

2nd Sunday after Epiphany
January 17th 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.

And also, with you.

Sentence

The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us. To all who receive him, he gave power to become children of God.

John 1

Collect

Almighty God, your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

May your people, illumined by your word and sacraments, shine with the radiance of his glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Readings

1 SAMUEL 3:1-10 (11-20);

PSALM 139:1-5, 12-17

1 CORINTHIANS 6:12-20;

JOHN 1:43-51

Reflection January 17th

Have you ever lain under a starry sky and contemplated the utter immensity of the universe? If you are an astronomer you may realize that what you are looking at is only a very small fraction of all that exists. I read recently that there is a new theory of the number of universes, it is unofficially called the beer bottle foam theory. The mass of bubbles that run down a freshly opened bottle of beer gives a good representation of the number of universes that are believed to exist “out there”, each bubble a complete universe one on top of another! When I read things like this, or contemplate the starry sky, I marvel at the mystery of God the creator. It would be so easy to believe that any creator could not possibly be aware, let alone interested, in all the parts of creation. Yet listen to the psalm appointed for today:

“Lord, you have searched me out and known me; you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.

You trace my journeys and my resting-places and are acquainted with all my ways.

Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, but you, O Lord, know it altogether.

You press upon me behind and before and lay your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain to it.

For you yourself created my inmost parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

I will thank you because I am marvellously made; your works are wonderful, and I know it well.

My body was not hidden from you, while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths of the earth.

Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb; all of them were written in your book; they were fashioned day by day, when as yet there was none of them.

How deep I find your thoughts, O God! how great is the sum of them!

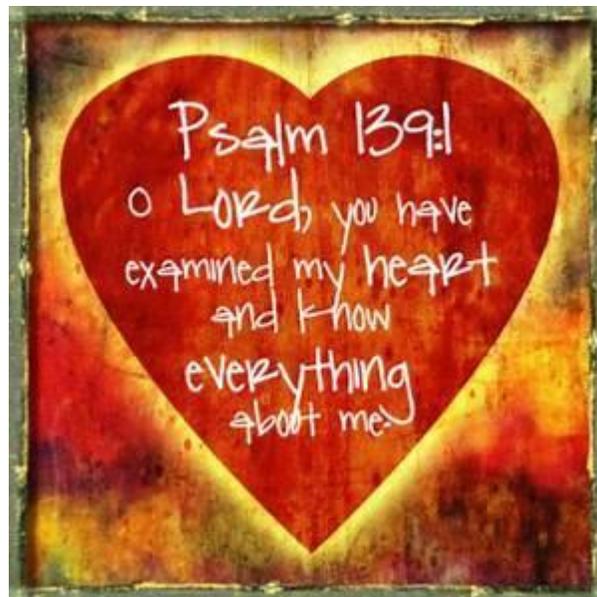
If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the sand; to count them all my life span would need to be like yours.” Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18.

That God should actually know me so intimately, “*Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high I cannot attain to it.*” And yet this is the truth of our faith, experienced by the writer of this psalm thousands of years ago, and also experienced by us today; all that you need is an open heart and an open mind.

I think that at times like these, when the whole human race is experiencing a deadly threat, and we are all coping for better or worse with this fact, that we remember that we are **known and loved!**

We may not always feel our Creator's intimate presence with us in our day to day activities but that doesn't change the reality of God's mysterious presence. We are like the fish who forget the water in which they literally live and breath and have their being. So it is with us, and our Creator. Please, the next time you feel alone, or frightened, or anxious, take this psalm and ***read it over and over until your spiritual eyes open and your heart and mind respond with a deep calm assurance welling up inside you.*** First take a deep breath and bring *Ruah*, the breath of life into your body, then slowly exhale all your worries, do this several times and then read this psalm slowly, out loud if you can, and just savour every word. Repeat at least three times and then notice if a word or a phrase strikes you. Listen, not with your intellectual mind but with your heart, mind and intuition. This whole process only takes a few minutes, but I guarantee you will end feeling less fearful, anxious or stressed. You will have invited the Holy Spirit (*Ruah*) into your life in an intentional way. This is spiritual medicine and has been prescribed and used by the wise for centuries. It is no accident that when Jesus was faced with difficulties and anxieties in his life, he turned to quiet places and scripture. We simply follow His lead. This psalm contains riches of spiritual truth about our frailty, but also our importance, God's mystery, but also God's intimate knowledge and love for each and every one of us. We are so blessed, even in the midst of trouble. May you experience this truth for yourself!

Archdeacon Rick Jones, rickplus@gmail.com



Prayers for 17th January, 2021 - Dorothy Koorn

(Imagine throwing a pebble into the centre of a pond, and the circles of ripples that move out from the centre.)

Read a sentence then add your personal requests.

We pray firstly for those closest to us, our immediate family and closest friends - for their health, needs, joys and fears.

(personal prayer)

God of creation, God of Salvation, hear the prayers of our hearts

We pray for our extended family and friends who we cannot see during lockdown - for their love and concern, and for their wellbeing.

(personal prayer)

God of creation, God of Salvation, hear the prayers of our hearts

As the ripples reach out toward the land we pray for those who we only have contact with annually or less - for blessings upon them

(personal prayer)

God of creation, God of Salvation, hear the prayers of our hearts

And as the ripples reach their furthest point we pray for this world and its people - for the victims of disease, war and natural disaster, for the needs of this week and the future.

(personal prayer)

God of creation, God of Salvation, hear the prayers of our hearts

Lord God, we especially pray for those who have asked for our prayers

.....(from prayer list).....

Lord God,

Who speaks to us through thunder and whisper

Who loves each of us as if there were but one of us to love you have given us your Word for a light to shine upon our path; grant us so to meditate on that Word, and to follow its teaching, that we may find in it the light that shines more and more until the perfect day; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen



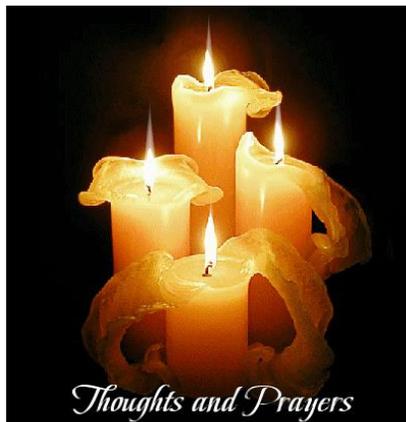
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We pray for: - Todd our Bishop, Anne our Metropolitan, Linda our Primate, Mark National Indigenous Archbishop, Marinez Bishop of Amazonia. AD Rick Jones, Rev. Enrique Martinez, Rev. Jack Cox

For the week beginning Sunday January 17, 2021, we will be praying for the **Rev. Rosalyn Elm** and the people of the **Parish of the Six Nations**.

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., Bill MC., Dwayne M. and Andrea B., Susan A., Olivia H., Karen M., Delores B., Dale & David F, Rose G, Eric, Julie, Janice S., Barbara S., Judy Z. and anyone known to you. Amen.



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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.

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 video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5bh7k0mDHJs&feature=youtu.be>

The Archbishop of Canterbury recently shared this message on his social media feeds:

"Staying at home is loving your neighbour.
Wearing a mask is loving your neighbour.
Keeping your distance is loving your neighbour.
Washing your hands is loving your neighbour.
Let's keep loving our neighbours."



ANNOUNCEMENTS:



Dear friends,

With the declaration of a State of Emergency for the province of Ontario beginning at 12:01am on Thursday, January 14, 2021, the RED Stage Loving Your Neighbours Guidelines have been updated. The RED Stage guidelines may be found [here](#). Below are the updates as well as some reminders for this period of time. The next few weeks will be difficult in many ways but we are not alone. God is with us, “an ever present help in times of trouble.” May you feel God’s presence with you during these during these days.

- Recording or Live-streaming services: a maximum of three (3) persons will permitted to be present to record or live-stream worship services, including any AV people. If a parish feels a strong need to a maximum of two others present, they may seek permission from their Territorial Archdeacon for a maximum of five persons, total. This request is to include the reasons for needing more people and a description of the locations and movement of people throughout the service. While the provincial maximum is higher than this number, we believe it is important for the church to lead by example in reducing our non-household contacts as much as possible.
- Even though there will be very few people present when recording or filming these services, masking and physical distancing guidelines must be followed. If a mask is removed to preach or officiate, no other person may be within 12 feet (2m) of the person who is not wearing a mask.
- If the services are filmed in segments so that more than three people are seen to be involved but are not present at the same time, it would be helpful to have that stated at the beginning or end of the service.
- The dropping off of Sunday School lessons and materials, worship materials, parish newsletters, bulletins, etc is permitted if done in a non-contact manner.
- Church buildings are to remain closed except for the following:
 - Recording or live-streaming worship as above
 - Counting of offerings: two persons only may be present in the building to count offerings and prepare the bank deposit. As we are not worshipping in person, there will likely be less physical offerings so this may only need to be done bi-weekly. The counters are to wear masks and to maintain physical distancing.
 - Parish office staff or clergy who need access to office equipment to provide parish materials. Only those tasks which absolutely cannot be done from their home should be done at the church. Time at the church is to be minimized as much as possible.

- Regular security/maintenance checks done by a single individual (or couple from the same household) as required by insurance carrier.
- Food insecurity or Out of the Cold programs.
- 12-step programs (maximum of 10 people/meeting)
- A schedule should be developed so that the above persons do not overlap.
- A communication should be sent to the parish informing them that the church building is closed for the present time and that they may not drop into the building for any reason without prior authorization from the wardens.

Should any of our restrictions differ from those of the provincial government or your local health unit, the more stringent regulations are always to be followed.

Ash Wednesday and Lenten resources will be shared within the next couple of weeks.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Stay home, stay safe.

Blessings,

Tanya+

The Venerable Tanya Phibbs

Archdeacon of Huron

There will be a Vestry meeting via Zoom for Port Rowan at 10:30 this morning. If you did not receive details from Veronica yesterday please let her or myself know.

Sing along to this morning's hymns

430 – Will You Come and Follow Me

1. Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?
2. Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?
3. Will you let the blinded see if I but call you name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean and do such as this unseen,
And admit to what I mean in you and you in me?
4. Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
Through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?
5. Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

432 – Jesus Calls Us! O'er the Tumult

1. Jesus calls us! O'er the tumult of our life's wild restless sea,
Day by day his sweet voice soundeth, saying "Christian, follow me!"
2. As of old Saint Andrew heard it by the Galilean lake,
Turned from home and toil and kindred, leaving all for his dear sake.
3. Jesus calls us from the worship of the vain world's golden store,
From each idol that would keep us, saying "Christian, love me more."
4. In our joys and in our sorrows, days of toil and hours of ease,
Still he calls, in cares and pleasures, "Christian, love me more than these."
5. Jesus calls us! By thy mercies, Saviour, may we hear thy call,
Give our hearts to thine obedience, serve and love thee best of all.

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