



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 — January 30 & Beyond

“Joy and Sorrow”



The Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple, also known as Candlemas or The Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary, is celebrated on February 2nd every year. In some churches where it has a long-standing tradition, it can also be celebrated on the Sunday closest to that day (as in the Church of England, for instance).

What this feast commemorates is based on what appears in the Gospel according to St. Luke in Chapter 2, verses 22-40.

According to the Law, 40 days after a woman gave birth she had to be purified, and if the baby was a boy, he had to be redeemed. For this ritual, a lamb without blemish was sacrificed, but if the family had no means to offer a lamb, the Law prescribed that the lamb could be replaced by a couple of turtledoves. This was what Joseph and Mary were able to bring.

What Joseph and Mary were expecting was to take part in a temple ritual in which the two doves would be sacrificed. To their surprise, however, this was not meant to be an ordinary ceremonial occasion.

They were greeted by an old man, called Simeon, who took the baby in his hands, and praised God with all his soul. Joseph and Mary must have seen something special about him when they agreed to trust the baby Jesus to him.

Simeon exclaimed, "Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word, for mine eyes have seen thy salvation which thou hast prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to thy people Israel."

Simeon was a man of advanced age and the Holy Spirit had revealed to him that he would not see death until he had seen the Lord's anointed one. We can well imagine how many times he would have asked the Lord if the promise was about to be fulfilled. But he waited patiently and hopefully, and was present to the Lord all the time, until the glorious moment came.

Hearing this, as well as hearing Anna, the prophetess of a great age, who also gave thanks to God and spoke of Jesus to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem, must have filled Joseph and Mary with the greatest of joys. These were joyful truths being declared to them. They corroborated what the shepherds had told them about the baby when He was born.

But then Simeon tells Mary some other truths that fill her with sorrow. He says, "Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is spoken against (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that thoughts out of many hearts may be revealed."

Simeon was a man filled with the Holy Spirit, and this is the Spirit of Truth. There are truths we would rather not hear, but Simeon could not keep silent about these facts.

The Light that shines as the revelation of God's unconditional love brings joy and hope, but also opposition from those who choose to walk in the darkness of self-centeredness and arrogance. They cannot stand the Light, and will do anything to try to extinguish it. And this brings pain for Him who is the Light, for those who follow the Light, and particularly for the one who carried in her womb the Light of the world.

So this is a celebration in which joy and sorrow are closely intermingled. They cannot be set apart.

Jesus' life on earth was this intermingling of joyful and sorrowful moments, and so was Mary's. Our lives as Christ's followers are destined to be like their lives, filled with the great joy of knowing that we are following the true path of love and abundant life, and showing others the path as well; but also finding opposition, ridicule, scorn, and even slander, when we try to spread the true Light to the world around us.

Nevertheless, just as Simeon and Anna waited with perseverance and hope, and were present to God all the time, we are also called to persevere in our hopeful wait, having the certainty that no matter how dark and sorrowful the road may be, there is a glorious end that will fill us with the most unimaginable of joys: true and abundant life filled with Christ's true Light.

Fr. Carlos E. Expósito, Rector

Weekly Calendar Sunday, January 30, 2022 to Sunday, February 5, 2022

Note: We will continue worshipping in our historic church, except on Tuesdays and Fridays when the service is held in All Saints' St. Mary Chapel. The Sunday service will also be on Zoom. To join the Zoom Meeting click [here](#).

SUNDAY: The Fourth Sunday after Epiphany--Celebrating Candlemas

10:00am Mass in the church

Join Zoom Meeting Click [here](#).

10:00am to 10:45am — Christian Formation and First Communion Instruction for children ages 5-12 in the Parish Hall taught by Lucretia Locke.

11:30am: Annual Meeting in the Parish hall

1:00pm -- A Spanish Mass will be held on the first, second, and fourth (and fifth) Sundays each month in St. Mary Chapel , All are welcome.

3:00pm -- Music Coterie Concert "The Brilliance of Youth" in the Parish Hall

TUESDAY: Noon Mass in All Saints' St. Mary Chapel followed by a fellowship snack in the Flower Room.

Thursday: Spanish Class held in the Flower Room from 1:00pm to 3:00pm. Taught by Fr. Carlos.

FRIDAY:

10:00am Morning Prayer in All Saints' St. Mary Chapel.

SUNDAY: The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

10:00am Mass in the Church

Join Zoom Meeting Click [here](#).

10:00am to 10:45am — Christian Formation and First Communion Instruction for children ages 5-12 lead by Lucretia Locke in the Parish Hall.

1:00pm -- A Spanish Mass will be held on the first, second, and fourth (and fifth) Sundays each month in St. Mary Chapel.

NOTE: Christian Formation— A study of "A Concise History of the Book of Common Prayer" meets the second and fourth Sundays of the month in the rector's study and is led by Fr. Carlos. The next meeting is Sunday, February 13.

To activate Zoom you need to click on the link and zoom will download and put you in the meeting. If you have a camera and microphone they can interact in the meeting. The meeting is setup to not auto turn on your camera. You will need to make that decision.

Otherwise it will be on Facebook - a video and you can listen and watch. Easy access to All Saints' Facebook page via our web site at www.allsaintschurch.org