



ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

"Our mission is to bring the good news of Jesus Christ's love to our entire community through traditional Anglo-Catholic worship, fellowship, outreach, and Christian formation."

Our Vision: *"We strive to be a haven of healing, reconciliation, joy and peace in service to our wider community and beyond, so that our example in prayer and practice may reflect Christ's love for us all."*

THE DAY OF PENTECOST – WHITSUNDAY

May 23 & Beyond

United in Diversity?



The topic of diversity has been at the forefront in the media for decades now. The social movements promoting the equal rights of all human beings despite their different gender, ethnicity, national origin, social status, ideology, beliefs, and even sexual orientation, have shaken, and are still shaking the nation and the world, and rightly so, because any kind of discrimination that makes people suffer must be opposed and done away with.

As Christians, we advocate for the elimination of these unjust divisions and the reason why we do it is ingrained in the very essence of our faith. We passionately believe that we are all sons and daughters of a loving Father, and therefore all brothers and sisters. We also believe that it is one and the same Spirit that sustains us all, as Paul states in his first letter to the Corinthians. The particular gifts that the Spirit gives to each person are the blessings that keep the community functioning properly, just as the different members in the body.

The notion of unity in diversity is as old as Paul's writings, and even older, because the story of Creation has it that we are all derived from one couple, created in God's image and likeness.

Lately this notion has been accepted and propounded by science, in the theory of the beginning of all that exists. The theory states it all started with a single indistinct particle, and this diverse universe has gradually evolved from it.

We should all be happy that there is such a clear understanding of this notion at present. But how does that reflect in our human relationships with others?

Sadly, at this very moment, there is a horrendous war going on in the Middle East, the same place where Jesus walked and proclaimed his all-inclusive message of unconditional love. More than 20 centuries later, people still kill one another in the name of territorial rights and even religious differences.

The panorama may look somewhat better where there are no actual wars going on, but the sad fact is that hatred due to intolerance and bigotry still abound in most parts of the world.

We may grasp the notion of unity in diversity with our minds, and even agree to its truth and logic, but what is needed is a radical change of heart in each person, in each community: a real embrace of the Way of Love that God's Son proclaimed while on earth, with His words and deeds, and that we, His followers, have been entrusted to carry on.

The Spirit that filled Jesus' followers on Pentecost and broke the national and linguistic barriers that separated those present, so that the message of salvation could be preached to all, is the same Spirit that gave rise to the Christian church and keeps it alive even to this day.

We need to ask the Holy Spirit fervently, continually, to fill our lives with the unity that blesses all diversity and makes us be united in one and the same purpose: to make His Word soak the earth like loving rain so that the abundant fruits of love can be reaped.

Fr. Carlos E. Expósito, Rector

Readings for this Sunday – The Day of Pentecost: Whitsunday

Acts 2:1-11 Psalm 33:12-15, 18-22 1 Corinthians 12:4-13 John 14:8-17

CALENDAR

Note: We are worshipping in our historic church. The service will also be on Zoom.
The service time is 10am.

SUNDAY The Day of Pentecost: Whitsunday
10:00am Mass in All Saints' Church
Join Zoom Meeting from our web site at www.allsaintschurch.org
Recording of Mass available before noon at www.allsaintschurch.org

TUESDAY Noon Mass in All Saints' courtyard

FRIDAY 10:00am Morning Prayer in All Saints' Courtyard

SUNDAY The First Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity Sunday
10:00am Mass in All Saints' Church
Join Zoom Meeting from our web site at www.allsaintschurch.org
Recording of Mass available before noon at www.allsaintschurch.org