



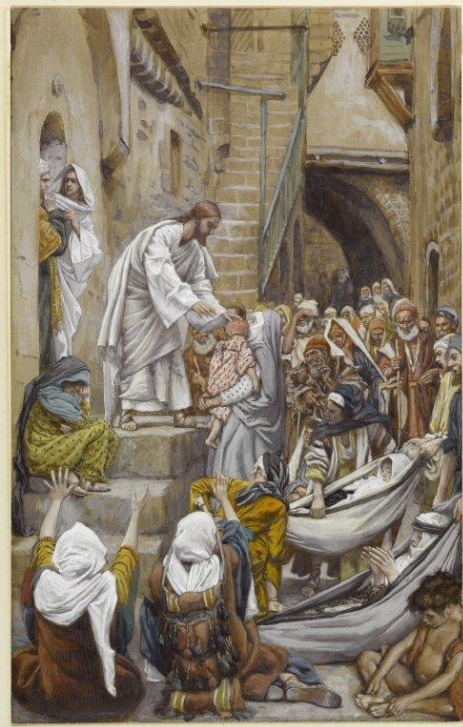
ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

"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 — June 6 & Beyond

Divine Family Ties



This week's readings are about our relationship with the divine and with one another in this divine fellowship.

The reading from Genesis brings us the sad story of our estrangement from God, our hiding away from His presence, our useless attempts to stand by ourselves, apart from our Creator, and without His loving life-giving breath, His closeness, His friendship. Even so, the Heavenly Father makes us hear His sound in the breeze, and calls us by name to His presence, and lovingly covers our shame with His clothes. Furthermore, He opens up the prospect of our redemption, foretelling that a son of woman will crush the head of the one who brings about the split—the evil one.

The one who puts an end to our estrangement from the divine family is the Son of Man, the Messiah, Jesus Christ our Lord. By giving Himself lovingly in sacrifice He made the evil one believe that He was trapped in the clasps of death. But His

overwhelming act of unconditional love destroyed the power of the evil one and redeemed us forever. The loving Father raised Him from the dead, and as Paul says in his second letter to the Corinthians, “we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into His presence.”

In the Gospel reading according to Mark, there is a story about how some people vilified Jesus’ life-giving deeds of love. These acts powerfully testified of the presence of the Holy Spirit in everything Jesus did. However, some people, including the scribes and members of His own biological family were calling Him crazy, or that He was possessed by unclean spirits. Jesus had been vilified before, but calling the Holy Spirit unclean was more that He could put up with. That is probably why He clearly states that the blasphemy against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven. His divine filiation—which includes that of His faithful followers—could not be spat upon.

Then there is a point in the story in which His biological family calls Jesus to come outside of the crowd. They were probably thinking that Jesus was calling too much attention to the authorities, and this would put Him in mortal danger. They were more than right. But Jesus was well aware of His mission and His divine family ties. His words should not be interpreted as a refusal of His biological family, but as a sign of a much broader perspective--one that clearly includes all His prospective followers into the divine family of which we have always been a part.

Our voluntary estrangement from the divine family can only bring us pain and divisiveness among one another, even among the members of human families. In the Genesis story Adam blamed Eve, and Eve blamed the serpent. There was not even a responsible recognition of the decision each had made. They not only estranged themselves from the Heavenly Father, but from each other.

So it continues to happen in our time. Only through our coming back to the divine filiation, through the mediation of our brother and Lord Jesus, in the power of the Holy Spirit, can our broken relationships and lives be put back together again. Then, instead of shame and fear, our hearts will be filled with joy and love, when our Heavenly Father calls our names in the evening breeze, and invites us all to stroll together with Him through His unbounded realms.

Fr. Carlos E. Expósito, Rector

Readings for this Sunday – The Second Sunday after Pentecost
Genesis 3:8-21 Psalm 130 2 Corinthians 4:13-18 Mark 3:20-35

CALENDAR

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

SUNDAY The 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

TUESDAY Noon Mass in All Saints' Courtyard

SUNDAY The 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