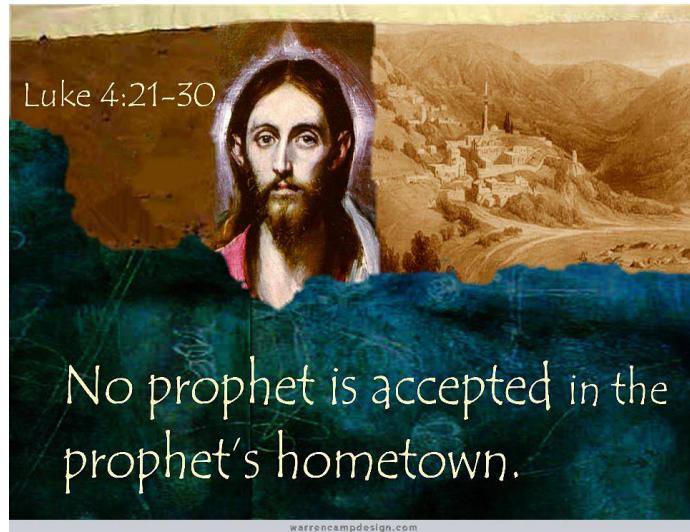


THE PARISH OF LONG POINT BAY



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

**Sunday January 30th 2022
4th Sunday after Epiphany**



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 Lord has anointed me to preach good news to the poor and release to the captives.
Luke 4:18

Collect

Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Readings

JEREMIAH 1:4-10;

PSALM 71:1-6;

1 CORINTHIANS 13:1-13;

LUKE 4:21-30

Reflection for January 30th from The Rev'd Dr. Justin Comber
Rector, Parish of the Transfiguration
(519) 809-9452 - justincomber@diohuron.org

We have now settled into the season after Epiphany. The hangings in our churches are green. Christmas has now settled into memory. We have not yet marked ourselves with ashes to begin our Lenten fast. We haven't even said our Candlemas blessings over light and flame. We're in the middle. But it doesn't feel like it to me. It feels like vestry. Our minds, this time of year, turn to business, to financial reports, to the states of our buildings, membership, and even our cemeteries. This year, my little four-point parish will be considering a motion to join in a partnership with four other points, making us a rather large cluster of eight churches orbiting Chatham, our small urban sun. In a good year, we might be tempted to call this a mundane season. In bad years, vestry season falls like a shadow clouding the bright revelations of Epiphany with visions of loss, hardship, and ruin. This year was a hard year for us. For many, I fear this year the fragile ties that bind our mission to our worship will be severed under the strain, and that they will slip away in frustration and anger. But this year, perhaps more than ever, I am grateful for God's words to the prophet Jeremiah, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born, I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations."

Jeremiah was appointed to speak God's words to the nations, to witness aloud the continuing work of God among the people. And in the great tradition of the prophets, Jeremiah balked at the idea. Perhaps he misunderstood. Perhaps we do too. Jeremiah's prophesying and our taking stock are acts of faith and witness. We entrust ourselves into the God's hands. We listen for God's wisdom. We search and find where God's strength meets our fragility, and witness to another's good work in our faithfulness and obedience. Our vestries are opportunities to prophesy in chart and spreadsheet, to witness in report and motion, to grasp at and seize our tenuous futures, or point to God's goodness in our learning, our commitment to justice, our renewal, and our diversity. To prophesy is not to tell but to repeat. To witness is not to convince but to point. To believe is not to know but to trust. I pray that this year, our planning and preparation, our growing and gathering, our opening and closing, our beginnings and even our endings will be acts of obedience in faith. I pray, in short, that our mission and worship will be bound together in faith, that our praying and praising will continue through from chancel and nave to hall and vestry (real or virtual), and that the whole life of the church will witness to God's plan of salvation, carried out in tranquility until all things are brought to their perfection in Christ.

It would be much easier, Jesus, to ignore the hard truths around us: the widening gap between rich and poor, the consistency with which the powerful get their way, the bending of rules and the self-enrichment of the connected and influential, the lack of adequate care, protection and resources for the most vulnerable among us; we would rather not see these signs.

It would be much easier if we could just pretend everything was alright, if we could prophesy goodness and light, and ignore the darkness and evil; if we didn't have to offend the status quo, or challenge the comfortable; if we could convince ourselves that the cross, was just a one-time thing – your calling, not ours.

But we can't do this, Jesus, because we know too much; your Gospel has captured us and opened our eyes, and we have become slaves to love, the love that must speak for the voiceless, the love that must challenge injustice, the love that draws lines of division between truth and denial, between compassion and expediency.

Give us the courage to acknowledge what we see, to name the signs of the times, to actively stand up and acknowledge what we represent and believe. **We pray that our lives would be filled and overflowing with the power of your love so we can make a difference in this world and bring honor to you. Help us to love as you love. Fill us with your Spirit so that we can choose what is best.**

Dear God, please give us strength when we are weak, love when we feel forsaken, courage when we are afraid, wisdom when we feel foolish, comfort when we are alone, hope when we feel rejected, and peace when we are in turmoil.

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

For the week beginning Sunday 30 January 2022, we will be praying for the **Rev. Jason Postma** and the people of **St. James', Paris**.

We pray for all those who are sick or sorrowful. When they suffer, we suffer with them. Revive and heal them, we pray. May your joy be their strength.

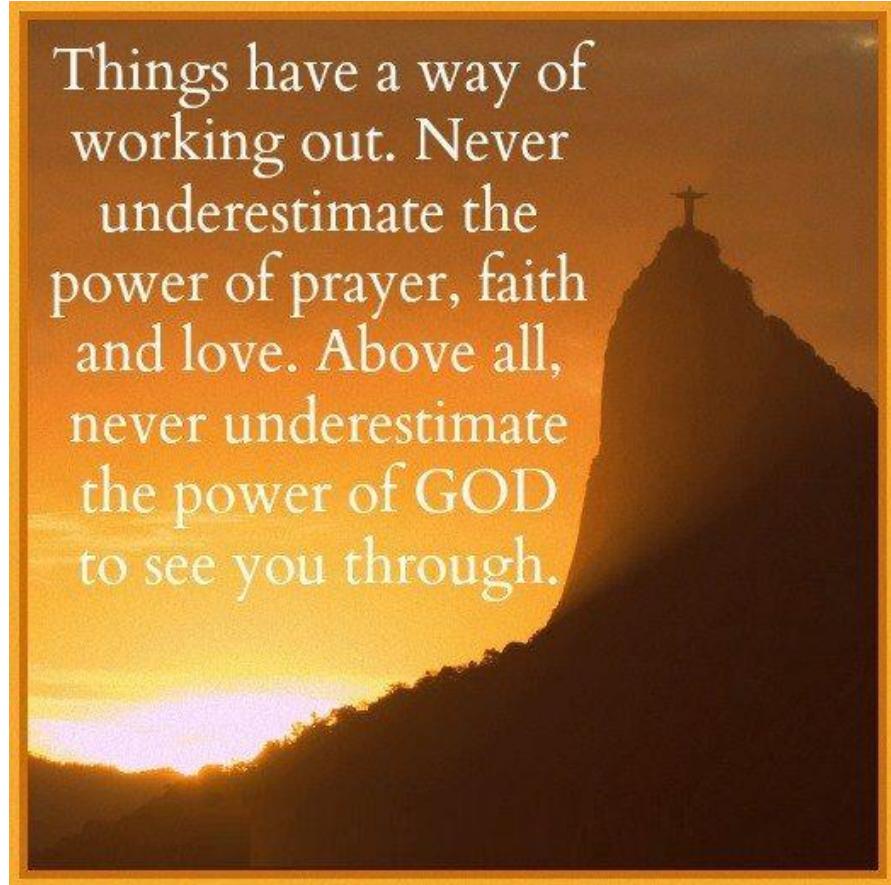
We pray for the ones who have asked for your healing touch upon their lives: Betty F., Don G., Franz and Elaine Z., Steven K., Rebecca M., Trista P., Bill MC., Dwayne M. and Andrea B., Susan A., Olivia H., Karen M., Delores B., Dale F., Rose G., Julie, Carol M., George F., Carol H., Bud W., Juanita K.,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

Remember as well our shut-ins June, Shirley & John, Iris, Julie, Sheila, Sylvia, Anna and Jack B

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 Ipbparishsecretary@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

Things have a way of working out. Never underestimate the power of prayer, faith and love. Above all, never underestimate the power of GOD to see you through.



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/OaYX-kpm5cE>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vestry meetings

Memorial - Today at 10:30 am

St John's Woodhouse – Today 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 send out an update this week

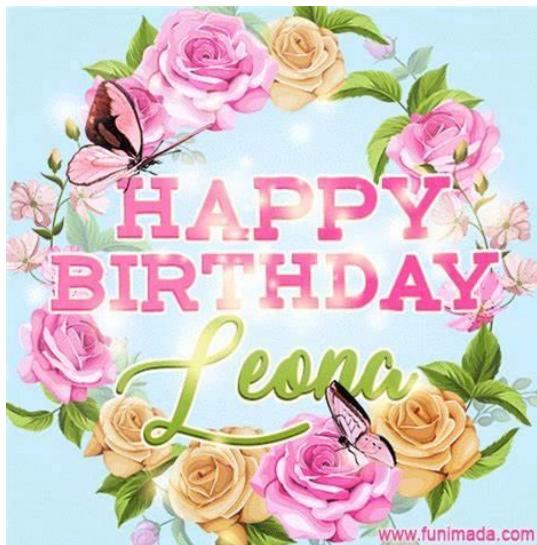
We will only be publishing the newspaper every two weeks instead of weekly from now on.

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 February – 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.

We would normally include this in the weekly newspaper, but as we didn't print one this week. I don't want Leona to miss out on the Birthday wishes.

So happy Birthday today – Leona Milne



Sing along to this mornings Hymns

Hymn Texts – Sunday, January 30, 2022

433 – Lord, You Give the Great Commission

1. Lord, you give the great commission: "Heal the sick and preach the word." Lest the church neglect its mission and the gospel go unheard, help us witness to your purpose with renewed integrity; With the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.
2. Lord, you call us to your service: "In my name baptize and teach." That the world may trust your promise, life abundant meant for each, Give us all new fervor, draw us closer in community; With the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.
3. Lord, you make the common holy: "This my body, this my blood." Let your priests, for earth's true glory, daily lift life heavenward, Asking that the world around us share your children's liberty; With the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.
4. Lord, you show us love's true measure: "Father, what they do, forgive." Yet we hoard as private treasure all that you so freely give. May your care and mercy lead us to a just society; With the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.
5. Lord, you bless with words assuring: "I am with you to the end." Faith and hope and love restoring, may we serve as you intend, And, amid the cares that claim us, hold in mind eternity; With the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.

531 – You, Who Dwell in the Shelter of the Lord

1. You, who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, who abide in his shadow for life, Say to the Lord: "My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!" And he will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, Make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.
2. Snares of the fowler will never capture you, and famine will bring you no fear: Under his wings your refuge, his faithfulness your shield. And he will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, Make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.
3. You need not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day; Though thousands fall about you, near you it shall not come. And he will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, Make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.
4. For to his angels he's given a command to guard you in all of your ways; Upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone. And he will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,

Make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.

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