



DEVOTIONAL HANDBOOK

for

**The Brotherhood
of St. Andrew**

and

**Men's Ministries of the
Episcopal Church and the
Anglican Communion**

*25th Edition
2022*

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DEVOTIONAL HANDBOOK

for

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew

*A ministry for the spread of Christ's Kingdom among
men and youth in the Episcopal Church/Anglican Communion.*

and for

Men's Ministries of the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion

*Men's ministries may use all or portions of this handbook
as desired, omitting or adapting prayers as appropriate
for their specific use.*

25th Edition
2022

**Brotherhood of St. Andrew
Seven Ministry Areas of Mission Focus**

Discipleship/Mentoring

Racial Reconciliation

Recovery

Restorative Justice

Social Justice

Veterans Ministry

Youth and Scouting

Chapter Devotions

(It is customary for Brothers Andrew to recite together the Collect for the Feast of St. Andrew, November 30, at all gatherings of the Brotherhood.)

THE BROTHERHOOD COLLECT

Almighty God, who gave such grace to your apostle Andrew that he readily obeyed the call of your Son Jesus Christ, and brought his brother with him: Give us, who are called by your Holy Word, grace to follow him without delay, and to bring those near to us into his gracious presence; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

COLLECT FOR ANDREW, A MARTYR

Almighty God, who gave to your servant Andrew boldness to confess the Name of our Savior Jesus Christ before the rulers of this world, and courage to die for this faith; Grant that we may always be ready to give a reason for the hope that is in us, and to suffer gladly for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

*COLLECT FOR OBSERVING THE GREAT COMMISSION**

Lord Jesus Christ, who came to seek and save the lost and who is the way by whom all must go who come to the Father: Grant that we may be your witnesses in the power of the Holy Spirit and in the grace of your continual presence, going to all people everywhere, making them your disciples, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to observe all that you have commanded us. *Amen.*

** And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."*

Matthew 28:18-20

Brief History of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew

1883 – Brotherhood of St. Andrew organized at St. James Episcopal Church, Chicago. James Houghteling was the leading founder.

1885 – Daughters of the King, a sister organization, was founded.

By 1887 – 115 chapters and over 2000 members.

By 1906 – 1200 chapters and over 17,000 members and chapters in England, Japan, China.

1908 – Brotherhood of St. Andrew incorporated by Act of Congress, the only faith-based organization to be so honored.

Brotherhood of St. Andrew has supported Boy Scouts of America for over 100 years; over 1300 units in Episcopal Churches.

St. Andrew's Cross is the oldest Episcopal lay publication.

Brotherhood of St. Andrew was very active in WWI and WWII, providing assistance to servicemen throughout the wars.

Brotherhood of St. Andrew now has 390 chapters in the United States and chapters in Africa, Japan, the Philippines, Great Britain, Canada, and Haiti.

“. . . God stirred up the wills
of that little company,
that dozen of insignificant folk,
so that they started out
to do something . . .”

*James L. Houghteling,
Founder of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew*

An Order of Worship for Chapter Meetings

(The Leader should be the Chapter Director or a member appointed by him. Other members may be asked to take part, each using a prayer of his own selection or one assigned to him by the Leader in advance. The services should be planned as carefully as the rest of the meeting and changed from time to time. Prayers may be chosen from the Book of Common Prayer, from this book, or from other sources, or, to fit special needs, composed by the Rector or a chapter member.)

(A hymn sung or said at the beginning and/or the closing of this service may enrich the chapter's worship. Suggestions include the Brotherhood hymn printed on the back cover or from The Hymnal 1982: 541, 548, 551, 552, 564, 680, 711.)

OPENING SERVICE

LEADER: (all standing) As our Lord and Master Jesus Christ suffered death upon the cross that all who came after him should have light, we dedicate ourselves anew to the purpose of the Brotherhood, the spread of Christ's kingdom, especially among men and youth, not by our might but by the power of God's Spirit.

ALL:

THE DISCIPLINE OF PRAYER is to pray daily for the spread of Christ's kingdom, especially among men and youth, and for God's blessings upon the labors of the Brotherhood.

THE DISCIPLINE OF STUDY is to *study* the Holy Scriptures *regularly* and the teachings of the Church, to attain a better understanding of how to follow Christ and bring others into his kingdom.

THE DISCIPLINE OF SERVICE is to make *continuous* efforts, *day by day*, to bring others nearer to Christ through his Church.

LEADER: We recognize our commitment faithfully to keep our disciplines of daily prayer, regular study, and continuous service for the spread of Christ's kingdom among men and youth.

Our help is in the Name of the Lord.

ANSWER: The maker of heaven and earth.

LEADER: Blessed be the name of the Lord.

ANSWER: From this time forth forever more.

(A service for the Admission of New Members or the Institution of Assembly or Chapter Officers may be inserted here – see pages 19 & 24.)

LEADER: The Lord be with you.

ANSWER: And also with you.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name.
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

The Brotherhood Collect

ALL: Almighty God, who gave such grace to your apostle Andrew, that he readily obeyed the call of your Son Jesus Christ, and brought his brother with him: Give us, who are called by your Holy Word, grace to follow him without delay, and to bring those near to us into his gracious presence; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. *Amen.*

(The following or other prayers may also be used, said by the Leader or one appointed by him. A reading from Holy Scripture and a Bible study or other devotion may be offered here. Consider the devotions beginning on page 33.)

A Collect for Guidance

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may direct and rule our hearts in this meeting and in all things; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who

lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

A Collect for Unity of the Church

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, “Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you.” Give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit, you live and reign, now and forever. *Amen.*

The Peace

LEADER: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

ALL: And also with you.

(The People greet one another in the name of the Lord)

(Here follows the business of the Chapter. If refreshments are served during the meeting, the Chapter Director, meeting leader, or chapter Chaplain should say an appropriate grace or use one of the prayers in the section entitled “Thanksgiving Before Meals” on page 12.)

CLOSING PRAYERS

(In addition to the following, other prayers may be included as desired; some suggestions are offered under Prayers for the Brotherhood on page 11.)

LEADER: The Lord be with you.

ANSWER: And also with you.

LEADER: Let us pray.

What we have done here today we offer to you, O Lord, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. *Amen.*

A Collect for the Spread of Christ’s Kingdom

Almighty and eternal Father, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy, inspire and sustain the prayers and efforts of the members and associates of our Brotherhood, hallow our lives, and grant that men and youth everywhere may be brought into the kingdom of your Son, and may grow from strength to strength until they come into the fullness of eternal life; for the sake of Jesus Christ your Son our savior. *Amen.*

The Prayers of the People

LEADER: Almighty God, creator of all that is and savior of the world, we pray for the Church, this nation and all nations and peoples; we pray especially for the concerns of this congregation, for those who suffer, and for those who have died.

(Additional prayers, intercessions and thanksgivings by the Leader and members are offered here, silently or aloud. Include intercessions for persons and ministries discussed in the meeting and for other concerns of the brothers. Brothers may be encouraged to offer brief prayers of intercession and thanksgiving.)

LEADER: Lord, hear our prayers and give your blessing to all that we do in your name.

ALL: Visit this place, O Lord, and drive far from it all snares of the enemy; let your holy angels dwell with us to preserve us in peace; and let your blessing be upon us always; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

ALL: Glory to God whose power, working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine; Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus forever and ever. *Amen.*

LEADER: Almighty God, in whom we live and move and have our being, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

(alternative closing prayer) LEADER: Go on your way in peace. Be of good courage. Hold fast to that which is good; render to no man evil for evil. Strengthen the faint hearted, support the weak; help and cheer the sick, honor all men, love and serve the Lord; and may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. *Amen.*

LEADER: Let us bless the Lord.

ANSWER: Thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Order of Worship for Chapter meetings ends here

Prayers for the Brotherhood

O Lord, send forth these Brothers equipped to follow you so they may fulfill the ministry of your Church according to your will. Create in each of us a pure heart and a patient faith so that we may serve you now and evermore. Look with favor on the ministry of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew. All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, pour out your Holy Spirit upon this Chapter and the work planned at this meeting. Guide each member in his commitment to share Christ with those he meets daily; make us faithful in our love for you and holy in our lives, so that both by our words and our example we will show forth the glory of your Son, Jesus Christ; in whose name we pray. *Amen.*

Bless the officers of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew: the President, members of National Council, Associate Field Secretaries, Assembly officers, and Chapter officers, especially those of this Chapter (names); give them wisdom and strength to further the spread of Christ's Kingdom among men and youth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Lord, assist us with your grace in this work which we are about to undertake, direct us by your wisdom, support us by your power; that by doing what we can, you will do the rest, bringing many to Christ, and glory to your name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Lord, as you have given all of us a part to play in the life of your Church, we thank you for this work (*name of project may be inserted*) to do together; give us grace to persist in it, and through it to serve you in honor and glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Come Holy Spirit, fill each of our hearts, bless this meeting with your presence, guide us in our work, give us a clearer knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ, and help us to bring others closer to him, for his sake. *Amen.*

A Prayer for all ministers in the Church

Almighty God, you call all who believe in you to active ministry in your Church: Bless, guide, and empower those set aside in orders as bishops, priests, and deacons, and also all lay ministers whom you have called to serve. Make their service faithful, that the Church may be strengthened and those lost in the world may be found; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Master. *Amen.*

Thanksgiving Before Meals *(suggested prayers)*

Thank you, God, for this food that the earth has provided and human hands have made; help us pray, study, and serve for the spread of Christ's Kingdom in our own lives and in the lives of others. *Amen.*

For food, for life, for raiment.
For fellowship one with another,
We thank you Lord. *Amen.*

Bless us O Lord and these thy gifts which we are about to receive from thy bounty through Christ Our Lord. *Amen.*

Bless this food to our use and us to thy service.
Make us ever mindful of the needs of others.
In Jesus' name we pray. *Amen.*

Wesleyan Grace: *(sung to the tune "Old One-hundredth")*

Be present at our table Lord,
Be here and everywhere adored,
Lord, grant us grace that we might be,
In feast and fellowship with thee. Amen

Prayers for Youth

Most gracious Lord, bless the youth in our parish; grant them wisdom and grace; quicken their hearts with devotion to you, and by their example and zeal reach out to others. Strengthen them in all good habits, teach them to pray, and develop in them love and power, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Almighty God whose blessed Son took our nature on himself, giving us an example that we should follow; look graciously upon all young people in this parish and make them grow in wisdom, stature, and favor with you. Give them grace to remember you now in the days of their youth, and consecrate their strength to your service; preserve and deliver them from all temptation; keep them pure in heart, upright in life, and diligent in the work to which they have been called, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you that your life and message of the kingdom of God grips the souls of young people. Inflame us with your Spirit that we too may be counted among those who follow you, O Lord, our leader and Redeemer. *Amen.*

O Glorious King, before whose heavenly throne the angels stand waiting to do your will; bless the youth and acolytes of your Church, that worshipping and ministering before your earthly throne, they may serve you with reverence and true holiness, to the honor and glory of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Prayer for Scouting

Fulfill. O Lord, the great purpose for which the Scouting movement was created. Watch over the spirit of Scouting; strengthen and sustain the body of its organization; exalt its ideals; refine its aims; bless its undertakings; and guide its leadership. Give every Scout the grace to keep the promise made in the Scout Oath and to live according to the Scout Law. Teach us to speak and do the truth, so that the honor of our word may be trusted by everyone. Help us to do our best with all opportunities for serving thee and one another.

May the joys of friendship and fellowship in Scouting abound and multiply. Grant that the inspiration of this fellowship may lift every one of us to higher levels of service and citizenship. Through Jesus Christ Our Lord. *AMEN.*

Special Services

A Service for Mid-Day Prayers

(It is customary at Brotherhood meetings to pause at noon for prayers, especially for missions and missionary work. The Order on page 103 of the Prayer Book or the following may be used.)

BROTHERHOOD COLLECT

Almighty God, who gave such grace to your apostle Andrew that he readily obeyed the call of your Son Jesus Christ, and brought his brother with him: Give us, who are called by your Holy Word, grace to follow him without delay, and to bring those near to us into his gracious presence; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

LEADER: O God, make speed to save us.

ALL: O Lord make haste to help us.

ALL: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning is now, and will be forever. *Amen.*

From Psalm 113

Give praise, you servants of the Lord;
praise the name of the Lord.

Let the name of the Lord be blessed,
from this time forth for evermore.

From the rising of the sun to its going down
let the Name of the Lord be praised.

The Lord is high above all nations,
and his glory above the heavens.

A Reading *(use this or some other reading)*

O God, you will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are fixed upon you; for in returning and rest we shall be saved; in quietness and trust shall be our strength. *Isaiah 26:3, 30:15*

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name.
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

LEADER: Heavenly Father, send your Holy Spirit into our hearts, to direct and rule us according to your will, to comfort us in all our afflictions, to defend us from all error, and to lead us into all truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

LEADER: Blessed Savior, at this hour you hung upon the hard wood of the cross, stretching out your loving arms; Grant that all peoples of the earth may look to you and be saved; for your tender mercies' sake. *Amen.*

LEADER: Almighty Savior, who at noonday called your servant Saint Paul to be an apostle to the Gentiles; We pray you to illumine the world with the radiance of your glory, that all nations may come and worship you; for you live and reign forever and ever. *Amen.*

ALL: Almighty God, who gave to your servant Andrew boldness to confess the Name of our Savior Jesus Christ before the rulers of this world, and courage to die for this faith; Grant that we may always be ready to give a reason for the hope that is in us, and to suffer gladly for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

LEADER: Let us bless the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

A Service For Use With A Sick Person

(After a brief visit with a sick person, usually at the time of leaving, the Brotherhood member may say, "In the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, we have a very short service for the sick that I would like to read for you with your permission." If the offer is accepted, the Brotherhood member proceeds with the following prayers.)

Grace and peace be with you, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Let us pray.

O God of peace, you have taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and confidence shall be our strength: By the might of your Spirit lift us, we pray, to your presence, where we may be still and know that you are God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Then this prayer is said

Almighty God, giver of life and health; send your blessing on *(name)* who is sick, and upon those who minister to him, that all weakness may be vanquished by the triumph of the risen Christ, who lives and reigns forever and ever. *Amen.*

or this

O God of heavenly powers, by the might of your command you drive away from our bodies all sickness and all infirmity: Be present in your goodness with your servant (*name*), that *his* weakness may be banished and *his* strength restored; and that *his* health being renewed, *he* may bless your holy Name. *Amen.*

Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to you, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly yours, utterly dedicated to you; and then use us, we pray, as you will, and always to your glory and the welfare of your people; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

(If the sick person is about to undergo surgery, the following prayer may be used.)

Strengthen your servant (*name*), O God, to do what *he* has to do, bear what *he* has to bear; that accepting your healing gifts through the skill of surgeons and nurses, *he* may be restored to usefulness in your world with a thankful heart; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A Service of Chapter Installation
or
Admission of Members into the
Brotherhood of St. Andrew

(When a National Council member or Assembly President is available, he should officiate as Inductor. When this is not possible, an Associate Field secretary or neighboring Chapter Director may officiate. If none of these can be present, the Rector or Vicar may serve as Inductor. For the admission of members into an existing Chapter, the Rector should serve as Inductor. Any Brotherhood member may serve as Presenter. It is desirable that the service be held in the church at one of the main Sunday services. This service may be included as part of An Order of Worship for Chapter Meetings, which begins on page 7).

PRESENTER: The Brotherhood of St. Andrew is named for Saint Andrew who, according to John's Gospel, after meeting Jesus, went to find his brother Simon, and said to him, "we have found the Messiah." Then he took Simon to Jesus.

Emulating Andrew, the first Brothers Andrew reached out to men in rooming houses, giving them Bibles and inviting them to come to church to hear for themselves the witness of scripture to God's love through His Son, Jesus Christ. Like Andrew, they brought people to be baptized and confirmed in the church. They established mission churches and expanded Christ's Kingdom. The Brotherhood grew and became international.

We know from the cumulative experiences of the past that there is no limit to this ministry. No limit as long as our ministry is one of extending the golden thread of God's love and sharing Jesus Christ with the world.

PRESENTER: I recommend that you receive these candidates officially into the Brotherhood of St. Andrew.

INDUCTOR: The Brotherhood of St. Andrew is a ministry to men and youth dedicated to the spread of Christ's kingdom here on earth through the disciplines of regular prayer, study and service.

SAID BY ALL: *(Omit if the disciplines are said elsewhere.)*

THE DISCIPLINE OF PRAYER is to *pray daily* for the spread of Christ's kingdom, especially among men and youth, and for God's blessings upon the labors of the Brotherhood.

THE DISCIPLINE OF STUDY is to *study* the Holy Scriptures *regularly* and the teachings of the Church, to attain a better understanding of how to follow Christ and bring others into his kingdom.

THE DISCIPLINE OF SERVICE is to make *continuous* efforts, *day by day*, to bring others nearer to Christ through his Church.

INDUCTOR: Do you desire to become members in the Brotherhood of St. Andrew?

ANSWER: I do.

INDUCTOR: Do you acknowledge and reaffirm the promise and vows made at your Baptism that pledged you to love and help your neighbor in the name of Jesus Christ until your life's end?

ANSWER: I do

INDUCTOR: Will you work faithfully to fulfill the objectives and disciplines of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew?

ANSWER: I will, with God's help and the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

INDUCTOR: May Almighty God, who has given you this will to do these things, grant you the strength and power to perform the three disciplines of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew faithfully. Lord grant these brothers the insight to recognize gifts for ministry you have provided to each and give them the direction of the Holy Spirit in accomplishing your Great Commission in the daily conduct of their lives. We pray that each of you, as a Brother Andrew, may accomplish the work which God has begun in you. We ask this through Your Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

INDUCTOR: I receive and admit each one of you into the fellowship of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew. Each of you has committed yourself to share all Brotherhood privileges and responsibilities. May God give you the grace to follow the example of Saint Andrew, whose name we bear, in bringing many to the knowledge and love of Jesus Christ our Lord.

INDUCTOR: (name) wear this emblem symbolizing the Cross of St. Andrew, and see to it that what you have promised with your lips, you perform in your daily life, to the glory of God.

MINISTER: Almighty God, bless these your servants (*this servant*) who have (*has*) signified their (*his*) purpose to faithfully serve as (*a*) member(s) and officer(s) of this Chapter of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew. Grant them (*him*) in their (*his*) ministry and vocation the power and courage to extend your Kingdom by their (*his*) devoted service. *Amen.*

ALL: Almighty God, who gave such grace to your apostle Andrew that he readily obeyed the call of your Son Jesus Christ, and brought his brother with him: Grant us, who are called by your Holy Word, grace to follow him without delay and bring those we meet into his gracious presence; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

MINISTER: Almighty God, in whom we live and move and have our being, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

(*alternative closing prayer*) MINISTER: The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you His peace. *Amen.*

A Service of Rededication for Chapters

(Many Chapters, on or about St. Andrew's Day attend a regular Church service in a body and reaffirm their fidelity to the objectives and disciplines of the Brotherhood, rededicating themselves to the work of their parish chapter. The following order of service is suggested for this purpose. If this order is used as Morning Prayer, it is suggested that it come immediately after the offertory, or if at the Holy Communion, immediately before the offertory. The rector or vicar will determine the place that it is used in the service. Suggested hymns from the Hymnal 1982: 549, 550, 541, 548, 551, 552, 564.)

CELEBRANT (*all standing*): The Brotherhood of St. Andrew is a ministry to men and youth dedicated to the spread of Christ's kingdom through the disciplines of prayer, study, and service.

THE DISCIPLINE OF PRAYER is to *pray daily* for the spread of Christ's kingdom, especially among men and youth, and for God's blessings upon the labors of the Brotherhood.

THE DISCIPLINE OF STUDY is to *study* the Holy Scriptures *regularly* and the teachings of the Church, to attain a better understanding of how to follow Christ and bring others into his kingdom.

THE DISCIPLINE OF SERVICE is to make *continuous* efforts, *day by day*, to bring others nearer to Christ through his Church.

CELEBRANT: Do you desire to continue your membership in the Brotherhood of St. Andrew?

ANSWER: I do.

CELEBRANT: Do you reaffirm your commitment to service in the name of Jesus Christ?

ANSWER: I do.

CELEBRANT: Will you work faithfully to fulfill the objectives and disciplines of the Brotherhood?

ANSWER: I will, with God's help.

CELEBRANT: Almighty God, who has given you the will to do these things, strengthen you to finish the work which God has begun in you; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

CELEBRANT: Almighty God, look with favor upon these persons who have now reaffirmed their commitment to follow Christ and to serve in his name in the Brotherhood of St. Andrew. Give them courage, patience, and vision; and strengthen them in their Christian vocation of witness to the world, and of service to others; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A Service for the Institution of Assembly or Chapter Officers

This service should be included as part of a regular liturgy of the church or the liturgy for Brotherhood chapter meetings which begins on page 7 of this handbook.

If this service is to be used for the institution of Assembly officers, it is suggested that it be conducted by the Bishop of the diocese as the Institutor, assisted by the Rector of the parish or mission at which the Annual Meeting of the Assembly is held. In the absence of the Bishop, it is suggested that the Chaplain of the Assembly officiate. If this service is to be used for the institution of chapter officers, it should be conducted by the Rector of the parish or the Priest-in-Charge. The Presenter could be the past President or another Assembly or national officer.)

PRESENTER: I present to you these persons to be installed as officers of the (*name of Chapter or Assembly*) of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew.

INSTITUTOR: Do you accept the duties and responsibilities of your office?

ANSWER: I do.

INSTITUTOR: Will you earnestly and prayerfully lead the Brotherhood of St. Andrew of the parish (*diocese*) in the fulfillment of the Brotherhood's objectives, and work for the spread of Christ's kingdom?

ANSWER: I will, with God's help.

INSTITUTOR: Will you conduct your own lives as to be good examples for the men and youth with whom you come in contact, whether members of this Brotherhood or not?

ANSWER: I will, with God's help.

INSTITUTOR: Receive authority, therefore, to perform the duties of the offices to which you have been elected, and may God grant you grace to do them well, in the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*if not said elsewhere*)

INSTITUTOR: Almighty God, bless these your servants who have signified their purpose to serve as members and officers of this Chapter (*Assembly*) of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, and grant in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you, and faithfully work for the extension of your kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

(Here may be said other prayers as desired.)

ALL: Almighty God, who gave such grace to your apostle Andrew that he readily obeyed the call of your Son Jesus Christ, and brought his brother with him: Give us, who are called by your Holy Word, grace to follow him without delay, and to bring those near us into his gracious presence; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

CELEBRANT/MINISTER: Almighty God, in whom we live and move and have our being, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

(alternative closing prayer)

The Lord bless you and keep you. *Amen.*

The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. *Amen.*

The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. *Amen.*

About Commissioning and the Laying on of Hands

(It is recommended that each newly elected officer in the Brotherhood be empowered by the laying on of hands.)

Commissioning of Christians by laying on of hands is Biblical and was the normal thing to do in the early Church. When someone was elected to perform a specific service, hands were laid on him to signify authorization by the Church and to empower him with the Holy Spirit for the ministry. Here are a few excerpts from Holy Scripture that speak to this:

“So the Lord said to Moses, “Take Joshua, son of Nun, a man in whom is the spirit, and lay your hand on him. Have him stand before Eleazar the priest and the entire assembly and commission him in their presence.”

Numbers 27:18-19

“Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through a prophetic message when the body of elders laid their hands on you.”

1 Timothy 4:14

“Then little children were brought to Jesus for him to place his hands on them and pray for them. But the disciples rebuked those who brought them. Jesus said, ‘Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.’ When he had placed his hands on them, he went on from there.”

Matthew 19:13-15

“Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.”

Acts 8:17

“While they were worshipping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, ‘Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.’ Then after fasting and praying, they laid their hands on them and sent them off.”

Acts 13:2-3

A Service for the Commissioning of Elected National Officers

CELEBRANT: We have come together to welcome (*name[s]*) who has (*have*) been chosen to serve Christ and his kingdom as *officer(s)* of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew. We believe that he is (*they are*) well qualified, and that *he (they) has (have)* been prayerfully and lawfully selected.

The Act of Incorporation of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew states that “the sole object...shall be the spread of Christ’s Kingdom among men.” Do you, in the presence of this congregation, commit yourself (*yourselves*) to the trust and responsibility of your respective office?

OFFICER(S): I do.

CELEBRANT: Will you who witness this new beginning support and uphold this (*these*) officer(s) in his (*their*) ministry?

ALL: We will, with God’s help.

CELEBRANT: (*To each incoming officer individually*): Repeat after me: “I (*name*), accept the duties and responsibilities of the office of (*name of office*) of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, and will diligently perform the same, God being my helper.”

CELEBRANT: May the Holy Spirit guide and strengthen you, that in this and all things, you may do God’s will in the service of the kingdom of Christ. *Amen.*

CELEBRANT: In the name of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, I commend you to this work, and pledge our prayers, encouragement, and support.

(At the conclusion of laying hands on each and every elected officer, the Celebrant says this or some other appropriate prayer.)

Almighty God, look with favor upon this *(these)* Brother(s) who has *(have)* now reaffirmed his *(their)* commitment to serve Christ by his *(their)* solemn promise to fulfill the responsibilities of his *(their)* office(s) in the Brotherhood of St. Andrew; give him *(them)* courage, patience, and vision, and strengthen us all to support him *(them)* and each other in our Christian vocation of witness to the world and service to others, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Suggested Prayers to be used In Morning Devotions

The Lord's Prayer *is said*

Heavenly Father, in your compassion and mercy I have spent the past night: Pour out your Holy Spirit on me this morning so that I may praise you with my whole being. Reveal yourself to me, even now, so that my heart can respond to you; through Jesus, your Son, my Lord and redeemer. *Amen.*

Heavenly Father, since it is of your tender mercy and compassion that I greet another new day in my life, please accept my total being as an offering to you this day. Guide and strengthen me as I face the events and decisions before me today, especially (*here mention specific needs*) that all may be done to your honor and glory. I make this offering and prayer through Jesus Christ, my Savior, *Amen.*

Lord, even as I make this offering, I realize my own inability to maintain my life in your way, and so I ask for the strength of your Holy Spirit to hold me firm in my resolve, keeping my eyes on Jesus, my Savior, each hour of the day. *Amen.*

Heavenly Father, because of the love that you have for me, I intercede for all my brothers and sisters. Let your Good News be made known to all of them. Especially, I ask your blessings on all my brothers in the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, giving special strength, inspiration and insight to those in positions of leadership—especially our National President (*add name*) and all the National Officers, the staff in the Central Office, the Assembly Officers, and my Chapter Director.

Father, as many as have accepted you, keep them in the light of your Gospel, and fill them with your Holy Spirit that they may be witnesses for you to all those other brothers and sisters who do not yet know the good news of your great salvation. Bless all of your ministers in the Church, both lay and ordained.

I ask the blessing of your grace on each member of my family today, drawing each one closer to you; make your love known to my friends and neighbors, and if there is any way in which I can minister to their needs, Lord, make it known to me, that your name may be glorified and honor given to Jesus Christ my Lord and Redeemer. *Amen.*

Almighty God, who gave such grace to your apostle Andrew that he readily obeyed the call of your Son Jesus Christ, and brought his brother with him: Give us, who are called by your Holy Word, grace to follow him without delay, and to bring those near to us into his gracious presence; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

May the grace of the Lord Jesus, the love of the Father, and the unifying power of the Holy Spirit be made manifest among all mankind and especially to the people I walk among today. *Amen.*

(Follow with a reading from Holy Scripture.)

Suggested Prayers to be used In Evening Devotions

The Lord's Prayer *is said*

Most merciful Father in heaven, thank you for your Son, Jesus, whom you sent to show us how to live, and yet died for our sins, even the sins and failures of this day. I bring before you now all my shortcomings, my thoughtlessness, selfishness, pride, fear, and especially (*you may add specifics here*) for which I am truly sorry. Lord, assist me to recognize these weaknesses before they defeat me again, that I may call on you for deliverance from them. Thank you for your mercy and your love in making me acceptable through Jesus Christ, my Lord and Savior. *Amen.*

Let the light of your great love shine on all mankind, and especially on all members of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew. Strengthen each one to pray faithfully, study your Word, and work to spread your good news everywhere. Be especially gracious to the leaders of this country — to the President of the United States (*name*), and to all others in authority. Continue to enliven your gathered believers, the Church, and especially the Presiding Bishop (*name*), our own diocesan Bishop (*name*), and all others who have been called to preach your good news and minister your holy Sacraments. Enlighten the minds of all believers, and especially my brothers in the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, so that all of us may see clearly the ministry you have set before us. Pour out your special blessing on each member of my family and continue to draw us closer to each other in that love you showed us when you sent your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Heavenly Father, I ask for your continued protection and blessing on me and this household this night. Deliver us from fear and anxiety by the outpouring of your peace and joy. May our sleep this night refresh us through Jesus, our Lord and Savior. May the grace of the Lord Jesus, the love of the Father and the counsel of the Holy Spirit be the peace and strength of all mankind throughout this night. *Amen.*

In closing one of the following prayers may be said:

At Night

O Lord, you have supported us all the day long, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Now in your mercy grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last. *Amen.*

From the 1928 Book of Common Prayer, p594

or this

Night Prayer

Lord, it is night.

The night is for stillness. Let us be still in the presence of God.

It is night after a long day.

What has been done has been done; what has not been done has not been done; let it be.

The night is dark. Let our fears of the darkness of the world and of our own lives rest in you.

The night is quiet. Let the quietness of your peace enfold us, all dear to us, and all who have no peace.

The night heralds the dawn. Let us look expectantly to a new day, new joys, new possibilities.

In your name we pray. *Amen.* *From the New Zealand Prayer Book, 1989*

Devotions for Personal and Chapter Use

By Brother Robert J. Nagiel

Introduction

These devotions were written by Brother Robert Nagiel many years ago and were intended as devotions for personal use, along with any other prayers and devotions you may find useful in your own spiritual journey. They are also particularly appropriate for use as a brief Bible study and discussion at regular Brotherhood Chapter meetings.

Brother Nagiel proposed that the basic format for a devotional time has three parts: READ, MEDITATE, and PRAY. First we READ a portion of Holy Scripture. You may find it helpful to follow the readings from the daily lectionary or simply choose a passage that interests you and study it on your own, using commentaries and/or other study aids. *Forward Day By Day* is an excellent source for suggested Scripture readings, as it generally follows the daily lectionary.

The next basic element to a devotional time is to MEDITATE on the passage. Meditation requires that you allow the words and ideas to affect you personally — to speak to your own situation.

Lastly, a devotional time includes a time to PRAY, when you express your concerns, needs, intercessions to God and then quietly listen and allow him to answer you. This may be a natural outflow of your study and mediation, as it is often in a time of meditation that our questions and needs are met.

In this most recent revision of the Devotional Handbook, we have added some questions to ponder in each Devotion, in order to facilitate deeper thought or discussion. These appear in the CONSIDER section.

Following are the ten short devotionals written by Brother Nagiel, which follow the simple format of READ, MEDITATE, CONSIDER, and PRAY. The Scripture readings are from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible.

Devotion #1

READ: John 1:35-42 (*This text is read on the Second Sunday after the Epiphany, Year A. It is also appropriate for the Feast of St. Andrew*)

The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!"

The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

MEDITATE: What kind of man was St. Andrew, the man after whom our Brotherhood is named? He is scarcely mentioned in scripture, but this short passage reveals some important things about his character. Our scene opens with St. John the Baptist, in all humility, actually pointing two of his own disciples toward Jesus, one being Andrew. The first trait we note in Andrew is his openness. He was willing to follow Jesus and learn what He was all about. When Andrew approached the Lord, he did not come with his own agenda, or with loaded questions, like the Pharisees. He simply said, "Where do you live, Rabbi?" indicating that he was open to getting to know Jesus and hearing Jesus on His own terms. Second, we note that Andrew was a man of spiritual insight. He was able to put John the Baptist's testimony together with his own experience of being with Jesus to deduce that Jesus was the Messiah. And finally, we note that Andrew had the *eagerness* and the *humility* (like his former master) to bring his brother Peter to the Lord, who became the great "Apostle to the Jews".

These qualities bear on the threefold discipline of the Brotherhood. We must be open to the Lord in prayer, to let Him speak to us. We

must cultivate spiritual *insight* as we study the Scriptures to deduce the Spirit's message within them. And we must serve with *eager humility*, not seeking our own place, but joyfully bringing others to Christ.

Openness, insight, eager humility; three characteristics of St. Andrew, and three keys to our life as brothers Andrew.

CONSIDER:

- Jesus' question to Andrew is a question for each of us: "What are you looking for?"
- If John the Baptist had not pointed Andrew to Jesus, do you think Andrew would have found the Messiah?
- Have you pointed someone toward Jesus?
- Has someone pointed you toward Jesus?

PRAY: Almighty God, who gave such grace to your apostle Andrew that he readily obeyed the call of your Son Jesus Christ, and brought his brother with him: Give us, who are called by your Holy Word, grace to follow him without delay, and to bring those near to us into gracious presence; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

Devotion #2

READ: *John 14:1-7 (This text is read as part of a larger reading on the Fifth Sunday of Easter, Year A. John 14:1-6 is also frequently read at funerals)*

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.

And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

MEDITATE: What makes Christianity unique? It is simply this: Christianity is not based on an experience or a philosophy, but in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ. St. Thomas sums up man's religious quest when he asks the way his Master is going, the way to God. Jesus replies, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father but through me." The touchstone of Christianity is Jesus himself. Indeed, Christianity has a philosophy, promises peace, offers wisdom, and is experienced personally, like other religions; but our faith has none of these apart from our Lord and Master, Jesus. We know and experience our heavenly Father in and through his only begotten Son.

When we pray, "in Jesus' name," it is not just an empty formula. We are attributing our life in God and our privilege of standing before him to their rightful source, our Lord and Savior who died for us on the cross, so that we might share in his resurrection to eternal life. This truth is the basis of what we offer to the world. We reach out to the world in his name, offering all that we have in terms of our talents and resources. And we realize that, in the end, it is Jesus himself – Christ in us – that we offer to the world. This is the power of the Gospel. Our ministry has eternal significance because of the promise and person of Jesus Christ.

CONSIDER:

- What does Jesus mean when he says: "In my Father's house there are many dwelling places?"
- What do you think Jesus means when he says: "I will come again and will take you to myself?"
- Jesus said that "no one comes to the Father except through me." What does that mean to you?
- Jesus tells us that we know the Father because we know Jesus. How does this impact us today?

PRAY: O God and Father of all, whom the whole heavens adore: Let the whole earth also worship you, all nations obey you, all tongues confess and bless you, and men and women everywhere love you and serve you in peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Devotion #3

READ: *1 Timothy 2:1-4 (This text is read as part of a larger reading for Proper 20 in Year C, and also on Thanksgiving Day in Year B)*

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

MEDITATE: It is hard for us today to imagine how radical the Gospel message was to the world of the first century. Jews were offended that one who was condemned by the high priests and Sanhedrin, and hanged on a Roman cross as a common criminal was being proclaimed as Messiah of Israel. Greeks scoffed at the proposition that the divine essence was revealed, not in the metaphysical ideals of Plato and Aristotle, but in the resurrection of a man from the dead. And the Roman authorities perceived the refusal of the Christians to participate in worshipping the “genius” of the emperor as a threat to the social order.

In this social context, the Church lived out its life of prayer and witness. The best refutation of the hostile opinions of the Church’s detractors was the ordered lives of believers expressing their genuine concern for the world in which they lived. Their very lives were examples of the truth of the Gospel and their Church was the only institution in the Roman Empire that ministered to widows and orphans.

Our world, of course, is much different than theirs. Yet, our prayers and concern are still needed to light the world with the flame of the Gospel. We still face detractors, scoffers and the suspicion of an increasingly secularized society. The world needs our prayers. Our lives, individually and corporately, make a difference for the Kingdom of God. St. Paul tells us that God desires that all shall be saved and we, who believe we are saved, must be living icons of God’s truth to a hurting world.

CONSIDER:

- St. Paul tells us to pray for all people, especially those in high positions. Do you include our leaders in your prayers?
- Is there anyone you find it hard to pray for? Why?
- St. Paul says that God desires everyone to be saved. Do you think that will happen?
- St. Paul says that God desires everyone to come to the knowledge of the truth. What are you doing to help further God's desire?

PRAY: Ever living God, whose will it is that all should come to you through your Son Jesus Christ: Inspire our witness to him, that all may know the power of his forgiveness and the hope of his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

Devotion #4

READ: *Romans 10:13-15 (This text is read as part of a larger reading [Romans 10:8b-18] on the Feast of St. Andrew)*

For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

MEDITATE: God's love and plan of salvation embraces the whole world. We see this again and again in Scripture, as we see it here in our text from Romans: "For everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved." And St. Paul continues, "How are men to call upon him in whom they have not *believed*. Belief here implies more than just intellectual assent; it is the active putting of one's trust in another. Furthermore, there is a definite content to the Gospel. It is not just an "existential experience," there is a definite message to be heard; and there is a definite ministry and responsibility of the Church to preach that message. And finally, there is definite authority given to the Church by God, through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Our Episcopal/Anglican Communion respects and cherishes the apostolic authority of the Church. Our bishops, priests and deacons are men and women ordained and sent out to preach the Gospel and guard the teachings and sacraments of the Church. However, these ordained persons function to equip and encourage all the members of the Church to believe and spread the Gospel to the world. Every Brotherhood member is sent out by the Church, the Brotherhood, and his local chapter to be an ambassador of the Gospel, to convince the world of God's truth and love. This is a weighty charge, but it is also a satisfying ministry that we exercise empowered by the Holy Spirit.

CONSIDER:

- St. Paul tells us that “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” This is quoted exactly from the Hebrew Scriptures in *Joel 2:32* and also appears verbatim in *Acts 2:21*. How do you interpret this?
- Paul says: “how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed?” How do you think about those who do not believe in Jesus?
- Paul makes a strong case for evangelism, saying there are many who have never heard of Jesus and how will they hear without someone to proclaim him. How do we ‘proclaim’ Jesus?
- Why do you think this text in Romans is read on St. Andrew’s Day?

PRAY: Merciful God, creator of all the peoples of the earth and lover of souls: Have compassion on all who do not know you as you are revealed in your Son Jesus Christ; let your Gospel be preached with grace and power to those who have not heard it; turn the hearts of those who resist it; and bring home to your fold those who have gone astray; that there may be one flock under one shepherd, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Devotion #5

READ: Acts 10:34-43 (This text is read on the First Sunday after the Epiphany in Year A and on Easter Day in all years)

Then Peter began to speak to them: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

MEDITATE: The Christian faith began in Jerusalem, as a sect of Judaism. All of that original band gathered around the apostles were Jews who saw the Gospel as functioning within their Jewish faith and culture. It was not long, however, before the Church began to wrestle with the global implications of the message of Jesus Christ. In Christ, God is reaching out to all nations. To this day, Christianity is an intensely missionary religion. We have a story to tell the whole world, that God has shown us his love and mercy right where we are, no matter what our race or culture may be.

Our text from Acts underscores the nature of the Church’s early preaching. “We are witnesses,” says St. Peter. In fact, the major qualification of an apostle was that he was a *witness* to Jesus of Nazareth and his resurrection from the dead. The Greek word apostle means “one who is sent”. So it is that Jesus sent out his twelve apostles to simply tell the story of his life, death, and resurrection, as we see in this classic example of Apostolic

preaching: the first Christian sermon delivered to a gentile audience.

In a lesser sense, we Christians are all apostles. We are sent out by the Lord to bear the apostolic witness that has been handed down to us in Scripture; but more than this, we are to bear witness to the active power of the Holy Spirit in our own lives to a world that still needs to hear the story of God's love for the world.

CONSIDER:

- “God shows no partiality” is a radical statement to those who have been socialized to think in terms of an “us/them” mentality. What does this idea mean to you?
- Peter, speaking to the Gentiles here, says that anyone who fears (worships) God and does what is right is acceptable to him. Do you agree?
- In this passage Peter briefly summarizes the life and ministry of Jesus and says that “we are witnesses to all that he did.” We too can be witnesses to what Jesus and the Holy Spirit are doing in our lives. Are you a witness?
- Are you an apostle for the Christian message? How would you define that message?

PRAY: O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you, bring the nations into your fold, pour out your Spirit upon all flesh, and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

Devotion #6

READ: *Ephesians 2:8-10* (This text is read as part of a larger reading on the Fourth Sunday in Lent in Year B)

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

MEDITATE: Our salvation is a gift from God. We have done nothing to deserve it. In fact, we have all done much not to deserve it. God's grace has been poured out on us in Christ. The Christian life is a life of grace. It is not only begun in grace, but is lived out in grace. St. Paul tells us that, "We are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.". Even our good works were prepared for us by our gracious God and we need only to walk in God's plan for our lives.

St. Francis of Assisi was a man who learned to walk in grace. His prayer, eloquent in its simplicity, asks to be an instrument in the almighty hand of God, to be emptied of selfishness so that the grace of God may be born in us.

The Lord calls each of us to be an instrument in his masterful hands. He does not call us to blaze new trails. His grace, which began our journey, is sufficient to see us through to its end.

CONSIDER:

- St. Paul tells us that by God's grace we are saved, through faith. How would you explain that?
- Why do you suppose God wants salvation to be a gift we do not have to work for?
- Good works do not result in salvation, says Paul. But he goes on to say that we are created for good works. How would you explain that?
- How have you lived into the Prayer of St. Francis? (see **Pray**)

PRAY: A Prayer of St. Francis

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. *Amen.*

Devotion #7

READ: *Philippians 2:9-11* (This text is read as part of a larger reading for Proper 21 in Year A and on Holy Name Sunday in Year A, Palm Sunday in all years, and on Holy Cross Day)

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

MEDITATE: Do you ever really take time to listen hard to the words of the liturgy, or the hymns we sing in Church? The content of our worship can teach us a lot about what it means to be a Christian. In our passage from Philippians, St. Paul is quoting from an early Christian hymn. And what a hymn! No doubt, the tune played over and over in his readers heads, as the rich words were read aloud to them.

The name of the hymn is the great humility and obedience of Jesus Christ. Paul reveals His true divine nature as our creeds would later formulate, he is “God from God, Light from Light, True God from True God”. Yet it was the glory of Jesus to give up his divine privilege and become a human being, like us; and not only did he become like us, he came to be our servant (*Mark 10:44-45*). Thus, Jesus *emptied* himself in obedience to his Father. The response of the Father is to lift up his Son and give him all honor and worship. And we find that our worship of Jesus is to “the glory of God the Father”.

Here we catch a glimpse of the eternal flow and rhythm of divine love within the Godhead. The Son empties himself in obedience to the Father. The Father lifts up and glorifies the Son. The glory of the Son reflects once more “to the glory of God the Father”.

We are called to have the same self-emptying attitude that Jesus had. We are called, in our own way, to live in loving obedience, not guarding our own status, but giving ourselves up for the greater glory of God. God’s love is reaching out to us, to catch us up in its eternal flow, sharing in the ministry of Christ, and in the eternal life that he came to give us.

CONSIDER:

- What stands out for you in this passage from St. Paul's letter?
- St. Paul tells us that the name of Jesus is above every name: in heaven, on earth and under the earth. Do you hold Jesus name always in such high esteem?
- If every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, what about those who do not know Jesus? Or would St. Paul's exhortation apply to them?
- Our text says that we are called, in our own way, to live in loving obedience to God, to give ourselves up for the greater glory of God. Do you agree?

PRAY: Eternal Father, you gave to your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be the sign of our salvation: Plant in every heart, we pray, the love of him who is the Savior of the world, our Lord Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

Devotion #8

READ: *Luke 10:1-3 (This text is read as part of a larger reading for Proper 9 in Year C)*

After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves.

MEDITATE: One of the great mysteries of the Christian faith is that the Lord actually delegates the spreading of his Gospel to us limited, weak human beings. It is not that Jesus needs us. If he wanted to, he could reveal himself in such a way that all humanity would have no choice but to acknowledge him. Part of his miraculous grace is that God has chosen to reach out to us in a way that respects our free will. God has created us in his image, and he invites us to share in his burden and to carry out his work in the world by the power of his Holy Spirit.

Every Christian is a minister of the Gospel through prayer and witness. We are not only part of the great harvest of faith, but co-workers with our Lord Jesus Christ in the redemption of the world.

CONSIDER:

- What do you think the disciples that Jesus sent ahead of him were supposed to do to lay the groundwork for Jesus to visit each place?
- Why do you suppose Jesus sent his disciples out in pairs?
- What do you think Jesus meant when he said, “the harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few.”
- Why would Jesus say, “see, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves?”

PRAY: O God of all the nations of the earth: Remember the multitudes who have been created in your image but have not known the redeeming work of our Savior Jesus Christ; and grant that by the prayers and labors of your holy Church, they may be brought to know and worship you as you have been revealed in your Son; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Devotion #9

READ: *1 Peter 3:13-17 (This text is read as part of a larger reading on the Sixth Sunday of Easter in Year A)*

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God’s will, than to suffer for doing evil.

MEDITATE: Persecution. Our sensibilities are offended by the idea of persecution, our freedom-loving hackles are raised. And yet, persecution has been a fact of history down to our own day. We

don't exactly know the extent of the persecution that St. Peter alludes to, but some scholars suspect that it was not a major pogrom, but a local misunderstanding. People often reacted to the early Church in ignorance. No one knew what these people were all about. Rumors about these people living forever and eating someone's flesh and drinking his blood every week made their neighbors suspicious of the first Christians. Added to this, the Christians did not fit into normal social life in the Roman Empire. They refused to participate in the Imperial Cult, or in feasts at idol temples, which was tantamount to spurning the "lodge picnic." Hence, believers were under a lot of social pressure to change their ways and renounce their faith.

St. Peter's advice to them was to cling to their allegiance to Christ as "Lord" (not Caesar), and to show by their stable way of life and sensitive witness that faith in Christ was reasonable and helpful to society. Nevertheless, every believer had to be aware that he or she may have to suffer or die for the name of Jesus; it was part of the "cost of discipleship."

Today in our western society Christianity is an accepted religion, but each of us faces situations where we have to stand up and be counted for Jesus Christ. Let us do so boldly, knowing that it is better to suffer for the right than for the wrong.

CONSIDER:

- Is there something that stands out to you in this passage from the First Letter of Peter?
- The early Christian did not 'fit in' with the surrounding culture. Do you think a Christian today can 'fit in' in our culture?
- Peter tells us to always be ready to defend your faith – the "hope that is in you" – "with gentleness and reverence." Give an example of how you might do this.
- Have you ever been persecuted, or mistreated on account of your Christian faith?

PRAY: Almighty God, who gave to your servant Andrew boldness to confess the Name of our Savior Jesus Christ before the rulers of this world, and courage to die for his faith: Grant that we may always be ready to give a reason for the hope that is in us, and to suffer gladly for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Devotion #10

READ: *2 Corinthians 5: 16-21 (This text is read on the Fourth Sunday in Lent in Year C and a part of it is read on the Feast of St. Mary Magdalene)*

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

MEDITATE: The grace of God is a radical thing. It is impossible for us to even begin to comprehend the enormity of God's grace until we come to grips with St. Paul's statement in our text, "For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God". Here we see that Jesus came not just to give us a "boost" to become better, but to radically identify with our human predicament, and to conquer the sin which destroys our lives by his death on the cross for our sake.

The radical grace revealed in Christ creates a radical change in the human situation. St. Paul says that we are to view no one from a strictly human point of view any longer. We are part of the new community that draws its life from the transforming grace of God. When a person puts his or her faith in Jesus Christ, he or she becomes a completely new creature. As believers, we are as

radically identified with our Lord Jesus in his eternal life, as he was identified with our death and sin on the cross.

We Christians are ambassadors of God's new world order in Christ to a world of men and women still struggling under the burden of their graceless lives. The Lord has given us the ministry of reconciliation, the task of incarnating the life and message of our risen Savior to a dying world. God's love is changing the world through the life and witness of ordinary people like you and me.

CONSIDER:

- What stands out for you in this passage from St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians?
- St. Paul says, "From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view." What do you think Paul means by this?
- In this passage, we hear: "in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us." This means that we have a role to play in God's reconciling work in the world. How would you explain this?
- "If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation," writes Paul. What does this mean to you?

PRAY: Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords; Mercifully grant that the people of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

Prayers for use at a Memorial Service or a Funeral

Almighty God, who gave such grace to your Apostle Andrew that he readily obeyed the call of your Son Jesus Christ, and brought his brother with him, give our Brother _____, peace and everlasting life in your kingdom. And grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that your Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days. We ask this in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

or

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our Brother _____. We thank you for giving him to us, his family and friends, to know and to love as a companion on our earthly pilgrimage. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see in death the gate of eternal life, so that in quiet confidence we may continue our course on earth, until, by your call, we are reunited with those who have gone before; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* *BCP 493*

or

Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to you our Brother _____, who was reborn by water and the Spirit in Holy Baptism. Grant that his death may recall to us your victory over death, and be an occasion for us to renew our trust in your Father's love. Give us, we pray, the faith to follow where you have led the way; and where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, to the ages of ages. *Amen.* *BCP 498*

Prayer For Those Who Mourn

Grant, O Lord, to all who are bereaved the spirit of faith and courage, that they may have strength to meet the days to come with steadfastness and patience; not sorrowing as those without hope, but in thankful remembrance of your great goodness and in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love. And this we ask in the Name of Jesus Christ our Savior. *Amen.* *BCP 505*

or

Almighty God, Father of mercies and giver of comfort: Deal graciously, we pray, with all who mourn; that, casting all their care on you, they may know the consolation of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

BCP 505

Prayer for the Departed and those who Grieve

We seem to give *them* back to you, dear God, who gave *them* to us. Yet, as you did not lose *them* in giving, so we have not lost *them* by their return. What you have given, you do not take away. For what is yours is ours always if we are yours. And life is eternal; and love is immortal; and death is only a horizon; and a horizon is nothing but the limit of our sight. Lift us up, O God, that we may see further; cleanse our eyes that we may see more clearly; draw us closer to you, that we may know that one day we will dwell with those who have gone before, with you in your eternal kingdom. *Amen.*

*From Burial Services, Joseph Buchanan Bernardin
(New York: Morehouse-Gorham, 1941), 22 (updated)*

DEVOTIONS FOR MARRIAGE

PRAY DAILY: O God, our Heavenly Father, protect us and bless us by strengthening our love for each other day by day. Enable us always to forgive when we hurt one another, consciously or unconsciously. We pray that we may be sound and well in body, alert in mind, tender in heart and devout in spirit, and that we may always rise to be our best to each other. Consecrate us also to be servants to our families and to all around us; and we humbly ask that we always can stand before you in happiness and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

MONTHLY: Exchange vows from the *Book of Common Prayer*, p427, or other authorized marriage rite, on date of wedding each month.

PRAYERS FOR FAMILIES

FOR FAMILIES

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who sets the solitary in families: We commend to thy continual care the homes in which thy people dwell. Put far from them, we beseech thee, every root of bitterness, the desire of vainglory, and the pride of life. Fill them with faith, virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, and godliness. Knit together in constant affection those who, in holy wedlock, have been made one flesh. Turn the hearts of the parents to the children, and the hearts of the children to the parents; and so enkindle fervent charity among us all, that we may evermore be kindly affectionate one to another; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* *BCP 828*

FOR PARENTS

Almighty God, giver of life and love, bless *N* and *N*. Grant them wisdom and devotion in the ordering of their common life, that each may be to the other a strength in need, a counselor in perplexity, a comfort in sorrow, and a companion in joy. And so knit their wills together in your will and their spirits in your Spirit, that they may live together in love and peace all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* *BCP 444*

FOR THE CARE OF CHILDREN

Almighty God, heavenly Father, you have blessed us with the joy and care of children: Give us calm strength and patient wisdom as we bring them up, that we may teach them to love whatever is just and true and good, following the example of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Amen.

BCP 829

or

PARENTS' THANKSGIVING FOR CHILDREN

We thank you, God our Father, for giving us child(ren) to bring up for you. Help us as true disciples to set them a good example in all we think, say, or do. Keep them healthy in body and mind; and grant that they may grow in grace and in the knowledge and love of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Forward Movement: Prayers New and Old, 20

FOR A HAPPY HOME

O loving Father, bless our home. Fill it with the gladness of your presence, that we may all be happy in your love and in our love for each other. May Jesus, your Son, be our loved and honored guest, sharing our joys and comforting our sorrows. *Amen.*

Forward Movement: Prayers New and Old, 19



OUR BROTHERHOOD EMBLEM

We wear it daily on the left collar, left lapel or tie to remind us of what we are about in life as Brothers Andrew. The pin (small: 1 cm; large: 1.6 cm / 5/8 in) comprises three parts: the **Gold Circle**; the **Blue Field** ; and the **White Cross** of St. Andrew.

THE GOLD CIRCLE Symbolizes God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. It reminds us of God's grace without which we cannot live nor do anything of worth. It reminds us of our Discipline of Prayer to pray daily for the spread of Christ's Kingdom and for God's blessing on the labors of the Brotherhood. Prayer constitutes our response to God who is symbolized by the circle.

THE BLUE FIELD is symbolic of our faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. We are reminded to be faithful in following Jesus and in obeying him, thereby manifesting our love for Him. The blue field brings to mind our Discipline of Study of the Holy Scriptures and the teachings of the Church to attain a better understanding of how to follow Christ and bring others into his kingdom. Our study enables God to build our faith and our faithfulness.

THE WHITE CROSS symbolizes Andrew who brought his brother to meet Jesus. Years later Andrew was crucified on a saltire ("X") cross because he persisted in the face of opposition in telling the unchurched about Jesus. The white cross reminds us of our Discipline of Service, to make continuous efforts, week by week, to bring others nearer to Christ through his Church.

We repeat *Ephesians 2:8-10* as we daily put on the Emblem to summarize the above symbolism: Grace and Brotherhood of St. Andrew **Prayer**; Faith and Brotherhood of St. Andrew **Study**; Works and Brotherhood of St. Andrew **Service**.

Ephesians 2:8-10 – For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

**THE BROTHERHOOD
OF ST. ANDREW HYMN**

1. Jesus calls us; o'er the tumult
Of our life's wild, restless sea,
Day by day his clear voice soundeth,
Saying, "Christian, follow me."
2. As of old, Saint Andrew heard it
By the Galilean lake.
Turned from home and toil and kindred,
Leaving all for his dear sake.
3. Jesus calls us from the worship
Of the vain world's golden store;
From each idol that would keep us;
Saying, "Christian, love me more."
4. So, like Andrew, may we go forth
Bringing others, Christ, to thee.
Send us out, Lord, in thy Spirit,
With thy message, "Come to Me."
5. Jesus calls us! By thy mercies,
Savior, may we hear thy call;
Give our hearts to thine obedience,
Serve and love thee best of all.

Amen

*Preferred tune – 1940 Hymnal #566, 2nd tune, "Galilee"
Also – 1982 Hymnal #549, #550*