

"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 19 & Beyond

"The Freedom That Faith Confers"



Many a times we hear people (especially the younger generation) say that they consider themselves to be spiritual people, but are not affiliated to any specific Christian denomination simply because they are free thinkers, and do not want to see their freedom constrained.

Every person is free to have an opinion on this view, and it is not my intention to be contentious here. However, there might be some misunderstanding as to what real freedom implies.

From a Christian viewpoint, at least, there can be no real freedom that does not place the love of God, and the love of others, at the very center of our lives.

Real freedom has nothing to do with being whimsical and pleasing yourself all the time, with no regard to the good of others.

What real freedom does is to cast all fear away. What keeps us tied to our belongings, to our emotional attachments, our insatiable want for more, and all other addictions, is

essentially fear.

We fear to lose what we imagine that makes us happy, and these fears can sometimes even lead us to compete fiercely with our fellow human beings, causing hatred that may end up in violent conflicts, including wars.

From the early stages of civilization, it became evident that for society to be preserved, restrictive rules had to be put in place that would make people behave in socially acceptable ways.

The Jewish society was no exception, and their precepts, based on their worship of the One God, guided them to behave in such a way that showed the virtues of mercy, compassion, and justice, among themselves, and also towards strangers and foreigners.

But as Paul says in his letter to the Galatians, "the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God though faith."

In other words, faith in Jesus Christ can make us free of the dependence on restrictive laws to relate to God and to our fellow human beings. What this faith confers to us is a totally new way to relate to our Creator and to others.

When we have a true and deep encounter with Jesus Christ by His Holy Spirit, working in whatever ways He chooses to touch us, whether it is through scripture, someone's preaching, a person sharing their faith story with us, or through the wonder of nature itself, this transforms our lives by making us aware of God's infinite love for us, which triggers a loving response in us, directed towards our Creator, our fellow human beings, and all creatures.

As John the Evangelist puts it in his first letter, "There is no fear in love, but perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not perfect in love."

Real freedom, is, above all, being totally rid of all the fears in your life.

One thing we Christians get to experience, when our faith is mature enough, is that the fears we used to have, based on our attachments, start to fade away as our love of God and of our fellow human beings increases, and we then begin to experience an exhilarating freedom that we cannot help but share with the rest.

This will not prevent us from facing harsh situations or even excruciating pain, but it

will confer to us the freedom that Jesus Christ's Way of Love gives.

True faith in Christ confers the true freedom: the freedom to love as God loves.

Father Carlos E. Expósito

Readings for The Second Sunday after Pentecost Zechariah 12:8-10;13:1 Galatians 3:23-29 Psalm 63:1-8 Luke 9:18-24

CALENDAR

Note: We are worshipping in our historic church. The service will also be on Zoom. The service time is 10am. Tuesday Noon Mass and Friday Morning Prayer are held in All Saints' St. Mary Chapel.

SUNDAY Second Sunday after Pentecost

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

Christian Formation and First Communion Instruction for Children Ages 5-12 in the Parish Hall from 10:00am-10:45am

Christian Formation every second and fourth Sunday of the month at 11:30am Studying *Sacred Earth*, *Sacred Soul* by John Philip Newell Rector's Study

A Spanish Mass will be held on the first, second, fourth (and fifth) Sundays each month at 1pm. Everyone is welcome.

TUESDAY Noon Mass in St. Mary Chapel

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

FRIDAY 10:00am Morning Prayer in St. Mary Chapel

SUNDAY The Third Sunday after Pentecost

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 Christian Formation and First Communion Instruction for Children Ages 5-12 in the Parish Hall from 10:00am-10:45am Christian Formation every second and fourth Sunday of the month at 11:30am Studying Sacred Earth, Sacred Soul by John Philip Newell Rector's Study

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OUR CORE VALUES:

- Welcoming strangers like old friends
- Embracing the Anglo-Catholic tradition
- Being dependable members of a caring community
- Respecting each other's differences
- Being faithful stewards of God's gift
- Remembering that God loves everyone unconditionally