



# ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

## THIS SUNDAY November 20 & BEYOND



Great West Window – Christ the King  
All Saints' Episcopal Church

Jesus Christ is King of Kings, and Lord of Lords. No earthly power can match or supplant the place of Jesus Christ in our lives. Sometimes, we need to be reminded that the heavenly Jerusalem is so much greater than anything we see on this earth. Jesus Christ is the restorer of the Kingdom of God, the deliverer of God's grace, love and forgiveness.

That is so easy to see in his triumphant entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord!" The palm branches waving in the breeze, together with the garments carefully spread on his way, are visual cues of our understanding of his reign in our hearts. For a moment in time, it looks as though all things have come together in the one we call 'Son of God.'

Yet, the gospel reading tells a different story. On Christ the King Sunday, we hear words, not from Palm Sunday, but from Good Friday. We are taken to the Place of the Skull, when we'd rather be standing at the entrance to the Holy City. It may seem strange at first, but on reflection, it is 'meet and right.' For it is here that we come to understand the full meaning of Christ the King. It is Christ on the cross, stripped, beaten, and dying, that reaches out to us in love: "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." We reject the One who embraces us. How can this be?

The Church made an important decision to place the cross at the center of our faith and worship. We don't hide it, we don't deny it, we raise it up. When it passes before us, we bow our heads: "So that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father," (Phil. 2:10-11). The Risen Christ, proceeding from the Cross, brings together the images of sacrifice and exaltation, all in one moment.

Frederich Buechner said, “The Gospel is bad news before it is Good News. It is a speaking of the truth of the way things are.” It is sadly moving to hear these words in our gospel reading. To listen to the laughter of the crowd, the jeers of the leaders, “He saved others, let him save himself, if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!” (Luke 23:35). I sense the gathering darkness, even in the midday sun, as Jesus suffers for our sins. Before he gives up his spirit, he is mocked by one of the criminals that hang with him. “Save yourself and us!” (23:39). But, it is from the other condemned man who will not hear of it and implores our Lord, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom,” (23:42). And from the cross, Jesus offers a final absolution, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.” (23:43).

And so, our King and Savior now draws near, as we come to see the Kingdom of God from the Cross of Christ.

- The Rev. Steven L. Schuneman  
Priest in the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego

## Readings for this Sunday

Jeremiah 23:1-6 Psalm 46 Colossians 1:11-20 Luke 23:35-43

## Calendar

SUNDAY: 8:00a Low Mass (Church)  
9:30a Christian Formation (Fireside Room)  
10:30a Solemn Mass (Church)  
—*The entrance to the church is on 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue*—  
*Note: Child care is provided at the 8:00a, 10:30a Mass, Coffee Hour & Fellowship follow the Mass in the Parish Hall.*  
2:00p Grossmont Symphony String and Wind Quintets Concert

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

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

THURSDAY 10:00a Thanksgiving Day — Sung Mass with Hymns

FRIDAY: AA Meeting  
6:30p Rainbow Bridge (Fireside Room)  
8:00p Ladies’ Group (Fireside Room)  
8:15p Men’s Group (Parish Hall)

## Upcoming Event



This Sunday afternoon at 2:00pm a concert by the **Grossmont Symphony Woodwind and String Quintets** featuring repertoire by Carl Nielsen (1865-1931) who was Denmark's most prominent composer; by Georges Onslow, a prolific French composer of chamber music ; and by Gustav Helsted (1857-1924), a Danish organist and composer. To get a sense of what a delightful concert this will be, do a search for the composers on YouTube. For example: Carl Nielsen wind quintet.

General Admission: Adult — \$10, Student — \$5

An Anglo-Catholic Parish in the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego  
[www.allsaintschurch.org](http://www.allsaintschurch.org)