



# 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 — September 24 & Beyond

### “Fruitful Labor for the Lord “



We all love to see the fruit of our labor, whether it is in currency or in finished works. When we put our time and effort into something, we also need to believe that it has not been in vain, and that some benefit for ourselves and also for others will come out of it.

Our measure of the value of our work, however, will not always coincide with God's view. We need to remember that God's thoughts are not our thoughts, and what we may consider irrelevant or even contrary to logic may be of great value in God's all-loving plan for His creation.

This has a lot of bearing for Christians, if we are to be real followers of Jesus' Way, which is also God's Way. When choosing an occupation or career, we must look not only at the face value of it in terms of monetary profit, but we must also ponder on how our labor will align with God's will for all humankind and all creatures.

Fruitful labor for the Lord must not be measured in terms of human prestige or standing either. Occupations that are often looked down upon—like sanitation work, for instance—are of great value for the cleanliness and health of the human communities and the planet and must be so acknowledged by all who follow Jesus' Way of Love.

When it comes to spiritual work—like evangelization, preaching, healing, and education in the faith—we need to rethink our patterns of hierarchies, and measure the fruitfulness of the work in terms of how our labor serves the Lord's Great Commission of taking the Good News of Salvation to the rest of the world.

We are used to concepts that work well for us in the labor world, like equal pay for equal work, and pay according to the time worked. These are considered to be the fairest ways of paying for human labor.

When it comes to laboring for God's Kingdom, nevertheless, we may find that God's Way may differ from our ways of looking at things.

The only thing that was ever said to try to define the undefinable God was "God is love." Love is marked by unlimited generosity, so our Lord and Creator does not really care if we come to labor for His Kingdom before or after, or since when we have been doing it. His invitation to join in the most sacred and rewarding of labors is for all, at any time, for as long as we can.

And the reward is not measured in money or even products, but in ever-growing communion with Him and with all who labor for making God's Reign of Love a reality. And this is the greatest of rewards anyone can ever receive.

When Jonah was reluctantly obeying God's command to preach repentance to Nineveh, the great sinning city, he could not share in the joy of their repentance—in the fruit of his labor—simply because his inner grudge towards these people did not allow him to really join in God's fruitful labor. And this sadly prevented him from receiving the reward God was willing to give him.

St. Paul says in his letter to the Philippians that he is hard pressed between choosing departing from this world to be with the Lord (which he considers the greater good) and remaining in the flesh to continue his evangelizing work. But he concludes that remaining in the flesh is God's will for him at the moment, for the sake of the new converts' progress and joy in the faith.

Assessing the fruitfulness of our labor from the perspective of God's life-giving love for all is always the best measure.

Fr. Carlos E. Expósito, Rector

## Weekly Calendar Sunday, September 24, 2023 to Saturday, September 30, 2023

Note: On Sundays we continue worshipping in our historic church, except on Tuesdays and Fridays in St. Mary Chapel. The Sunday service will be on Zoom. **To join the Zoom Meeting** click [here](#).

### **SUNDAY: The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost**

10:00am Mass in the church  
Join Zoom Meeting Click [here](#).

10:00am to 10:45am — Christian Formation and First Communion Instruction for children ages 5-12 in the Parish Hall taught by Lucretia Locke.

Christian Formation - Meets in September on Sunday, the 24th at noon in the Rector's Office. Book Study: "God's Secretaries: The Making of the King James Bible"

Confirmation Classes meet the first Sunday of every month May through October at noon in the Rector's Office. · If you wish to attend these Confirmation Classes please contact Fr. Carlos—619-298-7729 or [rector@allsainschurch.org](mailto:rector@allsainschurch.org) Confirmation will be on Sunday, November 5 at the 10am Mass. Bishop Snook will confirm the candidates.

**TUESDAY:** Noon -- Mass in All Saints' St. Mary Chapel

**THURSDAY:** Spanish class is held in the Rector's office from 1:00pm to 3:00pm. Taught by Fr. Carlos.

**FRIDAY:** 10:00am - Morning Prayer in All Saints' Mary Chapel

To activate Zoom you need to click on the link above and zoom will download and put you in the meeting. If you have a camera and microphone they can interact in the meeting. The meeting is setup to not auto turn on your camera. You will need to make that decision.

Otherwise it will be on YouTube - a video you can listen and watch. Here is the link  
<https://www.youtube.com/@allsaintsepiscopalchurch-s4030/videos>