



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 29 & Beyond

Walk Humbly with Your God



True humility is one of the greatest virtues any human being can possess. It is not commonly found, and it can be misrepresented and misunderstood, confusing it with lack of self-esteem, false modesty, or being subservient to those in higher social positions, expecting to be favored by them.

True humility recognizes our intrinsic values as God's beloved children, in our uniqueness, and with boundless possibilities open to us when we follow in God's Way of Love.

Being created in God's image and likeness, we human beings have a considerable creative potential, which can work wonders when put to the right causes. We only have

to look at the tremendous achievements of civilization throughout the centuries to realize this truth.

Unfortunately, this same creative capacity, when put at the service of greed, selfishness, and false pride can also generate war, mass destruction weapons, and unjust systems of oppression.

False pride is the most dangerous of feelings. It can be confused with self-esteem or the recognition of one's true values. But it is nothing of the sort. It is the very essence of all evils, and the root of what has caused humanity to stop walking humbly with God, with one another, and with the whole of creation.

False pride is what makes us think that we are superior to others, deserving more than others, even deserving to have the same power as a god, and to use others and creation as stepping stones to achieve our self-centered goals.

This false pride can be nurtured by economic or academic achievements, or both, or by a certain social standing, entailing the right to rule over others.

The worst form of this pride, and one that can even be confused with virtue, is spiritual pride, which leads us to believe that we are spiritually superior, due to our "righteousness", and that we can condemn others who are not as "spiritual" as we are.

As we enter this new year, we can still recall the Christmas story with its great lesson in humility, starting with Joseph and Mary humbly accepting God's plan despite the great disruptiveness it brought to their lives; then God's beloved son being born in the humblest of ways, and becoming manifest to the humblest of people, according to Luke's narrative.

Matthew's narrative, in turn, brings us the Epiphany, the humble worship of wise men coming from other lands and another religious background, but whom the Holy Spirit inspired to acknowledge God's beloved Son in a humble baby living in Bethlehem.

Then we had the story of Jesus humbly coming to John to be baptized by him at the Jordan, and His divine filiation being revealed at that very moment.

At the same time, in this time-space continuum where our mortal lives develop, in this State of California at the start of 2023, wanton mass shootings have taken place, fueled

by hatred and rage, which are mainly the result of false pride, of believing that we have the right to do away with the most sacred of God's works: the human life.

If only we understood, not only with our minds, but above all in the depth of our hearts, how useless and destructive false pride is, maybe we could heed what the Prophet Micah said, "God has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

And referring to Christ crucified, which he defines as "a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God", Paul in 1 Corinthians 1, 18-31, concludes by affirming, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

Boasting in the Lord's Way is the only acceptable way of not being humble. Even so, if one truly follows the Lord's Way, there will be no boasting at all.

Rev. Carlos Expósito

Readings for The Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Micah 6:1-8 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 Psalm 37:1-6 Matthew 5:1-12

CALENDAR

Note: We continue worshipping in our historic church. The service will also be on Zoom. The service time is 10am. Tuesday Noon Mass and Friday Morning Prayer at 10:00am are held in All Saints' St. Mary Chapel.

SUNDAY January 29, 2023 The Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

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 Meets at Noon this Sunday, January 29th

Topic: Communicating with God--Meets in the Rector's Study

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 February 5, 2023 The Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord

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 Meets at Noon in February on the 12th.

Topic: Communicating with God--Meets in the Rector's Study

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