

this life by following His Way of Love, which is the only truth that the Holy Spirit confirms as the way to attain eternal life.

Eternal life has often been interpreted as to mean a life that extends indefinitely in the time continuum that our limited minds conceive as the only way of existing. But when we read the Fourth Gospel, we notice how the writer often uses the term *abundant life* to refer to this new quality of life that Jesus wants us to share with Him. This abundance is not expressed in terms of amount of material possessions, but in the quality of richness of our relationship with the Creator and with one another. In other words, it has to do with our capacity to express love.

Though the writer does not make any philosophical proposition as to what this eternal life could actually mean, it is clear that he equates it to love, and love in a very pragmatic manifestation. In his letter, he asks the following question, “How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses to help?” There is no place for mellow feelings here. Love is concretely manifested as selfless acts of service to our neighbor.

We may venture to make a proposition here, although it is only a conjecture. Since the Creator’s selfless love gives rise to life, and He lives in timelessness, when we imitate the Creator’s selfless love in our lives, we start to share in His timeless quality as well. Our life then is abundant and eternal. Time can no longer constrain it. Such is the limitless power of love.

The death the Fourth Gospel refers to has to do with severance from the true source of life--the Creator--by our own choice, when we live self-centered lives only and true love has no place in our lives. No matter how biologically alive we may be, a life which is devoid of love is a senseless life, it is the worst kind of death.

Jesus promises His followers the presence of the Advocate, the Spirit of Truth, that will teach us all we need to do to follow His commandments: to abide in His Way of Love. This is the true Way of Life that will snatch us from the power of death and lead us to a full communion with our Lord and with one another in the abundant life of self-giving love.

Fr. Carlos E. Expósito, Rector

Readings for this Sunday – The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 8:26-40 Psalm 23 1 John 3:14-24 John 14:15-21

CALENDAR

Note: We are worshipping in our historic church. The service will also be on Zoom.
The service time is 10am.

SUNDAY Fifth Sunday of Easter 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

TUESDAY Noon Mass in All Saints' courtyard

FRIDAY 10:00am Morning Prayer in All Saints' Courtyard

SUNDAY Sixth Sunday of Easter 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