

25th Sunday after Pentecost
November 14th 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

Watch at all times, praying that you may stand before the Son of man.

Luke 21.36

Collect

Almighty God, you sent your Son Jesus Christ to be the light of the world.
Free us from all that darkens and ensnares us, and bring us to eternal light and joy;
through the power of him who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Readings

1 SAMUEL 1:4-20;

1 SAMUEL 2:1-10 AS CANTICLE;

HEBREWS 10:11-14 (15-18), 19-25;

MARK 13:1-8

There is a problem for me at the heart of what many people in the Church think about Jesus. It is summed up in the phrase, "Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again." I was talking to a colleague about this refrain and he said, "Well I get 2/3 of it." This expressed my problem as well. Somehow, beginning with the early disciples, the idea has developed that Jesus will return to the earth.

This idea popularized by T.V. Evangelists, "Christian" movies and the like. In some versions, the good people will be taken out of the world and the rest will suffer as things spiral downward. The fundamental problem with the idea, that we are still waiting for Christ "Messiah" to come again, is that Jesus has already come to us! He proclaimed the "Kingdom of God", teaching us that the Messiah was never about military conquest and domination, but always about love, justice and peace. The problem was that the early disciples and Church "fathers" still wanted a Messiah that would do the work for us. So, they basically said, "What Jesus did was great, but the job still isn't finished so he must be coming back to finish." They totally missed the point of Pentecost where Jesus gave them, and us, the power of the Holy Spirit to guide us and lead us in realizing the vision of the Reign of God begun by Jesus.

God loved and loves the World and gave his Son to liberate and redeem us into a new future in this World not some future Heaven or Post Apocalypse future.

So why then does the Church still talk about Christ coming again? At the worst, it is because if people continue to believe that the world is bad and they are plagued with "original sin" then the Church can offer salvation through membership and sacrament. This is a grim view but sadly not untrue in some people's thinking. At best, the Church means that Christ will come again in the sense that we will complete Christ's work as the Christ life is born in each and every one of us. This is summed up in the theological statement, "The Kingdom of God is already but not yet arrived." Paul also echoes this idea in talking about the fact that we are the "Body of Christ."

I would argue that Jesus never actually talked about the End Times or physically coming back to earth.

Some people will say that Jesus talked about the End in readings for this week so let's have a quick look. Remember that we always need to read the Bible in its historical context so what was the big historical news when Mark wrote his Gospel. It was the Siege and Fall of Jerusalem 66-70 C.E. This was a terrible time of war and famine and ultimately the destruction of the Temple and much of Jerusalem. Mark knows all this, so why are we surprised that Mark works it into his Gospel. Someone says to Jesus, "Teacher, look, what magnificent masonry! What wonderful buildings!" and he replies, "Take a good look at these monumental buildings! You may be sure that not one stone will be left on top of another! Every last one will be knocked down!" Mark 13: 1b-2. Scholars Version

He then goes on to talk about staying alert, false prophets, wars, earthquakes and famines. Finally, he says, "These things mark the beginning of the final agonies." (8b) So what do we make of this reading. One interpretation favoured by the Apocalyptic set is that Jesus is foretelling the End of the World. Another is that he is foretelling the Roman siege and War to come. Another is that Mark is simply putting these words of prophecy into Jesus' mouth and Jesus never said any of it. In John's Gospel he takes this story from Mark and gives it a completely different spin and implies that Jesus is actually talking, not about the historical Temple, but of his own body.

I hope you can see by this how careful we need to be when reading and interpreting the Bible texts. Did Jesus have a problem with the Temple domination system? Absolutely, as we should as

well, with any domination system in our own world, that diminishes the integrity of people and Jesus' mission to bring about the "Reign of God" Christ will come again if we make it happen. We simply can't sit back and think that it is a future Messiah or Christ who will raise up the oppressed, feed the hungry, visit the sick, comfort the grieving and generally bring God's love and "Reign" into our world. Paul calls us the Body of Christ and so Christ must come again in every moment, every day and every action we take as Christians. The Hymn "Christ Has No Body Now But Yours" sums it up:

Christ has no body now but yours
No Hands no feet on earth but yours
Yours are the Eyes with which he looks
Compassion on His World
Yours are the feet with which he walks to Do Good
Yours are the hands with which he Blesses All the World.

Prayers for Sunday 14th November, 2021. From Anne Gagan

Following the example of Hannah, let us pour out our souls as an offering to the Lord, praying,
" My heart exults in you O God: **hear our Prayers**"

Holy One, you have placed your law in our hearts; you remember our sins no more; you have washed us clean with the pure waters of baptism: may we provoke one another to love and good deeds.
(If you have thoughts of Thanksgiving please add them now, silently or for all to hear)
" My heart exults in you O God: **hear our Prayers**"

Holy One, you raise the poor from the dust; you make the hungry fat with spoil;
Give us faith to trust you in your faithfulness; give us faith to trust you
with our possessions, our loved ones, and our lives.

Pause

" My heart exults in you O God: **hear our Prayers**"

Holy One, centuries of bad management, war and famine
AND the present Pandemic have exhausted the planet and its people.
Change our hearts, help us to understand; renew our planet; give us peace!

Pause

" My heart exults in you O God: **hear our Prayers**"

Holy One, you break the bows of the mighty and you strengthen the feeble.
You Weigh the actions of the arrogant and you strengthen those in positions of authority;
Guide all who govern and hold authority in our land; especially our local leaders.

Pause

" My heart exults in you O God: **hear our Prayers**"

Holy One, you hear the prayers of the troubled and the anxious---
Comfort especially the families of those who are on our prayer list.
(If you have others who are of concern to you, please add them, silently or for all to hear)

Pause

" My heart exults in you O God: **hear our Prayers**"

Holy One, you are the God of life:
may we embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life,
which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Pause

" My heart exults in you O God: **for you hear the Prayers of your Faithful People.**"

AMEN

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

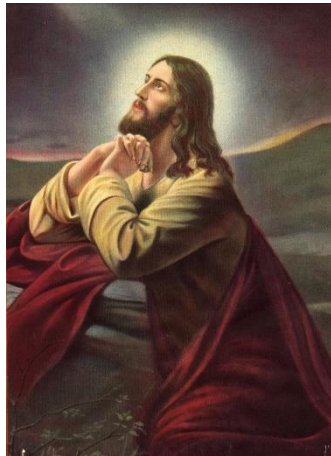
For the week beginning Sunday 14 November 2021, we will be praying for the **Rev. Enrique Martinez** and the people of the **Parish of Long Point Bay**.

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, Barbara S., Carol M., George F., Carol H., and anyone known to you.

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/3bZKosLK3bE>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Eucharist services on
Sunday November 14th
Memorial church at 9:30 am
St. John's Woodhouse 11:00 am

Sunday November 21st
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 November – 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.

Anniversary Congratulations

On Wednesday November 10th John and Shirley Luke celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary. Shirley grew up at St. Johns Woodhouse and they were married there 70 years ago



Our Parish of Long Point Bay Projects

“for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me. “Matthew 25:35-36

Hispanic & Migrant Farmworker Outreach Ministry

The Hispanic & Migrant Farmworker Outreach Ministry in the diocese of Huron is a ministry committed to making our migrant workers visible and supported in our community. Migrant farmworkers are a long way from home and sacrifice family life, support network, and their culture, coming to Canada to work and support their families back home. As Christians we want to welcome, support, include, and make them visible in our Canadian community.

Day care

The aim of St. John’s Day Care is to introduce the Anglican faith to families in Long Point Bay Parish by providing Child Care to their children while teaching them about biblical histories using children’s books and other materials that can attract children’s interest s, puzzles, toys, etc. Also, provide Spanish classes, healthy homemade meals and outdoor activities. Build a bridge between the community and the Anglican Church to encourage families with younger children to acquire knowledge of our Anglican Church.

Greenhouse

This project aims to benefit those less fortunate to have access to fresh vegetables. Families living in a low income, immigrants just arriving to Canada, people who have been negatively impacted due to COVID-19 (job loss)

Population growth and less availability of food material have become global concerns. The world population increases exponentially whereas food production has increased only arithmetically, meaning that the availability of food per capita has decreased. To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom by respond to human need by loving service. God wants our lives to overflow with mercy, love, and compassion the marks of His kingdom. As followers of Jesus, we have a choice: respond to unsettling realities in fear and withdraw, or follow Him in responding to the greatest needs of our day with love and hope.

It is anticipated that funding for these projects will be provided through government grants, support from the diocese of Huron and individual donations. **Donations may be made to the Parish of Long Point Bay.**

I really hope that you will support these outreach projects that put our faith into action.

“What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,” and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So, faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.” James 2:14



Sing Along to this week's Hymns

Hymn Texts – Sunday, November 14, 2021

In Flanders Fields

-written by Dr. John McCrae, music by Alexander Tilley

In Flanders Fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.
We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders Fields.
Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders Fields.



#575 – Let Streams of Living Justice

1. Let streams of living justice flow down upon the earth;
Give freedom's light to captives, let all the poor have worth.
The hungry's hands are pleading, the workers claim their rights,
The mourners long for laughter, the blinded seek for sight.
Make liberty a beacon, strike down the iron power;
abolish ancient vengeance: proclaim your people's hour.

2. For healing of the nations, for peace that will not end,
For love that makes us lovers, God grant us grace to mend.
Weave our varied gifts together; knit our lives as they are spun;
On your loom of time enroll us till our thread of life is run.
O great Weaver of our fabric, bind church and world in one;
dye our texture with your radiance. Light our colours with your sun.

3. Your city's built to music; we are the stones you seek;
your harmony is language: we are the words you speak.
Our faith we find in service, our hope in other's dreams,
Our love in hand of neighbour: our homeland brightly gleams.
Inscribe our hearts with justice; your way – the path untried;
Your truth – the heart of stranger; your life – the Crucified.

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

Please visit our website parishoflongpointbay.com and Facebook page