



# Anglican Orthodox Church

## Worldwide Communion

### The First Sunday after Easter

Sunday Report



This is the first Sunday after Easter; the Easter season is five Sundays, the last of which, the Fifth Sunday after Easter, is commonly called Rogation Sunday. Like every day, today we celebrate the resurrection of Christ, "Christ the Lord IS Risen today!" By the way, it is also the first anniversary of the AOC Sunday Report!

#### *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 –

#### *Of the Nature of Laws in General*

Law, in its most general and comprehensive sense, signifies a rule of action; and is applied indiscriminately to all kinds of action, whether animate or inanimate, rational or irrational. Thus we say, the laws of motion, of gravitation, of optics, or mechanics, as well as the laws of nature and of nations. And it is that rule of action, which is prescribed by some superior, and which the inferior is bound to obey.

Thus when the supreme being formed the universe, and created matter out of nothing, he impressed certain principles upon that matter, from which it can never depart, and without which it would cease to be. When he put that matter into motion, he established certain laws of motion, to which all movable bodies must conform. And, to descend from the greatest operations to the smallest, when a workman forms a clock, or other piece of mechanism, he establishes at his own pleasure certain arbitrary laws for its direction; as that the hand shall describe a given space in a given time; to which law as long as the work conforms, so long it continues in perfection, and answers the "the end of its formation."

"If we farther advance, from mere inactive matter to vegetable" "and animal life, we shall find them still governed by laws; more numerous indeed, but equally fixed and invariable. The whole progress of plants, from the seed to the root, and from thence to the seed again - the method of animal nutrition, digestion, secretion, and all other branches of vital economy - are not left to chance, or the will of the creature itself, but are performed in a wondrous involuntary manner, and guided by unerring rules laid down by the great creator."

*William Blackstone*

Commentaries on the Laws of England, Vol. 1 - *Rights of Persons*

Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

*St. Matthew 7:22-23*

For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch. Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning: lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping. And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch.

*St. Mark 13:34-37*

Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves.

*II Corinthians 13:5*

If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

*Galatians 5:25*

I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

*Revelation 1:8*

A holy character does not avert temptation— Jesus was tempted... Do not suppose that it is only the worldly-minded who have dreadful thoughts and blasphemous temptations, for even spiritual-minded persons endure the same...

*Charles H. Spurgeon*  
19<sup>th</sup> century English Baptist pastor  
Morning and Evening, p. 103

By three methods we may learn wisdom: First, by reflection, which is noblest; Second, by imitation, which is easiest; and third by experience, which is the bitterest.

*Confucius*  
6<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> century BC Chinese scholar and author

In a state where corruption abounds, laws must be very numerous.

*Tacitus*  
1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD Roman historian

Justice without force is powerless; force without justice is tyrannical.

*Blaise Pascal*  
17<sup>th</sup> century French mathematician, philosopher and author

The American liberal is dead from the neck up. A member of the elite, he rules, but has no talent for it. Like the Bolsheviks, he is adept at blaming others for everything and at manufacturing simple slogans. And like them he thinks only in terms of power, control and leverage, without understanding why his intellectual predecessors spent so much building up the institutional influence that he casually squanders by destroying the credibility of journalism, public service and academia. Generational degradation has robbed him of any sense of time. He is always living in the present, which also seems to him to be the future. The past to him is a treasure trove of eccentricities. And he cannot conceive of any future that supersedes his way of life. Patience, like objectivity, is a foreign notion to him. Nothing can wait for tomorrow or ten years from now. Everything must come about right now. Battles are won, but wars are lost. The liberal hare races ahead into the post-everything future, never considering that in the long-term, it is the slow conservative tortoise that wins the race.

*Daniel Greenfield*  
21<sup>st</sup> century American commentator  
Closing of the Liberal Mind, 4-8-15

One day Confucius and his students were walking through the forest and came upon a woman weeping bitterly by an open grave. One student asked why she was crying, and she said, 'First, my husband's father was killed here by a tiger. Then the tigers ate my husband. Now they have eaten my son.' Confucius then asked the woman why she did not leave the forest, and she said, 'Because there is no oppressive government here.' Confucius then turned to his students and said, Remember this: Oppressive government is more terrible than tigers.

*Confucius*  
6<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> century BC Chinese scholar and author

### *Propers*

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

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

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

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

### **The First Sunday after Easter.**

*The Collect.*

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

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

**W**HATSOEVER is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God? This is he that came by water and blood, even Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth. For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one. And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one. If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God

is greater: for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son. He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son. And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

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

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

### *Bishop Ogles' Sermon*

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

#### **Sermon Notes**

First Sunday after Easter

St Andrew's Anglican Orthodox Church

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

#### **The First Sunday after Easter.**

*The Collect.*

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

*Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty. (Rev 1:7-8)*

The Lord shall return in the clouds! This is not such an unreasonable revelation considering that He was in the Pillar of Cloud that followed Israel in the Wilderness; He was in the cloud that obscured His appearing on the Mount of Transfiguration; and He was received up into the Heavens at His Ascension by a cloud. Clouds are not solid masses, but semi-transparent and elusive. The clouds that obscured our God of the Wilderness Tabernacle, and Jesus on the Mount of Transfiguration suggest that there shall always be some mystery that surrounds our Lord until we are joined with Him in eternity. The Word of God itself, despite the petty claims of theologians, is fraught with mysteries that cannot be fully comprehended, but must be fully believed. Tantalizingly, the closer we get to our Lord in wisdom and knowledge, the more the cloud of mystery is lifted to expose more and more of His glorious Person.

Today's lectionary text is taken from the Book of Revelation – a book that most men refuse to address for the mystery that it seems (to them) to contain. Truly, it will



always be a mystery until the Lord wills that those mysteries be revealed fully; however, the title of the Book itself suggests that God desires that we study the book diligently to derive the glimmers of truth that are the object of its revelations.

At the outset of our deliberations of this text, we should recognize that our Lord conquered death, Hell, and Satan on the Cross by His own death, burial, and resurrection. He died once a physical death. All who are sheltered in the Ark of Christ shall die only once that same physical death; but be advised that the soul NEVER dies of either good or bad. Those who have rejected Christ, even by professing Him falsely, shall die a double death – the latter being a relegation to the death of Hell which is made the greater pain for being separated from God. There are no smiles in Hell. No mercies in Hell. No friendly words in Hell. These are all characteristics of grace, and there is no grace in Hell, either. It is the second death to which the saints of God are not subject. *He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.* (Rev 2:11) Jesus was buried in a borrowed Garden Tomb so that we, too, may need only a borrowed tomb.

Those who believe on the Name of Jesus Christ and are the called according to His purpose shall NEVER die in reality. . . . *the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.* (Eccl 12:7) *And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?* (John 11:26) I hope you read this last verse from John 11 with deep thought: All, both wicked and just, shall be believers at the Second Coming; but the Child of God must believe while he yet lives in this life. Once death comes, there are no more decisions of faith or hearing the call of the Lord to repentance.

The Revelations were given to John, the Apostle, as stated at the 1<sup>st</sup> verse: *The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John.* (Rev 1:1) The purpose of Revelations, according to this introductory verse, is to reveal – not to conceal – the glorious prophecies of God.

The striking future event prophesied in today's text, and repeated throughout the Scriptures, is the glorious return of the Lord Jesus Christ – the Lamb of God! Just as He was received by a cloud at His Ascension, He shall return in the CLOUDS of Heaven. *And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.* (Acts 1:9-11) There is one subtle difference between His ascension and His return: A cloud received Him at His ascension, but He will return in the CLOUDS. He is not returning alone, but with the hosts of the Armies of Heaven. *"Behold, he cometh with clouds."*

We will examine the following topics related to the return of our Lord Jesus Christ:

1. Who will see the Lord at His return?
2. What will the response of the world be at His appearing?
3. What is the disposition of those who have known Him as Lord and Savior?
4. How different is His return from His ascension?

What does the title, Alpha & Omega, mean? Every eye of every man, woman, and child, then living, or who have ever before lived upon the earth, shall behold Christ's return; for every grave shall be opened. Those who have trod underfoot His grace and truth



shall see Him in terror and great regret. They will know their guilt for His cross – that they were the ones who called for His death and crucifixion by their rejection and sin. *That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*” (Phil 2:10-11) These include men such as Caligula, Nero, Muhammad, Tamerlane, Adolph Hitler, Stalin, and, yes, Barack Obama (unless he comes to Christ)! They will all confess Jesus Christ is Lord, but too late to save their souls! All who die in the Lord shall arise from their graves, as Christ did at Easter, with a glorified body that is not subject to pain, sorrow, or death. When we were children we may have had days when we played so hard that we were exhausted at bedtime. We were put to bed, and the lights were extinguished. We closed our eyes and seemingly opened them immediately to the morning glow of the sun. We could not believe that we had slept all night, but we had. The same will be true at the death and resurrection of the people of God: *In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.* (1 Cor 15:52-57)

The Great Cloud of Angels that shall accompany the Lord at His return will fill the Eastern sky, and cover the heavens from East to West. It will be sudden, and without warning. The old Hebrew wedding custom of the Groomsman (Gabriel, perhaps) of the Bridegroom (Jesus Christ) shall stand and sound the trumpet, and the Bride (the church) must be ready for immediate flight to the Wedding Party. “. . . at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.” The Lord Jesus Christ shall be seated upon a white charger armed for the purpose of judgment. He came as a little child at Bethlehem, but He returns with all power and great glory: *And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.* (Rev 19:11-16) This is not the man on the white horse of Rev 6, but the final appearing of Jesus Christ as Lord!

Our Lord Jesus Christ is the Alpha and Omega, the Great I AM, and the Ancient of Days (without beginning or end). Often we have discussed His titles. Alpha and Omega, the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet (in which the New Testament manuscripts are written), define our Lord as the Whole WORD from beginning to end. *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men.* (John 1:1-4) He is the first Word, and the Last Word, and every Word in between. He is the first and last letters of every alphabet – Hebrew, English, French, Korean, Chinese, Urdu, or Arabic and every letter between. He exists in the Eternal Present. Not confined, as we are, to the Space-Time continuum, He is ever in the present. He is I AM six thousand years

ago, two thousand years ago, today, and eternity future. Our Lord was with God the Father as the Ancient of Days in the Eternity Past before there was a heaven or an earth. Here is love and grace: He was mindful of you and me even then in eternity past! He agreed, even then, to die in redemption of our sins. God knew that Adam would fall. He knew that Adam would bring death and hell upon all his progeny .....unless provision was made for a Savior. That provision was agreed to in Eternity Past by our Lord Jesus Christ. This should make each of us mindful of the great value of our salvation, and the love which purchased it at so great a cost.

Are we?

### *Sermon - Rev Jack Arnold*

*Church of the Faithful Centurion – Det One Okinawa, Japan*

Rev Jack is in Okinawa for another few days, thus the Detachment One designation.



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

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

Consider these words from the Collect:

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

God sent Jesus to be The Christ, The Messiah, The Savior, The Lamb to be sacrificed for our sin. He gave His earthly Life, He went down into Hell, that we might be justified before God at our accounting. Not that we might be perfect, but that we might be accounted perfect at our judgment day. Yet we are not made perfect. Just because we are going to be accounted as perfect does not mean we are. Thus we must ask God's help that we can put away the infection, or leaven, of evil in our hearts so that we can serve the Living God here. We must be unleavened bread or un sinful. This is truly a task that requires His Help. Without His Help, we cannot remove the hate and evil from our hearts. We need His Help so we can move forward.

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

When Jesus came to the disciples on Sunday evening, He breathed the Holy Ghost into their hearts. He gave the disciples the power to pass His Forgiveness on to their followers. As ministers of God, we follow the disciples, but we have not the power to forgive, except as we find in the Lord's Prayer, "forgive us our trespasses as we forgive

those who trespass against us.” We do have the ability to tell you that if you repent, that is “to turn from sin and dedicate oneself to the amendment of one’s life,” then God will forgive you. Through our Lord, if you repent, He has forgiven you.

The key word here is repent! We must “go and sin no more!” as Christ told the lady who was an adulterer. He did not tell her it was okay to do what she wanted to do, the way she wanted to do it and perhaps suggest a more flattering shade of lipstick. No, He told her that her sins were forgiven, but she was to “go and sin no more!” We repent not only in word, but we must repent in our deeds also, so that we can truly show the world that we have faith. If we do not repent, then we do not have faith in Him. We must have faith in Him, so therefore, we must truly and earnestly repent of our sins and do our utmost best to “go and sin no more.” That is how we can truly show that we have faith. That is all that He asks, is us to actually DO our best, not just say that we are doing our best.

So what to take from all this?

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

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

When the time comes, how will you ACT?

It is by our actions we are known.

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

*Sermon - Rev Hap Arnold*

*Church of the Faithful Centurion - Descanso, California*

Today’s sermon ties together the propers, that is to say the prayer and readings for this week.



Consider these words from the Collect:

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

In the Collect, we acknowledge by the sacrifice made on Good Friday by the One and Only Perfect Man, a single sacrifice, made one time, for all mankind, for all time by our Lord and Savior Jesus, the Christ of God, we have eternal life. Malice and wickedness are pervasive; like leavening, that is yeast, mixed into bread dough, they permeate our being worming their way into the most remote corners of our souls, hearts and minds. Tiny, wanting only to be fed so they can grow and distort our being. We need God’s Help, in the form of the Holy Ghost, to root out all malice and wickedness so we might serve Him with pure souls, hearts and minds. Without that help, we are destined to fail. On the other hand, with God’s help all things are possible.



In his general Epistle, Saint John makes it clear that the entity we refer to as God is a Triune Being, that is Three in One; Father, Son and Holy Ghost. What he does not make clear is the relationship between the Three. But, that is not surprising, no place else is it really clear either. God is comprised of three separate entities who are of one substance and form a single entity, each has its function. Jesus Christ is our key to life and the Holy Ghost is our key to Jesus Christ. Christ, who was there at the beginning, will be there at our end; the Holy Ghost who breathed life into this world is our key to finding Christ in our hearts. God has made it so.

The Holy Ghost is not often talked about in the church, yet He is the key to understanding. God sent us the Holy Ghost that we might have:

- Comfort
- Understanding
- Patience
- Insight
- Perseverance
- Courage
- Understanding
- Sympathy

He is our key to finding Jesus in our souls, hearts and minds. Without His Guidance, Scripture seems a poorly written fairy tale, with His Guidance we find Truth, the Truth that is our Lord and Savior.

When John relates the story of Jesus coming in to the Upper Room, note three things; He came into a closed room in bodily form, then gave them His Peace and He breathed the Holy Ghost upon them.

The entry into the closed room is of interest. When we leave the Shadowlands, we will gain an optimized body with shape and form, but as Jesus demonstrated things are different in the Real World. Different can be better or worse. In this case He demonstrates the better. We will no longer be halt, blind and maimed, we will live as God has meant for us. Quite a nice feeling.

Jesus gave them His Peace. Not peace like the hippies, or “sex, drugs and rock and roll.” This is a totally different concept. Jesus brings us, like those disciples, the peace of mind and soul that comes with giving all our worry, sadness and terror to Him. He leaves in His Wake not confusion but order and well being. With Him in our hearts we cannot fail at anything that needs be done. His Peace. This is a thing not lightly thought of. It is certainly not the hand shaking service interrupting greeting of some churches. They say ‘peace’ when they mean ‘hi.’ This Peace is what we are looking for and have been looking for since we came into this world, for it is our passport out.

That brings us to the Holy Ghost. He is the breath of life, not just physical, whereas to die is to “give up the Ghost.” He is our spiritual life, for without Him in our souls, hearts and minds we cannot see the narrow road to the summit. Without Him we see only that broad even way that gently curves downward and gets smoother and smoother as it nears the Pit. The Holy Ghost is the key to knowing our Lord!

Without the Holy Ghost, we are lost. With Him we find and join Jesus and are found.

Then we can act accordingly and enjoy our time here on earth to the extent it is to be enjoyed.

For there is much joy and satisfaction to be found in proper action.

When the time comes, how will you ACT?

It is by our actions we are known.

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

*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.

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

12 April 2015

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

#### **The First Sunday after Easter.**

*The Collect.*

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



#### **The Early Days**

The next couple of weeks in the church calendar will be some of the most contested events that the early modern church will have to defend.

The 40 days Christ was on earth AFTER his resurrection.

The 'record' is so sparse, a few references here and there, but no huge events that take up copy such as the crucifixion or his miracles, the feeding of huge groups of followers, etc. And yet there is enough of a record of Christ presence on earth after resurrection and before his ascension that we can defend the truth of his bodily rising from the grave; not a swoon, not a body switch, not a stealing the corpse and putting in someone who 'looks' like Jesus, and so forth.

Some 500 people will witness the risen Lord during this 40 day period.

The next 40 days are critical to the narrative of the early church. It is during this time that Jesus instructs his followers as to the Way. He gives them 'marching' orders, that must wait to be opened, he comforts them, he communes with them during this time.

I would say this was the 'seminary' training for the disciples, this was their time to know the full measure of what Christ expected of them for the rest of their time here on earth.

I referred to the 'marching orders', that were not yet issued, this was what Christ meant when he told them to wait in Jerusalem for the Comforter. Christ was of course referring to the coming of the Holy Spirit.

Yes, there is quite a bit of activity in Jerusalem and nearby as Jesus wraps up his earthly ministry.

Ok, now the sceptic says 'how do you know this Jesus is the One? The Word of God tells us so, some 400+ years before Christ came to earth.

Let us look again at our Old Testament reading from Isaiah. Verses 9-12 reads as follows:

- 9 Let all the nations be gathered together, and let the people be assembled: who among them can declare this, and shew us former things? let them bring forth their witnesses, that they may be justified: or let them hear, and say, It is truth.
- 10 Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me.
- 11 I, even I, am the Lord; and beside me there is no savior.
- 12 I have declared, and have saved, and I have shewed, when there was no strange god among you: therefore ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, that I am God".

Observe how well the early church functioned with just a few adjustments, I would say because Jesus left such good instructions. It would be later that St. Paul and St. Peter would have a rather heated discussion on the reception of new believers. Paul advocates for a universal salvation, that is, one that reaches across the spectrum of humanity, not just for Jews. Whereas Peter tries to add conditions for the new believers, conditions that sound remarkable like the Pharisees who most recently were involved in the death of Jesus. Why? That will be a discussion for another time, needless to say, Paul's view, which I believe was Christ's view of salvation, will take hold of the early church.

Doing what Christ wants us to do.                      How do we do this?

Ok, now that should be easy. Ah not so fast, believer. Life gets in our way. There are so many things that "must" be done every day, there are so many "crisis" that come up every day, so much that gets in the way of the WAY. We need to have a priority. What do we do first, every day? What should we do first, every day?

We read what Jesus did while he was here on earth those three and a half years. He would take the time to be apart from the crowd. Sometimes this included being apart from his best friends, the disciples. He would retreat, 'come apart' to a quiet place where he would pray, commune with the Father and most likely take up the concerns of those he was working with during that earthly ministry. How do we know this?

Notice after a very active couple of days Jesus went on a private retreat. (Mt. 14:23) Luke 6:12 was another time Jesus went to find solitude and pray. We find many references to this activity by Jesus, a time of solitude, peace, and as a reminder we can think of what David wrote. "Be still and know that I am God".

This taking the time to be disconnected from the rush and tumble of the every day world is important. It is very important to our spiritual health. We need to take time to reflect on God's Holy Word. Read and inwardly digest the Word. That spiritual diet is important to our spiritual health and growth.

*Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world* (Mt. 28:19-20)

That my friend was the direct instruction from Christ. We are to reach any and all who will listen and come to the Lord. We are not to restrict, encumber, limit, hold back anyone who will come. All are invited and yet only some will respond. That is not our issue. We are to reach out, we are to show by example in our daily lives, we are to GO. When do we stop? When He comes again. "...unto the end of the world" can also be translated as the end of time.

That is both geographic and historic. To the end of time could be another way of reading that last verse of Matthew's gospel. We are to keep on keeping on, until tomorrow is come.

And finally, the following verses are Christ's certification as to who he is/was/and is to come.

If you match this following passage with the readings from the Psalm 103 and Isaiah it is a seamless match. Christ is who is says he is. He is who was prophesied by David and Isaiah, he is the One who came to be the Savior of all. He will forgive the sins of those who repent, he will be the One who stands in the halls of history for all to see; the King of kings, the Lord of lords.

And He shall reign forever and ever. Below is that witness from Christ during those 40 days he strengthen and certified those believers who say him with their own eyes.

44 And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.

45 Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures,

46 And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:

47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

48 And ye are witnesses of these things.

49 And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

It is because we stand on the shoulders of those who came before us, that we can believe. We know that He lives. We know that He is now sitting at the right hand of God the Father and that one day, He will return again. Amen and amen.

Let us pray.

**O** LORD Jesus Christ, who didst endure unto the end, and whose courage never failed in the midst of great dangers: Grant that inspired by Thy example I may trust completely in Thy promise to be with me even unto the world's end, and that so, amidst all dangers I may have a heart inflamed by Thy courage, and a spirit inspired by Thy faith; through Thy mercy, O our God, who art blessed, and dost reign, and govern all things, world without end. *Amen.*

**O** ALMIGHTY God, the Lord of life and death, of sickness and health Regard our supplications, we humbly beseech thee; and, thou hast thought fit to visit us for our sins with great sickness and mortality, in the midst of thy judgment, O Lord, remember mercy. Have pity upon us miserable sinners, and withdraw from us the

grievous sickness with which we are afflicted. May this thy fatherly correction have its due influence upon us, by leading us to consider how frail and uncertain our life is; that we may apply our hearts unto that heavenly wisdom which in the end will bring us to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**O** GOD, whose nature and property is ever to have mercy and to forgive; Receive our humble petitions; and though we be tied and bound with the chain of our sins, yet let the pitifulness of thy great mercy loose us; for the honour of Jesus Christ, our Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

**T**HE LORD bless us, and keep us. The LORD make his face to shine upon us, and be gracious unto us. The LORD lift up his countenance upon us, and give us peace, both now and evermore. *Amen.*



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

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



### **First Sunday after Easter**

Our epistle lesson for today was taken from the fifth chapter of I St. John, verses 4-12. Now examine that same text as it is found in your bibles. Did you notice any difference between the two readings? What we have before us is a mystery that has been around for quite some time. It is referred to in academic circles as The Johannine Comma because it begins with a comma toward the end of verse 6 and picks up just after the first comma in verse 8. The missing words are found in the Authorized Version, but they have been omitted in all the newer versions save the New King James because, as the argument goes, they are not found in the earliest manuscripts.

But wait a minute, is not the King James Version based on a sound translation of both Greek, Latin and Hebrew? And if that is so, why then would these missing words, i.e. "the Comma," not be in the older manuscripts? Liberal scholarship claims they were perhaps added by an overzealous monk and really should not be included in the epistle text. While it is easy to hold that if modernist scholars and seminarians are against it, then it is likely a valid portion of Scripture; we should nevertheless be cautious in our handling of God's word. With that in mind, let us consider the reasons for its inclusion.

In the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century, an English professor of divinity and seminary dean named John William Burgon supported the inclusion of "the Comma" based upon:

1. The evidence of its use in antiquity;
2. The affirming testimony of some twenty or more witnesses from the 3<sup>rd</sup> century through the 6<sup>th</sup> century such as Tertullian, Cyprian, Athanasius and Augustine as well as Jerome;
3. The uniformity of its presentation which transcends a singular locality, as its witness is spoken of by writers in North Africa, Asia Minor, Southwest Asia, and in Europe and at differing times;



4. That the disputed words fit within the context of I St. John 5 which deals with the concept of the Trinity of God; and finally,
5. It involves the particulars of the Greek language— grammar, syntax and the like— as the wording of I St. John 5:4-12 begs for its inclusion.

Returning to your bibles, let us now examine the text of I St. John 5:4-12.

For whosoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world even our faith (v.4). The beloved apostle reminded his listeners that only those persons who are born again are in victory over this current sphere of existence. The characteristic of a person who has been regenerated is that he or she believes in and trusts in the God's word. This trusting belief is called faith which, as the scriptures tell us, is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen (Hebrews 11:1). Without faith we cannot hope to have access to God and be recipients of his grace.

Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God (v.5)? The key to salvation in God is our belief in Jesus Christ as his only begotten Son. The apostle posits this question to his hearers to challenge them: Do you believe in Jesus as the Christ, the Son of the living God? Only through him is salvation attainable, for as the apostle Peter noted, there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved (Acts 4:12).

This is he that came by water and blood, even Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth (v.6). Matthew Henry wrote concerning this passage, "We are inwardly and outwardly defiled by the pollution of sin in our nature. For our cleansing from this we need spiritual water... Upon his death, his side being pierced with a soldier's spear, out of the wound there immediately issued water and blood. This the apostle saw. This water and blood are comprehensive of all that is necessary to salvation. By the water our souls are washed and purified. By the blood God is glorified, his law is honored. By the blood we are justified, reconciled, and presented righteous to God."

And so, by the shedding of his own blood, our Lord provided the means by which mankind might be freed from Adam's curse: For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive (I Corinthians 15:22). The Holy Ghost has carried forth that testimony to all who have been regenerated in the name of our Lord for as the apostle Paul reminds us that, The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God (Romans 8:16).

For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one (v.7). This is the heart of Johannine Comma as it clearly describes the Godhead as being God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost.

And there are three that bear witness in the earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one (v.8). Read together, verses 7 and 8 are complements of each other, but verse 7 is the stronger and clearer expression of the Trinity of God. The emphasis of a record in heaven and a witness in the earth gives us a better understanding of the nature of the Trinity. In heaven, the Godhead is expressed differently than the witness of the Godhead on the earth. God the Father did not come in his glory to earth or everyone would have died. God the Son came upon the earth bearing the image of the one true and living God while also bearing his distinct nature as being fully man and fully God. In heaven the Holy Ghost is present with God the Father and God the Son while on earth he comes to all who are of God to both indwell and witness to them. He descended from the Father onto the Son at his baptism on

earth, while in heaven the Spirit can proceed from both the Father and Son as a personal companion to every true believer.

The remaining verses of our epistle lesson ought to give all those who have embraced those new bible versions a reason to reconsider their choice. If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater; for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son. He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son. And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life (vv. 9-12).

The new versions have sought to reduce the divinity as well as the character of the Godhead. The early heretics sought to depict Jesus Christ as being more man than God, while the modernists want to strip him completely of his divine nature because they do not accept him as being the only begotten Son of God. Ergo, the witness of men in their error-filled new bible versions cannot measure up to the truth of God's witness in the King James Version. God has preserved his witness to us by using this important translation of the scriptures into our language. It is up to us to read it and take in the messages which God has given us.

The witness of the Johannine Comma is the most succinct description of our God. Where the witness of men has sought to teach lies as truth, God has supplied his own witness which affirms the truth of his word written. Where the witness of men has attempted to cloud Christian thinking through their several deletions and redactions, God's witness presents the unvarnished truth in words that are easy to memorize and thus inwardly digest into the soul. To take the word to heart will keep those of the true faith in the strait and narrow way and away from the broad path that leads to destruction.

The true Christian understands that Satan has endeavored over the millennia to confound the truth of God, but as the Scriptures tell us, Greater is he that is in you than he that is in the world (I St. John 4:4). God has prevailed in the past, God is prevailing at this present, and God will continue to prevail into the future. We need only trust in his word written and give him thanks for the Holy Ghost who guides us into all truth and away from the error of the wicked (St. John 16:13; II St. Peter 3:15-18). So when we examine the Johannine Comma, we see that our good and gracious God has left us a witness regarding his divine nature. And with that in mind, let us go forth today to proclaim the truth of the Godhead to all without reservation, trusting his word written to be both accurate and authoritative. As the Apostle Paul noted, All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works (II St. Timothy 3:16-17).

Let us pray,

**O** MOST holy Father, grant to us, via the Holy Ghost, a proper understanding of thy word written; and that being so vested, we would become more effective witnesses in thy service; for this we ask in the name of him who is the incarnate Word, and who, with thee and the Holy Ghost, art ever one glorious and Triune God, world without end. *Amen.*

Have a blessed week, Bryan+

### *After Church Hospitality*

We would like some pictures of your after service gatherings. Come on! Help 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 Anglican Orthodox Church 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 Anglican Orthodox Church to be prayed for?**

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

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

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

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

You can email one of the prayer team leaders: Jack - [jack@faithfulcenturion.org](mailto:jack@faithfulcenturion.org) or Dru - [dru@faithfulcenturion.org](mailto:dru@faithfulcenturion.org), or call the 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**

*Jack Arnold* is on travel for until 15 April 2015, to Okinawa to visit the Thomas family; please pray for safe travel and God's Work to be done well there.

### ***Birthday***

*Arch Crittenden* celebrated his 77<sup>th</sup> birthday recently.

### ***Anniversary***

*Dru and Hap Arnold* celebrated their 28<sup>th</sup> anniversary on 21 February 2015, a testimony to the work of God.

### ***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.

### ***Departed***

*Sarah*, wife of Rev Geordie (AOC – UK), passed away about 1400 in 10 April 2015, after a hard fought battle with cancer. Give thanks for her time here on earth, pray for Geordie and the rest of their family that they might put all their sadness, fear, worry and terror on God's back so that they can do what needs to be done in the seconds, minutes, hours, days, weeks, months and years ahead. Give thanks for the great courage and trust in God made manifest in Sarah and Geordie.

*Michael* died unexpectedly. Please give thanks for his time here on earth and pray for comfort and strength for his family and friends who of necessity remain behind; strengthen their trust in the Lord.

*Mary J. Smith*, David's mother is now with her Lord. Please continue in prayer for the family.

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

*Phil* was taken off life support on 2 April 2015. 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 Phil and his family who will of necessity remain behind.

*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***

*James* is on oxygen all the time, this is bothersome to him and terrifying as well. Please pray for James to put his worry, his bother and his terror on the Lord. Pray for strength and guidance for James and his family. They suggest this verse, "I am thine, save me, for I have sought thy precepts."

*Joan* has had serious medical problems that have kept her confined. Please pray her health will remain stable.

*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***

*Marilyn* has been diagnosed with non-operable pancreatic cancer. Please pray for a miraculous remission; that Marilyn's remaining time here on earth might be good. Help Marilyn and her family put their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their sadness, fear, worry and terror.

*Kathy, Don Patton's sister*, has reoccurring abdominal cancer which has not responded to treatment so far, they are nearing the end of the know treatments, with one course left to try. Please pray for guidance for the medical personnel treating Cathy, for a miraculous remission; that Cathy might put all her sadness, fear, worry and terror on God's back so that her remaining time here on earth might be good. Help Cathy, Don and their family put their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their worry. Give thanks for the great courage and trust in God made manifest in Cathy.

*June* found she has a recurrence of colon cancer, which is now Stage Four, that is it has spread. Please pray for a miraculous remission; that June's remaining time here on earth might be good. Help June and her family put their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their sadness, fear, worry and terror.

*Cindy* has been diagnosed with an aggressive malignant brain tumor. Please pray for a miraculous remission; that Cindy's remaining time here on earth might be good. Help Cindy and her family put their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their sadness, fear, worry and terror.

*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.

*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.

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

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

*Todd* and *Kenny* have both been fighting osteocarcinoma for over five years and have been told their time here on earth is nearing its end, absent a miracle from God. Both are ready to go home and leave the pain, but would like to stay. Please pray for them and their families.

### ***Surgery***

*Debbie* had surgery for breast cancer on 1 April 2015, which seemingly went well; please give thanks for that. Pray for help for Debbie to keep her trust in the Lord and let Him carry her worry and concern as she recovers. Please pray also for strength and courage for her family as they try their best to help her.

*Edware* is having his fourth back surgery (in the last four years) Please pray for the medical team to pay attention and to their best and for a good outcome. Pray also that Edware and his family will be able to put their worry on God's shoulders.

*Jeff* has been undergoing surgery, chemo and radiation since October for pancreatitis and Pancreatic cancer. Please pray for the medical team to pay attention and to their best and for a good outcome. Pray also that Jeff, his wife and family will be able to put their worry on God's shoulders.

*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*

*Corissa* has been diagnosed with a blockage. As soon as the Physicians determine the exact problems they expect Major Surgery will proceed.

*Barbara Apple* was more or less bedridden after a fall. She is currently hospitalized in great pain. 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.

*Deborah* has had a stroke, she is doing much better and out of the hospital. She has a problem with anemia and is taking supplements for that. Pray our Lord will be close to her and her family. Pray for strength, courage and understanding for Deborah and her family; as well as for God's guidance for the medical people caring for her that they might find the best treatment method to allow her to heal completely.

*Rev. Steve Boardman* has been diagnosed with stage 3 cancer. Pray that Jesus will be close and comfort his family and members of his congregation.

*Hang So Ryu* has cancer. Please 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 him and his family, as well as physical strength.

*Traci* has not been well for the last several months. She does not have a colon and all tests have been negative; she has abdominal pain, nausea and diarrhea and is exhausted and very weak. She and her family thank you for your prayers. Traci seems to have good days and bad. Your continued prayers are appreciated.

*Olivia*, age 7, has been diagnosed with Stage 3 Lymphoma. The prognosis is good at this time, please 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 Olivia and her family, as well as physical strength.

*Paul* has been hospitalized recently several times because of persistent high fevers. He is being tested and checked by physicians and seems to have a slight scoliosis, a node and Schuermann's disease. Please pray it will be discovered how to treat these problems and healing will begin so he will be inspired to continue his education.

*Carol Anne* needs God's comfort and healthy test results as she is anxiously undergoing tests related to previous hysterectomy and experiencing symptoms in the surrounding area.

*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.

*Atina* has been diagnosed with skin cancer, which turned out to be a melanoma. A routine CT scan found a 9mm (3/8 inch) lesion in her left lung. The melanoma appears to be spreading; they need to remove the offending tissue and test the sample. 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. Atina's faith is being tested, she has difficulty in praying and accepting the outcome, she wants what she wants and is perplexed about her faith in Jesus. 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.

*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.

*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 method to allow Harold to heal completely.

*Joe* has had a preliminary ALS diagnosis. Pray the final diagnosis will be 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 Wilson's* breathing seems to be under control at present, he is getting oxygen, which is a huge blessing for which he is grateful. Pray for God's guidance for the doctors and medical people treating him that they might figure out a way to treat him that will work and not adversely affect other parts of his body, particularly his oxygenation levels, kidney and liver function. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for Mark, as well as for his family.

*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.

*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**

*Diana*, age 15, broke her leg while in school and now has a cast on. Pray she will adjust and be healed soon

*Bernie Coogan* had a stroke near Christmas time. He is undergoing physical and speech therapy at a rehab facility where his wife works. Bernie is doing pretty well, his speech is a bit slurred, but his mind is clear. He is still Bernie. Bernie, his wife JoAnn and their family would appreciate your prayers for a full and rapid recovery as they maintain full trust in the Lord.

*Scott Winters* underwent apparently successful ligament replacement surgery on his knee on 8 January 2015, however he contracted an infection somehow which is causing him great difficulty. Please give thanks for the successful surgery and pray the infection will be overcome.

*Amy* has melanoma in her lungs, liver and kidneys; they have found a treatment for her that has a high success rate however the side effects are debilitating. Please pray she will be able to tolerate the side effects and the treatment is successful. Amy has full trust in the Lord, but would still appreciate your prayers.

*Debbie* is just beginning chemotherapy for cancer of the lymph nodes. Prayer she will be able to tolerate the therapy acceptably and remain strong as she remembers the Lord is with her at all times.

*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.



*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.

*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.

*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.

*Gil Garcia* is back in the Long Beach VA Hospital. It is quite a trip for Mary, so please pray that he will recover fully and quickly. Pray for strength for Gil and his wife Mary as they deal with the stresses of Gil's paraplegia and the general aging process.

*Mary Garcia* had surgery, she is home, but not healing as well as she hoped. Please pray for her continued healing.

*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, she is doing much better and she and her family thank you for your prayers. Her pain level is high and some medications have bad side effects. Please continue her in Prayer in the weeks ahead as she heals.

*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.

*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.

*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.

### ***Healing and Patience***

*Kym* (43) has various hip problems which seems to be related to osteoarthritis. And, her mother *Ruth* is in the early stages of dementia. Pray for guidance for those treating both of them, as well as patience and trust in the Lord for both of them.

*Christopher* has had problems with his leg for some time. Now he has to have it casted and it will stay that way for what to him seems an interminable time. Pray for patience and peace of mind for this young man who has much he wants to do.

### ***Thanksgiving and Continued Healing***

*Carolyn*, (Charlie McCormack's mom) was hospitalized with a blood clot in her arm, she is back home and doing well. Please pray the clot will continue to abate without damage to her system. Give her trust in the Lord and peace of mind for her and Charlie, too.

*Daisy Lee* is recovering from necrotizing fasciitis, which manifested on 30 January 2015, causing the loss of her right arm and her left hand, as well as parts of both feet. She has turned the corner and is fighting towards recovery. Daisy has kept her faith, as she becomes more well, less in people's thoughts and prayers it will be a lot tougher for her. Please pray for strength for her and her family and friends as time moves on. Her family is thankful for all the support they have received during these past couple weeks and hopes all will continue to pray for Daisy's speedy recovery. Pray for peace of mind and trust in God for Daisy's family, her husband and children Tiffany and Chris.

*Michael Lenahan* known to all as *Bullet* was hospitalized on 18 March 2015, and had a stent placed in a cardio artery. All went well and he is recovering nicely. Please give thanks for the great result and pray for a complete and rapid recovery for Bullet.

*Janet Jessup* had a stroke on 3 July 2014 and heart problems that were causing huge issues for her. They seem to have gotten her stabilized and she is going home from the hospital. Please join the entire family in giving thanks for this

wonderful development. Please pray for those treating her to find the appropriate treatment and for trust in God and peace of mind for Janet and her family, in particular her husband of 43 years, Rev Roger Jessup, retired minister of Saint Joseph of Arimathea Anglican Orthodox Church.

*Arch Crittenden* has Multiple Myeloma (cancer cells in bone marrow); without this treatment life expectancy is one to two years. As long as he can tolerate the daily oral Revlimid treatments, it seems he can carry on. Arch is not worried about the weight loss side effects, he says he planned ahead for that; the hair loss does have him concerned as most of that has already left. There is very good news, X-Rays show no holes in his bones. And he can still travel about and visit his family! This is super, please join Arch and family in giving thanks. Arch and his lovely wife Kathy ask that you pray for their trust in God to remain strong and for a good outcome.

*Aleyne Bergman* had a pacemaker installed on 26 January 2015. Please give thanks for the medical team paying attention, doing their best and for the good outcome. Pray also that Aleyne and her husband Ron, as well as the rest of her family will be able to put their worry on God's shoulders. Please pray also for a complete and rapid recovery for her.

*Dick Gray* has a Merkle Cell carcinoma just under his sternum carcinoma which is considered a stage four carcinoma since it has 'metastasized'. After much treatment and hospitalization the main site is less than half the size and there are no new tumors. He continues the fight. Please give thanks for the good results so far! 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.

*Jenny*, wife of Adam, mother of two, (niece of Marianne Lane) had difficulty breathing the night of 22 January 2015. Adam brought her to the hospital. After considerable thought and testing, they found a growth thought to be scar tissue from intubation when she was an infant. On 28 January 2015, they performed a mechanical expansion to allow her to breathe which was a success. Please give thanks for the great result and pray for a full recovery and that the opening will stay clear.

*Sam* had surgery on his entire large intestine that had become infected. At the time of the operation he was just hours away from a complete organ shutdown. He had had turmoil in his life over the years. Sam is now in the ICU and his Minister visited him and explained to him God had given him another chance for him to make things right with his Lord. Pray for his good health and his spiritual life with Jesus.

*Marv Rogge* had successful heart valve replacement surgery on or about 20 December 2014. Other than a desire to chew his food way too much, Marv is doing great, up and about. Please join Marv, his lovely wife Marian and the rest of the family in giving thanks to God for the great result. Pray for a full and complete recovery.

*Ian* had surgery to remove excess skin rendered a nuisance by controlled loss of 200 pounds. Please give thanks for the successful result and for those treating him to have paid attention and done their very best on the lengthy surgery, taking the



best possible care of him. Please pray for his continued recovery and strength for his Mother who will be in charge of his after care.

*Jennifer* had surgery for breast cancer on 15 October 2014, which seemingly went well; please give thanks for that. She has had other complications which preclude her from making a full recovery in particular the drugs are making her terribly sick; please pray those will be overcome. Pray for help for Jennifer to keep her trust in the Lord and let Him carry her worry and concern as she recovers. Please pray also for strength and courage for her family as they try their best to help her.

*Jim* had infection complications from diabetes in his foot. The infection appears to be under control and he has been released from the hospital. Please join in giving thanks for the quick and good result and pray for complete healing.

*DiAnne Thornton* had back surgery 23 September 2014, with apparently good result. Please give thanks for the good result and pray the L5 decompression will allow her walking abilities and balance to be restored.

*Alice* had a mastectomy on 17 September 2014, that apparently went very well with a good result. Please give thanks for the good outcome and pray for full healing and complete remission.

*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.

*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* has been battling colon cancer for three years now, she is currently treating at the City of Hope. Things seem to be going well. Please pray for guidance for those treating her, as well as strength, guidance and peace of mind for Mary and her husband Jim, as well as daughter Janice and son Jimmy, as she undergoes treatment.

*Jim Thornell (Jet)* seems to have recovered from the five stomach ulcers and now is dealing with blocked coronary arteries and taking care of Mary. Please give

thanks for the great result and also for the strength, guidance and peace of mind our Lord gave Jet and his wife Mary, as well as daughter Janice and son Jimmy, as he underwent treatment.

*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 has met with the oncologist's and reviewed the CAT scan. Good News! The tumor has been reduced in size—it was down to one half the size that it was in September and there was no indication of a new tumor in the chest area. Dick wanted the Prayer Partners to know and join him in thankfulness to our Lord. 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.

*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***

*Anne* is unemployed and just interviewed for a position. Please pray she will be employed, if not at this position then that this interview will lead to better prospects. Pray for her to be encouraged and strengthened by the Holy Ghost.

*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.

*Sara* 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. Pleaser pray for *Lorna's* healing and guidance on how they might handle the financial difficulties in which they have found themselves.

### ***God's Strength and Peace of Soul***

*Tommy Dunning* is facing his first Christmas following the death of his only son to cancer. Please pray he can concentrate his heart on what he had and will have in his son through God.

### ***Guidance***

*Eli* has some mental issues and has lost his way. He was admitted to the hospital for psychological evaluation to get a proper diagnosis and medications and has been discharged. He has yet to come to grips with the demons chasing him. Pray he will return to the Lord and his family. *Eli's* brother *Carl* has gotten little to no support from the family, he being the one to get *Eli* into treatment. Daughter *Katie* seems to be the least helpful. Pray they will ask God to send the Holy Ghost in to straighten things out and they will listen when He speaks to them. The family has been open to the Prince of Darkness and needs help.

*Debbie* has family problems that must be dealt with and she asks God's guidance in making the correct decisions and how to stand.

*Edward (45)* had the opportunity to meet with a Christian during the conversation she discovered *Edward* had some background about God but thought He was not relevant to this day. *Edward* asked many questions about the Bible and was surprised at the answers and continued to ask questions. They both went their separate ways and the Christian told *Edward* that she would pray for him. Will you join in prayer for *Edward*, please?

*Kathy* is experiencing severe anxiety and panic attacks. Please pray she can let the Lord calm and direct her in the best path to take to help alleviate these problems.

*Michael and his Family* ask your prayers for wisdom as they are under trial and affliction to follow the law of the land and yet honor God in so doing.

*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.

*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.

*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*

#### *Indonesia*

Please pray for the Lord's will regarding the establishment of an AOC church in Indonesia.

**A**LMIGHTY God and Father of all who trust and believe in thy dear Son, Jesus Christ: We seek thy divine will in the establishment of an Anglican Orthodox Church of Indonesia. In this present day of waning faith and compromising ministers, we hope to discover your will in this important matter. Keep us always strong in faith, worship, and practice; purify continually your visible church on earth, and lead us into green pastures of evangelism and love of truth. The people of Indonesia are a precious people in your sight, and we would seek the honor of preaching your Gospel in those great islands. Grant us wisdom to know and do your will always, for we ask it in the Name of thy dear Son, and our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. AMEN

#### *Pakistan*

The forces of evil are strong in Pakistan. The force of God stronger. Pray for our Christian family there.

#### *Serbia*

Rev. Igor Djurcic leader of Anglican Orthodox Church in Serbia asks us to pray for his students. He has excellent young people in Belgrade who are having services and classes on the Bible.

#### *Fiji*

*Savusavu* Fiji Islands is establishing a new Anglican Orthodox Church congregation. Rev. Jack Andrew and members from the AOC in Labasa were with them for the weekend for this special time for our Church in Fiji. Pray that our Lord will be with the members in Savusavu as they bring others to his house.

#### *Philippines*

Please pray a *Minister* will be found who would like to serve in Tabuk, in the Philippine Islands. The Anglican Orthodox Church has an established Church there and in the surrounding areas and need a Shepherd to lead the flock.

#### *Central African Republic*

*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.

#### *Diocese of the Epiphany*

*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.

#### *Atlanta*

*Bishop Jerry* was in Atlanta, preaching at a church who has in attendance many members of another church founded in 1887 that has closed. Many of those are older, in their late 70s and early 80s. Please pray they will see this is a parish where they can be one with other believers. Please pray the Holy Ghost might enter more fully into their hearts so that they might see their way to come together.



## *Diocese of Virginia*

*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, had to retire as he was so pressed by the duties of a primary care giver, in addition to all the worries of this world. Pray for trust in God for each member of the parish and for them to find economic relief.

## *Armed Forces & Contractors*

Kristyna Thomas (Army – enroute to Camp Walker - Taegu / Daegu, ROK), Airman Donny Patton (USAF - Hulbert Field, Florida), Jordan Brown (USMC – Fleet Marine Force - Pacific), Trevor Jennings (USAF - KC-10 Boom Operator – New Jersey), Trevor Di Marco (USN – Whidbey Island, EF-18 Pilot), Kurt Thomas (USN – Camp Foster, Okinawa), Ethan (US Army Airborne – Southwest Asia)

## *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 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*

The Islamist group (ISIS) just took over Quaragosh, the biggest Christian city in Iraq; 164 men, women and children were beheaded. People ask where is God? The real question is where are the people to enforce God's will. Pray the people of the world will see Allah for who he is, the Devil. Pray for those who remain behind that they might find a way to safety.

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.

*Nathan* had successful surgery on 4 August 2014, to remove a tumor near his heart; then underwent chemotherapy. During a visit on 2 December 2014, the PET Scan found no evidence of cancer. *Nathan* and his family thank God for the great result, the medical team for paying attention and doing their best and you for your prayers.

### *Various Special Requests*

*Vanuatu Islands* in the South Pacific have been hit within the last day by a 165 mph Typhoon. Things are not good there. Pray for the people to see clearly what they must do to rebuild.

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.

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!

### *Thanksgiving*

*Bishop Jerry and Debbie Ogles* give thanks for safe travel to Atlanta for the Easter weekend.

*Jim* has been hospitalized and had several operations for cancer the last few years; his scans now show the cancer to be unchanged for which he asks you join in giving thanks. He has recent good news, for which he asks you join in giving thanks:

*Garth Neel* finished chemotherapy and radiation for lymphoma cancer. It seems the treatment is working, please see this note from *Garth*:

Friends, my oncologist tells me that the cancer is now in remission. I hope to return to work on April 13. Thanks for all your prayers.

Blessings,

*Bishop Garth Neel*

Please give thanks for the great results! Pray also for peace of mind and trust in God for *Garth* and his family, as well as physical strength.

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

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

19 April 2015 – Second Sunday After Easter – Holy Communion - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**

26 April 2015 – Third Sunday After Easter – Mothers Day – Morning Prayer - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**

3 May 2015 – Fourth Sunday After Easter – Morning Prayer - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**

10 May 2015 – Rogation Sunday - Fifth Sunday After Easter – Morning Prayer - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**

14 May 2015 – Ascension Day – Evening Prayer - Service start time 1830 (6:30 pm); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 1815 (6:15 pm); **Time 1830 (7:30 pm); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**

17 May 2015 – Sunday after Ascension Day – Morning Prayer - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**

24 May 2015 – Sunday after Ascension Day – 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**

31 May 2015 – Trinity Sunday – Holy Communion – Service will be held in conjunction with Saint George's in Ventura, CA (AEC) Bishop Jerry Ogles will be presiding - 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 – 6300 Telephone Rd, Ventura, CA 93003**

