



Adult

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 14, 2024

“Glorifying God in Our Bodies



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Even if we may not agree with some of the tenets of the new spiritualities that have arisen in the last few decades, one positive thing we need to acknowledge about them is the concept of the sacredness of the body, including the body of the earth.

Jewish spirituality never divorced the bodily part of our nature from its spiritual part. In the story of Genesis, we read about the Creator of the Universe giving rise to this material world, and every time that He created something He said that “it was good.”

Human beings (represented in Adam, and his feminine counterpart, Eve) were created from the body of the earth (the word Adam itself comes from the Hebrew *adamah*, which means ground). Hebrew spirituality is not binary in the sense of separating the spiritual from the material, and giving more prominence to the latter.

Jesus' movement was primarily a movement born in the bosom of Jewish spirituality. The belief in the resurrection (which evolved later in the Jewish thought and cannot be

found in the earlier Old Testament writings) clearly referred to a resurrected body, not a disembodied entity.

In St. Paul's letters we can find the idea of a resurrected body, which he calls "a glorified body" as a new type of body which cannot decay or be corrupted. Nevertheless, it is still a body, and not a disembodied essence, as some later Christian writers have put forward.

St. Paul himself sometimes talks about this present corruptible body as being something that we should not overvalue, and there are instances in which talks about the "flesh" as something that hinders the Spirit.

What St. Paul wants to stress in such instances is that if we become the slaves of our natural instincts only, and do not train ourselves to master them through the spiritual disciplines, we can become like mere animals, and we can easily be overcome by the sinful tendencies that instincts may lead us to.

But St. Paul also understands the sacredness of this present human body which is an integral part of our being. In his First Letter to the Corinthians, he warns gravely against the sin of fornication, presenting the argument in this way: "Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never!"

Even if he is aware that these temporal physical bodies will be destroyed, he declares them to be "temples of the Holy Spirit within us, which we have from God and are not our own."

As St. Paul clearly states, "we were bought with a price" (Christ's self-giving at the cross), so it is indeed proper and our duty that we glorify God in our bodies.

Fr. Carlos E. Expósito

Photograph by Tamra Raven

Readings for the Second Sunday after the Epiphany

1 Samuel 3:1-10 1 Corinthians 6:11b-20 Psalm: 63:1-8 John 1:43-51

CALENDAR

Note: We worship 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 14 The Second Sunday after the 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

Adult Christian Formation Meets next this Sunday, January 14 at noon in the Rector's Office and the Library

TUESDAY Noon Mass in St. Mary Chapel

THURSDAY Spanish Class on Thursdays, from 1pm-3pm in the Library.

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

SUNDAY January 21, 2024 The Third Sunday after the 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

Adult Christian Formation Meets next on Sunday, February 11 at noon in the Rector's Office and the Library

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