



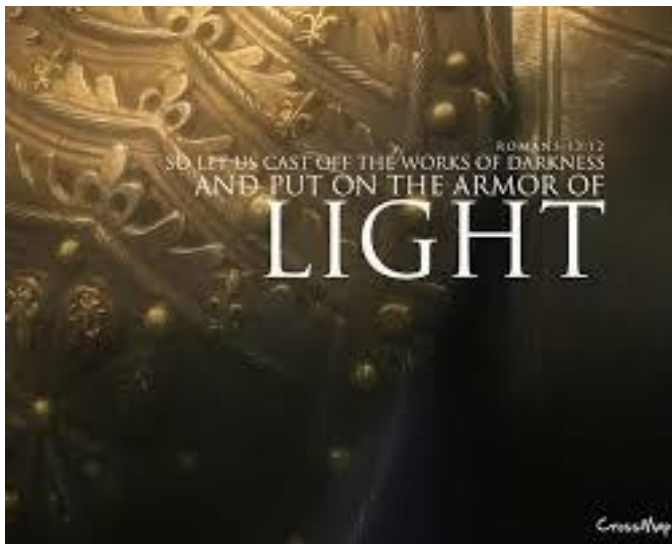
# ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

*"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 —November 27 & Beyond**

### **Putting on the Armor of Light**



On the First Sunday of Advent the Collect urges us to “put on the armor of light in the time of this mortal life...”

Armors were familiar to everyone in the Roman Empire of the time, and St. Paul often made use of images referring to what soldiers wore to refer to the way Christians should be spiritually vested to defend themselves from the attacks of the evil and dark forces of the visible and invisible worlds.

The second reading for this Sunday is Paul's letter to the Romans, chapter 13, verses 8 to 14, and in this excerpt of the letter the Apostle declares, referring to the times the converts to the New Way are living, “let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.”

Paul refers to that time as “it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep.” Notice the use of **now** to refer to the precise moment to be aware of the need to make the radical change from a life lived in darkness to a life illuminated by Christ’s living light.

The **now** of Paul’s addressees in this letter may be chronologically far from our **now**, but Paul’s injunction to turn to the new life in Christ’s light and love is not bound by time; it is as essentially present today as it was then.

In the preceding paragraph of this letter Paul had clearly reaffirmed what is said in the Gospels about the commandment to love your neighbor. He says that all commandments are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.”

So when Paul talks about the armor of light, he is clearly referring to putting love of your neighbor into practice.

The way he exemplifies how this putting in the armor of light is translated into practice is this: “let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy.”

Living honorably implies living a life devoted to the love of God, which implies loving your neighbor as yourself, and not giving in to the selfish ways of self-complacency, which not only corrupt our bodies and minds, but make us self-centered and oblivious of (even sometimes contentious against) our fellow human beings.

At the end of this excerpt of the Letter to the Romans, Paul uses an image that sums up and brilliantly clarifies what he means by the **armor of light**.

He says, “put on the **Lord Jesus Christ**”.

Putting on our Lord as our vestment, putting on the Light of lights, the Love of loves. This is the total transformation of our lives into His life, the real turning to God, and the most powerful armor against all evil.

The Rev. Carlos Expósito

## Readings for the First Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 2:1-5   Romans 13:8-14   Psalm 122   Matthew 24:37-44

## CALENDAR

Note: We continue 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**   The First Sunday of Advent

**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** Meets this Sunday and every second and fourth Sunday of the month at Noon. 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

**SATURDAY** Societies of May Day of Devotion

11:00am The Rosary in St. Mary Chapel

11:30 Holy Eucharist in St. Mary Chapel

Noon Light lunch in the Flower Room

**SUNDAY**   The Second Sunday of Advent

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

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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. Topic: Communicating with God Rector's Study

### **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)