



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 — August 18, 2024

Heeding Wisdom's Call



For present-day people in the western world wisdom is an abstraction. It is a concept that comprises all that is wise and leads to rightful decisions in the world. Being wise is often associated with making decisions based on right discernment, which are ethically proper. Cleverness, on the other hand, simply refers to using your intelligence in a profitable way, whether the actions that follow are ethically proper or not.

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In the Book of Proverbs, and also in the Book of Wisdom of Solomon, we find the figure of wisdom in a personified way. The Hebrews were not prone to abstractions, and some scholars point to the fact that there may have been an influence both from the Egyptian and the Greek mythologies—in which wisdom is a goddess—although some others explain this by the fact that the word wisdom in Hebrew is feminine (there is no neuter gender in Hebrew), and hence its personification as a woman.

The fact is that theologians have considered that this personified wisdom, which the Book of Proverbs states as begotten by God, even before the earth was created, may be seen as a prefiguration of Christ, as God's Incarnate Word.

Jesus was undoubtedly familiar with the Hebrew Scriptures, and although this is just speculation, He might have thought about the passage from Proverbs 9, when He spoke about Himself as the true bread of life that confers everlasting life:

“Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed. Lay aside immaturity, and live, and walk in the way of insight.”

The image He used in the last supper with His disciples, in which He insists that they should eat His flesh and drink His blood, also points back to this passage from Proverbs, in which Wisdom invites everyone to consume her, so that they might live.

It would not have been hard for Jesus to identify Himself with God’s true wisdom, since He always insisted that His mission was to do God’s will, and to reconcile people to God and to one another according to His Father’s will.

True wisdom is always inspired by God’s Holy Spirit, and its fruits are righteousness and peace. Only when we are guided by the wisdom that comes from above, will our lives reflect God’s true image, and we will experience His life-giving love in our lives.

St. Paul also clearly understood the great importance of following God’s wisdom in our lives, if we are to be true followers of Christ’s Way. In his Letter to the Ephesians, chapter 5, he admonishes the converts with these words, “Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, because the days are evil. So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.”

The present-day world with its globalized information network is full of different teachings and opinions, readily available for everyone, but as Christ’s true followers we must beware and stick to the true wisdom that comes from above, the one we find in Holy Scripture, and is corroborated by the Holy Spirit working within us, and among us in the church—the Assembly of the Saints. This is the bread and the wine that Wisdom invites us to eat and drink, just as Christ Himself wants us to eat His flesh and blood in the Eucharist, and thus be filled with His true and abundant life.

Fr. Carlos E. Expósito, Rector

Readings for The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Proverbs 9:1-6
Psalm 34:9-14 Ephesians 5:15-20 John 6:53-59

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 August 18, 2024 The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
10:00am Mass in All Saints' Church
Join Zoom Meeting from our web site at w.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 not meet in August, but resumes in
September

TUESDAY Noon Mass in St. Mary Chapel

THURSDAY Spanish classes resume on Thursday, August 15th.

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

SUNDAY August 25, 2024 The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
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 meets next in September

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