



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 25, 2024 **Subject to One Another**



Modern interpretation of subjection almost always leads us to think of it as something to be despised and rejected—something to get rid of. If subjection implies a relationship in which one part

subjugates the other for its own interests, without taking into account the other part's wellbeing, it is certainly something to be ended.

However, the way subjection was conceived by St. Paul in his Letter to the Ephesians is a different matter altogether.

In the fifth chapter of this letter the Apostle Paul encourages all believers to be subject to one another. Obviously here there is no way we could interpret this subjection as subjugation, since all are seen as equal in this respect. What the phrase means here is to regard others as one regards oneself, serving them in a loving and caring way.

But then St. Paul proceeds to refer to the way wives must be subject to husbands, and this part has been the theme of much controversy, particularly in recent times. It is true that the way St. Paul puts it may sound like he is instructing wives to obey their husbands in every instance, no matter what.

To modern eyes and ears this obviously seems inappropriate. However, in the next paragraph the Apostle Paul instructs husbands to love their wives in the same manner

that Christ loved the church and gave Himself for her. What St. Paul is asking husbands to do here is paramount to self-giving, sacrificial love. He even says, “He who loves his wife loves himself.”

And later on he makes reference to the Genesis passage that commands a man “to leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.”

St. Paul sees this as “a great mystery”, which he says he is “applying to Christ and the church.” So he compares the union between the two members of the married couple to the union of Christ and his church, which means that the way these two people are united must reflect the self-giving sacrificial love that Christ showed for His people.

It has never been a good idea—and will never be—to apply the moral standards of one epoch to previous ones. There is no denying that the society St. Paul lived in was patriarchal, and this is reflected in all his writings.

Even so, the way he balances the subjection of the wives to their husbands with the love that husbands are required to have for their wives is remarkable for his time.

In no way was he thinking of a type of abusive or unfair subjection. The fact that all this part about the relationship between husband and wife is preceded by the phrase, “Be subject to one another out of reverence for Christ” should not be overlooked. The kind of subjection he means here is a loving and caring one, equally valid for all believers.

God made us free, in His own image and likeness. Freedom is intrinsic to our human nature. However, responsible and willing subjection to one another for the sake of love and respect does not contradict this freedom, but takes it to a higher level.

Christ Himself was subject to God, and fulfilled God’s will even when it meant a cruel and undeserved death on a cross. By being subject to one another in love, we then imitate Christ, and His love abides in us.

Fr. Carlos E. Expósito, Rector

Readings for The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-25
Psalm 34:15-22 Ephesians 5:21-33 John 6:60-69

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 25, 2024 The Fourteenth 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 meets next in September

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 September 1, 2024 The Fifteenth 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