gospel

Blessed are the eyes which see the things that ye see: for I tell you, that many prophets and kings have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them. And, behold, a certain lawyer stood up, and tempted him, saying, Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life? He said unto him, **What is written in the law? how readest thou?** And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself. And he said unto him, **Thou hast answered right: this do, and thou shalt live.** But he, willing to justify himself, said unto Jesus, And who is my neighbour? And Jesus answering said, **A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and departed, leaving**

him half dead. And by chance there came down a certain priest that way: and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked on him, and passed by on the other side. But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him, and went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee. Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbour unto him that fell among the thieves? And he said, He that shewed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, **Go, and do thou likewise.** (Luke 10:23-37)

When I read today's account of the Parable of the Good Samaritan, it becomes my very favorite parable – until I read the Parable of the Prodigal Son, or the Foolish Virgins, or the Rich Man and Lazarus, etc. Whatever parable I happen to be studying at the moment becomes my favorite.

The Gospel and Epistle text today deals with not only the acts of kindness and charity expected of the Godly man or woman, but the terms of the law and of grace as well. The Prayer of Collect makes reference to the 'heavenly promises.' These are promises of grace that stand in contrast to the condemnation under which we would all have fallen under the strict application of the law. The law has exempted no one; however, we were justified by the blood of Jesus Christ whose death on the cross paid our sin debt (if we have claimed that justification and salvation). There was nothing worthy in us that Christ should have paid our penalty, but He did so out of an uncompromising love for those who would accept the promise of grace made available to us through His act of sacrifice. Paul makes sound reference to the inability of the law to save us, for we are incapable of perfect obedience. If we were compelled to be the bloodline descendants of Abraham (as the law would require) we could not come to God. But being children who have come to God through the promises made possible in Christ, we are indeed the Children of Abraham. Now let us look at the Gospel text and the opening question of the lawyer which followed on a mysterious moment of Christ's teaching to His disciples:

In order to fully understand the situation confronting Christ, we must observe that which the Lectionary failed to include – the preceding two verses that reveal the setting. *In that hour Jesus rejoiced in spirit, and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes: even so, Father; for so it seemed good in thy sight. All things are delivered to me of my Father: and no man knoweth who the Son is, but the Father; and who the Father is, but the Son, and he to whom the Son will reveal him.* (Luke 10:21-22) Those whose high-minded thoughts are infatuated with the Self of the Ivory Tower will not understand the Words given by Christ here. Those men are much too good to get a handle on such simplicity as the Gospel represents. They must add to it their own complicated and sophisticated interpretations and render those in words which they can barely understand themselves and, certainly, not understood of those who are so simple as to know only Christ. *And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them, And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven.* (Matt 18:2-4) I am not so proud of my title as to be very happy to become a simple, little child for Christ. All of the lawyers, Scribes, and Pharisees

gathered about not only would not believe, but refused to believe, the simple Gospel that had been given to the simple disciples of Christ. Note the grace of God evidenced in the last verse of the quote: *...and no man knoweth who the Son is, but the Father; and who the Father is, but the Son, and he to whom the Son will reveal him*. Has Jesus revealed His Father to you, Friend?

And he turned him unto his disciples, and said privately, Blessed are the eyes which see the things that ye see: For I tell you, that many prophets and kings have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them. What standing and privilege we have to have come into the knowledge of the Gospel. We have been given greater privilege than many prophets and kings. Have we treasured the privilege above all others?

Jesus is speaking in a public place and gathered around were those who would have enjoyed presenting a question that would have undermined His wisdom and knowledge. I am amazed that they continued so to do for they were constantly made fools by the attempt. There is a "certain lawyer" present who felt able to place Christ on the spot with a question which it was the Lord's very specialty to answer: *And, behold, a certain lawyer stood up, and tempted him, saying, Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?* Is this a very good question? No, it is not. The premise of the question is wrong for there is nothing that we can DO to inherit eternal life – it is a gift of God. Jesus, being the most able of all teachers, gives the inquirer another question in response to fathom the depths of the inquirer's knowledge as well as cause for deeper thought on the matter: *What is written in the law? how readest thou?* Should not all of us determine our answers to questions of eternity on God's Law? Should we not all have read it and meditated thereon? How does the lawyer, very apt at deciphering law, read the question? This is an excellent technique to determine – not the depth of the lawyer's knowledge, but the want of knowledge.

The lawyer answered very ably for he knew the 'words' of the law, but perhaps not the spirit of it: *And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself.* The lawyer may recognize the technical qualities of a diamond, but he cannot know the source of its beauty.

Note how respectfully Christ treats the question and answer of the lawyer who seeks to 'tempt' him. *And he said unto him, Thou hast answered right: this do, and thou shalt live.* If credit is due, you may always expect it from Christ.

The lawyer realizes that he has failed to reveal any indiscretion in the answer of Christ and seeks to justify his inquiry and standing by pressing further. By asking this next question, he hopes to weaken the credibility of Christ in whatever He claims as a neighbor. *But he, willing to justify himself, said unto Jesus, And who is my neighbour?* We can clearly see by the motive and attitude that the lawyer is less in earnest to understand truth, than to place his witness off balance. His interest is not truth, but justification of himself which he is incapable of doing.

These next beautiful lines of a Parable of Christ are among the most beloved and noteworthy of the Gospels and repeated almost daily in general conversation: *"Come on, be a good Samaritan and loan me some money!" or "The life of a victim of an*

automobile accident this morning was saved by a good Samaritan who just happen on the scene of the accident shortly after it happened." Do we not hear such accounts daily?

And Jesus answering said, A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead. And by chance there came down a certain priest that way: and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked on him, and passed by on the other side. But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him, And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee. Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbour unto him that fell among the thieves?

Here we see unsurpassing grace and a full figure of our Lord Himself described. In what way, you ask? Because we were that man who went DOWN the road of life and were beaten by the devil and his friends. We were left to die until a good Samaritan (Christ) came along – going UP to the Holy City – and treated our hurts and sores with His own riches and Being. He did so after even those who were considered ‘holy’ passed us by. He cared for our wounds, and placed us on His own beast, and took us to a place of security, and continued to treat our hurts, and purchased our continued treatment and security until He returns for us. This is part of the spiritual meaning, but there is also a general application that presents in our own lives and those of other Christians.

This ‘certain man’ that went down (the wrong direction) the road from Jerusalem, the Holy City, to Jericho, a worldly city, was a Jew. He it was who, it was suspected, would have a bag of money hidden on his person for commerce. Being a Jew, he had every right to expect help from his religious leaders of the same race. He would have found the gentile Samaritans (half-blooded Jews) to have been unworthy of his friendship and beneath his class. He would never have lifted a finger to help the ‘unclean’ Samaritans.

Alas, he falls among thieves who are waiting along the path in ambush. The devil sets many ambushes for us to destroy both our faith and our persons. The thieves took all that the man had, even including his raiment (clothes) and left him half-dead. Do you know that all who know not Christ have been left half-dead along life’s road? Satan would prefer to leave us half-dead than fully dead so that we may cause others to follow our folly. This is true of combat. The enemy would prefer to seriously wound our soldier than to kill him. Why? Because many support personnel are required to treat a wounded warrior, but far less to bury one such soldier.

Note that a priest and a Levite comes along, going DOWN (the wrong direction) as well, to Jericho. It may be presumed that they had just completed Temple duties and were cleansed. But these two had yet to learn the meaning of the Lord’s words: *“For I desired mercy, and not sacrifice; and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings.”* (Hosea 6:6) Temple worship, or indeed any worship, will not suffice apart from a love of God and our fellow men. The priest clearly sees the man, we are told, but decides not to help the man or to touch blood which would have made him ‘unclean.’ The Levite sees the man and, at least comes to where he is and looks on him.

But then goes the way of the priest. Both are guilty of lack of mercy and compassion – ingredients of character that cannot coexist in evil hearts.

Now comes a Samaritan UP the Road to Jerusalem. Unlike the priest, the Jew, and the Levite, this man is traveling in the RIGHT direction. (Psalms 1) Note the actions of the Good Samaritan:

- 1) ***came where he was*** As Christians, we must GO to where the need is greatest, not relax in opulence in our parlors.
- 2) ***he saw him*** How many needs go unseen every day though our eyes cannot avoid the observance of that need?
- 3) ***he had compassion on him*** Just as our Savior, Christ, this Samaritan, though hated by this Jew, felt the man's hurt so keenly that he took measures to help the man of his hurt (just as Christ has done for those of us who have come to Him).
- 4) ***And went to him*** His first coming to where the man was at the time was, to us, happenstance, but surely to God, our steps were ordered. After coming to a person in need we do not simply stand and watch. We GO to the victim so that we may render assistance.
- 5) ***and bound up his wounds*** Just as Jesus practice the triage of treating the most critical need first, so does this Samaritan by binding up the man's wounds to stop the bleeding. Has Christ not found us with our own blood flowing from our souls and given us life? *And when I passed by thee, and saw thee polluted in thine own blood, I said unto thee when thou wast in thy blood, Live; yea, I said unto thee when thou wast in thy blood, Live.'* (Ezek 16:6) When we see our neighbor strangers perishing for grave want, have we forgotten the great mercies granted to us?
- 6) ***pouring in oil and wine.*** The only resources the Samaritan had to treat the man was the expensive oil and wine which he not only 'applied' but 'poured' into the man's wounds. He spared no personal treasures in helping his charge. Do you not love this Good Samaritan?
- 7) ***set him on his own beast*** The Samaritan would rather walk in order that the wounded man might ride. This is 'mercy' combined with 'sacrifice' – the kind of combination that the Lord loves.
- 8) ***and brought him to an inn*** The Samaritan is not concerned about his tight schedule. He takes time to take the best care of the wounded man. This is an expense as well, but he does not even consider it an expense. It is an obligation before God.
- 9) ***and took care of him*** I wish I had many friends as kind as this Samaritan Stranger. Actually, I do have ONE, and perhaps others of my friends who love that ONE. He continued, even at the end, to take time and trouble to treat the man.
- 10) ***And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him*** Apparently being convinced that the man would be well after rest and gentle treatment, the Samaritan departs to care for his pressing business in Jerusalem. But he does not forget the responsibility he has shouldered for the Jew. He PAYS even the innkeeper to continue caring for the Jew. ***He doeth all things well!***
- 11) ***and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee.*** Had you ever considered ALL that the Good Samaritan did for this wounded Jew, or for that wounded soul that resides in your own heart?

Even if it costs me more, I will pay. I will pay to the uttermost. Says the Good Samaritan.

Jesus has told the story which will fully answer the question of the lawyer, but the lawyer remains stiff-necked in his pride. Jesus asks: *Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbour unto him that fell among the thieves?* Three men were involved. Two were not only religious leaders from whom one might expect greater degrees of compassion, but also men of the same blood. They, of all people, should have considered a fellow Jew a neighbor. They passed by without lifting a finger to help the poor wounded fellow. The third, a lowly Samaritan, spent his own wealth, took his own time, and delayed his own business to help a man whose race hated him. Which one of these three would any sane person believe was neighbor to the wounded man? You, or I, would answer the Samaritan; but the lawyer, being a Jew who loathed even the name of a Samaritan, answered only: *He that shewed mercy on him.* The lawyer would prefer a pronoun to a real name. Even so, he answered correctly even if in the wrong spirit.

Jesus responded to the lawyer in the same way He responds to you and me: *Go, and do thou likewise.*

What have you been this week: a priest, a Levite, or a Good Samaritan?

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

Today's sermon tied the Collect, Epistle and Gospel together and talked, as is oft the case, of the need for action, not simply diction.



Today we consider The Law and how it failed to solve the problems of the people it was designed to help and think about how getting around technicalities is different than doing what is right. To comply with the Law is a different matter than finding loopholes in the Law. The Pharisees did the latter, and we should do the former.

In California, we have this law called the Basic Speed Law. It says that you should drive no faster than is safe. If there is a bend of road that is posted at 40 miles per hour, but it is really safer to go 25 mph, which is complying with the intent of the law more?

The Pharisees would have you find a loop hole in a 25 miles per hour zone for example, by just going 25 miles per hour. But, what if the area it is in is not safe for 25 mph, more like 15 miles per hour. Could you honestly think going 25 miles per hour in what is actually a 15 miles per hour zone is within the intent of the law? No! It is the same with trying to go around the intent of the Law. We cannot honestly say that we are doing something within the spirit of the Law, but only doing lip service to it. We must be within the intent or spirit of the Law, rather than trying to find ways around the Law.

Consider the words of the Collect, "...whose only gift it cometh that thy faithful people do unto thee true and laudable service; Grant, we beseech thee, that we may so faithfully serve thee in this life, that we fail not finally to attain thy heavenly promises ..."

In our prayer to God, we acknowledge that His only or greatest gift is that we are, through Him, able to give Him true service. For, it must be understood the only way we can really be happy is when we align our being with His Being. Truly align, not get around restrictions. There is a big difference. We are not trying to avoid being caught in a rule, but trying to live by the Big Picture and not worry about little things. If we do what we should do, we will follow the little rules as a matter of course. If we get the important things the little things will follow soon after. The only rules that are important really come from, 1. Love thy God with all thy heart and soul and mind, and 2. Love thy neighbor as thyself. As Jesus says "On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." He means that all of the moral laws and preaching of the prophets past could be traced back to these laws, which comprise the basis for all of the laws that would follow thereafter, especially the Ten Commandments. These two commandments are where from the 613 laws all could be trace back to. These two basic commandments are the "Basic Speed Law" of the Christian faith. There is no way to get around these two and be within the spirit or intent of the Law.

In the Epistle, we are reminded God chose Abraham not because of he complied with The Law, for the Law was far into the future. God chose Abraham because he had faith and put his trust in God. The Law was an aid to man to help him be better when he had difficulty following God's Will.

Pharisees were religious lawyers who specialized in the 613 Mosaic Laws, which brought them death not life. Their job was to help people not break The Law without unduly interfering with their lives by forcing them to embrace the intent of The Law.

When the Pharisee of the Gospel asked Jesus what he should do to gain eternal life, the Pharisee correctly summarized The Law: Love God; Love your neighbor. He would have been fine had he stopped there. But, he had to show the Son how smart he was. In doing so, the lawyer was about to learn the first lesson of lawyering, 'Never ask a question to which you don't know the answer.' So he asked, 'Who is my neighbor?' The answer, of course, is everyone but you; the rest of humanity. But, as was often the case, Jesus presented the story of the injured man helped by the Samaritan, then asked who was neighbor to the injured man?

The priest and the Levite would not see the injured man; there are none so blind as those who will not see.

You will also note the Samaritan, one of those separated from the chosen mass of Judaism, did his duty. When he left the injured man at the inn, having given the innkeeper roughly two days wages, he said, Do what need be done, if I owe more I will pay when I pass by next. You will note, he put no limit on his duty, he just committed to doing what needed to be done, regardless of cost.

The lawyer to his credit answered honestly, "He that shewed mercy on him." Jesus told him, "Go, and do thou likewise."

Right is not a matter of quantum; it is not a matter of majority rules or public opinion; actions speak louder than words.

Action counts. For by their actions ye shall know them.

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

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

It is by our actions we are known.

Be of God - Live of God - Act of God

Roy Morales-Kuhn, Bishop and Pastor - St. Paul's Anglican Church - Anglican Orthodox Church

Bishop Roy is pastor of the biggest AOC parish West of the Mississippi and is in charge of the Diocese of the Epiphany.

Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

Psalm 104

Hab. 1:12-2:4,14 • Mark 3:20-21,31-35

I will be glad in the Lord.

BLESS the Lord, O my soul. O Lord my God, thou art very great; thou art clothed with honour and majesty.

2 Who coverest thyself with light as with a garment: who stretchest out the heavens like a curtain:

3 Who layeth the beams of his chambers in the waters: who maketh the clouds his chariot: who walketh upon the wings of the wind:

4 Who maketh his angels spirits; his ministers a flaming fire:

5 Who laid the foundations of the earth, that it should not be removed for ever.

6 Thou coveredst it with the deep as with a garment: the waters stood above the mountains.

7 At thy rebuke they fled; at the voice of thy thunder they hasted away.

8 They go up by the mountains; they go down by the valleys unto the place which thou hast founded for them.

9 Thou hast set a bound that they may not pass over; that they turn not again to cover the earth.

10 He sendeth the springs into the valleys, which run among the hills.

11 They give drink to every beast of the field: the wild asses quench their thirst.

12 By them shall the fowls of the heaven have their habitation, which sing among the branches.

13 He watereth the hills from his chambers: the earth is satisfied with the fruit of thy works.

14 He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and herb for the service of man: that he may bring forth food out of the earth;

15 And wine that maketh glad the heart of man, and oil to make his face to shine, and bread which strengtheneth man's heart.

16 The trees of the Lord are full of sap; the cedars of Lebanon, which he hath planted;

17 Where the birds make their nests: as for the stork, the fir trees are her house.

18 The high hills are a refuge for the wild goats; and the rocks for the conies.

19 He appointed the moon for seasons: the sun knoweth his going down.



- 20 Thou makest darkness, and it is night: wherein all the beasts of the forest do creep forth.
- 21 The young lions roar after their prey, and seek their meat from God.
- 22 The sun ariseth, they gather themselves together, and lay them down in their dens.
- 23 Man goeth forth unto his work and to his labour until the evening.
- 24 O Lord, how manifold are thy works! in wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches.
- 25 So is this great and wide sea, wherein are things creeping innumerable, both small and great beasts.
- 26 There go the ships: there is that leviathan, whom thou hast made to play therein.
- 27 These wait all upon thee; that thou mayest give them their meat in due season.
- 28 That thou givest them they gather: thou openest thine hand, they are filled with good.
- 29 Thou hidest thy face, they are troubled: thou takest away their breath, they die, and return to their dust.
- 30 Thou sendest forth thy spirit, they are created: and thou renewest the face of the earth.
- 31 The glory of the Lord shall endure for ever: the Lord shall rejoice in his works.
- 32 He looketh on the earth, and it trembleth: he toucheth the hills, and they smoke.
- 33 I will sing unto the Lord as long as I live: I will sing praise to my God while I have my being.
- 34 My meditation of him shall be sweet: I will be glad in the Lord.
- 35 Let the sinners be consumed out of the earth, and let the wicked be no more. Bless thou the Lord, O my soul. Praise ye the Lord.

This psalm begins and ends with the phrase 'bless the Lord O my soul'. Bracketed in that phrase is a great hymn or song praising God for the grand creation of the world. The psalmist points to the heavens, the moon and sun, to the hills, trees and shrubs, to the sea and all the creatures that inhabit that hidden realm. He is extolling the wonders of God's creation. He is bringing to our mind's eye the very wonderment of this world we live in.

Notice the descriptive language the psalmist uses; '...thou are clothed with honor and majesty...light covers the majesty of the Lord as a garment. Where do we hear this description of the heavens...the heavens are stretched out like a curtain? If you watch the Weather Channel or Nat.Geo or Discovery Channel, you will see video and still photos of cloud formations that look like curtains. The auroras that are visible both above the North and South pole areas also look like curtains...and they move like curtains.

Look at some other descriptions of the splendor of God's majesty. '...who maketh the clouds his chariot:' Watch the sky before or after a storm, notice the clouds scudding across the sky, they look like ...well air-chariots. How about walking on the wings of the wind? What a wonderful description of majesty and power. Think about a breeze, a wind or a gale, each in its own way can signify the majesty of the Creator. The wind blows where it will, we cannot stop its path, maybe divert it, but never stop it. He walks upon the wings of the wind.

The next four verses address the creation of the sea and the dry land. (5-9)

The psalmist asks the question about the foundation of the earth. It is a similar question that was asked of Job by God. This foundation is sure, it can not be moved. The areas covered by the sea are described as 'being garment covered'. Then the next few verses

discuss the Great Flood of Noah, with the boundary of the sea now set; '...that they turn not again to cover the earth...'

Again this theme of the boundary and limits placed on the sea are found in the book of Job, chapter 38 and in other parts of that account.

In a number of following verses the psalmist describes the provision God makes for his creatures, each according to its nature. Grass and herbs for the herbivore,(14) meat for the carnivore,(27,28) bread, oil and wine for man,(15) trees for homes for the fowl of the air(12,17) and high rocky places for the wild goats and rock conies.(18)(a type of rodent that was good to eat). Springs of water are brought to mind ,to give water to the animals, to water the grasses and trees; all to the good or blessing of the earth. '...the earth is satisfied with the fruit of thy works.' The Lord provides for his creation, he maintains them and feeds them. There is also the description of the sea, the 'great and wide sea' where innumerable creatures live, all sizes and shapes, a place for ships to go on their journeys of commerce and pleasure.

Now the psalmist concentrates on the sovereign power of God over ALL the creatures. God is in control. He provides for the beast of the field, the sea; he can take their life away or he can create anew. At the same time he renews the face of the earth. He can make the hills smoke by his very touch, the earth quakes at his look (32). Again we are reminded of the Sovereignty of the Lord. "The glory of the Lord shall endure for ever: the Lord shall rejoice in his works."

We now come to the end of the 104th Psalm. Here we see a joyful and firm resolution to continue praising God. Let us once again reflect on the reading of these last three verses.

33 I will sing unto the Lord as long as I live: I will sing praise to my God while I have my being.

34 My meditation of him shall be sweet: I will be glad in the Lord.

35 Let the sinners be consumed out of the earth, and let the wicked be no more. Bless thou the Lord, O my soul. Praise ye the Lord.

Let us pray:

O LORD Jesus Christ, who saidst unto thine Apostles, Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you; Regard not our sins, but the faith of thy Church; and grant to it that peace and unity which is according to thy will, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen.

ASSIST us mercifully, O Lord, in these our supplications and prayers, and dispose the way of thy servants towards the attainment of everlasting salvation; that, among all the changes and chances of this mortal life, they may ever be defended by thy most gracious and ready help; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GRANT, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that the words which we have heard this day with our outward ears, may, through thy grace, be so grafted inwardly in our hearts, that they may bring forth in us the fruit of good living, to the honour and praise of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



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:



Christ in the Psalms

God The Good

Psalm 118

Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

September 14, 2014

Influential people are often given nicknames, or sobriquets. The man who wrote the prayer that closes Morning and Evening Prayer is an example. His name was John but he is known as John Chrysostom, meaning John of the Golden Mouth, because of his powerful sermons. Some people's sobriquets are better known than their names, like Stonewall Jackson or Caesar Augustus. Psalm 118 opens and closes with what could be a sobriquet for God. It sounds rather stilted in English; "God, For He Is Good," though I think we could shorten it to "God The Good." But in Hebrew it is very flowing and poetic; "Yahweh Qi-Tov." There are many such names we could give to God. God the Great, God the Magnificent, Father of All Mercies, God of Glory, God of Grace, and all of these are applied to God in many places in Scripture. But I like the way Psalm 118 pictures Him as God The Good.

Good here means more than just well behaved or beneficial. It means absolute perfection in every aspect, but especially in morality. Such perfection belongs to God alone. That's why Christ told the rich young ruler, "there is none good but one, that is, God" (Mt. 19:17). Christ's point is that to call Him good is to call Him God, which He is. Thankfully, God's perfect goodness is paramount in His dealings with us. That's why the Coverdale translation of the Psalms, which is the one in our Prayer Book, says, "O Give thanks unto the Lord, for He is gracious." "Gracious" is also a correct way to translate the Hebrew, for Yahweh Qi-Tov means both to possess moral perfection and to express that moral perfection in goodness towards us. We call God's goodness towards us, "grace."

Most of Psalm 118 is given to recounting the ways God has been gracious to Israel by saving her from her enemies. In verses 10-13, we see Israel "compassed round about." The nations in verse 10 are nations of unbelievers who hated Israel and wanted to destroy her. Philistia, Moab, Midian, and other nations in Canaan made frequent invasions into Israel, causing much suffering and death. In later times the rising empires of western Asia fought and conquered the Jews. In verse 11 the nations "kept me in on every side." They had Israel surrounded and confined, as though in a prison. In verse 12 "they came about me like bees." Anyone who has been attacked by a hive of angry bees knows exactly what this verse means. They have thrust at Israel, as with the sword and spear. The picture is of attack and war.

Yet verse 14 says God "is become my Saviour," and each description of the enemies' attacks is followed by a picture of God's deliverance. Enemies compassed her round about, but I will destroy them. They kept me in on every side, but I will destroy them. They came at me like bees, but I will destroy them. They thrust sore at me, that I

might fall, "but the Lord was my help." God made Israel strong, and God delivered her. He was her salvation, her Saviour.

The Psalm starts, then, by showing Israel in all her oppression and suffering. But in verse 24 it moves into a day of rejoicing. "This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it." God has given Israel a time of peace and a time of happiness. The day is the day of salvation, of peace, of joy in God. His people rejoice because He has opened the gate of righteousness in verse 19. He has answered prayer in verse 21. Israel is like a stone rejected by the builders of worldly empires, but which God has chosen as the corner stone and foundation of His Kingdom of Grace (Vs. 22).

We easily see how the Psalm relates to our own relationship with God. We also have enemies who want to destroy us and our faith. Sometimes the enemies are outside of us, like the world, and the devil. Often they are within us, the flesh, meaning our human frailties and our fleshly desires. James 1:14 and 15 show how our desires lead us astray from God: "every man is tempted when he is drawn away of his own lust and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death." We place the fulfillment of our natural desires ahead of our desire to do the will of God. This can be done through the "big" sins, like theft and adultery, or it can be done through the "little" sins, like just being too lazy to get up and go to Church on the Lord's day. But in this way our "flesh" becomes our enemy, leading us astray from God. Being a Christian often requires us to choose against our own desires in order to comply with the desire of God, and we need God to save us from ourselves as much as we need Him to save us from the world, and the devil. And He does. Why have you not left the flock? Why have you not fallen back into unbelief? Because God holds you in His omnipotent hand and nothing is able to pluck you out of it. His victory over our enemies was accomplished by His perfect life, sacrificial death, and resurrection. In these things God forgives your sins and makes your peace with Him.

The Psalm also applies to the Church. Surrounded by enemies, persecuted and slandered, misunderstood and misrepresented by the world, the Church survives only because God is her salvation. The Church may say with ancient Israel, "The Lord is on my side." "The Lord was my help. The Lord is my strength and my song; and is become my salvation."

As we have been looking at the Psalms, one of my goals has been to show Christ in the Psalms, and He certainly fills Psalm 118. He became our salvation by giving Himself on the cross for our sins. He is the sacrifice in verse 27 bound to the "horns" of the cross, which became the Altar of Sacrifice for us. Every time you read that verse you should see Christ on the cross suffering for you. He is the stone which the builders refused, which became the head-stone in the corner in verse 22. It is worth noting that Jesus Himself applied this verse to Himself in Matthew 21:42. Having learned it from Christ, Peter also applied it to Christ, saying, "This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:11-12). Peter again applies this verse to Christ in 1 Peter 2:7, saying that, to the disobedient, Christ is "the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner."

He is the day of rejoicing. The Day of the Lord is the day He has made, the day in which we rejoice and are glad. It is correct to wake up every morning and say, "This is the day which the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it." Every day is a

gift from God to be enjoyed and for which to be grateful. But the real “day which the Lord hath made” is the day of salvation in Jesus Christ. It is the Day in which His people are gathered to Him in peace through the blood of His cross. It is also that everlasting Day of the Lord, when time as we know it ends and the earth is restored to its original glory, and we will dwell in it with no more sickness, sorrow, or death. And we will walk with God face to face. All our questions will be answered. All our fears will be erased. All our best hopes will be fulfilled. And thus shall we be with the Lord, forever.

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.



Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

In St. Mark 3:31-35:

- 31** There came then his brethren and his mother, and, standing without, sent unto him, calling him.
- 32** And the multitude sat about him, and they said unto him, Behold, thy mother and thy brethren without seek for thee.
- 33** And he answered them, saying, Who is my mother, or my brethren?
- 34** And he looked round about on them which sat about him, and said, Behold my mother and my brethren!
- 35** For whosoever shall do the will of God, the same is my brother, and my sister, and mother.

our Lord was informed his mother and siblings had come to see him. His answer was, Who is my mother and my brethren (St. Mark 3:33)? Far too many Christians have overlooked our Lord's response for it is the key to any true understanding of the gospel message. The gospel speaks of the saved and the unsaved (St. John 3:16- 18). It speaks of safe sheep and lost sheep (St. Matthew 10:6; St. John 10:27). The gospel speaks of those who have fellowship with God through Jesus Christ, and those who have no fellowship with him because they are participants in the unfruitful works of darkness (II Corinthians 6:14-18; Ephesians 5:11; Philippians 1:3-7).

The totality of the gospel message is this: As all have been called of God to salvation in the name of his only begotten Son, if any accepts that calling by faith, then such a one will be saved from eternal death and damnation and will be received of God the Father as a child by adoption and a co-heir with Christ in his eternal kingdom. Our adoption and co-heirship then has made us brethren of Christ in agreement with his response to his disciples: And he looked round about on them which sat about him, and said, Behold my mother and my brethren! For whosoever shall do the will of God, the same is my brother, and my sister, and mother (St. Mark 3:34-35).

In his epistle to the Ephesians, the apostle Paul wrote that God, hath chosen us in [Christ] before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved (1:4-6). God has made known to us according to the good pleasure of his will—which is a mystery (v. 9)— that

from the moment we came to Christ, we were saved from our sins. We have been bought with a price (I Corinthians 6:20), and on that account, we are subject to the will of God in Christ. And so when our Lord said, For whosoever shall do the will of God, the same is my brother, and my sister, and mother (St. Mark 3:35) he was speaking of those who would come to accept his free gift. He was speaking of those whom he would purchase with his own blood at Calvary's cross. He was speaking of those so purchased as his kinsmen in a way similar to that of his mother and siblings.

Returning to our gospel, we find another issue about which much time, ink and blood has been expended over the centuries: that being the nature of his mother. Mary's standing as our Lord's mother is without question. But did that sacred choosing of God bring with it the near-deification of her person? Our Lord's comments do not support such an interpretation of Scripture. Dr. Loraine Boettner once observed (Roman Catholicism pp.132-135) that, "The New Testament has surprisingly little to say about Mary...The apostles never prayed to Mary, nor... did they show her any special honor. Peter, Paul, John and James do not mention her name even once in the epistles which they wrote to the churches. John took care of her until she died, but he does not mention her in any of his [letters and the Book of Revelation]... Surely this silence is a rebuke to those who would build a system of salvation around her. God has given us all the record we need concerning Mary, and that record does not indicate that worship or veneration in any form is to be given her."

So then where did the Medieval Christians come up with the doctrine of "Mary, the Mother of God"? Actually, it had its origins in the work of the Council of Ephesus in 431 AD, which recognized Mary as the "God-bearer" or "Mother of God". The Chalcedon Creed from 451 AD expressed it in this way that Jesus Christ was, "...born of the Virgin Mary, the Mother of God according to the manhood..." This meant that Mary was the mother of the incarnate Lord not the literal "Mother of God" because God had no mother or father.

Dr. Boettner further noted, "The purpose of the expression as used by the Council of Ephesus was not to glorify Mary, but to emphasize the deity of Christ over against those who denied his equality with the Father and the Holy Spirit... It was therefore only to emphasize the fact that the 'person' born to Mary was truly divine [for which] she was called 'the Mother of God.' Hence the term today has come to have a far different meaning from that intended by the early church. It no longer has reference to the orthodox doctrine concerning the person of Christ, but instead is used to exalt Mary to a supernatural status as Queen of Heaven... so that... she is able to approach her Son effectively and to secure for her followers whatever favors they ask through her... the Bible calls Mary the mother of Jesus, but gives her no other title."

The apostle Peter stated plainly the crux of the matter concerning the name of our Lord that, Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved (Acts 4:12). Our Lord gave us his expressed methodology for praying when he said to his disciples, And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son (St. John 14:13). And St. John tells us in his first epistle, ...if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: and he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also the sins of the whole world (2:1-2). The Lord's Prayer is the template for all our prayers wherein we pray, Our Father, who art in heaven... (St. Matthew 6:6-13). In no case are we to seek conversation with those who have departed this life as that would be a form of necromancy which the Word of God clearly prohibits.

Dr. Merrill Unger once observed, "Necromancy is not a demonological phenomenon distinct in itself, but merely a particular aspect and mode of divination... Divination embraces all attempts to obtain clandestine information from the denizens of the spiritual world, so that necromancy is to be classified under it and as a phase of it. Its distinguishing mark is that the knowledge desired is sought from the spirits of deceased persons. The word itself is very expressive of the sphere it embraces, and denotes literally divination (manteia) by consulting the dead (nekros) (Biblical Demonology, p. 143)."

Attempting to contact departed souls is, and ever has been, a forbidden and fruitless activity. King Saul's attempted conjuring up of the prophet Samuel in (I Samuel 28) should be an apt example. While Saul was permitted of God to have Samuel rise out of his rest before him, the message he brought was not what the king had in mind. No matter how righteous, no matter how pure another mortal was in this life, we are forbidden to converse with, pray to, or otherwise contact those who have passed on. A true kinsmen of our Lord will follow God's word written which will preclude them making any such prayer or petition to those who have departed from the precincts of this life.

Our Lord has made plain his will for all who have been received as members of his family through his atoning work of redemption. He has commanded us to worship God in spirit and in truth. He has called on his own to ask of the Father for those things they think requisite in his name. We are expected to go no further by appealing to God through fellow mortals— either those who are now in the flesh— such as through clergy— or through those who have passed on— such as Mary, the apostles and the host of named and unnamed saints.

Asking a fellow mortal to make an intercessory prayer is acceptable. But that is different from seeking conversation with those who have departed into God's peace. That was not sanctioned under the Old Testament regime and neither is it permissible under the New. Remember the parable of the rich man and Lazarus (St. Luke 16:19-31)? Did not the rich man ask that Lazarus be sent back to inform his brethren so that they would not come into perdition? Did not father Abraham tell the rich man, They have Moses and the prophets let them hear them?

Let us then, as kinsmen of our Lord, keep ourselves solely to the things of Scripture and not fall into the devil's trap of human traditions long held and without biblical precedent. That is the challenge for every true and faithful Christian; and for many, it is a huge ordeal. Historical precedent can be a rather large anchor that keeps us from moving from where we are to where we ought to be in godly understanding. Take a stand today to keep God's word and commandment and not be fooled by the ancient and accepted falsehoods of the past. Trust in God's word written against all else, and you will find that God will bless your life. What's more, you will be guaranteed a hearty welcome into God's kingdom as a kinsmen of him who is our Saviour, Redeemer and Friend, even Jesus Christ.

Let us pray,

FATHER, keep us from all false doctrine, heresy and schism; and assist us as we communicate the same to those around us, that they too might follow our lead and be made right with you in all things; for this we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Have a blessed week, Bryan+

After Church Hospitality

We need snack pictures! Come on, help us out!

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

Why? Prayer is an extremely important activity.

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

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

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

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

What is the commitment from the prayer team?

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

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

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

What should I ask for?

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

Updating the Team

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

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

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

Travel

Hap Arnold is on travel to Seattle this week.

Birthday

Bob Smouse celebrated his 53rd on 6 July 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

Dennis Ogles, Jr. Uncle, Friend and Compatriot of Bishop Jerry Ogles, passed away 29 August 2014. The Ogles family is very close and wonderful followers of our Lord. Please join them in giving thanks for Dennis' time here on earth and family and friends he left behind. You are known for what you do and his family tells the real story of his life. Please pray for his family who of necessity remain behind, that they might put their sorrow at the temporary separation on God's back, while they look forward, not back.

LTC Morris 'Moose' Fontenot Jr., USAF MA ANG was killed on an F-15C test flight 27 August 2014. Please pray for comfort for his wife Kara and their family. Pray also that the occupants of this country will see the terrible cost of freedom and value it, becoming again citizens and patriots. Without warriors, we will be enslaved.

James Foley murdered by muslims in Syria on 19 August 2104. Please pray for James' family who remain behind and for the American government to recognize the threat from islam, the religion of Satan, and stop financing, arming and training those who would drive us from this earth.

Sylvia Lee (Sandra Lee's mother) passed away the evening of 15 August 2014, after a very hard last couple of years, with kidney failure and other difficulties. Her family is very close and wonderful followers of our Lord. Please join them in giving thanks for Sylvia's time here on earth and the wonderful children, family and friends she left behind. You are known for what you do and her family tells the real story of her life. Please pray for her family who of necessity remain behind, that they might put their sorrow at the temporary separation on God's back, while they look forward, not back.

Nearing the end of their time here on earth

Maggie is nearing the end of her time here on earth. Please pray for Maggie and her husband Dub 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.

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.

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

Mary is an elderly woman who has fallen four times in the last couple of days. Please pray the doctors find a reason for her falling and that God will stabilize, comfort and heal her.

Lily is the caregiver of her elderly husband *Harold*; she fell down the stairs and has a break that will take six weeks before she can be on her feet again. Please pray for rapid healing for Lily and for a plan to form that will make things tolerable for both of them.

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.

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

Lloyds' mother is in the hospital because of heart failure. Please pray for a miraculous remission of the heart failure; that his mother's remaining time here on earth might be good. Help Lloyd and his mother and their family put their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their worry.

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.

Leon McKay suffered a stroke a few weeks back that has left him unable to speak and while undergoing evaluation the doctors also found he has a very aggressive cancer. Please pray for a miraculous remission; that Leon's remaining time here on earth might be good. Help Leon and his 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.

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.

Jane has fourth stage cancer and is not doing well. Please pray for Jane and her family 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.

Need of Transplant

Jennifer's Father who has diabetes and is on daily dialysis. Please pray he receives a kidney in the next few weeks. In addition, due to the diabetes, his left lower leg had to be amputated below the knee. The surgery was done 3 September 2014 and went well. Please give thanks for the great result!

Surgery

Jennifer is set for surgery for breast cancer on 17 September 2014. Pray for guidance for the medical people treating her that they might pay attention, do their very best and for a good outcome. Pray for help for *Jennifer* to keep her trust in the Lord and let Him carry her worry.

Albert had a pacemaker installed recently. He will require surgery soon for a leaking heart valve and has just been told he has esophageal cancer. Pray he will turn to God and come to know Him on a more personal basis as the days go by.

Jane underwent heart valve repair surgery on 3 July 2014. Please pray for full recovery. Pray also *Jane* and her family to put their worry on God's shoulders.

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.

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

James the 27 year old son of a friend of *Dwayne Cowles* has been diagnosed with cancer, and his future is uncertain. Pray for medical team contemplating and evaluating the treatment that they might be guided to the correct choice and do their very best. Pray also for peace of mind and trust in God for *James*, his family and friends.

Garth Neel is undergoing chemotherapy for lymphoma cancer. He had to postpone last week's chemotherapy due to low white blood cell count. Please pray his numbers will get in line so that the treatment can continue. Pray for medical team contemplating and evaluating the treatment that they might be guided to the correct choice and do their very best. Pray also for peace of mind and trust in God for *Garth* and his family.

Garth is the AOC Bishop of Canada with oversight of South America and a really both good and nice fellow.

Jennifer has some lumps on the right side of her neck; they have grown and multiplied. In the last few months she has been having problems swallowing. *Jennifer* has an appointment with specialist in several weeks to try and discover what it is. She is

having a great deal of anxiety as she waits for her Doctors appointment and will appreciate your prayer for anxiety and health.

Rick has heart problems. Please pray for guidance for the medical people treating him that they might pay attention, do their very best and make the right recommendations regarding treatment. Pray for help for Rick and his wife Wanda to keep their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their worry.

Clay has melanoma. Please pray for guidance for the medical people treating him that they might pay attention, do their very best and make the right recommendations regarding treatment. Pray for help for Rick and his wife Pam to keep their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their worry.

Tom is battling cancer. Please pray for guidance for the medical people treating him that they might pay attention, do their very best and make the right recommendations regarding treatment. Pray for help for Tom to keep his trust in the Lord and let Him carry his worry.

Atina has been diagnosed with skin cancer. Pray for guidance for the medical people treating her that they might pay attention, do their very best and make the right recommendations regarding treatment. Pray for help for Atina to keep her trust in the Lord and let Him carry her worry.

Evelyn has been diagnosed with bone cancer. Pray for guidance for the medical people treating her that they might pay attention, do their very best and make the right recommendations regarding treatment. Pray for help for Evelyn to keep her trust in the Lord and let Him carry her worry.

Stacy has Multiple Sclerosis and was hospitalized for what turned out to be food poisoning. Pray for trust in God for Stacy and Chris as they deal with Stacy's illness.

Dick Gray had developed a Merkle Cell carcinoma just under his sternum carcinoma which is considered a stage four carcinoma since it has 'metastasized'. He traveled to Seattle, Washington where he was examined and considered for a new type of treatment. That treatment will not begin for at least three months, so they referred him to the Rutgers University Cancer Institute, New Brunswick, New Jersey. They have accepted him into the evaluation process, which will begin on Monday 11 August 2014. Rutgers started with monkeys and had good results, so now they are working with humans, Dick is hopeful as he has oft been referred to as an "Old Monkey." Please pray for peace of mind and safe travel for Dick and his lovely wife Jennifer as they travel to New Jersey this weekend. Pray for those contemplating the treatment that they might be guided to the correct choice and do their very best. Pray also for peace of mind and trust in God for Dick and his wife Jennifer. Dick is the Treasurer and a Vestryman at Saint Paul's AOC in Missouri.

Janet Jessup had a stroke on 3 July 2014. She has made some progress and is now out of the stroke unit and in the General Surgery and Care Unit. Please pray for those treating her to find the appropriate treatment and for trust in God and peace of mind for Name and her family, in particular her husband of 43 years, Rev Roger Jessup, minister of Saint Joseph of Arimathea Anglican Orthodox Church.

Dennis had a stroke on 30 May 2014. Pray for his wife and family during this time of recovery Pray for strength, courage and understanding for Dennis and his

family, most particularly his wife; as well as for God's guidance for the neurologists and other medical people treating him they might find the best course of treatment and allow Dennis to heal completely.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 like 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.

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 appreciates 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

Liz had a massive stroke at age thirty-seven. The prognosis is good but she has a long road ahead. . Please pray for guidance for those treating her, for trust in our Lord for *Liz* and her family, for healing.

Ebick is suffering from a severe ulcer but the Doctors cannot give her the proper dosage of the medicine due to her six month pregnancy. Please pray doctors will find an alternative avenue for treatment or that God will provide.

Stan is going through chemotherapy and radiation treatments for cancer. He is elderly and the treatments are tiring him. Please pray for his wife *Marvelene* as they do this together.

Casey has strep throat along with her mother *Deanna* and Grandmother *Virginia*. Please pray that the other members of the family may stay healthy while those with strep throat recover quickly and rapidly.

Meg recently found out she had heart problems causing low blood oxygen levels, loss of focus resulting in an emergency room crisis. As a result of the symptoms she made errors on the job that caused her to lose her job. She is grateful for the excellent medical care she has received and optimistic, feeling with God's intervention in her life her health may be reversed and a new job will become available.

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 does not seem to be going well at this point. Pray for inspiration for those caring for her that they might find the appropriate treatment. 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.

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.

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.

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 an 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.

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. 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 16, came back with ZERO SCANS again in August 2014! 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

Mary had successful hip replacement on 10 September 2014. Please give thanks for the successful surgery and ask for God's help in her recovery.

Kathy had what seems to be very successful surgery on Wednesday, 3 September 2014, for cancer that returned somewhat unexpectedly. Please give thanks for the good results of the surgery and pray that the cancer will be held at bay by this action. Pray also for Kathy and her family to let God carry their worry, concern and terror so that Kathy can recover fully and quickly, so as to gain the best result. Help their entire family to keep their full trust in God.

Peggy had very successful knee replacement surgery 26 August 2014. She is going home on 29 August 2014 with no pain! Please give thanks for a great result.

Nathan had successful surgery on 4 August 2014, to remove a tumor near his heart; he is home from the hospital. They think they got it all but he will continue on chemotherapy for a little while. Nathan and his family thank you for your prayers.

John Evetts had successful extensive heart surgery; he is still in the hospital and recovering. He is in good spirits. John and his family thank God for the answer to many prayers on his behalf. John is a minister in the Anglican Episcopal Church which has a relationship with the AOC. We look forward to his return to his ministerial duties at St. George's Anglican Church in Ventura in the near future.

John Evetts entered the ministry after a lifetime of work in industry and business as well as service in the Armed Forces in Vietnam. Like the Apostles, he came to the ministry from the secular world of work. Rev. Evetts is married and has two daughters and two grandchildren.

We thank the Rev. Evetts for his service to our country and his continuing service to God and His people.

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 finished chemotherapy 17 June 2014. Tests the week of 2 June 2014 showed totally clear scans. For now, treatment is done after the last chemotherapy session. Please give thanks for the great result and also for the strength, guidance and peace of mind our Lord gave Mary and her husband Jim, as well as daughter Janice and son Jimmy, she underwent treatment. Please pray she will stay free of the cancer in the future.

Eli a two month baby is back home after going to the ER the night of 28 May 2014, not able to breathe. Please give thanks for her recovery and pray for strength, courage and understanding for Eli's family; as well as for God's guidance for the

neurologists and other medical people treating Eli they might find the best course of treatment and allow Eli to heal completely, as well as for strength and understanding for the parents.

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.

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.

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 ago. 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.

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.

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 coming along in his need of both spiritual and financial. Charlie seems to be recovering from a disbelief in the gifts that God gave him. Please pray God will continue to fill his heart with the Holy Ghost 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.

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.

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.

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

Clark is in need of salvation; for God's Will to be done in his life. Pray his family will be blessed with the financial miracles that come from doing His Will.

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

Flora is in remission with cancer, but has high blood pressure and fatigue. *Flora's* Mother recently died and this has caused added stress. Please pray that she will be able to let God carry her worry and sorrow so she can do the things she needs to do.

Elizabeth and Gunner need your prayers for their general well being. Pray that they might see the Light of the Lord and let Him guide their lives. Pray they might open their hearts not only to the Lord, but to each other to become one in Him and happiness.

Eric and Betty need your prayers for their general well being. Pray that they might see the Light of the Lord and let Him guide their lives. Pray they might open their hearts not only to the Lord, but to each other to become one in Him and happiness.

Eli has lost his way both spiritually and mentally, please pray for him and his parents Ed and Barb, who are having great struggles seeing their son, go through these afflictions having brought up in a Christian home. Please pray his parents can find a way to help Eli.

Marie has suffered the loss of her husband, her job and her pet all in a short period of time. Please pray for peace of mind for Marie, as well as for trust in the Lord for her and those around her that she might adjust to the changes in her life and move forward to the honor and glory of our Lord with His Help. (140607)

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

School Challenges

Destiny, Blake and Janet

Anglican Orthodox Church

From Bishop John Nakka of our Church Family in South India. We must know, but by the grace of God, we could, and may, experience the same in our own land:

Dear ALL,

I am so painfully writing this mail as we are very very suffering a lot politically and also due to separation of our State. No power for around 10 to 12 hours in the cities and more than 12 hours in the villages. No enough drinking water, very hot summer.... Politically we are now really afraid as the sectarian hindu religious background parties took over the Union and State Governments. We are a religious minority in India and now our hearts started beating fast and do not know what happened for us in the near future. WE ARE REALLY UNFORTUNATE. We may live like a second grade citizens and we need to face a very hard persecution as was the Hebrews in Egypt. The persecution was already started and around 05 issues were reported for abuse, warnings and stopping the conventions etc., during this week alone i.e., just within a week after Mr.Modi took over the charge.

PLEASE PRAY FOR CHRISTIANS IN INDIA.

yours fraternally in Christ,

+John.

The Anglican Orthodox Church in Narowal, Pakistan had its wall boundary collapse due to heavy rain on 5 July 2014. Water from the street is entering into the church compound which may damage the church building. Please pray for our priest and his wife as they try to reconstruct the wall boundary as soon as possible in order to prevent further damage.

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.

Saint Paul's, Moberly, Missouri would like your prayers that the Holy Ghost might enter more fully into their hearts so that they might be more effective in spreading the Word of God.

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)

For Our Country

Our country has lost its way. Over half the people that vote, voted for a government that promises them things it cannot deliver in return for their souls which it can, will and does take. Our foreign policy backs the rise of Islam, we turn our backs on those who would follow God and arm those who murder them. Pray that God will raise up a leader from among the people who can turn the country's course 180° and attempt to come back to God. Pray the people will recognize that they are headed down a smooth wide road into the pit, a road that will get smoother and smoother, steeper and steeper until the only possible way is down. Down, into the depths of the pit. Pray people will recognize there is:

- One True and Triune God who is goodness in and of Himself
- All religions are not equal
- All ways of life are not equal;
- The Bible holds the Key to Life;
- All rights come from God, not the State;
- Good;
- Bad;
- Evil;
- Right;
- Wrong;
- Allah is the Devil;
- Abortion is no more than sacrifice of children to Baal.

Pray this recognition will not come too late. Pray we will, each of us, do our duty to God, Country and Family, putting His Honor above all.

Persecuted

Around the world, Christians are under attack, not only in the Muslim world, but from Hindus and others in India. Also, they are under continual attack in the name of "Separation of Church and State" in the western world, as it becomes actively atheist or pro-devil buddy. Please pray for God's guidance and protection for all persecuted Christians and those around them.

Thanksgiving

Bishop Zephaniah Lumiqued and Rev. Wilson Menoia give thanks for safe travel on a ten day teaching mission to the Santa Cruz Islands.



Various Special Requests

Liberia is experiencing an outbreak of the Ebola Virus; causing sickness and many deaths. Please pray for people of Liberia and for their Health Providers.

The *Anglican Orthodox Church in Peshawar, Pakistan* sustained damage to their building as the result of heavy rains. At present the roof is being rebuilt and they have not been able to hold services. Pray it will be fixed very soon and a new place might be found until the church is restored.

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.

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.

The near future, as well as Next Sunday

21 September 2014 – Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity – Holy Communion - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**

28 September 2014 – Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity – Morning Prayer - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**