

# FaithPrayers

It is our privilege to pray for you

## TO STEER BY STARLIGHT

*"The star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was."*

*The Magi of Southern Arabia,  
Gospel of Matthew 2:9*

High in the inky night sky it sits, twinkling on as it has for many long centuries. Our North Star. It sits in line with the axis of our turning earth, as though you could draw a line, straight as an arrow from our north pole, for 430 light years, to reach it. When looking through a telescope one is left with the impression that the other stars travel around the steadfast North Star, so nearly perfectly is our Earth's axis aligned with it.

The North Star is the great navigational tool of our planet. Countless of our ancestors, and countless sailors far out on the open sea, have found their way home following its light. The Sun, another powerful directional tool, is often not due east or due west, as the degrees of its rising and setting shift by a fairly wide margin. But the North Star is always True North.

Does it feel scary to you to "steer by starlight"? Knowing how to find the North Star is considered

one of the most basic of survival skills by many wilderness books and survival manuals. A compass, while an amazing invention, can be thrown off by the earth's magnetic fields. Yet long before the advent of measuring devices or telescopes, the North Star remained a navigational constant. In fact, not only is Polaris used to determine True North, but the angle it makes in reference to the horizon is equal to the latitude of the standing observer.

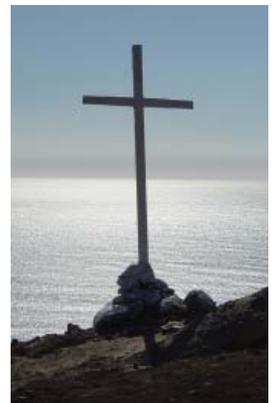
Polaris... called The Great North Star, the Pole Star, the Lode Star. This Winter, if you are in the Northern Hemisphere, go outside and look up at it. (If you find the Big Dipper and follow its handle with your eye, you will find the North Star, shining on brilliantly and constantly). Our True North.

Sometimes clouds cover the Sun, and sometimes a storm covers the stars, but as all the ancient sailors knew, the minute those storms and clouds dissipated, there stood the beacon light shining on – as unerring and true as ever, no matter how far out on the dark sea they might be. They could trust it inherently. No one could mess with it, no one could rearrange it.

As you gaze up, ask yourself if you would be willing to trust the direction from that one star. In the deepest darkness, could you look up and know for certain - when you can see nothing else around you - *that* is True North? If necessary, in the tough times, in the dark times, could you trust that you *can* steer by starlight?

This Christmas Season, as you stand outside in the cold darkness, looking at the light of the North Star in the sky, remind yourself that Jesus is our North Star. No matter how dark it is around us, He is constant, He will not lead us astray. Whether or not we can see a single thing around us, His Light will lead unerringly in the right direction. Let's just make sure that we keep our eyes on Him... the Savior whose birth was announced by a guiding star for men to follow.

*Mary Ann Offenstein, FaithPrayers*



## PEACE ON EARTH

During Christmas Week, The FaithPrayers National Prayer Line will be praying for the members of the U.S. Armed Forces currently in Afghanistan and Iraq, as well as those stationed in other locales.

We pray for your safety and well-being, and for the well-being of your

families. We pray for peace on earth, that wars will stop, and that you will return home safely.

For those wounded, we pray for your healing and blessing.

For the families of those fallen, we pray for your comfort and a very special grace from God.



## SCRIPTURE OF THE MONTH



**“You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.”**

**Jeremiah 29:13**

## THANK YOU



As 2010 draws to a close, we wish to thank all those who have financially supported FaithPrayers in this past year. These funds have enabled us to answer thousands of phone calls and emails, from Kansas to the United Arab Emirates, and to support a number of very worthy missions.

Be watching the first of next year for the list of missions that we will be supporting in 2011 through our partner organization, LiveFaith ([livefaith.faithprayers.org](http://livefaith.faithprayers.org)).

If you have not given financially to FaithPrayers, may we ask that you do so in 2011? You can go online to our website at [www.faithprayers.org](http://www.faithprayers.org) and visit our giving page to learn of the many ways you can help us answer the calls of all those who reach out to FaithPrayers. We are deeply grateful for all our supporters, and we thank you for your generosity.

Have a prayer request? Want more information? We can always be contacted on our 24 hour a day, 7 day a week toll-free prayer line.

**1-866-515-9406**

We also can be reached via the internet at:

**[www.faithprayers.org](http://www.faithprayers.org)**

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