



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."*

THIS SUNDAY — November 14 Beyond

Confidence in the Midst of Tribulation



Last Sunday we celebrated the Feast of All Saints, and the common denominator among these persons, who were just ordinary people like you and me, but were chosen by Christ to be His life-giving witnesses on earth, was their great endurance of tribulation, and even martyrdom in most cases, thanks to their never-failing faith and confidence in Christ's

promise to be with them, upholding, guiding, and encouraging them against all sufferings, till the very end of time.

The writer of the letter to the Hebrews addresses a community of converts from Judaism, where there is constant clash with the traditional beliefs and practices, and in many cases they are persecuted, plundered, and even sent to prison for following Jesus' New Way. The pressure upon these new converts was so great, especially because there was even division within the families, that some of them gave in and shrank back from Jesus' Way of Love.

In our modern society, belonging to this or that religion, or to none, may seem a secondary matter to many. This is why it may not be easy for us to understand what it meant for a Jew to be excommunicated from the synagogue. It was like not belonging to the community anymore. The person was literally considered an outcast.

Remaining faithful and confident to the New Way for those people really demanded great courage, and also needed a lot of support from the new community. That is why the writer of the letter to the Hebrews praised those who gave solidarity and support to the ones who suffered persecution and prison.

As modern Christians, we usually do not have to undergo any kind of persecution or prison, and no one can deprive us of our material goods. There are still places in the world where this happens though, and people have been martyred for their Christian witness in countries where religious intolerance is still the normal practice.

However, we modern Christians are now facing what seems to be the greatest wave of religious indifference in society. Indifference may seem harmless, but it is the hardest obstacle to the spread of the Good News. This modern secular indifference is like an anesthesia that makes people be in a constant God-unconscious state of mind. And it is really hard to break through it.

This may lead us to doubt the worthiness of our message, or if it still makes any sense. The recent pandemic, which imposed so many restrictions to churches, was also a great blow against the spread of Christ's Good News, but it also made us more creative and we had to reinvent our ways of being Christ's Body for the world.

Doubt, fear, disillusionment, lack of confidence and faith, may have been and will sometimes be part of our feelings as we endeavor to carry out Christ's salvific mission in this highly secularized world of ours. The Saints of all ages may have shared some of those feelings at some point, as they were engaged in their hard faith-sharing mission in the world.

But let us not fear, the task has been entrusted to us, not because we are remarkable or special, but because the Holy Spirit will certainly support and enable us.

As the writer of the letter to the Hebrews puts it, "We are not among those who shrink back and so are lost, but among those who have faith and are so saved."

Fr. Carlos E. Expósito, Rector

Readings for this Sunday – The Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Daniel 12:1-4a Psalm 16:5-11 Hebrews 10:31-39 Mark 13:14-23

CALENDAR

Note: We are worshipping in our historic church. The service will also be on Zoom. The service time is 10am. Tuesday Noon Mass and Friday Morning Prayer are held in All Saints' St. Mary Chapel.

SUNDAY The Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost
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
Christian Formation and First Communion Instruction for Children
Ages 5-12 in the Parish Hall from 10:00am-10:45am
Christian Formation gathering at 11:30am in the Rector's study
Annual Arts and Crafts Show and Sale with Food and Music 9am to 2pm

TUESDAY Noon Mass in St. Mary Chapel

WEDNESDAY Spanish Classes 5:30pm to 7:30pm in the Parish Hall taught by Fr. Carlos Expósito

FRIDAY 10:00am Morning Prayer in St. Mary's Chapel

SUNDAY The Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost
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
Christian Formation and First Communion Instruction for Children
Ages 5-12 in the Parish Hall from 10:00am-10:45am

OUR CORE VALUES:

- Welcoming Strangers like Old Friends
- Embracing the Anglo-Catholic tradition
- Being Dependable Members of a Caring Community
- Respecting Each Other's Differences
- Being Faithful Stewards of God's Gift
- Remembering that God Loves Everyone Unconditionally

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