



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 13 & Beyond

Earn Your Own Living



“Anyone unwilling to work should not eat” may look like a communist slogan. In fact it has been used by communists to prompt people to work

hard and earn their own living, even when the main leaders do not usually apply the saying to themselves. But these words are actually taken from Paul’s Second Letter to the Thessalonians.

The saying probably predates Paul by centuries, since in the Jewish tradition, and also in the tradition of most cultures, people who were simply unwilling to work and live on others’ toil were not well seen. They were the parasites of society, rejected by everyone.

In more modern times, even capitalist societies, mainly under the influence of Calvinism, have always encouraged labor and busyness as the only way to make real material progress in life.

Jesus Himself was a carpenter by trade, and most of his closest followers were fishermen. Although the Gospels tell us about them going from town to town carrying the Good News, healing the sick, and feeding the multitudes both materially and spiritually, we do not know for sure that during all this time they did not do any work to earn their living.

Actually, they did a lot of work. Even if it was not carpentry or fishing, they practically had no time to rest, and on several occasions when they tried to find some solace by going to a quiet place, the multitudes found them, and they had to minister to those in need.

As Jesus Himself said, “the worker is worthy of his wages”, so He considered that it was only natural that people who received the disciples in their homes gave them food and shelter.

Paul was aware of this, and in this second letter to the Thessalonians he said, “with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate.”

He is clearly stating that he and his companions had the right to receive food and shelter from them because of the ministry they were performing, but they preferred to earn their own living through hard work, to give them an example of how to act as true followers of Christ.

Some of the new converts to Christianity at Thessalonica had misunderstood Paul’s message about Christ’s coming and, since Paul himself had hinted that it would be taking place soon, they had decided to be idle and simply wait for Christ’s coming. They saw no purpose in working or carrying out their usual activities anymore.

What these followers did not realize was that by so behaving they were imposing a burden on the rest and living as parasites, which was never Christ’s teaching.

Loving our neighbors does not by any means imply letting them live on us, unless they are people who cannot work, due to advanced age or disability.

A society based on Christian principles must provide for the elderly and the disabled. As Christians we should do all we can to help those who cannot work, but we should not encourage those who are able to work to live on us. A society that does that is not really helping anyone but creating a serious problem: the proliferation of parasites.

The best way to help others is, whenever possible, to restore them to their physical and mental health so that they can earn their own living. Programs that aim to do this are needed more than ever in our society.

As Paul pointed out to the Thessalonians, we should not be “weary in doing what is right.”

The Rev. Carlos Expósito

Readings for the Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

Malachi 3:13-14:2a Thessalonians 3:16-13 Psalm 98:5-10 Luke 21:5-19

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-third 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

Join us today, November 13 for the Annual Fall Arts and Crafts Show and Sale with music and food in the Parish Hall from 9am to 2pm.

Christian Formation and First Communion Instruction for Children

Ages 5-12 in the Parish Hall from 10:00am-10:45am

Christian Formation every second and fourth Sunday of the month at Noon. For November only, Christian Formation will be on the first and fourth Sundays. Topic: Communicating with God Rector's Study

TUESDAY Noon Mass in St. Mary Chapel

THURSDAY Spanish Class 1:00pm to 3:00pm in the Flower Room. Taught by Fr. Carlos

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

SUNDAY The Twenty-four 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

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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