



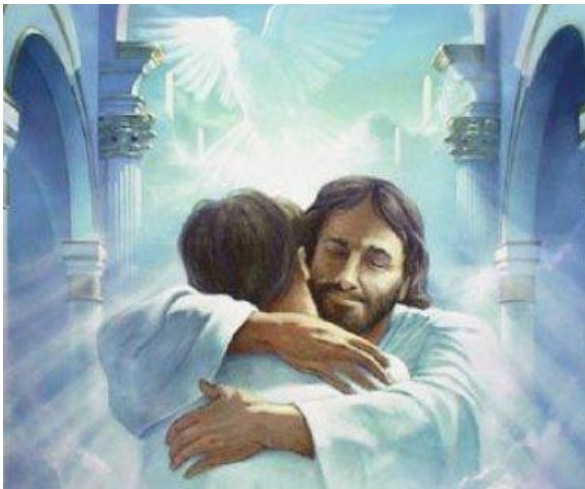
# ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

*"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 — June 23, 2024**

**Entrusted with the Message of Reconciliation**



What does it mean to be reconciled, from a Christian perspective? We are all familiar with the use of the term, and it is often used in everyday language to refer to a state in which people who were not in a harmonious relationship turn back to it. This process often involves forgiveness and reflection, and in some cases even the intervention of an agent who helps the parts involved to be reconciled.

In the case of our Christian faith, we acknowledge that we are all living in a world where the Creator's primary intent of a harmonious relationship with His creatures, and among the creatures, particularly the human creatures, has not been fully achieved.

Leaving aside the theological implications of what has been termed "the Fall", according to the narratives in Genesis 2 and 3, and the differing opinions about its "inevitability", what we perceive in our lives is that there is a longing deep inside us for living in a harmonious relationship with our God, with one another, and with the rest of all creatures, which is only partially possible in the world we live in.

What the Bible teaches us is that this reconciled state has always been God's longing from the very moment He created the world, and created us, and that throughout the ages all His efforts were driven to the achievement of this goal.

One crucial step towards achieving this goal was God's incarnation in Jesus Christ our Lord. As Presiding Bishop Michael Curry put it in a masterful, yet simple way, in a sermon of his I once heard, when God saw all the "mess" we humans have made of His creation, He first sent prophets to make us turn and be reconciled, but seeing that it did not work, God said to Himself, "I'm going down myself."

And He did. Jesus Christ is God's perfect image in human form. By looking at Him, those who had the blessing to be in contact with Him while He was on earth—even without knowing it—were looking at the Creator Himself in the form of a human creature.

From that moment on, we humans have been able to know our Creator's reconciling love in a tangible human way, in the person of Jesus Christ. His reconciling mission, as He Himself declared, was not His, but His Father's, and He accomplished it relentlessly, even if it cost Him the cruelest form of death at a young age. But God raised Him from the dead, thus showing that His reconciling love cannot be defeated by death.

Because God loves His creatures—particularly the human creatures—with unbounded love, He has created us humans as free creatures. What that means is that we are not bounded by God to reciprocate His limitless love towards us, and to express this love to others. We are free to choose not to live in this harmonious love.

But freedom always implies making the right choices or facing the consequences. The consequences of making wrong choices in our lives are not "God's punishments" as some have labeled them. That is an immature way of looking at reality.

What a loving God will never do is to force His creatures to live in the way that He knows is the only one that will bring us true fulfillment and joy—the reconciled way—simply because that would mean taking our freedom away from us.

What a loving God does is what Jesus Christ's Father—and our Father—has done. In His Son, God has clearly shown us what the true and abundant reconciled life is, and this should, as St. Paul states in his Second Letter to the Corinthians, "urge us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died."

And St. Paul then adds, “And He died for all, so that those who live might no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and was raised for them.”

In Christ we have died to the old unreconciled self. As Paul states further on in this same chapter of the letter, “if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation.”

This statement should not be taken lightly. Being a new creation implies that our old self-centered, unreconciled life has been left behind, and we have actually become new creatures. As such, we have now become, in Paul’s words, “ambassadors of Christ.”

If we are true followers of Jesus’ Way, we have become God’s agents of reconciliation for our times, in the places where God has put us to do His reconciling work.

Fr. Carlos E. Expósito, Rector

Readings for The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost: Job 38:1-11, 16-18  
Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32 2 Corinthians 5:14-21 Mark 4:35-41

## 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 June 23, 2024 The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**

**10:00am Mass in All Saints’ Church**

Join Zoom Meeting from our web site at [www.allsaintschurch.org](http://www.allsaintschurch.org)

Recording of Mass available at [www.allsaintschurch.org](http://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 this Sunday June 23 at noon in the Rector’s Office and 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 June 30, 2024 The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**

**10:00am Mass in All Saints' Church**

Join Zoom Meeting from our web site at [www.allsaintschurch.org](http://www.allsaintschurch.org)

Recording of Mass available at [www.allsaintschurch.org](http://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 July 14 at noon in the Rector's Office and 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

An Anglo-Catholic Parish in the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego  
[www.allsaintschurch.org](http://www.allsaintschurch.org)