



# Anglican Orthodox Church Worldwide Communion Ascension Day



## and The Sunday after Ascension Day

Sunday Report



### Ascension Day

On Ascension Day, we had three members present for the service. Ascension Day commemorates the return to heaven, the ascending of our Lord. This is a day filled with joy, one where we get to recall fulfillment of promises.

The Ascension Day service always brings a lot of happiness and fun, being one of those days.<sup>1</sup>



If you did not make it, resolve to come next year. The parish will buy your dinner afterwards if it is your first time to the service<sup>2</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> One can imagine the apostles on the line, "5, 4, 3, 2, 1 IGNITION, Houston, we have liftoff here at Cape Bethany."

<sup>2</sup> Maybe it will, maybe it won't. On the other hand, what do you have to lose? You have to eat and the parish might buy. It certainly will, if you remind Hap!

## *The Ascension Day Propers<sup>3</sup>*

### *The Collect*

**G**RANT, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that like as we do believe thy only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into the heavens; so we may also in heart and mind thither ascend, and with him continually dwell, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen.

¶ This Collect is to be said daily throughout the Octave.

### *For the Epistle. Acts i. 1.*

**T**HE former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen: to whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God: and, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence. When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judæa, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.



### *The Gospel. St. Luke xxiv. 49.*

**J**ESUS said, Behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high. And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them. And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy: and were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God.

### *Ascensiontide Message from the Presiding Bishop*

Ascension Day 2017 – 25 May 2017, Anno Domini

<sup>26</sup> *But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:* <sup>27</sup> *And ye also shall bear witness,*

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<sup>3</sup> The *propers* are the Collect (prayer) for the day and the Bible readings appointed for the day. They are selections based on the Christian Year and make a particular point. Their selection is important. The *propers* have been more or less the same since the beginning of the Church of England and a large portion precede the founding of the Church of England.

*because ye have been with me from the beginning.* (John 15:26-27)

<sup>1</sup> *These things have I spoken unto you, that ye should not be offended.* <sup>2</sup> *They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service.* <sup>3</sup> *And these things will they do unto you, because they have not known the Father, nor me.* <sup>4</sup> *But these things have I told you, that when the time shall come, ye may remember that I told you of them* (John 16:1-4a)

Remember these events of the day Christ ascended to the Father:

<sup>44</sup> *And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.* <sup>45</sup> *Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures,* <sup>46</sup> *And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:* <sup>47</sup> *And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.* <sup>48</sup> *And ye are witnesses of these things.* <sup>49</sup> *And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.* <sup>50</sup> *And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them.* <sup>51</sup> *And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven.* <sup>52</sup> *And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy:* <sup>53</sup> *And were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen.* (Luke 24:44-53)

Can a physical body exist in more than one place at a time? Jesus must return to the Father in order that the whole world might receive the witness of the Comforter – the Holy Ghost. The Holy Ghost is a spirit and may be in all places at all times. Do not offend the Holy Spirit, who is always with you, by vile and sinful living. We have the very serious warning against bringing the Holy Spirit into an environment which is unholy:

<sup>27</sup> *No man can enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he will first bind the strong man; and then he will spoil his house.* <sup>28</sup> *Verily I say unto you, All sins shall be forgiven unto the sons of men, and blasphemies wherewith soever they shall blaspheme:* <sup>29</sup> *But he that shall blaspheme against the Holy Ghost hath never forgiveness, but is in danger of eternal damnation:* (Mark 3:27-29)

Jesus made this observation as a result of the scribes and Pharisees claiming that Christ worked miracles through the spirit of Beelzebub. Beelzebub is a demon spirit. The Holy Spirit must not be offended in this hateful manner. All that we do in the presumed privacy of a dark room are performed in the presence of the Holy Spirit. Consider the Holy Spirit to be similar to your loving mother. Would you do some of the things you do in her presence – Vulgar language, sex, drinking, smoking, cursing?

Would you allow your friends to use vile language in the presence of your mother who bore you? Do you honor your father and your mother enough? Do you honor the Holy Spirit who lives in your heart?

And what of your heart? Who is its guardian? Who dwells there?

*No man can enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he will first bind the strong man; and then he will spoil his house.*

Before you invited Christ into your heart, who was its Ruler? Satan, himself. Satan was the Strong Man of your heart. But Christ is stronger. Invite Jesus Christ into your heart, and He will bind Satan and clean up the entire house. Can we clean up our hearts? No, we must invite Christ to do so. And He will!

The world, or, in reality, every one's own heart, is—we have the authority of Christ to say it—"a house" or a palace, which Satan, as a strong man, holds and keeps. So long as the strong man holds his palace on an undisputed tenure, it is all quiet; his goods are in peace. But when Christ, who is represented as the stronger One, comes, there is warfare—warfare to the death; and thus warfare in the breast is the first, and for a long while the only, token for good. There are three stages, then, which we will examine in order:

- 1 First, "the strong man armed keepeth his palace." The strong one—none know how strong, but those who try to escape and break off his tyranny—so strong, that his strength is unseen, while in stillness and in silence he holds his own; so strong that the greatest determination of the most strong-minded man, unaided, trying to break any one of those many bonds, would be as if he were to try to uproot a mountain. A prison is a strong fortress. One man cannot break it's bars. But when a mighty Army comes, it shall yield to the overwhelming power of strength.
- 2 But the stronger comes, and now the fighting begins. Unknown to you, the stronger is binding the strong one. Heavy blasts blew, bitter winds came, and severe discipline and desolating bereavements fell upon you; but they were never meant to hurt you; they were to kill the strong one, the power of evil that is in you.
- 3 Now mark the spoil. He will bind the strong man, and then he will spoil his house. The habit of sin broken, the power of sin reduced, the love of sin destroyed—the soul is emancipated; and now Christ is free to claim His own property, which His own blood has purchased, and His own right hand has rescued. Has He not a right? Are not all the spoils His? So once, two thousand years ago, when He had gained the victory over the whole world by His death, and when He had led captivity captive "up to the highest heaven," He took His seat before the throne, and distributed to men, from His royal greatness, the good things which, by that death, He had redeemed from Satan's grasp. Then, the outpourings of the day of Pentecost—then the largesse's of pardon, life, grace, joy, wisdom, service, love, heaven, which from His throne He is always pouring upon men. He had bound the strong man on Calvary . He had restored the property to the lawful owner, and then He ascended into the heaven of heavens, and "divided the spoils."

Life is affected by two different forces. I. The strong enemy – Satan. II. The strong friend – Christ! Man must be under one or other of these forces, the enemy or the friend. Those who continue under the devil will share the ruin to which he is doomed. "When Satan's head is bruised, all who are in Satan's empire will be crushed." ~ Dr. Parker We can belong to only one of two families – that of Heaven, or that of Hell. The day is coming when some of you will be persecuted for your faith. But that is OK. It means that you belong to Christ. <sup>1</sup> **These things have I spoken unto you, that ye should not be offended.** <sup>2</sup> **They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service.** (John 15 ) Who murders innocent victims today believing they do God a service? Have you witnessed the throat cuttings of the moslem fanatics in the Middle East ? They bind their victims, who have done nothing wrong, and cut their throats while singing, "Allah Ahk-Bar!" – "God is Great!" So you can be sure the day is coming when many shall die for Christ. Today, we have a moslem president who has tried to claim that America is not a Christian nation. Do you believe him? He refuses to refer to the Islamic extremists as "radical moslems"<sup>4</sup>. But they are so. Have you been kicked out of a church for your faith? I have been. So will you if you stand on biblical doctrine. Why do the evil rage? Because they do not

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<sup>4</sup> Actually in point of fact, they are not radical moslems, what they espouse is mainstream islam.

know God. Why? Because we have not told them of Him and given evidence in our own lives of Him! Christ has ascended to the Father where He prepares a place for us. We must wait our days here on earth and also build our place upon a solid foundation. Hear the words Christ uses to describe our building and living: <sup>24</sup> *Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:* <sup>25</sup> *And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.* <sup>26</sup> *And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand:* <sup>27</sup> *And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall thereof.* (Matthew 7)

What kind of foundation are you building your lives upon? The Rock of Christ, or the Sand of Satan?

Jerry L. Ogles  
Presiding Bishop  
Anglican Orthodox Worldwide Communion



## The Sunday after Ascension Day

Today was the Sunday after Ascension Day.

### *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, but overall mostly from Bryan. He always has a few great ones to share. On to the On Point quotes –

#### *Live for ever?*

“No thanks,” said Digory, “I don’t know that I care much about living on and on after everyone I know is dead. I’d rather live an ordinary time and die and go to Heaven.”

*Jack Lewis*  
The Magician's Nephew

#### *Conversion*

It would be nice, and fairly nearly true, to say that “from that time forth Eustace was a different boy.” To be strictly accurate, he began to be a different boy. He had relapses. There were still many days when he could be very tiresome. But most of those I shall not notice. The cure had begun.

*Jack Lewis*  
The Voyage of the Dawn Treader

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

*Genesis 1:1-3*

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor...

*St. Luke 14:18*

God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

*St. John 4:24*

The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God.

*Romans 8:16*

For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

*I St. John 5:7*

We are living on borrowed time that has been purchased by stealing money from future generations. We are literally destroying the future in order to make the present more palatable. But whether it is this year, or next year or the year after that, at some point we are going to experience the pain that results from decades of incredibly foolish [financial] decisions.

*Michael Snyder*  
21<sup>st</sup> century American commentator

The difference between savages and civilized men isn't that savages are dumb and civilized people are smart. Savages can individually be quite clever... It's the ability to extend intelligence in groups that makes for civilization. Savages cannot work together. They can fantasize, but they can't build anything bigger than a small group can manage.

Savages are warriors, but not soldiers, they are tinkers, not engineers, they are inventors, not scientists, they cannot work together on a large scale and thereby push past their own limitations as a culture and grow... they cannot pass on what they learn.

*Daniel Greenfield*

21<sup>st</sup> century American commentator

Those who do not remember the past are condemned to repeat it.

*George Santayana*

19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century Spanish philosopher

### *Propers*

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

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

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

The Propers for today are found on Page 179-180, with the Collect first:

#### **The Sunday after Ascension Day.**

*The Collect.*

**O** GOD, the King of glory, who hast exalted thine only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph unto thy kingdom in heaven; We beseech thee, leave us not comfortless; but send to us thine Holy Ghost to comfort us, and exalt us un-to the same place whither our Saviour Christ is gone before, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

The Collect for Ascension Day, found on Page 177, is also read due to the rubric:

#### **The Collect for The Ascension Day.**

*The Collect.*

**G**RANT, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that like as we do believe thy only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into the heavens; so we may also in heart and mind thither ascend, and with him continually dwell, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

¶ **This Collect is to be said daily throughout the Octave.**

This morning's Epistle is written in the Fourth Chapter of the First Epistle of Saint Peter

beginning at the Seventh Verse. Peter reminds us of the shortness of our lives, the eternity of the next world and implores us to live as if we were eternal now, not wait until we die. For the, eternity will be a bit late.

**T**HE end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer. And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins. Use hospitality one to another without grudging. As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Today's Holy Gospel came from the Fifteenth Chapter of the Gospel according to Saint John beginning at the Twenty-Sixth Verse. The Gospel talks about the origin of the Holy Ghost and the reason for which He is being sent. It also foretells the enmity that Christians will find from those of this world who do not share their understanding of God and His Will:

**W**HEN the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me: and ye also shall bear witness, because ye have been with me from the beginning. These things have I spoken unto you, that ye should not be offended. They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service. And these things will they do unto you, because they have not known the Father, nor me. But these things have I told you, that when the time shall come, ye may remember that I told you of them.

### *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**

Sunday after Ascension Day  
28 May 2017, Anno Domini

### **The Sunday after Ascension Day.**

*The Collect.*

**O** GOD, the King of glory, who hast exalted thine only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph unto thy kingdom in heaven; We beseech thee, leave us not comfortless; but send to us thine Holy Ghost to comfort us, and exalt us un-to the same place whither our Saviour Christ is gone before, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.*



The Collect for Ascension Day, found on Page 177, is also read due to the rubric:

### **The Collect for The Ascension Day.**

*The Collect.*

**G**RANT, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that like as we do believe thy only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into the heavens; so we may in heart and mind thither ascend, and with him continually dwell, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.*



¶ This Collect is to be said daily throughout the Octave.

**T**HESSE words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, **F**ather, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee: <sup>2</sup> As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him. <sup>3</sup> And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent. <sup>4</sup> I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do. <sup>5</sup> And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was. <sup>6</sup> I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word. <sup>7</sup> Now they have known that all things whatsoever thou hast given me are of thee. <sup>8</sup> For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me. <sup>9</sup> I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine. <sup>10</sup> And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them. <sup>11</sup> And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are. <sup>12</sup> While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled. <sup>13</sup> And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves. <sup>14</sup> I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. <sup>15</sup> I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. <sup>16</sup> They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. <sup>17</sup> Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth. <sup>18</sup> As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. <sup>19</sup> And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth. <sup>20</sup> Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; <sup>21</sup> That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. <sup>22</sup> And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: <sup>23</sup> I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me. <sup>24</sup> Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world. <sup>25</sup> O righteous Father, the world hath not known thee: but I have known thee, and these have known that thou hast sent me. <sup>26</sup> And I have declared unto them thy name, and will declare it: that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them. (John 17:1-26 - (Second Lesson, First Propers – same for Maundy Thursday)

How can we adequately contemplate the great events of this day, and the greater events of tomorrow, without a deep sense of remorse, sorrow, and serious penitence? This text today contains some of the most beautiful words and pleas that can be found in scripture. There are, too, mysteries that escape the competence of man to define or explain. How is that we came to Christ – by our own volition and goodness, or by the foreordination and predestination of God? Was it one or the other, or was it both? Many learned men have addressed the issue and the results are a torn and divided church. The Calvinists believe that they have discovered the rock bottom of truth. The Arminians, as well, believe that they have the exclusive knowledge of truth as regards the matter. Each condemns members of the other party to damnation. But, of course, that is not our role as Christians. We may differ fundamentally on the meaning of passages of scripture, but

we can condemn no man for his having another interpretation as long as he is using scripture and a modicum of reason and logic to arrive at that interpretation. The traditional Anglican view is to accept that there are mysteries of which we may have little comprehension. The Thirty Nine Articles of Religion define our doctrine on these matters, and they are authoritative – but they are authoritative only insofar as they are drawn from Biblical Truth. I have studied ten different commentaries on these Articles and have found not a single flaw in their Biblical truth and expression. So let us arm ourselves to do battle with Satan and his legions, and not do internecine battle with each other on matters that we may not have mastered or which may not affect our security in Christ. If we are redeemed of the Lord, we shall know it at any rate!

*<sup>1</sup> These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee: <sup>2</sup> As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him. <sup>3</sup> And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.* This entire chapter is a prayer – the longest in the New Testament – given at a moment of great grief for our Lord. The disciples are walking with Christ on the way to Gethsemane. The prayer takes on a more meaningful ambience when uttered beneath the starlit sky. When the only source of light and comfort can be found from Heaven, it is appropriate to lift one's eyes to that source. *I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. <sup>2</sup> My help cometh from the LORD, which made heaven and earth.* (Psalm 121:1-2) The desire of the ages is coming due in its season. Eternity has suffered and labored to bring about the redemption of the race of man from the curse of Eden. It is now the time of Christ to fulfill all things – to suffer, redeem, and save us from our sins. If we are Christian, we must accept the authority of Scripture in all things. We are told that there can be no separation between God the Father and God the Son. To reject the Son is to reject the Father. This being a given of scripture, how is it possible for evangelicals and reformed ministers to declare that we Christians worship the same God as Allah? Does Allah know Christ? Does Allah have a Holy Ghost? Does Allah have redeeming mercy? The questions are rhetorical for it is obvious on the face of the matter that Allah does not resemble the goodness of God even by the most charitable standards. Allah brings, as did Hagar, bondage to sin and a continual judgment. God offers liberty through the merits of His Son and the efficacious testimony of the Holy Ghost.

*<sup>4</sup> I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do. <sup>5</sup> And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was. <sup>6</sup> I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word.* Notice that Christ speaks in the past perfect tense regarding His finishing the work His Father had given – sinless and holy life, His miracles, His death and resurrection, and salvation for men who responded to the faith. To be sure, the work was accomplished in Christ before the worlds were made when it was decided that a Savior must come. When the Lord gives His Word, the matter is as good as accomplished. Those who came to Christ were given by the Father. These, too, have kept the Word for such is the nature of the people of God.

*<sup>7</sup> Now they have known that all things whatsoever thou hast given me are of thee. <sup>8</sup> For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me.* Christ is earnest to give glory of the Word to His father, but, in fact, Christ is the incarnation of that Word. The Father has given the Son, and the son has

given Himself from the Father. The circle of Love is complete. The disciples, except for the son of perdition, have all alike received the Word, have understood the Word in things necessary, and know that the Father and the Son are One.

*9 I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine. 10 And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them.* As an inquiring young boy growing up, I often heard sermons from the pulpit that seemed to suggest God looked upon all – both the lost and the saved of Christ – with the same devotion and care. This was long a puzzle to me. Why should those who rejected His only Begotten Son be viewed by God with the same attentive compassion? I have learned since that this notion was never true. There are only two families upon the face of the earth – those who are the Elect of God, and those who have rejected Him. These latter ones belong to their father the devil as Christ charged the Pharisees. Christ here does not pray for the world, but for the chosen from out of the world.

*11 And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are. 12 While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled. 13 And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves. 14 I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.* Does it not warm your heart to know that such depth of compassion springs from the heart of Christ on the eve of His Passion? Christ will be leaving the world since His work is finished here, but we will be left to fend alone among the wolves and carnivores of the world. He prays that God will keep us together in the Spirit of One family. Important to note is the fact that Christ loses none who have come into His hands. If you have come into the estate of the blessed, neither shall you be lost for He shall keep you in security. Because of the Word (truth) the world hates Christ, but also the followers of Christ. The world will receive us better if we compromise that Word, and far too many have done so; but God's grip on our souls is solid in our faithfulness to Him.

*15 I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. 16 They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. 17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth. 18 As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. 19 And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.* Remember the illustration of the ship made for the sea, to navigate the sea and to carry burdens of blessing across it? That is what the Christian is in the world. He navigates through the world. He bears burdens of blessing for the world, but when there is a breach and the sea gets into the ship, or the world gets into the Christian, both will founder. Christ sends us out into the world for the benefit of the world, but not so that we will become part of it. Christ separated Himself from the world, not only because of His own choosing, but also for our benefit. If He remains pure and sanctified, so should we be inspired to be.

*20 Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; 21 That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. 22 And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: 23 I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.* Do you realize that Christ prayed for YOU the night preceding His Passion? He has done so if you have believed through the words of the Apostles and Gospel writers. He did not only have a

following that was One with the Father 2,000 years ago, He has ones called out from the four corners of the world today who are One with Christ, One with the Father, and One with every other believer – past, present, or future. What a privilege and a blessing to know that the Father loves us in the same way that He loves His dear Son. The amazing quality of love is that it never diminishes when shared, but grows more abundant in volume.

*24 Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world. 25 O righteous Father, the world hath not known thee: but I have known thee, and these have known that thou hast sent me. 26 And I have declared unto them thy name, and will declare it: that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them.* If you harbor any false belief Jesus became the son of God 2,000 years ago in Bethlehem, perish that thought! He has ever been with the Father from Eternity Past to Eternity Future. Our ultimate responsibility is to engender that same divine love in our hearts that still most resemble that unconditional kind of love that exists in the heart of the Father and His dear Son our Lord. Is our love today a detached kind of love for others, or is it a vibrant, living, sacrificial love that is like that of Christ? The chains of bondage shall be severed on the morrow!

### *Sermon – Reverend Jack Arnold - Time and Action*

*Church of the Faithful Centurion - Descanso, California*

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



Once again the propers for this week come together very well, their focus is narrow, thus powerful.

Consider these words from the Collect:

... leave us not comfortless; but send to us thine Holy Ghost to comfort us, and exalt us unto the same place whither our Saviour Christ is gone before ...

The Ascension having just happened, Jesus having ascended in to heaven, we are alone and separated from God who gives us strength. Like Peter, the further we are from God, the weaker we are. Thus, we are looking towards Pentecost and the arrival of the Holy Ghost. We ask for God's help that we might have

the true belief, courage, knowledge and strength to follow Jesus to heaven for all eternity.

While the end of the earth and this world may come at any time, for 313,000 people each day, their time here is up. Thus, in a very real sense as Saint Peter put it, "The end of all things is at hand..." So, how should we act? We are to do what we can with a smile on our face. We should act as if it was our last day on earth. We need to be mindful of the fact that at any time, the world could end for each of us. In other words, if this was our last day on this planet, how would we act? That is a question I must ask myself more often and not only ask it, but answer it. The answer comes with the help of the Holy Ghost, who could only come once Jesus left. That is one of the reasons why Jesus ascended into heaven. He left so the Holy Ghost could come down and live amongst us and provide us with the guidance we need to follow God.

We have to wait and hear what the Holy Ghost has to say before we act. Then once the

Holy Spirit has given the answer, we must act upon that answer. This is a continuous cycle and we must always prioritize our work to be for God, our Country and Family in that order and things will fall in line. Along these lines, we should strive to work hard, take care of those who cannot and be good stewards of the considerable grace God has given us. This does not just refer to spending MONEY, but rather to giving of our time and effort to bring the Gifts of God to others. We must give ourselves entirely to help others, so that we may share the benefits of the Gift of God truly. Only then we will know the grace of God's love truly. We are to share the LOVE in our hearts with those we encounter, for Love is of God. And the Holy Ghost will help us spread that love to others in our lives. We are called not to hoard that love, but to spread it through our travels. For as love is of God, then it follows there is a large supply of love. In fact, love multiplies with use, so there is an even more infinite amount of love out there.

For as Saint Peter says in his Epistle this morning, charity (love) truly does cover a multitude of sins. So, when we do things for others, the driving force behind our actions should be that of charity, or love, for our fellow human beings and not any self-seeking motivation. Charity will cover for our multitude of sins, but we need to be thinking of how we can use charity in our hearts to help others. It is one of the greatest gifts God and the Holy Spirit gives to us; it is a gift we find ourselves needing to use more often. The Holy Spirit is key in giving us the desirable thoughts and attributes that we need to carry out His Plan on Earth. He also helps us deal with our less desirable thoughts and attributes and helps us deal with very difficult people and situations. I have found that to be the case in plenty of those difficult situations. Turning to the Holy Spirit in those very stressful times will reduce the burden on your heart and shift it from you to God, giving you the clarity you need to act for Him, to be able to act in an effective and Christ like manner.

But, without the Holy Ghost, the needed action on our part is impossible. We need God's help and He sent it in the form of the Holy Ghost. He sent it as the "Comforter", that is to Comfort us and to Guide us on the journey on the narrow uphill path towards heaven. The Holy Ghost is that portion of God who can enter our hearts bringing understanding, hope and most of all the courage and determination to do what needs be done. Those who will not have Him in their hearts can never understand God and His Will. That is why they cannot understand or fathom the plan He has for us. They cannot understand why we follow God and Christ. They do not believe; therefore, they cannot have Him in their hearts, and therefore they will not understand. The end of time is nearer each day than the day before, of that we can be certain. But there is a certainty we have in this uncertainly world, the unfailing love of our Lord and Saviour Jesus and the presence of the Holy Ghost in our lives, if we let Him in, and the inerrant Holy Scriptures to guide us throughout the rest of our lives. With this knowledge of an unchanging standard, we can stand fast by this standard and be content knowing we are following the One True Triune God, and though we may suffer a while, it is nothing to enjoying eternity with God. We just have to DO and ACT our best for Him here; though it may be hard, it will be worth it in the end. The current climate in the world and even in this country is less hospitable than in centuries to Christians. There is a reason for this which only God understands and not us. God has a plan for all of this. In time, we will realize what the plan is. But for now, we are unaware of His plan in the greater scheme of things. But what it is doing is solidifying the faith of true believers around the globe, forming the Army of Light together, ready to battle against the malicious forces of Satan. We cannot make this journey alone. We must have the close and continuous presence of God. That presence is the Holy Ghost. That is why He is here.

Pray for His continual presence in your heart.

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

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

It is by our actions we are known.

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

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

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



#### **Why We still Believe**

1 Peter 4:7- 11, John 15:26-16:4

Sunday after Ascension

May 28, 2017

The Christian faith is either revealed truth from God, or it is just one of many made up stories that we can identify with or not as we choose. Christian morality is either God's law binding upon all people at all times, or it is just another competing human view which we are free to accept or reject as we please. Yet billions of people down through history, many of them the brightest lights of humanity, have earnestly believed the Christian faith is truth from God. Even today billions of people still believe. The World Council of Churches claims to have 590 million members. There are over 330,000 protestant denominations. 300 million people are part of the Eastern Orthodox Church. 1.2 billion people are Roman Catholics. A variety of beliefs and approaches, each of them call themselves Christians. So, the fact is, they believe they are, and that raises a question; why, in this, "enlightened" age, do so many still believe? Why do we still cling to Christianity?

We still cling to Christianity because we believe it is the faith given by God. We say this because we believe Jesus Christ brought the Christian faith to us, and we believe Jesus Christ was is and forever will be, God. We believe He is the word who was with God and who was God in John 1:1. We believe He is the word who became flesh in John 1:14. We believe Him when He said in John 10:30, "**I and my Father are one**," and in John 8:18, "**the Father that sent me beareth witness of me**," and, "**he that hath seen me hath seen the Father**" in John 14:9. Thus we agree fully with Hebrews 1:1 and 2, "God, who at sundry times and in diverse manners spake in times past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken to us by his Son."

How did God speak to us in His Son Jesus Christ? He spoke to us in the teaching of Jesus. Jesus came to teach us about God. He said, "**I do nothing of myself; but as the Father hath taught me, I speak these things**" (John 8:18). Looking through the Bible we see Jesus spending most of His time teaching about God. We see the Sermon on the Mount. We see Him teaching in the synagogues and in the Temple. We especially see Him teaching the men who would become His Apostles. We see Him taking them aside for special times of private instruction. He even spent time teaching them after His resurrection.

Thus, on the Emmaus road, "beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself" (Luke 24:27).

It was these same men that He commissioned to be His witnesses, preaching the same faith He gave to them. They were "ambassadors for Christ" (2 Cor. 5:20), and "stewards of the mysteries of God" (1 Cor 4:1). They were to proclaim only what they had received from Christ, the very same faith He taught, the very word of Christ.. They were to "preach the word," as the Apostle Paul wrote to Timothy (2 Tim 4:1). And they were to pass that same word on to others, who were to pass it on to others, and so it will continue down through the generations (2 Tim. 2:2).

So, we believe the Christian faith is given to the world by God, and taught in the Church from the time of Christ to this very moment. It was preserved by God through the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit enabled the Apostles to understand and preserve the faith. They preserved it by teaching it, and commissioning others to teach it. They also preserved it by recording it in the books and letters we now call the New Testament.

We believe God established a people, a kingdom, an organisation called the Church, and a major part of its purpose is to preserve and proclaim the faith. given to it. We believe the Church was established by God, for Christ Himself said, "on this rock I will build my church." We believe all Christians are to be active and faithful members of the Church. For Hebrews 10:25 tells us not to absent ourselves from its meetings. Christ gave the faith to the Church and the Bible calls Christianity the faith once delivered to the saints. This is why St. Paul calls the Church the pillar and ground of truth, because it preserves the faith given to it by Christ.

For two thousand years the Church has struggled to preserve the faith. It has been persecuted by enemies, and untold numbers of her people have died in Coliseums and dungeons and on crosses, rather than give up the faith. It has been torn by heresy. I said earlier that I have a hard time calling some people Christians. That is because so many of them have adopted other gospels and given up on the faith given by Christ. This is not surprising to us, for the Bible itself says the time will come when people will not endure sound doctrine, and will turn away from the truth to fables. I submit to you that many who call themselves Christians today are actually following fables rather than truth. Yet God has His remnant, His people who have not bowed the knee to other gods or departed from the faith. It is this Invisible Church within the Church that is the true Church. And, though not perfect in either faith or practice, not even close to perfection, this Church continues in the faith, and always will.

That brings me to this present moment and this very place. It brings me to we who call ourselves Christians here and now. The faith has been given. It has come to us at great cost and much suffering. It is ours to believe, to treasure, and to preserve, and to hand down to future generations. Having it makes us stewards of the manifold grace of God, as the Apostle Peter wrote in the passage we read earlier this morning. But I note that Peter didn't just call us stewards of the grace of God. He told us to do certain things, "as good stewards of the manifold grace of God." He is saying that having the grace of God makes us its stewards. Now we must decide whether to be bad stewards, or good stewards. God help to be good stewards.

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+Dennis Campbell  
Bishop, Anglican Orthodox Church Diocese of Virginia  
Rector, Holy Trinity Anglican Orthodox Church  
Powhatan, Virginia

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

Bishop Roy is pastor of the biggest AOC parish West of the Mississippi and is in charge of the Diocese of the Epiphany, as well as Central and South America.

**Sunday after the Ascension**

28 May 2017

Psalm 46,47 • Isaiah 32:1-4,15-20 • John 3:16-21, 31-36a

*The Exalted One*

**The Sunday after Ascension Day.**

*The Collect.*



**O** GOD, the King of glory, who hast exalted thine only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph unto thy kingdom in heaven; We beseech thee, leave us not comfortless; but send to us thine Holy Ghost to comfort us, and exalt us unto the same place whither our Saviour Christ is gone before, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

Take some time this week to re-read the scripture set aside for this period of the church calendar, "Ascension-tide". Here we can see the culmination of Christ's time on earth, his bringing to a close the earthly ministry that was a mere three and a half years, and yet what a magnificent three and a half years! God's creation has experienced Immanuel, "God with us", and now mankind has the full experience of Salvation. The completeness of this salvation has now been revealed. What a time in the history of man. Let us look at some of our scripture for the day and see the wonderful work of God displayed.

If you notice, the Psalms and the reading from Isaiah both describe kingship. If we take a moment and reflect on the Ascension of Christ, we can see the parallels about kingship. First, in the psalms we read of a king, his kingdom established, the heathen are powerless against that kingdom. We read in the 47<sup>th</sup> Psalm the ascriptions of praise, befit a king. Here we read of some very strong foreshadowing of a coming king and his kingdom.

**O** CLAP your hands, all ye people; shout unto God with the voice of triumph.

For the Lord most high is terrible; he is a great King over all the earth.

<sup>3</sup> He shall subdue the people under us, and the nations under our feet.

<sup>4</sup> He shall choose our inheritance for us, the excellency of Jacob whom he loved. Selah.

<sup>5</sup> God is gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

<sup>6</sup> Sing praises to God, sing praises: sing praises unto our King, sing praises.

<sup>7</sup> For God is the King of all the earth: sing ye praises with understanding.

<sup>8</sup> God reigneth over the heathen: God sitteth upon the throne of his holiness.

<sup>9</sup> The princes of the people are gathered together, even the people of the God of Abraham: for the shields of the earth belong unto God: he is greatly exalted.

Now let's look at the pure Gospel of St. John's message to all of mankind. In this most familiar of all passages of the Bible we see the work of God laid out in the life of Christ, who came to earth as we read earlier; Immanuel.



**F**OR God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. <sup>17</sup> For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. <sup>18</sup> He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. <sup>19</sup> And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup> For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved. <sup>21</sup> But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God..."

Now in case beloved, you do not understand the full import of this previous passage, John then continues with the following:

<sup>31</sup> He that cometh from above is above all: he that is of the earth is earthly, and speaketh of the earth: he that cometh from heaven is above all. <sup>32</sup> And what he hath seen and heard, that he testifieth; and no man receiveth his testimony. <sup>33</sup> He that hath received his testimony hath set to his seal that God is true. <sup>34</sup> For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him. <sup>35</sup> The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into his hand. <sup>36</sup> He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him

I don't think you can misunderstand this passage. If you do not believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, then you are condemned and will not see life. Notice that even if you have not personally seen Christ on earth, you should believe the testimony of those who did.

This forty day period of time from Christ's resurrection until he ascended into heaven we know that at least 500 people saw him, who had seen him before his death on the Cross.

That is a pretty powerful testimony.

You might look at this period of time between Christ's Ascension and the coming of the Holy Spirit as the "calm before the storm". We have the disciples staying in Jerusalem, the others who followed Jesus possibly taking stock as what to do next. And yet all were most likely waiting with anticipation, not knowing exactly what was to come.

Some Bible commentators and theologians liken this time as the pre-church age.<sup>5</sup> That with the coming of the Holy Spirit in a few days, the church, that group of believers,

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<sup>5</sup> Where is Christ Jesus?

He didn't just drop out of sight. Paul reports in 1 Corinthians 5-8 he and more than 500 other individuals saw Christ after he rose from the dead. In The 1928 Book of Common Prayer, pages 166-178, we read about others who saw the living Jesus after his Resurrection.

Ascension Day, the 40<sup>th</sup> day of Easter, was 25 May this year. Today is the Sunday after Ascension Day. On this day, writes Luke, Christ's disciples were the last to see him as he ascended into Heaven.

This is the day on which Christ the man takes his power as God the Son and reigns as King of Kings. As he is taken up, he blesses his disciples. Thus, his Ascension marks the end of his life on earth and the beginning of his life in Heaven.

Historians have pinpointed the time Paul recorded more than 500 sightings. He didn't just scribble down the first thing he heard. He collected a credible body of first-person sources as reports came to him over a

would be certified as the ongoing instrument of mission that Jesus instituted during his earthly ministry.

Suffice it to say, there would be a great change in the nature, attitude and mission thrust of the disciples and those who they trained in the coming years. The events that Jesus foretold in our Gospel passage would come to be. Not only would the disciple be thrown out of the synagogue, they would be persecuted, many would face death at the hands of Jewish and Roman legal systems. There were great changes that would be manifest in the life of the early church.

Do you think you would be up to the task? It is hard to say, in our relative comfort of the mostly calm United States. It isn't so with our brethren overseas. Our AOC parishes in Pakistan, India, parts of Africa, the South Sea Isles and the Philippines all face daily challenges and even death. It is getting more intense for believers especially on the Sub-Continent, as more and more militant groups gain power, not only the Islamist elements, but even militant Hindu and Buddhist groups too. All seemingly hell-bent on attacking their common enemy: Christians and the Cross that is "foolishness to them that perish". Let us pray for our fellow believers and those of the worldwide communion of the Anglican Orthodox Church.

**O** GOD, who hast made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on the face of the whole earth, and didst send thy blessed Son to preach peace to them that are far off and to them that are nigh; Grant that all men everywhere may seek after thee and find thee. Bring the nations into thy fold, pour out thy Spirit upon all flesh, and hasten thy kingdom; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**A**LMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, in whose hands are the living and the dead; We give thee thanks for all those thy servants who have laid down their lives in the service of our country. Grant to them thy mercy and the light of thy presence, that the good work which thou hast begun in them may be perfected; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord. *Amen.*

**D**IRECT us, O Lord, in all our doings, with thy most gracious favour, and further us with thy continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in thee, we may glorify thy holy Name, and finally, by thy mercy, obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*



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period of 25 years. Christ's death is thought to have taken place in 30 to 33 AD Paul wrote his letter to the Corinthians (the Church at Corinth) at around 55 AD.

In those days, communication spread around the ancient world at the speed of camel. Yet in merely 40 days from Resurrection to Ascension, Christ made known his presence to enough individuals who would spread the words like ripples --

"He lives!" -- jm {1928 Prayer Book Alliance}

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



### **Sunday after Ascension Day**

In today's Gospel, we read the words of our Lord at the Last Supper: *But these things have I told you, that when the time shall come, ye may remember that I told you.* Our Lord warned the disciples they would suffer persecution and rejection in their efforts to proclaim the gospel of truth. He advised them not to be offended. And in another place in Saint John's gospel, our Lord said, *These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world, ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world* (16:33). We ought to be of good cheer. Being a saved person ought to fill us with gratitude and joy for what our Saviour has done for us. But in order for us to have that joy and his attendant peace that comes from his free gift of his grace, we must heed his word and commandments. Good advice.

Now a caveat is in order. No doubt you may well have received a lot of advice from family and friends over the years. But the advice we get from the Scriptures should be of paramount interest to us who bear the name of Christ. As Paul instructed young Timothy, *All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works* (II Timothy 3:16-17).

Now human wisdom and understanding are the only things the unregenerate have to go on. Since humanity at every level is fouled and flawed due to original sin, we can be certain that human wisdom, and its companion human understanding, are also flawed. This is not to say that such wisdom is totally false and to be ignored. But should we as Christians base our lives and our judgments on it as we would the Scriptures?

I remember a hearing an anecdote about one of my relations and his pre-Great Depression investments. This man was a lawyer and made a modest living as such. After returning from the France at the end of the Great War, he would occasionally purchase stock from his favorite brokerage firm. For nearly ten years, following the war, the stock market had been on an upward slant aside from a brief downturn in 1920. But by the summer of 1929, my relative decided to liquidate his holdings. His friend and broker tried to keep him in the market; but my relative would have nothing of it. He got his cash, brought it back home and put it in his office safe and returned to his practice of the law.

Then in October of that year, the stock market crashed and the Great Depression began. Almost overnight, vast fortunes, which had been tied up in stocks, banks and many insurance companies, were lost. The world economy slowed to a crawl. Those who were once the head became the tail or worse. It was then that my relative opened his safe and realized that he had made the right decision. He had taken the accumulated wisdom of the ages and utilized it to his advantage and that of his family. While economic times were hard in other households, he was able to take care of his family's needs and a few of their wants and desires all because he had been discerning.

As Christians, we have a source of advice which is far better than the kind my relative had followed. God our Father has provided us with a sort of heads-up on his plan and

purpose in the ages. You will find it set forth in the Holy Bible. For within its sacred pages, God has given us things to look for, signs and wonders to behold, all for the purpose of comforting us and keeping our focus on the coming his kingdom.

Consider now the word of God as found in the Book of Isaiah, *Behold, the former things are come to pass, and new things do I declare: before they spring forth I tell you of them* (42:9). In the Olivet Discourse, our Lord spoke of the end of days and his coming again in glory. He did this for the same reason that God informed the children of Israel through the prophets: so that they would know and would be able to point to those signs not as simply benchmarks in time, but events which would sustain and comfort them as they reveal God's hand within mankind's frame of reference. Our Lord said, *And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh... Behold the fig tree, and all the trees; when they now shoot forth, ye see and know of your own selves that summer is now nigh at hand. So likewise ye, when ye see these things come to pass, know ye that the kingdom of God is nigh at hand* (St. Luke 21:28-31).

I have heard people say from time to time that the prophecies of Scripture are too vague. They say it is pointless to study prophecy because there are so few specifics that such is akin to "reading tea leaves" or worse yet, "a horoscope". They complain that people are being misled by "end-time charlatans" who are out to make a buck through their latest book of the month which takes a few headlines which seem to fit the prophecies and then smile all the way to the bank with each new addition they publish.

While it is true that there are those who have used the end-times messages of Scripture for gain, we must remember to separate the message of God from our modern-day equivalents of Simon the Sorcerer— who sought personal profit from the beneficial aspects of the Holy Ghost (Acts 8:5-25). And God will judge those whose hearts were filled with greed for gain, as well as those who kept from their readers the whole counsel of God to the detriment of the gospel and the ruination of souls.

We know from the Scriptures that Christ will come again, and with that in mind we ought be witnessing to others regarding their salvation. As Paul observed in II Corinthians 6: 2, (... *behold, now is the day of salvation.*) Almost two thousand years ago, our Lord told us to, *Watch, therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come* (St. Matthew 24:42). He gave us that command because he desires all Christians to be like those wise virgins who took enough oil for their lamps so that they would be ready to serve and to celebrate the coming of the bridegroom (St. Matthew 25:1-13). God did not communicate his prophetic designs so that we would quit working. We are to watch for the signs which he has given us that we might warn the faltering that they not waver in their faith, and also encourage the unregenerate to have faith in Christ. Our Lord promised to go and prepare a place for us. He also promised that he will come again and bring us to it. O what comfort of joy there will be in that day of our gathering together in Christ (II Thessalonians 2:1)!

Needless to say, Lucifer is ready to confound and confuse the believer at every turn. I once heard a story about a demonic conference wherein the devil asked his minions how they might keep people away from the Gospel. One offered, "Tell them that the Bible has too many rules which impact mortal desires." The devil thought about it for a moment and replied, "Sounds good, but that doesn't work very well because there are many hopeful things in the Bible and mortals also like hopeful things." Another suggested, "Tell them the Bible is full of errors so they won't know what to believe." The devil responded, "That too is good thinking, but unfortunately the Bible has more evidences of its authenticity than Caesar's Gallic Wars so that won't work either." After a moment of silence, another offered this: "Tell them that the Godhead exists, and that the Bible is

true, but that they have plenty of time to decide on salvation." "Bingo!" replied the devil. "That's it. When we tell them that, they will resist the Gospel thinking they are going to live a long time and that they can decide later. Just think of the numbers we can lead astray into hell! Let it be done."

So then let us rejoice as we watch for our Lord's coming and observe the signs of the times as he has commanded. We have God's prophecies in the Old Testament and we have the promises of Christ in the New Testament. And we should be actively laboring in the harvest and standing fast in our spiritual warfare against the forces of darkness so that when our Lord comes for us, we will be in accord with his will when he said, *Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find [him] so doing* (St. Matthew 24: 46). May you likewise mark and remember.

Let us pray,

**F**ATHER, grant to us the wisdom to follow those things that you have set forth within the pages of Scripture; that in so doing, our lives will be fruitful, so that at the last, we might be welcomed home as good stewards, faithful witnesses and stalwart soldiers in thy service; all these things we ask in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. 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 our happy duty 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!*

### **Immediate Prayer Please**

*Kurt Thomas* is now home after undergoing open heart surgery in Richmond, Virginia as the result of a life threatening bacterial blood infection which settled in his heart and other places. The infection resulted in a hole in his heart. Kurt. They successfully replaced about half his heart with donor parts. Kurt had a permanent pacemaker installed on 26 March 2017. It is a God given miracle Kurt made it through all this. Please join Kurt and Mary, his family and friends in giving thanks. There is still a long and rocky road ahead; please pray for spiritual and physical strength for Kurt, his wife Mary and their family. Please pray for the medical team treating Kurt that they might pay attention, do their very best and be open to God's guidance. Pray also for Kurt to accept what he cannot do at present and concentrate on what he can do. This is a very foreign situation for this Christian warrior. He needs God's help to adapt and prosper.

*Cindy*, Bishop Jerry's cousin, may need to undergo brain surgery if medication is not effective. Please pray the Lord will extend a hand of mercy and healing to Cindy.

*Samson Hendrik* has prostate cancer and his kidneys are not working. Pray our Lord Jesus Christ will be close to him and his family of friends during this illness.

### **Travel**

*Don* and *Ruth* are traveling to pick up their teenage grandchildren, *Alex* and *Sarah*, in an RV, take them on an educational trip and bring them back to their home. They will be gone a month. Play for safe travel and a peaceful, relaxing and educational time for all.

### **Move**

*The Thomas Family* are now in Virginia on what was to be a headquarters tour. Pray for peace of mind for Kurt and for Mary and the kids.

### **Marriage**

*Bruce* and *Mily Arnold* were married on 26 April 2017 in Isla Mujeres, Mexico. Please pray they might come together as one in Christ.

## *Departed*

*Betty Hoffman* left for home the afternoon of 6 May 2017.



For the past fifty years, our National Secretary, Mrs. Betty Hoffman, took on the responsibility to post prayers and spiritual requests to our mailing list. She was most faithful in executing that task, and following up thereto, in spite of an otherwise heavy workload at our National Office. She let nothing stop her, she did not give up. Betty followed Christ and led others, she did not just point the way.

Please join us in prayer.

May her family let God carry their sorrow at the temporary separation and rejoice in the example she set while here on earth.

*Jerry L. Ogles*  
Presiding Bishop  
Anglican Orthodox Communion Worldwide

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

*Neal* has heart problems and is very weak, he also has COPD, kidney problems, his potassium is too high, he came back from the point of death. He is now home and permanently on oxygen. He is doing well, for that he and his family are grateful and ask your thanksgiving prayers. More importantly, please pray Neal will accept salvation through our Lord and Savior.

*Paul* is in hospice and ready to meet His Lord. Please pray for Paul as he prepares to go home to be with his family who have gone before him. Pray for the faith of his family to build and the transition to be good.

*Dot* is an elderly woman with liver cancer. Please pray for Dot 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.

*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.

*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*

*Kathy Cox Merritt* has been receiving Chemo and 12 November 2016, had bowel resection surgery and was given a very bad prognosis. Kathy just retired as an RN in Orthopedics at a local hospital; sometimes a little medical knowledge can be

dangerous to the patient but she remains positive. PLEASE pray for Kathy's healing and peace and comfort for her and her family, both spiritually and physical

*Krysti* is off life support and able to talk, please give thanks for the good news. She is still unable to feel her legs. When that comes back she will go to a rehabilitation facility. *Krysti* has used drugs, has high blood pressure, is diabetic and has organ failure. Her families are with her and will appreciate your prayers.

*Pat* has metastatic osteosarcoma; there is little that can be done. Please pray for a miraculous remission; that *Pat*'s remaining time here on earth might be good. Help *Pat* and family put their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their sadness, fear, worry and terror.

*Amy* has been diagnosed with metastatic melanoma and has cancer all over her body, and in one of her kidneys which are no longer functioning. *Amy* and her family have asked for prayer to stop the growth and to aid the family financially with the medical bills. At present she has to have surgery every two months to place stents. Pray Jesus will be close to all.

*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.

*Janet* has had a blood borne cancer for several years. Her faith in the Lord is great and she 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 re 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 shrank and the other disappeared; now the shrinking one has started to grow again. Please pray for a miraculous remission; that



Cindy's remaining time here on earth might be good. Help Cindy 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*

*Sarah* had to move to an Assisted Living Home and has found the adjustment very difficult. Please pray she will come to terms with the situation and that her Lord Jesus will be close to her. She recently lost 30 pounds and her eyesight is deteriorating. Pray her appetite will improve and her eyesight will return to normal. Most of all, please pray our Lord Jesus Christ will be close to her at this difficult time.

*Larry H* has general weakness as the result of extreme fatigue. Larry is now up and about, walking without assistance. The depression is still a part of his life. Due to several chronic illnesses, he will never be able to live on his own. On the other hand, he has been transferred to a facility near his former home so he will be nearer his friends. Larry has difficulty with the lack of what he considers fairness in the Word. Please pray for help for Larry to put his trust in the Lord, relax and build strength and give Pastor Roy guidance on helping him.

*Laurel Bessessen* (95) has begun to lose her mental abilities to recall people, places and things around her. Her family is no longer able to care for her at home and she is in a skilled care facility. She is the last of that family's generation. Please pray for the mental degradation to stop or for her to leave for home. Pray for her family who do their best to care for her, visiting every day; for her children Cookie, John and Bill, as well as the other members of the family.

*Judith Clingwall* is afflicted with Multiple Sclerosis (MS). She is currently in Laurel Place, an extended care facility in Surrey, British Columbia. Please pray for 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.

*John* has Alzheimer's, pray he will call on God to help him as he deals with this.

*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.

*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*

*Chief Mike Wysocki* is having heart valve surgery on 29 May 2017. Pray the surgical team will be open to God's guidance, pay close attention and do their very best. Pray for peace of mind and trust in God for Mike, his lovely wife Wendy and his family.

*Maria Carla* is going to the hospital for corrective surgery. Pray our Lord Jesus Christ will be close to her as she has this operation. Pray for her father who will be taking her a long distance for the operation.

*Bob Apple* is having surgery for a squamous cell carcinoma. 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 Bob and his family.

*Marcia* has had a biopsy 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.

*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***

*Michael Moriarty* has been diagnosed with upper duodenal cancer which is the upper section of the small intestine. It is fairly rare and they have not decided how to treat him. Pray with Michael, his family and friends that the medical insurance people will fulfill their obligations and the physicians treating him will be guided in their assessment and treatment plan, for a full and speedy recovery to good health and for continued trust in the Lord for Michael, his family and friends in this worrisome time.

*Chloe Mayo*, granddaughter of Justice Roy and Kayla Moore, good friends of Bishop Jerry, suffered a serious kidney attack possibly resulting from strep. Pray her family and friends the physicians treating her will be guided in their assessment and treatment plan, for a full and speedy recovery to good health and for continued trust in the Lord for Chloe, her family and friends in this worrisome time.

*Josh* has two little children and just discovered he has a rare form of Cancer. Please keep him and his family in your prayers in the days ahead.

*Ross* an elderly gentleman has been diagnosed with Leukemia. Ross has had good health until now, your prayers at this time will be appreciated by his family and friends.

*Carman* was just diagnosed with breast cancer. Pray for her family as they continue to help her get the proper care. Pray with Carman, her family and friends that the physicians treating her will be guided in their assessment and treatment plan, for a

full and speedy recovery to good health and for continued trust in the Lord for Carman, her family and friends in this worrisome time.

*Kathie Lynn Holter* sister of Rev Phil Ternahan, was just diagnosed with Stage Four lung cancer (never smoked) which spread to the brain. She was operated on 26 June 2016. Please pray with Kathie, her family and friends that the physicians treating her will be guided in their assessment and treatment plan, for a full and speedy recovery to good health and for continued trust in the Lord for Kathie, her family and friends in this worrisome time.

*Tina* just found out she has cancer on her left kidney. Please pray for guidance for the people treating her and for trust in our Lord for Tina and her family.

*Martha* is now home after testing and she does not have cancer, but she does have bad kidneys and is adjusting and getting ideas to work with that. Please pray for guidance for the people treating her and for trust in our Lord for her.

*Spencer* has been diagnosed with Autism. Please pray for guidance for the people treating him and for trust in our Lord for him and his mother Lorna.

*Patrice Li* is in the early stages of Congestive Heart Failure. Please pray with Patrice, her husband William, family and friends the physicians treating her will be guided in their assessment and treatment plan, for a full and speedy recovery to health and for trust in the Lord for Patrice, her husband William, family and friends in this worrisome time.

*Jane* has Multiple Myeloma and is set for back surgery on Monday 9 May 2016. Please pray with Jane, her family and friends the physicians treating her will be guided in their assessment and treatment plan, for a full and speedy recovery to good health and for continued trust in the Lord for Jane, her family and friends in this worrisome time.

*Michael* has cancer of the blood and is starting chemotherapy. 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 Michael.

*Clay* has a large gallstone; he is in poor health and not currently a surgical candidate. 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 Clay.

*Jim Sevier* has been in the hospital for heart related troubles. Please pray with Jim and his family the physicians treating him will be guided in their assessment and treatment plan, for a full and speedy recovery to good health and for trust in the Lord for Jim and his family in this worrisome time.

*Claude* has been falling and he does not know why. Pray doctors will discover what the problem is and he can continue without any more difficulties.

*Gretchen* has been diagnosed with severe osteoporosis and is now being treated with exercise, nutrition and vitamins. Please pray with Gretchen and her family the physicians treating her will be guided in their assessment and treatment plan, for a full and speedy recovery to good health and for trust in the Lord for Gretchen and her family in this worrisome time.

*Pete* has not been well and is back in the hospital with another stroke. 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 Pete and his family in this worrisome time.

*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.

*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.

*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.

*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.

*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* is bedridden after a fall which left her with two paralyzed limbs. She continues to experience pain in the effected limbs and will be totally bed bound for the remainder of her life. Your continuing prayers for her are appreciated and are great comfort to her. 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 miraculous full and rapid recovery. Also, please continue to pray for her husband Bob who is taking care of her that he be comforted and strengthened in this time of stress.

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

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

*Hang So Ryu* has cancer. Please pray for medical team contemplating and evaluating the treatment that they might be guided to the correct choice and do their very best; pray also for peace of mind and trust in God for him and his family, as well as physical strength.

*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.

*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.

*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.

*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* is having surgery on 30 September 2016 to repair a hole in his aorta bleeding into the abdomen which caused stroke like symptoms.

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

*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**

*Cheryl* fell and is in the hospital with three fractures to her hip and a shoulder fracture. Pray for rapid healing, free of pain and comfort for her and her husband Jim.

*Jim Thornell (Jet)* recovered from the five stomach ulcers, then was found to have bowel cancer, that was removed and he was doing pretty well all things considered. They just found another tumor and have changed his chemotherapy at the City of Hope. He remains on the same schedule as his wife Mary; he is still dealing with blocked coronary arteries and taking care of Mary. Jim is doing considerably better with the side effects of the chemotherapy. Please pray for remission of the cancer, for tolerance of the chemotherapy and give thanks for the strength, guidance and peace of mind our Lord gives Jet and his wife Mary, as well as daughter Janice and son Jimmy, through these difficult times.

*Madisun Hanks* (14) has been released from Children's Hospital New Orleans after a series of problems piling up. There are various very high risk treatments which provide some relief. None of them are close and none are easy. Madisun is truly one of the most inspiring young ladies we have ever come across, her attitude and actions are almost unbelievable. No one should have to go through what she does, but she makes it through and performs incredibly when others just get by. Please pray for Madisun, her mom Hilda who guides her through all this and those treating her.

*Linda* has a melanoma just forming and she needs to have it removed. She has had severe medical problems the last 15 years and needs help coping. Pray for all of her family at this time as new problems have come to light.

*Chris Hill* (close friend of Jon Weston) suffered a brain aneurysm and needs your prayers. He recovered from a coma he had been in since the week before Christmas. Pray for the doctors, nurses and technicians treating him to pay attention, to be open to God's guidance and do their very best. Pray for trust in our Lord and peace of mind for Chris and his family.

*Dylan Klein*, 10, grand-nephew of Chet O'Brien, lost his 41 year old father last April, there was no insurance; his grandmother died in December with brain cancer. Dylan is the middle boy of Chet's niece, Erin. On 18 January 2016, Dylan was found to have a brain tumor; an operation on 25 January 2016, appears to have been successful in removing all of the tumor. The biopsy showed it was cancerous. Dylan is still going back and forth to Mass. General Hospital for chemo and blood transfusions. He gets healthy and eats well, and then there is a relapse. The doctors do not give a firm positive or negative indication of his prognosis. His mother is a saint. The doctors at Mass General are fantastic. Dylan is almost always upbeat. (He hates the blood transfusions). Please pray for healing and for trust in the Lord and peace of mind for Dylan, Erin and the rest of the family.

*Mark Wilson* is still dealing with all of problems connected with COPD; he had cataract surgery, which had problems. Due to reduced vision, he lost his job. Please pray the medical people treating him will find a reasonable way to deal with the COPD and allow him a lung transplant if that is best for him; pray also his vision might return. Give Mark trust in the Lord and strength to deal with all his health and other 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 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.

*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.

*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.

*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 issues giving her severe problems. Pray that the Doctor will discover why it continues and find a cure.

*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.

*Kay Denton* (Mrs. Kay) was able to get a hip replacement in spite of her heart and kidney problems and is recovering remarkably! Please give thanks for this great event and result! 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.

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

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

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

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

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

*John Young* had three way heart bypass surgery on Thursday, 23 March 2017, in Alabama, which was apparently successful. Please join the Young family in thanksgiving for the good result and pray for a complete recovery and return to flight status for John.

*Bill* had surgery November 2016 for a kidney tumor; he is one kidney short, but recovering very well for the present. It appears the cancer has spread to another spot. Please pray for Bill as he undergoes chemotherapy and perhaps other treatment. Pray Bill and his family will stay strong in their faith and draw the strength they need from our Lord.

*Anita* had surgery on 4 November 2016 to remove what they thought were five tumors in her right lung, but turned out to be eight. They removed all eight. In addition, her lung was folded from her previous coil embolization. They removed the coils, unfolding her lower right lobe and oversewed the area. In reality she may come away with increased lung capacity. Anita, her husband Michael and family express for the power of your continued prayers and expressions of love. Please join them in giving thanks for God's Grace and pray for her continued healing.

*Bob Reisor* had surgery on 19 September 2016 for a kidney tumor; he is one kidney short, but recovering very well for the present. The cancer has spread to his lung and another spot. Five years ago there was no treatment, but now it appears there is an oral medication that has shown great effectiveness on this particular cancer. As of 12 January 2017, the main spot shrank from 3.3 cm (1 1/3 inch) to 2.2 cm (7/8 inch) and the spots on his lungs have receded even more. And as of 7 April 2017, they have shrunk further. Please give thanks to the Lord for such wonderful progress. Please pray for Bob as he undergoes chemotherapy and perhaps other treatment. Pray he and his family will be drawn closer to our Lord.

*Shamu* had surgery on 12 May 2017, her seventeenth, to reconstruct the damage done her by Walter Reed Medical Center. The surgery apparently went well and we ask you give thanks for that. Please pray she will now have a chance to recover. She gives thanks for the treatment at John Hopkins. She looks forward to going home. Please pray for strength; physical, mental and spiritual for her. Pray for guidance for the new medical team treating her and for her to know how to proceed with regard to the damage done her by Walter Reed Medical Center. Pray also for her to continue her trust in our Lord as she goes through this difficult time.

*Jan Jessup* is recovering reasonably well from surgery to place a new knee joint in her right leg. Pray for her family to be able to properly care for her as she returns home and for Jan and her husband Roger to be able to put their worry on God's shoulders.

*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.

*Atina* has skin cancer, which is now in remission. Please give thanks for the remission, pray for continued remission of the cancer; pray also for continued faith for Atina and her family.

*Clay* has melanoma which is now in remission. Please give thanks for the remission, pray for continued remission of the cancer; pray also for continued faith for Clay and his family.

*Cindy (81)* had an operation to remove a cancerous growth in her stomach which was successful. She is now home, but in a bit of pain. Please give thanks for the good result, pray for full and complete healing and remission of the cancer, as well as cessation of the pain; pray also for continued faith for Cindy and her husband Les (91).

*Jim Flanagan*, Bishop of Pennsylvania (AOC) had a Lumbar Laminectomy and fusion on Tuesday 7 June 2016, to help with pain in his L3, L4 & L5 areas. The surgery appears to have been successful, but he had difficulty recovering from the anesthetic, which has now resolved. Please give thanks for the successful surgery, recovery from the anesthetic and the start of healing. Please pray for strength, physical, mental and spiritual for Jim and his lovely wife Mary Lou. Pray for guidance for the medical team treating him, that they will pay attention and do their very best. Pray also for Jim and Mary Lou to continue their trust in our Lord as they go through this difficult time, letting Him carry their worry.

*Brett Gregr* had surgery on Tuesday, 22 March 2016, to remove a bleeding brain lesion. The surgery, which had potential to end his life, was apparently completely successful. Please give thanks for the great outcome and great work by the surgeons and medical team and please pray for Brett's peace of mind, as well as that of his wife Karin and the rest of his family during his recovery.

*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.

*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.

*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.

*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.

*Elma* is suffering from cancer. She was taken home from the hospital on the advice of her Doctor. We were asked to pray Elma's remaining time here on earth might be good and 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***

*James* and *Sarah* who have recently moved to a new area and have new positions in employment. They are finding much stress in the new surroundings and will appreciate your prayers as they adjust.

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

*Kona* is applying for a job in the hospital. Pray our Lord will find the right position for her and she will glorify Him in the work.

*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***

*Ronnie* lost his son *Scott* on 22 January 2017. His heart is very troubled and he needs the peace of mind and soul that only God can give him. Please pray for *Ronnie* to let the Lord carry his sorrow, worry and sadness so he can do what needs to be done here on earth. Pray also for his good friend *Richard* who is trying to help *Ronnie* find peace and for his family and friends who want to help.

*Hyo Son Pak*, a high school student, suffers from depression and anxiety. He cannot say why; on the one hand knowing rationally things are okay and on the other hand feeling what he knows to be irrationally that doom is impending. He asks your prayer the Holy Ghost might fill his heart with light and drive the darkness far away.

*Thomas Schopp* is currently in the Lemon Creek Correctional Center, Juneau, Alaska. He asks that you pray for guidance for him and for him to open his heart fully to the Holy Ghost that he might be guided to be a force of good in this world and be able to be a productive member of our society. He adds that he much appreciates your prayer on his behalf as he is confident the Lord listens.

*Adrian Heywood (17)* (friend of *Thomas Schopp*) is living with an abusive alcoholic stepfather, while his mother looks the other way, seemingly because she needs the stepfather's money. *Thomas* asks you pray for guidance for *Adrian*, that he might be helped to open his heart fully to the Holy Ghost to be guided to be a force of good

in this world and be able to be a productive member of our society. *Thomas* adds he much appreciates your prayer on *Adrian's* behalf as he is confident the Lord listens.

*Krysti* has issues stemming from habitual drug abuse. Pray she will take help from God through Christians trying to lead her to our Lord.

*Charlie McCormack* is really feeling down again. 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 the Holy Ghost might fill his heart with light and drive the darkness far away.

### **Guidance**

*Zachary* is having huge problems growing up. He has let the wrong people guide his life and thinks he is the smartest person in the world. He cannot or will not see the destructive power of drugs and lies in his life. Pray his parents *Lee* and *Shamu* will come to see what course of action that they can take to help *Zachary* and safeguard his brother and sister. Please pray for God's guidance for all of them and in particular for *Zachary* to open his heart to God and his parents help.

*Judy* seemingly does not want to allow the Holy Ghost into her heart so she might come to know our Lord and Savior, despite the efforts of her family. Please pray for her to open her heart and for her family to be at peace with their efforts.

*Barbara* has been recovering from cancer for the last three years. Pray for her husband *Bill* who has come down with a mental illness that may have been caused by much stress the last few years. *Barbara* and *Bill* will appreciate your prayers.

*Larry* is very weak and has periods of confusion and depression. *Larry* has been in the hospital and recently moved to a rehab. Please keep him in prayer as he begins to gain strength in the days ahead.

*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.

*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 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.

*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 she will be able to let God carry her worry and sorrow so she can do the things she must do.

*Elizabeth* needs your prayers for her general well being. Pray she might see the Light of the Lord and let Him guide her life.

*Gunner* need your prayers for his general well being. Pray he might see the Light of the Lord and let Him guide his life.

*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 ChriMitten 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.

*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* 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.

*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.

*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**

#### **Madagascar**

Please pray for the people in Madagascar, in particular for the members of the Anglican Orthodox Church there, who are being subjected to terrible flooding and unceasing rain.

#### **Indonesia**

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

#### **Pakistan**

*General and Ongoing* - The forces of evil are strong in Pakistan. The force of God stronger. Pray for our Christian family there.

*Ernest Jacob*  
Presiding Bishop Pakistan

#### **Congo**

Jimmy is a missionary in the Congo. There has been violent unrest in this country and also a water shortage. Please pray people will find water to drink and Jimmy will be a means of helping others to find the Lord.

#### **Serbia**

Bishop Igor Djurcic asks us to pray for peace between Serbia and the country of Kosovo which broke away from them in 2008. Kosovo is a muslim country and seems to be willing to provoke conflict; Serbia is a primarily Christian country which seems to be ready to return the conflict. Pray Serbia will look for the long term best interests of its people.

#### **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.

#### **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 - Stateside), Kristyna and Luis Aviles (Army - Fort Lewis, Washington), Airman Donny Patton (USAF - Hulbert Field, Florida), Jordan Brown (USMC - Recruiter

– Iowa City, Iowa), Trevor Jennings (USAF - KC-10 Boom Operator – New Jersey), Trevor Di Marco (USN – Whidbey Island, EF-18 Pilot), Kurt Thomas (USN – Virginia), Ethan (US Army Airborne – Southwest Asia)

### *For Our Country*

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

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

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

### *Persecuted*

The Islamist group (ISIS) 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 in need of God's guidance to 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.

### *Thanksgiving*

*Alejandra Jasso* (Ines Witherspoon's mom and Doug Witherspoon's mother in law) had a kidney transplant; the surgery was a success and the kidney is working, please give thanks for that. She has continued healing and not rejected the transplant, please give thanks for that also. Everyone continues to pray and hope for the kidney to stay accepted, please pray for that also.

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

29 May 2017 – Memorial Day – Morning Prayer - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**

4 June 2017 – Pentecost, commonly called Whitsunday – Morning Prayer - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**

11 May 2017 – Trinity Sunday – 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**