



Anglican Orthodox Church



Deuteronomy 8

- 1 All the commandments which I command thee this day shall ye observe to do, that ye may live, and multiply, and go in and possess the land which the LORD sware unto your fathers.*
- 2 And thou shalt remember all the way which the LORD thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no.*
- 3 And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live.*
- 4 Thy raiment waxed not old upon thee, neither did thy foot swell, these forty years.*

On November 16, 2002, the Anglican Orthodox Church around the world will observe the beginning of its fortieth year as a worldwide Communion. Owing to the courage and arduous labors of its founding Bishop, the Most Reverend James Parker Dees, this church separated itself from the worldly churches of the modern era and returned to our spiritual roots in God as revealed to His people in Holy Writ. We have since remained a Church committed to the 'old paths wherein our fathers walked' and one which has adhered fervently to the "Ancient Landmark" (Proverbs 22:28). We remain faithful to the Reformation Faith as outlined in the traditional Book of Common Prayer, the Thirty-Nine Articles of Religion, the Homilies, and the Holy Bible (KJV).

The great fountains of the deep were broken up and the floods of heaven rained down upon us in the same manner as upon Noah and his family in the Ark for forty days; yet, these depths of waters only lifted Noah's eight souls higher and higher above the chaos and panic of a wicked world. God has preserved us in the Ark of Christ these forty years just as He Providentially preserved the Children in the Wilderness. We are now poised on the Grand Banks of Jordon Waters ready to cross over into that Land which He has promised us to give. He has preserved us with a mighty and outstretched arm, He has carried us on His broad back as the Eagle bears her young, He has caused no weapon to prosper against us. Even in the face of the forces of Hell, mustered against us, He has made our foot sure and our vision unflinching. What a magnificent Saviour and God.

Please join with me and the countless loyal Saints of our Church who have been unflinching, unchanging, and arduous in the struggle, in thanking our Sovereign Majesty for His beneficent Love, Protection and Divine Leading in all things. He brought us through the broad waters on dry land, He has placed in our hearts His Holy Spirit as a compass to direct our ways, His pillar of fire by night and cloud by day has been our ensign and our encouragement in Battle, He has brought us to a land 'flowing with milk and honey.' What more can we ask?

For the Church.
O gracious Father, Sovereign of Land and Sea and the Hosts of Heaven, we humbly beseech thee for thy holy Anglican Orthodox Church; that thou wouldest be pleased to fill it with all truth, in all peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, correct it; where in any thing it is amiss, reform it. Where it is right, establish it; where it is in want, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it in righteousness; for the sake of Him who died and rose again, and ever liveth to make intercession for us, Jesus Christ, thy Son, our Lord. Amen.