

Subject: By the Grace of God
From: "St. Francis Episcopal Church" <vicar@stfrancisva.org>
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S⁺ Francis



October 29, 2014

By the Grace of God . . .

*The law of your mouth is dearer to me
than thousands in gold and silver
Psalm 119:72*

The Law

A lot of Christians will hold a negative view of the law. By "the law" I mean the rules, statutes, and regulations of the Old Testament. They think that the law is inferior to the grace offered in the New Testament. However, the law is a very positive part of the Word of God. The higher view one has of the law the deeper the experience of the grace of God offered through Jesus Christ. If you realize you cannot keep any part of the law in your own power you will also realize how much of a gift God's grace is to you. Your experience of grace will be deeper and your gratitude will be richer. Paul in the New Testament describes the law as a tutor pointing us to Jesus.

Grace

The only one who perfectly keeps the law is God Himself, which we see in Jesus. To follow, trust, and lean on Jesus is to receive His grace and power because we know we cannot follow, trust, and lean on Him in our own power. It is to know that we have been called by Jesus to live as He did and to know at the same time we have no power in ourselves to in that manner. It is to know that He will freely give us that power to follow after Him all the time. For that reason the words of Psalm 119:72 ring very true, "The law of your mouth is dearer to me than thousands in gold and silver."

Coming Attractions

Sunday, November 2, 2014, All Saints' Sunday, worship at 10:00am

Sunday, November 9, 2014 worship at 10:00am followed by pot luck.

Caritas takes place on November 26th. We provide the meal that evening for the homeless staying at Christ Church that week. Contact Jenna Nelson to help jnelson561@gmail.com

Christmas Mother takes place in early December. We help provide Christmas gifts to those unable to provide them this year. Contact Janice Nelson to join in jlnrn2610@comcast.net

Centerville Circle of Prayer

For Goodwill that many people will benefit through shopping at the store and through employment and job training at the Centerville site.

Metropolitan Richmond

For persons in financial need in Metropolitan Richmond: For the unemployed and underemployed, for suitable work, living wages, and fair benefits for all workers in this metropolitan city; and for sufficient employment to make healthy family life possible

Diocese of Virginia

Congregations and clergy of St. Aidan's, Alexandria; St. Stephen's, Culpeper; St. Stephen's and the Good Shepherd, Rocky Bar; Grace Church, Port Republic; All Saints – Sharon Chapel, Alexandria; Christ Church, Brandy Station

Grace and Peace,

John Maher

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