



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 May 31 & BEYOND

SPECIAL GIFTS FOR EACH AND EVERYONE



This Sunday the Church Universal celebrates Pentecost, the day of the powerful manifestation of the Holy Spirit to the disciples. Some regard this day as the birth of the Christian Church. It was from this moment on that Jesus' followers began manifesting the Power of the Holy Spirit in their words and deeds, which faithfully reflected the Lord's. The Book of Acts is a testimony of this, of how fast the Church grew and multiplied, and how the Spirit filled those first followers with Power and Grace from above, even when they had to face the worst trials, including martyrdom.

But the Holy Spirit has never stopped filling the Church. Jesus' promise that this Advocate, this Spirit of Truth would defend us and guide us in God's salvific mission remains as true today as then, and it will continue to do so. There have been times when the Church has needed a revival of the Spirit, a fresh gust of wind, so to speak, and different rekindling moments have taken place throughout its history.

In critical times of the history of humankind the need to be filled with the Power of the Spirit is greater than ever. We are now living very hard times. Times of

pandemic. A huge death toll has been the result of this pandemic for this country and the whole world. So many people grieving losses; the loss of beloved ones, the loss of jobs and residences: and the loss of physical contact with friends and relatives, with fellow parishioners at their churches. Even the loss of the Eucharist for those who are regularly nourished with the Sacrament of Christ's Holy Presence.

But the Holy Spirit has not left us and never will. Jesus Himself encouraged us to always ask, as a priority in our prayers, to be filled with the Holy Spirit. He said that petition would never be denied. He clearly stated this had to be the number one petition in our list.

Paul speaks about the gifts of the Spirit in his first letter to the Corinthians. He refers to these gifts as something the Spirit gives to each and everyone as He wishes. It is not something we earn or deserve. It is given to us gracefully, gratuitously. And it is given abundantly. There is no need to grasp for it. No need to compete.

The image Paul uses to illustrate how these gifts work collaboratively in the Body of Christ is superb. He uses the image of the human body. No part of the body can stand by itself. Each part has its own particular and essential function, each as important as any other. It is not about competition but about collaboration.

Each of us has our unique spiritual gifts that we can cultivate and make even stronger by putting them into practice for the common good. No gifts are "better" or "greater" than others, if they really come from the Holy Spirit. We need to understand that all gifts are needed in the Church, in Christ's physical body on Earth, for a fruitful ministry to become possible. Let us not envy others for their gifts. Let us stop any kind of senseless competition in this respect. Let us always thank our Father Almighty for the unique and precious gifts of the Spirit He has graciously bestowed upon us, and let us share them with all, with joy and gratefulness, in abundant measure.

Fr. Carlos E. Expósito, Rector

Readings for this Sunday – The Day of Pentecost Whitsunday

Acts 2:1-11 Psalm 33:12-15, 18-22 1 Corinthians 12:4-13 John 20:19-23

CALENDAR

SUNDAY: The Day of Pentecost Whitsunday
All Saints' Sunday 9am Service
Join Zoom Meeting from our web site at www.allsaintschurch.org

7:00pm Little Apple Group (Parish Hall)

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

FRIDAY Christian Formation Study at noon
Join Zoom Meeting from our web site at www.allsaintschurch.org

AA Meetings

8:00p Ladies' Group (Fireside Room)

8:15p Men's Group (Parish Hall)

SATURDAY Societies of Mary Day of Devotion at 11:00am
Join Zoom Meeting from our web site at www.allsaintschurch.org

SUNDAY The First Sunday after Pentecost — Trinity Sunday
All Saints' Sunday 9am Service
Join Zoom Meeting from our web site at www.allsaintschurch.org

AA Meeting

7:00p Little Apple Group (Parish Hall)