

13th Sunday after Pentecost
August 22nd 2021



Opening

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

Sentence

The Father brought us forth by the word of truth that we should be a kind of first fruits of his creatures.
James 1.18

Collect

Author and Giver of all good things, graft in our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us in all goodness, and of your great mercy keep us in the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God, now and for ever.

Readings

SONG OF SOLOMON 2:8-13;

PSALM 45:1-2, 7-10;

JAMES 1:17-27;

MARK 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23



Is Jesus a superstar? Jesus cures the sick, raises the dead, multiplies bread and fishes, gives advice to the needy, walks on water, turns water into wine, his face is transfigured, sweats drops of Blood, expels demons and even dies on the cross and rises on the third day.

Jesus is quite a showman; It is what we all look for, a man who can perform quick miracles, who will solve our problems with moving the magic wand in the best Harry Potter style. So that solutions over power the problems of the world, so that it ends poverty, and so that it allows us to win the lottery, as well as to end all criminals like a superman. A kind of Rambo but with magical powers.

Such a superior being is easier, something like the gods of Mount Olympus in ancient Greece, who were displeased when human beings did not do what they wanted and who rewarded them when they obeyed. Jesus' life seems more like Steven Spielberg's best movie. A superhero who comes when called and who is away when we are doing something "bad," because we don't want him to know to avoid "misunderstandings".

But he is not a god we can trust because when he gets upset, he can destroy us with all those super powers. It would be more a mythological god, who mixes with human beings and has a hidden life with women and men full of purely human feelings.

I regret to inform you that this god does not exist. It is a shame to displease your lottery winning god beliefs, when he is in fact just an idol, an image per day.

Today the Gospel according to Saint Mark tells us that this god is an idol similar to the golden calf that the people of Israel built to worship. A human creation for quick solutions, favours and despicable desires.

On the other hand, He wants to be seen as He truly is, a true man and a true God. There are no magic or fantasy divisions in God. He is God and wants us to love him not to fear him. He is the same creator who is with all men, being the one who loves first, being the one who teaches us that we have to live this life with all its repercussions, He is not a god who comes down to relate to the women and men of the world. But He who has created the world wants to live, love us and save us.

It is what the gospel shows us today, he is who performs miracles every day that go hand in hand within everyday, he continues to give us the miracle of life. How many times have you wondered how many babies are not born despite the advanced science we have? According to UNICEF, 30 million babies will not be born in the next 10 years, or because the sun continues to rise every day, or perhaps because despite The pandemic that we live today is still strong and healthy, or better yet, because despite the storms of our lives, we always move forward in triumph. God shows us

the processes, with constancy and so we will see at the end the miracle we are looking for. God wants us to learn to walk on water, but only when we learn that this walk has to guide us to Him.

Many times, we have lived immersed in world traditions and forget what God wants from us. We must remember that we were created by God so that we may live to be happy and to love him as our creator and Savior. Our Lord Jesus Christ came to the world precisely to re-establish that love between God and human beings, but how often do we, due to many absurd ideas, human traditions, and outdated beliefs, leave God and his commandment of love aside and fill our lives with beliefs imposed by other human beings.

Let's look at what happens in Venezuela, in Afghanistan, in Haiti, in Africa, in Colombia, and in many other countries that the beliefs of God divide us and the imposition of certain ideologies lead us to be enemies of each other when the main commandment is ["Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength."](#) 31 The second is this: ["Love your neighbor as yourself."](#)^[b] There is no commandment greater than these." Mark 12:30-31

If we cannot live in the commandment of love then we will end up doing what the Pharisees in Mark's gospel did; Jesus said to them: ["This people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; 7 in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines."](#) Mark 7:8

God in his infinite love responds to us immediately and this time he asks us despite everything I've done for you, everything I've given you, everything I've taken care of for you, despite always being with you and filling you with unconditional love, to give you the life of my beloved Son, despite all that: ["You of little faith, why did you doubt?" \(Matthew 14: 31\)](#)

God wants you to recognize him as your God, ["And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." \(Matthew 14:33\)](#). He is not a God of moments, nor a miracle God, who serves you only when you are distressed by your problems. He is God who walks with you despite the circumstances and when you speak to him in your prayer he listens to you and the two of you hand in hand solve any problem you have, but it is not with a magic wand it is in your walk day by day, in each one of the circumstances that you are living, without forgetting that Jesus will always be with you because He loved you first. But you have to remember that He does not want "human precepts as doctrines" He wants us to follow his only commandment of LOVE.

Today more than ever, we have to invite our Lord Jesus Christ to get on the boat of our lives, so everything will return to its calm ways. Because united with Jesus and with his company, we can grow in life, seeing everything that happens but with eyes of faith. Even more so when today we are going through a difficult journey, in a time where a new way of being part of the Church and of seeing it is demanded, where there are moments in which fear assaults but that is where it must be repeated, with total faith and hope: ["Lord, save me!"](#)

Amen.

Prayers of the People Aug. 29th 2021

Submitted by Dorothy Koorn {section in inverted commas by Colleen Hanycz PhD}

Father, please hear us when we tell you of our concerns of sending our children and educators back to school.

Know that we are striving to make all of the right decisions and need your love and power to help us overcome any difficulties.

Please watch over everyone as times and routines are about to change once again.

We know that we can do anything through you, so please help us ensure health and semi-normalcy in the coming months.

Loving Creator, we give our hearts to you, now and forever.

“We asked for strength, and you gave us difficulties to make us strong.

We asked for wisdom, and you gave us problems to solve.

We asked for prosperity, and you gave us purpose and brains to use.

We asked for courage, and you gave us fears to overcome.

We asked for patience, and you gave us situations where we were forced to wait.

We asked for love, and you gave us troubled people to help.

We asked for justice, and you called us to be just and lead with integrity.

Lord, we have received nothing that we asked for or wanted.

And yet, we receive everything that we needed.”

Loving Creator, for this we give our hearts to you, now and forever.

Loving Creator we pray for Todd our Bishop, Anne our Metropolitan, Linda our Primate, Mark National Indigenous Archbishop, Marinez Bishop of Amazonia. AD Rick Jones, Rev. Enrique Martinez, Rev. Jack Cox

For the week beginning Sunday 29 August 2021, we will be praying for **Fr. Mario Hryniewicz** (interim) and the people of **Holy Trinity, St. George**.

Remembering our shut-ins at home, hospital and in local nursing homes.
June, Shirley, Iris, Julie, John, Sheila, Sylvia, Anna and Jack B.

We pray for the ones who have asked for your healing touch upon their lives: Betty F., Don G., Franz and Elaine Z., Steven K., Rebecca M., Trista P., Bill MC., Dwayne M. and Andrea B., Susan A., Olivia H., Karen M., Delores B., Dale & David F, Rose G, Julie, Janice S., Barbara S., Carol M., George F., Carol H., and anyone known to you.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family and friends of Ian M. on his passing



It is important that we keep the prayer list and shut-in list up to date. If you know of any changes to these lists, can you please email Anne at lpbparishsecretary@gmail.com or Enrique at enrique6921@gmail.com

If you know of anyone that has asked you to pray for them during this pandemic, we will put on the prayer list for a month.

Prayer of Confession

Search us O God and know our hearts today
Try us and know our anxious thoughts,
see if there are any hurtful ways in us
and lead us in your loving and life-giving Way

Words of Assurance

God knows our secret fears, ignorance & selfish ways.
God forgives, forgive yourself, forgive others
Amen

Closing Prayer

God our strength and salvation, receive all we offer you today, and grant that we who have confessed your name, and received new life in baptism, may live in the joy of the resurrection, through Jesus Christ the Lord, Amen

Doxology

Glory to God, whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.
Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Please click on the link to watch this week's Parish Video

<https://youtu.be/Lylnokj8pLA>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF) is accepting donations for Haiti earthquake relief – For more information go to:

<https://pwrdf.org/pwrdf-accepting-donations-for-haiti-earthquake-relief/>

- From August 29 to September 4 Fr. Enrique Will be on Vacation
- September 29 2021 induction Eucharistic service at St. John's Woodhouse presided by Ven. Archdeacon Janet Griffith.
- September 5 Eucharist Service at Memorial Church Port Ryerse and St. John's Woodhouse
- September 12 Eucharist Service at St. John's Port Rowan.
- September 19 Eucharist Service at Memorial Church Port Ryerse and St. John's Woodhouse.
- September 26 Eucharist Service at St. John's Port Rowan.



If you have anything you would like to contribute or comment on. Any good movies you've seen or books you have read. Do you have memories you want to share? Please send them to Rev. Enrique and he can include in the newspaper.

Any birthdays/anniversaries/special occasions in September – Let me know for the newspaper. We can celebrate you and add some facts that happened on that day in history. I don't need your year of birth, just the month and date. Of course, if you have a special age birthday and want to celebrate it just let me know. If you are interested in this special occasion section, please send me details.



CHOIR! CHOIR! CHOIR!

Do you like to sing? Are you in grades 3-12?

A choir program is starting in **PORT ROWAN!!**

Con Brio Singers will have a variety of opportunities for vocalists of all ages.

Rehearsals will take place at St. John's Anglican on Wednesdays from 6:00-8:00 pm

*Depending on the number of singers, this may be divided into separate age divisions.

COST: \$10 for a performance t-shirt (to be worn with plain black pants) and \$20 for music folder (rental)

Rehearsals: September 15 - December 22

EXPECTATIONS: Attend ALL rehearsals, review music during the week (rehearsal tracks will be sent via email), & participate in two performances in December.

The choir will continue into the 2022 year with more opportunities to perform and maybe make a recording!

For more information:

Call Gena at 519 586 7833 or

Email: spiritosomusic1@gmail.com

*Gena (conductor) has her Bachelor of Music, Bachelor of Music Education, and an Associate Degree from Trinity College in piano performance. She taught music K-8 for 32 years, including 3 years K-12. She has a police check and is fully vaccinated.

*Kevin (accompanist) has his Bachelor of Music, ARCM, ARCO, and LTCL in piano and organ. He taught music in a private high school in Oakville for 17 years and has 100's of compositions worldwide. He has a police check and is fully vaccinated.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

At this extraordinary time if you wish a telephone visit, please call Enrique. If you have any other announcements or news contact Anne Halls at the contacts below.

Enrique Martinez can be contacted by email at enrique6921@hotmail.com or by phone at 519 586 3401 – Please note that Enrique’s day off will be Fridays

Our parish assistant Anne Halls can be contacted by email at lpbparishsecretary@gmail.com or by phone @ 519-586-7034

Please visit our website parishoflongpointbay.com and Facebook page

Sing along to this morning's hymns

Hymn Texts – August 29, 2021

450 – You Call Us, Lord, to Be

1. You call us, Lord, to be a people set apart,
to fell with thoughtful mind and think with tender heart.

Thus chosen, now, O lord, we ask

for faith in your unfailing grace to make us equal to the task.

2. You call us, Lord, to care for self and neighbour too,
to take the risk, and dare to show what love can do.

Thus chosen, now, O lord, we ask

for faith in your unfailing grace to make us equal to the task.

3. You call us, Lord, to be good stewards of the earth;
to tend it as a place of blessedness and worth.

Thus chosen, now, O lord, we ask

for faith in your unfailing grace to make us equal to the task.

4. You call us, Lord, to serve: to die that we may live,
to know we best receive when joyfully we give.

Thus chosen, now, O lord, we ask

for faith in your unfailing grace to make us equal to the task.

565 – Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

1. Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art might: hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more,
Feed me till I want no more.

2. Open now the crystal fountain whence the healing stream doth flow.
Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield,
Be thou still my strength and shield.

3. When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side:
Songs of praises, songs of praises, I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.