



ALL SAINTS'

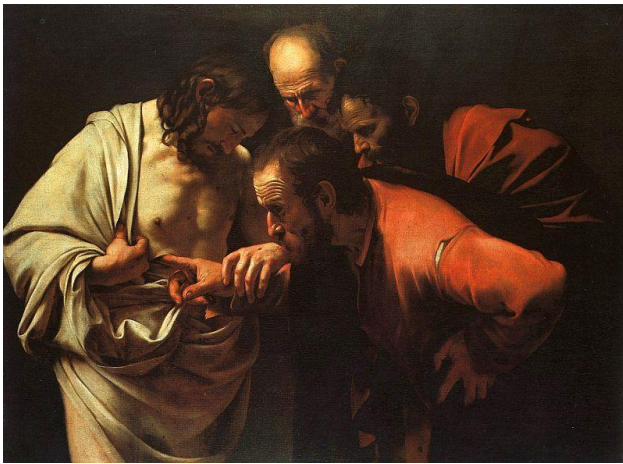
CHURCH

"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 7, 2024

Our Incarnate Faith



We are now in the week after Easter Sunday known as Easter Week. The whole Season after the celebration of the Resurrection of Our Lord and Savior—which lasts 50 days—is known as the Easter Season.

This is the season of the Christian year when we most emphatically proclaim our faith in the resurrected Christ, and in our own resurrected life as the Christian hope.

The fact that Jesus of Nazareth, a man who lived more than twenty centuries ago in that region of the world, and who proclaimed and lived God's unconditional love for all, was crucified, dead, and then raised from the dead by God to a new glorified life, is the cornerstone of the faith of His followers, who have come to be known as Christians, and of whom millions are part even in today's world.

The events that followed Jesus' resurrection are the main topic of this season of the year, and what the Gospels tell us in several instances looks ambiguous and mysterious. There are cases when Jesus' followers do not recognize Him at once, and the resurrected Jesus seems to come and go, appear and disappear, sometimes defying the laws of physics.

We will probably never know the exact explanation for these seemingly strange accounts, but they seem to point to a different kind of embodiment in the resurrected Jesus, although the Gospel writers did make it clear that the resurrected Jesus was fully embodied, and not a ghost.

All this may have led some of the first followers to think about the Christ as an entity separate from the man Jesus, and this was the beginning of a movement that developed through the centuries as one of the branches of Gnosticism, in which the Christ is a principle which became partially incarnate in the man Jesus at His baptism, but left Him later on, when He was crucified.

According to some of these theories, this principle then made it possible for Jesus to rise from the dead, and Jesus later on disappeared to live a retired life until His final death.

But this is not the true faith that the Gospel writers and the disciples proclaimed, nor the faith that has been handed down to us through the centuries. Our faith is an incarnate faith. Christianity is the incarnate faith par excellence.

What we believe is what John the Evangelist clearly proclaims in the prologue to his Gospel: “The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us.”

Jesus is the Christ. They are one and the same person. It is Christ who died for us, and who was risen. It is this same Jesus Christ who ascended to the Father, and whose glorious return we await. This, and no other, is the true Christian faith.

In his First Letter, John the Evangelist writes, “This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only, but with the water and the blood.”

The reference to the blood unmistakably points to Christ’s fully human nature, and also to His sacrifice on the cross. John the Evangelist was already clearing up things for those who had tried to separate Jesus the man from the Christ.

Why is it so vital to have a clear conviction about the incarnational nature of our faith? First of all, because it makes clear to us one of the main tenets of our faith. We believe in a God who was made man, who lived as one of us, and suffered as one of us. In fact, He was a God who suffered much more than many of us, giving Himself in sacrifice for our redemption.

And we also believe that one of His main teachings was that we, as His followers, are called to incarnate God’s love in our own lives as well. We must see Christ’s face in each

and everyone of God's children, and also be Christ's mouth, hands and feet for each of them.

This is how we, as Christ's followers, best proclaim the resurrected Christ in our own lives.

Fr. Carlos E. Expósito, Rector

(The cover picture *The Incredulity of St. Thomas* by Caravaggio. Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio (Milan, 28 September 1571 - Porto Ercole, 18 July 1610))

Readings for Second Sunday of Easter: Acts 3:12a, 13-15, 17-26, 13-15, 17-26
Psalm 118:19-24 1 John 5:1-6 John 20:19-31

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 7, 2024 Second 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 the end of April

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 April 14, 2024 The Third 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