



# 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 7, 2024**

**God's Grace Suffices**



Boasting is one of the features of human character that people criticize the most, and yet, it is quite common in human society. Unfortunately, it has been, and still is, a trait of some people who have somehow “succeeded” in society, whether in terms of wealth, social prestige, or both.

Even so, the worst possible form of human boasting is that of those who consider themselves spiritually “superior” to others, because they see themselves as the righteous ones, as opposed to the sinners. Another subtle, but extremely harmful form of boasting, has to do with those who have attained some kind of higher mystical states, and consider themselves above the vast majority of humans.

Jesus' teachings were always about being humble and eager to serve, never about being boastful or conceited. He also warned His followers about the worst kind of pride: considering oneself spiritually superior to the rest.

No human being who has ever tread this earth has been in closer spiritual communion with our Creator than Jesus Christ our Lord. However, He never boasted of anything. Even when he performed the most incredible of miracles, His only motive was always loving compassion for others, and He always told the recipient of God's grace and the witnesses "not to tell anyone" about what they had seen.

As a faithful follower of Jesus' teachings and life, the Apostle Paul, who suffered all kinds of persecutions, imprisonments, physical injuries, slander, and rejections, was also someone who, by God's grace, was able to attain high mystical states, as He Himself tells the converts at Corinth his Second Letter to the Corinthians, chapter twelve. But the reason for doing so has nothing to do with boasting.

As he explains, he could boast on behalf of the person who has attained such states—himself, for it is true, but on his own behalf he will only boast of his weakness.

He then proceeds to tell about what he names "his thorn in the flesh", as some kind of suffering that will prevent him from being too elated. Scholars have never been able to figure out what this suffering may refer to, because Paul never gave a clear explanation about it.

What he does say is this: "three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, but He said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.'"

The Apostle Paul is clearly teaching the converts at Corinth about the importance of trusting that, even when we might be tormented by ailments or other kinds of trials, by God's grace we can be powerful in spreading out His Word and bringing others to salvation through Jesus Christ.

Christ's life-giving power was manifested in the world in His self-sacrifice on the cross, which defeated the dark forces of evil, and death itself. It is by trusting in God's grace,—and not by any kind of boasting about our self-righteousness or spiritual heights—that even if we cannot be rid of the ailments that make us physically weak, we are the most powerful in Christ, for as St. Paul says, "whenever I am weak, then I am strong."

Fr. Carlos E. Expósito, Rector

Readings for The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost: Ezekiel 2:1-7    Psalm 123  
2 Corinthians 12:2-10    Mark 6:1-6

## CALENDAR

Note: We worship in our historic church. The service will also be on Zoom. The Sunday service time is 10:00am, Tuesday Noon Mass, and Friday 10:00am Morning Prayer.

**SUNDAY July 7, 2024 The Seventh 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

**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 July 14, 2024 The Eighth 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)