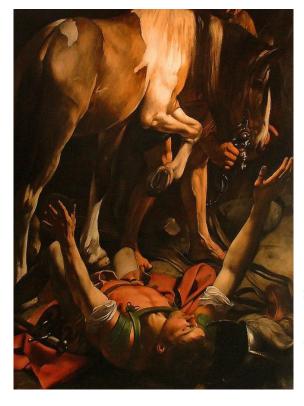


"Our mission is to bring the good news of Jesus Christ's love to our entire community through traditional Anglo-Catholic worship, fellowship, outreach, and Christian formation."

**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 —September 11 & Beyond

"Called to Serve God by His Loving Saving Grace"



When we think about the Apostle Paul, it is common to remember his rather dramatic conversion, that changed a violent and restless persecutor of Jesus' Way into one of His most faithful and relentless apostles.

Paul himself wrote about his conversion in several of his writings, and he is not shy to recognize how much he had wronged Jesus Christ and His followers before his transformation, which started on the road to Damascus.

In the conversion story, there is a man named

Ananias, who is the person that gives Paul his eyesight back after three days of being blinded by the dazzling light he encountered on the road.

When Jesus asked Ananias to go to Paul where he was staying and give him his eyesight back, Ananias must have thought that Jesus was not talking about the person he knew by that name. Out of respect, he must have refrained from saying to Jesus something like, "Are we talking about the same Paul?"

He did remind Jesus of the atrocities that Paul had committed against His followers though.

But Jesus was clear about who this person was and what he had done. However, He wanted him to be restored to wholeness and to be saved. Moreover, He wanted Paul to become His apostle for the Gentiles, which he certainly did.

Paul had not been a persecutor of Jesus' followers because of evil intentions. He had been led to believe that he was doing a great service to the true religion of his people. Jesus' Way was unorthodox indeed and had been condemned by the religious leaders of his time.

The scales that fell out of his eyes when Ananias prayed for him represent that he had been spiritually blinded, and he could now see the Way, the Life, and the Truth.

Through Our Lord's infinite grace and mercy, Paul had been saved. He had certainly been so lost--like the sheep and the coin that Jesus uses in the parables in Luke 15. But now he was found. Christ's loving grace had found him, and there was tremendous rejoicing in the Heavenly realms for a sinner who had been saved.

We all know what Paul became after his conversion. The Christian Church is what it is today thanks, in great part, to Paul's apostolic work with the Gentiles. A great part of the writings we find in the New Testament were authored by Paul or some of his closest collaborators.

But in the first Letter to Timothy, Paul's emphasis is not on his apostolic work. His main purpose in this letter is to acknowledge Christ's saving grace towards him. He is totally aware that this is undeserved. He wants to stress the fact that Christ certainly came to the world to save sinners, and he sets himself as the most vivid example of this. In his words, Jesus Christ made him "an example to those who would come to believe in Him for eternal life."

Paul is well aware that there is no real merit in himself, not even for his dedication and devotion to spreading the Good News to so many people among the Gentiles. As he himself declares, "To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen."

Fr. Carlos E. Expósito. Rector

Readings for The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost Exodus 32:1, 7-14 1 Timothy 1:12-17 Psalm 51:1-11 Luke 15:1-10

## 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 Fourteenth 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 Topic: Communicating with God 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 Fifteenth 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 Topic: Communicating with God Rector's Study A Spanish Mass will be held on the first, second, fourth (and fifth) Sundays each month at 1pm. Everyone is welcome.

## **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

An Anglo-Catholic Parish in the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego www.allsaintschurch.org