



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 24 & Beyond

"Abounding in Thanksgiving"



The lectionary for these last Sundays has been bringing us vital passages from the Letter of Paul to the Colossians.

The Letter to the Colossians is a document full of sound and healthy doctrine, as valid at the time it was

written as it is today, and we had better read it attentively and heed its inspiring message to a Tee.

In the second chapter of this letter, verses 6 to 15, Paul continues to instruct the converts at Colossae about the need to be continually rooted and built up in the faith they had received, but here he adds an important element: the need and fairness to abound in thanksgiving for the wonderful graces Jesus' authentic followers have received.

At the same time, Paul warns these new converts about the multiple dangers they will be constantly facing in the pagan society where they live. He knows about the different existing philosophies, based on tradition, which may sound particularly attractive to learned people, and also about the more popular practices that make use of elemental forces and spirits, in divination and in trying to change people's fates to accommodate them to their whims.

All this may easily deceive even those who have already been baptized in the faith of Christ Jesus the Lord, and lead them totally astray, which will evidently please the forces of evil.

Here Paul makes several deep and clear doctrinal statements which even we, 21st-century followers of Christ, had better carefully consider and follow.

“In Christ the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, as you have come to fullness in Him, who is the head of every ruler and authority.” In other words, Christ Himself is God incarnate, and as we incarnate Him in our own lives, we also partake of His fullness of life, which no other material or spiritual ruler or authority can overcome.

This alone should be the greatest reason to be overwhelmingly thankful to our Lord every single moment of our lives. But there is more to be thankful for.

When taking part in our baptism, as Paul points out, we are “buried with Him in baptism”, and also “raised with Him through faith in the power of God, who raised Him from the dead.” This stresses the fact that we die to sin and are reborn with Christ to a wholly new resurrected and powerful life.

And last, but certainly not least, Paul makes reference to the former life of those who were recently converted, the sinful and senseless life, which is really death to God, in which even some of us, already baptized, may find ourselves when we fall back into the old life, led astray by the many deceits of this world.

In relation to this, Paul points out that God, even though they were dead in their trespasses, made them alive together with Christ, when He “forgave us all our trespasses, erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands.”

So it is out of sheer grace, and not by any merits of ours, that we have been forgiven and given the wonderful new start that allows us to share in Christ’s glorious resurrected life.

Paul says that Jesus “set this--the legal demand--aside, nailing it to the cross, and disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example to them, triumphing over them in it.”

Through His wonderful self-sacrifice on the cross, the unbeatable power of unconditional love acting through Jesus overcame all the worldly and otherworldly powers that oppose God’s love, including death itself, and triumphed over it.

If we stay rooted and built up in Him, established in the faith, and abounding in thanksgiving, as Paul admonishes the new converts in Colossae, then we can also come out triumphant and share in Christ's abundant, glorious, and resurrected life.

Fr. Carlos E. Expósito. Rector

Readings for The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 18:20-33 Colossians 2:6-15 Psalm 138 Luke 11:1-13

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 Sixth 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

Christian Formation and First Communion Instruction for Children

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

Christian Formation every second and fourth Sunday of the month at

11:30am Studying *Sacred Earth, Sacred Soul* by John Philip Newell

Rector's Study

A Spanish Mass will be held on the first, second, fourth (and fifth)

Sundays each month at 1pm. Everyone is welcome.

TUESDAY Noon Mass in St. Mary Chapel

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

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

SUNDAY The Seventh 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

An Anglo-Catholic Parish in the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego

www.allsaintschurch.org