



# 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 —October 30 & Beyond

### "Let Us Argue It Out"



"In the first chapter of the book of Isaiah, the writer put down the Lord's words as an argument between Him and the people, particularly the rulers that were defrauding the most vulnerable among the population: the oppressed, the

orphan, and the widow.

He stressed the futility of performing all burnt offerings and sacrifices, and following all appointed festivals strictly, if there was no justice and their hands were full of blood and evil. The Lord even refused to listen to their many prayers unless they changed their evil ways.

And then God made it clear that there could be a way to argue all this out: the way of true confession of all their sins which led to real repentance and amends for all their evil doings.

It is worth noticing here that the way out that the prophet puts down as God's true Word has nothing to do with the magnitude of the sins committed, but with the truthfulness of their repentance.

“Though your sins are red like scarlet, they shall be like snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool. If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land”, says the Lord through the prophet's writing.

The Lord's argument with the sinners is not a rendering of accounts, as might be expected. He does make everyone accountable for their own sins, but instead of instant condemnation God offers the sinners the benefit of a clean slate if there is true repentance and amends are made to the wronged ones whenever possible.

This is the great contrast that Psalm 32 expresses in verses 3 and 5-6, “While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, because of my groaning all day long...Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt. I said, ‘I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.’ Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.”

In these verses of Psalm 32 we find the same idea expressed in Isaiah, but from the sinner's perspective. It clearly shows how much better life becomes when we openly confess our sins to our Creator and are authentically willing to make a definitive change. Our guilt is removed, and we are renewed by God's endless grace and love.

The Gospel reading for this Sunday tells us about the encounter between Jesus and Zacchaeus, a chief tax collector who was rich. This man was greatly despised by the people and the Jewish religious rulers, because tax collectors usually charged more than was due, to make profits for themselves, and also because they worked for the hated Roman Empire. In this particular case, the man in question was not a simple tax collector, but a chief one, which made him even less popular.

When Jesus asked Zacchaeus to host him for the night, all were scandalized and grumbled at Jesus for becoming the guest of this great sinner. But the narrative shows us how much Zacchaeus repented of his evil doing, and his life was totally changed, precisely because he felt God's love and forgiveness shown through Jesus' acceptance of him.

Here again we see God's forgiving grace and love at work, transforming someone's life for the better and prompting this man to make amends to those he had wronged. This also sets an example of what a clear perspective of sin and repentance should be.

As Jesus Himself pointed out at the end of this narrative, "the Son of Man came to seek out and save the lost", and so must we, as His true followers.

The Rev. Carlos Expósito

Readings for The Twenty First Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 1:10-20, 2 Thessalonians 1:1-5, 11-12 Psalm 32:1-8 Luke 19:1-10

## 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** Twenty First Sunday after Pentecost

**10:00am Mass in All Saints' Church**

Join Zoom Meeting from our web site at [www.allsaintschurch.org](http://www.allsaintschurch.org)

Recording of Mass available before noon at [www.allsaintschurch.org](http://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 Noon. For November only, Christian Formation will be on the first and fourth Sundays. Topic: Communicating with God Rector's Study

**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 Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

**10:00am Mass in All Saints' Church**

Join Zoom Meeting from our web site at [www.allsaintschurch.org](http://www.allsaintschurch.org)

Recording of Mass available before noon at [www.allsaintschurch.org](http://www.allsaintschurch.org)

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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

An Anglo-Catholic Parish in the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego  
[www.allsaintschurch.org](http://www.allsaintschurch.org)