



# Anglican Orthodox Church

## Worldwide Communion

### Second Sunday after Epiphany

Sunday Report



Today was the Second Sunday after the Epiphany and Third Sunday of the New Year 2016.

#### *On Point*

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

#### *Priorities*

No one will really understand politics until they understand that politicians are not trying to solve our problems. They are trying to solve their own problems -- of which getting elected and re-elected are No. 1 and No. 2. Whatever is No. 3 is far behind.

*Thomas Sowell*

#### *The Function of Government*

Government is instituted for the common good; for the protection, safety, prosperity, and happiness of the people; and not for profit, honor, or private interest of any one man, family, or class of men.

*John Adams*

Second President of the United States  
1776

For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.

*John 6:38*

#### *Death*

TO MARY WILLIS SHELBURNE: On how to rehearse for death and how to diminish fear.

17 June 1963

Pain is terrible, but surely you need not have fear as well? Can you not see death as the friend and deliverer? It means stripping off that body which is tormenting you: like taking off a hair-shirt or getting out of a dungeon. What is there to be afraid of? You have long attempted (and none of us does more) a Christian life. Your sins are confessed and absolved. Has this world been so kind to you that you should leave it with regret? There are better things ahead than any we leave behind.

Remember, though we struggle against things because we are afraid of them, it is often the other way round—we get afraid because we struggle. Are you struggling, resisting? Don't you think Our Lord says to you 'Peace, child, peace. Relax. Let go. Underneath are the everlasting arms. Let go, I will catch you. Do you trust me so little?'

Of course, this may not be the end. Then make it a good rehearsal.

Yours (and like you a tired traveller near the journey's end) Jack

The Collected Letters of CS Lewis, Volume III

Will ye speak wickedly for God? and talk deceitfully for him?

*Job 13:7*

For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.

*I Corinthians 12:13*

We ought to be diligent Bible-readers because the Word of God is the sword of the Spirit. We shall never fight a good fight if we do not use it as our principal weapon. It may well be feared that there is not enough Bible-reading amongst us. It is not enough to have the book. We must actually read it and pray over it ourselves. It will do us no good if it only lies still in our houses. Knowledge of the Bible can only be got by hard, regular, daily, attentive wakeful reading. Memorized Scripture is a stronghold against sin in the hands of the Spirit.

*JC Ryle*

19<sup>th</sup> century Anglican bishop and author

The Church of England has passed through the looking glass. It has moved into an unpredictable, unstable situation. The doctrines of faith are no longer ring-fenced as many people thought. Anything can, in principle, be changed by lobbying and political manoeuvring. It has been done and it will be done again. The Church of England is now in crisis because it has now been destabilised. It has set itself over the Word of God instead of under it. It is no longer, [as] Article XX ... puts it, 'a witness and a keeper of Holy Writ', but it has now assumed the role of judge and arbiter of its doctrines. This is a position it ought not to occupy, nor can it occupy, without drawing down upon itself the judgement of God.

*David Samuel*

20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century Anglican theologian and author

The Church In Crisis, pp. 48-49

What a serene and quiet life might you lead if you would leave providing to the God of providence!

*Charles H. Spurgeon*

19<sup>th</sup> century English pastor and author

Morning and Evening, p. 12

### *Government*

The true theory of our Constitution is surely the wisest and best, that the states are independent as to everything within themselves, and united as to everything respecting foreign nations. Let the general government be reduced to foreign concerns only, and let our affairs be disentangled from those of all other nations, except as to commerce, which the merchants will manage the better the more they are left free to manage for

themselves, and our general government may be reduced to a very simple organization, and a very inexpensive one — a few plain duties to be performed by a few servants.

*Thomas Jefferson*  
American patriot and third president  
a letter to Gideon Granger in 1800

If God exists, everything is possible; if there is no God, everything is permitted.

*Fyodor Dostoevski*  
20<sup>th</sup> century Russian author

America's murder rate isn't the work of the suburban and rural homeowners who shop for guns at sporting goods stores and at gun shows, and whom the media profiles after every shooting, but by the gangs embedded in urban areas controlled by Democrats. The gangs who drive up America's murder rate look nothing like the occasional mentally ill suburban white kid who goes off his medication and decides to shoot up a school...[which] like most serial killers, is a media aberration, not the norm. National murder statistics show that blacks are far more likely to be killers than whites and they are also far more likely to be killed... America has more gangland murders than Sierra Leone, Eritrea and Puerto Rico have murders. Our national murder rate is not some incomprehensible mystery that can only be attributed to the inanimate tools, the steel, brass and wood that do the work. It is largely the work of adult males from age 18 to 39 with criminal records killing other males of that same age and criminal past. If this were going on in Rwanda, El Salvador or Sierra Leone, we would have no trouble knowing what to make of it, and silly pearl-clutching nonsense about gun control would never even come up. But this is Chicago, it's Baltimore, it's Philly and NOLA; and so we refuse to see that our major cities are in the same boat as some of the worst trouble spots in the world. [Serial killings] are comforting aberrations. They allow us to take refuge in the fantasy that homicides in America are the work of the occasional serial killer practicing his dark art in one of those perfect small towns that always show up in murder mysteries or Stephen King novels. They fool us into thinking that there is something American about our murder rate that can be traced to hunting season, patriotism and bad mothers. But go to Chicago or Baltimore. Go where the killings really happen and the illusion comes apart. There is a war going on in America between gangs of young men who bear an uncanny resemblance to their counterparts in Sierra Leone or El Salvador. They live like them, they fight for control of the streets like them and they kill like them. America's horrific murder rate is a result of the transformation of major American cities into Sierra Leone, Somalia, Rwanda and El Salvador. Gun violence largely consists of criminals killing criminals.

*Daniel Greenfield*  
21<sup>st</sup> century American commentator  
America Doesn't Have a Gun Problem, It Has a Democrat Problem, 1-4-16

### *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 or our Deacon Striker.

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 are found on Page 111-112 with the Collect first:

### The Second Sunday after The Epiphany.

*The Collect.*

**A**LMIGHTY and everlasting God, who dost govern all things in heaven and earth; Mercifully hear the supplications of thy people, and grant us thy peace all the days of our life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Epistle for today came from the Twelfth Chapter of Paul's letter to the Romans beginning at the Sixth Verse. As Paul often does, he gives guidance on what God would have us do. He notes that each of us have differing talents, skills and resources. What God wants us to do is use all of what He gave us to further His will and His way, so that we might be truly happy here on earth. To be gracious and hospitable to those around us, to remember each of us are equal in God's eye.

**H**AVING then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; or ministry, let us wait on our ministering; or he that teacheth, on teaching; or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness. Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good. Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another; not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer; distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality. Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not. Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep. Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate.

The Holy Gospel for today came from the beginning of the Gospel according to St. Mark, the First Chapter, beginning at the First Verse. This is the very first of the New Testament, a New Covenant or agreement with God. It tells the story of "the beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God." It talks of John the Baptist, who God sends as His "messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee. The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins." And the people came to John "and were all baptized of him in the river of Jordan, confessing their sins." But, as a harbinger the One to come, John told them of the One coming "the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to stoop down and unloose." He told them of the Holy Ghost. When Jesus, in His submission as a man to God came to John for baptism, as he came out of the water, "the heavens

opened, and the Spirit, like a dove, descending upon him: and there came a voice from heaven, saying, Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”

**T**HE beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God; as it is written in the prophets, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee. The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. And there went out unto him all the land of Judæa, and they of Jerusalem, and were all baptized of him in the river of Jordan, confessing their sins. And John was clothed with camel’s hair, and with a girdle of a skin about his loins; and he did eat locusts and wild honey; and preached, saying, There cometh one mightier than I after me, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to stoop down and unloose. I indeed have baptized you with water: but he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost. And it came to pass in those days, that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized of John in Jordan. And straightway coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens opened, and the Spirit, like a dove, descending upon him: and there came a voice from heaven, saying, Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

### *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**

Second Sunday after The Epiphany

17 January 2016, Anno Domini (in the Year of Our Lord)



### **The Second Sunday after The Epiphany.**

*The Collect.*

**A**LMIGHTY and everlasting God, who dost govern all things in heaven and earth; Mercifully hear the supplications of thy people, and grant us thy peace all the days of our life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

I love the BEGINNINGS of the Holy Bible. Concerning the true Gospel of Christ, there never was a real 'beginning' except from our own mortal perspective. He is "I AM" from everlasting eternity past, present, and future. He became our Savior from the declaration of the Council of Heaven - Father, Son, and Holy Ghost - before the first shadow of man was cast upon the *terra firma* of earth. But for mortal man who lives, moves, and communicates in world scaled by time, we understand all things by their beginning and end.

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. (Gen 1:1)

. . . and they came to Bethlehem in the beginning of barley harvest. (Ruth 1:22)

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God,

and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> The same was in the beginning with God. (John 1:1-2)

<sup>6</sup> *But from the beginning of the creation God made them male and female.* (Mark 10:6)

(NOTE: Mark 10:6 is repeated by our Lord more than once. It is a dire warning to the perversions of our own day.)

Epiphany Season observes the revelation of Jesus Christ to both Jew and Gentile. But Christ existed long before the space-time continuum was ever created. He has no

beginning or end. We admire the works of great artists such as DaVinci, Bach, and Shakespeare. We may come to know their works so well as to have an intimate understanding of their persons hundreds of years after their passing; and the same is true of the works of God. Nature itself bears undeniable testimony of His omnipotence, beauty, and love in all things made.

The decision for Jesus to come forth as our Redeemer was made in eternity past and before such a need was felt by man - since man did not yet exist in a physical universe which God would create for him. God is surprised by nothing, for all things consist and exist according to His express purpose and will.

It is amazing to me that Christ knew your name, and my name, before He ever created the stars and the far-flung galaxies of space. Your person and character were decided in that master plan encoded in your DNA before you came to be. So our own epiphany occurred at our conception, but we existed in the Mind of God long before our birth. To me, this truth is mind-boggling!

Our sermon text is taken from Isaiah 45:1-15, but let us examine, briefly, first the baptism of Jesus in Mark 1 - It was in conformity to the law of the covenant that he be baptized as all others because God leads wherever He goes. Christ fulfilled the Law of the covenant when eight days old through circumcision.

He fulfilled the Law of the Gospel through water baptism at the beginning of His earthly ministry.

There are three profound examples of baptism we read from Holy Scripture:

1. The baptism of an entire family - *Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.* 1 Peter 3:20
2. The baptism of an entire nation - *Moreover, brethren, I would not that that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; <sup>2</sup> And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; <sup>3</sup> And did all eat the same spiritual meat; <sup>4</sup> And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.* 1 Cor 10:1-4
3. The individual baptism of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ as recorded in the Gospel text today.

Jesus, by His humble example, shows that each of us must come alike to God through the medium of faith and baptism. And the greatest of prophets, John the Baptist, was called and anointed long before his parents were ever born. He was the issue of the predestined will of God as are all who know the Lord.

<sup>3</sup> *The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.* Isaiah 40:3 730 years BC

And

*The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God; <sup>2</sup> As it is written in the prophets, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee. <sup>3</sup> The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.* Mark 1:1-

3

One clear truth I pray that each of us will understand from these passages is this: God calls and anoints us each to a special service and mission. It is incumbent on each of us to diligently strive to know that calling and anointing.

When a young boy, I used to read of the exploits of the first great, benevolent king to rule the known world – his name was Cyrus (or Kouroush in the Persian language). I would sit on the front porch swing during the long summer months and read the story of Cyrus with great amazement while the bees and cicadas made happy music that I shall never forget.

I was drawn to Cyrus because my elementary fourth grade teacher had us read about him in our Appleton Reader. You see, in those days, it was not unconstitutional to read biblical accounts in school.

When I travelled to Iran (modern day Persia), I could not believe that I would actually be allowed to visit the grave of King Cyrus the Great and to view the tombs of his sons and grandsons carved into the solid rock of the Mountain of Mercy overlooking the ancient city of Persepolis.

Standing before the tomb of Cyrus, a few yards from his homeplace, I felt a spiritual awe that I cannot explain. I knew that the great prophet Daniel had stood precisely on the same ground as my feet trod. And then to stand before the tomb of his son, Darius the Great, Cyrus' son, was a similarly overpowering experience. Just a few steps away was the tomb of Artaxerxes, the King whom Queen Esther married.

And looking down the slopes of the Mountain of Mercy was the panoramic view of the ruins of the splendid City of Persepolis. And I knew that God had called and anointed each of these great kings, but Cyrus had he anointed especially for an important work. Let's read about Cyrus from Isaiah 45, beginning at the 1<sup>st</sup> verse –

*<sup>1</sup> Thus saith the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have holden, to subdue nations before him; and I will loose the loins of kings, to open before him the two leaved gates; and the gates shall not be shut; <sup>2</sup> I will go before thee, and make the crooked places straight: I will break in pieces the gates of brass, and cut in sunder the bars of iron: <sup>3</sup> And I will give thee the treasures of darkness, and hidden riches of secret places, that thou mayest know that I, the LORD, which call thee by thy name, am the God of Israel. <sup>4</sup> For Jacob my servant's sake, and Israel mine elect, I have even called thee by thy name: I have surnamed thee, though thou hast not known me.*

*<sup>5</sup> I am the LORD, and there is none else, there is no God beside me: I girded thee, though thou hast not known me: <sup>6</sup> That they may know from the rising of the sun, and from the west, that there is none beside me. I am the LORD, and there is none else. <sup>7</sup> I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the LORD do all these things. <sup>8</sup> Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness: let the earth open, and let them bring forth salvation, and let righteousness spring up together; I the LORD have created it. <sup>9</sup> Woe unto him that striveth with his Maker! Let the potsherd strive with the potsherd of the earth. Shall the clay say to him that fashioneth it, What makest thou? or thy work, He hath no hands? <sup>10</sup> Woe unto him that saith unto his father, What begettest thou? or to the woman, What hast thou brought forth?*

*<sup>11</sup> Thus saith the LORD, the Holy One of Israel, and his Maker, Ask me of things to come concerning my sons, and concerning the work of my hands command ye me. <sup>12</sup> I have made the earth, and created man upon it: I, even my hands, have stretched out the heavens, and all their host have I commanded. <sup>13</sup> I have raised him up in righteousness, and I will direct all his ways: he*

*shall build my city, and he shall let go my captives, not for price nor reward, saith the LORD of hosts.* Isaiah 45:1-13

Please note that this book of Isaiah was written between 760 and 707 BC -

The Great King, Cyrus, came to Babylon in 535 B.C. and took the city through miraculously prophesied measures..... <sup>1</sup> Thus saith the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have holden, to subdue nations before him; and I will loose the loins of kings, to open before him the two leaved gates; and the gates shall not be shut; <sup>2</sup> I will go before thee, and make the crooked places straight: I will break in pieces the gates of brass, and cut in sunder the bars of iron: <sup>3</sup> And I will give thee the treasures of darkness, and hidden riches of secret places, that thou mayest know that I, the LORD, which call thee by thy name, am the God of Israel.

On the day that Cyrus conquered Babylon, there was a great feast hosted by Belshazzar. It seemed to be a drunken orgy. At last, in the heat of a drunken stupor, King Belsahazzar ordered the Golden vessels that had been captured from the Temple at Jerusalem to be brought forth and used as vessels of drunkenness.

This was a step too far for the Lord to condone, note Daniel 5:

<sup>3</sup> Then they brought the golden vessels that were taken out of the temple of the house of God which was at Jerusalem; and the king, and his princes, his wives, and his concubines, drank in them. <sup>4</sup> They drank wine, and praised the gods of gold, and of silver, of brass, of iron, of wood, and of stone. <sup>5</sup> In the same hour came forth fingers of a man's hand, and wrote over against the candlestick upon the plaister of the wall of the king's palace: and the king saw the part of the hand that wrote. <sup>6</sup> Then the king's countenance was changed, and his thoughts troubled him, so that the joints of his loins were loosed, and his knees smote one against another...

None of the astrologers or fortune tellers of Babylon could decipher the writing. Finally, Belshazzar sent for Daniel who told the king the meaning of the writing:

<sup>22</sup> And thou his son, O Belshazzar, hast not humbled thine heart, though thou knewest all this; <sup>23</sup> But hast lifted up thyself against the Lord of heaven; and they have brought the vessels of his house before thee, and thou, and thy lords, thy wives, and thy concubines, have drunk wine in them; and thou hast praised the gods of silver, and gold, of brass, iron, wood, and stone, which see not, nor hear, nor know: and the God in whose hand thy breath is, and whose are all thy ways, hast thou not glorified: <sup>24</sup> Then was the part of the hand sent from him; and this writing was written. <sup>25</sup> And this is the writing that was written, MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN. <sup>26</sup> This is the interpretation of the thing: MENE; God hath numbered thy kingdom, and finished it. <sup>27</sup> TEKEL; Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting. <sup>28</sup> PERES; Thy kingdom is divided, and given to the Medes and Persians. <sup>29</sup> Then commanded Belshazzar, and they clothed Daniel with scarlet, and put a chain of gold about his neck, and made a proclamation concerning him, that he should be the third ruler in the kingdom.

<sup>30</sup> In that night was Belshazzar the king of the Chaldeans slain. <sup>31</sup> And Darius (under command of King Cyrus) the Median took the kingdom, being about threescore and two years old.

When King Cyrus and his entourage entered Babylon, Daniel showed the King the ancient (200 year old) prophecy of himself: how God had called and anointed him 200 years before his birth to capture Babylon and restore the Temple at Jerusalem. The King was overwhelmed. He made the following prayer and commandment::

<sup>1</sup> Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and put it also in writing, <sup>2</sup> Thus saith Cyrus



king of Persia, The LORD God of heaven hath given me all the kingdoms of the earth; and he hath charged me to build him an house at Jerusalem, which is in Judah. <sup>3</sup> Who is there among you of all his people? his God be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem, which is in Judah, and build the house of the LORD God of Israel, (he is the God,) which is in Jerusalem. <sup>4</sup> And whosoever remaineth in any place where he sojourneth, let the men of his place help him with silver, and with gold, and with goods, and with beasts, beside the freewill offering for the house of God that is in Jerusalem. Ezra 1:1-4

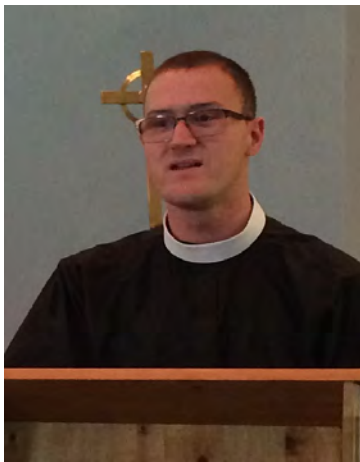
Notice this decree was issued the very first year of Cyrus' reign. He wasted no time in obedience to God.

Long before you were ever born, God gave you a name and an anointing. Have you obeyed the voice of God as Cyrus has done, or do you ignore the most important Voice you can ever know?

### **Sermon - Rev Jack 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:



... God, who dost govern all things in heaven and earth; Mercifully hear the supplications of thy people, and grant us thy peace all the days of our life ...

In the Collect, first we acknowledge God's place in the universe, that is He is the ultimate ruler of all things. Thus, the civil authorities of each country, state, county and locality govern with His Authority, so long as they do His Will, whether they be Christian or not. Our Constitution, which serves as the skeleton or foundation of all our laws gets its authority from the Declaration of Independence. Where, pray tell, does the Declaration of Independence get its authority, from *our Creator*. Acknowledged right there in plain English. It needs no explanation, merely a grade school reading ability! We go on to ask God to listen to us and give us His peace in our hearts. God is perfect. His hearing is perfect. It is not His hearing that is in need of help. He hears us clearly when we pray, God always hears us when we call Him. This Collect is really to remind us that when we pray to Him, we need to listen to Him. It is our hearing that is need of help, from Him! Too often we ask Him what to do, when He tells us what He wants us to do, it is not what we want, so we don't hear. After all, there are none so deaf as those who will not hear. So, the question is not, *Does God hear our supplication?* Rather the question is, *Do we hear His answer and abide by it?* Do we listen when His answer is not what we want, but what we need? We think He doesn't answer, but that is often because we are deaf to His answer through our own condition of being poor, sinful creatures who need His Forgiveness and Guidance desperately. What we really need to do is stop our wanting thoughts and to listen to what we need, His Guidance. We need to be still and listen to His answers and not just go off and do what we want. Instead we need to hear what He wants us to do and act upon it. Too often we just do not bother to listen to that voice that tells us Gods will and run off and follow our own devices and desires and get into trouble.

Instead of doing that, we need to truly listen and take His Guidance to heart. We need His Guidance to stop the evilness which lies within ourselves and to control it, to mitigate it, so that we can do good things for Him. Without His Guidance, we cannot

ever hope to be good and righteous. To do that, we must open our hearts and minds; and let Him in. He will not force His way in. It takes action on our part to let Him in. If we open our hearts and minds, then we will hear Him. Will we let him in to our hearts for this to happen? It has to start with us letting Him in, and then we will hear His answer loud and clear. That describes the purpose and function of the Holy Ghost, that Third God Guy. He is there, always there, we merely need to let Him in! Without Him, Scripture is so much foolishness, with His Insight, it is perfectly clear.

We all have some talent; each has something they do better than others. Paul reminds us for the church, or any organization for that matter, to succeed, we must do what needs to be done, working hard, honestly, cheerfully, looking for no public praise, being kind to all. Everybody needs to utilize their talents according to the needs of the church, not somebody else's talents, but their talents. Each and every one of us has a talent of some sort, be it musically, talking (being good with communication), sweeping, taking out the trash, there is no end to the need. Almost anything else that can be used for His Glory is a talent. Each and everyone has a unique talent and or gift that can be used to further His Will on Earth. Sometimes, we fail to remember for the team to be successful, each person needs to do the job they do best to the best of their ability; not necessarily the one they like best the way they want to do it at the pace they enjoy. It is not good enough to just say you are doing your best when you are actually doing your half, quarter or not at all best, but full "best" ahead as it were! The reward of a job well done in and of itself should be sufficient. And knowing you did your best is what really counts, not just getting recognition from others, but the satisfaction in your heart of knowing that with God's Help you accomplished a large task, is one of the best feelings in the world. It does not matter to God who gets the credit, what matters to Him is we get the job done and to do it right! We should not be giving of ourselves to God, so that we can get praise and recognition. That is not giving; it is selling. And that would not be truly giving from the heart as is God's desire. That would be using the talents He loaned to us for our own wants and ends, which would not be becoming of the Christians we are called to be, the New Men we are called to be. If we get praise and recognition as a result of our actions, then it is fine, as long as we keep in mind why we performed our actions and who helped us.

At the same time, though we should not look for praise for our own work (though we may appreciate it, we should not dwell on it too long, lest we get swollen heads!), we should look for reasons to praise and encourage others. We need to recognize hard work, sacrifice, thoughtfulness and talent in others, remark on it and praise the use thereof! That which is rewarded most is that which grows best. Reward the good, so that we may reap the goodness of our works!

Look at John the Baptist, out in the wilderness; not in the fancy building, the gold plated temple, but out where he could prepare straight the way for the Lord. Smoothing the path so to speak, making ready the hearts and souls of the people for the coming of the Lord. He did not point at himself, rather he pointed the way towards God incarnate!

By the way, how necessary is praise to miserable human beings? God Himself, looking on His Son's baptism remarked for all to hear, "Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

How oft do we praise the actions of others? To often we are quick to criticize the failings of others and over analyze their failings. Sometimes when we think of people we know, all we can think of is their failings and forget everyone has their good parts as well, from God. It is in our nature, part of our human nature, our free will condition

that we must fight against with His help. We must understand that while it is valuable to know when we fall short, people strive the most for praise of those whose opinion they value.

When you hear those words, “Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased,” remember to use them yourself. Lead others to God, don’t point the way.

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

#### *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.



#### **Second Sunday after the Epiphany**

In his epistle to the Romans, the apostle Paul posed this question: *Is There Unrighteousness with God?* (9:14). The short answer is an unequivocal, No. To the born-again Christian, such would be as clear as a wide-open blue sky; but to those of the unregenerate, it would be perceived as shallow and overly simplistic.

As to the question before us the apostle responded forthrightly, *God forbid* (v.14). St. James reminded his readers, *Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man... Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning* (1:13 and 17).

The Jews tried to use a similar line against God in Ezekiel’s day when the prophet noted, *Yet ye say, The way of the Lord is not equal* (18:25). Their complaint was God was being unjust in not giving their good deeds any standing if they did not continue in living righteously but had succumbed to iniquity. The whole message of Ezekiel 18 was God’s justice required a person to keep his statutes all the days of his or her life and not just part of the time. If a person did what was right at the beginning of his life, then he should do so for the duration. For if he slipped into wickedness, then all the good he had done would not count at all. God expects his perfect will to be done— all the time.

Returning to Romans 9 we read, *For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy* (vv. 15-16). God desires all to turn unto him, but he will not save the unjust apart from their repentance and acceptance of his only begotten Son. In Romans 8:33 we read, *Who shall lay anything to the charge of God’s elect? It is God that justified. Only the truly penitent sinner who calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved. Only a person who has sincerely recognized the error of his or her ways will receive God’s gift of pardon. And while it is true that prior to being born again of the Spirit, such persons will remain in their sins and trespasses— fit subjects of God’s righteous judgment— nevertheless, upon their regeneration they will be saved immediately and eternally. That is the essence of the believer’s position: eternally secure and safe in the hand of the Saviour. And though this state of eternal security can be of great comfort to the believer— as he cannot slip out or be taken from the Master’s hand— it does not preclude him from erring. It also does not prevent a righteous and holy God from dealing with that wayward soul in a chastising judgment, apart from an heart-felt confession of his sins.*

St. Paul observed, *If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work* (II St. Timothy 2:21). Those who are predestined to glory must first see the need to be cleansed, and that is in keeping with the very words of Scripture, for God hath chosen us in [Christ] before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love (Ephesians 1:4). That said, God will not save us unless we heed his calling to, *Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand* (St. Matthew 4:17). The Bible teaches us the sovereign nature of God is not perverted or diminished by the will of man. And so it follows the will of God for us in election is an affirmation of his sovereign authority in the very nature of our own choosing.

Consider Article XVII of our Articles of Religion wherein it is affirmed that, "Predestination to Life is the everlasting purpose of God, whereby (before the foundations of the world were laid) he hath constantly decreed by his counsel secret to us, to deliver from the curse and damnation those whom he hath chosen in Christ out of mankind, and to bring them by Christ to everlasting salvation, as vessels of honour..."

God is not unjust to forgive us our sins when we ask him to do so in the name of Jesus Christ, neither is he unjust to refer to all who come to Christ as his elect and chosen. Now, nothing in Scripture tells us how this divine choice is made, for as we read in Article XVII, "he hath... decreed by his counsel secret to us." Ergo, if it is a secret, then we ought to respect the reticence of God and avoid needless and senseless speculations. In his work, *The Principles of Theology: An Introduction To The Thirty- Nine Articles*, W. H. Griffith Thomas observed that, "... there will always be an element of mystery in the relation of two wills in the universe, Divine and human. Christian people undoubtedly revolt against any view implying that the majority of the human race are everlastingly lost and only a few saved. Nor will any refuge be found by those who know and follow Scripture in the thought of purgatorial or purifying fires, which cannot be found in the Bible. [But] no careful and honest reader of Scripture can believe for an instant that all human beings will be saved, for, if the Bible teaches anything distinctly, it clearly shows that there are those who, through their own deliberate choice, remain outside the circle of the saved."

In a similar vein, Dr. Henry M. Morris offered the following: "[The Word of God makes] it very clear that the substitutionary death of Christ is sufficient to |take| away the sin of the world (John 1:29), that salvation and eternal life are offered as a free gift of God's grace to anyone who will accept it, and that anyone who will may come! It is only the voluntary act of our own wills that is required, but there are many of whom Jesus must say: *Ye will not come to me, that ye might have life* (John 5:40)."

And Charles Spurgeon once noted, "... If your life is unholy your heart is unchanged, and if your heart is unchanged you are an unsaved person. If the Saviour has not sanctified you, renewed you, given you a hatred of sin and a love of holiness, he has done nothing in you of a saving character. The grace which does not make a man better than others is a worthless counterfeit. Christ saves his people, not in their sins, but from their sins." He also stated that, "... The Holy Spirit makes men penitents long before he makes them divines; and he who believes what he knows, shall soon know more clearly what he believes."

Let us consider the words of the apostle Peter who reminded his readers, *The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance* (II St. Peter 3:9).

And our Lord warning to the Jews of his day is apropos: *O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!* (St. Matthew 23:37).

It is clear from the above quotations that the choices before us are indicative of our destiny. If we choose to reject the truth of Christ, then we lose heaven. If we choose to embrace the truth of Christ, then we obtain God's everlasting felicity. There is therefore no unrighteousness with God because he has given to us the gift of his grace if, and only if, we believe on his only begotten Son and accept him as our Lord and Saviour (St. John 3:16-18).

Returning to Romans 9, we find that, *For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth. Therefore hath he mercy on whom he will have mercy, and whom he will he hardeneth. Thou wilt say then unto me, Why doth he yet find fault? For who hath resisted his will. Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God?* (vv.17-20).

Yes, God has a sovereign will. Yes, God has the authority to harden and to soften as the case may be. But such does not automatically infer that God loses his sovereignty over his creation through his allowance of human choice. God can do as he pleases and, in every case, he would not be unrighteous because he cannot be unrighteous. Whatever he does, he does with his nature in mind. God does not change. He was, is and shall always be, the Lord of all creation and of all life. He holds all authority, might, dominion and majesty. He is the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.

When we hear comments such as, "God is unfair," or "God is too harsh," we ought come back with, "Where did you get this idea that God is any of those things?" Usually, the person offering such comments will have only a vague grasp of the truth of the scriptures and so their rationale will be tenuous at best and contradictory at worst. The baby Christian, the carnal Christian, the neophyte, and the like, might find a Bible verse to throw back at you like a bomb or hand grenade, but its effectiveness cannot bear the truth of a properly presented text of Scripture offered in answer to their poorly informed understanding of the precious tenets of our Christian faith.

In no way, shape or form is our God unrighteous or unfair. God is caring, considerate and loving beyond the earthly meaning of those words. Our mortal language fails in its ability to adequately project the real meaning of what God has in store for all who truly believe on Jesus Christ as their Saviour and Lord (I Corinthians 2:9). So let us go forth this day and live the victory which Christ won for us at the cross. Let us rejoice that our God is wholly righteous and sovereign in all things. And let us also go forth in thanksgiving and praise to our heavenly Father for the gift of his unmerited favor towards us.

Let us pray,

**F**ATHER, we come before thy throne beseeching thee to look with favor upon us; forasmuch as we have accepted thine only begotten Son, so help us to live within thy perfect will; and this we ask in the name of him who came into the world to save sinners, even Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 least once per day.

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

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

No known travel this week.

### ***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.

### ***Birthdays***

*Hap Arnold* celebrated his 66<sup>th</sup> birthday on 27 December 2015.

### ***Marriage***

*Kristyna Thomas* and *Luis Aviles* were married on 16 January 2016 at Fort Lewis, Washington.

### ***Departed***

*Kym Leasure*, 44, passed away the morning of 12 January 2016, from complications of respiratory and cardiac issues. She is a member of Saint Paul's AOC in Moberly, Missouri. Please pray for her family who remain behind, in particular her parents, that they might adjust to the temporary separation.

*Rev. Jack Bradberry* passed away the morning of 28 December 2015, after an illness of over a month. Please pray for his church and family that they might adjust to the temporary separation.

*Aditya Prem Prakash* passed away unexpectedly; he was a very young man, a policeman who had been married only three months. Please pray for his wife and family that they might adjust to the temporary separation.

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

*Mrs. Tiffany (90)* has chosen to refuse extraordinary care as it will not gain much earthly time. The Tiffanys have been together for a long, long, long time. Pray for Mrs. Tiffany and her husband as together they begin this Journey to be with their Lord.

*Charles* has tonsil cancer; his treatment was stopped in June 2015. The tumor was too large and prevented surgery. Charles is unable to ingest nutrition and he is in a great deal of pain 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.

*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.

***In need of a miracle or understanding of God's Plan***

*Gemma Dillinger* has been treating for breast cancer for over a year now, after surgeries, radiation and chemotherapy, she is reaching the limit of her tolerance with no end in sight. Please pray for her to gain strength and ground on the cancer. Help her to continue with her faith in our Lord, she is not afraid to go home, but wants to make sure it is time. Pray she will be encouraged to not give up until it is her time to go and that her time here on earth with her family will be good.

*Nathan* has battled cancer for several years and was thought to be in remission. Now, the cancer has returned to his spine. With chemotherapy and radiation ahead and perhaps surgery, Nathan asks your prayers for guidance for those treating him and help for him to continue his trust in the Lord. Pray also the cancer will be driven from him.

*Janet* has had a blood borne cancer for several years. Her faith in the Lord is great and he is ready to be with Him. Pray she will be encouraged to not give up until it is her time to go.

*Holly* has had Colon Cancer, Breast Cancer and now it is in her spine. Please pray for guidance for the medical personnel treating Holly, for a miraculous remission; that Holly's remaining time here on earth might be good. Help Holly and her family put their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their sadness, fear, worry and terror. Pray for strength and courage for Holly.

*Tim* was on a kidney transplant list and started dialysis and was taken off the transplant list for a heart problem that required stents, while putting in stents a leaking valve was found. A port was put in and something happened and it has to be redone. In several days he will have a valve replaced, after heart surgery and recover he will go back on the transplant list. Please remember him in prayer in the days and weeks ahead. Pray he will put his worry on God's shoulders so he might be at peace and rest. Pray for those treating him that they might pay attention and do their best.

*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.

*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 two aggressive malignant brain tumors. We have been praying for a miraculous remission; one has shrunk and the other has disappeared. Please give thanks to God for this wonderful thing and pray the other will disappear, her memory will return and she and her family will continue to 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.

### *Homebound or Infirm*

*John* has Alzheimer's; pray he will call on God to help him as he deals with this time in his life.

*Steve*, brother in law of Paul Martin, appears to have early onset dementia. Steve had teenage children and is very concerned for them. Please pray for the disease to stall or abate and for peace of mind for Steve and his family.

*Emma Lee* is in a Nursing Home and while moving her she was dropped and her femur was broken. She was operated on and her femur was repaired and she is in rehab. She is not responding well and your prayers will be appreciated.

*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.

### *Surgery*

*Joey* a young man with colon cancer is having surgery the week of 28 December 2015. Pray the surgical team will be open to guidance, pay close attention and do their very best. Pray for peace of mind and trust in God for Joey and his family.

*Jenny* is having surgery on 15 December 2015, to have two kidney stones removed and will be operated on Tuesday Morning. Pray the surgical team will be open to guidance, pay close attention and do their very best. Pray for peace of mind and trust in God for Jenny and her family.

*Steve* had a Pace Maker put in mid-December 2015, other problems came up. Steve has lost 5 pints of blood and your prayers will be appreciated.

*Ashiei* had surgery on Tuesday 1 December 2015, to remove a tumor from her chest; complications ensued. Please continue Ashiei in your prayers and pray for the medical team to be open to God's guidance on further treatment, to their best and for a good outcome. Pray also Ashiei and her family will be able to put their worry on God's shoulders.

*Marcia* has had a biospy of a mass in her breast which indicated a tumor that must be removed. Pray the surgical team will be open to guidance, pay close attention and do their very best. Pray for peace of mind and trust in God for Marcia and her family.

*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***

*Kamil* has heart problems and they are trying to stabilize his medication, now he been admitted to the hospital because of breathing problems. Please pray for the physicians treating him to be guided in their assessment and treatment plan, for a full and speedy recovery to good health and for trust in the Lord for Kamil and his family in this worrisome time.

*Mary Lee* has bleeding into her stomach and they cannot find the sources. Mary Lee is in CCU and her husband *Maurice* is not eating until she returns home for is so upset. Please pray for the physicians treating her to be guided in their assessment and treatment plan, for a full and speedy recovery to good health and for trust in the Lord for her, Maurice, as well as the rest of the family in this worrisome time.

*Glenn Porter, MAJ USMC Retired*, has Interstitial Pulmonary Fibrosis, which causes him to be unable to get enough oxygen into his system without supplemental oxygen all the time. The only real treatment is a lung transplant, without a transplant he has between two to five years here on earth. Please pray for him to continue in his faith and for a set of lungs to become available.

*Kathy Cardin* appears to have macular telangiectasia, a degenerative eye condition which ultimately results in blindness for which there is no apparent cure. Please pray for the physicians treating her to be guided in their assessment and treatment plan, for no loss of vision and trust in the Lord for her, her husband Ron, as well as the rest of the family in this worrisome time.

*Eileen Jacob* wife of Bishop Ernest Jacob in Pakistan, has idiopathic facial paralysis due to hypertension. She has, by God's Grace, avoided a major stroke. Please pray for the physicians treating her to be guided in their assessment and treatment plan, for a full and speedy recovery to good health and for trust in the Lord for her, Jacob and their daughter Erma, as well as the rest of the family in this worrisome time.

*Pat* has an aneurism of the brain, Pray she will make the right decision on how to treat this problem and it will be healed.

*Gwen Savarese* (Sandy Patton's mom) had what was thought to be a min-stroke this week, when they looked at her carefully, they found a large mass, thought to be a tumor. At this point, it appears it can stay. Please pray for continued guidance for the medical team treating Gwen and patience and trust in God for Gwen, her husband and family. Pray also for a full recovery for Gwen.

*Dan* is very sick with cancer and is starting an experimental treatment. This treatment will take Dan away from their family business and put even more stress on him and his family. Please pray for Dan's wife who is meeting with Steve who plans to keep the family business going while Dan is ill. Pray for Steve as he has many new responsibilities.

*Timothy* has brain cancer. He had surgery and is waiting for the pathology report to find out what kind of chemo he will need. Please pray for continued guidance for the medical team treating Timothy and patience and trust in God for Timothy and his family. Pray also for a full recovery for Timothy.

*Mike Wysocki* has a fluid buildup due to unknown reasons. He is being given diuretics which seem to reduce the fluid buildup. Please pray for continued guidance for the medical team treating Mike and patience and trust in God for Mike and his wife Wendy. Pray also for a full recovery for Mike.

*Melanie Zimmers* was hospitalized for a serious stomach area bleed on 15 September 2015; this is on top of heart problems. She had an angiogram on 10 August 2015, which turned out clear, but there are problems. Her heart's has only a 20% ejection fraction, with no symptoms. They hope medications can get the fraction to above 45 percent or mechanical changes will have to be made. Please pray for continued guidance for the medical team and patience and trust in God for Melanie and her family, particularly her husband Mike. Pray also for a full recovery for her.

*Helen* was admitted from her doctor's office 15 July 2015, as the result of a blood test, to the University of Pennsylvania Hospital with an extremely high white blood count. She and her husband are very active in the ministry of their church and are asking for believers to pray for them and their family, as they are facing very serious problems in the days to come. Please pray for guidance for the medical team and patience and trust in God for Helen and her family. Pray also for a full recovery for her.

*Vickie* has been falling and passing out and hurt herself. Pray the medical team treating her will find out the problem and bring it to an end.

*Steve Thornell* is undergoing cancer treatment at University of California Irvine, please pray for continued guidance for the medical team and patience and trust in God for Steve and his family. Pray also for a full recovery for him.

*Red Thornell* has mass in his neck, which appears likely to be cancerous. He has had a biopsy on 22 May 2015 and expects the results after a PET scan on Tuesday 26 May 2015. While there is an infection, his temperature is now normal; he is not for he sleeps 19-20 hours a day. Please pray for trust in our Lord for Red and his wonderful wife Vickie as they try to get through this nightmare.

*Elma* has been suffering with headaches for a long time. Doctors have not been able to discover the reason for them. Pray for strength, courage and understanding for Elma 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 banish the headaches completely.

*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 was hospitalized in great pain and had been transferred to a skilled nursing facility where they hope to be able to control the pain level. 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.

*Bob Apple* was at the hospital picking up his wife Barbara to bring her to the skilled nursing facility when he experienced chest pain. Barbara's release from the hospital was delayed until Bob underwent an angiogram and had his medication adjusted. Please pray for comfort and strength for Bob and his continued healing.

*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.

*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 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* has been under tremendous strain both physically and with work; he passed out just before New Years Day and awoke in the hospital, he got out and is now back in apparently with double pneumonia. Due to very bad lungs already, this is a life threatening issue. 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.

*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**

*Felipe* had to have his right leg amputated just below the knee due to diabetes complications. Please pray for a full and rapid recovery, adjustment to a prosthetic leg and return to work for him, as well as regulation of his diabetes so he does not have further problems.

*Rev Bill* had a stroke. Pray he will stay comfortable and Jesus will be close by, please pray for a full and rapid recovery.

*Dennis* will begin chemotherapy for an active cancer spot on his spine on 17 September 2015. Please pray for a good result and tolerance of the treatment for him.

*Vickie* has been bothered with Migraines and all that go with the headaches. Please pray for relief from the pain for Vickie.

*Amelia Perez* had a small stroke on 11 July 2015 and drove herself to the emergency room, she was admitted for three days, had her carotid artery opened up and is recovering. Amelia's faith and spirit are strong. Please give thanks for the progress so far, for her continued and full recovery and her faith to continue to support her. Pray also for her family who are still quite worried for her.

*Jon* has Stage 4 mantle cell lymphoma There is good news in that he is in remission; however the chemotherapy is producing neuropathy in his legs so that it is a challenge for him to get around. Please pray that he will be as comfortable as possible; he has been a Marathoner runner so this is especially difficult.

*Margaret*, from California, fell and broke her on 7 July 2015, while visiting her daughter in Arizona. She will stay in Arizona for the rehabilitation and return to her home when able. Furthermore, Margaret is in good spirits; however she will be away from her church family which is important to her for an extended period of time.

*Cindy* is very ill, she is young and has children, she and her family need your prayers that they might stay close to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ as she heals.

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

*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.

*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.

*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.

*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 another chest infection, perhaps viral, this one is pretty bad. Please pray for her full and rapid recovery and for her ability to breathe to return quickly. 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***

*Diane* spent a month in the hospital because of an inability to breath., due to Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) apparently from chronic bronchitis. She is home, still very weak and learning to live with this progressive disease. Pray she will let the Lord help her be calm in her new circumstances and that healing will come.

*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.

*James* for the Lord's healing of health issues and give a remedy for many personal challenges at the moment

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

*Jose Francisco Vidas* was in a terrible automobile accident on Friday 11 December 2015 as he was on his way to work when an unlicensed driver in a jacked up pickup truck ran a red light and destroyed his car. Francisco has massive internal injuries, swelling of his brain and unknown orthopedic injuries. His family and co-workers are with him around the clock. He is making gradual progress towards recovery; please give thanks and continue to pray for physical and spiritual strength for Francisco, his wife, daughter and co-workers, particularly Scott, Roger and Mark; pray for the medical team treating him that they might be open to God's guidance and do their very best. Pray for trust in our Lord for all concerned.

*Linda* had successful dental surgery on 15 December 2015, she is also on a course of chemotherapy and this type of surgery was not recommended for people while they are taking chemotherapy. But, it was an emergency and had to be done. Please give thanks all went well and pray for continued healing and for peace of mind and trust in God for Linda and her family.

*Shamu* had surgery on 20 October 2015, for a disruptive colon. Please give thanks for the successful surgery and pray for her full and rapid recovery. She is having some problems with post surgical infection, please pray for that to be overcome and pray also for her to continue her trust in our Lord as she goes through this difficult time.

*Ruby* broke her hip on 10 December 2015, surgery was successful. Please give thanks for the successful surgery and pray for her full and rapid recovery.

*Terry* was undergoing radiation treatment for cancer, which he had to stop to amputate his leg below the knee due to diabetes. The surgery was successful, he has been fitted with a prosthetic leg and foot. He is in good spirits and positive about the remainder of his treatment. Please join *Terry* and his family in giving thanks for the successful surgery and continue to pray for his return to radiation treatment and then to chemotherapy, ask God to give *Terry*, his wife and seven year old son trust in him for peace of mind and heart, as well.

*Cynthia (Cindy) Olufson* (*Melanie Zimmer's* sister) had surgery to remove Harrington rods put in her back 25 years ago because of an infection. The surgery went well, please give thanks for the great result and pray for a full and rapid recovery for *Cindy*.

*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. This is very very hard, but *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. The treatment has apparently been effective. *Arch* and his lovely wife *Kathy* ask that you pray for their trust in God to remain strong and for a good outcome.

*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.

*Ian* had surgery to remove excess skin rendered a nuisance by controlled lost 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 reconstructive surgery seems to have gravely affected her back muscles and nerves, resulting in both very limited mobility and extreme pain, 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.

*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, the numbers seem headed in the right direction. 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.

*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.

### ***Business***

*Mark's* business is in mortal peril. He works in a shrinking field, of which he is one of the country's true masters, but there is little work available. He lost two of his most critical workmen to accident and illness. He asks that you pray he can find a way to survive with honor 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. Please 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***

*Charlie McCormack* is really feeling down as the holiday season approaches. He cannot say why; on the one hand knowing rationally things are pretty darn good and on the other hand feeling what he knows to be irrationally that doom is impending. He asks your prayer that the Holy Ghost might fill his heart with light and drive the darkness far away.

### ***Guidance***

*Thomas* recently learned as the result of a parole violation he will not be allowed to return to society for the remainder of his life. He is despairing and fearful of his inability to cope with this new news and God's plan for his life. Please pray he will be able to work with God to live with the choices he has made and go forward.

*Shyla*, age 8, has been suffering for five years with OCD (Obsessive Compulsive Disorder). She is extremely disturbed and thinks she would be better dead; pray

the Holy Ghost will bring an understanding of what our Lord Jesus Christ expects from her so she can have peace of mind and give her family guidance that they can find someone who can help Shyla with her problem and that all the family will remember God's love for them.

*Anne* has been helping a woman; the woman has turned against her and become very mean. Pray she will better realize God is with her and that He will help with the problems.

*Holly and her two sons Brandon and Bailey* need your prayer. Holly is in need of employment and her two sons have turned their back on God and are walking into the world and making their way down that broad smooth boulevard which leads to The Pit. They now wish to be not only in the world, but of the world. Please pray Holly will remain strong and preserve in her faith and that she can find help in the Holy Ghost to help her return her sons to the Word in which they were raised and back to that narrow path that leads to the summit; help them to distinguish fun from happiness and to see the signs of Donkey Island before it is too late for them to turn back.

*Maria Legumana* will graduate with a Bachelor of Education Friday from the University of the South Pacific Fiji. The ceremony will be in Honiara Solomon Islands so her family will be able to be with her. Pray that she will continue to seek God's guidance as plans for the future come into her life.

*Cam* has gotten into some of the issues being with the wrong crowds, too much dinking and making the wrong decisions. Pray he will ask God to send the Holy Ghost in to straighten things out and he will listen when He speaks to him.

*Paul* recently had his large toe amputated due to diabetes and is having a difficult recovery filled with fear about dying. He recently accepted Jesus as his savior and his family Rosie and Brenda are very grateful. Pray for strength for both Rosie and Brenda who are staying by his side through it all encouraging him on.

*Steve* is addicted to alcohol, pain pills and gambling. Pray for wisdom, courage and strength to stick with treatment and follow God's plan for his life.

*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?

*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 they might see the Light of the Lord and let Him guide their lives. Pray they will 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.

*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.

*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.

*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.

*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.

### **School Challenges**

Destiny, Blake and Janet

### **Anglican Orthodox Church**

#### **Kenya**

The Anglican Orthodox Church is making plans for establishment of a presence in *Kissi, Kenya*. There are six parishes, a total of 161 members, 68 adults, 93 children with two ministers. Please pray for the church there and guidance for the people involved.

#### **Indonesia**

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

#### **Pakistan**

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

*Ernest Jacob*  
Presiding Bishop Pakistan

#### **Serbia**

Rev. Igor Djurcik 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.

#### **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.

### *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*

Dustin (USAF - Middle East), Kristyna Thomas (Army – Fort Lewis, Washington), 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)

*Dustin* - USAF and has been in Kuwait for the last six months and during this time he was promoted to SSgt. Dustin is now on his way home to the USA for a visit and he and his family thank you for your prayer and ask you to continue as he serves his country and Lord.

### *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) 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.

### *Education*

*Aaron* is trying out a new job area as an intern and asks that you pray he might decide if this is a career field and way of life he might enjoy. Please pray he might open his heart to God's guidance and see what he needs to do to fulfill his potential and live his life in a manner which will bring true happiness to him.

*Thomas Dabney* is attending Delta State University in Cleveland, Mississippi, to finish his Bachelor's Degree. Please pray for Thomas to focus on education and do his very best at school.

### *Various Special Requests*

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

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*

*Gil Garcia* finally got out of the Long Beach VA Hospital after nine months in time for Christmas, for which he and his wife Mary are thankful. Join them in a prayer of thanksgiving and pray for strength for Gil and his wife Mary as they deal with the stresses of Gil's paraplegia and the general aging process.

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

24 January 2016 – Sexagesima – 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**

31 January 2016 – Septuagesima – 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**

7 February 2016 – Quinquagesima – 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 February 2016 – Ash Wednesday – Evening Prayer - Service start time 1800 (6:00 pm); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1800 (6:00 pm); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**

14 February 2016 – First Sunday in Lent – 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**

21 February 2016 – Second Sunday in Lent – 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**

28 February 2016 – Third Sunday in Lent – 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**