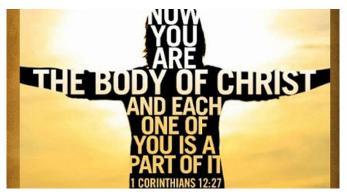


"Our mission is to bring the good news of Jesus Christ's love to our entire community through traditional Anglo-Catholic worship, fellowship, outreach, and Christian formation."

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 — January 23 & Beyond

"Members of One Body"



In his First Letter to the Corinthians, Chapter 12, the Apostle Paul makes use of a clever and appropriate analogy to refer to the Assembly of the saints, the nascent Christian Church.

It is hard to imagine the great diversity and numerous contradictions that the new converts in such an important cosmopolitan

city as Corinth displayed.

Many of these people came from a pagan background, where different deities were worshiped, while others were Jews. They also had different social backgrounds and philosophical views. Some may have been wealthy, and some extremely poor. Some may have been slaves.

Paul starts this section of the letter (verse 12) by reminding them that all—regardless of any social or national differences--were baptized in one Spirit and into one Body, which is Christ the Lord.

Then he uses this remarkable analogy with the human body to refer to the Church as Christ's Body. This analogy serves Paul to highlight some points which he considers crucial in the understanding of each person's role within the Church.

First, he stresses the need of diversity within the body. Each member is different and has a specific function to fulfill, and a body can only function properly if it has all these diverse members doing their functions in a harmonious way.

He also points to the fact that in the body no member can work without the rest, and they are all indispensable. If one of them is not present, the body can no longer function properly as such.

Finally, he makes it clear that it is essential to care for all members in the body, for if one of them suffers, the rest suffer as well.

Through this analogy, Paul is encouraging the converts at Corinth to consider that each of them has an essential mission to accomplish, according to the gifts that the Spirit has bestowed on each, and that no one is superior or inferior to another.

Likewise, he insists in the need to care for one another within the community, and to be mindful of keeping the necessary unity, in spite of the diversity that exists in all congregations.

Self-centeredness and arrogance can only destroy the Church, just as the cells that want to grow and reproduce for themselves, and no longer work in harmony with the rest, become cancerous cells and can lead to the death of the organism.

At the end of this section (ending in verse 31a) Paul encourages each member of the Church to strive for the greater gifts. And in the section that follows (which is not read this Sunday) he clearly states that among all possible gifts of the Spirit, no matter how marvelous or attractive they may seem, none can be greater than the gift of Love.

As members of the present-day Church, we can also make good use of this analogy with the human body, and profit from it, by remembering our individual essential roles, and by keeping, above all, the necessary unity in diversity which will make Christ's Church not only remain but grow and expand until its mission has been fulfilled.

Fr. Carlos E. Expósito, Rector

Weekly Calendar Sunday, January 23, 2022 to Sunday, January 30, 2022

Note: We will continue worshipping in our historic church, except on Tuesdays and Fridays when the service is held in All Saints' St. Mary Chapel. The Sunday service will also be on Zoom. **To join the Zoom Meeting click** <u>here</u>.

SUNDAY: The Third Sunday after Epiphany--Bishop Susan Brown Snook's visit to All Saints'

10:00am Mass in the church Join Zoom Meeting Click <u>here</u>.

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

1:00pm -- A Spanish Mass will be held on the first, second, and fourth (and fifth) Sundays each month in St. Mary Chapel .

TUESDAY: Noon Mass in All Saints' St. Mary Chapel followed by a fellowship snack in the Flower Room.

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

FRIDAY:

10:00am Morning Prayer in All Saints' St. Mary Chapel.

SUNDAY: The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany 10:00am Mass in the Church Join Zoom Meeting Click <u>here</u>.

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

11:30am -- Annual Meeting in the Parish Hall

1:00pm -- A Spanish Mass will be held on the first, second, and fourth (and fifth) Sundays each month in St. Mary Chapel.

3:00pm -- Music Coterie Concert "The Brilliance of Youth" in the Parish Hall

NOTE: Christian Formation— A study of "A Concise History of the Book of Common Prayer" meets the second and fourth Sundays of the month in the rector's study and is led by Fr. Carlos. The next meeting is Sunday, February 13.

To activate Zoom you need to click on the link 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 Facebook - a video and you can listen and watch. Easy access to All Saints' Facebook page via our web site at www.allsaintschurch.org