



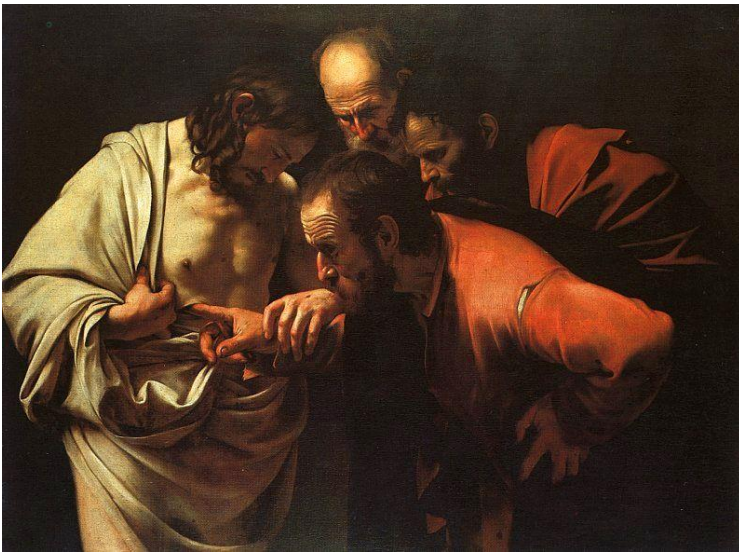
ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

"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."*

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER April 11 & Beyond

Not with the Water Only, but with the Water and the Blood



Jesus was a great teacher, probably the greatest of teachers ever. What the Christian faith is based on, however, is not solely Jesus' great teachings, like the ones in the

Sermon of the Mount, and His extraordinary parables, which result in a totally renewed vision of the essential spiritual values that humankind must heed.

It is not even based solely on Jesus' exemplary ministry on earth, a ministry of healing, reconciliation and feeding, of accepting and including, during which He showed His followers that His radical, all-inclusive Way of Love is the only way to abundant life, the way to God's life.

What our Christian faith promises us is based mainly on Jesus Christ's victory over the dark powers of the world, whether visible or invisible, including sin and death. Jesus could not be retained by death in the tomb. If that had been the case, we would have had a great spiritual teacher who did great wonders during his lifetime, but nothing else.

But God raised Him from physical death. The dark unjust powers that plotted His mock trial and condemned Him to crucifixion did not have the last word. God's love did. He who is God's life in Himself could not remain dead. As paradoxical as it may sound, He willingly underwent this cruel and unjust death in order to defeat its power, not only for Himself, but for us all.

By raising Him from the dead, God has not only shown that His loving power cannot be mocked or defeated, but that true life is a new kind of life, a resurrected life, a life lived in the abundance of God's unrestricted love; a life that transcends time and space and embraces each and every one of us everywhere and at every time in history.

In 1 John, the writer, referring to our Lord Jesus Christ, clearly states, "this is the one who came by water and blood" ... "not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth."

It is clear that the writer of this letter understands that Jesus came not only for enlightenment, which he received abundantly from the Holy Spirit, made manifest to Him in the waters of His baptism in the Jordan River, but as the Redeemer of the world, as the one who would free us from the dark powers of evil, sin, and death. And the only way to achieve this was through His self-sacrifice on the cross.

He did not reject the unjust and cruel death, the shedding of His own blood, but accepted it as a living sacrifice to do away, through His glorious resurrection, with the power of sin and death upon us all. And the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of truth, testified this to His followers then, as it testifies it now and in all times.

He has left us the two main sacraments that remind us of this great truth: Baptism in water as our weaving into His Body, the Church, and the Holy Eucharist, as our continual nourishment in His life, and our participation in His loving sacrifice.

May we always remember that our resurrected Lord and Savior came not only to enlighten us, but mainly, and above us, to redeem us through His sacrificial death, and let us be faithful partakers in His loving sacrifice.

Fr. Carlos E. Expósito, Rector

Readings for this Sunday – The Second Sunday after Easter

Acts 3:12a, 13-15, 17-26 Psalm 118:19-24 1 John 5:1-6 John 20:19-31

CALENDAR

Note: We are worshipping in our historic church. The service will also be on Zoom.
The service time is 10am.

SUNDAY Second Sunday of Easter 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

TUESDAY Noon Mass in All Saints' courtyard

FRIDAY Morning Prayer in All Saints' courtyard 10:00am

SUNDAY Third Sunday of Easter 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