



The Shepherd's Voice

by Fr. Joe Rees

November 12, 2013

“Wars & Tumults”

“When you hear of wars and tumults, do not be terrified, for these things must take place, but the end will not be at once.”—Jesus. Luke 21:9

Today, the news services reported that NY's One World Trade Center is declared the highest building in the U.S. Of course, that is the Freedom Tower that has replaced the Twin Towers brought down by one of the most horrific terror attacks in our history, 9-11-2001. We have just passed Veteran's Day (Armistice Day for world peace), 11-11 at the 11th hour. It's interesting to me that on Veteran's Day we took time to watch the President lay the wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and saw those servicemen who walk the line in honor of the dead there. (Please check out the attached description of the Honor Guard at the Tomb). Today is 11-12-13. One wonders if the terrorists that are bent on destroying us as a nation use these quirky days to do their evil deeds! But, we go forward in freedom and the protected peace that we so enjoy but often take for granted. Our sons and daughters are out there on the front lines keeping that peace and giving us the freedom, even to rail against our country at times. Freedom is God's gift to us. He has designed His creation to seek freedom and peace, not war. The evil one is behind all warfare in some way or another...to destroy God's creatures and His Peace.

We are still a nation “under God” and as we go forward as a nation we will always have to bear the brunt of the cost of peace, sometimes using force as necessary and only for keeping the peace, never to obtain other's property or wealth or resources. We must be the keepers of God's law to seek peace and protect as necessary our

citizens, His people. I am thinking of our US Marines having just had their 238th year of active service. They've been all over the world to engage the evil as enemy of our State. Now, they are helping, as they often do, with the relief efforts for the Philippines that have been devastated by the monster typhoon that directly hit the country. The estimates of the death toll could reach 10,000 or more. Now that is a tragedy, especially looking at the video feeds showing unbelievable devastation. That is a huge “tumult”! I encourage you to text in \$10 to Samaritan's Purse who are on the ground there helping with relief. (Text **SP** to 80888, follow the prompts, it will charge \$10 to your phone bill). We are helping children throughout the world with hopefully 50 shoeboxes through Samaritan's Purse...a Billy Graham Assoc. Ministry. Please do make this an offering.

Jesus said that there would be “wars and tumults” because He knows the sinfulness of the people of the world, the hurt caused by sin to one another, and the evil one's actions on the face of the earth to cause mayhem and destruction. Jesus knows that this is just the beginning of the “birth pangs” and much more will happen when “good” people fail to do God's will in the world and let evil have his way. As the rest of Sunday's passage goes on, Jesus states what we must do—do not be afraid—“By your endurance you will gain your lives.”(v.19) We must stand steady and true to the Lord. Standing firm in our faith as well as our will to do good, seek peace, and protect our citizens is a must. We must endure the trials and tumults of our day. “The end will not be at once!” It will take a long time. “Nation will rise against nation”. “Jerusalem will be surrounded by armies, recognize that her desolation is near.”

Well, that's particularly true today. The Secretary of State said that the ally's plea to Iran was turned away and they could not make a way forward with negotiations. How long will Israel resist a pre-emptive strike to thwart the aggressiveness of Iran? We are war weary and arguing as a nation about health care. Yet, we may be called upon once again to come to the aid of Israel's quest to be a free nation unhindered by enemies that want to destroy her. This is a call to prayer. We must endure against all the enemies of God.

There have been too many casualties of war, and even those who are still POW's that no one is trying to get released to come home (one still from Afghanistan in enemies' hands, paraded once a year by thugs on Al Jazeera news). There are too many disabled Vets. There are too many homeless vets with PTSD. But, on the whole, ask each one of them, and they'll say they were

glad to give of their lives for the honor of protecting the freedom we love. Thank you veterans! Thank you to all our wounded warriors! Thank you to our national leaders who continue to uphold the tenets of freedom for our people. We the people need to make sure it never flags in attention or support. This is a call for "endurance". Let's stand with Jesus to make sure His freedom never fails or is forgotten. We're gonna need it!

Prayerfully thinking about our nation in the weeks to come as we approach Thanksgiving...

Love in Christ,

Fr. Joe

Sunday Servers

November 17, 2013		8:30 a.m. Service	10:15 a.m. Service
First Reader	Malachi 3:13-4:6	Judy Gillease	Pat Richardson
Psalm Reader	Psalm 98	Alfred Focke	Alex Teixeira
Second Reader	2 Thessalonians 3:6-13	Trish Stewart	Jim Livingston
Intercessor		Thor Strom	Frances Slaughter
Lay Euch. Ministers		Bill Laitinen, Judy Gillease	Jani Dubski, Carolyn Blumberg
Acolytes		Thor Strom	Frances S (C); Zachary J (T1); Damon W (T2)
Welcomers		Myrna Lipnicke, Paula Sholly	Margaret Olson, Jeanne Shannon
Ushers		Dick Sholly, Jackie Lansing	Jim Livingston, JR Fox, April Knowles
Vestry Person of Day	Mitch Dubski		
Healing Ministers		Jan Simon, Rudy Theobald	Petey Seibold, Donna Sandner
Announcer		Kay Focke	Anna Teixeira
Counters			Cline Handy & Michael Murphy

Save the Dates!

SMILE! We are having our pictures professionally done for the new pictorial directory at Grace. The photographer will be here on December 5, 6, & 7th You will be called to make an appointment or check our website for a link to make your appointment online.

Pledge Cards

If you haven't already done it, please turn in your anonymous pledge card on Sunday so we can have some basis on which to plan next year's budget.

A Time of Liturgical Contemplation

Friday, November 15, 2013—at 7:00 p.m.

Las Flores Church, 1400 Las Flores Drive, Carlsbad, CA

This Week at Grace

November 12, - November 19, 2013

Tues. November 12

11:30 a.m. Rector's Bible Study
4:30 p.m. Healing prayer and Eucharist at CHC
7:00 p.m. Fr. Joe's Teaching on Revelation

Wed. November 13

8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer & Eucharist
10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
6:30 p.m. Soaking Prayer

Thurs. November 14

Fr. Richard's day off
7:00 a.m. Bible Study
11:30 a.m. Healing Eucharist at CHC
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Fri. November 15

Fr. Joe's day off
10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer at CHC
6:30 p.m. Evening Prayer & Healing
6:30 p.m. A Time of Liturgical Contemplation at Las Flores Church—1400 Las Flores Dr., Carlsbad, CA

Sat. November 16

8:00 a.m. Men's Fellowship
10:00 p.m. Praise Team rehearsal

Sun. November 17

26th Sunday after Pentecost

7:30 a.m. Spoken Eucharist Service
8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist with choir
9:45 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship
10:00 a.m. Nursery opens
10:15 a.m. Children's Church
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist with praise team

Mon. November 18

6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer
10:00 a.m. Peacock Hills Sr. Association
6:30 p.m. Youth Group

Tues. November 19

11:30 a.m. Rector's Bible Study
4:30 p.m. Healing prayer and Eucharist at CHC
7:00 p.m. Fr. Joe's Teaching on Revelation

Bible Readings this Weeks

Malachi 3:13-4:6

Psalms 98

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Luke 21:5-19

We are using the English Standard Version of the Bible and the Lectionary from the Book of Common Prayer (Year C)

Upcoming Events

Nov. 13 Soaking Prayer, 6:30pm
Nov. 15 A Time of Liturgical Contemplation, 7:00pm
Nov. 28 Thanksgiving Service at Grace, 10:30am
Nov. 28 Thanksgiving Dinner at Grace, 11:30am
Nov. 29 Church Office Closed.
Nov. 30 Decorate the church, 10am
Dec. 5,6 & 7-Pictures taken for new directory.
Dec. 15 Angel Tree Party—2:00pm
Dec. 22 Children's Christmas program & Party
Dec. 24 Christmas Eve services—5 & 10 pm
Dec. 25 Christmas Day service—10:00am



Operation Christmas Child

"The Shoebox Ministry"

Fill a shoebox with small gifts for a boy or a girl and mark the box with the age group of the selected items. There will be more information available on Sunday. If you cannot fill a shoebox, please consider donating money towards the \$7.00 per box that it costs to ship the boxes. Every bit helps. *This Sunday is the last day to turn in your shoeboxes!*

Angel Tree Ministry

We still have the names of children of incarcerated parents available for you to buy gifts for the child. We will have a party for the children as they come to pick up their gifts on December 15th. Your financial help with the party is needed. See Tina Murphy for more information.