

September 13, 2014: Chapel Readings



Each week of the liturgical year, a reading from Second Advent Scripture is delivered as part of the Saturday Communion of Fellowship Service held in the Chapel of the Holy Child. This reading follows the Sacred Calendar of the Church; that is,

Prophecies and Revelations that have been received by The Church on sacred dates are recalled in a liturgical context during the appropriate season each year. This reading is delivered by the Officiant of the Communion Service (that is, Bishop Gene Savoy, or occasionally in his stead, Bishop Sean Savoy) just before the final blessings. Each service also includes a reading from the ancient scriptures, prayers, or wisdom sayings of various world religions past and present and is usually thematically related to the Second Advent Reading. This reading is delivered by the Reader right after the announcements that begin the service and is thus the first reading of the service. An audio recording of the reading from Second Advent Scripture delivered on the date above is provided here below together with a transcript of the first reading of the service that day.

SECOND ADVENT PROPHECY AND REVELATION

A Reading from the Prophecy to the Races of Man, Chapter 65:
"The Mystery of Illumination" (pp. 416-423):

< [Click here to listen to this week's reading. \(9 minutes\)](#) >

ANCIENT SCRIPTURE AND WISDOM SAYINGS

A Reading from the Gospel of Phillip:

Some are afraid lest they be resurrected naked. Because of this they wish to rise in the flesh, and they do not know that it is those who wear the flesh who are naked. It is those who unclothe themselves who are not naked. "Flesh and blood shall not inherit the kingdom of God." What is it that will not inherit? That which is on us. But, also, what is it that will inherit? He who has received the Word and the Holy Spirit has food and drink and clothing. . . .

It is not possible for anyone to see anything of the things that actually exist unless he becomes like them. This is not the way with man in the world: he sees the sun without being a sun, and he sees the heaven and the earth and all other things, but he is not these things. This is quite in keeping with the truth. But you saw something of that [higher] place, and you became those things. You saw the Spirit, you became spirit. You saw Christ, you became Christ. You saw the Father, you shall become Father. So in this place you see all things but do not see yourself, but in that place you do see yourself—and what you see you shall become.

Services for the Week of September 13, 2014



Saturday, September 13, 2014

10:00 AM COMMUNION

Chapel of The Holy Child

RR Gene Savoy Jr.

Lector: RR Sean Savoy

Cantor: Rev. Gary Huss Sr.

Reader: Rev. Vickie Hewlett

Sunday, September 14, 2014

6:30 AM NEW DIVINE SERVICE

Cathedral Church of the Americas

Leave: 5:45

Gate: 6:15

Sunrise: 6:45

RR Gene Savoy Jr.

Concelebrant: RR Sean Savoy

Assistants:

RC Roger Weld

RC Robert Petrovich

RM Rebecca Willis

Organist: RC Gary Buchanan

OPEN-AIR COMMUNION

**Church of New Philadelphia
Church of New Qumran
Church of New Bethany**

**Rev. Robert Roy
Rev. Larry Coesens
Noriko Roy**

Wednesday, September 17, 2014

12:00 N COMMUNION

Chapel of the Holy Child

RC Roger Weld

Friday, September 19, 2014

9:00 AM PRAYER & FELLOWSHIP

Chapel of the Roses

RC Roger Weld

Fundraising Dinner Held to Ease Poverty



**Reno Mayor Bob Cashell, Radheka Patel
Savoy, and Gene Savoy Jr. at Plates to
Ease Poverty fundraising dinner PHOTO:**

Gene Savoy Jr.

Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada hosted the 2014 Plates to Ease Poverty fundraising dinner on Thursday, August 28 at the Atlantis Casino Resort & Spa in Reno. The honorees, Reno Mayor Bob Cashell and his wife, Nancy, received the Catholic bishop's Humanitarian Award because of their advocacy for the homeless. Bishop Gene Savoy, Jr. and his wife, Radheka Patel Savoy, attended on behalf of the ICC. Bishop Gene is good friends with Mayor Bob and his wife, as well as with the Catholic bishop, Randolph Calvo. Mayor Cashell was instrumental in establishing the Community Assistance Center (CAC) in downtown Reno. The CAC includes the St. Vincent's Programs, the Reno Gospel Mission and Volunteers of America, of which Bishop Gene serves on the advisory board. Bishop Calvo and the Catholic diocese are also supporters of the various programs sponsored by the Nevada Clergy Association.

Clinical Pastoral Education Ceremony Attended



PHOTO Roger

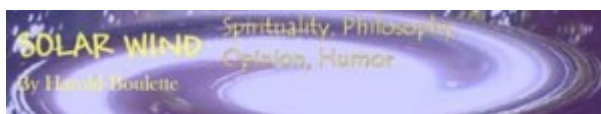
Weld

The Summer 2014 graduation ceremony for Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) students took place on Wednesday, August 20, 2014 in the chapel at St. Mary's Regional Medical Center. Bishop Gene Savoy Jr., who sits on the Professional Advisory Group (PAG) at St. Mary's, was in attendance.

CPE is a required educational unit for most seminarians and theological students who are pursuing a career in the ministry.

Following the graduation ceremony for the seven graduates of the program, PAG members met for their regular meeting to discuss Fall class requirements.

“Despise Possessions?”



“Let us begin, then, to withdraw from the thing of this world. Let us despise possessions and money and all that swamps and drowns our intelligence. ...Those who travel by sea, when overtaken by a storm, do not worry about their merchandise but throw it into the waters with their own hands, considering their property less important than their life. Why, then, do we not follow their example, and for the sake of the higher

life despise whatever drags our soul down to the depths? Why is fear of God less powerful than fear of the sea? ...

"Do athletes compete with their clothes on? No, the rules require them to enter the stadium naked. ... Yet, instead of stripping ourselves, we try to engage in the contest while carrying countless burdens on our shoulders, thus giving our opponents many chances of getting a grip on us." ~The Philokalia

We do need to withdraw from the things of the world, but despising possessions and the material world in general is probably going a little too far. We don't need to hate the material world, indeed we should not, because the source of it is the spiritual world, the realm of God and the angels. We don't hate a person for having a physical deformity, so we shouldn't hate the spirit that has been deformed into matter. Spirit is still at it's root. We can have possessions, we can wear clothes and live in a house, but we should avoid becoming attached to these things.

The quoted section gives the example of a ship caught in a storm and how even the owners of the property will throw possessions overboard in order to save themselves. That is the proper attitude to have for material goods, but the real "storm" we should be concerned with is the battle of the Children of Light and the Forces of Darkness for possession of our souls. Many people seem to have the idea that by default, when they die physically, their soul and spirit will go to heaven and be claimed by the Children of Light as one of their own and the only way they will be claimed by the dark ones is if they do something really evil or, as in many classic novels, sell their soul to Satan. The truth is, if you ask Satan to buy your soul he will laugh in your face. As an old saying goes (on a totally different subject); why buy the cow if you can get free milk?

Satan doesn't need to buy your soul because as long as you are in the grips of materialism, it is already his! You need to wrestle it away from him, in a manner of speaking, by turning away from materialism, by rejecting attachments to physical objects, and become attached instead to God and obeying His will and fulfilling His Plan.

I had to include the part about athletes competing naked for a little humor, but it does make a point. When we become attached to material things, and then try to develop spiritually, the demons can use those attachments to pull us away from our spiritual intentions. Then can cause a car to crash into our beloved auto, they can cause a forest fire to burn our house, etc. By not getting attached to things, we take that away from them.

< [Read the complete blog post at Solar Wind.](#) >

< Visit and bookmark Harold Boulette's blog Solar Wind at:
<http://spiritsun.net/> >

contributed by Harold Boulette

“Project Sunflower” Underway



Lancaster, Pennsylvania Boys & Girls Club lawn
in April 2014

“Overall the last couple of years I’ve felt a growing connection to the sunflower. I began planting a few of them last year but wanted to do something bigger and brighter. This spring I saw an underutilized section of grass at the Boys & Girls Club in Lancaster, PA and the vision came to me. This vision was to start a sunflower garden and have the kids at the club contribute by helping to plant the sunflowers. Planting day was a huge success with kids enthusiastically and curiously getting their hands dirty and planting the garden. The rain and sun did the rest as we now have well over 100 sunflower plants in our garden. I thank the sun not only for helping the flowers grow but also for inspiring me to start the project.”

Paul Schmitendorf



Lancaster, Pennsylvania Boys & Girls Club lawn
in early August 2014

September 6, 2014: Chapel Readings



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SECOND ADVENT PROPHECY AND REVELATION

A Reading from the Prophecy to the Races of Man, Chapter 61:"A Prophecy to the Races of Man" (pp. 388-394):

< [Click here to listen to this week's reading. \(7 minutes\)](#) >

ANCIENT SCRIPTURE AND WISDOM SAYINGS

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah:

Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee.

For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee.

And the nations shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.

Lift up thine eyes round about, and see: all they gather themselves together, they come to thee . . .

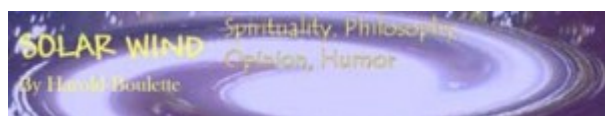
Then thou shalt see, and be radiant together, and thine heart

shall be awed, and be expanded; because the multitudes of the sea shall be turned unto thee, the wealth of the Nations shall come unto thee . . . and they shall show forth the praises of the Lord. . . .

Therefore thy gates shall be open continually; they shall not be shut day nor night that men may bring unto thee the wealth of the Nations, and that their kings may be brought to you. For the nation and king that will not serve thee shall perish; yea, those nations shall be utterly wasted. . . . I will make thy officers peace, and thy ministers righteousness.

The sun shall be no more thy light by day; neither for brightness shall the moon give light unto thee: but the Lord shall be unto thee an everlasting light, and thy God thy glory.

“The Heart and the Golden Rule”



“To recognize and began the shift into new, Intuition Age perception, you need to feel how limited you are by old perception and consciously decide to expand beyond beyond

what's been so familiar. ...

"The heart is really a kind of brain, and it generate an electromagnetic field of radiance that's spherical in nature. ... Your heart resonates with all other hearts, all other souls, and all other centerpoints. By being in your heart, you can know the core experience of any other being or reality—and you can know yourself as the whole unified field. ... And as you experience spherical-holographic perception, you have insight into the workings of collective consciousness and an understanding of why the Golden Rule exists in all cultures."

~Penney Peirce

"Hurt not others in ways that you yourself would find hurtful" -Buddhism

"All things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them." -Christianity

"This is the sum of duty: do not unto others which would cause you pain if done to you." -Hinduism

"No one of you is a believer until he desires for his brother that which he desires for himself." -Islam

"What is hateful to you, do not do to your fellow man. This is the law; all the rest is commentary." -Judaism

"Respect for all life is the foundation" – Native American

It is an interesting fact that the Golden Rule, with some slight variation, exists in virtually all religions of the world. Many would say this is simply because newer faiths have copied from the older ones, and there is some truth to that. But it is also true that the same rule exists in religions that were isolated from other parts of the world until long after this rule was made a part of their teachings. And even if it was the result of copying, why would religious leaders copy the teaching of another religion unless they truly believed them? When Ms. Peirce starts talking about the heart being like a brain, I suspect she lost a lot of people. Certainly doctors and scientists can tell you that is simply not true, but they are wrong. The problem is they are thinking in terms of the physical heart, while Peirce is talking about something more spiritual, specifically: the energy center, or chakra, that is located in the physical location of the heart. These energy centers are far more important to us than is recognized by Western sciences. Chinese acupuncture, for example, is based on the idea that the flow of energy from these centers to the physical body, and the various physical organs, is partially blocked causing the area to become weak and ill and that removing the blockage will heal the body. These energy centers are also the location of much of what we call "personality" and an expert who can look at a photo of a person and see the energy fields around him can predict not only what physical illnesses the person is likely to suffer from, but also the type of personality he has. A person who is strongest in the red and orange centers and color bodies will be materialistic and is likely to have an aggressive and extroverted personality, while one who is stronger in the blue and purple will be introverted, calm, and prone to daydreaming. Part of the job of becoming an enlightened person is to get these centers in balance and as strong as possible. This gives you the energy to increase your vibrations so you can communicate with higher beings and learn from them.

< [Read the complete blog post at Solar Wind.](#) >

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contributed by Harold Boulette

Bishop Gene Invited to Korea



Bishop Gene Savoy, Jr. has been invited to attend and present at a conference in South Korea September 17 – 19, 2014 in Seoul. The conference is titled *World Alliance of Religions for Peace Summit 2014: Global Collaboration for Peace and the Creation of an Interfaith Constitution* and will address the topic of the world's diverse spiritual traditions, the drafting of an international constitution for interfaith relations, and first steps towards achieving world peace.

The invitation letter to Bishop Savoy reads in part:

Dear Respected Bishop Savoy:

All of us are working so hard and earnestly preparing for the summit that will happen in September 17-19th. We truly hope

for the attainable world peace and we do believe that this gathering will make the difference and will see the fruit together with so many other peace makers around the world. As we certainly know of your interest and devotion, in addition to your most influential work [in the] interfaith community, your presence will reinforce the cessation of war and bring world peace by having [an] interfaith community.

Several hundred people are said to be attending, including current and former heads of state and government, diplomats, international peace leaders and human rights advocates, journalists, educators, as well as musicians and artists. Bishop Gene said, "I am very honored to have received this invitation to travel to Korea on behalf of our Community of Light and Peace. I believe our contribution will be to introduce for the first time on the world stage the Universal Proclamation of Human Spiritual Rights which, in itself, is a model for interreligious relations and dialogue and sets a framework for an interfaith constitution. We will see what doors open."

Accompanying the Bishop will be Reverend Ted Staver who was stationed in Korea in the late 1970's. A short video of the summit can be found at <http://vimeo.com/102625204>.

Head Bishop Talks about Efforts to Gain Full Tax-

Exempt Status for Red Rock Sanctuary Lands



In July, 2014, ICC Head Bishop Gene Savoy Jr. sat down with the editor of the *Community Communiqué* (CC) to discuss the ongoing efforts by the Church-retained attorney/lobbyist firm to persuade Nevada lawmakers to amend the tax exemption law to include The Church's Red Rock Sanctuary, on which The Church must currently pay thousands of dollars in property taxes annually. Following is an edited transcript of that discussion:

CC: Maybe you could talk about what's going on right now, and after that go back and tell a little of the history of it, how it came about that The Church ended up paying tax on the Sanctuary, and then what's happened over the past twenty years with that.

GS: It might be better to switch that around, if that's ok with you.

To do the background first?

Yes, because it's a chronology.

OK.

In 1980, '81, and '82, The Church purchased what is now the North Sanctuary of Revelation. We purchased that first, and then the South Sanctuary of Prophecy, over a period of about two to three years. And in 1982, The Church applied for property tax exemption under the religious property-tax-exemption law here in Nevada. And we were initially granted a property tax exemption by the Washoe County assessor through the advice of the Washoe County district attorney.

In 1984, the district attorney changed; there was a new district attorney, and the decision was reversed. So The Church tried to negotiate with the county through letters and meetings, and eventually it was determined, later that year, that we would file a lawsuit against Washoe County. That lawsuit lasted until 1992. Initially, we were successful in the county district court. To make a long story short, The Church won the case. Washoe County then appealed to the Nevada State Supreme Court, and that decision was overturned. The Church then had to pay back taxes from the beginning of the purchase of the properties, including penalties and interest, which was a substantial amount of money. If my recollection serves me, it was somewhere in the neighborhood of \$100,000 to \$150,000, through 1992.

We have been paying taxes on the Sanctuary since then. It's a strange situation in that certain improvements are exempt, but nonimproved areas of the Sanctuary, which we would basically consider open space, are taxed. So every five years, the assessor comes out to our Sanctuary and assesses what improvements we've made, which become exempt, and then the rest of the property is taxed. So, to date, from the purchase of the Sanctuary in 1980 through 2014, we estimate that The Community has expended between \$400,000 and \$500,000 over thirty-five years in property taxes and assessments.

Our goal always was to remedy the situation, and there are two

ways to go about that. Our first option would be to file another lawsuit against the county, which is a very laborious process involving local agencies. You have to go through the administrative process and hearings. If you are denied, then you appeal to a higher board. If that is denied then you can file a lawsuit in the county district court. You go through that legal process, and it is mostly likely that the loser will file again at the Nevada State Supreme Court. You have to go through this process before you can then file a federal lawsuit for religious discrimination or to charge that the law is unconstitutional; that is, that the law does not treat all religions in the state equally. That is probably a ten-year process which would cost additional hundreds of thousand of dollars for attorneys and so forth.

The second alternative is to have the current Nevada law changed. And that can only be done through the state legislature. So that always seemed like the better route. So it's been a waiting game. We've been waiting since 1992. In 2012 I was introduced to a lobbyist from the firm Hillerby and Associates, and we began discussing the situation at the Red Rock Sanctuary, and he took an interest in our situation. During that time Hillerby and Associates merged with the law firm Kaempfer Crowell, one of the largest law firms in the state. They have offices in Reno, Carson City, and Las Vegas. The merger of the lobbyist organization, Hillerby and Associates, with the law firm, Kaempfer Crowell, made a very good combination in regard to our particular situation.

We had initial discussions with the new firm, Kaempfer Crowell, in January 2013, and they advised us to begin some initial discussions with some of the legislators. We began discussing some of the issues with legislators, but the legislative session had already begun. In Nevada we have a legislative session for 120 days every two years. While we had support, theoretically and conceptually, from several of these legislators, it was too late to introduce any bills into the

legislature to amend the statute. We entered, then, into an agreement in March 2014 with Kaempfer Crowell with the idea of introducing a bill in the 2015 legislature—in fact, you have to submit the bill prior to the beginning of the legislative session in February 2015.

What has transpired is that the first meeting Kaempfer Crowell had was with the Washoe County Assessor's Office . . .

On The Church's behalf.

Yes, on The Church's behalf. And the Washoe County Assessor's Office determined that if it were The Church's intention to have the law changed and to submit a bill into the legislature to that end, they would not oppose it. The next meeting was with the district attorney's office, who also said they would not oppose it. So where we are at this point is discussing the same matter with the legislators themselves. We had to wait until the primary season, the primary elections in June, were over in order to determine who they were going to have to talk to. So at this point they have talked to two legislators, who in the initial discussions are in favor and on board, and we are now in discussion with three other legislators, all from Washoe County. Evidently, the way this works is you get your county delegation on board—since we're in Washoe County, you get the legislators from Washoe County on board—and if they're on board, either one or two people can sponsor the bill, or they can do it as a committee, as the delegation itself, which is more powerful, since every legislator from Washoe County has no problem with it. So that's where we're at at this point in time.

Now, initially, the idea was to rewrite the existing law, but instead of that, I understand, the goal is to amend the law. Can you explain further?

That's correct. The law is very broad, and what we decided—that is, the firm and The Church—is that we did not

want to get into a huge “crusade” where we were changing the general property-tax- exemption law for the entire state, which would maybe cause county assessors statewide to oppose that; plus, we are not in the position to be the crusader for other religious organizations.

Nor do we need to be since they're not doing what we're doing.

Exactly. In the Nevada statutes there are almost thirty individual organizations—whether they're fraternal, such as the Freemasons, or whether they are fraternities like at a university, or the Boy Scouts, for example—that are specifically named in the statutes as being exempt. So that is the route we have chosen to take, which is simply to name The Church, and specifically, the Sanctuary. The buildings that we own are already exempt under the existing law. It is only the raw land that is not. Because we are using the land for religious, educational, and wildlife purposes, we actually qualify for an exemption under those three statutes, and we will make that clear to the legislators. It seems that a simple naming of The Church and the Sanctuary for an exemption, as long as the property is not used for commercial purpose, is the way to approach the issue.

Now, just to clarify some pertinent points for those people who maybe haven't been in The Community for very long or just aren't familiar with this situation, how does the state view or categorize the Sanctuary lands?

Well, the purposes of the Sanctuary are threefold: worship for a religious purpose; educational, as it serves as the campus for the Jamilian University; and wildlife conservation, in as much as we have entered into agreements with the United States Department of Agriculture, some state organizations, the Division of Forestry, the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District, and various other entities to protect the wildlife that exists there—and that seems also to be a great incentive for a lot of the younger legislators.

So, it's been since last March that the law firm has been speaking to legislators. What has to be done now? What are the next steps, and if it is successful how long will it take?

My understanding is that once we get the verbal commitment of several legislators here in Washoe County, then the firm will draft legislation to be presented as a bill in the legislative session that begins in February. The final version of the bill has to be submitted sixty days before the commencement of the session. But prior to that, the draft is submitted to the Legislative Counsel Bureau in Carson City. They are the people that professionally review bills for language, to make sure that it fits into the language of the Nevada statutes. So the firm will draft it, send it to the Legislative Counsel Bureau in Carson City, who will review it. If they make any amendment, we will then alter the proposal, and then it has to be submitted sixty days before the session starts, which would be somewhere around the beginning of December, if not sooner.

Then once the legislative session opens, what happens then?

Well, it's a long, drawn-out process that I'm not really educated on, but once the bill is proposed before a particular committee—this would probably be the taxation committee—it goes through a series of hearings and the lobbyist/law firm is present to make our presentation and our points, and hopefully, the committee passes it along to . . . and again, each house of the legislature has its own taxation committee so it has to be presented in each house, and hopefully, it moves along in each house and is then sent to a vote in each house, and then, if it passes, the governor signs it.

So sometime in May you should know whether it was successful or not? And if for any reason it might not be decided during that session does it carry over or . . . ?

It either goes forward or it dies. And then we'd have to try again in two years.

And I understand the law firm has been asking a certain fee from us over this time, and will they charge a different amount for the different processes, such as the drafting and submission, then the follow up would be another fee or . . . ?

Yes, I believe that's basically correct. My understanding in my discussions with them is that for a fee—a very reasonable fee, I might add—of \$10,000, they will have talked to the county, which they did; they will attempt to garner the support of the Washoe County delegation, which we are in the process of doing; they will draft the proposal, send it to the Legislative Counsel Bureau, submit it, and at that point, that's as far as our agreement goes at this time. I think we would enter into a separate agreement for them to actually represent us when the session begins.

As lobbyists.

Exactly. And I don't know what that agreement will be.

So that \$10,000, we're still paying it, or is it paid?

We're still in the process of making those payments.

So further contributions would be welcome.

Contributions are *always* welcome!

And contributions for the upcoming session would, I imagine, be really helpful because it might be a little more active?

Yes, the law firm, at that point, would be actively lobbying legislators from other parts of the state on this particular point. Now, that probably would not be a long, drawn-out process, because we're only talking about our little Sanctuary in Washoe County; it's not affecting any other county or any other assessor or how they collect their taxes. So the idea is that if we can get the Washoe County delegation on board, then it should be a pretty simple process to let other people know, and most likely they would support it. But most of the time

that our lobbyists would spend for us is in committee, being present at the committee meetings, making presentations to the committee on why they should approve the bill and pass it on to the full house for a vote.

OK. Any final comments?

Well, I have told the lobbyists that this is a very personal and emotional issue for the members of this Community, just solely based on the fact that in Washoe County, every religious organization is exempt from property taxes. Of course, the vast majority of those religious organizations merely have buildings, and that was what the law was designed to exempt when it was written in the 1800s. There are other organizations that have "vacant" or "open" lands that are exempt, but they have a little more clout than we do. So for us, as I mentioned to the firm, and will stress again, it's a very personal and emotional issue and to be able to win this, it would put away a lot of hurt from the past, and I think, from a psychological point of view, would allow us to move forward in a different way as we continue in developing the Sanctuary.

Great! Thank you!