



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 — April 28, 2024

Loving in Truth and Action



So much has been said about love, the different expressions of human love, what true love consists of, etc., that there is hardly anything original that could be expressed about this concept.

Jesus' teachings were mainly based on God's love for us all, and our mutual love, as we all know. Being a Jew, however, Jesus never meant to open a philosophical discussion about love as a concept. He was not intending to say anything new. In fact, his summary of the Law, in which love sums it all, is taken from two passages of Scripture, one from Leviticus, and the other from Deuteronomy.

Jesus was a man of prayer and contemplation. On several occasions, according to the Gospels, He was found in solitude praying to His Father, but the way He understood love was certainly totally pragmatic in nature.

For Jesus, loving God meant doing God's will. He spoke of Himself as "being one with the Father", but that statement was much more pragmatic than ontological. The way Jesus proved to His followers that this statement was much more than mere words was by doing His Father's will, by putting God's love into practice, and by teaching His followers that this is the only way to true life in Him.

Jesus not only healed, comforted, brought back to life, and fed people throughout the years of His active ministry on earth, but showed His boundless love for all by giving Himself in sacrifice, thus showing His disciples how true love may sometimes even demand that we be willing to give our physical life for others.

In His prayer on the night He was arrested, Jesus asked His Father that His followers might be one in Him and with one another as He was one with the Father. The basis for this oneness was the love that His followers should have for Him, for the Father, and for one another. But this was in no way meant to be a beautiful abstraction.

During the last supper with His disciples, Jesus washed their feet, and asked them to do the same for one another. This was a concrete loving action, but it was also used by Jews as a symbol of all loving acts of service that they—and all those who wanted to follow His Way of Love—should do for one another.

John the Evangelist, in his First Letter, equated God to love, not as a definition of God, but to express the best possible way in which we human beings can perceive God's nature, and show ourselves as God's true image and likeness in this world, by practicing His unconditional love.

For John the Evangelist, love is what makes one alive, and the absence of love equals death. If we know some biology, the statement is found to be true even at the basic level of the definition of life. All living organisms are characterized by some kind of exchange of material with the environment, and with other living organisms. When this exchange ceases to take place, so does life.

This exchange can be seen as the basic manifestation of love. Loving means exchanging, a give and take, a relationship of mutuality, in which we not only feel the need to receive, but also to give.

We all need to feel loved and accepted, whether we want to acknowledge it or not. It is an intrinsic trait of our nature. But we also ultimately need to feel that we can give love.

Love, however, can never remain in the realm of feelings and emotions. Feelings and emotions can play a great part in some of the expressions of love—love between the members of a couple, or between relatives and friends—but there has to be a concrete and practical manifestation of this give and take for love to be real.

As John the Evangelist put it in his First Letter, chapter 3, “How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses to help?... Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.”

Fr. Carlos E. Expósito, Rector

Readings for Fifth Sunday of Easter: Acts 8:26-40 Psalm 66:1-8 1 John 3:14-24
John 14:15-21

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 during Lent Great Litany, Via Crucis held in All Saints’ Church

SUNDAY April 28, 2024 Fifth Sunday of Easter

10:00am Mass in All Saints’ Church

Join Zoom Meeting from our web site at www.allsaintschurch.org

Recording of Mass available 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 will meet on Sunday May 12 at noon in the Rector’s Office and Library

2:30pm The Greater San Diego Music Coterie Concert -- Sound of Music
Sing-along in Parish Hall

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 May 4, 2024 The Sixth Sunday of Easter

10:00am Mass in All Saints' Church

Join Zoom Meeting from our web site at www.allsaintschurch.org

Recording of Mass available at www.allsaintschurch.org

Christian Formation and First Communion Instruction for Children

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

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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