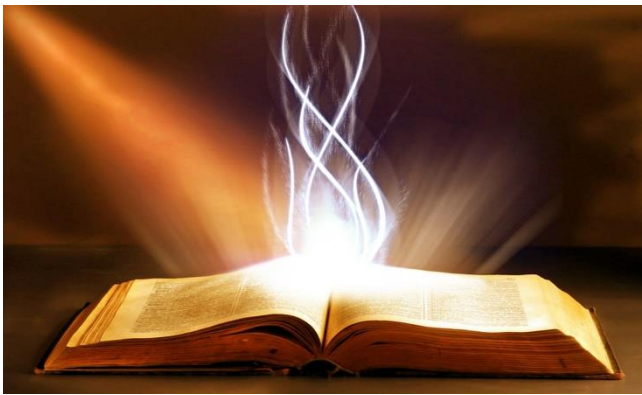




ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

THIS SUNDAY November 13 & BEYOND

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



Let's begin by giving thanks to the power of God's Word in Holy Scriptures. There is nothing more powerful than the Word of God in the Bible. The Collect for this Sunday expresses it so well. 'Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them.' God's Word to us is like proper nourishment to the soul.

We are fed by his Word and we are sustained by His promises. In worship, we hear and read the Word and we are admonished to mark and learn them as well. This is a call to study the Bible outside of worship, at home, in Bible classes, and in our heart. Such study helps us understand what God is saying in Scripture and invites us to see Him in the events of our daily lives.

With this in mind, 2 Thessalonians has some pretty practical advice, worthy of reflection. Apparently, some of the believers had begun to prepare for the end times a bit too early. They were living in idleness, not a tradition that came from Paul. They believed that the coming of Jesus was so near that they had stopped working altogether. Perhaps they were dependent solely on the offerings to the church, devoting themselves to prayer, but not working for their daily bread. Paul reminds them that they didn't learn this from his example: "...with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you" (2 Thessalonians. 3:8). Paul was justly proud of his status as a hard worker. As a tent-maker, he took pride in being self-sufficient, many of the offerings he collected went to help the faithful in Jerusalem, suffering from drought.

Serving God and His mission is just as important today. We should not be idle for the work of the Gospel continues still. Jesus said, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few” (Matthew 9:37). Indeed, in the 21st Century, there is much work to be done in sharing God’s Word and the message of salvation in His Son, Jesus Christ. So many, young and old, have fallen away from the faith, often replacing the Good News with emptiness and even despair. Together, we share the essential calling to bring a message of hope to those who need to hear it. It is a blessing to serve the Lord this way.

Fr. Steven Schuneman, Retired Priest in the Diocese of San Diego

Readings for this Sunday

Malachi 3:13-4:2a, 5-6 Psalm 98:5-10 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13 Luke 21:5-19

Calendar

SUNDAY: 8:00a Low Mass (Church)
9:30a Christian Formation (Resumes on Sunday, November 20)
10:30a Solemn Mass (Church)

—*The entrance to the church is on 6th Avenue*—

Note: Child care is provided at the 8:00a, 10:30a Mass, Coffee Hour & Fellowship follow the Mass in the Parish Hall.

MONDAY 7:00p (AA) Doctors’ Group (Fireside Room)

TUESDAY: Noon Mass (St. Mary’s Chapel)

FRIDAY: 9:00a Morning Prayer (St. Mary’s Chapel)

9:30a MASS (St. Mary’s Chapel)

AA Meeting 6:30p Rainbow Bridge (Fireside Room)

8:00p Ladies’ Group (Fireside Room)

8:15p Men’s Group (Parish Hall)

An Anglo-Catholic Parish in the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego
www.allsaintschurch.org