



# 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 3 & Beyond

### Saved in Communion



That humans have been created to live communally is self-evident from history itself. Even the most remote ancestors of contemporary humans lived in groups, which has been attested by all archeological discoveries.

Living in communities is not a prerogative of humans. Many other living creatures on this planet share this trait. But the degree to which this communality has shaped the human species, giving rise to culture and civilization, has never been attested in any other living beings.

Humans not only live communally with one another, but engage in relationships with several other living species, which has also contributed to their development and present-day privileged position in the evolutionary scale.

The story in Genesis 2 recognizes the need of humans to relate to the rest of the living species, particularly with the animal kingdom, but it also recognizes the fact

that the ideal partner for a human being is another human being—someone with the same kind of bones and flesh, but at the same time distinctly different in certain attributes, which make this union one of complementarity rather than one of sameness.

This kind of loving union that drives two distinct persons to come together physically as one, and which may also be the source of new life, is blessed by the Creator.

By so doing, our Creator is reminding us humans of our basic need to share the love we have received from Him. Love is not meant to be kept inside us as in a receptacle. Love can only manifest itself as an abundantly shared gift with others.

The basic core of the family, which is the cell of human communities, is this loving union of two persons. When this core functions properly, i.e., when it is actually based on mutual love, it will pass on this love to the offspring or adopted children, to the more extended family, and to the whole of the community. Eventually, it will affect nations and the whole world.

It is based on this sharing of humanness in love that the author of the Letter to the Hebrews clearly presents his idea that Jesus is our true High Priest precisely because He, who is also perfectly divine, in His humanness became one like us, and through His sacrificial death was able to defeat death and the powers of evil so that we may be saved.

It is through this shared loving humanness that He also constantly helps us to overcome temptations and suffering and be saved by God's Grace. He who suffered these temptations and overcame them in His human flesh, is the ablest one to help us conquer them.

Mark's Gospel text for this Sunday brings a hard topic. The topic of divorce.

Given the fact that nowadays people do not hesitate to end the union of marriage by divorce when they sense "it no longer works for them", it is understandable that texts like these are not popular anymore. However, the fact is that this matter was as controversial in Jesus' time as it is in our present-day society. It is due to its controversial character that the Pharisees decide to bring it to Jesus.

What Jesus replies to the question about the lawfulness of divorce, based on Moses' commands, clearly shows that Jesus' view is based on the same Genesis story that appears in Chapter 2 of that book.

Jesus stresses the idea that in this loving union the two persons are no longer two, but one, and that a union that God Himself has blessed should not be broken by mere human laws.

These matters are not simple, and each particular case needs to be looked at with great loving care and compassion.

Our attitude, as Christians, should not be one of total intolerance to the fact that for some couples it can do more harm than good—even to their family--to remain together in a marriage union. On the other hand, the liberality and superficiality with which divorce decisions are taken at present is not in harmony with the mind of Christ.

Preserving the union of married couples whenever possible must be the prevailing attitude. After all, no true loving relationship can survive without mutual forgiveness and understanding.

If forgiveness and mutual tolerance are not fostered in the core relationships of human beings, how can God's unconditional love be expressed in the whole of society?

First things first. The core union of two persons is the starting point. It is the elementary school where most humans learn to love another human being, despite their differences and mutual hurts. If these elementary grades are passed successfully, we can then start to expand our love to family, neighbors, classmates, co-workers, fellow church members, and the rest of society. Then we will have learned how to express Christ's love for all, and in this loving communion we will all be saved.

Fr. Carlos E. Expósito, Rector

Readings for this Sunday – The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 2:18-24 Psalm 128 Hebrews 2:1-18 Mark 10:2-9

## 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 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00am Mass in All Saints' Church

Join Zoom Meeting from our web site at [www.allsaintschurch.org](http://www.allsaintschurch.org)

Recording of Mass available before noon at [www.allsaintschurch.org](http://www.allsaintschurch.org)

**Christian Formation and First Communion Instruction for Children**

Ages 5-12 in the Parish Hall from 10:00am-10:45am

**Greater San Diego Chamber Orchestra Concert** at 3pm in the Parish Hall

Music by Arnold, Mendelssohn, Tchaikovsky, Borodin

Dr. Angela Yeung, Director; Soloist Mary Boles Allen, mezzo-soprano

**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 Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00am Mass in All Saints' Church

Join Zoom Meeting from our web site at [www.allsaintschurch.org](http://www.allsaintschurch.org)

Recording of Mass available before noon at [www.allsaintschurch.org](http://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"

**Greater San Diego Chamber Orchestra Concert** at 3pm in the Parish Hall

Music by Arnold, Mendelssohn, Tchaikovsky, Borodin

Dr. Angela Yeung, Director; Soloist Mary Boles Allen, mezzo-soprano

## **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