

First Sunday of Advent
November 28th 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

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

JEREMIAH 33:14-16;

PSALM 25:1-9; 1

THESSALONIANS 3:9-13;

LUKE 21:25-36

Reflection for November 28th from **Rev Jack Cox**

As I begin this reflection for Nov 28, the last Sunday of November, and the 1st Sunday of Advent, I am struck by a clear ‘disconnect’ or significantly divergent perspective from a more traditional view of Advent (at least for me). Even the name ‘advent’ expresses that divergence for me. Both the Season (Advent) and the language of ‘coming’ express a sense of Jesus or God ‘coming’. But you don’t talk about coming to a place where you already are.

The prayer over the gifts this Sunday prays “...your word stirs within us the expectation of the coming of your Son...”

To put this another way, how can I pray ‘Come, Lord Jesus’ when I really believe Jesus is right here - as close to me as my own breath. Or “God for whom we wait...”? Does not the presence of God surround us?

At Pentecost we celebrate the gift of Jesus’s Spirit, For Luke (the author of Acts) the Holy Spirit is Jesus’ Spirit. It’s why Jesus had to ‘depart’ and return to the Father so that he could send the gift of his Spirit upon all his followers. And at the celebration of Pentecost, we celebrate that Jesus Spirit was/is given to all of us, is poured out on all of us, covers all of us. (If you *really want to understand Pentecost, you have to 1st read Genesis 11:1-9 (the tower of Babel where nobody understands anybody else) and then Lk 2:11-13 (Pentecost, where everybody understands everybody). For Luke, we need to learn how to see each other differently, – with the help of the gift of Jesus spirit, and how to listen to each other differently – again with the help of Jesus spirit.*

At the close of Matthew’s gospel, Jesus’ promises to always be with us: “And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age. “Mt 28:20

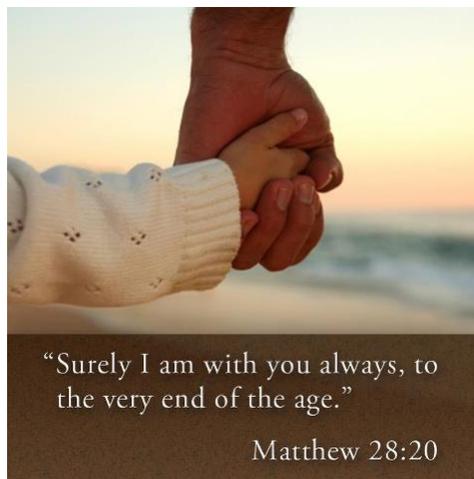
So, this advent, I don’t want to pray for Jesus’ coming because he’s already here! I want to pray for the eyes to see him present and then the wisdom to act with the awareness of his presence.

For example, think of all the people working for the vaccine, the health care workers putting their lives on the line, retirement home staff. Or all the people in our local churches working so hard to produce online services. (I can guarantee you that was not a skill taught in seminary when I was there.)

All of this is to help make the presence of God more visible, more accessible. (Notice I didn’t say “make God more present.”) Our faith is like the optometrist who doesn’t make things present that aren’t there but helps us to see more clearly what is already there.)

Would all the staff in the hospitals or the nursing homes see this? Probably not – but that does not make God’s presence any less real, any less accessible.

So, this Advent, will I be praying for the coming of Jesus? No! But I will certainly be asking God to help me see more clearly the presence of Jesus which surrounds me and fills me – always! Even when I don’t see.



Prayers of the People from Colin Clarke

Heavenly Father, God of Peace, God of Hope, your bountiful grace binds us together and lifts our spirits. We thank you for the gifts you have given each of us and pray that you will guide us to always use them to do what is just and right.

Through the power of the Holy Spirit, help us to keep faith and see your Son, Jesus Christ in each other, as we celebrate his coming.

We ask for your continued blessings upon our lives. May we receive your mercy, and be healed of our hurts, freed from our fears, and rejoice in the comfort and support of the Holy Spirit.

In the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, hear our prayers.

Amen.

We now 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

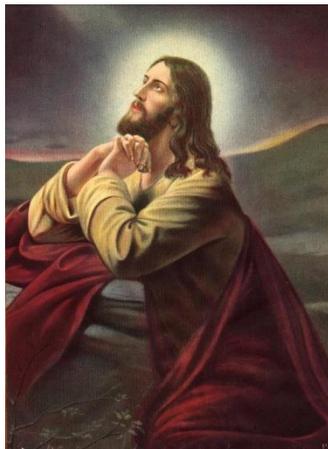
For the week beginning 28 November 2021, we will be praying for the **Ven. Janet Griffith** (interim), the **Rev. John Ogilvie**, the **Rev. Jack Cox**, the **Rev. Canon Bob Schroeder**, the **Rev. Margaret Shortell** and the people of **St. Mark's, Brantford**.

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, silently or aloud

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/wa_bMfhLlek

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Eucharist services

First Sunday of Advent
Sunday November 28th at
Memorial and Woodhouse
9:30 and 11am

Sunday December 5th
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 December – 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.

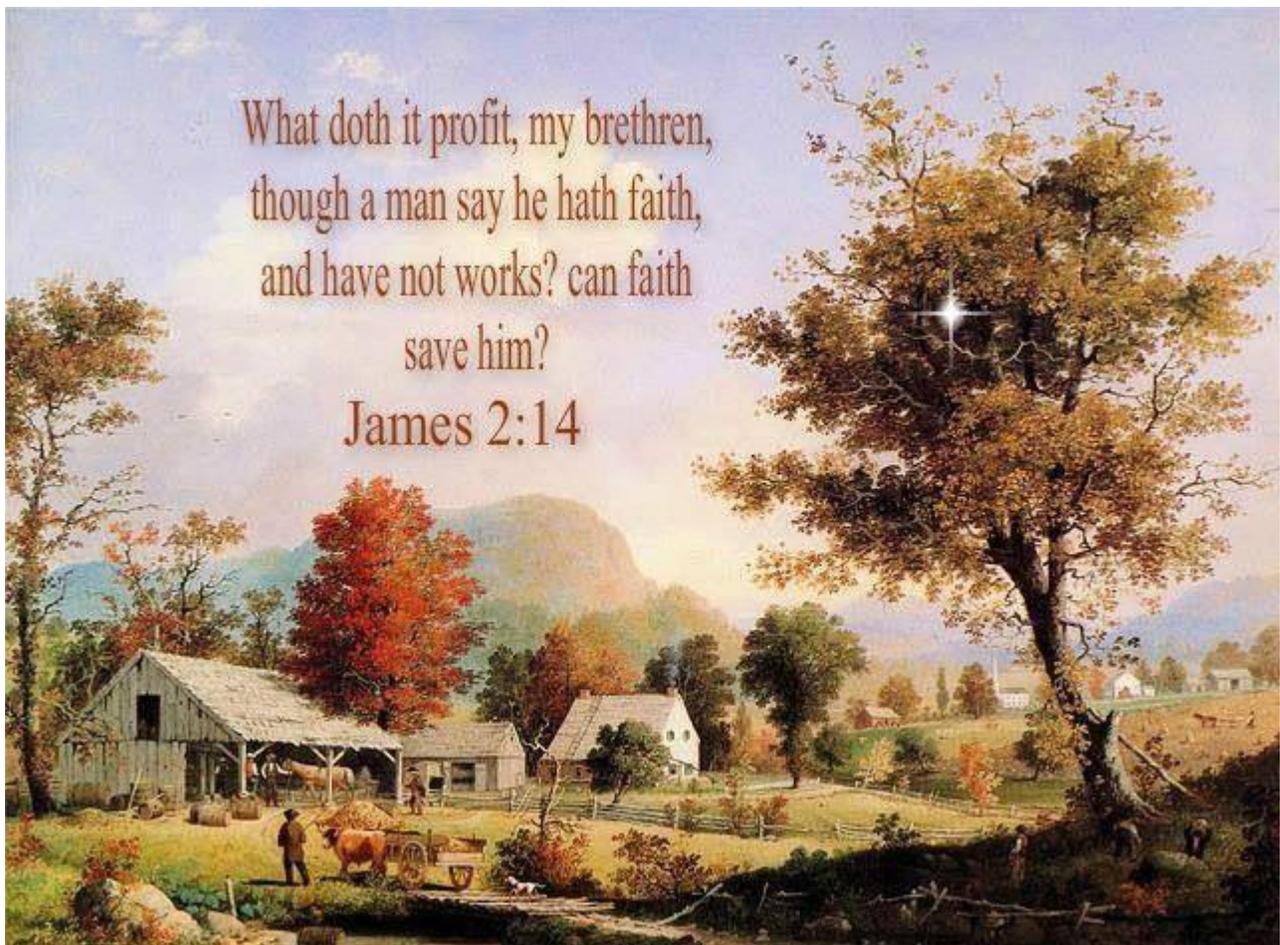


Kingdom by respond to human need by loving service. God wants our lives to overflow with mercy, love, and compassion the marks of His kingdom. As followers of Jesus, we have a choice: respond to unsettling realities in fear and withdraw, or follow Him in responding to the greatest needs of our day with 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 28, 2021 – On-line Service

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@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