

TRINITY NEWS

WEEK 28
July 10, 2022

*"Some went down to the sea in ships *and plied their trade in deep waters.
They beheld the works of the lord * and his wonders in the deep. (Ps. 107: 23-240*

I feel that people today are losing a sense of connection to the sea. I don't mean the beach, I mean the oceans, or the deeps as the psalmist would have it. Few travel by boat anymore, and those who do usually sail around in floating hotels that don't have the same feel to them that yesteryear's ocean liners did.

Those of my generation however (and I know there are a few of you lurking about out there) do remember the days when instead of flying back to Manila, or Caracas after your summer leave or furlough, you sailed back, embarking with your bags and trunks, and sometimes a full household, on a voyage that took not many hours, but many days, perhaps several weeks. The liners themselves were elegant but functional ships, all polished wood and brass, smaller than today's cruise ships and so much closer to the sea. They were designed for travellers, not vacationers, and carried cargo as well. Usually you made calls at several ports, some exotic, others not; there was always time to disembark and go shopping, see the sights. And the length of the trip gave you time to make friends, even form a community and accumulate memories that would last a lifetime.

And I'm sure those who share my experience would agree with me, that there's no place you can grasp the full glory and wonder of God's awesome creation quite like the upper deck of a solitary ship plowing through some vast ocean, days from land, under a cloudless night sky. The view from a 747 just can't compare.

But, of course, there are still thousands and thousands who do ply their trade in deep waters and who by their strenuous labor do far more for this world than most of us realize – indeed, it is they and the ships on which they sail and serve that link us together into one global community. We are witnessing right now just how important these links are with the economic instability we are experiencing in the aftermath of the Covid pandemic, when those links were interrupted!

We may no longer go down to the sea and ships and behold the wonders of God's works, but they do, and we owe them much. And I'm looking forward to honoring their service this morning and praising God for the wonders of Creation to which they bear special witness.

Psalm 25:3-9

Response: *Lead me in thy truth and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation.*

UNTO thee, O Lord, will I lift up my soul; my God, I have put my trust in thee: * O let me not be con-founded, neither let mine enemies triumph over me. For all they that hope in thee shall not be ashamed; * but such as transgress without a cause shall be put to confusion. Show me thy ways, O Lord, * and teach me thy paths.

Response: *Lead me in thy truth and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation.*

Lead me forth in thy truth, and learn me: * for thou art the God of my salvation; in thee hath been my hope all the day long. Call to remembrance, O Lord, thy tender mercies, * and thy loving-kindnesses, which have been ever of old. O remember not the sins and offences of my youth; * but according to thy mercy think thou upon me, O Lord, for thy goodness.

Response: *Lead me in thy truth and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation.*

Gracious and righteous is the Lord; * therefore, will he teach sinners in the way. Them that are meek shall he guide in judgment; * and such as are gentle, them shall he learn his way. All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth, * unto such as keep his covenant and his testimonies.

Response: *Lead me in thy truth and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation.*

SAINTS:

Benedict of Nursia, Father of Western Monasticism. 11 July.

Benedict was born in Nursia, central Italy, around the year 480. As a young man he was sent to study in Rome, but was soon appalled by the corruption in society and withdrew to live as a hermit at Subiaco. He quickly attracted disciples and began to establish small monasteries in the neighbourhood. Around the year 525, a disaffected faction tried to poison him so Benedict moved to Monte Cassino with a band of loyal monks. Later in life Benedict wrote his Rule for Monks, based on his own experience of fallible people striving to live out the gospel. He never intended to found an 'order' but his Rule was so good that it was disseminated and widely followed, becoming the model for all western monasticism. Benedict died at Monte Cassino in about the year 550.

John Keble, Priest, Tractarian, Poet. 14 July .

Born in 1792, the son of a priest, John Keble showed early brilliance as a scholar, becoming a Fellow of Oriel College, Oxford, at the age of nineteen, a few years before his ordination. He won great praise for his collection of poems, *The Christian Year*, issued in 1827, and was elected Professor of Poetry in Oxford in 1831. A leader of the Tractarian movement, which protested at the threats to the Church from liberal developments in both politics and theology, he nevertheless did not seek preferment and in 1836 became a parish priest near Winchester, a position he held until his death in 1866. He continued to write scholarly books and was praised for his character and spiritual counsel. Yet he is still best remembered for the sermon he preached in Oxford, considered by some the beginning of the Oxford Movement, delivered on this day in 1833.