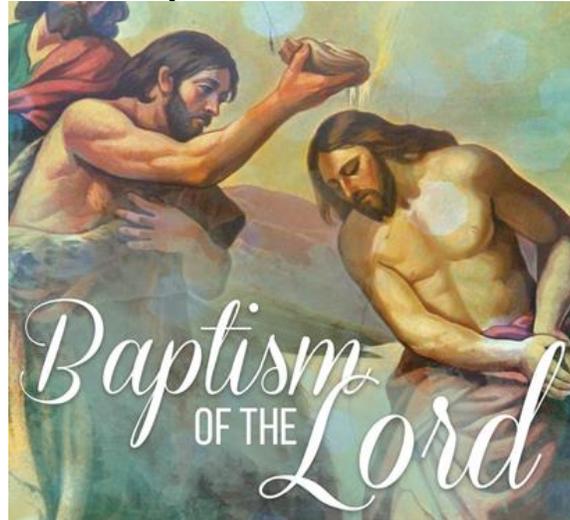


THE PARISH OF LONG POINT BAY



PORT ROWAN ♦ PORT RYERSE ♦ TURKEY POINT ♦ VITTORIA ♦ ST. JOHN'S WOODHOUSE

Sunday January 9th 2022
Baptism of the Lord



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

A voice came from heaven, saying, "This is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased."
Matthew 3.17

Collect

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit, keep your children, born of water and the Spirit, faithful to their calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Readings

ISAIAH 43:1-7;

PSALM 29;

ACTS 8:14-17;

LUKE 3:15-17, 21-22

I once had the privilege of hearing Rowan Williams give a lecture when he was Archbishop of Canterbury and came to Trinity College, Toronto to receive an Honorary Degree. He said something that really stuck with me. He was talking about Scripture and the Sunday Readings. I can't pretend to completely understand what he said, as he is certainly one of the foremost theological thinkers of our time, however, what I think I heard was that Scripture is meant to be heard read out loud in Church because we hear differently than we read. Hearing allows each person to interact with the WORD as if it is spoken directly to them by another. He also said that this WORD spoken in this way would be heard, understood and acted upon differently for every person and congregation that heard it depending on what was happening in their lives. What I took from this was that Scripture is a living VOICE, not dead historical writing, and has the power to speak to our current life situations. So that said, we have two amazing Readings for this Sunday. Psalm 29 and Isaiah 43:1-7. Sadly, we can't meet together in Church just yet, but please read these passages to yourself or even better to someone else in your household. They have the power to Speak to our situation, we may not be exiled in Babylon wishing to return to our home country but we are certainly in a pandemic exile that is different for each of us. Most of us are cut off from the people, places and activities that were the fabric of our pre pandemic lives, including, among many other things, going to church, singing Christmas Carols, and being with our Church Community.

These two Scriptures will SPEAK to you differently than they did to me but what I heard was summed up in the first verse of Isaiah 43,

***“But now thus says the Lord,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have
redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.”***

The poet goes on to offer the hope that God will indeed deliver God's people out of every danger and restore them, why? ***“Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you.”*** (v.4a) We need to constantly remind ourselves that we are never alone. Isolated or cut off from Eternal Love. This idea is just so big and overwhelming that most of us just can't really accept it. It is easier to feel small and weak and vulnerable and even alone than to think that we are Created by a God who formed us in our mother's womb, who calls us by name, who really knows who we are, and in spite of what we might think of ourselves, our sins and shortcomings, who loves us. We are precious in God's sight.

If that isn't enough good news for this week just read the Psalm and realize that while we see our problems, and the storms of our lives as all consuming and sometimes overwhelming, God is so much bigger than us. We are reminded that the voice of the Lord, that speaks in all creation, is full of majesty, power and glory. We simply stand in awe of our Creator God, who loves us, no wonder the Psalmist ends his poem with these words of praise and hopeful affirmation:

***“The Lord sits enthroned over the flood;
the Lord sits enthroned forever.
May the Lord give strength to his people!
May the Lord bless his people with peace!***

THAT!

Prayers of the people from Jack Addison - jwaddison54@gmail.com

Creator of the sun and moon and stars,
You stir in our midst to reveal your light.
By the work of your Spirit, you lead us in new directions.
Your beloved Son has called us to new life
and by his grace, reconciles the divisions among us.
Holy One, we praise you for the blessings you give us
in our baptism into Christ,
and through your love that surrounds us day by day.
To you we give all praise, glory and honor,
through Jesus Christ,
who is one with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and always. Amen.

**Merciful God,
in baptism you promise forgiveness and new life,
but we confess that we prefer our old, familiar ways.
We cling to destructive habits,
we harbor grudges,
and we are reluctant to welcome a stranger or forgive one another.
Nostalgia for the past prevents us from exploring new possibilities.
In your loving kindness, forgive us.
Have mercy upon us and move among us
so that we might pursue new life in Christ together.**

We now 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 9 January 2022, we will be praying for the **Rev. Paul Silcox** and the people of **Grace Church, Brantford**.

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 F, Rose G, Julie, Carol M., George F., Carol H., Bud W. Juanita K. and anyone known to you, silently or aloud

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 let us know and we will add to the list



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/2MxLpTSN_II

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This year's vestry meetings will be online this year and are as follows:

St. John's Port Rowan - Sunday January 23rd at 10:00 am

Memorial - Sunday January 30th at 10:30 am

St John's Woodhouse – Sunday January 30th at 1:00 pm

There will be no in person church services during the month of January due to the rising cases of COVID-19. We will update as soon as there are any changes.

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 January – 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.



Sing along to this mornings Hymns

Hymn Texts – Sunday, January 9, 2022

42 – Crashing Waters at Creation

1. Crashing waters at creation, ordered by the Spirit's breath,
First to witness day's beginning from the brightness of night's death.
2. Parting water stood and trembled as the captives passed on through,
Washing off the chains of bondage – channel to a life made new.
3. Cleansing water once at Jordan closed around the one foretold,
Opened to reveal the glory ever new and ever old.
4. Living water, never ending, quench the thirst and flood the soul.
Well-spring, source of life eternal, drench our dryness, make us whole.

#377 – To the Name of Our Salvation

1. To the name of our salvation, laud and honour let us pay,
Which for many a generation hid in God's foreknowledge lay,
But with holy exultation we may sing aloud today.
2. Jesus is the name we treasure, name beyond what words can tell;
Name of gladness, name of pleasure, ear and heart delighting well;
Name of sweetness passing measure, saving us from sin and hell.
3. 'Tis the name that whoso preaches speaks like music to the ear;
Who in prayer this name beseeches finds its comfort ever near;
Who its perfect wisdom reaches, heavenly joy possesses here.
4. Jesus is the name exalted over every other name;
In this name, whene'er assaulted, we can put our foes to shame:
Strength to them who else had halted, eyes to blind and feet to lame.
5. Therefore, we in love adoring, this most blessed name revere,
Holy Jesus, thee imploring so to write it in us here
That, hereafter heavenward soaring, we may sing with angels there.

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@gmail.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 lpparishsecretary@gmail.com or by phone @ 519-586-7034

Please visit our website parishoflongpointbay.com and Facebook page