



The Hillside Messenger

A Message from the Rector: The Church's Intercession for All in Authority

As our nation celebrates its independence on July 4th, it is important for me to encourage you all to persevere in your daily ministry of intercession for our President, Donald Trump,

sions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

St. Paul encourages all Christians to pray for all people and to give thanks for them and, as part of that ministry, to pray for kings and all who are in authority. The aim of this prayer is that Christians may lead peaceful and quiet lives,



as well as all who hold positions of authority in state and nation. The Scriptural imperative for this is found in *1 St. Timothy 2:1-4*:

I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, interces-

For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

marked by godliness and honesty, so that they may please God and contribute to the salvation of as many people as their witness touches.

Of course, freedom of speech allows every-

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The Church's Intercession for All in Authority

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one to express their opinions about a political party and a president, but so often Christians voice their disagreements with leaders without praying for them. We must not do this. As Christians, we are called to pray for the President whether we like him and agree with him or not. The same holds for all our leaders.

Some may think that their prayers for those in authority don't seem to have any effect on their actions. In preaching on the above passage during the fourth century Byzantine Empire when even Christian rulers sporadically persecuted some Christian leaders, St. John Chrysostom (347 – 407 AD) argues to the contrary:

No one can feel hatred towards those for whom he prays: and they again are made better by the prayers that are offered for them, and by losing their ferocious disposition towards us. For nothing is so apt to draw men under teaching, as to love, and be loved. Think what it was for those who persecuted, scourged, banished, and slaughtered the Christians, to hear that those whom they treat-

ed so barbarously offered fervent prayers to God for them.

St. John Chrysostom:
Homily 6 on I Timothy.
Retrieved from
<http://www.newadvent.org/fathers/230606.htm>.

The point made here by St. Chrysostom about intercession for those in authority is that intercession proceeds from Christian love and, as an expression of that love, has a powerful effect on the souls of even those government officials who are opposed to Christians. St. Chrysostom also interprets St. Paul's instruction to give thanks for those in authority as a sign of how Christians are linked to their rulers in love, for thanksgiving cannot be offered for them except in a spirit of love. St. Chrysostom preached thus, though he himself as Bishop of Constantinople suffered opposition, persecution, and exile at the hands of both the Empress and enemies in the Church. Yet in the same homily, he teaches the necessity of praying for rulers (even when they are not Christians), because without rulers, society would be confused, troubled, and chaotic.

What we have to realize about prayer is that we are engaging in spiritual warfare (*Ephesians 6:18*) as we intercede for others,

since all we are asking for them is that in all things they be conformed to the goal of God's kingdom coming and His will being done on earth as it is in heaven (the Lord's Prayer— see *St. Matthew 6:10*). If we are knowingly praying for others anything else but God's will or an aspect of His will, we are not interceding in a Christian way. When we intercede for our leaders, we have embarked on a ministry that is ongoing and difficult. As with all those for whom we intercede, we often do not know how to pray best for them (*Romans 8:26*). We must therefore ask the Holy Spirit to show us how to pray for them according to God's will.

Part of our effective prayer for the President and for all in government is a prayerful and wise discernment of the true state of affairs in the world. We have to separate the chaff from the grain in the news reports we watch or read. We must bring to our perception of the truth a biblical perspective informed by God's written word, by the revelation of the Holy Spirit, and by the Church's received tradition. We must not base our prayers on half-truths or falsehoods found in some news media! A reflective and prayerful approach to the news is necessary.

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The Church's Intercession for All in Authority

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Just as the Armed Forces vigilantly keep watch for the safety of our nation, so we as Christians are called to keep watch spiritually for our nation and to persevere in prayer for our President and all our leaders. This is a call and a ministry in which all of us must engage since the call is issued to all Christians. One of the purposes of our Sunday services is intercession and thanksgiving. In the Prayer for the Whole State of Christ's Church in the service of Holy Communion we pray for "all Christian Rulers, that they may truly and impartially administer justice, to the punishment of wickedness and vice, and to the maintenance of thy true religion, and virtue" (page 74, *Book of Common Prayer*, 1928). At St. Luke's, we often mention the name of the President at this point. In our thoughts at this point we could also remember the Governor of California, Jerry Brown, and pray for him. In the Order for Daily Evening Prayer, there is a prayer that specifically mentions both the President and the Governor of this State (page 32, *Book of Common Prayer*, 1928). All others in authority are included in this prayer, and the Church asks that they all "knowing whose ministers they are, may above all things seek thy honour and glory; and that we, and all the People, duly

considering whose authority they bear, may faithfully and obediently honour them...." In the Order for Daily Morning Prayer, we pray for the President of the United States and all in authority, that God would grant them wisdom and strength to know and to do His will and that they may be filled with the love of truth and righteousness, remembering to serve the people in His fear (page 18, *Book of Common Prayer*, 1928). All these prayers show how we ought to pray for the President and all our government leaders, publicly and privately persevering in intercession for them.

One phrase from the Prayer for the Whole State of Christ's Church rings very clearly: "the maintenance of thy true religion, and virtue." In schools, colleges and universities, as well as in the workplace, people must be able to maintain and practice Christianity (what is meant by the phrase "thy true religion"). Their freedom to do so (this freedom is readily granted to people of other faiths) must not be eroded. We see and hear of enough violence in public places for us to know how urgent it is to pray that people be safe wherever they are and that they be permitted even in public institutions to turn to God in prayer. The erosion of freedom of religion must move us all the more to intercede for all in authority, that they

will not persecute Christians but allow the Christian faith to flourish.

This great call to pray for all in authority is paramount to the peace and well-being not only of the Church but also of society. How we need that peace and well-being! But a more fundamental

***Almighty God,
Whose kingdom is everlasting and power infinite;
Have mercy upon this whole land;
and so rule the hearts of Thy servants
the President of the United States,
the Governor of this State,
and all others in authority,
that they, knowing Whose ministers they are,
may above all things seek Thy honour and glory;
and that we and all the People,
duly considering Whose authority they bear,
may faithfully and obediently honour them,
according to Thy blessed Word and ordinance;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
Who with Thee and the Holy Ghost
liveth and reigneth ever, one God,
world without end.
Amen.***

question arises, one which each of us must face honestly: Are we, the people of God, persevering in prayer and thanksgiving?

— *The Reverend
Christopher Parrish*

Our Chapel Family Prayer List

O God, the Creator and Preserver of all mankind, we humbly beseech Thee for all sorts and conditions of men; that Thou wouldest be pleased to make Thy ways known unto them, Thy saving health unto all nations. More especially we pray for Thy holy Church universal; that it may be so guided and governed by Thy good Spirit, that all who profess and call themselves Christians may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life. Finally, we commend to Thy fatherly goodness:

Archbishop Beach;
Bishop Ilgenfritz;
Canon Penfield,
our Vicar-General;
Father Parrish;
Deacon Vogel; and
Deacon Bracken;

also all those who serve as Thy ministers in governing our nation and state, particularly:

President Donald Trump;
and

Governor Jerry Brown;
as well as all those who are any ways afflicted, or distressed, in mind, body, or estate; especially those for whom our prayers are desired:

the soldiers, sailors,
marines, airmen,
police officers,
firefighters, and pilots
who protect us every day;

our persecuted Christian
brothers and sisters
throughout the world;

all refugees;

Estelle Wilson;

Julia McNeely;

Joya de Rossett;

Sharon De Souza;

Debbie;

Scott;

Brittany;

Chuck;

Don Cottam;

Tanya Theiler;

Christian McKagan
and his parents;

Lois Martins;

Dale Quinn;

Lisa;

Ben;

Marion;

Max;

Bishop Richard Boyce;
Dorian;

Kate Ward;

Kendra, Dan,
Emmalyn, and Dayna
Pack;

Ernst Hernandez;

Ray and Elodia Boreham;

Jan Martins;

Louanne Norman;

Reagan and
the Stanko family;

Kim Vogel

the life and
continuing longevity of
St. Luke's

Chapel in the Hills;

and for all those
who are in our hearts,

that it may please Thee to comfort and relieve them, according to their several necessities; giving them patience under their sufferings, and a happy issue out of all their afflictions. And this we beg for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Please note: This prayer list was current as of June 25th. Please contact Father Parrish to make corrections.

**THEY Will
Be Done
No Matter What It Is**

Let Us Hear from You!

The goals of the parish newsletter are:

- to use this publication to increase awareness of programs within the parish;
- to offer it as a means of building one another up in Christ; and
- to make it available as a tool for evangelism.

In order for these goals to succeed, *The Hillside Messenger* needs to have the voice of the entire parish. In other words, we need to hear from everyone!

What is Wanted?

You may submit any article you feel is suitable for publication in a parish newsletter. Some examples include:

- ministry reports – What work has God directed you to do for Him? How can others join or support your work? What are the fruits of your labors?
- original news items – Are you beginning a new ministry? Have you witnessed God at work in some way you simply must share?
- other articles of general interest.

Another way to participate is by contributing to one of the newsletter's ongoing features, such as:

- Parishioner Profile – Tell us a little more about yourself! Profiles are part personal history, part spiritual journey, and part personal testimony to the power and glory of God— plus, of course, one or more photographs of your choice. The article may be of any length you choose, and a friend or family member may write it if you prefer.
- Share a Prayer – Everyone is invited to share a favorite prayer, Bible verse, or spiritual quotation. Especially, it would be great if you will tell why and how the words have had an impact on you.
- Parish Postings – This is the place for brief notices and reminders.
Finally, if you would like to undertake a special series or a regular column, please let Father Parrish know. (*Regular* can mean anything from a monthly to an annual publication schedule, whatever works for you!)

Notes Regarding Submissions

Please note the following:

- Father Parrish has final approval of all submissions.
- The editor is not a ghostwriter, but there are people in the parish who will help you

if you like. Just ask Kim Vogel for referrals.

- Copyrighted material cannot be reprinted without permission of the copyright holder. Obtaining permission can be a lengthy process.
- Unless asked to print an article “as is”, the editor assumes permission to edit all submissions (although she promises to do so under God's supervision and with an eye to maintaining the integrity of the original).
- Publication will not be delayed for late submissions.

How to Submit

Send submissions by e-mail to:

KimVogel@gmail.com

Deadline

Please get your article to Kim Vogel by the 20th of each month for publication in the following month's issue.

Thank you, and may God specially bless all those who contribute to this ministry!

– Kim Vogel



***How beautiful
on the mountains
are the feet of those
who bring good news,
who proclaim peace,
who bring good tidings,
who proclaim salvation,
who say to Zion,
“Your God reigns!”***

Isaiah 52:7

Parish Postings

The Vestry will meet on Sunday, July 2nd, immediately following the worship service. The meeting is open to all.



The Vestry has hired Akiko Lewis as our new Organist. She will begin work on Sunday, July 16th. Please introduce yourself and welcome her to our Chapel Family as she begins her ministry. Also, many thanks to all our substitute organists who have played for us since October last year! Music is an important part of our worship services, and we pray that God will bless all those who share their musical ability with us as richly as they have blessed us!



Please join your Chapel Family for Evening Prayer on Friday, July 28th, at 7:00 PM. This service is a beautiful way to end one's week while also

providing an excellent way to introduce friends to St. Luke's Chapel in the Hills.



The Missionary Diocese of All Saints will host its twelfth annual Women's Retreat from Thursday, October 18th, to Saturday, October 21st. The retreat will answer the question "How on earth does a Christian woman keep her balance in an unbalanced world?" through the study of *Philippians 4:8*. The retreat will take place at Dunes Lodge in Ocean City, Maryland. Brochures with complete information are available in the Narthex. If you are interested in attending as part of a group from St. Luke's, please let Father Parrish know. Registrations must be received by September 19th.

WHATEVER IS TRUE
WHATEVER IS HONEST
WHATEVER IS PURE
WHATEVER IS LOVELY
THINK ON THESE THINGS
Philippians 4:8

Anyone desiring Confirmation in 2018 should contact Father Parrish as soon as possible.



If you wish a favorite hymn to be sung on a particular Sunday, please e-mail your request to Father Parrish at least one week in advance (include a clear copy of the music and lyrics if necessary).



Father Parrish is seeking Lay Readers to assist him with our worship services. Any confirmed parishioner is eligible to serve, and training will be provided. Please prayerfully consider joining this important ministry.



Please remember the hungry when you do your grocery shopping. Bring donations of non-perishable foodstuffs to church with you any Sunday and place them in the basket in the Narthex for transport to the Downtown Palo Alto Emergency Food Closet. Thank you!



Upcoming Events

Sunday, July 2nd: The Third Sunday after Trinity

Bible Study: Amos

9:15 AM

Holy Communion with Healing Service

10:00 AM

Vestry Meeting

immediately following the worship service

Tuesday, July 4th: Independence Day

Sunday, July 9th: The Fourth Sunday after Trinity

Bible Study: Philippians

9:15 AM

Office of Daily Morning Prayer

10:00 AM

Holy Communion

noon

Sunday, July 16th: The Fifth Sunday after Trinity

Bible Study: Philippians

9:15 AM

Holy Communion

10:00 AM

Sunday, July 23rd: The Sixth Sunday after Trinity

Bible Study: Philippians

9:15 AM

Office of Daily Morning Prayer

10:00 AM

Holy Communion

noon

Friday, July 28th

Office of Daily Evening Prayer

7:00 PM

Sunday, July 30th: The Seventh Sunday after Trinity

Bible Study: Philippians

9:15 AM

Holy Communion

10:00 AM

Sunday, August 6th: The Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Bible Study: Jonah

9:15 AM

Holy Communion with Healing Service

10:00 AM





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A PUBLICATION OF
ST. LUKE'S CHAPEL IN THE HILLS
ANGLICAN CHURCH

A PARISH OF
THE CONVOCATION OF THE WEST,
PART OF THE
MISSIONARY DIOCESE OF
ALL SAINTS IN
THE ANGLICAN CHURCH
IN NORTH AMERICA

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Worship Schedule

St.

Luke's Chapel in the Hills is a traditional Anglican parish which uses the 1928 edition *Book of Common Prayer*. We invite you to join us for worship soon!

*"A place
where the Bible is taught."*



*Biblical in teaching.
Liturgical in worship.
Loving in practice.*

First Sunday of each month

Holy Communion with Healing Service
10:00 AM

Second and fourth Sundays each month

Office of Daily Morning Prayer
10:00 AM

Said Holy Communion
noon

Please note that both services on Feast Days occurring on these Sundays will be Holy Communion.

Third and fifth Sunday each month and Feast Days

Holy Communion
10:00 AM