

# Anglican Orthodox Church Worldwide Communion Fourth Sunday in Lent



**Sunday Report** 

Today was the Fourth Sunday in Lent.

#### On Point

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

On Lent

If a man will but fast from his sins, he may eat what he pleases.

Robert E. Lee

American General and Patriot

On Lent

The best way for most of us is to fast from our sins and to eat what is good for us.

Robert E. Lee

American General and Patriot

Leadership

For this is what it means to be a king: to be first in every desperate attack and last in every desperate retreat, and when there's hunger in the land (as must be now and then in bad years) to wear finer clothes and laugh louder over a scantier meal than any man in your land.

*Iack Lewis* 

The Horse and His Boy

The Bible

It ain't those parts of the Bible I can't understand that bother me, it is the parts I do understand.

Mark Twain

In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth.

Genesis 1:1

When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart.

Matthew 13:19

Ability without honor is useless.

Marcus Tullius Cicero 1<sup>st</sup> Century BC Roman statesman It is sad to witness men preaching false conclusions today from the Word of God, or even a false word itself. The Ship of the Church is drifting aimlessly on the modern sea because the Anchor has not been set in the unchanging Rock that is Christ.

Jerry L. Ogles 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century Anglican Orthodox Presiding Bishop Contemplations on the Ways of the Lord

[Your] rights do not come from any piece of paper, even one so great as the Constitution. These rights are natural to us. We are born with them. Even if you don't believe these rights come from God, as I believe they do, you must begin to realize that the Constitution merely acknowledges these rights and binds the criminals in government with chains to prevent them from infringing upon those rights. The Constitution exists to restrain the elites from trying to take your rights away and submitting them to the collective. Most Americans have forgotten — or ignored — that. Instead, they have pledged fealty to the false god of democracy, whether they realize it or not. Democracy equals socialism equals communism equals fascism. They are all totalitarian and anathema to life and liberty and property. The sooner you remember, the sooner you can save your liberty. And that could save your life.

Bob Livingston

20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century American conservative commentator

When you sit down to negotiate on what you already have, you lose.

Marie J. Parente

21st Century member of the Massachusetts House of Representatives

#### **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 refounding 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 130-132, with the Collect first:

# The Fourth Sunday in Lent.

The Collect.

**GRANT**, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that we, who for our evil deeds do worthily deserve to be punished, by the comfort of thy grace may mercifully be relieved; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen*.

And due to the rubric, the Collect for the Day is followed by the Collect for Ash Wednesday, which is found on Page 124:

The first day of Lent, commonly called Ash Wednesday.

The Collect.

A LMIGHTY and everlasting God, who hatest nothing that thou hast made, and dost forgive the sins of all those who are penitent; Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

¶ This Collect is to be said every day in Lent, after the Collect appointed for the day, until Palm Sunday.

The Epistle for today came from Paul's letter to the Galatians, the Fourth Chapter, beginning at the Twenty-First Verse.

Paul talks about the two sons of Abraham, one of the bond, one of the free. These two, the bond under The Law and the free under The New Covenant. The people of old are the people of The Law, 613 laws by which they must abide. Perhaps more properly said in practice that they must work around or evade those 613. Yet, they cannot comply with all the laws nor even work around them. They are doomed to failure with no help from God. As people of The New Covenant, the original and <u>real</u> New Deal, we have only to comply with two laws or rules; To love the Lord with all our hearts and to love our neighbor. Actually, those two are much harder to fully comply with than avoiding the 613 laws of The Law. But, we have the key – Jesus Christ. He came to earth not only to lead us to heaven, from the front; but to be a propitiation for our sins, to make us account as perfect to God to allow us to come into His Land.

That Abraham had two sons, the one by a bondmaid, the other by a freewoman. But he who was of the bondwoman was born after the flesh; but he of the freewoman was by promise. Which things are an allegory: for these are the two covenants; the one from the mount Sinai, which gendereth to bondage, which is Agar. For this Agar is mount Sinai in Arabia, and answereth to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children. But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all. For it is written, Rejoice, thou barren that bearest not: break forth and cry, thou that travailest not: for the desolate hath many more children than she which hath an husband. Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are the children of promise. But as then he that was born after the flesh persecuted him that was born after the Spirit, even so it is now. Nevertheless what saith the scripture? Cast out the bondwoman and her son: for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman. So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman, but of the free.

This morning's Gospel comes from the Gospel of St. John, the Sixth Chapter, beginning at the First Verse.

**ESUS** went over the sea of Galilee, which is the sea of Tiberias. And a great multitude followed him, because they saw his miracles which he did on them that were diseased. And Jesus went up into a mountain, and there he sat with his disciples. And the passover, a feast of the Jews, was nigh. When Jesus then lifted up his eyes, and saw a great company come unto him, he saith unto Philip, Whence shall we buy bread, that these may eat? And this he said to prove him: for he himself knew what he would do. Philip answered him, Two hundred pennyworth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may take a little. One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, saith unto him, There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes: but what are they among so many? And Jesus said, Make the men sit down. Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand. And Jesus took the loaves; and when he had given thanks, he distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to them that were set down; and likewise of the fishes as much as they would. When they were filled, he said unto his disciples, Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost. Therefore they gathered them together, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves, which remained over and above unto them that had eaten. Then those men, when they had seen the miracle that Jesus did, said, This is of a truth that prophet that should come into the world.

#### Bishop Ogles' Sermon

We are oft 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**

Fourth Sunday in Lent - Saint Andrews Church 11 March 2018, Anno Domini (In the Year of our Lord)

The Fourth Sunday in Lent.

The Collect.

**GRANT**, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that we, who for our evil deeds do worthily deserve to be punished, by the comfort of thy grace may mercifully be relieved; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen*.

Tesus went over the sea of Galilee, which is the sea of Tiberias. And a great multitude followed him, because they saw his miracles which he did on them that were diseased. And Jesus went up into a mountain, and there he sat with his disciples. And the passover, a feast of the Jews, was nigh. When Jesus then lifted up his eyes, and saw a great company come unto him, he saith unto Philip, Whence shall we buy bread, that these may eat? And this he said to prove him: for he himself knew what he would do. Philip answered him, Two hundred pennyworth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may take a little. One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, saith unto him, There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes: but what are they among so many? And Jesus said, Make the men sit down. Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand. And Jesus took the loaves; and when he had given thanks, he distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to them that were set down; and likewise of the fishes as much as they

would. When they were filled, he said unto his disciples, Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost. Therefore they gathered them together, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves, which remained over and above unto them that had eaten. Then those men, when they had seen the miracle that Jesus did, said, This is of a truth that prophet that should come into the world. (John 6:1-14)

Our Collect Prayer for today confesses we are all sinners apart from the saving Grace of God and deserve no mercy - though we have received mercy. The only comfort we can take, as Children of God, is not in our good works, but His mercy and Grace alone.

As a preface to today's Gospel text, it may be worth mentioning that throughout the Old Testament, the Passover was always referred to as the Lord's Passover. The observance of the Lord's Passover followed precisely the counsel given by God in its observance; however, in the New Testament (in most parts) it is referred to as the Jews' Passover. Why? Because, like the modern Romanist (both Anglican and Roman Catholic) have added smells and bells which God does not approve. The same was true of the Jewish rulers. Much was added to the observance which was never commanded.

Our Gospel has a clear relationship to the Lord's Supper, only offered to the multitudes that would later be left in the care and oversight of the Apostles. The miraculous feeding of the five thousand men (and, additionally, women and children) was a precursor to the Lord's Supper which Jesus would institute on the night of His betrayal.

I believe we will all agree bread itself is an important staple to nourish and sustain the body. In a broad sense, and in the way that it figures in today's text, bread was the paramount nourishment for the disciples on that mountaintop by the Galilean Sea. Even a morsel of bread, which comes from God, was important to the Syros-Phoenician woman who pleaded only for the bread crumbs that fell from the Master's Table. Bread, and its thousands of crushed grains (Archbishop Cranmer), represents the body of Christ on earth today. We consider always that Christ is present when we partake of the Bread from His Table, It brings us near to Him as we contemplate His promises: For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them. (Matt 18:20) I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. (Matt 28:20) The Bread which Christ broke at the Supper in the Upper Room represents His complete Body – even the multitudes that are drawn to Him on this mountain. It is not simply for those who are appointed as clergy and apostles. His Real Presence is not in the grains of wheat, but in the hearts of His people that make up His earthly Body – the Temple of God. That true Bread of Heaven opens our eyes to the mystery of Communion with Christ just as the eyes of the two men on the Road to Emmaus were opened at the moment Christ broke, and offered, Bread.

It may be true today that the crowds may follow Christian ministers for the wrong reasons, just as the Galilean crowds had done, yet, if they receive the true Bread of Heaven, they shall be healed in more than body and mind. We are told that the multitudes followed Christ because of the healing miracles He had wrought on them. It may be true that the work of God must proceed from the labors of witnesses in feeding the hungry, healing the sick and despondent, and living among the people by facing all of the heartaches and hardships that they face in order to make them know the love of God is in our hearts. It is then that their hearts will be moved to learn of the great Savior who has instilled in us a love that surpasses their common understanding. It is to be hoped that the multitudes went away with more than a full stomach after the miraculous feeding – a heart changed by the Love of God! 1 After these things Jesus went over the

sea of Galilee, which is the sea of Tiberias. 2 And a great multitude followed him, because they saw his miracles which he did on them that were diseased. 3 And Jesus went up into a mountain, and there he sat with his disciples.

John the Baptist, the baptizer of Christ, has just been beheaded. This news must have hurt the tender heart of our Lord. He was tired. He was weary of travel. He must have been sad. So he sought a place of quiet and solace, yet, the multitude followed on. His Heart of such loving compassion could not disregard the needs of those who followed after Him even if their motives were amiss. Does our AOC church not face the same circumstances daily? Many abroad, hurting for bread and sustenance, follow us on the web and then appeal for funds even if they do not know the Savior we serve.

The next verse seems parenthetical, but I do not believe that it is: 4 And the passover, a feast of the Jews, was nigh. John felt it necessary to add this particular detail. He says no more, but there is obviously meaning attached to the fact of the Passover. It was the same event that the Lord celebrated in the Upper Room. In fact, Jesus Himself became our PASSOVER! So, on the eve of the Passover, Jesus here again will offer Bread to the people.

I imagine Jesus had a slight gleam in His eye when He asked the next question: 5 When Jesus then lifted up his eyes, and saw a great company come unto him, he saith unto Philip, Whence shall we buy bread, that these may eat? 6 And this he said to prove him: for he himself knew what he would do. Here Jesus and His disciples are gathered on a mountain overlooking the Sea of Galilee. There are not nearby bakeries of places that sell foodstuffs. So Jesus presents a testing challenge to His disciples. It was a great company, in fact far more than five thousand, that approached. It appeared to the disciples as a gathering army. How could they possible find food for so many; and, even if they found a source, where would they find the enormous amount of money required for the purchase?

We find in the response to Jesus query, three distinct responses: the first is in the response of Philip who was counting on the meagerness of available provision. He was counting on the LEAST of provisions. 7 Philip answered him, Two hundred pennyworth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may take a little. The people of God often count the lack of provision rather than the abundance in Christ. Even the crumbs are enough, why believe that crumbs cannot be made a feast in the hands of the Lord! We must despise no blessing because of its size. The second response is that of the disciples: 35 And when the day was now far spent, his disciples came unto him, and said, This is a desert place, and now the time is far passed: 36 Send them away, that they may go into the country round about, and into the villages, and buy themselves bread: for they have nothing to eat (Mark 6:35-36) When the obligation seems to great to reach the lost, the church often simply desires to wash their hands of these troubling poor by sending them away.

The third response is that of Andrew who is always seeking others for Christ. You will recall that it was Andrew who, being called by Jesus, went first to find his brother Peter to come and see Christ. 40 One of the two which heard John speak, and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. 41 He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messias, which is, being interpreted, the Christ. 42 And he brought him to Jesus. And when Jesus beheld him, he said, Thou art Simon the son of Jona: thou shalt be called Cephas, which is by interpretation, A stone. (John 1:39-42) We named our little church in Enterprise, Alabama, St Andrews because we are to be seekers for Christ. As rector, I brought none to the church – the youth went out and

invited their friends who came and stayed to hear about Jesus. I loved them. So, Andrew, true to form, goes on a search the moment he realizes the need for bread. He is not the kind of fellow to be discouraged at the meager proportions for he knows that even crumbs, with the Lord, will be made a sufficient supply. 8 One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, saith unto him, 9 There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes: but what are they among so many?

Now there is a fourth type of person in the crowd that is not described above. It is this one response that melts my heart – the little lad who had only five barley loaves and two fishes, but was willing to share that small provision with such an immense number. He must have had a heart touched by the loving hand of God from his mother's womb. This innocent young knew his bread and fishes would only be a drop in the bucket to feed so many. He also knew that there would be scarcely a crumb left for his own hunger; yet, he had seen and heard Jesus. He placed his innocent confidence in this warm and compassionate Teacher. So he offered ALL that he had to satisfy the immense crowd who surrounded Christ. This is the kind of son every parent should long to have.

Without a further thought, upon hearing of the small provision available, Christ took action: 10 And Jesus said, Make the men sit down. Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand. Jesus does not make us anxious in feeding us. He prefers that we be comforted always by His Bread. He has the men sit down as guest do in any home. He also expects that those about to receive the Bread of Life should do so in good order, thus we observe a liturgical form of worship. There was a mixture of men, boys, women and children present, yet there were five thousand men in all plus those other persons. The Word of God is able to feed all who will come to be served without limit.

Do you remember that our Lord was baptized in like manner that we should be? In all, we should follow Him. He also gave thanks for the provision given by the Hand of His Father in Heaven. 11 And Jesus took the loaves; and when he had given thanks, he distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to them that were set down; and likewise of the fishes as much as they would. Herein lies an important lesson. That which God has given you, you must also share with others. Jesus gives us the privilege and high honor to be His servants to the people. Not masters, but SERVANTS. All clergy are servants to God's people. When they cease to be servants, they cease to be ministers. Note also that from the small provision, every one of the thousands seated about took as much as they wanted. God's Word is always sufficient for thee. .... My grace is sufficient for thee .... (2 Cor 12:9)

Quite often, that which comes at no cost to us is easily wasted, but the Bread of Life comes at an immense cost to God the Father – it cost Him the life of His only Begotten Son! None of the Lord's provision should be wasted. 12 When they were filled, he said unto his disciples, Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost. Every soul is precious to God. He will have us lose nothing that He places in our hand. This is the security we have in Christ. If our hearts belong to Him, He will never lose them. 13 Therefore they gathered them together, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves, which remained over and above unto them that had eaten. Have you ever gone out and befriended some hungered stranger? Have you noticed that you may have approached the fellow with a reluctant love? But do you remember the heart, brimming with love, with which you departed from him after answering the needs of his soul. That is the LOVE of god. The more you serve, the greater the reservoir remaining. This defies the law of physics, doesn't it; but this is not a natural, but a spiritual, law.

What result does the labors of Christ and His servants have upon the hearts of men? 14 Then those men, when they had seen the miracle that Jesus did, said, This is of a truth that prophet that should come into the world. That is the result! Faith! When people see what Jesus is able to do through your own life, they will know Him to be "that prophet that should come!"

Though we may take good counsel from the examples given of the disciple Philip, those other disciples about Jesus, and of Andrew who sought when the need was revealed, the greater lesson – in my view – is from the little boy who gave all in spite of hunger, to Jesus for the feeding of others. He surrendered fully His all. And he did not go away hungry for, when you give your all to Christ, you cannot lose. Have you done?

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.

Consider these words from the Collect:

... we, who for our evil deeds do worthily deserve to be punished, by the comfort of thy grace may mercifully be relieved ...

In the Collect, as is often to the case we acknowledge to God that we have fallen way short of our goals that He has set for us. We are also acknowledging that we do deserve to be punished for our failures, however, by His Grace we are relieved of that

punishment. Jesus helped in that relieving by laying down His Life that we might be free of that eternal damnation.

In order for us to enter heaven, we have to be accounted as perfect. However, we all know we are so far away from perfect, it would not seem to be possible.

How then can we get into heaven if not by our own means?

Death is oft referred to as the "Final Accounting", and as one who has studied accounting, I can tell you that things can sometimes be accounted as what they are not, legally, too!

At that final judgment day, if we stay the course and follow God's guidance, we can be accounted as perfect through God's Grace of His Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ, Paul is right on point when he talks about the two sons of Abraham, one of the bond, one of the free. Being adopted into the freewoman's family requires us to follow Him and His guidance. This gift of eternal life is not free. It was paid for by Jesus' death on the Cross and it requires us to actively following and working for Him here on earth.

The son of the bondwoman represents the state us before Christ and those who refuse to follow him. They are stuck in bondage to their own sins and to Satan and will never truly be free. They are in essence slaves of their own will. We have free will, let us exercise it in the way God intended, that is to follow the path of righteousness to Him.

These two are representative of the two covenants with God, the bond under The Law and the free under The New Covenant.

The people of old are The People of The Law. Six Hundred Thirteen Laws each of which by which they must abide. A very complex and even more difficult life to live, to comply and uphold those laws and failing. We still fail miserably at times, but we only have two laws, which we will hear about in a second. They are still hard to uphold, but if we manage to, easier to remember. The big thing to remember about the 613 laws is that they could not accomplish what Christ accomplished in His Sacrifice and establishing the New Covenant. The Holy Ghost helps us along the journey to this goal, to bring us to that eternal life.

The New Covenant is so much less complex than the Old Covenant. It is much easier to remember the ways of the New Covenant than the Old Covenant. However, the Old Covenant had to come first to get people's hearts ready to follow the New Covenant. For the New Covenant could not be introduced, or in other words, Jesus could not come to Earth until the people were ready for His Teachings. The Old Covenant was a stepping stone to the New Covenant.

Remember this from Holy Communion:

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

THOU shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

Under the New Covenant, we have only two laws with which we must comply. But, there is a catch. We are not to just avoid breaking those laws, we must actually live them in our hearts, souls, minds AND bodies. We must <u>actualize</u> them. It is the common theme of Action not just Diction, that appears in the sermons past here. The only way in which we can follow these two laws is we have to put them into practice in our day to day lives, which requires Action and not just Diction.

Hey! That is way harder. We are imperfect creatures with free will; a combination doomed to failure.

True, but we have the ultimate Get out of Jail Free card – Jesus Christ the righteous and He is the propitiation for our sins! Remember that? He accounts us as perfect at our final accounting!

There are two choices, two covenants, we can choose either to be enslaved to sin and Satan; or to be free under God and Jesus. These are the two sides that Paul speaks of. We can be either enslaved to sin or we can be truly free and under God. The two choices boil down to either eternal slavery or eternal freedom. I know which side I want to be on, do you?

We always have a choice, it is upon us to choose and decide. Nobody else can make that critical choice. To paraphrase a quote from Gandalf, *All we have to do is decide what to do in the time that we are given*. But we must pick a side. In this spiritual war, we must take sides. There is no middle ground.

We cannot stand with one foot on the slavery side and one on the free side. We cannot just be fence sitters, we must have our feet planted on one side. From rational viewpoint, there is only one side to pick, and that is the side of freedom, of the New Testament offered to us by Christ himself. As people of The New Covenant, the original and <u>real</u> New Deal, we have only to live those two laws or rules; *To love the Lord with all our hearts* 

and to love our neighbor. Those are much harder to comply with, however, if we seek God's guidance out and follow it, then all will be well with our souls.

Now, think about the Gospel. When we need help, how about instead of worrying all the time, we substitute it with action? Trust that God will give us what we need. And, then act based on what we can and should do, not what we want to do. Acting on what we should do gets results. These results may or not be obvious right away, but they will be soon enough. This is a hard principle for us to follow; but in the end, it is worth the struggle to trust God instead of worrying and or doing what we want to do.

Action will always benefit our spiritual state compared to that of inaction. Through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we are compelled to act upon our faith. Perhaps not what we want right at the time, but certainly what we need then and in the eternal future. In the middle of nowhere, two thousand years from the nearest McDonalds, the disciples looked to Jesus to fill the needs of their congregation. Jesus took what they had and gave them what they needed; "for he himself knew what he would <u>do</u>." He <u>acted</u> to help them. Do ye likewise:

#### **ACT**

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

The time is now, not tomorrow. The time has come, indeed. How will you ACT? It is by our actions we are known.

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

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

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

# Fourth Sunday in Lent

Bread and Water 11 March 2018 Psalm 46 • Isaiah 55 • John 6:41-51

The Fourth Sunday in Lent.

The Collect.

**C** RANT, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that we, who for our evil deeds do worthily deserve to be punished, by the comfort of thy grace may mercifully be relieved; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen*.

And due to the rubric, the Collect for the Day is followed by the Collect for Ash Wednesday, which is found on Page 124:

The first day of Lent, commonly called Ash Wednesday. The Collect.

A LMIGHTY and everlasting God, who hatest nothing that thou hast made, and dost forgive the sins of all those who are penitent; Create and make in us new and contrite

hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

#### ¶ This Collect is to be said every day in Lent, after the Collect appointed for the day, until Palm Sunday.

Who is Jesus? How do we find Jesus represented in the New Testament and for that matter in the Old Testament prophesies? Water, streams of water, pools of water, fat drops of water upon newly plowed land, living water; these images are revealed throughout the Old Testament record. As early as Abraham and his nephew Lot we find references to water. In that case it was the best places to pasture sheep and other livestock. We find several episodes concerning water when Moses leads the Children of Israel through the wilderness. Twice we read of Moses producing water (by God's command) from a rock. The rock represents Jesus our solid foundation, the Rock of our faith. Numerous times David writes about water. Water in the desert, water in the valleys, still water, rough and raging waters, and yet his descriptions of water point to Him who is the Living Water. If you get the opportunity buy a copy of C.H. Spurgeon's "Morning and Evening Prayer". It is a classic devotional based on large portions of the Psalms, Proverbs, Song of Solomon, but also includes scripture from every book of the Bible. In his treatment of the Word of God, Spurgeon penned a brief devotional based on a verse or portion of a verse, each designed to give a Biblical take on daily living. He helps to elucidate much of the "water" illustrations found in David and Solomon's writings. Of course from a purely scientific view, all carbon based life must have water. Humans cannot go without water but for a few days before general disaster begins on the body, culminating in death.

#### First

The direct connection between water, abundant water and living food plants is made clear in our passage from Isaiah. There is the clear message that water from the heavens sustain life, make the seed to grow, which grows into grain, which is made into bread. Life is sustained by the very waters of Heaven. Wine and milk are discussed, each food/beverage requires water to be produced, again a direct reference to a Creator who provides. Then prophet tells the reader to buy the bread, wine and milk, even though you do not have money. Is this a trick? No, he is telling his readers to "listen and do what is right for your soul". Which is what? Isaiah is telling his readers about One who is coming who will bless all, yes ALL nations. The LORD thy God and the Holy One of Israel is the one the reader should seek. Urgency is expressed in what Isaiah writes. "Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near..., forsake the wicked ways, remove the thoughts of the unrighteous and RETURN unto the LORD." Folks that is a good old fashion message of redemption. The following are the wonderful concepts of this redemption:

- A. And he will have mercy upon him.
- B. for He (God) will abundantly pardon.
- C. Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David.
- D. So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

E. For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater:

Beloved? How much more promise and truth do you need? Isaiah is foretelling the coming of the Lord. Throughout the Book of Isaiah we can read of the coming Messiah, we can read of the signs and wonders that proclaim Jesus as the promised ONE, he who will redeem his people.

He who willingly lays down his life to save that which is lost.

#### Second

I would like to point out the last very obvious reference about Jesus, this we find in the portion of scripture from the Gospel of John. In these ten verses Jesus unfolds centuries of darkness and doubt, he lays back the darkness that surrounded those who were seeking the Messiah. He shines the light of the Word on the truths that had been revealed over the centuries, but had been missed, overlooked, or kept from the people by the god of this world.

HE Jews then murmured at him, because he said, I am the bread which came down from heaven. 42 And they said, Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? how is it then that he saith, I came down from heaven? 43 Jesus therefore answered and said unto them, Murmur not among yourselves. 44 No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day. 45 It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me. 46 Not that any man hath seen the Father, save he which is of God, he hath seen the Father. 47 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life. 48 I am that bread of life. 49 Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead. 50 This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die. 51 I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.

As Jesus said so many centuries ago, "he who has ears, let him hear." The Gospel is plain and without guile, it is presented to all. Here is the hard part; No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day. Now combine that with the last couple of verses and we can understand the whole. We, the created, do not tell the Creator, what he is to do with us.

Ponder these great truths in your mind. Read, absorb and inwardly digest the Word of God, it is for your edification that you should study the Word, daily.

#### Let us pray:

**GOD**, whose kingdom ruleth over all; Bestow Thy blessing, we beseech Thee, upon those who hold the civil authority in this state and nation, that by their right administration of the laws and our careful obedience to the same, we may lead a quiet and peaceable life, in all godliness and honesty; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

**ALMIGHTY** Lord, who fashionest the hearts of men, and considerest all their works; Grant, we beseech Thee, to us and to all the people of this land, the spirit of obedience to Thy commandments, that walking humbly in Thy fear, we may, under Thy

mighty protection, possess our liberties in righteousness and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

**GOD**, who hast prepared for those who love Thee such good things as pass man's understanding; Pour into our hearts such love toward Thee, that we, loving Thee above all things, may obtain Thy promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

**GOD**, who hast made all those that are born again in Christ to be a royal and priestly race; Grant us both the will and the power to do what Thou commandest; that all Thy people may have the same faith in their hearts, and the same piety in their actions; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

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



# 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:



# This Is the Will of God

Psalm 147, Exodus 16:4-15, John 6:27-40 Fourth Sunday in Lent March 11, 2018

Our Lord speaks profound truth at all times. He speaks words we should hear and take into our hearts. They are words that should stop us in our tracks and cause us to

focus our highest attention on hearing and understanding them. He speaks such words in John 6:40 where He says, "this is the will of him that sent me." He is going to tell us what God wants from and for us.

Our Lord has just accomplished the miraculous feeding of more than five thousand people. The five barley loaves of John 6:9 are small, biscuits. The two fishes are about the size of large sardines. They are a small boy's lunch. Yet our Lord makes them feed five thousand people. Actually, it is probably more like ten thousand people. John records five thousand men, meaning heads of families, and Matthew 14:21 tells us many of them had their families with them. So this is a miracle on a large scale.

The Gospel makes two primary points about this miracle. First, in John 6:14, "Then those

men, when they had seen the miracle that Jesus did, said, This is of a truth that prophet that should come into the world." We often hear about the warrior king messiah expected by the Jews. It was the dominant and most prevalent view of the Messiah in Jesus' time. But there was also another view which expected the Messiah to be a prophet. That view is expressed in the words of the men in verse 14. Sometimes this view was combined with the warrior king view, to make a warrior king prophet Messiah. This actually makes sense, because the Messiah was to be a son of David, and David was a warrior, a king, and a prophet. The point God is making in John 6:14 is that the people witnessing the miracle, begin to believe Jesus is the Messiah. They are confused about the Messiah's mission, but they are starting to believe Jesus is the Messiah.

The second point is that they try to take Him by force and make Him king This is found in John 6:15. They believe it would be a very good thing to have a king who can feed the nation as well as deliver it from its enemies. In other words, they wanted a nanny state brought into being by violent riots and revolution. So the nanny state revolution is not a new idea. It did not begin with Guevara, Lenin, Marx, or Robespierre. We see it here in the pages of Scripture, and in the motives of the five thousand. And, of course it continues today. Most of the leadership in the mainline denominations advocate the nanny state, as do most western politicians, even in our own country.

On the complete opposite side of the ideological spectrum stands Jesus Christ. Like the revolutionaries I just mentioned, He, too, sees and understands the rampant oppression and injustice of the world system, even in Israel. He sees that some people have worked their way into control of the country's political, financial, and intellectual/religious institutions, and are using the power of these institutions to advance their own financial and political security. He sees they are doing this by abusing the poor and perverting the meaning and purpose of their offices and their faith. And much of His time on earth is spent in conflict with them because He exposes their wickedness and hypocrisy. It is His fearless and scathing words against them, that cause the elites to join forces to condemn and execute Him. They do not kill Him over a theological disagreement. They kill Him because He is a threat to their power and wealth. They kill Him because He accuses them of becoming rich by devouring widows' houses, and perverting the law of God to make it seem to support their hypocrisy. He says they are "full of extortion and excess" and they talk about good things, but don't do them. He even says they have turned the Temple into a den of thieves. In other words, they have turned the faith given by God into a way to fleece the flock and enrich themselves.

We have seen the same in the New Testament Church. If we know history we know of inquisitions and forced "conversions." We know of English bishops who bought their titles from the king, and lived in luxury on tax money taken from the poor. Anthony Trollope's Barchester Towers tells of clergy who want to become the new bishop of a fictional diocese of the Church of England. One candidate is "an eminent naturalist, a gentleman most completely versed in the knowledge of rocks and minerals, but supposed by many to hold on religious subjects no special doctrines whatever." This man wants no part of shepherding the church or preaching the Bible. He wants the bishop's lavish income to enable him to live the life of a wealthy country squire pursuing his hobby. He is, of course, a fictional character in a novel, but he is also very "true to life."

In the mind of Christ, corrupt societies are formed by corrupt people, and all people are corrupt. Therefore, we cannot reform society by replacing one group of corrupt people with another. The only way to reform society is to reform the people. Let me state this in more Biblical terms. All people are sinners, and sinful people create sinful social structures. The world does not become a better place by exchanging one group of sinners

for another. The world becomes a better place when sinners become new people who live for and in Christ. Godly people living Godly lives make for Godly homes, communities, nations, and churches.

Christ has no illusions of massive revivals turning Israel back to God as the result of His preaching. And He does not teach His people to put their faith in politicians or religious leaders who promise such things, whether by violent revolution or religious revival. He teaches His people to look for their real hope in Heaven. Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you. (Jn. 6:27)

The people, of course, do not understand. They continue to try to persuade Jesus to give them food and worldly prosperity. *Our fathers did eat manna in the desert,* they say asking for a sign to believe in Him; a sign which just happens to provide food without labour or cost (Jn. 6:30, 31). Their desire is stated even more boldly in Verse 34, *Lord, evermore give us this bread.* They say these things not realising Christ is talking about Himself, and the spiritual blessings He gives to His people. Their minds are on worldly things. They are talking about a nanny state. He is talking about a Kingdom of the Spirit dwelling in a new people who are in the world but not of the world. That Kingdom is, in its visible sense, the New Testament Church, or at least those parts of it that continue in the Apostles' doctrine and practice.

But Christ also speaks of something beyond this present world. His words look to a place where people dwell together in perfect peace with God and man. It is a place where war and crime, oppression and injustice, hate and abuse are gone forever. It is a place where we will grow older, yet be forever young. Where we will grow wiser through the ages as we come to know God more fully. Even death will be unknown in that Paradise, which is one reason God calls it, "eternal life." That Kingdom will last forever. The kingdoms of this world will pass away.

When Christ told Pilate *My kingdom is not of this world*, He was saying He had not come to topple Rome or Jerusalem, though they richly deserved to be toppled. He came to prepare people for the Heavenly Kingdom of God. He came to give His life as the propitiation for their sins, so they could be reconciled to God, and become citizens of that Heavenly Kingdom. He makes a promise to all people. If you believe in Him, in Biblical faith, He will give you that everlasting life, and will raise you up to dwell with Him in that eternal Kingdom of Paradise. He states this very well in the last verse of our reading for this morning, John 6:40.

And this is the will of him that sent me, that everyone which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.

**HEAVENLY** Father, feed us with the bread of Life, and grant that we may see Thee with the eyes of the spirit, that in seeing we may believe, and in believing may have everlasting life, through Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

+Dennis Campbell
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# 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

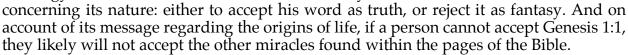
Truth, you have to speak the truth, espouse the truth and live the truth. This is really a good piece and I commend it to your careful reading.

# Fourth Sunday in Lent

*In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.* 

(Genesis 1:1)

In the first verse of Genesis Chapter One, we are presented with the very beginning of Creation. It is a verse that is full of power and majesty. I once heard this verse described as In-Your-Face Theology because God has left the reader with only two choices



In today's Gospel, our Lord exercised, on a smaller scale, that same power of creation as found in Genesis. He took five barley loaves and two small fish and fed a multitude with food to spare. Events such as this one stand as testimonies which confirm that God's provision exceeds necessity. It is more than a mere subsistence. In the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm we read: *The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want...my cup runneth over.* And so it is fitting that in our worship, we will offer up to God our praise and thanksgiving for the many blessings which we have received at his hands. We accept Genesis 1:1 as truth because it speaks of God's creative power. We also understand that it is the very beginning of God's miraculous and awesome displays of his power as found within the pages of Scripture.

In that same book, we are informed God made man in his image and after his likeness. We are further informed in Scripture all things were made by him, and that through his will and pleasure we have been given material items as well as spiritual gifts. Whether it is bread and fish, or the gift of grace, everything from the clothes we wear, to the jobs we hold, to the education we have received, it all came from our good and loving God. Thus, it is meet and right that we offer up to him thanks and praise, not only for what we are and what we have; but for what we will yet receive through the atoning work of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. What joy there will be for us in God's heavenly kingdom, for we have his assurance that he has prepared a place for us there. That ought to stir our hearts and bring us to our knees in tearful praise to him who suffered so that we might live with him forever.

Returning to the Gospel, we find our Lord fed the people both physically and spiritually. They had come into a desolate region to hear his words of truth and he had compassion on them for their apparent lack of sustenance. God does not lead his people into the wilderness to die. He provides for his own. Psalm 37:23-25 affirms this: The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the LORD upholdeth him with his hand. I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread. The spiritual aspect of our feeding comes in our hearing of God's word written. As our Lord replied to the devil during his temptation in the wilderness, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone; but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God (Matthew 4:4). Christ came to bring his own more than the bread of physical sustenance. He came to make us whole spiritually that we might be redeemed—cleansed from all unrighteousness— and made fit members of his body and joint heirs with him in God's coming kingdom. And so by our being

baptized of the Holy Ghost, we are assured of our salvation via God's gift of grace (see Romans 8:1-17).

The church was established to provide for the spiritual and material well-being of those who have been born-again in Christ Jesus. Think for a moment about the work and witness of St. Paul. He had been sent on an evangelical mission to physically establish and spiritually feed the various flocks of our Lord within the Roman Empire under the guidance of the Holy Ghost. Generally, though not always, he came, he set in order, he followed up as an overseer of the faith and he appointed just men to serve in like capacity prior to his departure for another locale. And those churches which he established were not left spiritually impoverished when the apostle moved on because they were nourished and enriched by the teaching and instruction of those whom the Lord had called into his service.

God sustains. God strengthens. God increases. It is all due to his efforts, his will, his choosing. We are but his servants whom he has called out of darkness into the glorious light of his gospel. Our duty is to serve, not to be served. We are to work within the church to materially assist any member of the body of Christ whom God has brought to our attention for such ministration. It is the church's duty to look after its own, not the state, and certainly not the unregenerate of this world.

Hear now the word of God, What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? Can faith save him? If a brother or a sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, and one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed, and filled: notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit? Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone (James 2:14-17).

But let no able-bodied person lay back and become a burden on others for it is also written ...this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat (II Thessalonians 3:10). There is no room in Christ's church for the slothful, the lazy and the unregenerate in spirit. If that seems harsh, it is not my word but that of the Holy Ghost via Paul for in the closing of his second epistle to the Thessalonians he said, And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed. God's sufficiency is for his own first, and then afterward, as the Holy Spirit leads you, contribute to those who are of the unregenerate that the Lord might call them too to salvation through your works.

So, when we consider our lesson today, we find that our God is our Creator, and Sustainer as well as our Redeemer. He will not lead us into a permanent state of privation and want, but into provision and abundance. And though at times we may experience such; nevertheless, we know that our God will see us through those times and will lead us to green pastures and still waters. He will turn our hunger into satisfaction and our lack into more than what we could ask or imagine, and all because he loves us. But one cannot know the fullness of his grace and the height and depth of his love without being obedient to his word. If you have not done so, ask him to turn your heart today that you too might experience the peace that only he can give, that love which is beyond all else, and that joy which comes with that blessed assurance of salvation unto eternal life. Please make that your prayer today.

Let us pray,

**GRACIOUS** and loving God, who sent thine only begotten Son to serve as a sacrifice on our account; accept this our prayer of thanksgiving for those blessings which you have bestowed upon us through his atoning work; and this we ask in the name of our

Lord and Saviour, and thine only begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Have a blessed week, Bryan+

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

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

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

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

# Who can be on the list? Do I have to be a member of the Anglican Orthodox Church to be prayed for?

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

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

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

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

You can email one of the prayer team leaders: Jack - jack@faithfulcenturion.org or Dru - 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

Ken Harris lost his wife Carol in December after many many years of happy marriage and is really lost and unable to regain his place here on earth. Please pray that he will be able to adjust to her passing and concentrate on those things which he needs to

- do in order to be an effective and useful member of society here and now. He has much left to do here and right now, he just cannot see his way clear to doing those things. Please pray he will look to God for solace and help at this time of need.
- Evelyn, an 88 year young woman recently experienced a TIA affecting her sight, speech and walking. Please pray for God to guide those treating her and for her to let God carry her worry.
- *Tricia* broke her left arm and it seems to be healing slowly. Please pray God will enter in to her, help her to immobilize her arm and knit the bones together so that she will not require surgery. She would appreciate your prayers for healing and patience.
- Chelsea Brown has need of God's strength and guidance for her, her daughter Lauren and those around her. Her life has been in turmoil for the past two years. Chelsea was in an accident which left her without the use of her right arm for almost two years, though after two surgeries it is back, her daughter has had three sets of lung blood clots, dropped out of college and lost her job and car due to another accident. Things are very bad for them, they need housing as they are about to be evicted from their current apartment. Please pray that God will give them the direction and strength they need and that the government officials in Raleigh will see clear to provide housing.
- Dakota had to be life flighted from Enterprise to Birmingham, Alabama. He is having seizures. Please pray for peace of mind and soul for Dakota and his family and for inspiration and understanding for the medical team treating him that they might find a solution to the seizures.
- Ron Cole Klages is a patriotic former Marine who has debilitating blood clots pursuant to cancerous growths on his liver and unknown other places. His doctors will inform of clinical findings on Monday for further treatment. Please pray for the medical team treating Ron that they might pay attention, do their very best and be open to God's guidance.
- Jill was on life support; her family members traveled a great distance to see her and returned home safely. Jill's condition improved to critical, but needs your prayers to continue her recovery.
- 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**

*Tricia, Skyler, Marc and Anthony* are on travel to the British Virgin Islands for work. Pray they have a safe travel and a productive time there.

#### **Birthday**

*Dru Arnold* celebrated her 63<sup>rd</sup> birthday on 2 February 2018; she saw her shadow, thus six more weeks of winter. But, in Southern California, that is not so bad.

#### **Anniversary**

Hap and Dru Arnold celebrated their 31st wedding anniversary 21 February 2018.

*Debbie and Jerry Ogles* celebrated their 51<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary 12 February 2018.

#### Remembrance of those who have gone before us

Kenneth Wayne Ogles was killed in action on 16 February 1967, in the Ia Drang Valley, in

the Binh Dinh Province, South Vietnam, with the First Platoon of C Company, the First Battalion of the 8<sup>th</sup> Cavalry, First Cavalry Division at the age of 19. Kenneth joined the National Guard at age 17 and immediately transferred to the active Army's First Cavalry Division. He wanted to make a difference, to do his duty to God and Country and protect the innocent people of South Vietnam. He gave all that we might be free. Please join us in remembering his service and sacrifice, as well as the hurt that it cost the entire Ogles family, the sacrifice and pain is no less 51 years later. Remember Kenneth the next time



someone wants you to give a little freedom for the promise of safety or comfort.

#### **Departed**

Herb McCormick (86) left earth for home on 12 February 2018. His faith was great, his will strong. Please give thanks for his time here on earth and pray for comfort and strength for his family, in particular his stepdaughters Jieun and Sungeun, and his friends, in particular Jerry.

#### 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.

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

Doug Lambert has been battling sepsis of unknown origin. For twelve weeks they have not been able to find the source of the problem. He is very weak and concerned that no one can find the reason for the infection. He asks that you pray for the medical team treating him to do their best, to be open to God's guidance and for him to keep his trust in the Lord and not worry.

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.
- Ron had a Heart Attack, at the hospital he found out he also has Kidney Cancer. He is a man of faith and is in need of prayer for his health and that the Lord will provide strength for his family.
- 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 rest. Pray for those treating him that they might pay attention and do their best.
- Marilyn has been diagnosed with non-operable pancreatic cancer. Please pray for a miraculous remission; that Marilyn's remaining time here on earth might be good. Help Marilyn and her family put their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their

- sadness, fear, worry and terror.
- June found she has a recurrence of colon cancer, which is now Stage Four, that is it has spread. Please pray for a miraculous remission; that June's remaining time here hon 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.
- 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 some time. 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.

#### 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

- 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.
- 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 be 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**

- Dru Arnold has a ruptured tendon in her left ankle. She asks that she be guided to the right treatment and the medical team treating her will be open to God's guidance, pay attention and do their very best.
- April and her husband ask you prayers for the Lord to guide them and lead them both to the correct medical care; and that the family may receive comfort in the process.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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 her sole caregiver that he will be comforted and strengthened in his time of need.
- 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.
- 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 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.
- 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

- Kurt Thomas asks for your continued prayer that his body not reject his transplanted heart parts 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.
- Vladia had a right knee replacement which went well, but since the operation she is experiencing very painful side effects from medicine, very low hemoglobin and also back problems. She has been transferred back to the hospital to help correct these problems. Please pray the doctors will seek God's Wisdom and come up with a plan to help her get back on her feet and have some normalcy in her life.
- Madisun Hanks (14) has Tourette's Syndrome and suffers from horrible migraine headaches. 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 came out of a coma he had been in since the week before Christmas 2016. He is now in a stepdown facility. Every day is a new day to him; his memory seems to have been damaged to a point where it is not recovering so far. 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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 choose 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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

- Shamu underwent exploratory surgery at John Hopkins hospital 19 February 2018, where they found a stricture in her lower intestine and relieved it. Please pray this will be effectual in relieving her suffering.
- Chief Mike Wysocki finally had heart valve surgery June 2017. He was back in the hospital with a bleeding ulcer, but made it home. Please give thanks for that and pray for the medical team treating Mike that they might pay attention, do their very best and be open to God's guidance. Pray a complete recovery and peace of mind and trust in God for Mike, his lovely wife Wendy and his family.
- John Young had three way heart bypass surgery on Thursday, 23 March 2017, in Alabama, which was apparently successful, then had a stroke in October while undergoing testing for his FAA medical. He has lost his right side peripheral vision. Please for a recovery of John's vision.
- 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 22 June 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. She now has a bacterial infection which is laying her low. 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.

- 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).
- 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 and heart problems were causing huge issues for her. They seem to have gotten her stabilized and she is home. 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 45 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.
- Jenniffer 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 Jenniffer 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 gidan ce in considering all aspects of her potential work.

# 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.

# God's Strength and Peace of Soul

Roger is the caretaker for his ailing father who has been in the hospital for a week and his wife who had been declining emotionally, cognitively and in bodily health. He asks you pray for strength and peace for him and help for those he cares for.

*Charlie McCormack* 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 heat 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. 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.

- Mitten has a Christian talking to him about Christ. Mitten does not believe and does not seem to care. Please pray Mitten will see the light.
- Kristen, Rickey and their two children ask you to pray for grace, wisdom and understanding as they attempt to cope with infidelity, separation and possibly divorce as a result of backsliding from the Lord into the World.
- Helene and her family ask your prayers for them as they deal with the loss of Alan, husband and father.
- Stephanie seems to be very deeply into post partum depression after her baby was born prematurely. Please pray for her Mother in Law who is going a great distance to help Stephanie and her new Grandson. Pray that Stephanie will be able to direct her attention outward, rather than inward.
- 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 Djurcik 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 - McGuire AFB, NJ), 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**

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.

Jim and Mary Lou's grandson *Pearce*, who is entering college this 22 August 2107.

A good, happy and productive year for our Jim and Mary Lou's grandson *Colin* who is entering his Junior Year in High School.

Jim and Mary Lou's granddaughter *Lucy*, who will be entering second grade for gifted children. Pray it will be the challenge she needs and she will also mature socially.

# **Thanksgiving**

Tricia gives thanks for safe travel to British Virgin Islands for work.

# The near future, as well as Next Sunday

18 March 2018 – Passion Sunday – Fifth Sunday in Lent – Morning Prayer - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA** 

25 March 2018 – Palm 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** 

29 March 2018 – Maunday Thursday - Evening Prayer - Service start time 1800 (6:00 pm); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA

- 30 March 2018 Good Friday Evening Prayer Service start time 1800 (6:00 pm); Location 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA
- 1 April 2018 Easter Sunday Holy Communion Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**