



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 — July 25 & Beyond

Growing Up Together into the Full Stature of Christ's Body

In chapter 4 of his letter to the Ephesians, the Apostle Paul exhorts the recipients of the letter to be united in the faith they have received through a common Baptism, and to show forth the calling they have received through Jesus Christ in their daily lives, and especially in their common lives as the Holy Assembly.



spiritual gifts

Paul recognizes five main gifts that the one Spirit graciously concedes to each faithful follower of Jesus' Way. These are the gifts that, when properly exercised and put to the service of others, can make us all gradually grow into the full stature of Christ's Body, which is the fullness of the Church.

As Paul declares, some are apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers. All of these functions are essential, and the Spirit wisely gives each person the gift to exercise one of these with excellence. It does not mean that each of us should excel in each of these functions, but that we naturally excel in one of them—even if we have not noticed it--and perhaps try hard to exercise the rest if the need arises.

The practical implication of this statement is that none of us separately is equipped with all it takes for a healthy church to develop into the true Body of Christ. It takes loving cooperation and a true united effort to put our gifts at the service of the community if this growth is to take place.

As much as we like to call ourselves the Body of Jesus Christ, the fact is that the Church on earth is in a constant movement towards becoming this Body, with more or less success in the intent. But this is not a goal that some clever people who lived centuries ago have set up. It is Christ's goal, and the Holy Spirit is always leading us towards its attainment.

All we do is lend the Holy Spirit a hand, and by developing and exercising the specific gift that we have been given, and working in loving harmony and close cooperation with the rest, a lot can be achieved towards Christ's goal of building up His Body in love.

As Paul warns us, it is no longer the time to act unwisely and immaturely, letting others lead us astray with every kind of false doctrine and deceitful scheming. It is God's truth that must be spoken in love, and the Holy Spirit is the one who will undoubtedly guide us to that truth.

Paul insists that with all humility and gentleness, with patience and loving kindness, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, each of us diligently exercise the special gift the Spirit has bestowed on us, putting it at the service of the community.

Through this, the time will come when we will all reach the full stature of Christ's Body, and actually become His Church for this needy world.

Fr. Carlos E. Expósito, Rector

Readings for this Sunday – The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

2 Kings 2:1-15 Psalm 114 Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-16 Mark 6:45-52

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's Chapel.

SUNDAY The Ninth 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 St. Mary's Chapel

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

SUNDAY The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00am Mass in All Saints' Church

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

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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