

6th Sunday after Epiphany
The Transfiguration
February 14th 2021



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY](#)

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

Blessed is our Father, Lord of heaven and earth, who has revealed these things to the simple

Collect

Almighty God, the holy mount you revealed to chosen witnesses your well-beloved Son, wonderfully transfigured: mercifully deliver us from the darkness of this world, and change us into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Readings

2 KINGS 2:1-12;

PSALM 50:1-6;

2 CORINTHIANS 4:3-6;

MARK 9:2-9

<https://lectionary.anglican.ca/nrsv/?date=2021-02-14&submit=show+new+date>

“listen to Him!”



Today's Gospel shows us the story of the transfiguration of our Lord Jesus Christ, and its passage of transcendental importance that since it allows us to see the Glory of God in His beloved Son.

Today more than ever God shows us the only way that leads us to the Father, is called Jesus.

Let's note that this account has a number of issues in common with the story of Moses at Sinai (Exodus 24-34). In the Exodus account, Moses is accompanied by three men (Exodus 24: 9; Mark 9: 2); a cloud covers the mountain for six days, and God spoke from the cloud (Exodus 24:16; Mark 9: 2, 7); Moses saw, at least in part, the glory of God (Exodus 33: 17-23; Mark 9: 3); Moses' face glowed with dazzling light (Exodus 34:30; Mark 9: 3); the people of Israel were afraid (Exodus 34:30); and when coming down from Mount Moses he meets the “People of God” without faith (Exodus 32: 7-8; Mark 9: 14-29).

Here we find an infinite number of similarities and we can talk about many other things, however today I would prefer our reflection to be based on the words of God who sends the disciples at the end of verse 7 *“listen to Him!”*.

Many times, we speak about transfiguration because it is the center of story and we see the manifestation of God, however, we do not see and hear what that manifestation truly try to say.

In the book of Deuteronomy 18:15, *“The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet.”* (Hebrew = Shema, “Listen”).

The three disciples have become accustomed to beginning with Jesus, and were, perhaps, in a special admiration for the appearance of Elijah and Moses. Since childhood, these disciples had been taught to honor the words of Moses over all, but also those of Elijah. Now the voice from the cloud tells them to listen to Jesus.

It is not that Moses and Elijah are no longer important, but that Moses and Elijah are subjects to the Son of God. Moses represented the Law and Elijah represented the prophecies who had a total fulfillment in the Son of God. They are no longer important because of a single law, and a single prophecy, JESUS, the One in whom the love of the Father is poured out for humanity and

that is why we no longer follow a list of laws like the Pharisees, or you write them, nor a list of prophecies by that Christ is fulfilled, which is why the words that Jesus says to the people of Israel are more latent today than ever: *“41 The people of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at the proclamation of Jonah, and see, something greater than Jonah is here! 42 The queen of the South will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because she came from the ends of the earth to listen to the wisdom of Solomon, and see, something greater than Solomon is here!” Matthew 12: 41-42*

The gospel asks us to Shout to follow the voice of the Shepherd, the voice that comes from heaven, the unique Voice of God for whom everything was created, the voice of the Word made flesh, today in the midst of a great variety of theories, religions, teachings; In the midst of our sadness, of our frustrations, in the midst of a pandemic that encloses us not only in physical walls, but also mentally, Today God tells us, God begs us: "Hear Him."

Today there is a sermon on these words. We hear so many voices today, and they all seem wise and attractive: scholars, columnists, commentators, political analysts, religious gurus, celebrities, tempters, seducers. They promise us health, wealth, and happiness, but they rarely keep their promises and often lead us to ruin. Nonetheless, Jesus is always wit us: *“36 When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.” Matthew 9:36*

The world is looking for that trustworthy voice, that voice that God asks us to follow. The voice from the clouds says that we can always trust Jesus: "Hear him!" many say "But Jesus is too idealistic to understand the rough world we live in!" And the voice says "Hear him!" We say, "Maybe later, because now I have other things to do!" And the voice tells us "Listen to him!" We say "But I'm not sure I really believe" And the voice tells us "Hear him!" How many broken hearts and broken lives could be avoided if we just listened to it! There are many people who regret not listening to Jesus. Do you know anyone who regrets having listened?

Jesus says to you Today, you are my voice, my hands, my feet. Walk where that son of mine and take my word to them, walk and take the bread and water that I send them. Jesus says to you, today I can assure you that each thing, each property, each one of the things that you have in your life, I have given to you, because I know that you are my faithful servant, my beloved brother, my apostle who I will bring my word with joy to all who are looking for it.

Today I ask you to silently pray for your sisters and brothers, for those who are ill, for those who suffer in silence the loss of loved ones, today I ask that you make that word that you heard live by fulfilling my only Mandate: LOVE without measures, for who loves *“Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love”. 1John 4: 7-8*

How difficult it must have been for the disciples to come down from the mountain after experiencing the presence of Elijah and Moses and hearing God's voice on the top of the mountain and not being able to tell anyone. But no one does not live forever on the top of the mountain, where God manifests himself. How many times would we want to live in daily happiness, Likes Peter say: *“Then Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings” Mark 9:5,* however, it is necessary to descend from the mountain to the everyday world

of work and responsibility, of commerce and of everyday people. Life seems to be a difficult burden, as we will be reminded over and over again when Jesus and the disciples arrive at the base of the mountain (9: 14-29), but God calls us to live in the midst of this world and all its complexities - to live in faith that when we go back up to the Father this transfiguration will be an eternal joy, where we will never again have to descend to suffer the limitations of our human sufferings. Today we fear that we are rays of faith, of hope but above all of the LOVE of God in the midst of a humanity that desperately seeks him. And when we complete our ministry Jesus will tell us: *“Well done, good and trustworthy “disciple, Sister, Brother, Friend; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.” Matthew 25:23.* Everything than you asking for will be yours if you “listen to Him”

Rev. Enrique

Prayers of the People for Last Sunday after Epiphany, Feb. 14, 2021 from Anne Gagan LLR

This is a special day, St. Valentine's Day, when we remember those people who are special to us often with gifts or flowers and prayers.

I have to admit that I started early because on this past Thursday My husband and I celebrated our 57th wedding anniversary. I am very thankful.

So we pray for all the special people in our lives; Praying for health and peace and blessings.

God will come and will not keep silence. So let us pray: "Open our eyes; *open our ears*".

Rabbi, it is good for us to be here in your presence. Open our eyes to your glory. Open our ears to your call.

Open our lips and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.

(If you have something to be thankful for now is a great time to add your thoughts then- Pause)

Open our eyes; Open our ears.

To those who do not know your love and mercy, reveal yourself, great God. Shine your light through us that our lives might witness to your Son Jesus. *Pause*

Open our eyes; Open our ears.

Holy One, you have chosen to wear the clouds and meet our forebears on the mountains. In doing so, you remind us, that you created all things good and continue to manifest your glory through those things you have created. Remind us to also honour your creation. *Pause*

Open our eyes; Open our ears.

O God, we thank you for those men and women in our lives who parent us, teach us, mentor us. Raise up strong leaders, O God, leaders who follow in the footsteps of Jesus. *Pause*

Open our eyes; Open our ears.

You are a powerful God---ruler of the heavens and the earth---and yet, you are close enough to hear our humble prayers. Attend to our loved ones and all those we name now.

Pause

Open our eyes; Open our ears.

God, you are our hope. Trusting in your goodness, we make our song --alleluia, alleluia, alleluia--- even at the grave!

Pause

Open our eyes; Open our ears.

Thank you, Lord, for listening. **AMEN**

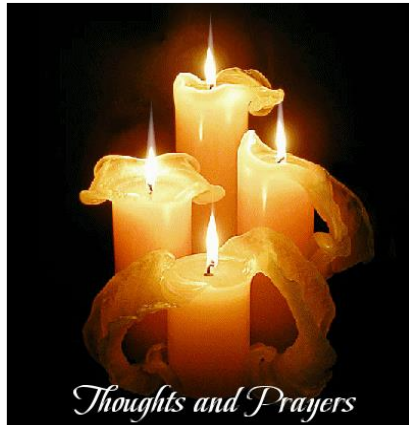
Parts of these prayers are taken from 'Praying the Scriptures' by Jerimiah D. Williamson. AMG.

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 February 14, 2021, we will be praying for the **Rev. Jason Postma** and the people of **St. James', Paris.**

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., and anyone known to you. Amen.



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-SA](#)

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:



Reopening our Churches

Dear friends,

With the lifting of the State of Emergency in Ontario, the area covered by the Diocese of Huron will be transitioned into the Provincial COVID-19 Response Framework---or colour zones---on February 16th. We expect to hear within a few days which zone each of the health units in our diocese will enter.

Churches in the Diocese of Huron will remain closed for public worship until the 2nd Sunday of Lent, February 28th. At that time, parishes in the Orange, Yellow or Green zones may reopen for in-person worship according to the AMBER Stage guidelines. Bishop Townshend recommends that parishes in the red zone suspend in-person worship. Any parish in the red zone that wishes to hold in-person worship must receive permission from the bishop. (Permission given previously remains valid.) Parishes in the Gray zone may not hold in-person worship and are to follow the RED Stage guidelines. Please see the information and links below for more details.

No parish is required to hold in-person worship. It is up to the leadership of each parish to determine if they feel comfortable doing so. You know best your people and your context.

As always, please be in touch if you have any questions or concerns.

blessings,

Tanya+

The Ven. Tanya Phibbs

Archdeacon of Huron

GREEN ZONE
Follow Diocesan AMBER Stage Guidelines

YELLOW ZONE
Follow Diocesan AMBER Stage Guidelines

ORANGE ZONE
Follow Diocesan AMBER Stage Guidelines

- All meetings/groups should be virtual except 12 step groups
- If a meeting must be held in person, a max of 10 people for less than 1 hour
- Facemasks must be worn by 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.
- No permission will be given for exceptions to the AMBER Stage protocol.

RED ZONE
Follow Diocesan AMBER Stage Guidelines

- The Bishop recommends that in-person worship be suspended and replaced by video worship (recorded or live-streamed) or written worship materials delivered weekly (including sermon)
- If a parish wishes to continue in-person worship, permission must be received from the bishop's office in writing
- Only urgent in-person pastoral care visits are permitted. Facemasks must be worn.
- No on-site meetings, rentals or gatherings except for food sustainability and 12-step programs

Parish staff should work from home where possible

GRAY ZONE
Follow Diocesan RED Stage Guidelines

The Colour Zone Chart may be found [here](#)
The AMBER Stage Guidelines may be found [here](#)
The RED Stage Guidelines may be found [here](#)

Please click on the link to watch this week's video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ok717NDHzCs>

If you have anything you would like to contribute or comment on, regarding the newsletter, please do not hesitate to let Rev Enrique or myself know.

I would like to start a special birthday/anniversary announcement section, so if your birthday is upcoming, 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 the birthday section please send me details.



FROM ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL

“Encounters with Christ”

A Lenten Sermon Series. Thursday Mornings @ 10:00am
18th February - 1st April 2021



18th February: “Jesus & the man born blind”
(John 9:1-41) **The Most Rev. Linda Nicholls**
Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada

25th February: “Jesus & Mary & Martha”
(Luke 10:38-42) **The Most Rev. Anne Germond**
Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario
Archbishop of Algoma

4th March: “Jesus & the woman at the well”
(John 4:7-15) **The Most Rev. Colin Johnson**
Archbishop of Toronto (Retd)

11th March: “Jesus & Nicodemus” (John 3:1-17)
The Rt. Rev. Barry Clarke, Bishop of Montreal (Retd)

18th March: “Jesus & James & John” (Matthew 20:20-28)
The Rt. Rev. Terry Dance
Bishop of Norfolk, Diocese of Huron (Retd)

25th March “Jesus & Caiaphas” (Matthew 26:57-68)
The Rt. Rev. Robert Bennett, Bishop of Huron (Retd)

1st April: “Jesus & Mary Magdalene” (Mark 16:1-7)
The Rt. Rev. Dr. Todd Townshend, Bishop of Huron

Join us on Zoom

As this series is offered via Zoom, we invite
you to register by emailing the church
office at:

cfieldhouse@stpaulscathedral.on.ca

Happy
Valentine's Day!



FOR ALL THE SAINTS

TO-MORROW IS SAINT
VALENTINE'S DAY, ALL IN THE
MORNING BETIME, AND I A
MAID AT YOUR WINDOW, TO
BE YOUR VALENTINE.

(SHAKESPEARE: MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S
DREAM)

ST. VALENTINE

MARTYR

C.226-269 AD.



Sing along to this morning's hymns

Hymn Texts – Sunday, Feb.14th 2021

397-Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

1. Praise the one who breaks the darkness with a liberating light.
Praise the one who frees the prisoners, turning blindness into sight.
Praise the one who preached the gospel, healing every dread disease,
Calming storms and feeding thousands with the very bread of peace.
2. Praise the one who blessed the children with a strong yet gentle word.
Praise the one who drove out demons with a piercing two0edged sword.
Praise the one who brings cool water to the desert's burning sand.
From this well comes living water, quenching thirst in every land.
3. Praise the one true love incarnate, Christ who suffered in our place.
Jesus died and rose for many that we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness, seeing what our God has done.
Praise the one redeeming glory, praise the One who makes us one.

460-Lord, the Light of Your Love is Shining

1. Lord, the light of your love is shining, in the midst of the darkness shining;
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us; set us free by the truth you now bring us,
Shine on me, shine on me.
Shine, Jesus, shine; fill this land with the Father's glory;
Blaze, Spirit, blaze: set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow: flood the nations with grace and mercy;
Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.
2. Lord, I come to your awesome presence, from the shadows into your radiance;
By the blood I may enter your brightness, search me, try me, consume all my darkness,
Shine on me, shine on me.
Shine, Jesus, shine; fill this land with the Father's glory;
Blaze, Spirit, blaze: set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow: flood the nations with grace and mercy;
Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.
3. As we gaze on your kingly brightness so our faces display your likeness;
Everchanging from glory to glory, mirrored here may our lives tell your story,
Shine on me, shine on me.
Shine, Jesus, shine; fill this land with the Father's glory;
Blaze, Spirit, blaze: set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow: flood the nations with grace and mercy;
Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.

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