



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 24 Beyond

Time for Solid Food



In Chapters 5 and 6 the writer of Hebrews seems to be concerned at his readers' lack of maturity in the Christian faith. He claims that they behave as if they were infants needing milk, unable to feed on solid food. And according to him, it is about time they should be able to process the more mature faith.

He bases his perception on what seems to be lacking among his addressees: the practice to distinguish good from evil.

He encourages them to move forward onto perfection, and not just the basic teachings of repentance from dead works and faith toward God.

Even so, he does not speak in derogatory terms and assures them that God will not overlook their work and the love they have shown for His sake. But he insists that in order to attain full salvation they must show forth in their lives diligence to realize the full assurance of hope to the very end.

In other words, what the writer of Hebrews is conveying in this section of his letter is that it is not enough to simply remain in the first stages of our faith in Jesus Christ. What Jesus Himself wants for us is to attain the full stature of the complete faith, and that requires diligence, and maturity.

What a mature faith implies is that the one who professes it thinks and acts accordingly towards God, towards one another, and towards the whole of creation.

That can only be achieved by carefully discerning good from evil, true life from death, what is life-giving from that which opposes life in any sense. In this distinction there can be no better compass than the law of pure love.

Our thoughts and our deeds must be guided by God's unconditional love towards all His creatures. If what we have in mind serves love and life, let us put it into practice. Otherwise, let us reject it with all the force of our minds and hearts.

We need clear vision to discern good from evil. Blindness in this sense can be worse than physical blindness.

In the Gospel reading for this Sunday, what the "son of value" (Bartimaeus) wanted in his innermost depths the "son of the Beloved" (son of David) to do for him was to restore his vision. When Jesus asks him what he wanted Him to do for him, He was not asking an unnecessary question. It may even seem obvious on the surface. A blind man is coming after Him, so what else could he want?

But Jesus wants to elicit the innermost desire from his heart. He wants him to articulate his deep desire. And he does.

Just a moment before doing it, the blind man throws off his cloak, as if to get rid of his past values, and totally embraces Jesus' love for him as the only real valuable thing. Jesus' love restores his vision. And he responds by following Him on the way.

Will we ask our master and savior to give us vision again? Are we willing to start our solid diet on the faith, or do we still need the milk of infants?

Fr. Carlos E. Expósito, Rector

Readings for this Sunday – The Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost
Isaiah 59:1-19 Psalm 13 Hebrews 5:12-6:1, 9-12 Mark 10:46-52

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 The Twenty-second 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 at the coffee hour in the Parish Hall (11:30am)
Fr. Carlos leads us through Gary Nicolosi's book "A Concise History of the Book of Common Prayer"

TUESDAY Noon Mass in St. Mary Chapel

WEDNESDAY Spanish Classes 5:30pm to 7:30pm in the Parish Hall taught by Fr. Carlos Expósito

FRIDAY 10:00am Morning Prayer in St. Mary's Chapel

SUNDAY The Twenty-third 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

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