



ALL SAINTS'

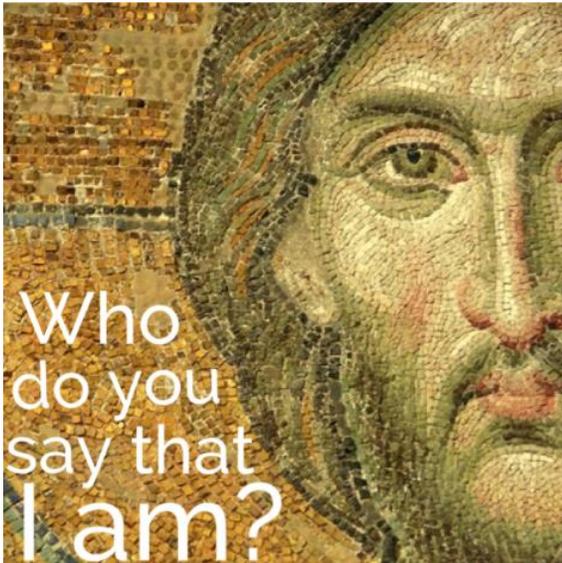
CHURCH

"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 August 23 & BEYOND

And Who Do We Say He Is?



Someone's identity is much more than what a person does for a living or the role they play in their life. We sometimes tend to identify occupation or role with identity, but true identity has to do more with one's unique features, with one's essence, with being rather than doing or wanting.

When Jesus asks His disciples who the people say He is, He is inquiring about how the people identify Him. The disciples tell Him the different identities ascribed to Him by the populace. Some believe He is a sort of incarnation of John the Baptist, whom Herod had recently beheaded. For others, He may be the incarnation of a prophet like Elijah, or Jeremiah, or some other. There is obviously a similarity in the things Jesus says and does and those of the aforementioned characters. They all spoke of repentance, justice, restoration and obedience to God. But all these ascribed identities miss the mark.

It is when Jesus asks the disciples who they think He is that Peter (still known as Simon), obviously filled with the Holy Spirit, declares Him to be the Messiah, the Son of the Living God. It is a revelation that comes from God's Spirit of Truth, and speaks of Jesus' real identity.

It is then that Jesus gives this disciple the mark of His real identity. The name Jesus ascribes to him (Peter) at that point will become the defining feature of his followers. They are to be the rocks upon which the Assembly of the Saints—the Church—is to be

founded. And this particular disciple is to bear that mark in a very special way all through his life and ministry from then on.

As Jesus' followers, His disciples of this time, people can come and ask us who Jesus is for us. It is very likely that if we have been part of a Christian denomination long enough, we can easily give a "theologically correct" answer. Some parts of the Creed that we know by heart can help us with this proper definition of Jesus' identity. But this is not probably what people really want to know. They are probably inquiring about what He actually means to our lives, to who we are, how His identity and ours intertwine, and how this relationship changes and conforms our everyday lives.

As His disciples, as the Church that we are, we also bear the mark of the one He called Peter, the Rock, the firm foundation of His Holy Assembly. And our words, our deeds, our whole lives, must unequivocally show that we are the ones whose identity holds the keys that will ultimately open the gates of God's Reign of Love for everyone.

Fr. Carlos E. Expósito, Rector

Readings for this Sunday – The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
Isaiah 51:1-6 Psalm 138 Romans 11:33-36 Matthew 16:13-20

CALENDAR

Note: All Sunday Masses will be held in All Saints' Courtyard at 9am. All other gatherings will be Zoom meetings. Visit our web site for the Zoom link (see below).

SUNDAY: The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
9:00am Mass in All Saints' Courtyard
Recording of Mass available before noon at www.allsaintschurch.org

TUESDAY Noonday Service
Join Zoom Meeting from our web site at www.allsaintschurch.org

FRIDAY Fridays at Noon – Discussion and Insights into Sunday's Lectionary
Join Zoom Meeting from our web site at www.allsaintschurch.org

SUNDAY The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
9:00am Mass in All Saints' Courtyard
Recording of Mass available before noon at www.allsaintschurch.org

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