

First Sunday of Advent
November 29th 2020



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Opening

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

And also, with you.

Sentence

Look up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.

Luke 21.28

Collect

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility, that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Readings

ISAIAH 64:1-9;

PSALM 80:1-7, 16-18;

1 CORINTHIANS 1:3-9;

MARK 13:24-37

Fleming Rutledge, quoting the ever-eminent Karl Barth, suggested that Advent is the season that best represents the Christian life. “What other time or season can or will the church ever have but that of Advent,” wrote Barth. Christian living can be summarized as one great advent, a waiting, a middle time, somewhere between something great and something greater: neither a beginning or an end, but a definitive middle. In Advent, we pray for the coming of something great. We say, Come Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel. Come oh root of Jesse, set your people free. Come morning star, bring light to our darkness. Advent is a time characterized, most perfectly, by the here and now, understanding the here and now for the flawed, sick, sometimes beautiful, but ultimately incomplete thing it is. Advent tells us that there is more to come, and that the more to come will help us to understand our present.

Our Gospel reading this week is taken from “the little apocalypse” in Mark, the thirteenth chapter in which Jesus reveals something about what is to come. On the great and terrible day of the Lord, Jesus says, those temporary lights—the sun, moon, and stars, will fall from the sky as the redundant things they are and be replaced by the sun of righteousness, the son of man coming in the clouds with great power and glory. That great and terrible day is what we pray for when we say “come Emmanuel.” It is what we are waiting for. And Jesus describes Christian hope in our reading after describing Christian suffering in the passage previous. Hope will come, Jesus says, “in those days, after the suffering.” These two things—the hope and the suffering—have been taken, in some circles, to describe “the end” together. But they don’t. The end is the end. We wait and we hope for a coming. The rest is just life. And the wait will be long. Jesus promised that generation—two thousand years ago—would not pass away until those things came to pass. And “those things” (the suffering, the in between, the wait) have come to pass. They’re still here. But no one knows when “that day” will come. No one knows the day or the hour. “That day” represents our hope, and “those” days, the here and the now, are best represented in Advent.

Because Christian hope is not fully realized in Advent. Christian hope is embodied in Christmas, in Easter morning, in that day coming when every tear will be wiped away from every eye, when even death is driven away and its victims reclaimed in resurrection, When the Kingdom of God will no longer be the object of blind faith, hope, or patient waiting, but a brilliant palpable reality. Until then, we have Advent. Until then, those real tears that burn their way from cheek to mouth are dried as they fall by the gentle hands of a loving friend. The grief is no less, but in Advent it is shared. When the Kingdom of God comes, there will be no sun, and Christ will be our light. Until then we pray to the comforter of souls and offer ourselves to those who are alone. When the kingdom of God comes, every good hunger will be satisfied. Until then the people of God offer food for real hunger, companionship for real loneliness, and clothing for real nakedness. Because this world needs it. Because there is coming a day when every need will be met in Christ. But until then we have Christ in us, faith, hope, and love. Until then, we have Advent.



Prayers of the People for November 29 – written by Juanita Kynoch - bjkynoch@hotmail.com

Heavenly father, as once again we prepare for Christmas, help us to find time in our busy lives for quiet and thought and prayer,

that we may reflect upon the wonder of your love and allow the story of our Saviour's birth to penetrate our hearts and minds.

May our joy be deeper, our worship more real and our lives worthier of all that you have done for us through the coming of

Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

We pray for those with mental health challenges, who feel isolated, anxious and helpless. May they receive the support needed.

We pray for the young, that they make a commitment to take precautions to keep from spreading this virus.

We pray for the homeless, the refugees, the hungry, the lonely, those who have lost loved ones, and especially at this time,

Those who struggle in hospitals and at home during this COVID-19 Pandemic.

Let your blessing be with those who work to help them, our doctors, nurses, caretakers and may they and their families stay

Safe and healthy.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

We pray for: - Todd our Bishop, Anne our Metropolitan, Linda our Primate, Mark National Indigenous Archbishop, Marinez Bishop of Amazonia. Rick Jones, Enrique Martinez

Also for **Mr. Enrique Martinez** (Deacon in Charge) and the people of **The Parish of Long Point Bay..**

We pray for our shut-ins at home, hospital and in local nursing homes. We especially remember: June, Shirley, Iris, Julie, David, John, Anna and Jack B.

Pray as well as 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., Kathleen C-S., Bill MC., Dwayne

M. and Andrea B., Susan A., Olivia H., Karen M., Delores B., Dale & David F, Rose G. and anyone known to you. Amen.

Our thoughts and prayers also go out this week to the family of Father David Fuller, who passed away last week. His father, Father Doug Fuller was the Rector at St. John's Woodhouse

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@hotmail.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.



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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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Indoor Services continue in a limited fashion.

Dear parishes in Norfolk

The areas covered by the Haldimand-Norfolk Public health unit will be moved into the Province's Orange Zone at 12:01am on Monday, November 30th.

Please continue to follow the Diocesan AMBER Stage guidelines with the following modifications:

- All meetings/groups should be virtual except 12 step groups
- If a meeting must be held in person, there must be a maximum of 10 people present less than 1 hour
- While soloists, cantors or small vocal groups (4 or less) are still permitted, facemasks must be worn by the singers unless they are separated from others by an impenetrable barrier
- No wind instruments
- Pastoral visits should be done by phone or zoom unless there is a strong pastoral need for an in-person visit. Facemasks must be worn. Hospital visits may continue within the hospital's guidelines.
- No permission will be given for any exception to the AMBER Stage protocol.

If the public health unit's restrictions are more stringent than those of the diocese, please follow those.

Please be in touch if you have any questions or concerns regarding these modifications to the guidelines.

Pax
Tanya+

Services:

There will be Eucharistic services led by Rev Jack Cox

Today November 29th St. John's Woodhouse

Sunday December 6th at St. John's Port Rowan

Memorial will not be holding any in-person services until further notice

This year the Christmas Eve Services will be as follows:

5pm - Pt. Rowan Holy Eucharist
9pm – Woodhouse -Holy Eucharist

There will be no Christmas Day Services

Wardens and Leader of Long Point Bay - Annual Budget Meeting will be held at the Parish Hall of St. John's, Port Rowan on Saturday December 5th at 9:30am

Everyone please bring their own drink and/or snack, calculator, sharp pencil and mind.

Here's the link to the ordination service of our new deacon Enrique Martinez – This will take place on Monday November 30 at 7pm

<https://www.facebook.com/dioceseofhuron/posts/4668458986559812>

**Your Long Point Bay Regular Service can be found here:
Please click on the link to watch this week's video**

<https://youtu.be/gJFFYvscnFQ>

Here are today's hymns you can sing along with

89 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.
2. O come, O Wisdom from on high, who orders all things mightily;
to us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.
3. O come, O come, great Lord of might, who to your tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times once gave the law, in cloud and majesty and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.
7. O come, Desire of nations, bind in one the hearts of humankind;
O bid our bitter conflict cease, and be for us our Prince of Peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

114 Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending

1. Lo, he comes with clouds descending, once for favoured sinners slain;
thousand thousand saints attending swell the triumph of his train:
hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah! God appears on earth to reign.
2. Every eye shall now behold him, robed in dreadful majesty;
all who set at nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the tree,
deeply grieving, deeply grieving, deeply grieving, shall the true Messiah see.
3. Now redemption, long expected, see in solemn pomp appear;
all his saints, on earth rejected, thrill the trumpet sound to hear:
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah! See the day of God appear!
4. Yea, amen, let all adore thee, high on thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory; claim the kingdom for thine own:
O come quickly! O come quickly! O come quickly! Hallelujah! Come, Lord, come!

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