



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 June 14 & BEYOND

ENABLED THROUGH GRACE



We tend to believe that only the ablest can be given the crucial tasks, or something will inevitably go wrong. Though this may be true when we deal with everyday businesses, even so the success of a task does not depend entirely on the performer's capacity to carry it out, but also on their commitment, on their perseverance, and their trust that it will be accomplished because it is needed. It so happens that less able people are oftentimes more trustworthy than those who are very able but lack the needed commitment and trust.

God's infinite Grace is something that never ceases to amaze us. When we think of the reason why the Israelites were chosen by God to be His priestly people, His holy nation, we do not really find any particularly attractive quality that would make them good candidates for this honor. From the very beginning, right after they have witnessed God's powerful saving acts in their favor, they started to complain and

many said that they would rather go back to their servitude in Egypt than go through the ordeals that the new freedom posed for them. Even so, God insisted that if they kept the covenant whose initiative was God's, they would be His Holy nation for the whole world.

And then we come to the choosing of the twelve apostles by Jesus. Who were these people? Were they prominent elders? Scribes? Prophets? None of that. Most of them were fishermen. One of them was a tax collector, an occupation that was greatly despised by the Jews. Another was a radical violent opposer to the Roman Empire. In the end, Jesus was betrayed by one of them.

Perhaps it was precisely because they were not prominent men in the society that Jesus chose them. Their minds were not so infected by the 'establishment' of the time. They were more malleable, so to speak. But even after they had spent time with Jesus and had received the Grace to show the sure signs of God's Kingdom, they still faltered and failed. They failed at the crucial time. They could not keep watch with Jesus before His arrest. They were disbanded after His arrest. Peter, trying to be faithful and follow his master during the trial, ended up denying Him as Jesus had predicted.

But the Resurrected Lord did not discard these people. He knows of our human weaknesses and failures. He also knows about the power of Grace. He did not choose them because they were the ablest. He chose them because He knew His Grace would empower them to carry out the mission He had entrusted them with. And when the Holy Spirit filled them, they were unstoppable. Not even the threat to lose their physical lives could deter them.

So it happens with each and everyone of us. The making of God's Kingdom started centuries ago, and it is still going on. God needs laborers for His harvest. He needs us. What are we to think? That we do not possess the necessary qualities to take part in His work? History has given us enough proof that those that have done the most for the making of His Kingdom are not necessarily the ablest, but the ones who really commit and are willing to love and serve without expecting anything in return. Those are the true saints.

God does not choose those who are able. He enables those He chooses. All we need to do is let His powerful Spirit fill us with His enabling Grace.

Fr. Carlos E. Expósito, Rector

Readings for this Sunday – The Second Sunday after Pentecost
Exodus 19:2-8 Psalm 100 Romans 5:6-11 Matthew 9:35-10:8-15

CALENDAR

SUNDAY: The Second Sunday after Pentecost
All Saints' Sunday 9am Service
Join Zoom Meeting from our web site at www.allsaintschurch.org

TUESDAY Noon Service
Join Zoom Meeting from our web site at www.allsaintschurch.org

FRIDAY Christian Formation Study at noon
Join Zoom Meeting from our web site at www.allsaintschurch.org

SUNDAY **The Third Sunday in Lent**
8:00am Low Mass (Church)
10:30am Solemn Mass (Church)