

# LONG POINT BAY PARISH

## WEEKLY NEWS

FRIDAY January 21 - 2022

### Finding God in difficult moments



My last article to HCN was buoyed by my enthusiasm for upcoming Christmas celebrations: an outdoor community carol service was about to take place, we were watching the RSVPs for our six Christmas services fill up, and a great deal of positive energy was building as we looked forward to welcoming both familiar and new faces over the holiday season.

Chalk it up to what a ministry colleague of mine has called “the great 2021 year of the muddle,” but none of these hopes ended up coming to fruition. At least, not in the ways that we had imagined them.

Our community carol service was envisioned as an opportunity to host local families and children in a safe, outdoor setting. Our congregation had made quite an investment to plan the event: costs included buying over 3000 Christmas lights, hiring an electrician to automate our light displays, purchasing candy canes, Timbits, and hot chocolate for 250 people and then a number of donated costs such as bringing in a portable stage, lighting equipment, a generator, outdoor fireworks and I’m sure I’ve missed an item or two. St. George’s boldly invested thousands of dollars in an idealized community event.... and then disaster struck!

On December 11, the date planned for our outdoor family event, 100 km/hour winds tore through the Blue Mountains, blowing over chairs and knocking out our lights. Freezing rain and sleet poured down on our volunteers as we attempted to set up for our event. An hour before the service I found myself despairing – there was no way that anyone was going to show up. In fact, it wouldn’t be safe to host the service anymore. After so many disappointments in 2021, this final blow was crushing – even for this optimistic priest!.

In the moment when I had decided to give up on this event, suddenly something unexpected happened: despite the winds, sleet and snow, car lights began to flood into our parking lot. At first it was the faithful members of our choir, and then the members of the two additional choirs we had invited to join us. These were joined by St. George’s volunteers who showed up unperturbed by the abysmal weather and asking: where can we help? Lastly, both parishioners and community guests began to trickle in. All in all, they numbered more than 70 participants.

I was both deeply moved and shocked to see so many people huddling together in the middle of this storm waiting for me to make a decision on what to do going forward. And so, I prayed: God, what would you have us do? The response that immediately came to me was this: pivot!

Rallying both guests and volunteers we moved into the church building, spreading out however we could safely be socially distanced: in the parish hall, in the sanctuary, in the chancel and in the hallways in between. I watched as kindness and patience prevailed,

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### January/February Readings



SUNDAY	Scripture	Psalm	1st Reading	2nd Reading
Second Sunday after the Epiphany January 16, 2022 ART – PRAYER	Isaiah 62:1-5	Psalm 36:5-10	1 Corinthians 12:1-11	John 2:1-11
Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 23, 2022 ART – PRAYER	Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10	Psalm 19	1 Corinthians 12:12-31a	Luke 4:14-21
Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany January 30, 2022 ART – PRAYER	Jeremiah 1:4-10	Psalm 71:1-6	1 Corinthians 13:1-13	Luke 4:21-30
Presentation of the Lord February 2, 2022 ART – PRAYER	Malachi 3:1-4	Psalm 84 or Psalm 24:7-10	Hebrews 2:14-18	Luke 2:22-40
Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany February 6, 2022 ART – PRAYER	Isaiah 6:1-8, (9-13)	Psalm 138	1 Corinthians 15:1-11	Luke 5:1-11
Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany February 13, 2022 ART – PRAYER	Jeremiah 17:5-10	Psalm 1	1 Corinthians 15:12-20	Luke 6:17-26
Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany February 20, 2022 ART – PRAYER	Genesis 45:3-11, 15	Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40	1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50	Luke 6:27-38
Transfiguration Sunday February 27, 2022 (Last Sunday before Lent) ART – PRAYER	Exodus 34:29-35	Psalm 99	2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2	Luke 9:28-36, (37-43a)

#### IN CHURCH

Suspended until further notice



#### ONLINE

SUNDAY January 23 2022

Anytime

Service of the Word



<http://www.parishoflongpointbay.com/events.html> or

<https://www.facebook.com/parishoflongpoint/>



1. Name the place where Jesus walked on water?
2. Name the city where Jesus was born?
3. Who did God tell to build an ark?

Find the answers in this newspaper and



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For the week beginning Sunday January 23, 2022, we will be praying for our Long Point Bay Parish, specially for our family of the church of St. John's Woodhouse.

Tom and Michelle Bayne, Mark and Charlette Boercamp, Rodney and Collen Bradshaw, Sylvia Bruley, Iris Brunning, James Christison, Heather Chwastiak, Virginia Drayson, Mary Field, George Field, Debby Field, Dale Fitkowski, Don and Anne Gagan, John and Bridget Gagan-Harriott, Siobhan Gagan- Harriott, Sheila Hastie, Erica Hastie.

For our Bishop Todd and Rev. Rick and family, Rev. Jack Cox and family, Rev. Paul Sherwood, Fr. Enrique and Family.

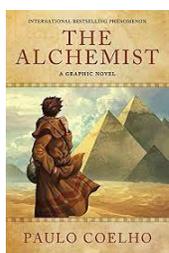


### What's coming

Day	
Sunday Jan 23	Vestry meeting St. John's Port Rowan 10 A.M. By Zoom
Sunday Jan 30	Memorial, Port Ryerse Vestry Meeting 10:30 AM. & St. John's Woodhouse vestry meeting 1:00 PM
Tuesday Feb 2	BRANT-NORFOLK CLERICUS All Saints – Mt. Pleasant 9:30 AM

### Recommended Book

#### The Alchemist (1988)



The Alchemist is a psychological novel, or so it would like you to think. Paulo Coelho tells the story of a Spanish shepherd who creates his own personal legend through his Andalusian travels in Egypt. The story propounds the "philosophy" that people only discover themselves when they understand how to listen.

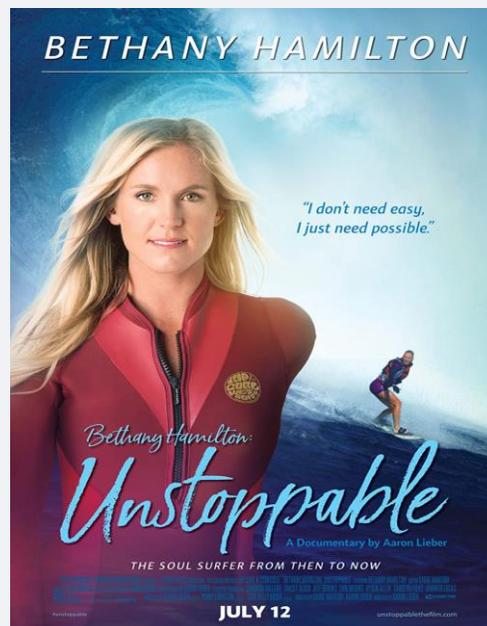
But don't listen to us, listen to the alchemist: "Alchemy is the projection in the material world of all spiritual concepts. Not only laboratory work but also that inner, personal chemistry, whose lab becomes our life itself. If we are faithful to what I call the 'Personal Legend', the whole world changes and the things we touch will also turn into the philosophical gold."

by Paulo Coelho

Fr. Enrique

### Recommended Movie

#### Bethany Hamilton: Unstoppable



Since Netflix pulled Soul Surfer, the dramatic Christian movie based on the inspiring true story of Bethany Hamilton, it's since replaced the movie with Hamilton's 2019 documentary. Bethany Hamilton: Unstoppable is about the young surfer's life after the shark attack that seemingly defined her—spoiler alert: It didn't. As much as faith and prayer was a thematic element in Soul Surfer, Unstoppable is Hamilton's story of a longing for a happy, healthy marriage, becoming a mother, and her strength and courage both on and off the surf.

#### Blue Miracle (2021)



Starring Jimmy Gonzales, Dennis Quaid, and Anthony Gonzalez, Blue Miracle is the true story about a guardian and his kids finding an unlikely partnership with a boat captain in order to win a fishing competition and save their boys-only orphanage in Mexico. Perhaps you can find faith even out on the water.

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U L O R D R S D H S F M W M H  
L J F Q E Z E G C E Q D I O E  
L O G W G C S R N F A K S D A  
X U A O L Z O E H F X R S S V  
D R O A Z L M Y R O L G T I E  
D U R S L O A M T R E T A W N  
C E Q I W E B N F D N U O S S  
R E J O I C E T S I R H C U D  
E X H L R C B E T G A R O S Q  
F T Q A O Y L Z E A G E S E J  
W X A N I C Z N H L R L V J L  
I T N G A A F E P I E E G I Q  
W I X R K U S R O L A A Y O E  
S P I R I T W I R E T S N Z D  
Q M T E H P O R P E C E E R F

Christ	declare	free
Galilee	Gate	glory
go	God	great
heart	heavens	innocent
Isaiah	Jesus	Lord
miracles	Moses	prophet
prophets	rejoice	release
reward	scroll	soul
Spirit	Water	wisdom
women		

### Bangers and mash with onion gravy

#### STEP 1

Heat the oven to 200C/180C fan/gas 6. Heat the oil in an ovenproof frying pan and gently sizzle the sausages over a medium-high heat for 8-10 mins, turning them, until browned on all sides. Transfer to a plate, then put the butter in the pan and heat until sizzling. Scatter in the onions, stirring them into the butter, then add the thyme sprig, bay and sugar. Give everything a final stir, then put the sausages on top and drizzle over any juices from the plate. Roast everything for 20 mins, turning the sausages halfway through.

#### STEP 2

Meanwhile, make the mash. Tip the potatoes into a pan of cold salted water and bring to the boil, then turn down and simmer for 10-12 mins or until just cooked all the way through (the tip of a knife should slide in easily). Drain in a colander and leave for a minute. Tip the milk into the pan and bring to a simmer, then pass the potatoes through a ricer into the hot milk and mash thoroughly. Once mashed, beat with a wooden spoon or spatula over very low heat, then beat in the butter a few bits at a time. You should have extra-fluffy, smooth mash. Keep it warm.

#### STEP 3

When the sausages are cooked, remove from the oven, turn the oven off and lift the sausages onto a tray. Return them to the oven to keep warm. Put the pan back on the heat and give the roasted onions a stir, they should be sticky and slightly burnt around the edges. Sizzle for a minute or two more to caramelise, then stir in the flour and cook for another minute. Splash in the vinegar, simmer for a minute, then pour over the red wine and soy, and bubble down to a gloopy paste. Pour over the stock and boil for 3-4 mins, or until you have a rich gravy. If you prefer, scoop out the thyme and bay, or just leave it in. Tip into a bowl or gravy jug with a serving spoon for the onions. Bring everything to the table and scoop a big mound of mash onto the middle of each plate, then top with the sausages and gravy.

### INGREDIENTS

1 tbsp sunflower oil  
8 pork sausages (the best quality you can find)  
small knob of butter  
3 small onions, finely sliced  
1 thyme sprig  
1 bay leaf  
pinch of sugar  
1 heaped tsp plain flour  
1 tbsp red wine vinegar  
1 glass red wine  
1 tsp soy sauce  
400ml beef stock made with 1 stock shot or cube

#### **For the mash**

1 kg King Edward potatoes, peeled and cut into large chunks  
100ml whole milk or 50ml milk and 50ml cream  
50g cold butter, diced  
grating of nutmeg



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with neighbours helping seniors into the building, and church volunteers welcoming newcomers out of the cold.

On that night there was a moment that will stick in my mind for years to come. It was the moment when Christmas caroling began to sound from every available crevice in St. George's church. Having been denied the chance to sing for most of the pandemic, it was overwhelming for me to hear the many voices coming together: upstairs, downstairs, young and old.

In our frustration and disappointment, had we made the decision to simply cancel the event we would have missed out on this great blessing. Had we not chosen to pivot in the moment we would have not experienced this beautiful moment of resilience and faithfulness.

While it is true that all of our local families with children (with one exception) chose to stay indoors on that night, and that the event cost the church thousands of dollars to host without even a collection plate being passed around, and that the Timbits and hot chocolate for 250 people never left the trunk of my car, God was still very much in the details of what ended up taking place. God was found in the flexibility of our volunteers and joyfulness of the community gathered around prayer and singing.

And yes, as the December weeks progressed, our in-person Christmas services were all cancelled and replaced with a live streamed worship service hosted by a handful of volunteers. And yes, our family gatherings were limited again this year to very small numbers and households. However, I continued to be amazed at the faithfulness of our church as it pivots with each of these challenges and disappointments. Even in these difficult moments we are seeking God's help to pause, to pray, to reassess and to pivot into new possibilities.

While 2022 may continue to bring us both challenge and hardship, may it also bring us the gifts of flexibility and faithfulness to address them. May God help us all to embrace the spiritual artform of the pivot!

Rev. Dr. [Grayhame Bowcott](#)

### Christian Jokes for Faith-Filled Fun

- **How do you know that atoms are Anglican?** They have mass.



### Answers

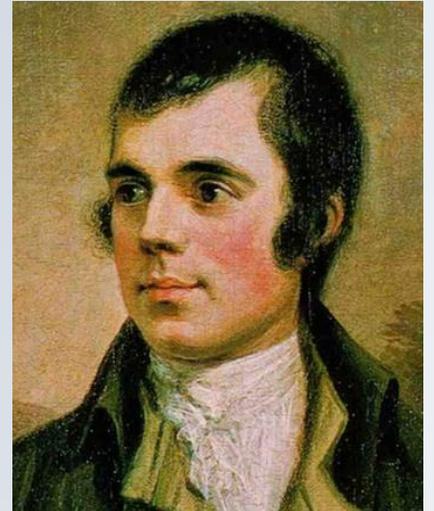
1. Sea of Galilee.
2. Bethlehem.
3. Noah.

Fr. I



## January

Robert Burns



**Born:** January 25, 1759

**Birthplace:** Alloway, Scotland, United Kingdom

**Star Sign:** Aquarius

**Died:** July 21, 1796 (aged 37)

**Biography:** Robert Burns is Scotland's favorite poet and perhaps its most famous son.

Burns' poetry was first published in 1786, his volume "Poems, Chiefly in the Scottish Dialect" brought him wide acclaim.

Burns spent the last ten years of his life collecting, revising and writing traditional Scottish songs and it is with these songs that most of his fame lies.

It is Burns who wrote down and tinkered with "Auld Lang Syne" now traditionally sung on New Year's Eve throughout much of the English-speaking world.

Burns night is now celebrated through the world on the poet's birthday 25th January.

**Cause of Death:** Possible rheumatic heart condition following a dental extraction.