



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 13 & Beyond

Seed Planting



A seed is a most wonderful miracle and yet, because it is such an ordinary one, we take it for granted and miss its awesomeness.

Think of it. It is a small capsule containing all that is needed for a plant to grow and develop to its fullness. It has the nutrients that keep the tiny plantlet alive until it is planted, and then, the capsule decomposes, and the small sprout emerges out of the soil, ready to take on the needed nutrients and water from it, and it grows, and grows...

It may seem like a smooth process, but breaking up and decomposing is not agreeable for the seed. And the sprout has to push up its way through the soil to emerge. And then the new-born plant has to struggle to find the proper nutrients and water to survive and grow. It is so fragile at the beginning.

Some seeds are larger than others, but the real size of the plant that will come from it cannot be guessed by the size of the seed. The mustard seed that Jesus refers to in His parable is a good example. It is tiny indeed, but the mustard shrub is big, and birds can make nests on its branches.

And it all goes unnoticed. No one would waste their time trying to follow the process by which the seed becomes a mature plant. It may take years. But no human intervention other than the planting, the watering, and the occasional weeding and fertilizing is needed.

People plant seeds and they expect to reap their fruits. It is all done in faith. If someone tried to speed up the natural process by breaking up the seed, for instance, it would probably kill the plantlet, and everything would be lost. No fruits would be reaped.

Jesus uses the example of the seed to give us an image of God's kingdom. In God's reign what is to be may not always be tangible from the beginning, but is in constant development and growth, and will inevitably come to fruition. No violence can be done out of impatience to get the final results. We need to wait in faith, in total confidence that the greatest good is just there, in embryonic form, and that God will take it to its fullness in due time.

The world as it is now may not look like a promising state, but the seeds of love have been planted and they will inevitably yield their abundant fruit. Jesus came to plant these seeds abundantly in us, His followers. But just as the natural sprouting process requires sacrifice and hard work, so must our faith be nourished and kept alive against the hardships that we find in this world of ours.

The water we need is granted by the Holy Spirit, and God's Word itself is our nutrient. The weeding and fertilizing are all we are asked to contribute to the process. Weeding is done when we manage to cast divisiveness out of our lives and the lives of others. Fertilization is carried out by spreading the Good News, through our daily words and deeds, so as to help others grow in their faith.

This faith is the strength that will enable us to have relentless confidence and push upward, until God's love expands in us and makes us yield abundant fruits that can be shared by all.

Fr. Carlos E. Expósito, Rector

Readings for this Sunday – The Third Sunday after Pentecost

Ezekiel 31:1-6, 10-14 Psalm 92:1-4, 11-14 2 Corinthians 5:1-10 Mark 4:26-34

CALENDAR

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

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

TUESDAY Noon Mass in All Saints' Courtyard

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

SUNDAY The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
10:00am Mass in All Saints' Church
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